Optimising migration outcomes – linking skills and the labour market

Ms Kate O'Malley, Minister-Counsellor (Immigration)
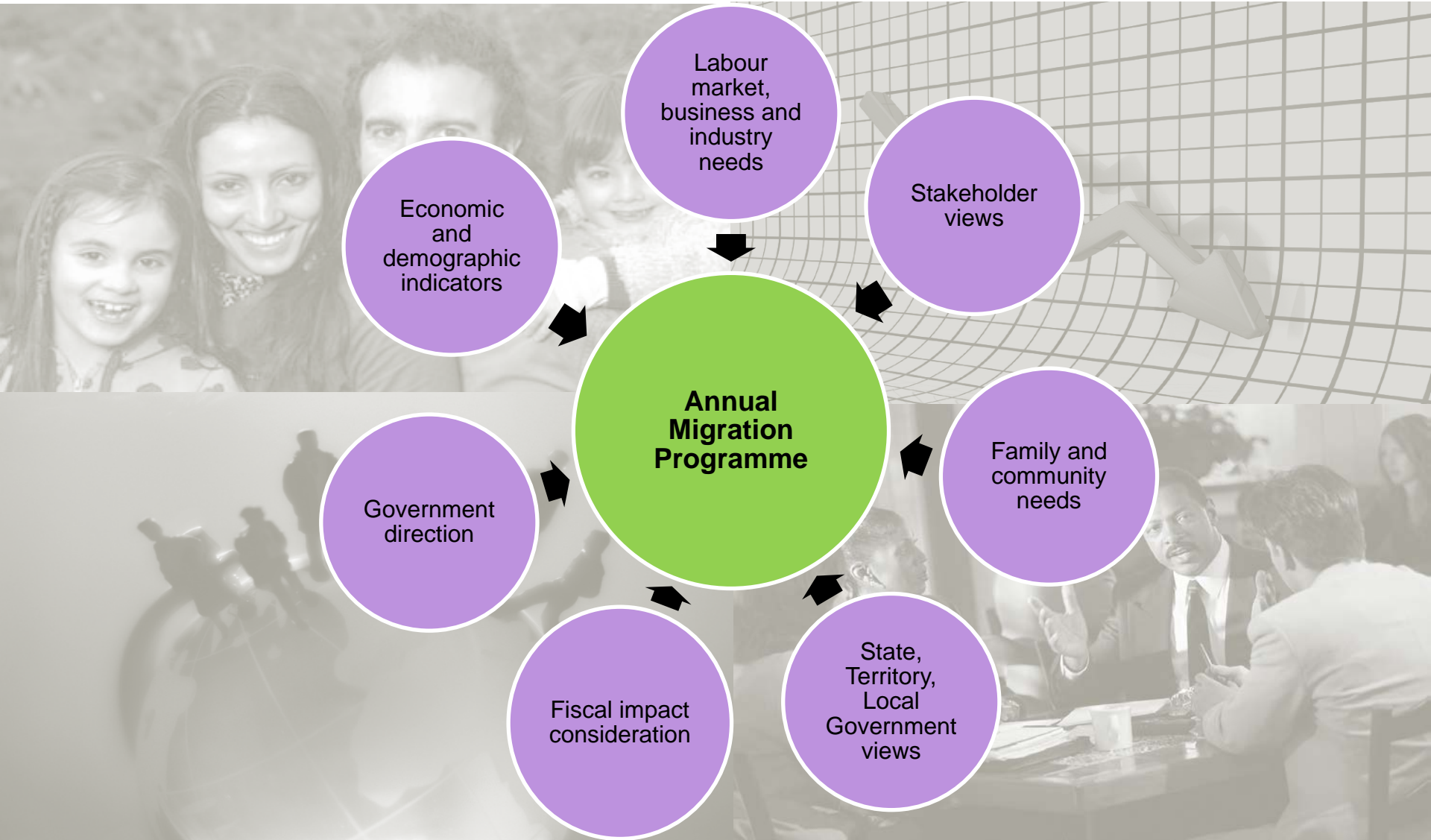Australian Permanent Mission to the United Nations
Geneva, 5 February 2015

people our business

Outline

- Industry skills needs in the Australian context

- Evolution to employer-sponsored, demand-driven migration

- Skills assessment and recognition

- Optimising labour migration programs and the wellbeing of migrants.

- Challenges of addressing needs into the future - planning to achieve the 'triple win'

How do we plan our Migration Programme?

Central node: **Annual Migration Programme**

Surrounding factors:
- Labour market, business and industry needs
- Stakeholder views
- Economic and demographic indicators
- Family and community needs
- Government direction
- State, Territory, Local Government views
- Fiscal impact consideration

Australia's Continuous Survey of Australia's Migrants (CSAM) is designed to examine the labour market integration of recently arrived skilled migrants.

