# New Zealand - China Strategic Research Alliance 2024 Investment Round Proposal Template

Use this template to complete your proposal for the New Zealand ­- China Strategic Research Alliance 2024 Investment Round. For information about this funding opportunity, see our [web pages](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/catalyst-fund/).

By submitting a proposal, you are agreeing to [MBIE’s funding policies, terms and conditions](#_MBIE’s_funding_policies,).

You are responsible for ensuring that all parties cited in your proposal have:

* confirmed their personal details and the nature and level of their involvement in the work described in the proposal is correct
* read and accepted the terms and conditions of submitting a proposal and the information we may make public.

### Proposal Completion and Submission Requirements

* Use this template to complete your proposal in MS WORD and then copy the content into Pītau - our Investment Management System.
* If you do not have access to Pītau you will need to contact your Research Office to get access or [request access to Pītau](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/process/ims/) from MBIE. Please make sure you request access at least two weeks before you want to submit your application.
* Respond to all questions and use sub-headings if appropriate to improve readability.
* Unless otherwise stated, do not use pictures, graphs, tables, or hyperlinks.
* Information requested in Pītau for the application may differ slightly and overrides any information requested in this template.
* Complete and submit your application before 12 noon, 12 July 2024. Any change to this date will be notified via email and published on the MBIE website. To be added to the email notification list, email [internationalscience@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:internationalscience@mbie.govt.nz).

## Proposal Template

### Section 1: Key information

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| * 1. **Project title**   In 12 words or less, provide a meaningful title that identifies the nature of proposal.  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **Start date**   Provide the proposed start date of your project. Contracts are expected to begin in early 2025. Activities outlined in successful proposals should begin shortly afterwards.  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **End date**   Provide the proposed end date of your project. This can be a maximum of three years after the start date.  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **Total funding requested**   This will be auto populated from the financial information section. |
| * 1. **Research area**   Select the priority area for your proposal – choose EITHER Food Science OR Environmental Science, then select the tick box sub-category.  **Food Science:**   * + Animal and plant biotechnology   + Alternative proteins   + Biological hazards   + Chemical hazards   + Labelling and consumer information   + Production, processing, and handling   **Environmental science:**   * + Clean and renewable energy   + Climate change   + Biodiversity   + Water research (including ocean research)   + Natural hazards   + Pollution on land and sea |
| * 1. **Contact details – Application Administrator**   Please supply a name, email address, and phone number for the following roles:   * + Application Administrator – New Zealand contact for your application – This contact must have the authority to discuss your proposal with MBIE and international officials if needed. This person will receive MBIE communications and updates. It is usually someone from your Research Office and should not be the Principal Investigator/Programme Leader.   + Backup Application Administrator – This person must differ from the Application Administrator.   Enter your answers here... |
| * 1. **Contact details – Contract Administrator**   Please supply a name, email address, and phone number for the following roles:   * + Contract Administrator – New Zealand contact for contracts. Should your application be approved for investment this person must have the authority to discuss your contract with us and will receive MBIE communications and updates during the term of the contract. It is usually someone from your Research Office and should not be the Principal Investigator/Programme Leader.   + Backup Contract Administrator – This person must differ from the Contract Administrator.   Enter your answers here... |
| * 1. **Eligibility**   Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria below for their proposal to be assessed. Applicants who don’t meet these criteria will be declined funding on eligibility grounds.   * + The applicant of this proposal is a New Zealand-based research organisation or a New Zealand-based legal entity representing a New Zealand- based research organisation.   + Your Principal Investigator is employed by a New Zealand-based research organisation, or a New Zealand-based legal entity representing a New Zealand-based research organisation.   + You have you identified suitable research collaborators from a Chinese research organisation/s.   + You do not represent a department of the public service as listed in Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act 2020.   + Your proposal will not benefit a Russian state institution (including but not limited to support for Russian military or security activity) or an organisation outside government that may be perceived as contributing to the war effort.   + Proposals must be submitted in Pītau - our investment management portal before the closing date and meet all the administrative requirements.   Answer Yes or No (if you answer no, you are ineligible). |
| * 1. **Project summary (400 words maximum)**   Provide your project summary. This will introduce your research, its potential impact(s), and your methodology. Summarise the overall objective of your proposal, including:   * + why your research is needed (the issue or problem you are addressing)   + what you are aiming to achieve   + what you propose to do (hypothesis and scientific approach)   + the results, impacts and outcomes you expect, how they will be achieved, and who will use or benefit from them.   Do not include references, hyperlinks, images, video, or audio files.  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **Research Key Words**   **Search for and select in the drop-down box in Pītau up to 15 key words (each between 3 and 55 characters in length) that describe the nature of your research.**  **Do not include phrases, acronyms, or abbreviations.**  **Enter your answers here...** |
| * 1. **Public statement (400 words maximum)**   Provide your public statement. Your public statement may be published on MBIE’s website if your proposal is funded. It is not used for assessment purposes.  It is important to capture the essence of your research in a way that can be understood by a wider audience and can be used for media purposes. You may include, if required, publishable contact details that can be used by members of the public or the media.  Do not include confidential information or references, hyperlinks, images, video, or audio files.  Enter your answer here... |

