

# Endeavour Fund Excellence Scoring Grid

**1** For each criterion, select a score ranging from 1 (*low quality*) to 7 (*high quality*) from the scoring grid that best matches your assessment **AND** how well the proposal would deliver on the:

- > Government's investment goals,
- > Endeavour Fund's General and Specific Policy Objectives, and
- > if relevant, the Vision Mātauranga policy.

**2** Remember:

- > Only assess the information **presented** in the proposal.
- > Exercise your knowledge, judgement and expertise to reach clear and soundly based assessments that are fair, objective and evidence-based.

**3**

Record your scores in MBIE's IMS portal and comment on why you selected that score. Your comments should also identify strengths along with the specific reasons for any deficiencies particularly if you are recording a score of 4 or less.

Refer to the [2018 Endeavour Fund Assessment Guidelines](#) for more information.

## SCIENCE

Weightings: Smart Ideas 50%; Research Programmes 25%

Research should be well-designed, well-performed, and leverage additional value from wider research. Assessment must have particular regard to whether the proposed research, science or technology or related activities:

- a. progress and disseminate new knowledge;
- b. possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches;
- c. are well-positioned in the domestic and international research context; and
- d. have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management.

<p><b>1</b> <i>(Low quality)</i></p> <p>Inadequate Negligible No relevant content or connections None/not</p>	<p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Takes no account of related research or existing information.</li> <li>&gt; No new knowledge created and no consideration has been given to disseminating the research results.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Scientific and/or technical risk is negligible or low, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; The proposal is not innovative.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Ignores major aligned or related research / information.</li> <li>&gt; Links to the relevant research landscape are missing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Inadequate and does not contain any of the expected elements.</li> <li>&gt; Missing appropriate scientific and technical risk management.</li> <li>&gt; The research is not fit for purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The research does not unlock any Māori innovation.</li> <li>&gt; Vision Mātauranga elements are negligible or not present in the research plan design.</li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Appropriate Comprehensive Good/effective Meets good practice standards Moderate to high More than significant New/novel No gaps</p> <p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The new knowledge created breaks new ground, and</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are appropriate and likely to be effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Moderate scientific and/or technical risk counterbalanced by additional benefit, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Is significantly innovative and contains new approaches, i.e., they have not been proposed before.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Comprehensive recognition of related research and existing knowledge competently leveraged in research design.</li> <li>&gt; Well demonstrated links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains all of the expected elements, meets expected standards of good practice and should be delivered as stated.</li> <li>&gt; Appropriate and credible scientific or technical risk management.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fully fit for purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Good potential for the research approach to unlock Māori innovation through the science.</li> <li>&gt; Credible Vision Mātauranga elements support research plan design.</li> <li>&gt; Existing relevant Māori knowledge has been incorporated.</li> <li>&gt; Distinct risks and sensitivities are well mapped and mitigated.</li> <li>&gt; New knowledge and intellectual property of strategic value to Māori interests is delivered.</li> <li>&gt; Some likelihood of attracting international attention.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Doubtful Insufficient Lacking Little Low Poor credibility</p>	<p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; New knowledge created only amplifies or further explains what is already known.</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are not well matched to the type of knowledge involved.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Scientific and/or technical risk is low and so is the additional value that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; The proposal has little innovation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Little recognition of aligned or related major research.</li> <li>&gt; Inadequate links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains some expected elements but the information is insufficient for the plan to be plausible.</li> <li>&gt; Poor scientific or technical risk management.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fit for purpose in very few respects.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; It is doubtful that the Vision Mātauranga elements in the research design are sufficient</li> <li>&gt; Little relevant innovation value to Māori.</li> </ul>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Comprehensive Exceeds best practice Insightful Markedly Significant Very credible Very good/effective Very high/ highly Very large</p> <p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The new knowledge created is potentially significant beyond the immediate field of research, and</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are very effective and likely to be very effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; High Scientific and/or technical risk counterbalanced by the additional benefit that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Highly innovative with markedly new ideas and/or approaches likely to attract attention from other researchers and potential end users.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Comprehensive and insightful recognition of related research and existing information and this is extremely well leveraged in research design.</li> <li>&gt; Comprehensive links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains all expected elements at a level of competence and detail which exceeds expected standards of good practice, and gives confidence that the plan will be delivered as stated.</li> <li>&gt; Scientific or technical risk management is likely to be effective.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fully fit for purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Very good potential for the research to unlock Māori innovation through the science.</li> <li>&gt; Very credible and comprehensive Vision Mātauranga elements support and enhance the research plan.</li> <li>&gt; Existing relevant Māori knowledge has been fully incorporated and helped shape the research.</li> <li>&gt; Distinct risks and sensitivities are very well mapped and mitigated.</li> <li>&gt; New knowledge and intellectual property of significant strategic value to Māori interests is delivered.</li> <li>&gt; Very likely to attract international attention.