



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

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# 2024 Investment Round Endeavour Fund Roadshow



**Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government



# MBIE Opening Karakia

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Tāwhia tō mana kia mau, kia māia

Ka huri taku aro ki te pae kahurangi, kei reira te oranga mōku

Mā mahi tahi, ka ora, ka puāwai

Ā mātau mahi katoa, ka pono, ka tika

TIHEI MAURI ORA



# Today

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The Endeavour Fund

Decision-making process

Vision Mātauranga

2023 round wrap-up

2024 round

Tips for applicants

Questions (Please use Q+A function, not chat)



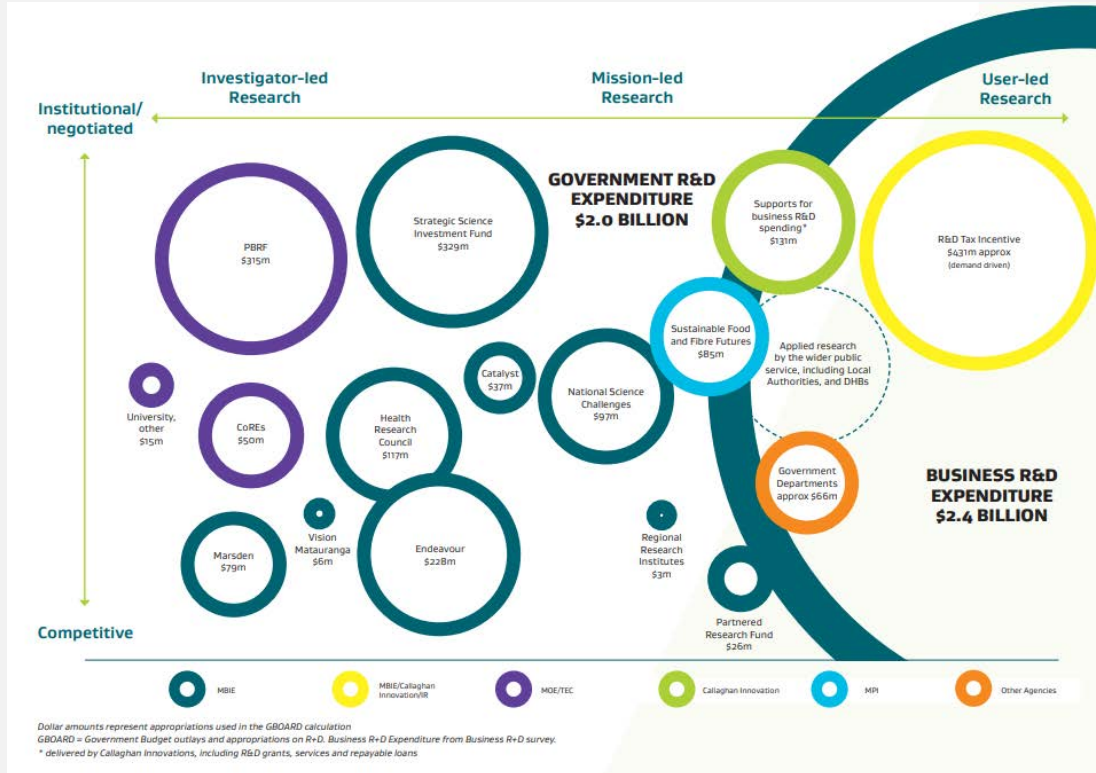
# What is the Endeavour Fund?

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**Purpose:** to support excellent research with the potential to **positively transform** New Zealand's economy, environment and society and give effect to the Vision Mātauranga policy