### Section 2: Performance area

Proposed - For each criterion, describe the excellence, connections, and impact of your research. Ensure your explanations contain all the elements that would be expected to give full confidence that the work will be implemented as indicated. Please see our [webpages](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/catalyst-fund/) for more information on assessment and the criteria.

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| * 1. **Excellence ­ 40% weighting (500 words maximum)**   Will the activity or project lead to the creation of new knowledge through high quality research?  The assessors will consider to what extent the proposal:   * + Will lead to the creation of new knowledge which is of the highest calibre, and that will have national and international scientific impact and recognition.   + Utilises applicable scientific and technological principles, including a well-designed research plan and a credible approach to managing risk, that will enable delivery of the proposed research aims.   + Is ambitious in terms of scientific risk, novelty and/or innovative approaches, and leverages state-of the-art knowledge and facilities.   + Is led by world-class science leaders or potential future leaders, with the skills, knowledge and resources to deliver the proposed activities and to manage risk.   + Explains the science and innovation opportunities and contributions of Māori knowledge, people and resources for the benefit of all New Zealand.   Enter your answer here… |
| **2.2 Connections ­ 30% weighting (500 words maximum)**  **Will the proposed activity establish an enduring collaboration with world class international collaborators?**  **The assessors will consider to what extent the:**   * + **New Zealand research team and its proposed international partners have excellent track records of collaborating with other institutions and delivering research results.**   + **Proposed partners offer highly complementary, world-class expertise, knowledge, capabilities, and resources, building a high-performing and connected research team.**   + **Research team and its partner have outstanding capabilities and capacity to build and manage a substantive international partnership and fully realise the stated international opportunities.**   + **Research team and its partners have outstanding and comprehensive capabilities including scientific and other resourcing, and supporting infrastructure, to deliver the proposed activities.**   + **Proposed project will give effect to Vision Mātauranga policy, creating connections with and for Māori in a genuine and meaningful way.**   Enter your answer here… |
| * 1. **Impact ­ 30% weighting (500 words maximum)**   Will the project deliver benefit aligned to wider economic, social, and environmental goals of New Zealand?  The assessors will consider to what extent the:   * + Proposal has a strong line of sight to expected benefits that are of national and global significance, where the analysis supporting the estimates of benefits and uncertainty is excellent.   + New Zealand and international partners have excellent records of engagement with end-users, with the potential to bring together New Zealand research capabilities.   + Proposal identifies opportunities and needs that are important/relevant to New Zealand and connected to multiple end-users or end-user research sectors.   + Project has potential to support a pipeline of research/knowledge transfer within the wider science systems to build long-term capability and enable the development of new ideas/applications.   + Proposed research gives effect to Vision Mātauranga policy, including benefits to Māori (iwi, communities/groups, and/or businesses).   Enter your answer here… |
| 2.4 **Vision Mātauranga (300 words maximum)**  Will this proposal give effect to the Vision Mātauranga Policy, i.e., realise the potential of Māori people, knowledge, and resources? (Yes/No)   * + If yes: How will this proposal give effect to the Vision Mātauranga Policy? In describing impacts to be realised for New Zealand, include the specific activities, outputs and outcomes that will create impact for Māori.   + If no: Describe how Vision Mātauranga was considered and the rationale for the position taken.   Enter your answer here… |
| 2.5 **Research plan (400 words maximum)**  Describe your Research Plan which should be understandable to Assessors, regardless of their specific field of expertise. Explain:   * + your chosen approach and how it will achieve your objectives   + the technical risks you have identified and the steps you have taken or will take to mitigate or manage them.   You may include images but not hyperlinks, video, or audio files.  Enter your answer here… |
| * 1. **Risks (300 words maximum)**   **Provide a brief description of the major risks to the project achieving the intended outcomes. Include potential barriers that may pose a risk to the success of the project. Where possible, give an indication of the likelihood and significance of the risk and any mitigation strategies which will be put in place to minimise and/or manage the risk(s).**  Enter your answer here… |
| * 1. **Key Performance Indicators**   Detail how the Project will measure its performance throughout the life of the Project through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).  The KPIs should show how progress towards delivery of the Project’s objective and post-contract outcomes will be measured with targets to be achieved during the life of the contract. They may be selected from the following areas:   * + Capability Development   + Collaboration and Partnerships   + Excellence   + Financial Sustainability / independence   + Impact   + Vision Mātauranga   MBIE will discuss with you and agree your KPIs at the contracting process.  Enter a schedule for each of your KPIs using the table below as an example. Please include a target for June each year to be reviewed as part of your project’s annual progress.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Performance Area | Title | Description | Start | Due | Target | Reoccurrence | | Example:  *Delivery of the objective* | Example: Develop the forecasting model | Example:  *Number of technologies developed through the collaboration* | 1 July 2025 | 30 June 2026 | Example:   1. *to x stage*   *4 to x stage* | Example:  *One off* | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |

