



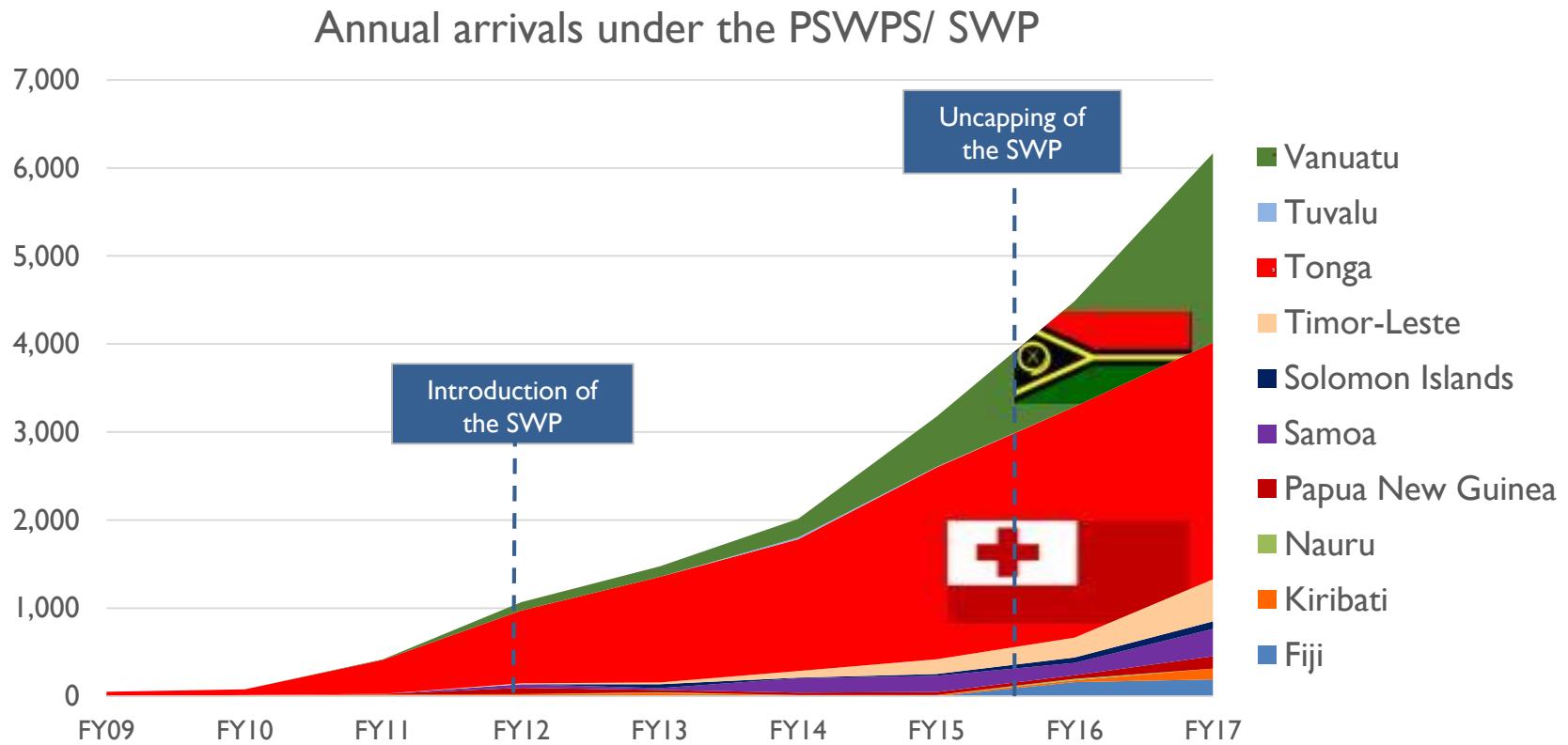
Maximizing the Development Impacts from Temporary Migration