# POSITIONING THE ENDEAVOUR FUND IN THE SCIENCE FUNDING SYSTEM



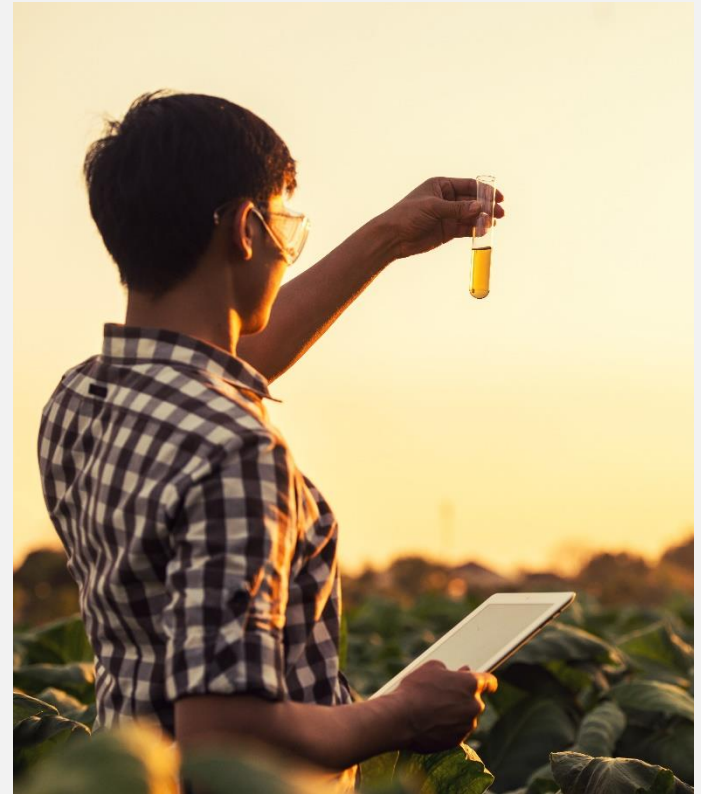
# Funding Mechanisms

## Smart Ideas:

- Smaller investments intended to catalyse and rapidly test promising, innovative research ideas with high potential for benefit to New Zealand
- Two or three years
- \$400k - \$1 million (**proposals outside this range are not eligible**)

## Research Programmes:

- Larger investments intended to support ambitious, excellent and well-defined research ideas with credible and high potential to positively transform New Zealand's future
- Three, four or five years
- Minimum \$500k per year (**below this are not eligible**)



# Decision Making Process

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## Science Board makes funding decisions for the Endeavour Fund

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Professor Aidan Byrne (Chair)

Dr Liz Wedderburn

Dr Jessica Hutchings

Professor Charles Eason

Ms Kirikowhai Mikaere

Professor Nicholas Long

Dr Laura Domigan

Dr Sereana Naepi

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/about/who-we-are/our-external-boards/our-science-board>



# Informed Decision Making

Minimum number of proposals as described in the Gazette Notice; and balance between investment mechanisms

## Smart Ideas

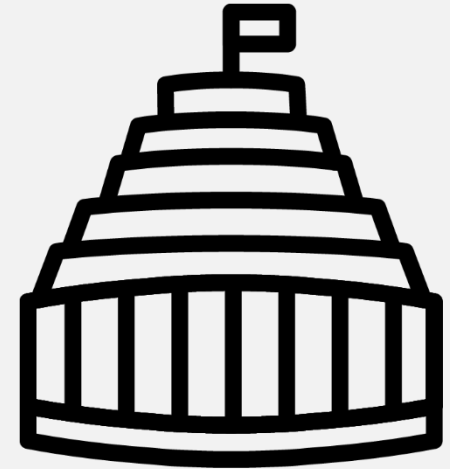
- Typically invest in the best proposals based on a rank-order list (total median weighted scores)
- Fund at least 49 proposals

## Research Programmes

- Sufficient merit (total median weighted scores)
- Take a portfolio approach
- Fund at least 19 proposals



<https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2023-go3115>



# Portfolio approach – Investment Plan Targets

*20% Smart Ideas*

*80% Research Programmes*

*50% Protect and Add Value*

*50% Transform impact categories*

*(Research Programmes only)*

*70% Economic*

*25% Environmental*

*5% Societal research outcomes*



## NGĀ WHĀINGA PŪTEA MŌ TE KŌPAKI PŪTEA O ENDEAVOUR PORTFOLIO TARGETS FOR THE ENDEAVOUR FUND

Portfolio targets are a mechanism to help the Fund achieve its objectives. They apply to all active contracts receiving Endeavour investment funding in a given year. This will include both new investment made in the most recent funding round and existing contracts.

As the Fund's funding contracts are several years long, around one quarter of the total funding is available for new investment each year. This means it can take many years to achieve a portfolio target. Portfolio targets help set the long-term direction of the Fund. Each annual funding decision will aim to balance the portfolio to meet the targets in the table below.

The annual Gazette Notice provides the total amount of new investment available under the annual Call for Proposals. The targets are:

- Flexible, so that the Science Board has ability to change the proportion invested in each category in any given round, depending on the number and quality of proposals received.

- Expressed in terms of the annual (not total) contract value and will be considered independently.

PORTFOLIO TARGETS: RESEARCH PROGRAMMES	
Impact Category	Proportion of Portfolio
Protect and Add Value	50%
Transform	50%

PORTFOLIO TARGETS: RESEARCH OUTCOMES	
Research Outcomes	Proportion of Portfolio (annual contract value)
Economic	70%
Environmental	25%
Societal	5%

The economic, environmental and societal outcomes are not individual funds. Any given proposal may address more than one outcome.

