



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

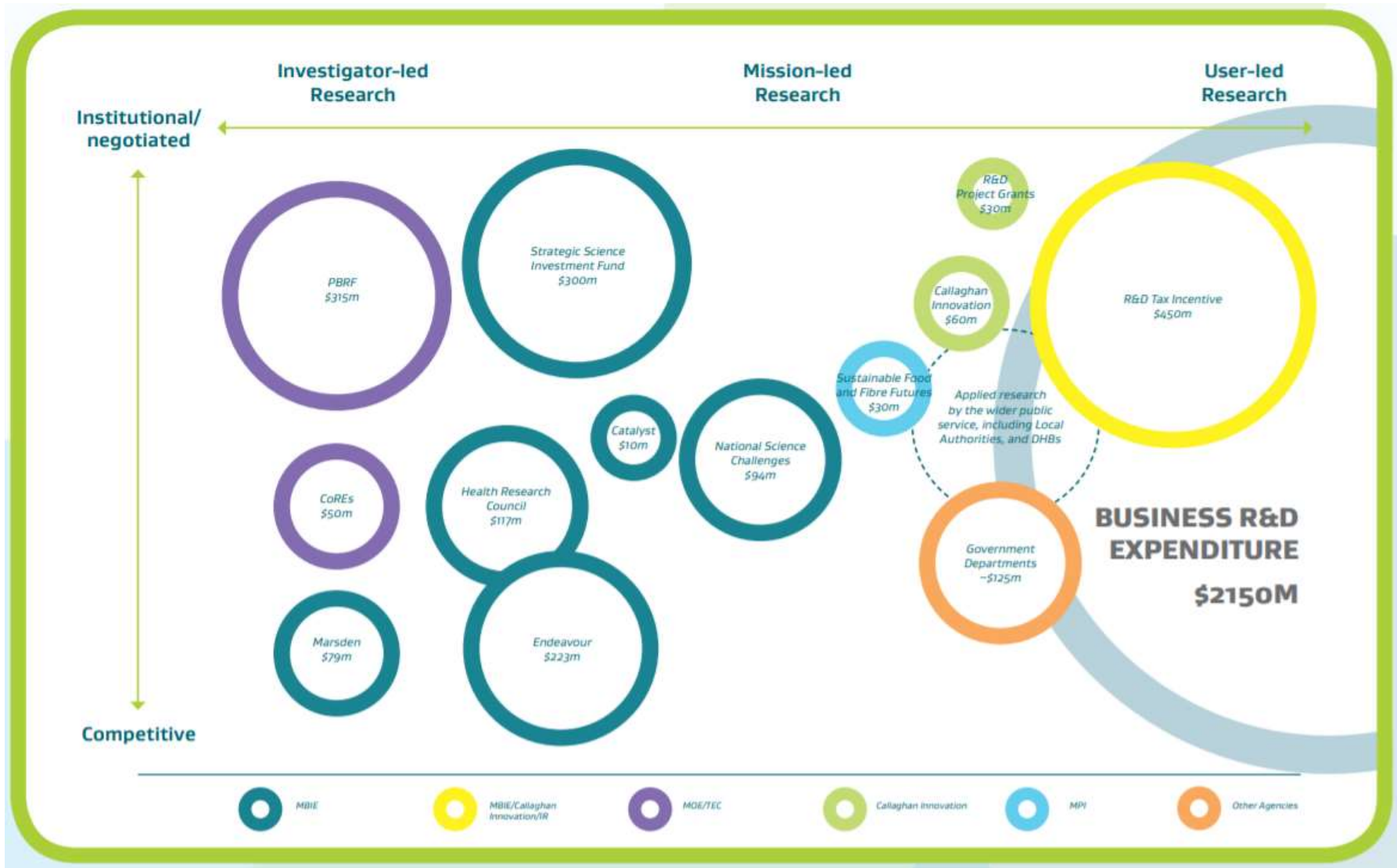
2021 Endeavour Fund Roadshow



Introduction and Agenda

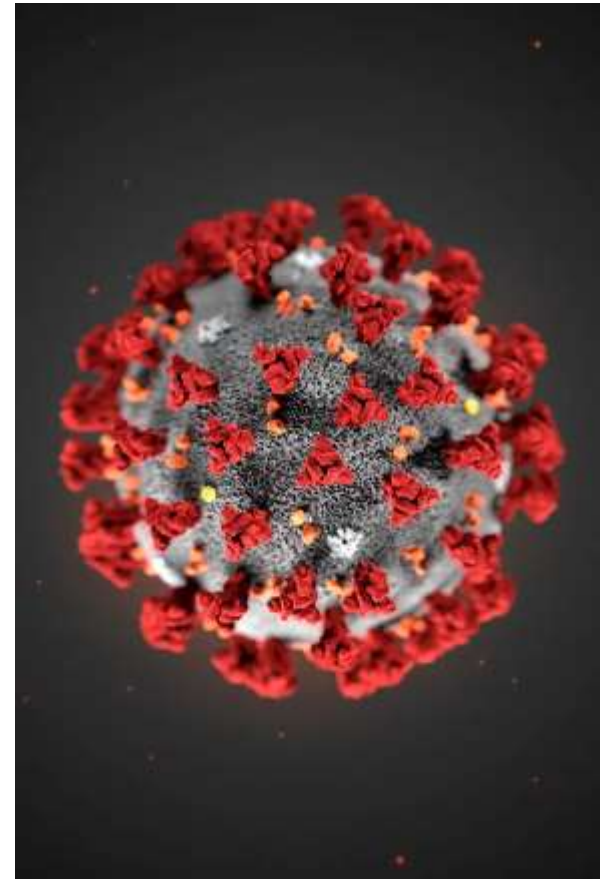
- Welcome
- Introductions
- Science system update
- 2020 Endeavour wrap-up
- 2021 Endeavour Fund
- Assessment and Decision Making Processes
- ‘The better brew...’
- Other MBIE funding opportunities
- Questions (Use Q+A function, not Chat)
- Close

Broader Government funding context (2019)



Impact of COVID-19

- Science used for advice and communications
- Impacted ability to do research and take advantage of international opportunities
- MBIE's response was to:
 - > Keep funding flowing
 - > Honour the effort involved to prepare Full Proposals
 - > Ensure processes were fair and transparent
 - > Provide flexibility to contract holders
 - > Provide support for RSI initiatives responding to COVID-19



<https://www.newscientist.com/term/covid-19/>

Looking forward...



<https://www.nzba.org.nz/home/beehive/>

- New Zealand will have a new Government following the election
- The incoming Government likely to be very interested in the research & innovation system and its roles in:
 - Responding directly to the public health challenges of COVID-19
 - Role in economic recovery and transformation
- MBIE will be engaging with the incoming Government on these matters

NZ RIS

- New online hub of information about RSI funding and activity in New Zealand
- Available to everyone to use
