

## SETSCoP

### Communique: Fourth meeting of Working with employers sub-group

**Videoconference –13 July 2021**

On 13 July, SETSCoP held its fourth meeting for members of the Working with employers (WWE) sub-group.

#### **Presentation from Thrive**

Executive Chair of Thrive, Huy Truong, presented to WWE members on Thrive's new project funded by the Department of Home Affairs to support HSP and SETS clients to start small businesses. This new funding is in response to the relatively low employment rates and low average income of newly arrived migrants and refugees in the first 10 years since arrival.

Key objectives of the project include to:

- Build the self-employment capacity of those from refugee backgrounds
- Raise awareness regarding self-employment opportunities
- Provide analysis and insights for the sector and the department.

Thrive have been able to support 1550 people to date and with the funding targeted at SETS clients are able to provide loans of up to \$50k to be repaid over 3-5 years. Interest rates vary between 7.5% to 11.5% and are dependent on business factors and risk of investment.

Thrive have numerous relationship managers across the nation who can guide SETS clients through the process of starting a business, which may include linking clients to appropriate mentors who can provide industry-specific advice and support.

#### **Next meeting**

Due to the number of questions and level of engagement by SETSCoP members in the discussion around Thrive, the agenda item of case example discussion around working with employers was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **Resources shared**

[Steps to engage with employers \(SETSCoP\)](#)

[Thrive Refugee Enterprises](#)

Key contact at Thrive for SETS providers: Ljiljana Kadric - [lkadric@tre.org.au](mailto:lkadric@tre.org.au)

[A model for enhanced economic participation outcomes for refugees and vulnerable migrants \(SETSCoP\)](#)

[Settlement Service Providers' Guide To Working Effectively With Employers \(SETSCoP\)](#)