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Limited effectiveness Low to moderate Most Significant gaps Some aspects inadequate</p>	<p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The new knowledge created is incremental in character, i.e., it is no more than a logical extension of what is already known.</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are workable but unlikely to be very effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Scientific and/or technical risk is low but has additional benefit that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Contains some elements of innovation but no completely new approaches.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Some recognition of related research or existing information, but this has only partly influenced the research design.</li> <li>&gt; Significant gaps in links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains most of the expected elements but the details or some of the elements are limited.</li> <li>&gt; Significant gaps in scientific and technical risk management.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fit for purpose in some respects but the connection to purpose is not demonstrated well.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Limited research that will unlock Māori innovation through the science.</li> <li>&gt; There are gaps in key Vision Mātauranga elements in the research plan design which suggests low effectiveness to deliver new knowledge or intellectual property relevant to Māori.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The new knowledge created is potentially of international significance and likely to attract interest accordingly, and</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are wholly appropriate and likely to be extremely effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; High scientific and/or technical risk substantially exceeded by the additional benefit that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Outstandingly innovative with new ground breaking approaches likely to attract international attention.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Outstanding recognition of related research and existing information.</li> <li>&gt; Research design takes full advantage of the opportunities for leverage.</li> <li>&gt; Outstanding links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains all the expected elements, the approach and detail is exemplary and gives high confidence that the research will be delivered excellently and as planned.</li> <li>&gt; Scientific or technical risk management is very likely to be effective.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fully fit for purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The best potential for the research to unlock Māori innovation relevant to the science.</li> <li>&gt; Wholly credible Vision Mātauranga elements are fundamental to the research plan design to an exemplary standard.</li> <li>&gt; Existing relevant Māori knowledge central to the research.</li> <li>&gt; Very well mapped and mitigated risks and sensitivities.</li> <li>&gt; New knowledge and intellectual property of very significant strategic value to Māori interests is delivered on a large scale.</li> <li>&gt; Extremely likely to attract international attention.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Largely appropriate Largely satisfactory but with gaps or deficiencies Moderate Partly Reasonable Significant in some aspects</p>	<p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The knowledge created is new but largely an extension of existing knowledge rather than breaking significant new ground.</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are appropriate and will be moderately effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Moderate scientific and/or technical risk largely counterbalanced by the additional benefit that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Significant innovation in the proposal based more on new applications of existing approaches than new approaches.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Reasonable recognition of related research and existing knowledge, leveraged with some gaps in research design.</li> <li>&gt; Adequate links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains all of the expected elements but in some cases the level of detail is not of a satisfactory standard.</li> <li>&gt; Adequate scientific or technical risk management.</li> <li>&gt; The research is largely fit for purpose but some connections need further explanation.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Reasonable potential for the research to unlock Māori innovation through the science.</li> <li>&gt; Largely appropriate Vision Mātauranga elements appear in the research plan design with some gaps or deficiencies including distinct risks identification and mitigation.</li> <li>&gt; Existing relevant Māori knowledge has been considered.</li> <li>&gt; New knowledge and intellectual property of value to Māori interests is delivered.</li> </ul>	<p><b>7</b> <i>(High quality)</i></p> <p>Exceeds best practice standards Excellent Exemplary Internationally significant Outstanding Very high Very/extremely large Wholly appropriate Wholly credible</p> <p><b>Progress and disseminate new knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The new knowledge created is potentially of international significance and likely to attract interest accordingly, and</li> <li>&gt; The dissemination method(s) are wholly appropriate and likely to be extremely effective.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possess high scientific risk, technical risk, novelty or innovative approaches:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; High scientific and/or technical risk substantially exceeded by the additional benefit that could be achieved, <u>or</u></li> <li>&gt; Outstandingly innovative with new ground breaking approaches likely to attract international attention.</li> </ul> <p><b>Are well positioned in the domestic and international research context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Outstanding recognition of related research and existing information.</li> <li>&gt; Research design takes full advantage of the opportunities for leverage.</li> <li>&gt; Outstanding links to the relevant research landscape.</li> </ul> <p><b>Have a well-managed research plan and credible approach to risk management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contains all the expected elements, the approach and detail is exemplary and gives high confidence that the research will be delivered excellently and as planned.</li> <li>&gt; Scientific or technical risk management is very likely to be effective.</li> <li>&gt; The research is fully fit for purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; The best potential for the research to unlock Māori innovation relevant to the science.</li> <li>&gt; Wholly credible Vision Mātauranga elements are fundamental to the research plan design to an exemplary standard.</li> <li>&gt; Existing relevant Māori knowledge central to the research.</li> <li>&gt; Very well mapped and mitigated risks and sensitivities.</li> <li>&gt; New knowledge and intellectual property of very significant strategic value to Māori interests is delivered on a large scale.</li> <li>&gt; Extremely likely to attract international attention.</li> </ul>

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**3**

Record your scores in MBIE's IMS portal and comment on why you selected that score. Your comments should also identify strengths along with the specific reasons for any deficiencies particularly if you are recording a score of 4 or less.