Recommendations for Australia's Seasonal Worker Programme



WORLD BANK GROUP

The programme started slow, but has expanded rapidly



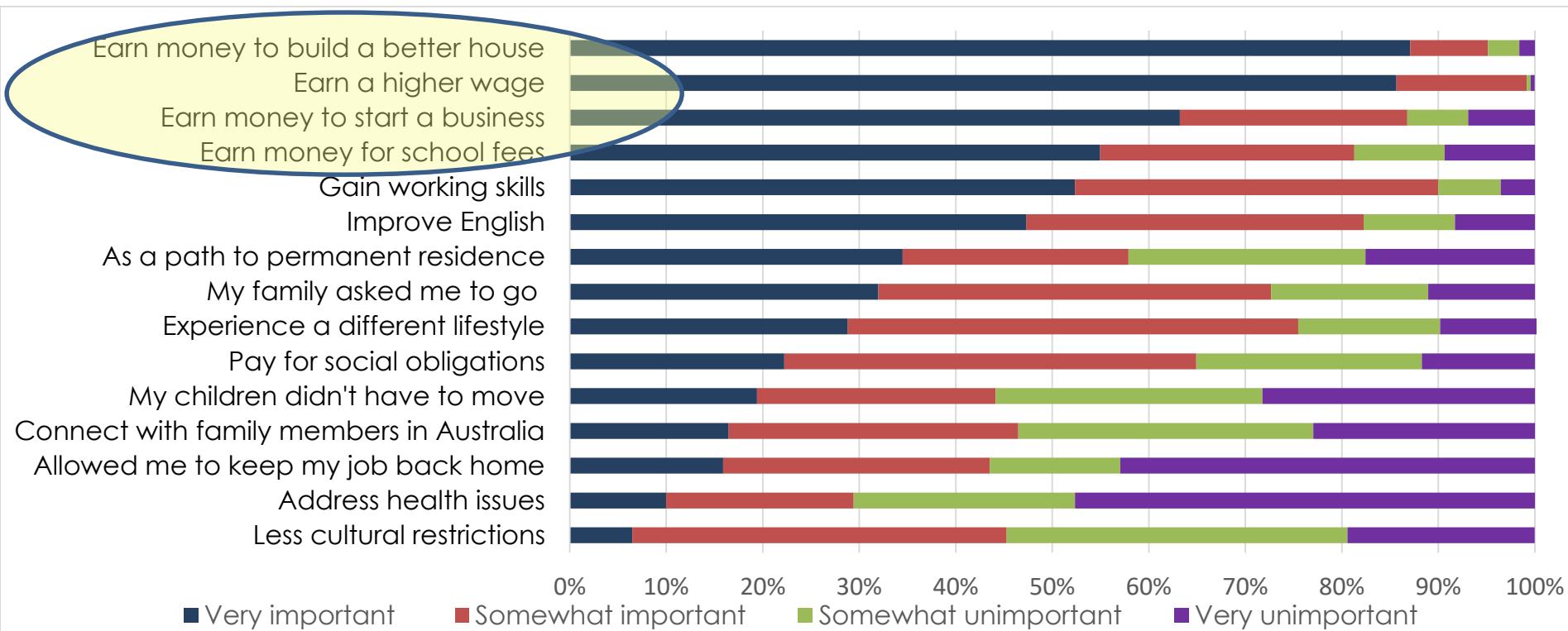
Who is coming to Australia under the Seasonal Worker Programme?

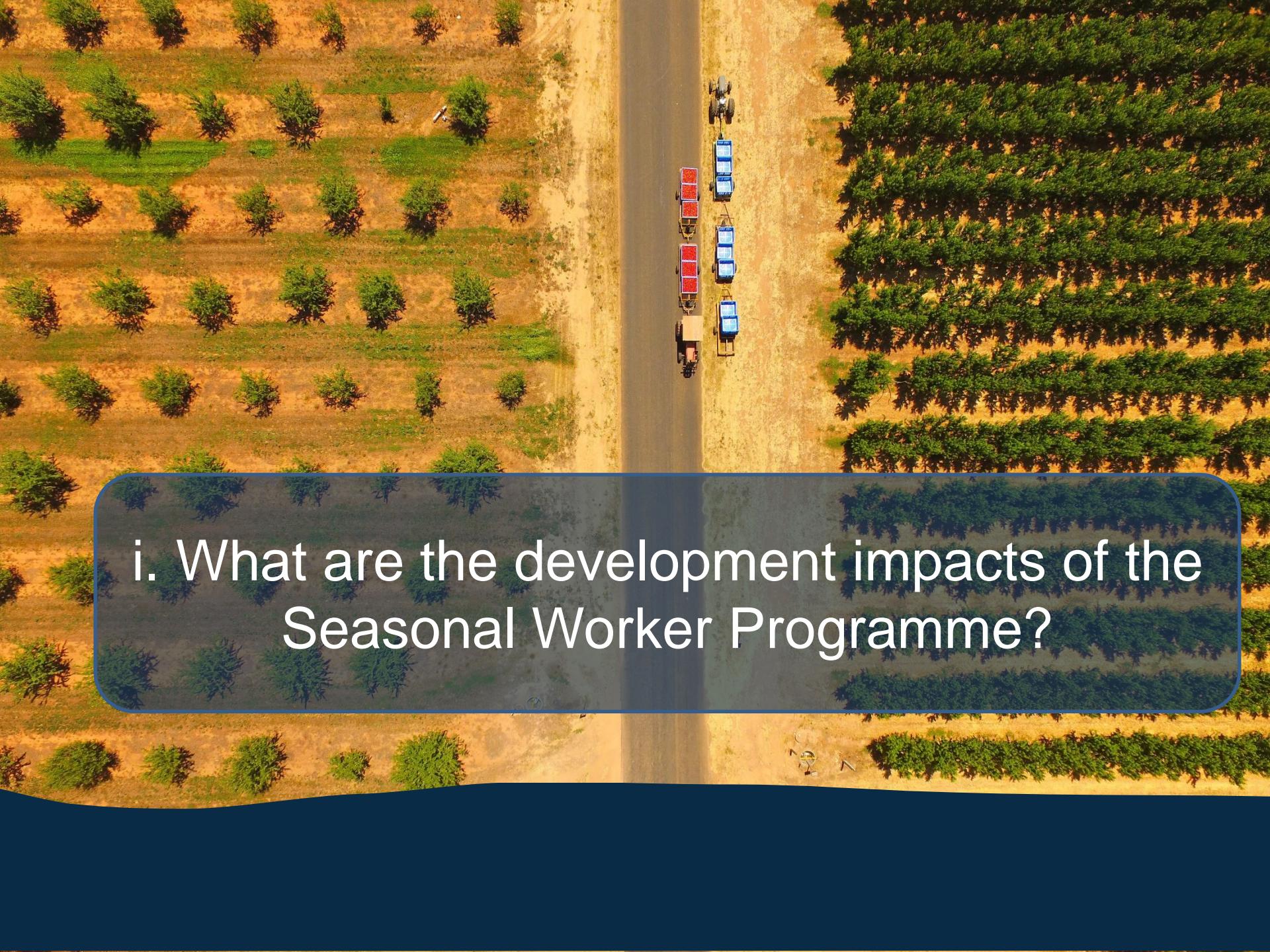
Participating country	Gender	Age	Education	Marital Status
Samoa	Male	31	Secondary	Married
Timor-Leste	Male	30	Tertiary	Single
Tonga	Male	33	Secondary	Married
Vanuatu	Male	33	Primary	De Facto
Other PICs	Male	34	Secondary	Married
Pacific Average	Male	32	Secondary	Married