- MBIE will shortly be submitting data about the Fund we manage:
 - > Funding awarded and who received it
 - > No personal information
 - > Phase 1: information held by MBIE, HRC and the Royal Society
 - > For more information: www.mbie.govt.nz/nzris or email the NZRIS team at nzris@mbie.govt.nz



Expanding the Impact of Vision Mātauranga

- Director, Māori RSI being appointed to MBIE
- Initiative aims to:
 - > Attract and grow Māori talent in RSI
 - > Enable Māori to better navigate and participate in RSI
 - > Funding more Māori-led RSI



<https://www.aucklandzoo.co.nz/visit/matauranga-maori>

2020 Endeavour Wrap-up



What was new in 2020?

Very little

- Updated Gazette Notice

But, Smart Ideas was cancelled

- Run a fair process
 - Differing ability of applicants to develop Full Proposals under lockdown
 - Availability of assessors



Overview

- Quality of applications continues to improve
- Science Board used the Portfolio Approach
- 18% of new investment went to Society proposals
(now 6% of portfolio)
- Transform proposals: 41% of those received, 43% of those assessed for Impact, 65% of funded were Transform
- Maximum proposal size has peaked
 - 2019: \$18.75 million; 2020: \$16.3 million
 - mean continues to grow
 - 2019: \$8.7 million; 2020: \$11 million

Success rates

Research Programmes

	Number submitted	Number funded (success rates)	Annual value of new investment
2017	158	27 (17.1%)	\$42.6 million
2018	145	23 (15.8%)	\$41.3 million
2019	131	22 (16.8%)	\$39.2 million
2020	128	17 (13.3%)	\$38.0 million

