Global Cities and migration: A Sydney perspective

FACT SHEET

**Why is the University of Canberra conducting this research?**

This research aims to provide a better understanding of Sydney and its local Councils in a global context. This is because the Sydney region is regarded as one of a small number of Global Cities around the world that are home to high concentrations of people and international business. Sydney is also an international gateway to the rest of Australia, and Australia’s largest city by population.

**What groups of people will this research focus on?**

Our research focuses on the experiences of residents and workers who have come to the Sydney region from other parts of Australia and/or overseas. Our research will explore issues including the many economic, social, political and cultural links that residents and workers have within Sydney and other Global Cities.

**Why use a survey to conduct this research?**

Our surveys will provide data on how attached residents and workers are to the Sydney region, as well as the main reasons they live and work in certain parts of Sydney, their links to other parts of Australia and the world, and their economic and social contributions to local society. Our survey data will be supported by information from the 2001 and 2011 Censuses, to assess changes in multiculturalism, employment, population, and income levels within local council areas and across the Sydney region.

**What will the survey of residents involve?**

Our “Living in Global Sydney survey” comprises four sections:

1) Demographic details - To show if or how certain demographics (such as age or citizenship status) affect people’s connections within the Sydney region and the outside world.
2) Place of previous residence - To show the diverse range of places Sydney residents are coming from, and the work or industry experience they bring with them.
3) Life in Sydney - To show how long people are living in the Sydney region and the economic contributions they make.
4) Connectivity - To show the many and complex social ties people have within and beyond the Sydney region.

The survey also includes a draw to win one of two Apple iPads, as a way to thank people for taking part.

Personal details of individual survey participants will be kept confidential, and will NOT be used in the reporting of our research findings.

**Where will the research be conducted?**

Surveys are being conducted online, with anyone living and working in the Sydney region encouraged to take part. The Sydney region for the purposes of our research includes 43 LGAs, from Gosford and Wyong in the north, west to the Blue Mountains, and south to Sutherland and...
Wollondilly. We are relying on local councils and chambers of commerce across the region to assist in promoting the survey to potential participants.

**Map of research area**

![Map of Wollondilly](image)

**What will the research findings be used for?**

Our research will help inform strategies and policies for local, state, and federal levels of government, as well as business groups. Advances in Sydney’s global competitiveness and innovation can be obtained through our survey findings on key factors that attract skilled workers to the Sydney region. Urban planning and sustainability can be improved through survey findings on the infrastructure and service needs of Sydney residents and businesses. National migration policy can be enhanced by attracting people with certain skills or job experience in greatest need within Sydney. Social cohesion may also be achieved through finding areas within Sydney where various cultural groups feel most comfortable in contributing to local society.

**Who is conducting this research?**

The research is headed by Dr Richard Hu from the ANZSOG Institute for Governance at the University of Canberra. Dr Hu has a wealth of experience in globalisation, business, and planning matters. He has also worked with local councils, state Government agencies and businesses across Sydney and the NSW coast on successful research projects. The Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) is a partner in this project, which is also being advised by prominent urban policy specialists including Prof. Edward Blakely (University of Sydney) and Prof. Saskia Sassen (Columbia University).

**For more information contact:**

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