Why are they coming to participate in the Seasonal Worker Programme?

Relative importance of various factors in determining workers' participation



The background image shows an aerial view of agricultural land. On the left, there are several rows of small, green trees or shrubs planted in a grid pattern on a dry, brown hillside. In the center, a dark grey asphalt road runs vertically. On the right side of the road, there are more rows of green trees, likely grapevines, trained in a fan-like shape. A farm vehicle, possibly a tractor, is visible on the road, pulling several blue trailers filled with red produce, likely cherries. The overall scene suggests a rural, agricultural setting.

i. What are the development impacts of the Seasonal Worker Programme?

How much are workers sending or taking home at the end of their stay?

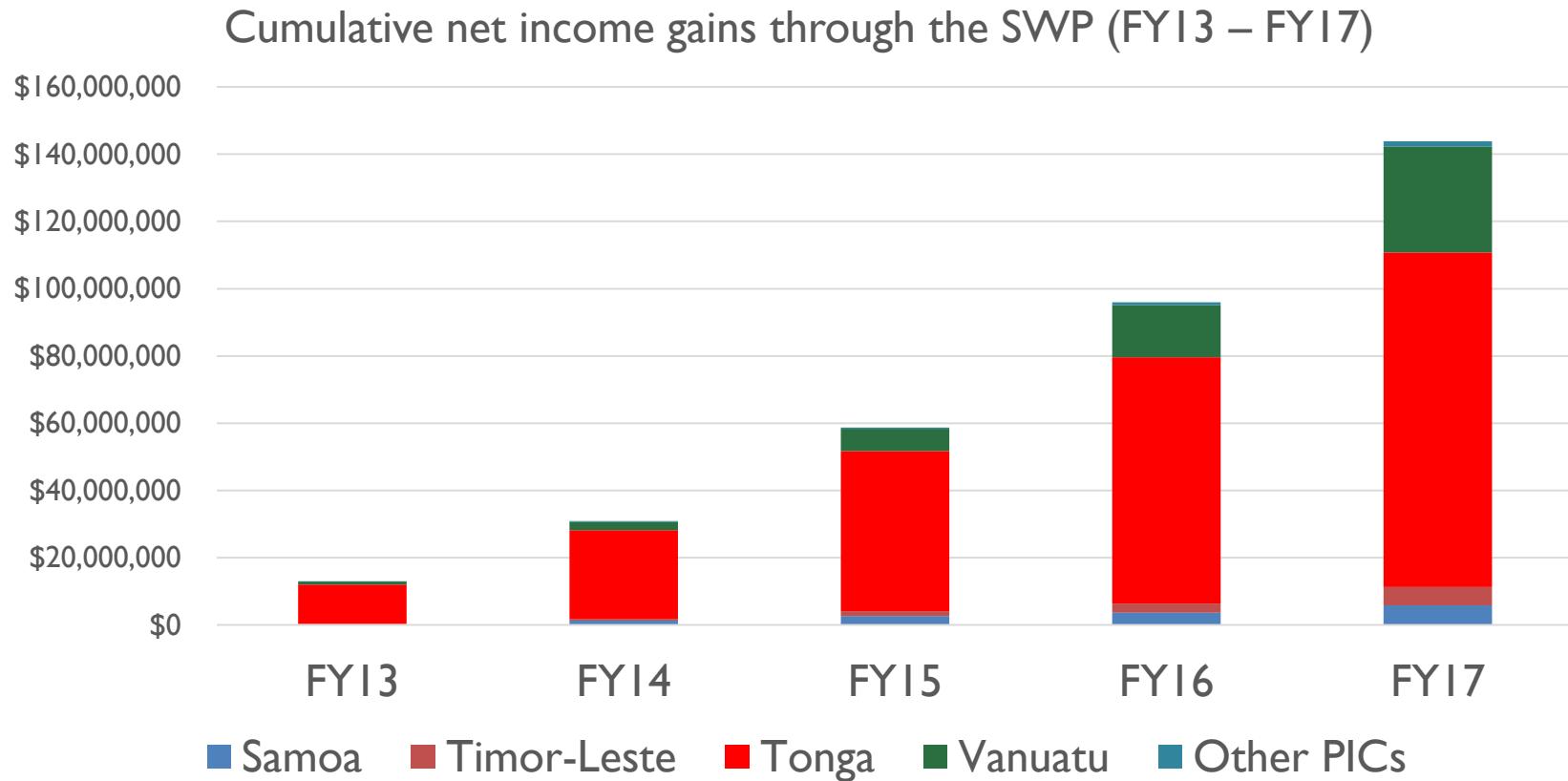


\$2,170
Remittances
(25%)

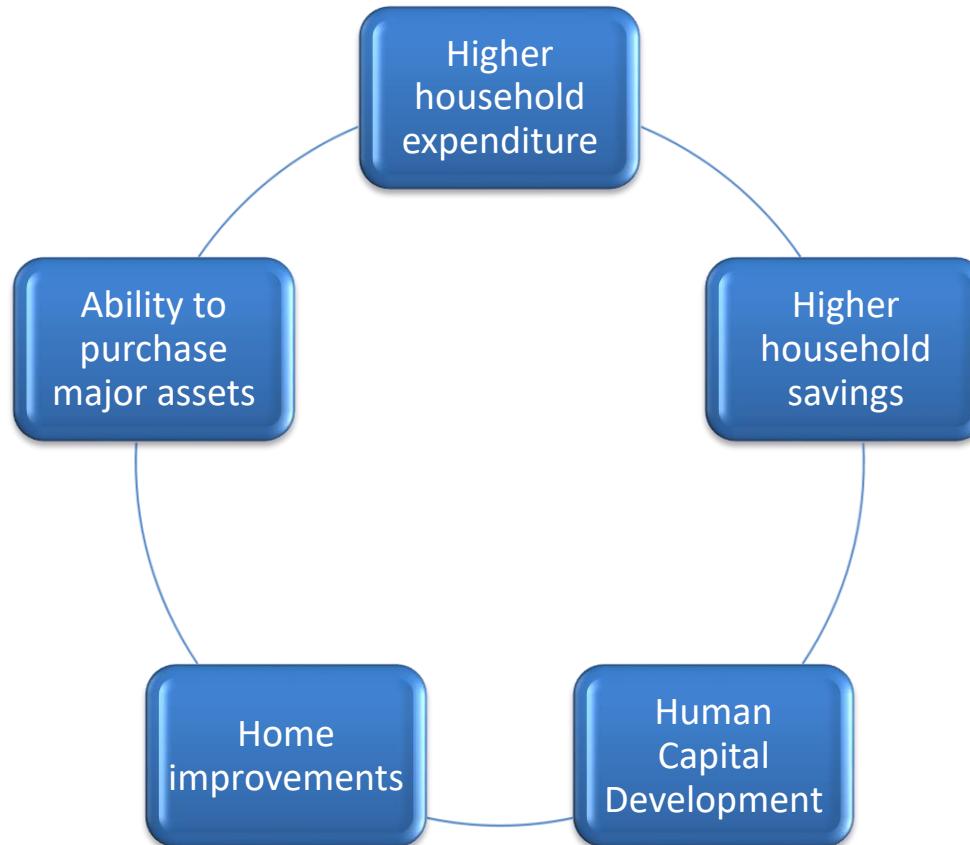


\$6,650
Savings
(75%)

The programme has delivered over \$A144 million in net income gains to Pacific



What is the impact of this additional income at the household level?



