

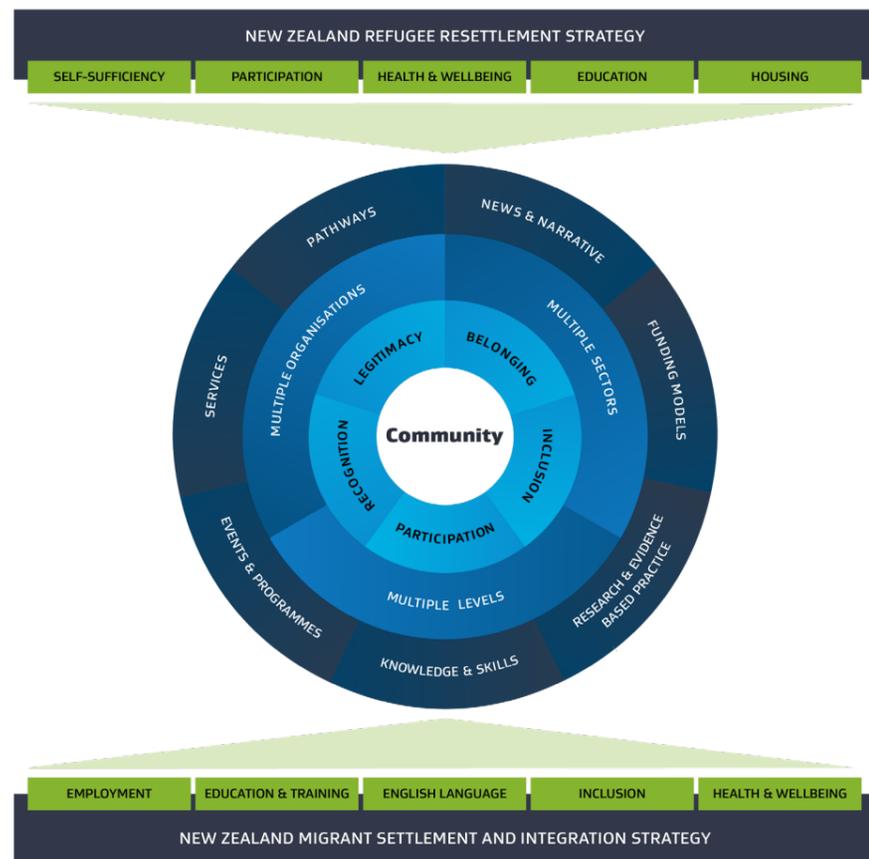
Community Engagement Framework

INTRODUCTION

From July 2020, New Zealand’s refugee quota will increase to 1,500 people per annum. New Zealand’s Refugee Resettlement Strategy (NZRRS) remains unchanged with the overriding aim of supporting refugees and their families to live independently with a strong sense of belonging to New Zealand.

The Community Engagement Project has not sought to alter or replace the objectives outlined in NZRRS. Instead, it seeks to complement the strategy through the development of a framework to increase and improve social inclusion and cohesion across all of our communities.

THE FRAMEWORK



COMMUNITY

A socially cohesive and inclusive community is at the heart of the framework.

Social Cohesion supports a climate of collaboration for all groups to have a sense of belonging, participation, inclusion, recognition and legitimacy

Social Inclusion is the process of improving the terms on which individuals and groups take part in society - improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity.

ELEMENTS:

WHAT IS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COHESION

Belonging: Being part of the wider community who live, work, learn, and play together. Understanding and identifying with New Zealand as a multi-cultural society built on the bicultural foundations of Te Tiriti.

Inclusion: Individuals and groups have equitable access, and can achieve equitable outcomes as a result of access, to opportunities in employment, education, health, housing and other aspects of New Zealand life.

Participation: Individuals and groups have resources, skills and knowledge, and can access information and services, to participate meaningfully in all aspects of New Zealand life.

Recognition: Communities welcome and respect diversity in all forms, and ensure people feel valued and accepted. All individuals and groups are supported and protected from prejudice, discrimination or harmful actions.

Legitimacy: Diverse individuals and groups and their needs are seen as legitimate and they can trust public and private agencies to provide services that meet their needs and are culturally appropriate.

DELIVERY:

MECHANISM TO SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENT THE FRAMEWORK

A working group determines which initiatives will best achieve the community’s social cohesion and inclusion objectives given the community’s circumstances.

An inclusive, strong and multifaceted working group establishes the elements needed to increase the community’s social cohesion and inclusion.

The diagram to the right is an example of the representatives that could be involved as part of a settlement location working group.

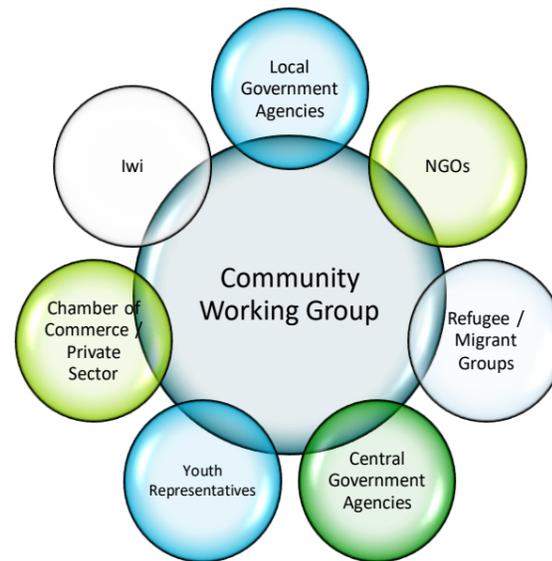
Working groups could also be established for different groups such as within former refugee communities.

WORKING GROUP CHARACTERISTICS

Multiple sectors bringing together a diverse range of skills, abilities and support to the community.

Multiple organisations, including government agencies, working locally, regionally and nationally, to make communities a better place for all.

Multiple levels from within the community need to be represented and participate in order to achieve the objectives of the community.



INITIATIVES:

AREAS OF FOCUS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Initiative	Examples
News & Narrative: Sharing inclusive and positive narratives about former refugees and migrants and receiving communities. Supporting individuals and groups to have a voice and be heard.	Newsletters Storytelling
Funding Models: Output- and outcome-focussed funding models that are flexible and fluid.	Micro- and seed funding
Research & Evidence-based Practice: Sharing learnings and practices across communities.	Academic research Commissioned work
Knowledge & Skills: Supporting individuals capacity and capability to participate effectively. Improving opportunities and empowering individuals.	Employment Strategy Work; Diversity Training
Events & Programme: Encourage and facilitate positive interactions within communities. Support for community-led events and programmes.	Welcoming Communities Cultural Festivals
Services: Developing services to be used across all locations.	Open Road Language Assistance
Pathways: Increasing access to tools and resources that are available in the community	Service Directory Local Apps

ROLE FOR INZ

INZ have an important role in the establishment and development of initiatives. INZ has a number of initiatives in place to meet the objectives of the NZRRS and the New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy as represented on the diagram.

INZ will also provide overall support of the framework by assisting the establishment and function of the community working groups and will assist former refugees to develop the capacity and capability to represent on these working groups.