The role of Tertiary and Further Education (TFE) in the resettlement experience of former refugees in Tasmania

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET for Survey**

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## Invitation

You are invited to participate in a research study exploring the role of Tertiary and Further Education (TFE) in the resettlement experience of former refugees in Tasmania.

## What is the purpose of this study?

This study aims to investigate how the Australian work and education aspects of the life of former refugees have influenced their resettlement experience in Tasmania.

## How is the study being funded?

The research will be funded by the School of Education Graduate Research Student Allowance and the student investigator’s personal fund.

## Why have I been invited to participate?

You have around 6-8 or more years of living experience in Tasmania area through your engagement in some of work and education activities. You have completed the English language program provided by the Australian government after your arrival in Australia. As well you have completed or commenced a higher education, VET or further education courses in Australia, which requires sufficient understanding of English to study.

Your responses in this survey will be a valuable input to this research. Your response on the survey about your work and education engagement in Tasmania will help the research team to understand the baseline scenario of the resettlement experience of the former refugees in Tasmania area.

Your participation is voluntary, and your choice to take part or not take part will not affect your relationship with the University of Tasmania.

## What will I be asked to do?

After you see the open invitation card for the survey and reading the information sheet (hard copies available in the organisations or online link provided in the open invitation card), you can decide whether or not to participate in the survey. If you agree, you can take the survey form (or by asking AT <INSERT RELEVANT PLACES/PEOPLE>) and drop the completed form in the survey box (with a slot for placing completed surveys) available in <INSERT RELEVANT LOCATIONS>. The questions in the survey are related to your work and education experiences during your resettlement period in Tasmania. The hard copies of survey form will be available in English.

Alternatively, you can type the survey link <xyz.abc> into a web browser and submit the survey online anonymously.

Your completion of the survey will be understood as your consent to the survey.

## Are there any possible benefits from participation in this study?

We do not expect direct benefits for participants in this study. However, this study will advance our knowledge on the complex interplay of socio-economic, cultural and other factors in the resettlement experience of former refugees. The findings related to various aspects of the role of education in the refugee resettlement is expected to be useful for the Australian government and other institutions to design and implement immigration policy and programs conducive to refugee resettlement in Tasmania. Findings may be transferrable to other regional places of Australia.

## Are there any possible risks from participation in this study?

The survey is anonymous and the survey form will not ask for your name.

The survey will ask about your experiences of education, learning and work in Tasmania. It is possible that while filling the survey form, it may provoke painful memories of your life before and after resettlement. By reading the information sheet and survey form, if you  think you may become uncomfortable by providing your responses in the survey, then you can choose to not participate in the research.

However, we anticipate such uncomfortable situation is unlikely to occur because the survey questions are designed to minimise such uncomfortable situations and to meet the objective of collecting information focused on work and education only after arrival in Tasmania.

1. **What if I change my mind during or after the study?**

If you change your mind and do not want to fill or submit the survey, then you can just ignore the survey form. You don’t have to inform anyone. As the survey is anonymous, it is not possible to withdraw your response once it is placed in the box or submitted online.

Survey data will be Likert scale and very short open-ended response data. There is no way that you can be identified once the survey is submitted.

## What will happen to the data when this study is over?

All hardcopy research documentation will be kept in a locked cabinet and all electronic research documentation will be stored in a password protected confidential folder on the UTAS server for a minimum of five years, during and after which time the de-identified data may be shared with research projects closely associated with this PhD project. Findings from this PhD project (not including any names) will be incorporated into project reporting and scientific literature.

## How will the results of the study be published?

The findings of the study will be documented in the form of thesis and it will be submitted to the University of Tasmania. The results may be published in the form of journal articles, conference papers or book chapters. Also, the findings of the research will be shared to the research participants by providing the summary of the findings (less than 1 page-English version only) in social support organisations (for example Migrant Resource Centre, Max Employment and related associations and groups related to former refugees in Tasmania.

## What if I have questions about this study?

If you have questions about the study, you can contact the student investigator on 03 6324 5011 or Shekhar.kc@utas.edu.au (Student Id no: 484268) or his supervisors mentioned above.

This study has been approved by the Tasmania Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, you can contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 2975 or email ss.ethics@utas.edu.au The Executive Officer is the person nominate to receive complaints from research participants. You will need to quote H0018231.

1. **How can I agree to be involved?**

You can agree to participate in the survey by collecting the survey form (available from locations MNO) or alternatively you can type the online survey link <xyz.abc> and submit the survey.

**Thank you for your time**