PORTFOLIO TARGETS: INVESTMENT MECHANISM	
Investment Mechanism	Proportion of Portfolio
Smart Ideas	20%
Research Programmes	80%

# Portfolio approach – General Investment Signals

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The Science Board evaluates how well proposals respond to the following general signals:

- demonstrates excellent, highly connected research, with high potential impact in areas of future value, growth or critical need for New Zealand
  - considers the potential of Māori people, knowledge and resources and reflect genuine, fit-for-purpose approaches for enabling that potential
  - is well positioned in the wider domestic and international research context, and leverage additional value from the wider research, science and innovation community
  - reflects Government policy, strategy and roadmaps where relevant
- Signals apply to all areas across economic, environment and society
  - Consider how the overall mix of investments meet the investment signals in the Investment Plan

# Portfolio approach – Specific Investment Signals

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The Science Board will look for opportunities to fund proposals which respond to the specific signals:

1. whose primary objective is to create new knowledge pathways to support the transition to a low emissions and climate resilient economy
2. that support new or existing industries to be knowledge intensive (i.e., are characterised by workforces that are predominantly highly skilled, and which have the technology, tools and resources necessary to create higher value products and services)

# Portfolio approach - Value & concentration, duplication

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- Consider value offered by the largest Research Programmes proposals
  - Large proposals need to be of the highest quality to receive investment, as the Science Board pays particular attention to them
  - An assessment of the value of funding, for example, two 'small' proposals rather than one 'large' proposal
  - Linked to the 19 Research Programmes requirement
- Duplication or Concentration: avoid duplication and excessive concentration in Endeavour and in the broader public science system (review sectors of the existing portfolio with high investment)
- Meeting policy objectives including the Vision Mātauranga policy

# Vision Mātauranga

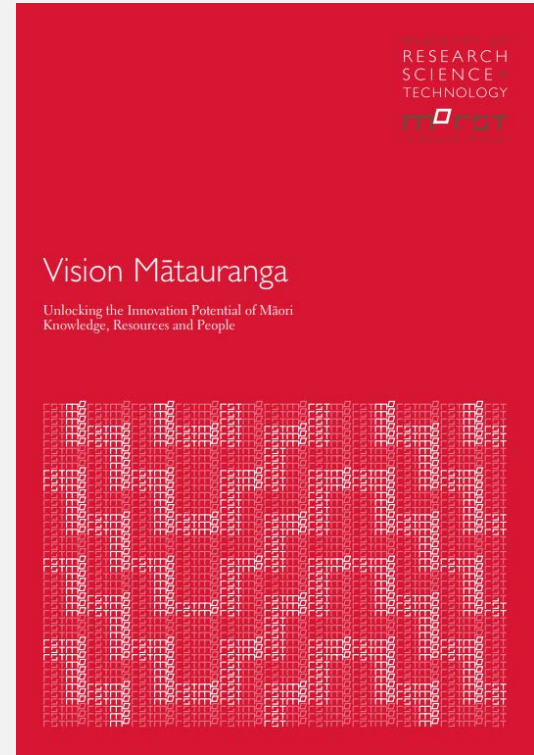
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# Vision Mātauranga

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Vision Mātauranga encourages partnership, and is designed to inspire researchers to find innovative responses to opportunities and solutions to issues and needs facing New Zealand.



# Giving effect to Vision Mātauranga information

- **Very strong applications**, giving effect to Vision Mātauranga, may be Māori-led or co-led
- **Strong applications** may have Māori researchers or traditional knowledge holders as part of the team; or may work meaningfully with Māori communities, interest groups, businesses, or key individuals
- **Strong applications** enabling Māori knowledge may use Kaupapa Māori approaches or draw richly on Mātauranga Māori
- **Other applications** may incorporate Māori principles or perspectives into the research





# Vision Mātauranga information

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We will again use these questions in the 2024 round:

- **percentage of the total personnel costs** (e.g. FTE) attributed to the Māori project team members
- percentage of the project activity **led or co-led** by Māori as co-designers, leaders or kaitiaki
- use of **Mātauranga Māori** and **Kaupapa Māori** in project



# 2023 Endeavour Round Wrap-up

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- General reflections
- Applications received
- Success rates
- Diversity information
- Feedback information



# General reflections

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Quality of applications continues to be very high

Submission of 422 proposals (316 Smart Ideas and 106 Research Programmes proposals), from 38 organisations covering a wide breadth of disciplines

Average size and range of Research Programmes:

- Submitted: \$2.1 million/annum (\$0.5 – \$5.6)
- Assessed for Impact: \$2.2 million/annum (\$1.2 - \$3.3)
- Research Programmes funded: \$1.2 - \$3.0 million/annum

A high number of proposals asking for a large amount of funding which places significant constraints on portfolio balancing

