

## COVER SHEET

<p><b>1. Building the capability of economic development practitioners in the provinces PGF Application</b></p>	<p><b>For: Approval</b></p>
<p><b>Background &amp; context:</b></p>	<p><b>Recommendation:</b></p>
<p><b>Applicant Organisation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Development NZ (EDNZ)</li> </ul> <p>A national not for profit professional membership organisation representing economic development practitioners</p> <p><b>Location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposal:</b></p> <p>A three year project with the objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and improve the regional capability of economic development practitioners in the identification, development, and delivery of transformation projects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The development and delivery of a national professional development programme; and</li> <li>The establishment of an online repository for best practise economic development resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Project time frames</b></p> <p><b>Year 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of <small>Commercial Information</small> professional development courses</li> <li>Establishment of best practice online portal and the publication of existing resources</li> <li>Establishment of processes to manage the quality of existing and new portal content</li> </ul> <p><b>Year 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of <small>Commercial Information</small> professional development courses</li> <li>Maintenance and development of the online portal</li> </ul>	<p><b>We recommend that the SROs:</b></p> <p><b>a) Note</b> that the EDNZ Board is made up of the CEOs of the 14 Regional Development Agencies (RDAs). The Board of EDNZ will govern the project.</p> <p><b>b) Note</b> that members participated in a training needs analysis that was completed late 2017 that captured gaps and opportunities for development.</p> <p><b>c) Note</b> that EDNZ's Executive Officer, who has many years' experience in developing and implementing a professional development programme, will manage the project.</p> <p><b>d) Note</b> that EDNZ will maintain the programme without PGF funding after year 3 of the project.</p> <p><b>e) Note</b> the project has been assessed by the PDU and PGF funding criteria categories including Economic Benefit, Additionality, Regional Stakeholder Support, and Management and Governance are evidenced.</p> <p><b>f) Approve</b> a commitment of \$<small>Commercial Information</small> over three years from the PGF to be allocated towards the "Building the capability of economic development practitioners in the provinces" project. subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Head of the PDU Investment Team being satisfied with the results of due diligence;</li> </ul>

**Year 3**

- Delivery of <sup>Comme</sup> professional development courses
- Maintenance and development of online portal

**Funding Sought:**

- Total project value: \$<sup>Commercial Information</sup>
- PGF Funding: \$<sup>Commercial Information</sup>

- A formal review to be undertaken on an annual basis with the continuation of funding subject to the achievement of agreed performance criteria;
- The provision of quarterly reports with measurement against agreed key performance criteria; and
- A procurement process agreed to by MBIE.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Courses	Commercial Information		
Online Portal			
<b>Total</b>			
Co-funding			
PGF			

Budget provided

**Background:**

- There is currently no economic development professional training programme available within NZ
- There are a small number of agencies offering tips, tools and best practice. The proposed online repository will centralise, manage, and maintain the relevancy of support material.
- The level of experience and skill varies greatly across the RDAs, regional tourism organisations and other local economic development agencies.

**The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending PGF funds to the Building the capability of economic development practitioners in the provinces project.**

**Alignment to PGF criteria:**

*Increased Economic Benefit*

The project directly targets improving the capability of the regions (including surge regions) to successfully deliver on projects and provide investment ready propositions. Raising capability across the RDA network will work towards ensuring the outcome of the PGF will be achieved effectively, efficiently and without controversy.

*Additionality*

The project's output supports and develops the existing capabilities of the economic development practitioners.

*Alignment with regional plans/ Stakeholder support*

With the EDNZ Board being made up of the CEOs of the 14 RDAs there has been significant

involvement at grass root level in the development of the proposed outputs for this project. There has been active promotion of the project at a regional level through the RDAs.

#### *Management and Governance*

The 14 RDAs will be directly involved in governance and management through the EDNZ Board.

#### **Risks Issues:**

- The professional development programme may not attract the expected student numbers
  - *Mitigation* - There is strong commitment at RDA level through the CEOs, who have significant investment in the successful implementation of the project. With the completion of the training needs analysis, course content can be tailored appropriately.

#### **Eligibility points of note:**

- *Due diligence*: Full due diligence is to be completed. This includes due diligence on the professional development course providers engaged by EDNZ. It is a condition of approval that due diligence is to be to the satisfaction of the Head of PDU Investment team.
- *Conflict(s) of interest*: Based on the information provided no conflict of interest is evident noting that full due diligence will inform this item further.
- *Illegal Activity*: Based on the application information provided and feedback from other agencies there is no indication that the applicant or project has been involved in, or associated with illegal activity.
- *Alignment with Regional development plans*: The project aligns through the up-skilling and professional development of RDAs tasked with progressing proposals through to successful implementation
- *Commercial funding availability*: Given the nature of the project which is to fund a not for profit professional membership organisation access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option.

#### **Consultation undertaken or implications:**

<b>Legal</b>	N/A	<b>HR</b>	N/A	<b>Finance</b>	N/A	<b>MBIE policy</b>	N/A	<b>Other</b>	
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#### **Supporting proposal:**

Yes

#### **Appendices:**

Yes - Application

#### **Sponsor(s):**

N/A

#### **Manager/Author of paper:**

Nick Hough, Investment Team