



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
NEW ZEALAND

Future Pathways Policy Team
Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment
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Dear Purnima,

The following comments are offered to the Team for consideration in its review of New Zealand's Research, Science and Innovation ecosystem. As you are aware Economic Development New Zealand is intent on providing a more fulsome response via a nationwide 90 minute online workshop that will be held on the 14 April, 2022 at 9.30 am. In the interim, many thanks for the opportunity to input into this important piece of work for New Zealand and its regions.

1. It is EDNZ's view that the research priorities should be underpinned by a set of agreed principles that are determined collaboratively, especially so with industry but also with Maori, government, economic development agencies, scientists and other key partners.
2. The agreed principles underpinning the research priorities should encourage:
 - i) a focus on place based delivery and the strategic needs and specialisations of our regions, including comparative advantages that regions hold.
 - ii) a long-term conversation and collaboration based on transparency and objective decision making that encourages strong connectivity across the ecosystem
 - iii) Clarity around the purpose of each research strand.
3. EDNZ is of the view that in setting research priorities we also acknowledge role NZ RSI can play in contributing toward global challenges such as climate change and the need to take a mission led approach
4. EDNZ encourages consideration of any mechanisms that would see an increase in opportunities for home-grown research talent. Ensuring that the research talent is representative of our demographics should encourage greater inclusivity across the RSI system.
5. EDNZ supports provision of appropriate infrastructure to ensure the RSI system operates at the frontier of research and innovation.
6. EDNZ encourages consideration of a 'one door' regional based access point for end users to engage with the RSI system.
7. EDNZ believes it is critical that the ecosystem be appropriately funded and that the funding be at a level which encourages stability over time and equality across the research, science and innovation systems.

We look forward to a discussion on the above issues and opportunities on the 14 April.

Warm regards

Susan Houston
CEO



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