# Breakdown of 2023 round [1]

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422 applications

- 316 Smart Ideas (2 ineligible) and 112 progressed to Full Proposals
- 106 Research Programmes (1 ineligible) and 40 progressed to Impact assessment

68 successful

- 49 Smart Ideas
- 19 Research Programmes

Success rate 16.1% overall

- Smart Ideas 15.5%
- Research Programmes 17.9%



Image source: Shutterstock

# Breakdown of 2023 round [2]

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Requirement for the Science Board to aim to fund a minimum number of Smart Ideas (49) and Research Programmes (19) proposals

- 49 Smart Ideas full proposals (\$17.17 million/annum, \$40.0 million total contract value)
- 19 Research Programmes proposals (\$39.90 million/annum, \$196.98 million total contract value)

Requirement for the Science Board to aim to fund 50% *Protect and Add Value* and 50% *Transform* (Research Programmes).

- 45 out of 106 proposals submitted under the *Transform* Impact category (42.5%)
- 15 out of 40 proposals that progressed to Impact assessment stage were submitted under the *Transform* Impact category (37.5%)
- 7 out of 19 proposals funded were submitted under the *Transform* Impact category (36.8%)

Response to at least one specific investment signal after Impact assessment (applies for Research Programmes only): 32/40 proposals

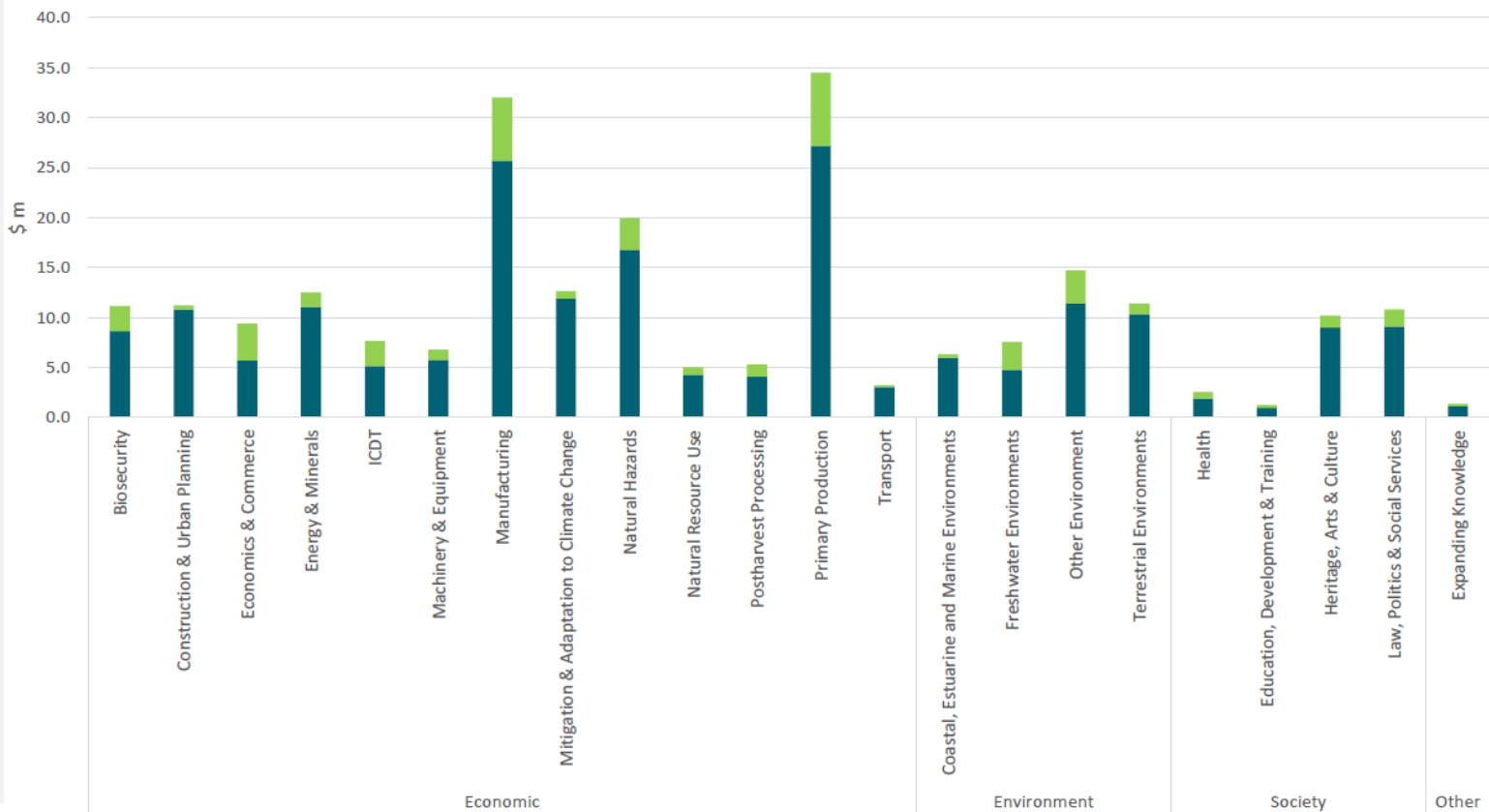
# Breakdown of 2023 round [3]