One of the key developments associated with an increase in skilled migration over the last 10 to 15 years, has been a shift away from supply-driven, or independent, points-tested migration, towards employer-sponsored, demand-driven migration
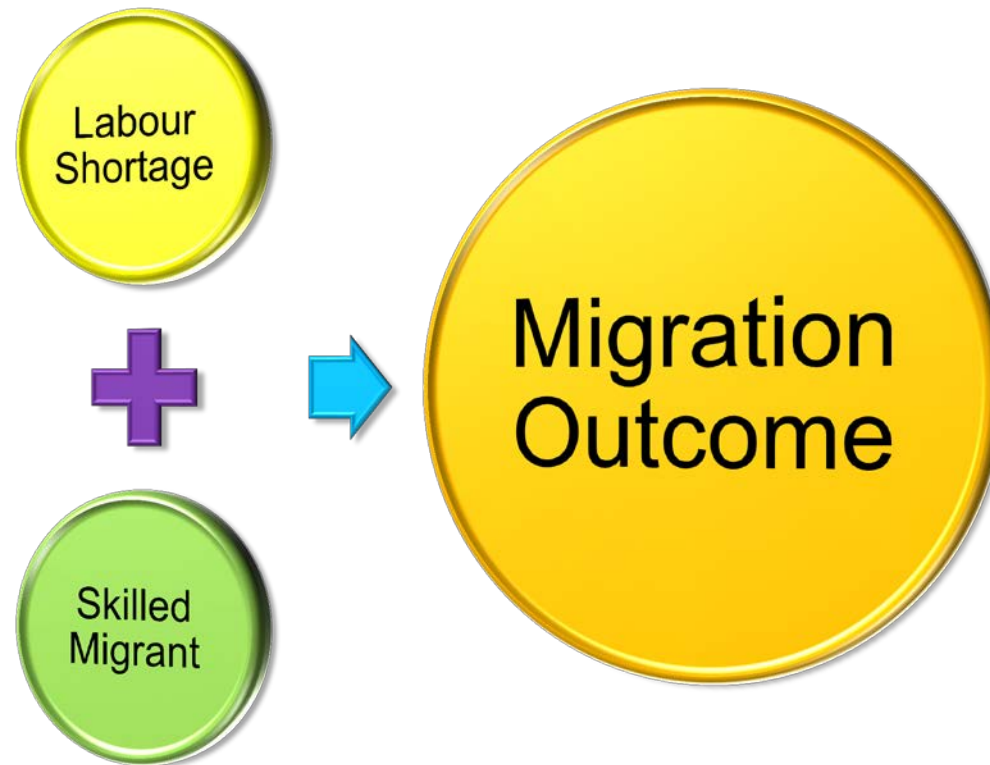
Australia's skills assessment regime is effective because we assess the skills of potential skilled migrants to be able to work in their nominated occupation at the required skill level before we make a decision on their visa application

Application

Skills Assessment

Skills Recognition

Visa Grant
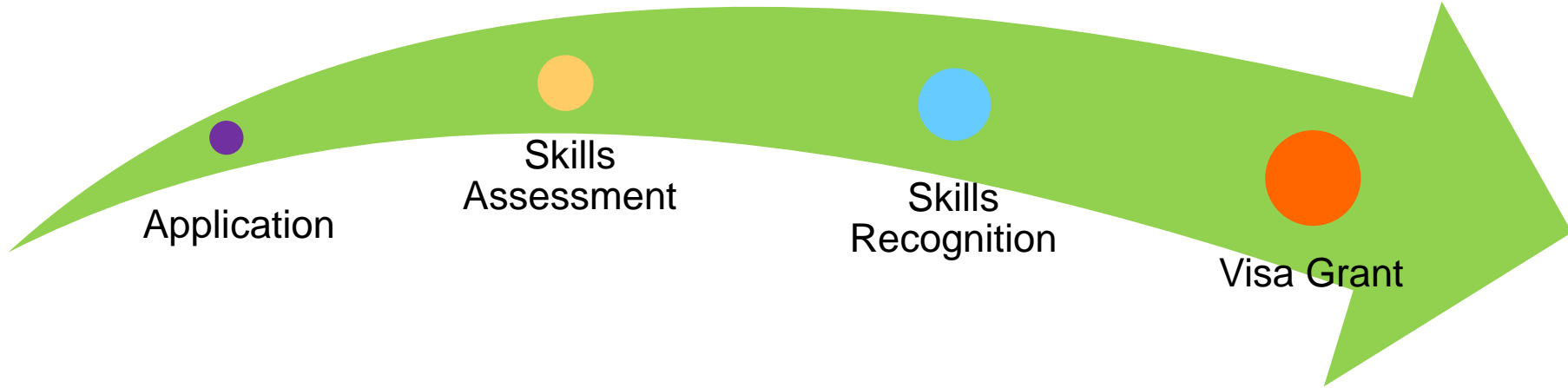
Our Seasonal Worker Programme is a model for circular migration as it aims to give eligible migrants the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge, and send financial remittances home before returning to their country of origin at the end of a defined term.

Australia understands that as labour migration patterns and pathways diversify, ethical recruitment practices and flexible migration programmes are increasingly crucial to optimising and maintaining the integrity of labour migration programs, as well as for the safety and wellbeing of migrants.

Sending Country

Migrant

Destination Country

Australia recognises that we need to be strategic and visionary in meeting the challenges of addressing needs into the future.