### Section 3: Resources

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| **Team capability (500 words maximum)**  Proposed - For the New Zealand project team, outline the research capability, providing a description of each team member’s role in the project and:   * + the tasks they will be responsible for   + the expertise they bring to the project   + why those skills are necessary to deliver the project.   Enter your answer here... |
| **3.2 International collaboration (500 words maximum)**  Proposed - Describe your partners and their contribution to the proposed research, including any resources they will contribute (for example - access to specialised equipment).  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **Project Team**   Using the following tables as a guide detail the key personnel that will be involved for the New Zealand and International teams in each year of funding and provide Full Time Equivalents (FTEs).   * + \*Roles with an asterisk are mandatory to complete.   + The time commitment for each team member is entered as FTEs. For example, a full-time team member is ‘1’ FTE and a team member who works 20 hours in a 40-hour week is a 0.5 FTE.   + The FTE of any unnamed project personnel (non-student) at the time of application should be included in ‘Project Support’. A description of the contribution they would make to the project should be included in ‘Team Capability’.   + MBIE will not fund salaries of individuals employed by local or central government but may fund other costs associated with their involvement.   + A supporting CV must be provided for the New Zealand Principal Investigator/Programme Leader.   + CVs do not have to comply with the standard New Zealand Research, Science and Innovation (RS&T) CV template. Narrative CVs may be provided.   For more information on the narrative-style CV format, please visit MBIE’s [website](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/process/pitau-investment-management-system-portal/)  **New Zealand team**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Role | Full Name required | CV | Minimum  FTE required | Diversity information required for submission of proposal | | \*Principal Investigator/  Programme Leader | Mandatory | Yes | 0.1 | Yes | | Key researcher | Optional | No | Not Required | Yes | | Key individual | Optional | No | Not Required | Yes | | Researcher | Optional | No | Not Required | Yes | | Expert/mentor | Optional | No | Not Required | Yes | | Student | Optional | No | Not Required | Not Required | | Project support | Optional | No | Not Required | Not Required |   As part of MBIE’s diversity policy, the Principal Investigator/Programme Leader and any other named personnel for the New Zealand team, will be invited to register separately in the online portal where the following information will be captured:   * + gender   + ethnicity   + career stage   + date of birth.   **All diversity information must be completed before the application can be submitted.**  For more information on the collection of diversity information, see [MBIE’s Pītau portal webpage](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/process/ims/)  **International team**   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Role | Full Name required | CV not required | Minimum  FTE required | Diversity information not required | | \*Principal Investigator/  Programme Leader – International | Mandatory | N/A | 0.1 | N/A | | Key researcher – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A | | Key individual – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A | | Researcher – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A | | Expert/mentor – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A | | Student – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A | | Project support – International | Optional | N/A | Not Required | N/A |   CVs or diversity information are not required for the international team. |