Socio-Economic Objectives (SEO) targets:

	Target (%)	Submission (%)	Funded (%)
<b>Economic</b>	70.0	73.8	73.1
<b>Environment</b>	25.0	18.2	17.5
<b>Societal</b>	5.0	7.5	8.8
Expanding Knowledge	0	0.5	0.6

More information on <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/research-and-data/successful-funding-application-anzsrc-data/>

# SEO breakdown: existing commitments (dark green) and 2023 funding (light green)



## Submissions and success rate by organisations (Smart Ideas)

Organisation Type	# submitted proposals (SI Concept)	# submitted proposals (SI Full)	# funded proposals	Proportion of funded proposals (%)
Tertiary Institutes	231	79	32	13.9
CRI	59	24	11	18.6
Independent Research Organisation	13	8	5	38.5
Organisations classified as Other	13	1	1	7.7



## Submissions and success rate by organisations (Research Programmes)

Organisation Type	# submitted proposals	# funded proposals	Proportion of funded proposals (%)
Tertiary Institutes	69	12	17.4
CRI	28	4	14.3
Independent Research Organisation	5	3	60.0
Organisations classified as Other	4	0	0.0

# Success rates: Smart Ideas 2023

Year	Number submitted	Number funded (success rates)	Annual value of new investment
2017	250	41 (16.4%)	\$15.4 million
2018	254	46 (18.1%)	\$16.1 million
2019	283	49 (17.3%)	\$17.1 million
2020	309	-	-
2021	416	52 (12.5%)	\$18.5 million
2022	331	51 (15.5%)	\$17.8 million
2023	316	49 (15.5%)	\$17.7 million

# Success rates: Research Programmes 2023

Year	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
2021	128	17 (13.3%)	\$38.4 million
2022	112	20 (17.9%)	\$38.7 million
2023	106	19 (17.9%)	\$39.9 million

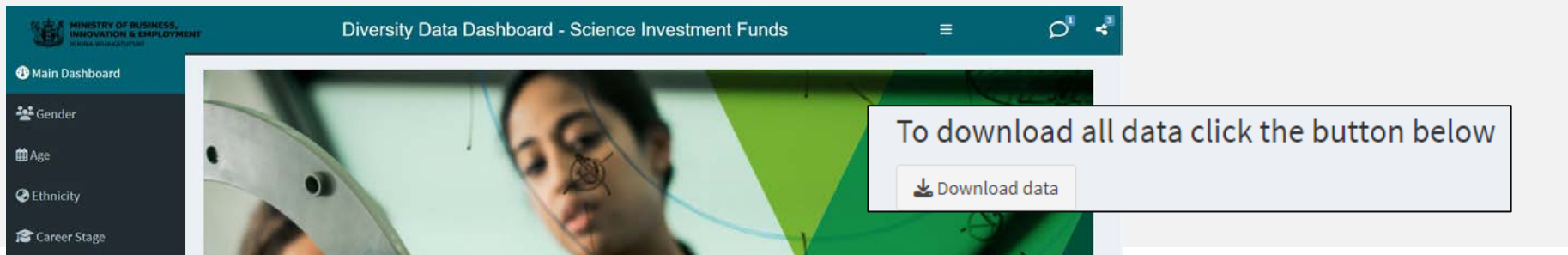
# Narrative CV & Dual Use / Sensitive Technology

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- Endeavour 2023 round was the first round to introduce the **narrative CV**.
- Applicants had the choice of using the standard RS&T CV template or the narrative CV template and around half of applications included a narrative CV.
- Training for assessors introducing the narrative CV was provided.
- Assessor surveys are done (very positive feedback) and applicants surveys are underway soon.
- **Dual Use / Sensitive Technology** analysis are done by MBIE on submitted proposals.
- This information is not included in the decision-making process but could result in contract conditions and additional annual reporting requirements.
- 2023 Investment round: Contract conditions for 7 Smart Ideas & 3 Research Programmes

