



Part I: Shaping the Future of Tautoko Sessions

The November Tautoko session was seeking to hear from researchers in the former refugee and ethnic migrant communities about how we can continue tautoko / support you in ways of value to you.

We asked:

1. What are the community researchers' visions and expectations for the future of the tautoko session and their involvement in the sessions?
2. What outcomes do community researchers hope to get from their involvement in the tautoko session?
3. How can Community Research further contribute to supporting ethnic migrants and former refugee communities, beyond the tautoko sessions?

This document is what you have shared with us in the discussion from the session, please share any further thoughts or comments. If you couldn't participate in our discussion, we invite you to feel free to share your thoughts below.

Part 2 includes links to what Community Research has done to support the mahi in this space.

(Because this is a shared google doc please be careful not to erase others' comments).

Some feedback we received during the session:

- There is value in both informal and formal sessions, formal - structured to share research and collaboration. Informal, to kōrero, connect and share knowledge and experiences.
- The group can be a place for everyone to share what they're working on.
- Sharing stories is valuable to help people feel like they're not alone.
- Quality of evidence - there's value in a collective of researchers to bounce ideas off, including whether 'evidence' sourced in research is robust.

- This group should privilege the voices of former refugee and ethnic migrant voices, as people whose voices often aren't heard in other spaces.
- It could be helpful to have a once a year 'top of mind' session to discuss opportunities for new / needed research. The group could be a "seed-bed of opportunities".
- The group can be a safe space for emerging researchers to test out ideas / fresh minds which aren't their supervisors, etc.
- There can be a lot of discussion about barriers and not much movement towards solutions.
- Allow space for the different experiences of migrants versus forced migrants.
- There is value in knowing 'what's on' in the research space, so as to support each other and avoid duplication.
- Shift from seeking help to fostering partnerships with community researchers and explore ways for them to lead and ride alongside in research projects.
- A list of community members who community researchers could collaborate with would be a great resource for all.
- Maintain a live document detailing current projects. And that will support more opportunities for collaboration among projects. Ensure active engagement with existing research to stay updated.
- Establish connections with potential funders and explore opportunities for financial support. Work collectively to source funding and resources.

Please feel free to add more below here, (and / or add comments to the above):

- COMMENT: Just want to re-affirm the points above and how important I think they all are.
- REQUEST: I think it would be beneficial and timely to create a safe space to discuss frameworks developed from a Mātauranga Māori lens vs other ethnic and indigeneous frameworks used internationally (e.g. Research by Dr. Rachel Tapera). I think there is a lot to be learned from each other.

Part II: How Community Research Supports You

In 2022 we launched the special collection, '[Hear from us, not about us – Refugee-background and ethnic migrant communities](#)'. This collection focussed on highlighting the research produced by this community, and currently hosts 186 unique pieces of research. (If you want to have your research added to this site, [click here](#) or contact us.)

In July 2023, we hosted the online tautoko session featuring research by Rachel Tapera on "[What are the social effects of neurodivergence on African migrants in Aotearoa New Zealand?](#)" Rachel showed how she skillfully weaves together the concepts of Ubuntu and Te Ao Māori in her study on neurodiversity. Her insights inspired and enriched our understanding of respectfully addressing the mixing together of these two methodologies for research.

In August 2023, Community Research hosted the collaborative webinar, '[Beyond Consultation: Unpacking the important elements of meaningful refugee partnership and participation in the research field](#)'. In partnership, Community Research, Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network, Link NZ, and National Refugee Youth Council came together for this kōrero to unpack the systemic barriers to genuine partnership.

2023 also featured informal tautoko sessions for researchers to kōrero and share insights. Your feedback on the future of this space will help us ensure our efforts to support this community remain useful and relevant for your journey. Kia ora and ngā mihi from our whole team!