Of those assessed for Impact

Research Programmes

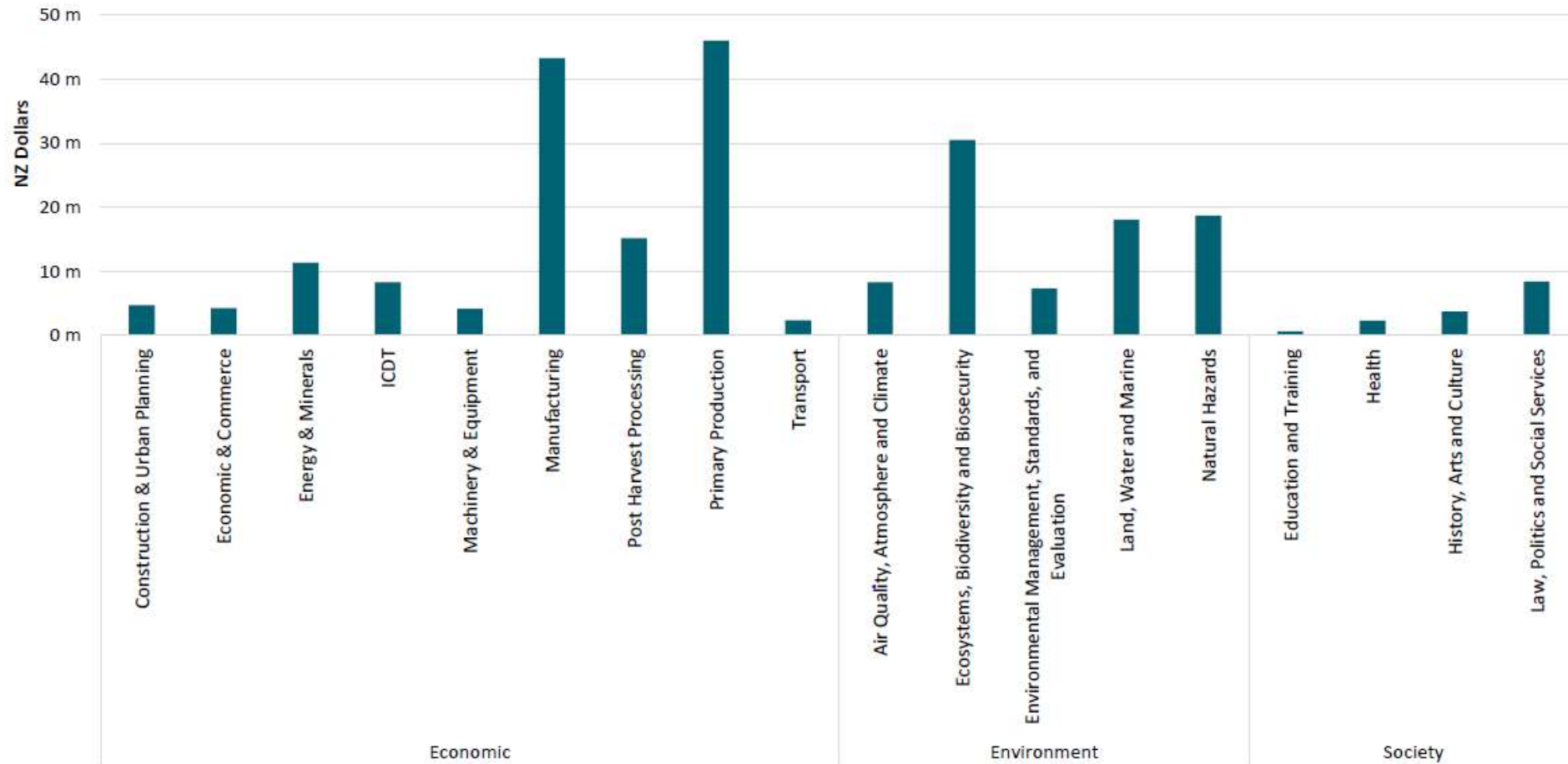
	Number	Percentage
Funded	17	36.2%
Declined (Portfolio balance)	12	25.5%
Declined (Merit)	18	38.3%
TOTAL	47	100.0%