# Diversity Data & Visualisation

- MBIE has a Diversity in Science Statement and a focus on diversity in order for our science system to realise its full potential  
<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/95e033c7bc/diversity-in-science-statement.pdf>
- Collected diversity data of applicants can be viewed using our **Diversity Data Dashboard** [https://ssip-data-cop.shinyapps.io/diversity\\_data\\_dashboard\\_ssip/](https://ssip-data-cop.shinyapps.io/diversity_data_dashboard_ssip/)
- The dashboard allows a selection and download of diversity data for individual funds, including Endeavour Research Programmes and Endeavour Smart Ideas.
- Data is not used for decision-making in the Endeavour Fund



MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT  
HONORABLE MINISTER CHRISTOPHER LUSH

Diversity Data Dashboard - Science Investment Funds

Main Dashboard

Gender

Age

Ethnicity

Career Stage

To download all data click the button below

Download data

# Feedback information

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Feedback directly from the Assessors to Applicants

- Main strength and main weakness from each Assessor

2023 round provided feedback after SI Concept stage and all other feedback end of the round (SI Full, RP Excellence, RP Impact).

Each organisation is given the opportunity to discuss the feedback received at our Research Office meeting in October.

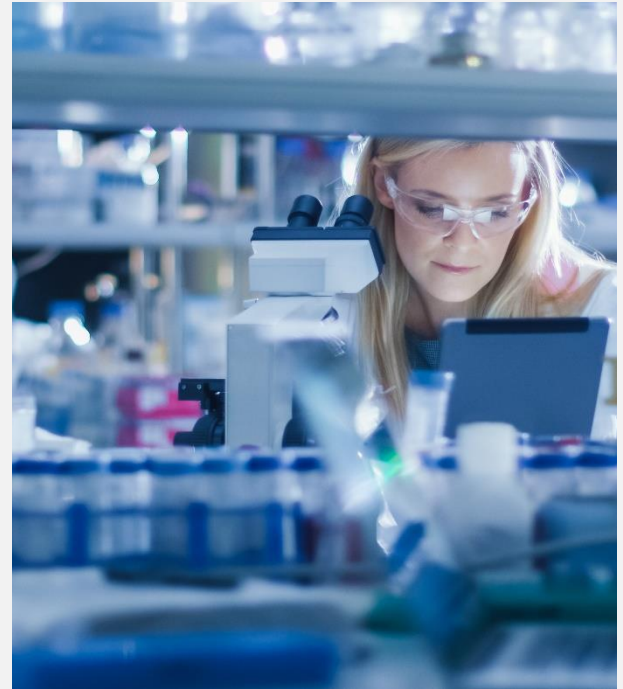


Image source: Shutterstock

# 2024 Endeavour Round

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- Key documents
- What hasn't changed
- What has changed
- Key dates



# Key documents

- Endeavour Fund 2024 Investment Round Gazette Notice
- National Statement of Science Investment 2015-2025
- Endeavour Fund investment plan 2022-2024
- Vision Mātauranga: unlocking the innovation potential of Māori knowledge, resources and people
- Registration templates 2024 Endeavour Fund (\*New)
- Proposal templates 2024 Endeavour Fund (\*New)





# Upcoming 2024 Endeavour Round

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- Available investment: new annual investment of \$57 million
  - ~\$18 million for Smart Ideas
  - ~\$39 million for Research Programmes
- Portfolio targets:
  - 50:50 Protect and Add Value: Transform impact categories within Research Programmes
  - 70:25:5 Economic: Environmental: Societal research outcomes in portfolio
  - 20:80 Smart Ideas: Research Programmes investment in portfolio
- Exclusion for proposals that are predominantly Health, Defence and Expanding knowledge – the sum of these research outcomes must be less than 50% of proposal's outcomes.

# Unchanged From 2023

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- Investment signals
- Vision Mātauranga information and assessment
- Targets for numbers of proposals to be funded
- Eligibility criteria *\*\* combined % of Health, Defence and Expanding knowledge must be less than 50%*
- Narrative CV as an alternative to the academic CV
- Risk sections added to the end of each assessment criterion
- You can change your title post registration

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/endeavour-fund/research-programmes-call-for-proposals-2024-investment-round-endeavour-fund/>

# Key Changes For 2024

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- Diversity data is **required** for key team members for Smart Ideas Concept and Full Proposal, and Research Programmes (but **not required** at Registration stage for both mechanisms).
- Applicants will **not** be able to submit their proposal if diversity data is incomplete.
- Website content and documents are different in line with government standards.
- Different portal – but Call for Proposals and assessment/scoring remains the same!