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## TEAM

### Smart Ideas

Weighting: 15%

The proposed team should have the mix of complementary skills, knowledge and resources to deliver the proposed research, science or technology or related activities and to manage risk.

### Research Programmes

Weighting: 25%

The proposed team should have the demonstrated mix of complementary skills, knowledge and resources to deliver the proposed research, science or technology or related activities and to manage risk.

**1**

(Low quality)

Inadequate  
Negligible  
No relevant content or connections  
None/not

#### Skills mix:

In all respects, inadequate skills, knowledge and resources to:

- > deliver the research, science or technology, and
- > foresee or manage risk.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team, or if the team is new key individuals, have a track record of failing to deliver research results.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Inadequate capability to engage with Māori stakeholders or their interests.
- > Negligible track record with Māori relevant to the science.

**2**

Doubtful  
Insufficient  
Lacking  
Little  
Low  
Poor credibility

#### Skills mix:

Lacking most of the skills, knowledge and resources needed to:

- > deliver the research, science or technology, and
- > foresee or manage risk.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

Track record information is insufficient or lacks positive examples to give confidence that the research will be satisfactorily delivered.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Lacks the level of capability or capacity required to navigate and engage with Māori stakeholders and their interests for the science.
- > Little or poor track record with Māori relevant to the science.

**3**

Limited effectiveness  
Low to moderate  
Most  
Significant gaps  
Some aspects inadequate

#### Skills mix:

Some significant gaps in the skills, knowledge and resources needed to:

- > deliver the research, science or technology, and
- > foresee or manage risk.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team / individuals in the team have a patchy track record, i.e., mix of good and not so good.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Some significant gaps in the capability or capacity required to navigate and engage with Māori stakeholders and their interests for the science.
- > A patchy track record with Māori relevant to the science.

**4**

Largely appropriate  
Largely satisfactory but with gaps or deficiencies  
Moderate  
Partly  
Reasonable  
Significant in some aspects

#### Skills mix:

Some gaps or deficiencies in the skills, knowledge and resources needed to:

- > deliver the research, science or technology, and
- > foresee or manage risk.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team and/or individuals in the team have a generally good record of successfully delivering research.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Moderate capability and capacity for reasonable engagement with core Māori stakeholders for the science; there are some gaps / deficiencies.
- > A largely satisfactory track record with Māori relevant to the science.

**5**

Appropriate  
Comprehensive  
Good/effective  
Meets good practice standards  
Moderate to high  
More than significant  
New/novel  
No gaps

#### Skills mix:

Well matched, with no significant gaps in the skills, knowledge and resources needed to:

- > satisfactorily deliver the research, science or technology, and
- > achieve moderate to high level of risk management and mitigation.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team and/or individuals in the team have a consistent record of successfully delivering research.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Moderate to high level of capability and capacity to navigate and engage effectively with Māori stakeholders, networks, interest groups in various settings relevant to the science.
- > A strong track record of engaging effectively with Māori relevant to the science.

**6**

Comprehensive  
Exceeds best practice  
Insightful  
Markedly  
Significant  
Very credible  
Very good/effective  
Very high/ highly  
Very large

#### Skills mix:

> Very well matched mix and level of team skills, knowledge and human resource to achieve credible delivery of the type of research involved.

> A very good team with the ability to leverage significant affiliations.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team, and/or individuals in the team, have a significant record of successfully delivering quality research, related activities and managing risks.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > High level of capability and capacity to navigate Māori stakeholders, networks, interest groups and their expectations relevant to the science.
- > Very strong track record of high value engagement with Māori relevant to the science.

**7**

(High quality)

Exceeds best practice standards  
Excellent  
Exemplary  
Internationally significant  
Outstanding  
Very high  
Very/extremely large  
Wholly appropriate  
Wholly credible

#### Skills mix:

> Exceptionally well matched mix and level of team skills to achieving the excellent delivery of the research, science or technology.

> An outstanding team with the ability to leverage very significant affiliations.

**Demonstrated:** *for Research Programmes only:*

The team:

- > has an international reputation for delivering excellent research, related activities, and managing risks.
- > comparatively stands with the best performing teams elsewhere.

**if Vision Mātauranga is relevant:**

- > Outstanding capability and capacity to expertly navigate significant and diverse Māori stakeholders, networks, interest groups and their expectations of the science.
- > An extremely strong track record of high value engagement with Māori relevant to the science.