

# Arrangement on Labour Mobility & NZ's Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme

Regional Labour Mobility Workshop: Apia, Samoa, 11-14 September 2023

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# NZ's overarching approach to Pacific labour mobility and the ALM

- Resilience framework for Pacific engagement
- 'Next generation' principles
  - Development-driven: informed by and aligned to Pacific countries own aspirations
  - Skills and training
  - Circular opportunities
  - Worker well-being
  - Mitigation of negative impacts on communities
  - Collective regional responsibility

# Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme

- Underpins delivery of the ALM
- Central to bilateral relationships
- Supports circular labour mobility
- Comprehensive Policy Review:
  - 7 work streams
  - ALM enhancements
  - Short term improvements

# Reflections on the RSE Scheme

- In the Pacific it is ***Who You Know, Not What You Know***
- Understanding Pacific contexts and cultures is key
- Relationships and building trust is the foundation for progressing engagement
- Influence, impact and sustainability is premised on those relationships and engagement

# RSE: Wrap-around support programmes

## Strengthening Pacific Labour Mobility Programme (SPLM)

- Improves sending country capacity and directly supports the ALM
- Delivers on overall objectives and paragraphs 5 (4)(a), 5 (4)(d) of the ALM
- Recently redesigned
- Overall goal: to increase social and economic well-being and resilience across the Pacific, through relevant, efficient and enhanced circular labour mobility participation
- New design settings will focus on: development impact and Pacific priorities; strengthening processes and improving LSU capacity to undertake inclusive recruitment; better offerings in the worker preparation, family support, worker welfare and reintegration spaces; better delivery of ALM commitments; and increased cooperation with Australia and other regional partners

# RSE: Wrap-around support programmes

## Vakameasina

- Training for RSE workers while in New Zealand (English language, financial literacy and life skills for new entrants to the scheme; more advanced training i.e. in basic trades, small business and leadership for more experienced workers)
- Delivers on objective (g): “support efforts to build the labour supply capacity of the developing country Participants through the provision of relevant education and training opportunities for their nationals” and paragraph 5(4)(c) of the ALM: “enhancing the provision of training under existing labour mobility schemes”

# New labour mobility opportunities

- Key Commitment under the ALM
- Pacific Trades Partnership
- Pacific Fisheries Initiative
- New Sector Pacific Programmes
  - Meat processing
  - Seafood processing
  - Aged care
  - Construction

# Inter-agency understandings

- Currently between MBIE (NZ) and Ministry responsible for labour mobility in RSE sending countries
- Planned update:
  - Capture Pacific priorities, as well as shared principles and understanding for the RSE scheme
  - High-level purpose with policy commitment and operational elements
  - Embed ‘next-generation approach’
  - Reflect enhancements to the RSE scheme
  - Ensure consistency with the outcomes of the ALM review



# Summary

- RSE Scheme underpins delivery of ALM
- Pacific views are paramount
- ALM review is timely: need to get it right
- Renewed commitment to PACER Plus/ALM commitments
- New and refreshed policy work: ALM is front and centre!