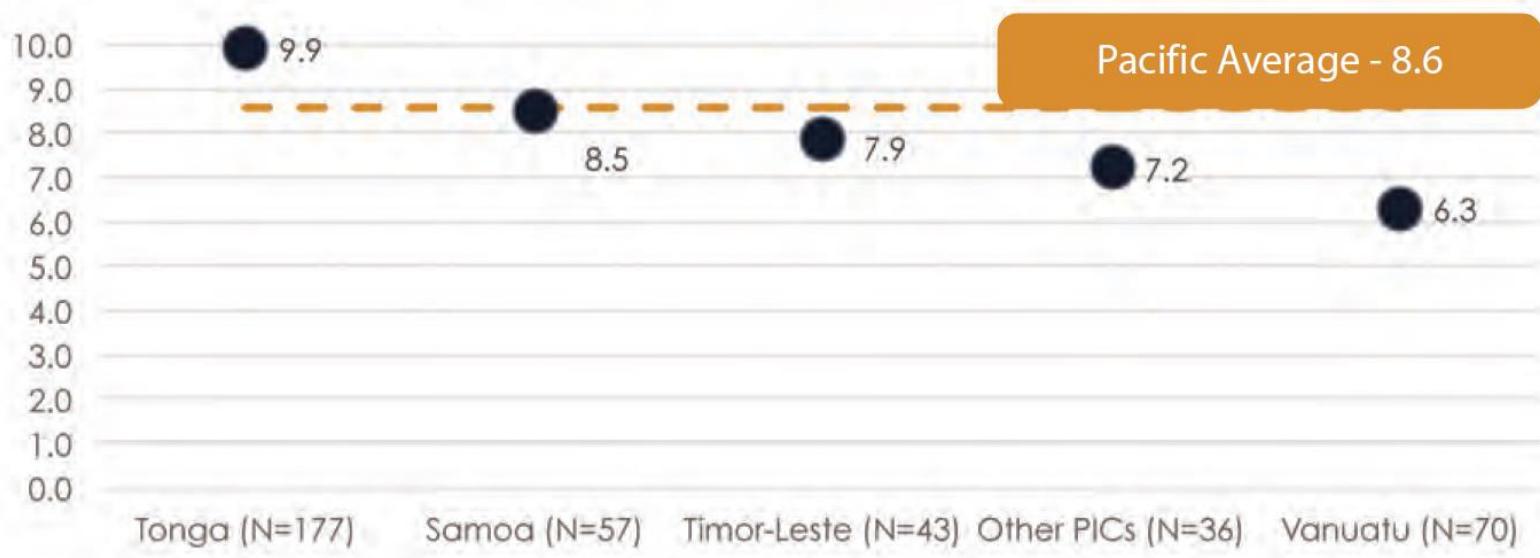
The gains extend beyond the money transferred to other HH members



91% of Pacific seasonal workers feel the skills acquired in Australia will help their employment prospects upon return

The vast majority of workers are extremely satisfied with their experience

Workers reported level of satisfaction with their experience on a scale of 1 to 10



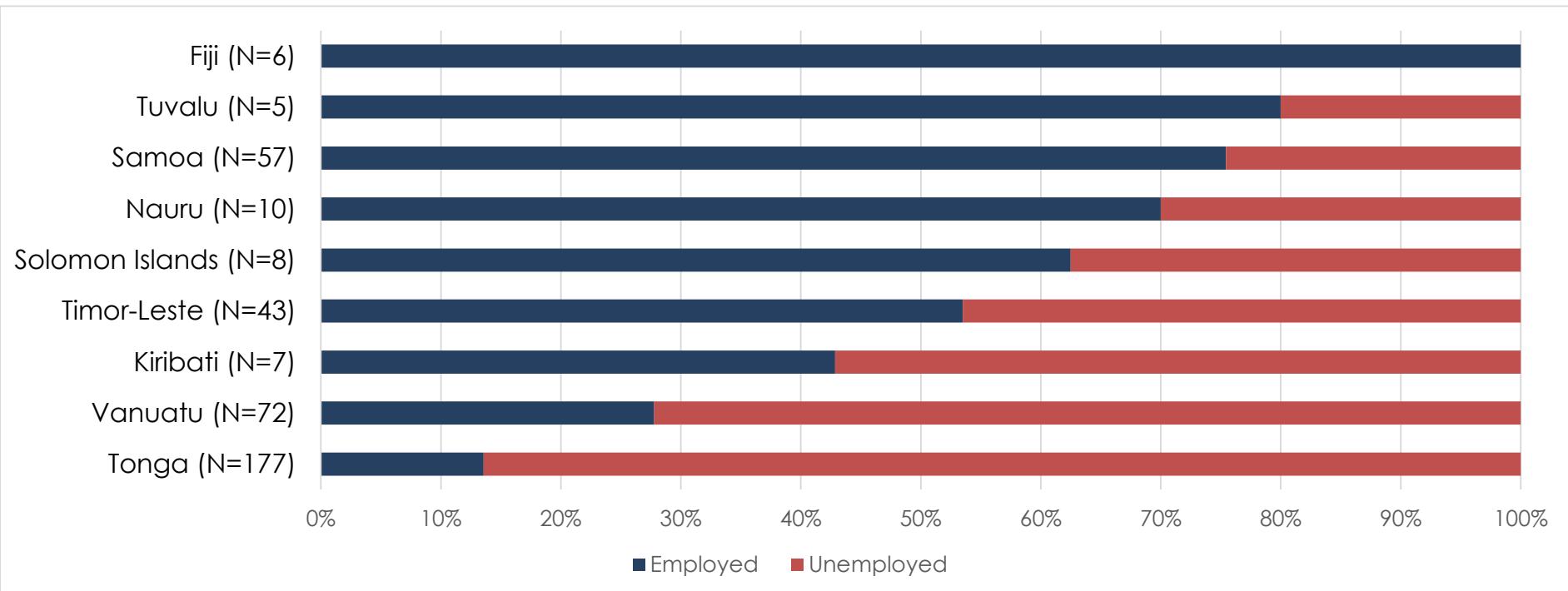
Source: World Bank staff calculations.

A photograph of a man in a red shirt and blue hat picking peaches from a tree. He is holding a peach in his right hand and reaching for another with his left. The background is filled with green leaves and other peaches on the tree.