## Also:

- Impact Statement is no longer tied to Budget
- FTE table is no longer tied to Impact Statement
- Research Aims are now 'Deliverables'
- Critical Steps are now 'Tasks'

# Roles in Pītau

Role in IMS	Role in Pītau
Science Leader	Principal Investigator / Programme Leader
Leader	No longer required
Key Researcher	Key Researcher
Other	Researcher
Key Individual	Key Individual
No longer used in IMS	Expert/Mentor
Post-Doc	No longer being used
Student	Student
Other	Project Support

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT  
PĪTAU - INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Home Applications Contracts Reports Exports My Profile Enquiries User management

Home  
Manage your work with MBIE's investments

Endeavour Fund - Smart Ideas - Registration

- ✓ Key Information
- ✓ Resources
- ✓ Financial Information
- ✓ Classifications
- ✓ Conflicts of Interest
- ✓ Submit

# Key Dates: Smart Ideas

Activity	Date
Registration period	30 October until 12 noon, 15 November 2023
Submission period for Concepts	30 October until 12 noon, 22 November 2023
Roadshows	2, 10, 11, October 2023
Concepts Excellence assessment	15 January to 31 January 2024
Science Board decisions on Concepts	13 March 2024
Applicants notified of Concepts decisions	By 27 March 2024
Feedback from Assessors to applicants on Smart Ideas Concepts	By 27 March 2024
Smart Ideas Full Proposals submission period	27 March to 12 noon, 8 May 2024
Full Proposals Excellence and Impact assessment	19 June to 9 July 2024
Science Board makes funding decisions	28 August 2024
Applicants notified of funding decisions	Mid-September 2024
Funding decisions announced	Late September 2024
Applicant feedback	Late September 2024
Contracts begin	1 October 2024

# Key Dates: Research Programmes

Activity	Date
Registration period	30 October until 12 noon, 6 December 2023
Full proposal submission period	30 October 2023 until 12 noon, 6 March 2024
Roadshows	2, 10, 11, October 2023
Assessment of Excellence	21 March to 8 April 2024
Science Board makes decision on Excellence	15 May 2024
Applicants are notified of Science Board decision on Excellence	22 May 2024
Assessment of Impact	23 May to 5 June 2024
Science Board makes funding decisions	28 August 2024
Applicants are notified of Science Board final funding decisions	Late September 2024
Funding decisions announced	Late September 2024
Applicant feedback	Late September 2024
Contracts begin	1 October 2024

# Things For Applicants to Consider

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# General

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- We're looking for ambitious science which is 'Transforming New Zealand's future' – be ambitious
- Start early and co-design with end-users
- Read the Gazette Notice, Investment Plan, and Assessment and Scoring Guidance





# Advice from Government End-Users

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- Engage early – preferably at the ideas’ stage. This is especially important if the agency or partners, stakeholders or sectors are likely to be end users.
- Show how your proposal aligns with policy and/or agency government strategies
- The agency might be keen to know what additional support you want. For example:
  - data
  - expertise
  - advisory panel membership.
- Agency reviews often follow a prescribed process that takes time to complete.
- We suggest you contact agencies directly to get information on their process and timelines.
- These agencies contacted us, there are others and the Department Science Advisor network can be a good start.
  - For MfE use: [Science.Advice@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:Science.Advice@mfe.govt.nz)
  - For MPI use: [science@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:science@mpi.govt.nz)
  - For DOC use: [science.support@doc.govt.nz](mailto:science.support@doc.govt.nz)

# Meeting Investment Signals

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- Describe fit to signals where it exists:
  - Be specific – how does your programme align?
- Don't try to create fit where none exists:
  - General signals
  - Investment signals
  - Vision Mātauranga policy
  - Transform / Protect and Add Value
- Consider the Value criterion carefully
- Don't try to game the system

# Addressing Excellence

- **Excellence** is always assessed first, so:
  - describe your science/ research clearly
  - highlight where the ambition is – use a research hypothesis if appropriate
  - describe mitigations against risks
  - consider the audience
  - provide sufficient detail but be concise



Image source: Shutterstock

# Addressing Impact

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- **Impact** is 50% of the total score (Research Programmes)
- Benefit to New Zealand is an economic/impact hypothesis
  - Which stakeholders will deliver impact? Quantify this.
- Pathway to implementation describes how you will work with stakeholders to deliver impact from research – **it's not a science project plan**
  - Use pathway to demonstrate stakeholder buy-in and commitment
  - Ensure the entire proposal is consistent in demonstrating stakeholder involvement
- Describe mitigations to impact delivery risks

# Don't make the ANZSRC codes an after thought

The Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC) is the collective name for a set of three related classifications developed for use in the measurement and analysis of research and experimental development undertaken in Australia and New Zealand.