### Section 4: Financial information

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| 4.1 **Requested** **Funding**  **Using the table below, enter the required funding per year for the proposed project. This can be up to $100,000 per year to a project total of $300,000 (excluding GST) and should be evenly allocated across the project years.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Amount (ex GST) | | Year one |  | | Year two |  | | Year three |  | |
| 4.2 **Income**  Using the table below, enter the income per year for the proposed project. Income is made up of MBIE funding and any co-funding from other sources.  MBIE funding can be up to a maximum of $100,000 per year to a project total of $300,000 (excluding GST).   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Year one | Year two | Year three | | MBIE funding |  |  |  | | Co-funding |  |  |  | |
| 4.3 **Expenses**  For each year of the project, please provide a budget for the project using the table below. Budgets should be allocated as evenly as possible across the project years.  Travel costs should not exceed 25% of the budget. Total income must equal expenditure and all values should exclude GST. Funding does not allow for annual inflation adjustments over the term of the contract.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Year one | Year two | Year three | | Personnel |  |  |  | | Travel |  |  |  | | Overheads |  |  |  | | Materials and Consumables |  |  |  | | Subcontracting |  |  |  | | Other |  |  |  | | Total |  |  |  | |
| 4.4 **Expenses description**  Please describe your project costs, including how funding will be spent for each of the budget categories.  **Enter your answers here...** |

### Section 5: Classifications

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| **Research**  An [ANZSRC code](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/research-and-data/anzsrc/) is a standard classification that allows research and development activities to be categorised according to their intended purpose, outcome and/or discipline.  Select up to FOUR from [Field of Research](https://aria.stats.govt.nz/aria/) (FOR) ANZSRC codes to categorise the research activities associated with your application. The relative proportion of total expenditure attributed to each of these should add up to 100%. Please use as few codes as possible.  Enter your codes here…   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Code |  |  |  |  | | Percentage |  |  |  |  | |
| * 1. ****Socio-Economic Objective****   Select up to FOUR from [Socio-Economic classifications Objectives](https://aria.stats.govt.nz/aria/) (SEO) ANZSRC codes to categorise the research activities associated with your application. The relative proportion of total expenditure attributed to each of these should add up to 100%. Please use as few codes as possible.  Enter your codes here…   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Code |  |  |  |  | | Percentage |  |  |  |  | |
| * 1. **Type of research activity**   **Indicate the proportion (percentage) of the proposed research that is relevant to each category listed. Total must equal 100%.**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Research Type** | **Percentage** | | Applied research |  | | Experimental development |  | | Not relevant to a Research Type |  | | Pure basic research |  | | Strategic basic research |  | | **Total** |  | |
| 5.4 **Mātauranga Māori**  Please indicate what percentage the proposal makes to a significant contribution to Māori research and innovation (total must equal 100%).   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Question | Percentage % | | Not specifically relevant to Māori and not involving Māori |  | | Specifically relevant to Māori |  | | Research involving Māori |  | | Māori centred research |  | | Kaupapa Māori research |  | | Total |  | |

**Section 6: Additional Information**

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| **Intellectual property management (250 words maximum)**  Outline how you will identify, protect, and share any intellectual property generated by the project in accordance with the investment goals and to ensure maximum benefit to New Zealand. This includes management of IP between collaborators.  If the success of your project is dependent on access to existing intellectual property, outline the agreements you have in place to use it. For more information refer to the intellectual property protection information on [business.govt.nz](https://www.business.govt.nz/).  Enter your answer here... |
| * 1. **Special ethical and regulatory requirements (250 words maximum)**   Tell us if any ethical and regulatory approvals are needed to conduct the proposed work and whether these have been sought or obtained. If approvals have not yet been obtained, tell us how and when you expect to do so.  If no ethical or regulatory requirements or approvals apply to your proposed research simply state “Not Applicable”.  You are responsible for meeting all ethical and regulatory requirements relating to your proposed research. Any costs associated with fulfilling these requirements should be included in your budget (as “Other expenditure”). If delays occur due to failure to gain or initiate the necessary approvals, funding may be withheld, withdrawn or renegotiated.  Enter your answer here... |
| 6.3 **Data Management Plan (250 words maximum)**  Outline your data management plan. You will also need to confirm access to any data required for the project.  Enter your answer here... |
| 6.4 **Conflicts of interest**  Declare any potential conflicts of interest and say why. This may include possible conflicts with assessors or a part of MBIE you are engaged with.  Enter your answer here... |

## MBIE’s funding policies, terms and conditions

By submitting an application, you are accepting and agreeing to MBIE’s funding policies, terms and conditions. Neither this funding opportunity, nor any contract resulting from the invitation process is intended to create a partnership, employment, or agency agreement between MBIE and the Applicant.

