

Blaise Itabelo

Senior community engagement and partnerships leader

PROFILE

I help organisations build trusted partnerships, involve communities in decisions and turn shared purpose into practical action. My work brings together national engagement, international development, speaking and facilitation, shaped by lived experience and approximately 15 years of professional practice.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia | April 2022-September 2026

National Manager - Community Partnerships & Engagement. National mobilisation, partnership development and community capability supporting community-led refugee settlement.

SSI / Access Community Services | 2019-2022

Community Engagement & Development Manager. Organisation-wide engagement linking community perspectives with programmes, services and decisions.

WorldShare Australia | 2017-2019

International Programs & Partnerships Director. Executive portfolio responsibility spanning eight countries, including programme quality, partnerships, budgets and risk.

Access Community Services | 2013-2017

Community development coordination and earlier settlement roles, connecting individual support with local participation and partnerships.

Okapi Migration Services | 2015-present

Founder and Registered Migration Agent, MARN 1571548. A separate professional practice involving operational leadership, compliance and service quality.

CONTRIBUTION

Engagement strategy and consultation; needs assessment and programme planning; partnership development; speaking, MC and facilitation; advisory and governance contribution.

PERSPECTIVE

My journey from the Democratic Republic of Congo through Tanzania/Nyarugusu to Australia informs my attention to dignity, participation and belonging. Portfolio scope describes professional responsibility, not countries visited.