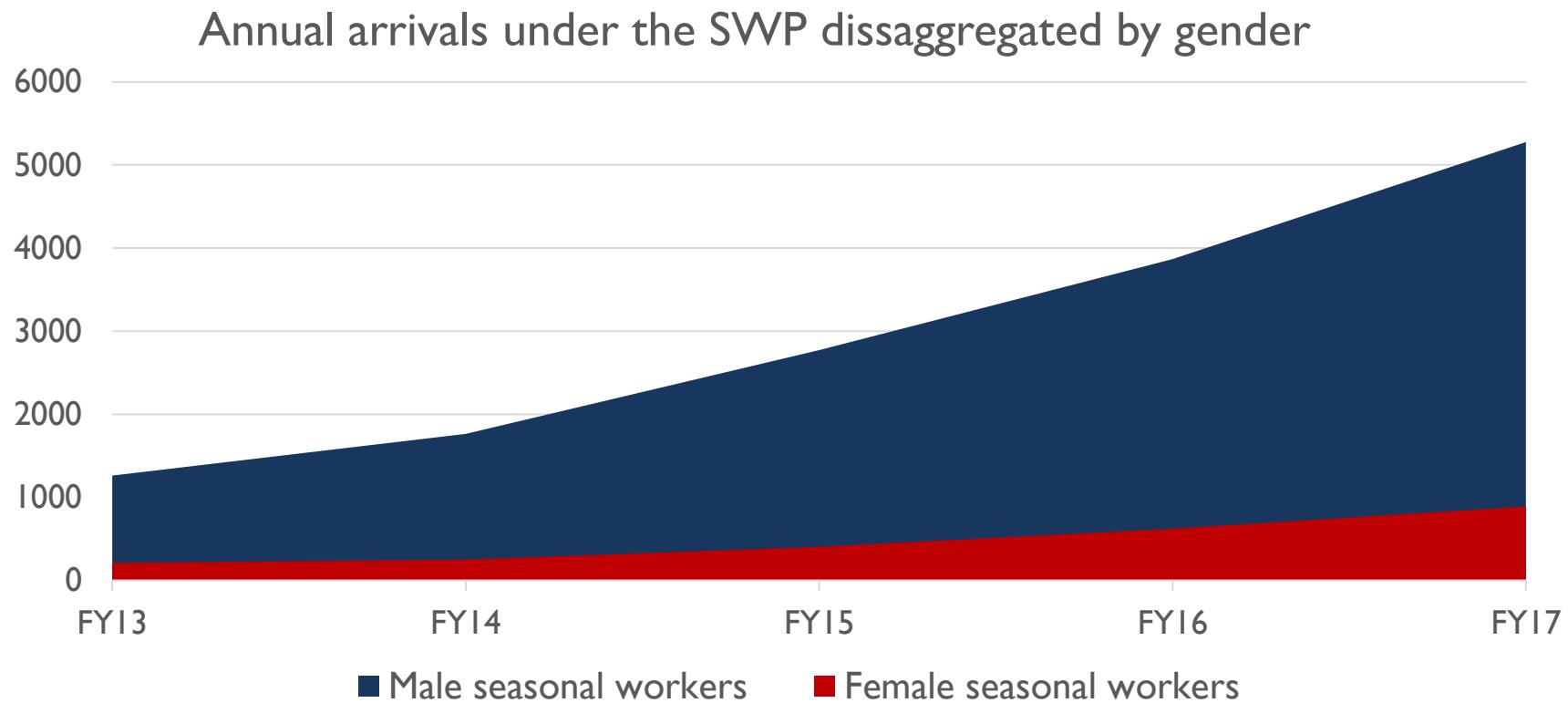
ii. Are there areas that could be tweaked to deliver greater development impacts?

For some sending countries, the majority of workers are employed prior to departure

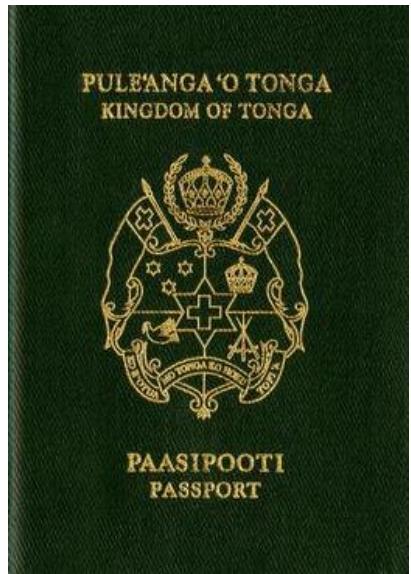
Percentage of workers employed in the 6 months prior to departure