Socio-economic objectives

Portfolio balance after round

Codes	Targets	2019	2020
Economic	70%	62%	59%
Environment	25%	34%	35%
Society	5%	4%	6%

Socio-economic objectives



Vision Mātauranga

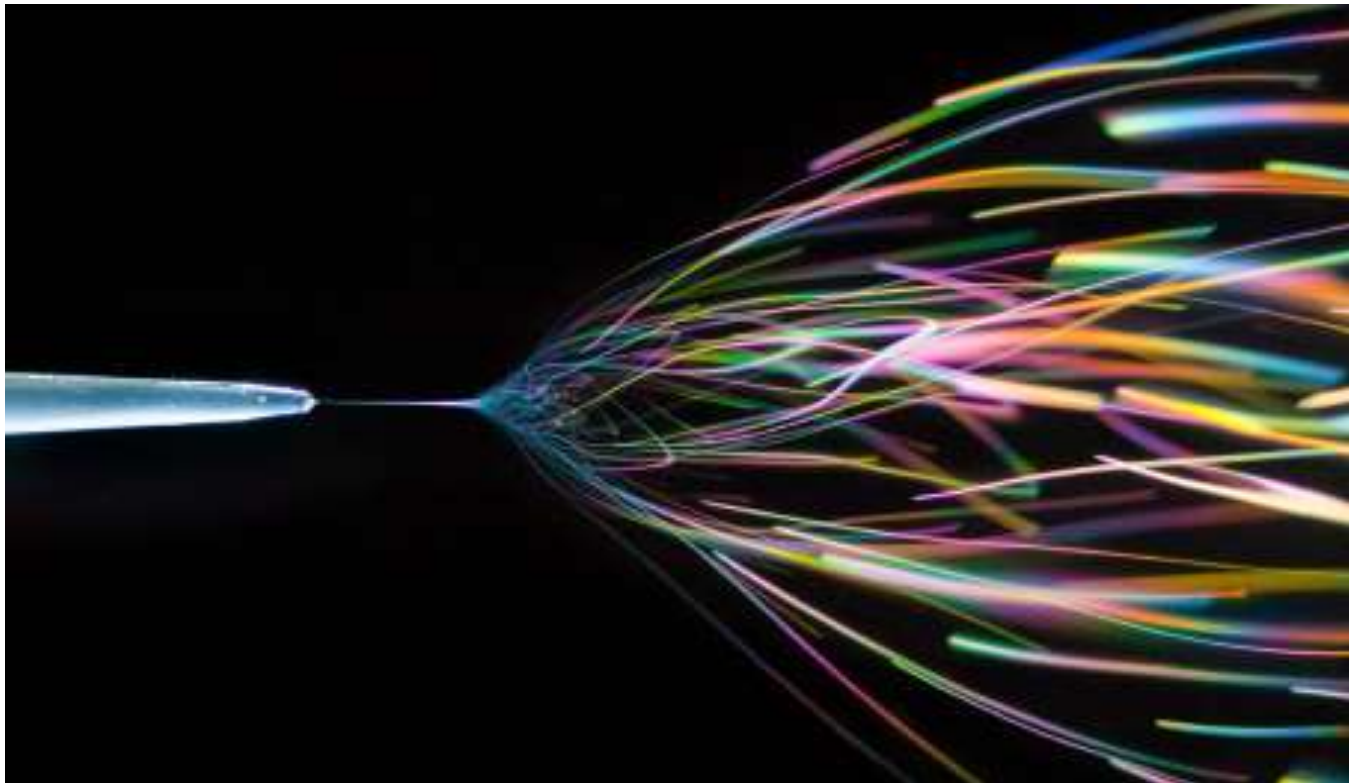
Research Programmes assessed for Impact

- Vision Mātauranga addressed
‘Moderately well’ or ‘Very well’ 86%
- Based on profiling, proposals with >50% of research was
considered Māori centred and or kaupapa Māori 11%

