



Australian Government  
Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship

## Session II

# Contextualizing Return – Case Studies

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## Outline of presentation

1. Context within which Australia operates:  
key immigration facts
2. Australia's approach to migration
3. Return management:  
prevention/response
4. Collaboration with other countries
5. Capacity building: examples

# Australia's unique geographic location





## Key Immigration Facts

Since 1945:

- 6 million immigrants
  - 650,000 humanitarian entrants
  - Population has risen from 7 million to around 21 million today
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- Population growth of 1.2% - between 23 million and 31 million in 2051
  - One in four persons born overseas
  - 95% of the Australian population are citizens

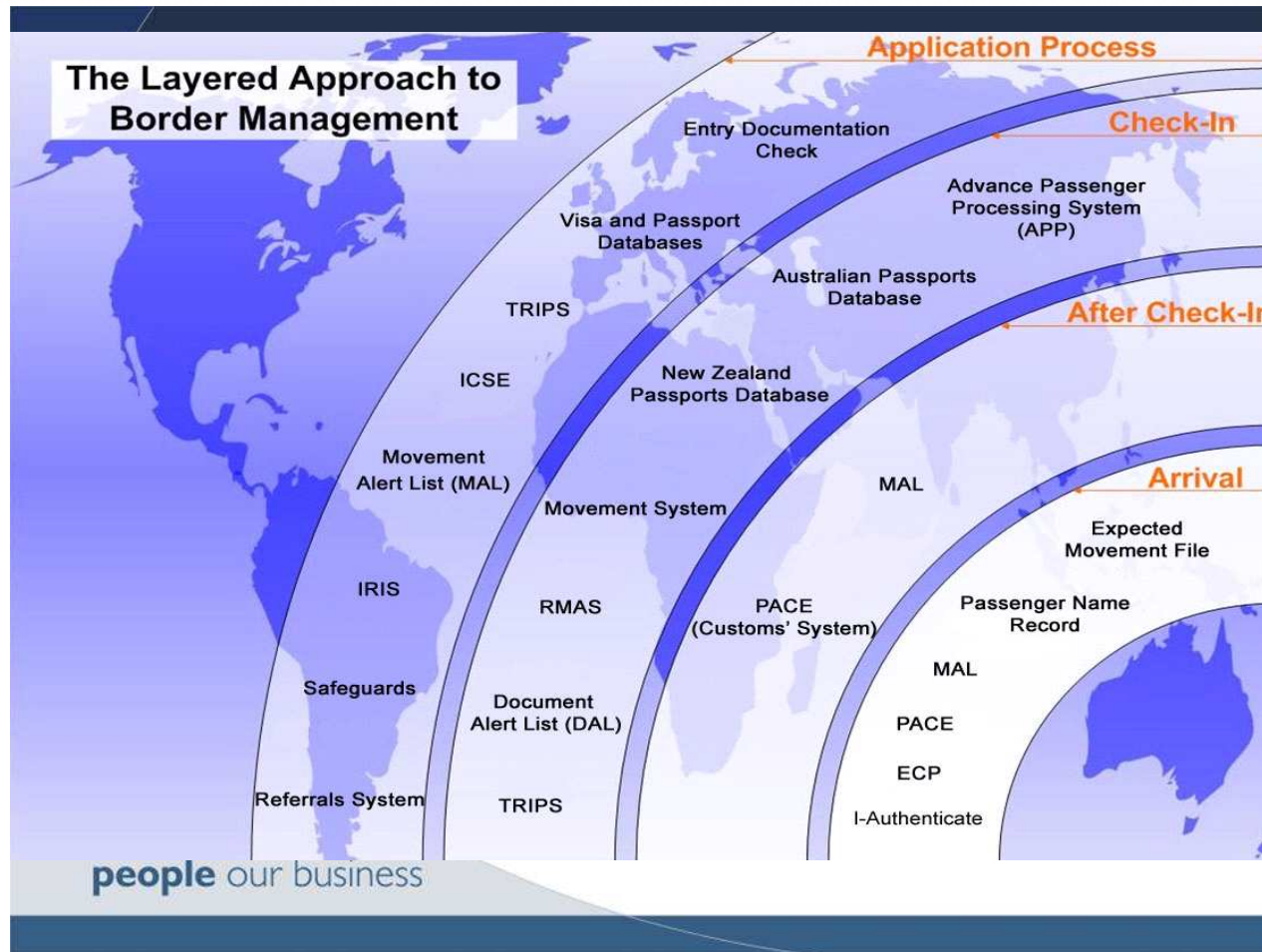
# Australia's approach to migration

## Two guiding principles:

- Non-discriminatory universal visa system
- Layered border management system → pushing border management offshore (but remaining responsible)
  - Begins offshore during the visa application process
  - Continues during and after the check-in process
  - Final layer of the border is when the traveller reaches Australia



# Layered border management



# How does return fit into Australia's migration management?

- Returns begin with the first interaction with the Australian border
- The visa requirement/layered border approach assists returns → it aims to:
  1. Identify clients accurately
  2. Ensure proper documentation
- Crucial: partnerships with other countries and international organisations.

# How does Australia collaborate with others?

*Prevent* return issues via deterring irregular people movement → examples:

- Explore and develop shared agendas with source and transit countries --> tailor made approach
- Implement Displaced Person program in partnership with host countries and international organisations

*Respond* to unlawful arrival and stay in Australia → examples:

- Encourage countries to accept their nationals back
- Work on strategies for forced and voluntary returns



# Capacity Building Projects to prevent irregular movement

- technical officer exchange programs
- document examination and immigration intelligence mentoring and training
- strengthened governance arrangements – including legislation and business processes
- English language training
- other cooperation and training activities as identified by counterpart agencies or according to emerging areas of criminal activity
- financial or technical assistance with border systems



## Training

In 2007 – 08:

- Document Examination Training for 20 countries, Equipment to 10 countries
- English Language Training for 11 countries
- Immigration Intelligence training for 10 countries



## Capacity Building

### Identity checking unit - Afghanistan

- Established by Australia, but now funded by other donors (Belgium, Denmark)
- Identity investigations for clients and governments
- 106 clients (Afghans in Australia) have gained a successful outcome and were able to return voluntarily



## Reintegration project

### AliceGhan

A community built human settlement including:

- housing (1200 houses; 9000 people)
- water supply
- roads
- school
- community centre (vocational training centre, health clinic, and sustainable livelihoods training)



## Conclusions

- Return management → prevention of irregular movement and responding to unlawful residence
- Capacity building can be important tool of return management
- Close partnership with receiving countries, international organisations and other donors crucial for its success