Participation in the programme remains dominated by male workers



Pre-departure costs reduce workers' gains from the programme



Average pre-departure costs are \$1,470 before arriving in Australia

The use of costly MTOs reduces the amount reaching Pacific households

	Fiji	Kiribati	Samoa	Solomon Islands	Tonga	Tuvalu	Vanuatu
Highest cost option	NAB (13%)	Western Union (10%)	Westpac (18.5%)	NAB (18.1%)	Westpac (17.4%)	Western Union (10%)	Xpress Money (19.9%)
Lowest cost option	Xendpay (2.2%)	ANZ (1.8%)	KlickEx (0.7%)	Compass (6.5%)	KlickEx (0.4%)	Money Gram (7%)	Compass (6.5%)
Seasonal workers' choice	Western Union (7.1%)	Western Union (10%)	Western Union (8.8%)	Western Union (13.2%)	Western Union (11.9%)	Western Union (10%)	Western Union (10.7%)

\$11.4 million of superannuation remains inaccessible by Pacific seasonal workers



A photograph of a man standing in a large greenhouse. He is wearing a maroon baseball cap, dark sunglasses, and a bright yellow polo shirt with a small logo on the left chest. He has a beard and is smiling. Behind him are rows of green plants growing in raised beds. A blue rounded rectangular box contains the text.

What would it take to further enhance the development impacts of the programme?

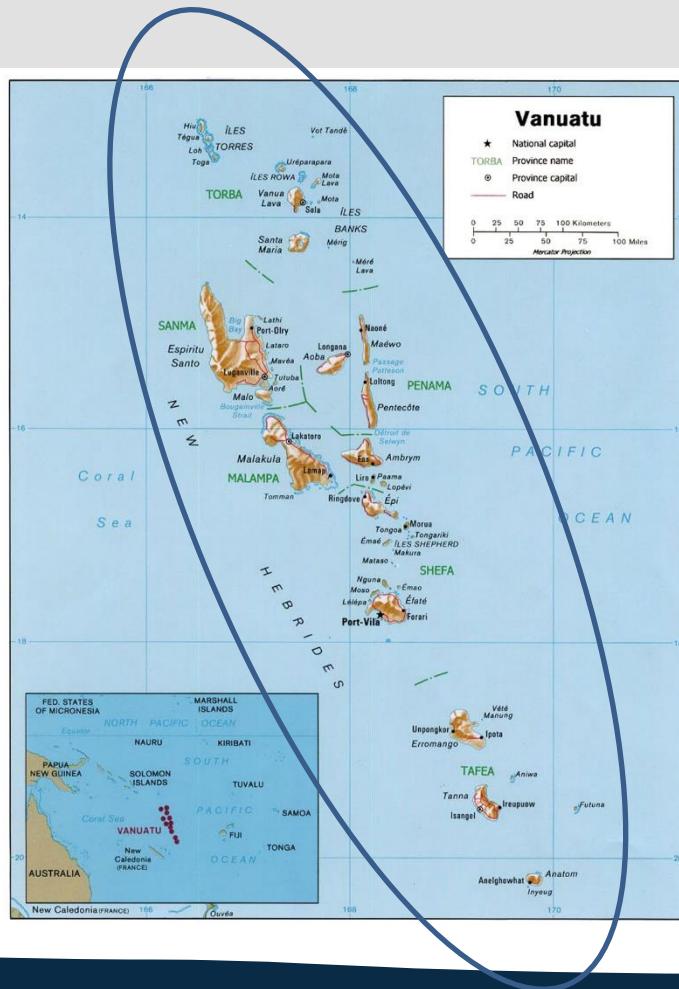
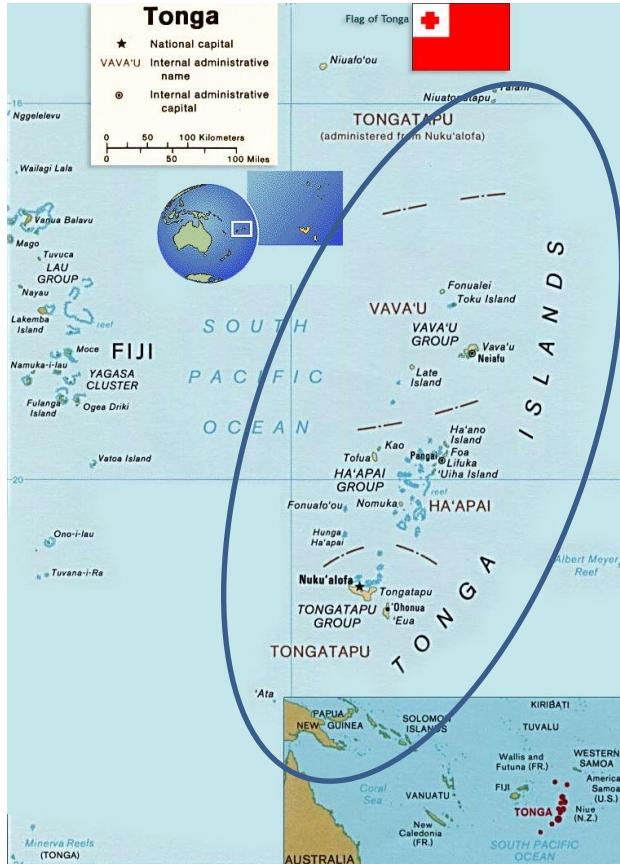
1. Enhance opportunities for countries with lower rates of participation