There are three classifications:

1. Fields of Research (FoR, defined at registration)
2. Socio-economic Objective (SEO, defined at registration)
3. Type of Activity (ToA, profiling question)



The screenshot shows the 'Stats NZ' and 'aria' logos at the top. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar with 'ANZSRC' entered. The search results are displayed in a list format, showing various classification categories and their lifecycle information.

Classification	Lifecycle
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Type of Activity V2.0.0	Released: 30-06-2020, Current: ANZSRC_TOA
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Socio-Economic Objective V1.0.0	Released: 31-03-2008, Valid to: 30-06-2020, Abbreviation: ANZSRC_SEO
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Socio-Economic Objective V2.0.0	Released: 30-06-2020, Current: ANZSRC_SEO
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Type of Activity V1.0.0	Released: 31-03-2008, Valid to: 30-06-2020, Abbreviation: ANZSRC_TOA
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Fields of Research V1.0.0	Released: 31-03-2008, Valid to: 30-06-2020, Abbreviation: ANZSRC_FOR
Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification - Fields of Research V2.0.0	Released: 30-06-2020, Current: ANZSRC_FOR

# Why do you need ANZSRC codes?

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## **FoR codes:**

- MBIE uses FOR codes to help assign Assessors to your proposals
- Ensure the codes accurately match the programme content
- Please keep these to a minimum, and use no more than three

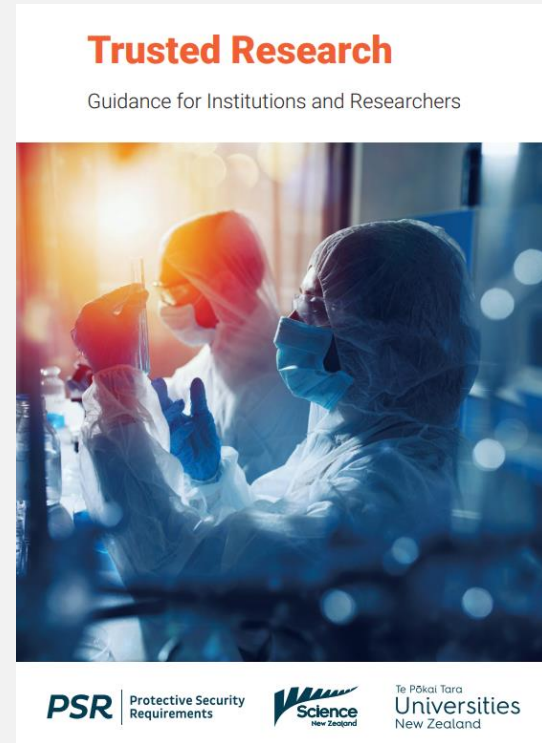
## **SEO codes:**

- Science Board uses SEO codes to balance the mix of investments
- Ensure the codes accurately match the programme content
- Please keep these to a minimum, and use no more than three

# Dual Use / Sensitive Technologies

- Refer to “Trusted Research” for guidance
- In the application, declare DU/ST in the profiling section where applicable
- Where DU/ST is assessed as requiring management by MBIE, a contract condition will be applied to require specific monitoring and reporting

DU/ST does not affect the scoring for the proposal.



# Recurring Themes

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- The “knowledge intensive” investment signal applies to the target industry, not the science
- Smart Ideas and PhD students: students should input into the programme, rather than the programme being designed around them
- Be selective and specific in identifying conflicts of interest
- Please ensure your Public Statements accurately reflect your programme do not include confidential or private information



# Final words

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- Right-size your work programme
  - For Smart Ideas, ensure you can start the work with existing resources
  - For Research Programmes, consider the available funding and adjust ambition if necessary
- Ensure that Vision Mātauranga work is appropriately resourced
- Endeavour in Pītau will be the same as Endeavour in IMS
  - *Will look different*
  - *Will work better*

# Want to know more about Endeavour?

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## **We can**

- explain the process
- help with use of Pītau

## **We cannot**

- interpret the Call for Proposals
- provide specific advice about your proposal
- Provide help with RealMe (but help is available here: 0800 664 774)  
<https://www.realme.govt.nz/contact-us/>

# Contact us

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Questions on the process, Call for Proposals or content:  
[endeavour@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:endeavour@mbie.govt.nz)

Questions on the portal or proposal submission:  
[imssupport@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:imssupport@mbie.govt.nz)



# Questions

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Please use the Zoom Q+A function, not Chat.

Decorative geometric shapes in the bottom right corner, including a blue triangle pointing down, a green triangle pointing up, and a light green triangle pointing up.

# Thank you & MBIE Closing Karakia

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Ka hiki te tapu

Kia wātea ai te ara

Kia turuki ai te ao mārāma

Hui ē, Tāiki ē