Three Māori-led proposals funded

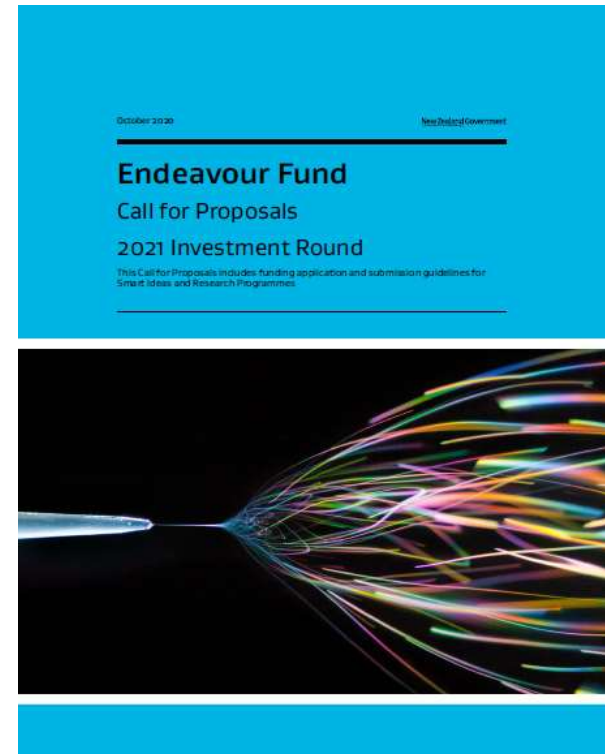
- Tikanga in Technology: Indigenous approaches to transforming data ecosystems (University of Waikato)
- Te mana o Rangitāhua: A holistic approach to transform ecosystem well being (Auckland Museum)
- Working to end Racial Oppression (University of Waikato)

2021 Endeavour Fund



Minor changes to Endeavour 2021

- The **Investment Plan** (covered 2019 and 2020, and this round, 2021)
- Should be read with:
 - **2021 Gazette Notice** (assessment criteria and funding available)
 - **2021 Call for Proposals** (sets out how to apply)



Available investment

New Annual Investment - \$57 million

~\$18 million for Smart Ideas

~\$39 million for Research Programmes

- Target 50% Protect and add value
- Target 50% Transform



Eligibility

Clarified in 2021 Gazette Notice

- Proposals can include some out of scope research objectives (health¹, defence and expanding knowledge) and remain eligible

¹health includes cost savings to the healthcare system

- The sum of the impact of these objectives must be less than 50%

Investment mechanisms

Smart Ideas provide for smaller investments intended to catalyse and rapidly test promising, innovative research ideas

- Two or three years
- \$400k - \$1 million

Research Programmes provide for larger investments intended to support ambitious, excellent and well-defined research ideas

- Three, four or five years
- Minimum \$500k per year

Smart Ideas

- **Concepts:** Assessment of Excellence only
- **Full Proposals:** Assessment of Excellence and Impact concurrently

- **Assessment Criteria**

- Excellence**

- Science (50%)
 - Team (15%)

- Impact**

- Benefit to New Zealand (25%)
 - Implementation Pathways (10%)

Smart Ideas

4 Nov 2020 (12 noon)	Closing date for registration (<u>mandatory</u>)
25 Nov 2020 (12 noon)	Closing date for Concepts
April 2021	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
19 May 2021 (12 noon)	Closing date for Full Proposals
mid-Aug 2021	Science Board makes funding decisions
mid-Sept 2021	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
1 Oct 2021	Contracts begin

Research Programmes

- One proposal submitted, two-stage assessment process

Excellence

- Science (25%)
- Team (25%)

Impact

- Benefit to New Zealand (25%)
 - Implementation Pathway(s) (25%)
- After proposals have been assessed for both the Excellence and Impact, a Portfolio approach is used by the Science Board when making their funding decisions

Research Programmes

9 Dec 2020 (12 noon)	Closing date for registration (<u>mandatory</u>)
3 Mar 2021 (12 noon)	Closing date for proposals
May 2021	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions on Excellence
mid-Aug 2021	Science Board makes funding decisions
mid-Sept 2021	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
1 Oct 2021	Contracts begin

Vision Mātauranga

Assessors often take a broader view

In addition to the four Vision Mātauranga themes, they will consider:

