

COVER SHEET

3.17 New Zealand School of Applied Bio-Diversity Project PGF EoI/ Application		For: Approve	
Tier: 1 - Regional	Sector: Feasibility Study		
Background & context:		Recommendation(s):	
<p>Applicant Organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next Foundation <p>Location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taranaki <p>Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility study funding to assess the viability of establishing a bio-diversity research and teaching institute based in Taranaki <p>Funding Sought:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total project value: \$ <small>Commercial Information</small> PGF Funding: \$95,000 <p>Background:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taranaki is an environmentally diverse region extending from coastal to alpine environments. The focus of the research institute would be to undertake restoration projects enhancing the return and maintenance of natural biodiversity in Taranaki. Potential spin offs include creation of new enterprises and job creation, greater understanding of the natural environment (and associated modelling) , foreign investment, tourism and medical opportunities. 		<p>We recommend that the SRO:</p> <p>a) Consider the application.</p> <p>b) Note that Commercial Information will be allocated to the cost of employing <small>Commercial Information</small></p> <p>c) Approve \$95K from the PGF fund towards the project subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Information 	

PGF criteria that this proposal supports:		
PGF Criteria	Assessment Commentary	Rating (1✓ to 5✓)
Link with fund and government outcomes		
Creates permanent jobs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to be determined via feasibility study 	✓✓✓
Delivers benefit to the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly aims to provide benefits to the community 	✓✓✓
Increased utilisation and returns of Maori asset base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unclear – to be determined. It appears the project is supported by local iwi as an important stakeholder 	✓✓✓
Enhanced sustainability of natural assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a primary objective (restoration and enhancement) 	✓✓✓
Mitigation of climate change effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to be an outcome (restoration of natural habitat, greater awareness) 	✓✓✓
Additionality		
Adding value by building on what is already there	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds on Taranaki's diverse environment and 	✓✓✓
Acts as a catalyst for productivity potential in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potentially 	✓✓✓
Connected to regional stakeholders and frameworks		
Alignment with regional priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation is a key deliverable of the feasibility study 	✓✓✓
Support from local governance groups (inc. Councils, Iwi/Hapu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters of Support from <small>Commercial In</small> and <small>Commercial Information</small> 	✓✓✓
Governance, risk management and project execution		
Robust project management and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliance on Project Leader and Next Foundation governance 	✓✓✓

governance systems									
Risk management approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal during feasibility study stage 	✓✓✓							
Future ownership / operational management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined 								
The purpose of this briefing is to consider recommending/ declining PGF funds to the project									
<p>Risks Issues:</p> <p><i>Key risks identified (with mitigations)</i></p> <p><i>Access to stakeholders/ consultation - regular communication</i></p> <p><i>Contractor pricing - transparency</i></p> <p>Eligibility points of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Due diligence:-</i> Full due diligence is to be completed. It is a condition of approval that due diligence is to be to the satisfaction of the Head of PDU Investment team. <i>Conflict(s) of interest:-</i> Based on the information provided no conflict of interest is evident noting that full due diligence will inform this item further. <i>Illegal Activity:-</i> 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. <i>Alignment with Regional development plans:-</i> <i>Commercial funding availability:-</i> Given the nature of the project which is to undertake a feasibility study, access to commercial funding is not considered a feasible option. 									
Consultation undertaken or implications:									
Legal	N/A	HR	N/A	Finance	N/A	MBIE policy	N/A	Other	
<p>Supporting proposal: Yes</p> <p>Appendices: Yes - Applications Commercial Information</p> <p>Sponsor(s): N/A</p> <p>Manager/Author of paper: DVZ /MC Investment Team</p>									