

TURBULENT TIMES

THE STATE OF BACKPACKING AND SEASONAL FARM WORK IN AUSTRALIA

PRELIMINARY REPORT
JANUARY 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LONG TAEM WEA OLOKETA SAMTING HEM NO STEIBOL: STEISTEI BLONG OLOKETA PIPOL WEA TRAVOL WEITEM OLOKETA TINGS BLONG OLOKETA WEITEM SISONOL FAM WAKA LONG AUSTRALIA

SAMARI BLONG MEKEM DISISON

Oloketa pipol wea sahve travol and mov go long Australia, hem wanfala inpoten pat blong wokfos blong agrikalsa long Australia. Oloketa wanfala bik benefit long saed long economi and long oloketa indastris wea duim faming, long seimtaem, oloketa contributiut bik tu long oloketa steistei blong pipol weitem saed long kalsa blong oloketa plesis. Tufala mein taep long visa wea duim nao bik waka long oloketa sisonol fam waka hem nao – Working Holiday Maker (WHM) “backpacker” program, an disfala niu wan oloketa jas joinim- Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme (PALM) fo oloketa wakaman long oloketa Pacific Islands, an diswan ia barava go bik nao long oloketa yias wea go pas.

Covid-19 pandemik yia hem sowim aot nao oloketa eria wea hem brek long Australia long hao hem nidim oloketa pipol wea travol go fo waka long saed long agrikalsa. Travol, oloketa visa hem slou, oloketa ristrikson long helt, an wari long spred blong vaeras weitem oloketa wakaman hem no staka, hem mekem oloketa bik problem long yias go pas ia and hem kosim tu samfala bik impak fo everiwan wea help fo wakem an sapotim nao oloketa pipol wea go fo waka long fams. Long seimtaem oloketa wakaman blong nius oloketa gohed fo ripotim nao dat oloketa wakaman hem no staka, oloketa fruts oloketa roten insaed long oloketa fam, and oloketa wakaman lo fam oloketa ask fo help, hadwaka blong gavman long 2022 fo tekem oloketa wakaman wea travol kam from ada plesis kam baek lo rigon hem no olsem bifo. Samfala tings hem change tu long saed long steistei blong pipol, kalsa an wei blong oloketa go fo oloketa wea holem temporary visa wea stei long Australia. Nomata Australia long taem hem openem boda blong hem long february 2022, gogo baek blong oloketa wakaman wea travol fo go waka hem slou lelbet, no olsem hao oloketa tingnim, espesiali oloketa wea usim nao WHM visas.

Disfala ripot hem sowim nao oloketa samting oloketa faendem long risearch long fuitsha blong oloketa sisonol fam wakaman insaed Australia. Long lukluk long oloketa pipol wea travol fo go waka an oloketa wakaman blong Pacific Islands long oloketa horticultural waka insaed Queensland, oloketa aedia an wanem oloketa faendem hem kam from 44 fala intaviu weitem steikholda long acrosim indastri, gavman an oloketa community wea oloketa involve weitem nao long waka an sapot fo oloketa fam wakaman wea travol fo go waka. Dr Kaya Barry blong Griffith Univesiti nao hem lidim disfala project an Australian Gavman nao hem fandim tru long wanfala tri yia Australian Research Council Early Career Researcher Award (project number DE220100394).

Trifala erias wea steikholdas faendem had an garem consen long hem weitem oloketa wakaman wea travol fo go waka long fam nao olsem:

1) Problems wea disfala pandemic hem mekem long oloketa boda fo klous an helt ristriksons. Oloketa weis fo kipim an stopem spred, statim quarantine, an aotim nao oloketa nogud wei blong community go long oloketa pipol wea travol fo go waka long taem blong pandemic ia, sowim oloketa lesan an givim oloketa tingting fo oloketa disastas an helt problems long fiutsa.

2) Taem oloketa luk ovam nao waka blong oloketa wea provaedem ples fo stei long oloketa pipol wea travol fo go waka an long hao an wei oloketa stei. "hostels blong waka" hem nao mein wei bitwin oloketa sisonal bossman wea givim waka an oloketa wakaman wea bae waka, an hem grou bik nao long namba na saeis weitem gogo bik blong oloketa visa programs. Oloketa samting oloketa faendem hem sowim samfala salenge long taem oloketa lukluk folom nao steistei blong oloketa wakaman wea stei long plesis wea oloketa searem.

3) Samfala change long kalsa hem kamap long oloketa rigionol communities an hem happen bicos long sift long hao oloketa pipol wea travol fo go waka go fo Pacific Island wakaman. Oloketa faendings ia sowim dat oloketa nidim nao Pacific-led Infomeison an sapot sevisis, an gud aweanes long kalsa an saed long toktok bitwin oloketa wakaman an lokol communities.

Long seimtaem disfala ripot hem sowim oloketa mein erias wea oloketa fiutsa research sahve waka long hem moa, hem also givim samfala tingting long oloketa salengis and aedias long oloketa steikholdas wea oloketa sahve usim long fiutsa planing an long oloketa disison long polisi fo oloketa pipol wea travol fo go waka long oloketa fams.