2. Ensure poorer areas of participating countries are benefiting from the SWP



3. Lower the barriers to participation from more remote areas



4. Increase the female participation rate in the programme



5. Focus recruitment efforts on unemployed labour



6. Examine the scope for reducing pre-departure costs

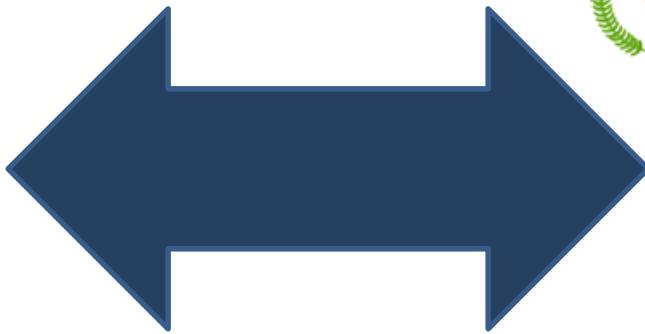


7. Encourage the use of lower-cost MTOs/ banks for remitting



If the lowest cost remittances provider had been used by all workers, an additional \$13.5 million would have gone to the Pacific since 2012

8. Enhance the portability and ease of accessing superannuation



9. Provide tailored financial advice and savings options upon return



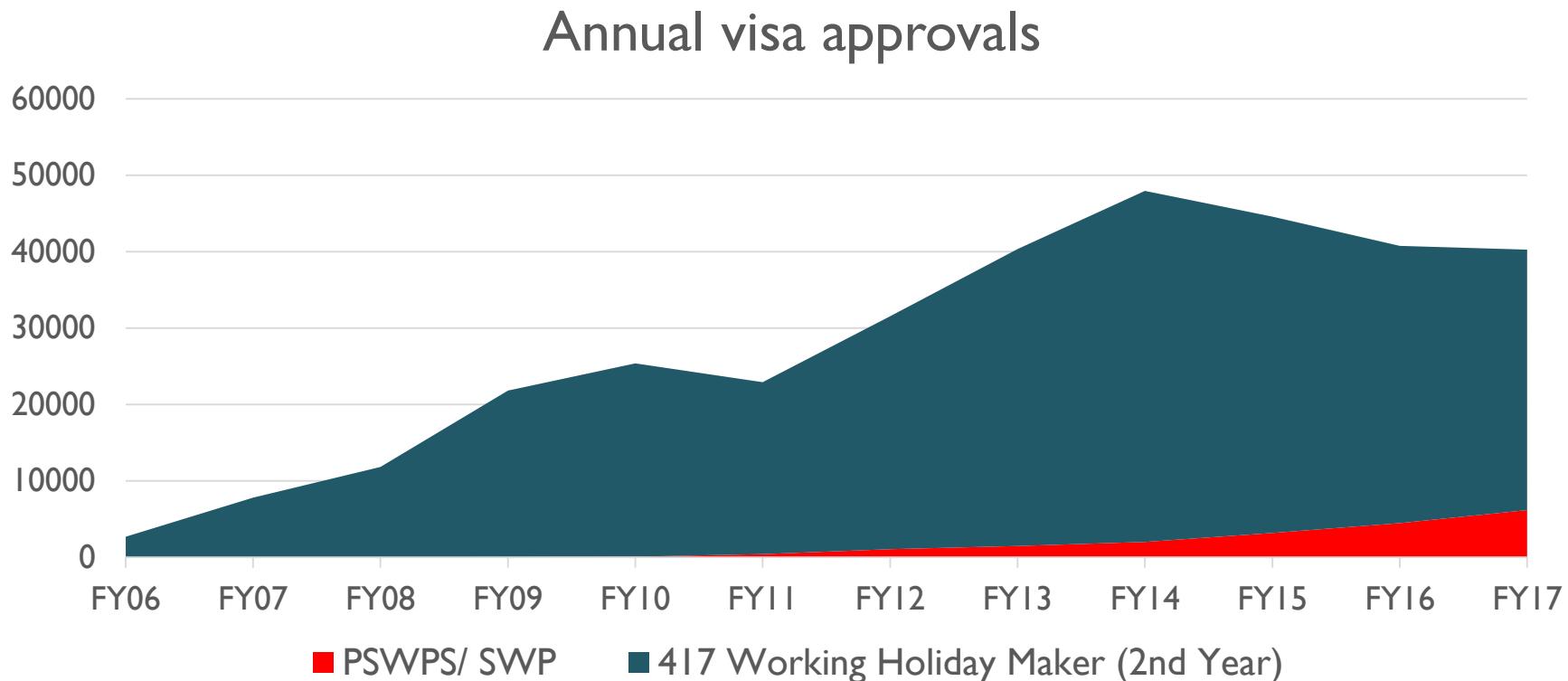
10. Provide greater transparency around the use of community contributions



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11. Address the demand-side constraints to increase the number of arrivals



In Conclusion...

1. The development impact of the SWP since its inception have been massive – over \$144 million in net income gains since 2012
2. There are a number of measures that could help boost the development impact around the margins
3. However, the best way to increase the impact is to ensure continued growth in the number of Pacific seasonal workers