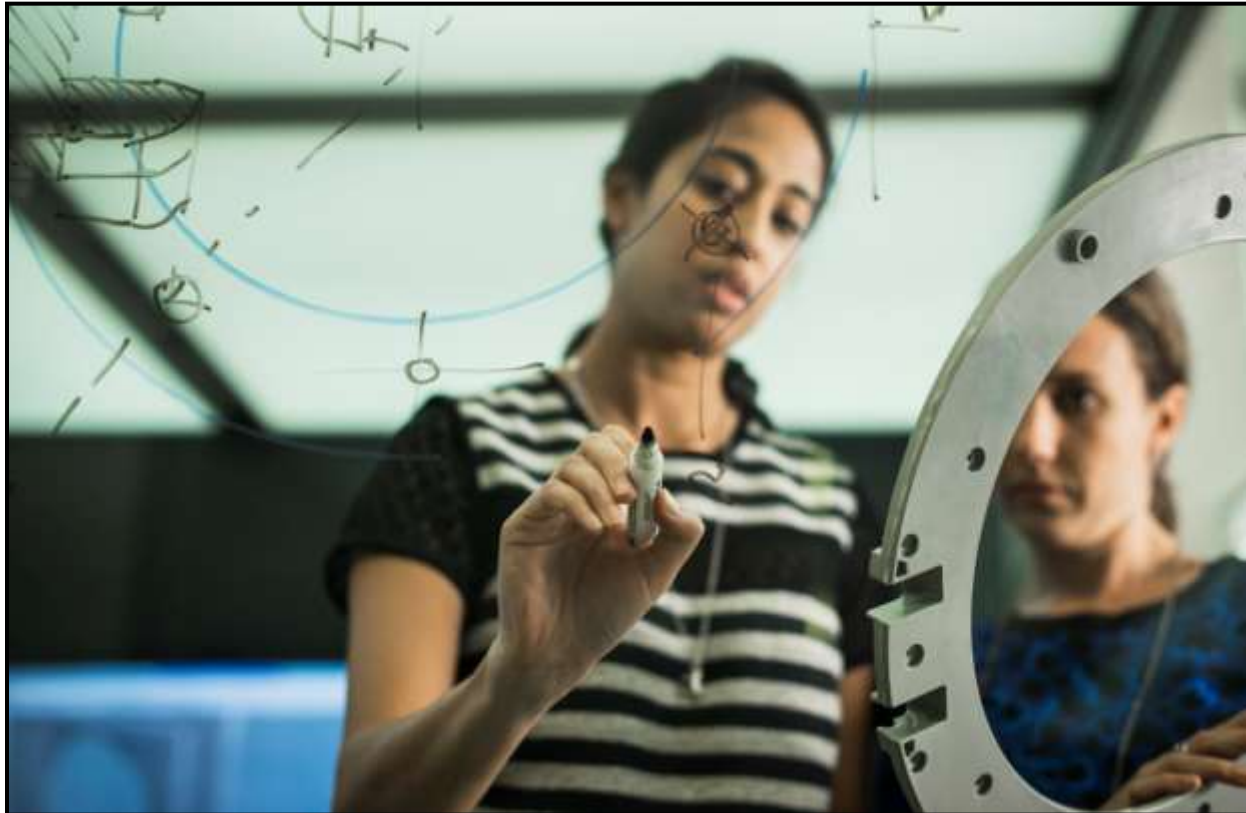
- Level of engagement with Māori
- Māori capacity and capability development
- Possible uses of the research for broader applications
(e.g. climate change)

Assessor selection

MBIE uses the Significance to Māori profiling questions in the proposal

- >50% kaupapa Māori or Māori centred research
- the majority of assessors will have specific expertise in the assessment of Vision Mātauranga

Assessment and Decision Making Processes



Assessment of proposals

Two stage processes

Smart Ideas

- Submit a Concept, which is assessed for Excellence
- Applicants of the best invited to submit Full Proposals, which is assessed for Excellence and Impact

Research Programmes

- Submit a Full Proposal, which is assessed for Excellence
- Proposals of sufficient Excellence assessed for Impact

Science Board decisions

Smart Ideas

- Invest in the best proposals based on a rank-order list (based on median scores)

Research Programmes

- Sufficient merit
- Take a portfolio approach
- Consider the portfolio targets
- Consider Impact categories (Transform and PAV)

Portfolio approach

- Each proposal has sufficient merit against the Impact and Excellence criteria
- Consider how the overall mix of investments meet the investment signals in the Investment Plan
- Consider value offered by the largest proposals
- Avoid duplication and excessive concentration in Endeavour and in the broader public science system
- General policy objectives including, where appropriate, the Vision Mātauranga policy

