

Attachment 1: Responses from project participants

1. “Thank you for sending the current list of vacancies. Unfortunately, there seems to be no fitted role for any one of XXXX and me. Both of us are still looking for a full time job. Right now, XXXX is working at McDonald's while I work at New World, for us to start getting customer experience, have a feel of the work environment and also, further improve our communication with New Zealanders. Just in case a new list would come up, kindly send us copies again. We highly appreciate the assistance that you are extending to us.”
2. “It's XXXX, have contact you few days ago for appointment with you on Friday. I'm writing this email to let you know I just received my job offer with ACC, and going to take a break for my job hunting in the near future. so our appointment will be cancelled. But thank you so much for offering me help and time. Really appreciate it. By the way few of my friends are doing job hunting as well, they are graduates of Victoria Uni and it's been a really hard hunting season, especially for our international students, we are lack of information and local network, perhaps need a bit extra help from the community to overcome it. So I am wondering if it's ok for me introduce you to them, so they can get in touch with you directly for more help. Please let me know”
3. “Thank you. It is not my natural self to swear and curse. I am still trying very hard not to. Somehow, I feel it is not fair but ???????...At one point, XXXX was emotionally broken and do not know where XXXX is ??? out in Wellington town, lucky for me I happened to phone her and I am a little afraid that he may hurt XXXX and is glad XXXX wants to return home. Please extend further help to XXXX as necessary even though it may inconvenience you and take up your time. (XXXX is rather afraid of taking up your time) I apologise on XXXX behalf, for XXXX not being able to complete her contract for the Council with you. I am sorry.one day, I will get to meet you and extend my personal Thank You but in the meantime it has to be by email. Do keep in touch with XXXX always”
4. “**1. Benefits-** For me a clear benefit is the fact that jobs in government that are usually handled by recruitment agencies have been brought closer to us. Dealing with the project, provides a forum for interaction where the candidate can express themselves in a more relaxed environment. At this point the project can advise whether the candidate is suitable for the position or not. With the recruitment agency the Cv's we send are at the discretion of the agency. The agency will be at a disadvantage in processing an application, especially if the Cv says no New Zealand experience. Questions like can this potential candidate even communicate with others in the English language, can not easily be answered without interaction with the candidates.
5. **(b)** Coming to New Zealand (or any other Country) provides challenges with learning how the system works. Its not that the candidate does not have the skills but just that the system is different. For example legislation is usually different.

Although the principles may be same (a professional person must be able to understand the basic principles), the candidate will still need to adapt to the new system in order to respond efficiently. Private sector employers have no time to teach the new migrants these basics. They are profit making and need only people who already understand the system. On the other hand government is not profit making but service oriented. They will afford time to orient the candidate.(c) For me, for the project to assist in the preparing the candidate on how to do Cv's and cover letters the New Zealand style is a benefit.**2. Areas of improvement.**- I think that the project should network more with especially the private sector because they are the engine of the economy. It is there that the skills are really needed. Apprenticeships with those companies needing extra hands should be encouraged even for lower wages. The candidates are also looking for some form of income and this will adapt both the candidate and the employer. (Again i say this with some ignorance as i do not know if the project is doing this already).**3. Any other comments about job connect.**- My only comment is that for the project to be successful it must show cause why it should exist. Therefore the project should also survey the employers who have benefited from the project. These should indicate whether the people employed from the project are as good or even better than those recruited from the open job market. This kind of evidence based analysis will show a clear cause for the existence of such a well intended project.”

6. “Interesting and challenging. There are few softwares I've never used before and am trying to catch them up as quickly as possible. I even enrol the adult education course for one of the softwares, ha.”
7. “Happy to see your mail again.Thanks. My job as "Sample reception technician" is going on well. I would like to have a favour from you, one of my friend - XXXX, from India is searching for a job in Wellington. I have asked her to contact you and she will be contacting you soon. Kindly help her in finding a job for her. Thanks & regards,”

“I express my heartfelt gratitude for all the help you have given me. Yesterday I signed an employment contract with the Ministry of Education which was just right in time when in the evening I got an email from the Immigration Department re the expiration of our permits in NZ on November 18. I am blessed that I have met you and that kept me to go on and persevere in my job hunt. If not for people like you I could have given up in the first few months of my job search. I wish you all the best and may you continue to give strength and inspire all the other new migrants who are struggling to look for work and have a better life here in New Zealand”.