### Funding policies

Our funding polices show our commitment to:

* everyone having a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the science system to their fullest potential, and
* ensuring that all science data generated through its investments meets minimum expectations of good data management and public availability

For more see our web page [Agencies, policies and budget initiatives](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/agencies-policies-and-budget-initiatives/).

### Funding terms and conditions

1. General

1.1 The terms and conditions are non-negotiable and do not require a response. Each applicant that submits a proposal (hereafter referred to as “you”) will be deemed to have agreed to the Call for Proposals terms and conditions without reservation or variation.

1. Investigations and reliance on information

2.1 You must examine this Call for Proposals and any documents referenced by this Call for Proposals and carry out all necessary investigations before submitting a proposal. If you are in doubt as to the meaning of any part of this Call for Proposals, you must set out in your proposal the interpretation and any assumptions you used.

2.2 MBIE will not be liable (in contract or tort, including negligence, or otherwise) to anyone who relies on any information provided by or on behalf of MBIE in or in connection with this Call for Proposals.

1. Reliance by applicants

3.1 All information contained in this Call for Proposals or given to you by MBIE is for the purpose of allowing you to prepare your proposal. MBIE has endeavoured to ensure the integrity of such information. However, it has not been independently verified and may not be up to date.

1. Reliance by MBIE

4.1 MBIE may rely upon all statements you make in your proposal and in correspondence or negotiations with MBIE or its representatives. If a proposal is funded by MBIE, any such statements may be included in a funding contract.

4.2 You must ensure all information you provide to MBIE is complete and accurate. MBIE is under no obligation to check any proposal for errors, omissions, or inaccuracies. You must notify MBIE promptly upon becoming aware of any errors, omissions, or inaccuracies in your proposal or in any additional information you provide.

1. Inducements

5.1 You must not directly or indirectly provide any form of inducement or reward to any assessment panel member, officer, employee, advisor, or other representative of MBIE in connection with this Call for Proposals.

5.2 Business-as-usual communications (relating to funding under existing arrangements between MBIE and your organisation) will be maintained with the usual contacts. However, during the Call for Proposal process, you must not use business-as-usual contacts to solicit or discuss details of this Call for Proposals or any application you have, or intend to, submit, with any person at MBIE or its agents, including the assessment panel members.

1. Ownership and intellectual property

6.1 This Call for Proposals and any other documents MBIE provides to you remain the property of MBIE. All copyright and other rights in this Call for Proposals and in any other documentation or information provided to you or any other person by or on behalf of MBIE in connection with this Call for Proposals will remain with, and belong at all times to, MBIE or its licensors.

6.2 MBIE may request at any time the immediate return of all documents supplied and any copies made of them. You must comply with any such request in a timely manner.

6.3 Any proposals or information you supply to MBIE will become the property of MBIE and may not be returned to you. Ownership of the Intellectual Property rights in a proposal does not pass to MBIE. However, in submitting a proposal, you grant MBIE a non-exclusive, non-transferable, perpetual licence to retain, use, disclose, and copy your proposal for any purpose related to this Call for Proposals process.

6.4 By submitting a proposal, you warrant that the provision to MBIE of the information contained in your proposal, and MBIE’s use of it for the evaluation of your proposal and for any resulting negotiation, will not breach any third-party intellectual property rights.

1. Confidentiality

7.1 You and MBIE will each take reasonable steps to protect Confidential Information and, subject to paragraph 7.3, and without limiting any confidentiality undertaking agreed between them, will not disclose Confidential Information to a third party without the other’s prior written consent.

7.2 You and MBIE may each disclose Confidential Information to any person who is directly involved in the Call for Proposals process on its behalf, such as officers, employees, consultants, contractors, professional advisors, evaluation panel members, partners, principals or directors, but only for the purpose of participating in the Call for Proposals.