Investment Signals

General Signals

- G1. Excellent research, with high potential impact in areas of future value, growth or critical need for New Zealand
- G2. Leverage wider investment and knowledge, in New Zealand and overseas
- G3. Give effect to Vision Mātauranga
- G4. Take account of broader Government policy and strategy documents

Specific Signals

- S1. Creating and growing knowledge-intensive industries
- S2. Supporting the transition to a low-emissions economy

Value & Concentration/Duplication

Value

- **Not an assessment of ‘value for money’**
- An assessment of the value of funding, for example, two ‘small’ proposals rather than one ‘large’ proposal
- Large proposals need to be of the highest quality to receive investment, as the Science Board pays particular attention to them

Concentration

- Sectors of the existing portfolio with high investment (check SEO chart)

Duplication

- Several proposals seeking funding for the same research

Impact categories

- Proposals in the ‘Transform’ category
 - a. Immediate impact.** Is the new, or changed, technology, process, practice, business model or policy, that is enabled by the research, a radical change and/or a leap in performance versus the status quo?
AND
 - b. Ultimate impact.** Could the research ultimately lead to a transformational change within the New Zealand economy, society or environment by, for example, creating or disrupting economic activities, creating a new sustainable resource use or eliminating environmental damage, or changing the character of risks and opportunities faced by individuals and society?
- Proposals that do not meet both criteria should be made under the ‘Protect and add value’ category

A better brew...



Things to consider when applying

- Design your proposal with the end in mind; work backwards from the desired impact
- Co-design with end-users; start early
- Align with broader Government strategies and policies
- Show stretch in the science
- Give sufficient detail so assessors can understand your thinking
- Manage risk with a suitable plan
- Build the best team with the right mix of skills; researchers and end-users
- Up to 50% of funding can be used to fund offshore collaborators to achieve New Zealand impact
- Co-funding not mandatory, but potentially useful the nearer you are to market
- Think about Benefit to NZ broadly; consider spill-over benefits
- Consider capability development

Vision Mātauranga

- Carefully consider the relevance of Vision Mātauranga to the proposal under each assessment criteria
- Justify your position on the relevance of Vision Mātauranga (or not) in the appropriate section of the proposal
- Engage with Māori partners at the beginning not the end of proposal development
- Consider Māori involvement in wider project team and include the costs of their involvement and contributions

The BIG little things...

- Executive Summary
 - Key 'go-to' place in proposals
 - Split into four 'assessment criteria' sections
 - Limited words, use wisely
- Investment Signals
 - Important; do not leave to last minute
 - Consider wisely; include all that are relevant
 - Show how the proposal aligns to the signals
- Select ANZSRC codes with care (2008 version)
 - Used for portfolio balance, alignment with Investment Signals
- Answer Significance to Māori profiling with care
 - Helps with assessor selection for research that is >50% Māori-led and/or kaupapa Māori

Other MBIE opportunities



MBIE supported Infrastructure

- **New Zealand eScience Infrastructure**

www.nesi.org.nz or contact support@nesi.org.nz



- **Research Education Advanced Network NZ**

www.reanz.co.nz or contact help@reanz.co.nz



- **Australian Synchrotron**

www.synchrotron.royalsociety.org.nz



- **RV Tangaroa**

www.niwa.co.nz or contact rob.christie@niwa.co.nz



Other funding opportunities

- **Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund**
 - > portal closes 11 November
- **Catalyst Fund: Strategic**
 - > investment in collaborative research projects between New Zealand and China in Food Science and Environmental Science; will close 18 November

Visit the MBIE website for more information and subscribe to the MBIE Alert e-newsletter for updates

Want to know more about Endeavour?

We can

- explain the process
- help with use of the Portal and resolve Portal problems

We **cannot**

- interpret the Call for Proposals
- provide specific advice about your proposal



Contact us

Questions on the process, CfP or content

Email endeavour@mbie.govt.nz

Questions on the portal or proposal submission

Email IMSsupport@mbie.govt.nz

Call 0800 693 778 (8.30am – 4.30pm)

Web See MBIE's Endeavour Fund webpage:
<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/endeavour-fund/>

Questions?

Use Q+A function, not Chat

