

MIGRATION PATHWAYS

Kiribati Australia Nursing Initiative (KANI)

Overview

The Kiribati Australia Nursing Initiative (KANI) is a pilot program designed to educate and train young people in Kiribati to work in the nursing sector in Australia or elsewhere overseas. Its main goal is to reduce Kiribati's youth unemployment and diversify the country's remittance base.

Why was it started?

The government of Kiribati identified youth unemployment as a key constraint to poverty reduction. The Australia government is committed to building skilled workforces to meet domestic needs and participate in international labor markets. Australian development assistance programs work closely to promote skills development in Kiribati. The Kiribati Australia Nursing Initiative fit within the strategic approach to skill and human development.

How does it work?

Sponsored by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), KANI was a four-year scholarship program that led to Australian nursing qualifications up to a bachelor's of nursing. Participants took an academic course and a nursing preparation course (16 weeks each) before beginning a two-year bachelor's of nursing program. All courses were given at Griffith University, in Brisbane.



Country of Destination
AUSTRALIA

Country of Origin
KIRIBATI

Skill
NURSING 

Skill Level
MID-SKILL

Timeline
2006–14

Beneficiaries
90

Countries all around the world utilize migration pathways to train and bring over workers with needed skills. The CGD Migration Pathways database documents these pathways to promote innovation in this space. To explore the database, visit GSP.cgdev.org.

What impact has it had?

An independent assessment conducted in 2013 revealed that the program had had a positive impact, with 81 percent of students earning a bachelor's degree. Most of the first wave of participants (who graduated in 2011) were employed full-time in 2013. At least 68 were working in Australia or New Zealand and spoke good English. Nurses who returned to Kiribati were undertaking further study at Kiribati School of Nursing (KSON) or working in the Kiribati health system, using the knowledge and skills gained through KANI.

Further readings

For an evaluation of the program, see the website of the [Australian government](#).

AusAID. 2006. *Kiribati-Australia Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Sector Strengthening Program: Program Design Document*. <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/kiribati-tvet-design-doc.pdf>

O'Brien, L. (2013). "Migrating with dignity: A study of the Kiribati-Australia Nursing Initiative (KANI)." Doctoral dissertation, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/213404023.pdf>



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