

# human connections

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## Giving something back – the KUYA Scholarship Program

ISA Group has a long association with the Philippines. Through our recruitment, training and skills testing facility in Manila we've helped many Filipinos qualify for employment with Australian businesses. We first heard word of a special place called the KUYA Centre during a recruitment drive in Manila.

The Centre is an oasis of security, friendship and learning. It has a vision to rehabilitate as many Filipino street children as possible – kids who've run away from home or simply been abandoned.

If KUYA staff can't reconcile children with their families, the Centre takes responsibility for their education. This includes reintroducing them to some of life's basics such as values, health and even children's rights. When they turn 18, the children must leave KUYA to make room for the next intake of younger street kids. Sadly, this means many of them end up back on the street.

When ISA Group heard about the KUYA Centre we had to get involved. Giving something back to the people of the Philippines is important to us and social

responsibility is a key element in our strategic plan. We have decided to sponsor two young men who would otherwise be returned to the streets.

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With the help of the Centre, the boys, Jeffrey Alla and Wilmer Cabudoc, will undertake a year-long scholarship program. The program will prepare them for a placement we'll organise with a Filipino or overseas employer.

As part of this scholarship program they'll learn trade skills and English language skills. They'll also learn basic computer skills and life skills, like cooking and interview techniques. And they'll have on-the-job placements and sit examinations. ISA Group will also provide them with food and board and a weekly wage.



Children at the KUYA Centre in Manila.

To learn more about the KUYA Centre or ISA Group's Scholarship Program, go to: <http://www.isa.com.au/kuya-scholarship-programme>

If you'd like to make a donation, please contact Brett Merrey on 08 9346 8888, or email [brett@isa.com.au](mailto:brett@isa.com.au).

## ISA Group

Your complete immigration and overseas recruitment service

To meet the demand for skilled labour in some industries, Australian businesses need to find and recruit people from overseas to service existing contracts and secure new projects.

ISA Group helps businesses engage new staff for short to long-term work assignments by providing cost-effective and tailored visa and immigration solutions.

For more information, go to [isa.com.au](http://isa.com.au), or call us on **+61 8 9346 8888**.



See inside:

*Business Leaders Breakfast - page 2*

*Legislative changes effective 1 July 2012 - page 2*



Breakfast attendees: Murray Skea from Globetrotter Travel and Lesley Thomas from Clough Projects.

## Business Leaders Breakfast

ISA Group held an industry breakfast at the Burswood Entertainment Complex on Tuesday 11 September.

Guests heard from key note speaker Peter Dyball of Pit Crew Consulting that the WA project market remains strong despite recent media reports to the contrary.

Amid much speculation about potential easing of the market, the Pit Crew Labour Market Update confirmed a continuing robustness of the WA project market.

Peter presented skills scenarios and outputs for construction labour demand and availability, engineering resources demand and availability, and operations growth demand, drawn from

Pit Crew's latest analysis. This was accompanied by commentary on the major resourcing, engagement and skilling issues affecting all stakeholders.

The breakfast proved to be a huge success, with guests taking full advantage of Peter's knowledge and expertise during question time. A special thank you must be given to the event sponsors, Globetrotter Corporate Travel, Commonwealth Bank, Career One and Bupa, who provided some excellent door prizes.

Stay tuned for our next industry event.

For more information about Pit Crew Consulting, visit [www.pitcrew.com.au](http://www.pitcrew.com.au)

## Character decision principles from 1 September 2012

The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Chris Bowen MP, has announced a ministerial direction outlining principles for decision-makers considering cancellation or refusal of a non-citizen's visa.

The direction makes clear that coming to and remaining in Australia is a privilege that we confer on non-citizens in the expectation that they are law abiding, will respect important institutions and won't cause or threaten harm to individuals or the community.

## Legislative changes effective 1 July 2012

Significant legislative changes have been rolled out by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to the employer-sponsored permanent visa schemes (RSMS and ENS), General Skilled Migration visas and Business visas.

### RSMS and ENS

Reduced to two subclasses:

- Employer Nomination Scheme Subclass 186
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme Subclass 187

### Blowout of processing times for ENS/RSMS

The pre-1 July rush of applications has added around 9,000 applications to the DIAC pipeline. DIAC are still entering cases into their system. As the delay is out of our control, ISA thank you for your understanding and patience when requesting updates on your applications.



### Labour agreement for fast food employers

DIAC has established a template labour agreement for employers in the fast food business. This is designed to assist with sourcing qualified managers and supervisors, particularly in regional areas.

### Introduction of a Consolidated Sponsored Occupation List

DIAC have introduced a new single list of occupations for nomination, the CSOL, which replaces the Employer Nomination Scheme (ENSOL), State/Territory Nominated (STATSOL), subclass 442 Occupational Trainee and subclass 457 Skilled Occupation Lists.

### Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold

DIAC has increased the TSMIT to \$51,400 per annum. The new TSMIT applies to all subclass 457 nominations and visa applications decided from this date onwards, regardless of when the applications were lodged.

### General Skilled Migration

Introduction of the Expression of Interest (EOI) system for new visa subclasses through SkillsSelect.

### Business visas

The Business Skills Program has been renamed the 'Business Innovation and Investment Program', with the number of visa subclasses reduced from thirteen to three.