7.3 You acknowledge that MBIE’s obligations under paragraph 7.1 are subject to requirements imposed by the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the Privacy Act 2020, parliamentary and constitutional convention and any other obligations imposed by law. Where MBIE receives an OIA request that relates to your Confidential Information, MBIE will consult with you and may ask you to explain why the information is considered by you to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

1. The proposal process

8.1 Despite any other provision in this Call for Proposals, MBIE reserves the following rights:

* MBIE may amend, suspend, cancel and/or re-issue the Call for Proposals or any part of the Call for Proposals.
* MBIE may make any material change to the Call for Proposals (including any date) on the condition that you are given a reasonable time within which to respond to the change.
* In exceptional circumstances, MBIE may accept a late proposal where it considers that there is no material prejudice to other applicants.
* MBIE may waive irregularities or requirements in or during the Call for Proposals process where it considers it appropriate and reasonable to do so.
* Your proposal may not be approved for funding.
* All or any proposal(s) may be rejected.
* Your proposal may be accepted in whole, or in part.
* Any information you provide to MBIE with your proposal may be retained or destroyed.
* Clarification may be sought from any applicant(s) in relation to any matter in connection with the Call for Proposals process.
* Any applicant(s) may be contacted, which may be to the exclusion of any other applicant(s), at any time before or after the approval (if any) of proposal(s).
* MBIE may reject, or not consider further, any documentation related to your proposal that may be received from you, unless it is specifically requested.
* This Call for Proposals process may be run in such manner as MBIE may see fit.

1. No contractual obligations created

9.1 No contract or other legal obligations arise between you and MBIE out of or in relation to this Call for Proposals or Call for Proposals process, until a formal written contract (if any) is signed by both you and MBIE.

9.2 This Call for Proposals do not constitute an offer by MBIE to provide funding or enter into any agreement with you. The call for and receipt of proposals does not imply any obligation on MBIE to contract any funding requested in your proposal. MBIE will not be bound in any way until a formal written contract is executed.

9.3 MBIE makes no representations nor gives any warranties in this Call for Proposals.

9.4 Any verbal communications made during the Call for Proposals process will not be binding on MBIE and are subject to the terms of this Call for Proposals.

1. No process contract

10.1 Despite any other provision in this Call for Proposals or any other document relating to this Call for Proposals, the issue of this Call for Proposals does not legally oblige or otherwise commit MBIE to proceed with or follow the process outlined in this Call for Proposals or to assess your proposal or enter into any negotiations or contractual arrangements with you.

10.2 For the avoidance of doubt, this Call for Proposals process does not give rise to a process contract.

1. Exclusion of liability

11.1 Neither MBIE nor any assessment panel members, officers, employees, advisers or other representatives will be liable (in contract or tort, including negligence, or otherwise) for any direct or indirect damage, expense, loss or cost (including legal costs) incurred or suffered by you, your affiliates or any other person in connection with this Call for Proposals process, including without limitation:

* the assessment process
* the preparation of any proposal
* any investigations of or by any applicant
* concluding any contract
* the acceptance or rejection of any proposal
* the suspension or cancellation of the process contemplated in this Call for Proposals, or
* any information given or not given to any applicant(s).

11.2 By participating in this Call for Proposals process, you waive any rights you may have to make any claim against MBIE. To the extent that legal relations between MBIE and you cannot be excluded as a matter of law, the liability of MBIE is limited to $1.

11.3 Nothing contained or implied in or arising out of this Call for Proposals or any other communications to any applicant shall be construed as legal, financial, or other advice of any kind.

1. Costs and expenses

12.1 MBIE is not responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by you in the preparation of an application.

1. Governing law and jurisdiction

13.1 This Call for Proposals will be construed according to, and governed by, New Zealand law and you agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of New Zealand courts in any dispute concerning this Call for Proposals or any proposal.

1. Disclosure of information

14.1 MBIE may make public the following information:

* The proposal title
* The name of the successful Host (the Contracting organisation)
* The names of all Partner organisations
* The public statement (as provided in the proposal)
* The public statements in the Progress report(s) and/or Final report (if funded)
* The total amount of funding provided
* The contract number (if funded)
* The contract start and end dates (if funded)
* The contract status (if funded)
* ANZSRC information provided in your application (if funded)

14.2 You must not release any media statement or other information relating to the process outlined in this Call for Proposals, or the submission or approval of any proposal to any public medium without providing sufficient advance Notice to MBIE.