

# SETTLEMENT INFORMATION OVERVIEW

## August 2009

The department of Immigration and Citizenship has a variety of publications (both booklets and online) available for different client groups. An overview of these products including target groups and web links can be found below.

### **‘Beginning a Life in Australia’ (BALIA) booklets**

**Purpose:** Balia booklets provide settlement information, including contact details for necessary services. Topics covered are:

- What to do soon after arrival
- Emergency services
- Australian Customs and law
- Employment and training
- Transport
- Health
- Local government and community services
- Help with English
- Where to go for help
- Housing
- Social security
- Education and child care
- Recreation and media

Each state and territory has its own version of the booklet which is currently available in English and 37 community languages including Dinka, Somali, Arabic, Italian, Portuguese, French and Italian. The provision of the booklets in additional languages is assessed in response to client needs and caseloads. Thirteen new translations have recently been provided including Swahili, Tigrinya, Kirundi and Nepali.

**Target Groups:** Migrants (prospective, newly-arrived and sponsors of migrants), humanitarian entrants, settlement service providers.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/settle-in-australia/beginning-life/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/settle-in-australia/beginning-life/index.htm)

### **Form 994i – ‘Settlement information for migrants to Australia’**

**Purpose:** Form 994i provides an overview of settlement information to prospective migrants. Some information is similar to Balia, but more condensed. The form is provided to successful visa applicants in English and is available on the DIAC website in English and 37 community languages.

**Target Groups:** Migrants and their sponsors.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/994i.pdf](http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/994i.pdf)

### **Community profiles**

**Purpose:** Community profiles aim to assist settlement and other service providers understand the experiences and needs of humanitarian arrivals. They provide information such as community size and settlement locations in Australia, settlement needs, and background information on language, ethnicity, culture and history. The Department has published a range of community profiles on key humanitarian communities in Australia including Bhutanese, Burmese, Congolese, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Liberian, Sierra Leonean, Sudanese and Togolese. The profiles are available in hard copy and on the DIAC website.

**Target Groups:** Sponsors, service providers and community organisations and interested members of the general public.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/government-programs/settlement-planning/community-profiles.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/government-programs/settlement-planning/community-profiles.htm)

## **‘New Beginnings – Supporting new arrivals on their settlement journey’**

**Purpose:** New Beginning brings together information about the settlement services provided to humanitarian entrants by the Australian Government, and explains how the Department assists new arrivals to settle into their new communities and establish new lives in Australia.

**Target Group:** General public.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/settle/\\_pdf/new\\_beginnings.pdf](http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/settle/_pdf/new_beginnings.pdf)

## **Departmental Fact Sheets**

**Purpose:** Fact sheets provide general information regarding settlement services.

**Target Groups:** Settlement service providers, general public.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets](http://www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets)

## **Settlement Trends and Needs Reports**

**Purpose:** Settlement Trends and Needs Reports are produced to assist service providers understand the needs of new arrivals and tailor their services accordingly. They provide information per state and territory about new arrivals to Australia, including information on settlement patterns, needs experienced by entrants in the early settlement period, and services available to address those needs. The reports also contain demographic information about new arrivals, including languages spoken, age on arrival and average family sizes.

**Target Groups:** Settlement service providers, government agencies.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/government-programs/settlement-planning/trends-needs-reports.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/government-programs/settlement-planning/trends-needs-reports.htm)

(NB: The Settlement Trends and Needs Reports are currently under review)

## **DIAC Settlement web pages**

**Purpose:** The ‘Living in Australia’ web pages provide online access to information about settling in Australia, including settlement services and programs, TIS National, and English tuition through the AMEP. Information about Australia’s cultural diversity and values is also available through the web pages.

**Target Groups:** Prospective and newly arrived migrants and their sponsors, as well as service providers, government agencies, researchers and general public.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia).

## **Settlement Database - Online Settlement Reporting Facility**

**Purpose:** The department of Immigration and Citizenship’s Settlement Database contains data on permanent arrivals and onshore permanent residence grants since 1991.

An internal reporting facility is available free of charge and allows staff to prepare their own reports on permanent arrivals and onshore permanent residence grants according to selected criteria including:

- Migration stream
- Country of birth
- Language
- English proficiency

- Religion
- Gender
- Settlement location

Settlement service providers and the general public can access reports via the internet. This reporting facility will be updated and become available to external clients in the near future.

**Target Groups:** Interested persons and organisations.

**Web link:** [www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/settlement-reporting-facility](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/delivering-assistance/settlement-reporting-facility)