



Mobility and networks of New Zealanders living in Australia

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In recent years, there has been increasing interest amongst politicians and policy makers in the opportunities that are provided by their expatriates living overseas. In New Zealand, the Expatriates' Programme is a recent initiative launched by the Government to "tap into the talent of Kiwis living overseas". This paper examines the emerging policy interest in the diaspora of New Zealanders by focusing on the residence intentions and networks of New Zealanders living in Australia. The data of this study come from two sources. First, we use survey data of New Zealanders resident overseas by Kea New Zealand (www.keanewzealand.com) to examine the social and economic linkages that Kiwi expatriates in Australia have with New Zealand and their intentions with regard to return. Second, we use a database provided by the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Aboriginal Affairs (DIMIA) to examine the movement behaviour of 126,000 New Zealanders resident in Australia. The data reveal that a significant share of the New Zealanders who arrived in Australia after August 1999 with the intention of staying permanently or long-term are frequent movers out of the country, often back to New Zealand. The findings indicate that migrants are not "lost" to their homelands when they move overseas to settle elsewhere. The potential benefits of leveraging this global pool of New Zealanders are discussed.