



## BRIEFING

### Māori Innovation Fund, Te Pūnaha Hiringa

<b>Date:</b>	14 February 2024	<b>Priority:</b>	High
<b>Security classification:</b>	In Confidence	<b>Tracking number:</b>	2324-1864

Action sought		
	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Melissa Lee <b>Minister for Economic Development</b>	<b>Agree</b> to confirm your preference with respect to the options of returning or scaling the Māori Innovation Fund.	15 February 2024
Hon Tama Potaka <b>Minister for Māori Development</b>	<b>Agree</b> to confirm your preference with respect to the options of returning or scaling the Māori Innovation Fund.	15 February 2024

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Melanie Porter	Deputy Secretary, Te Waka Pūtahitanga	Privacy of natural persons	
Privacy of natural persons	Investments and Operations Manager, Te Kupenga		✓

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
Not Required

- Minister's office to complete:**
- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved             | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted                | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn    |

**Comments**



# BRIEFING

## Title

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## Purpose

This briefing provides you with supplementary information on the Māori Innovation Fund, as requested, and seeks a joint Ministerial decision on the option of scaling or returning the funding as MBIE fiscal savings.

## Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment recommends that you:

- a **Note** that the Te Pūnaha Hiringa Māori Innovation Fund of \$1 million per annum currently sits with Vote Building, Science and Innovation and Vote Māori Economic Development for which the Minister for Economic Development and Minister for Māori Development are both responsible.

*Noted*

- b **Agree** to confirm your preference with respect to the following options below **by Thursday, 15 February:**

	<b>\$ per annum 24/25 and out-years</b>	<b>Decision</b>
Confidential advice to government		<del>Yes</del> / No
		<del>Yes</del> / No

*Agree / Disagree*

c

# Confidential advice to government

*Noted*



Melanie Porter  
**Deputy Secretary**  
Te Waka Pūtahitanga, MBIE

14 February 2024

Hon Melissa Lee  
**Minister for Economic Development**

..... / ..... / .....



Hon Tama Potaka  
**Minister for Māori Development**

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## **Background**

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1. Te Pūnaha Hiringa Māori Innovation Fund (MIF) (M46) (the Fund) was established in 2014 to invest in initiatives that contribute to achieving the goals and priorities in the Māori-Crown Economic Growth Partnership, He Kai Kei Aku Ringa. The primary objective of the Fund is to enhance economic productivity and knowledge, unlocking the economic potential of assets and wealth creation.
2. The Fund was established with \$1m per annum from 2016/17 and-out years and is an appropriation within Vote Business, Science, and Innovation. The Minister for Māori Development is the appropriation, Minister.
3. The Minister for Māori Development and the Minister for Economic Development are jointly responsible for the Fund.
4. MBIE is responsible for the management of the Fund.

## **What has been funded?**

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5. Over the 10 years of the Fund (\$10m), it has funded a range of initiatives including:
  - a. support for Māori enterprise and business accelerators.
  - b. economic data and research initiatives to improve economic data on the Māori economy.
  - c. youth entrepreneur programmes.
  - d. excellence recognition award events.
6. Since the Fund was established, annual spend has generally been below the annual appropriation of \$1 million. For e.g from January 2022 – December 2023, spend from the Fund was \$1.443 million against a budget of \$3 million. Specific initiatives that the Fund covered over this period included economic data and research, youth entrepreneur capability initiatives, business mentoring and capability initiatives, and Māori business excellence awards. We have attached further details of the different initiatives that the Fund invested in, in Annex 1. Where the initiative has been evaluated/assessed for impact, we've included commentary.
7. Confidential advice to government  


## **Annex**

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Annex One: Overview of Māori Innovation Fund January 2022 – December 2023



Annex one: Māori Innovation Fund January 2022 – December 2023

	Initiative	Purpose	YTD Actuals	Partner	Outcome
1	<b>2023 Te Ōhanga Māori The Māori Economy Report</b>	To build a richer data set of the Māori economy for Māori, iwi, central and local government agencies. The report draws on authoritative data sources, including Te Ōhanga Māori 2018 data, Census 2023, data from Te Puni Kōkiri and leveraging the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI).	\$80,800	Business Economic Research Limited (BERL).  Report launch in collaboration with the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.	This is a trusted source and widely used by government agencies, private sector agencies and Māori entities. The 2023 report (due in Q3) builds on the 2018 report and Te Puni Kōkiri's Te Matapaeroa 2021 data on the Māori economy.
2	<b>Young Enterprise Scheme</b>	To support the increase of rangatahi Māori in to three entrepreneur programmes to develop tailored approaches for Māori students, in mainstream and kura kaupapa schools, to participate in enterprise ventures across New Zealand.	\$255,000	Young Enterprise Trust	101 schools and 1,479 Māori students took up the training. YES reports that the programme led to improved participation rates in enterprise ventures beyond the programmes themselves.
3	<b>Pakihi 101 Programme</b>	To deliver workshop programmes to Māori small business owners and their Māori employees wanting to engage in small business activities. This includes mentoring, network connections, capability and planning development, information on pre business start-up and early-stage business establishment, business sustainability and growth.	\$400,000	Te Wānanga o Aotearoa	Korowai Evaluation and Research independently evaluated this programme. There were 2036 participants across 255 workshops in 16 different regions. Its findings regarding the impact of the Pakihi programme included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased financial and tax skills,</li> <li>• improved business plan development, marketing and network skills,</li> <li>• increased confidence in self, and their idea or business,</li> <li>• increased target market knowledge and market expansion,</li> <li>• major factor of increased business skills and outcomes achieved.</li> </ul> <p>Participants said that their learning success was because of the provision of the programme in a kaupapa Māori learning environment.</p>
4	<b>Trade Mission 2023</b>	To support the New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) led Trade Mission to the United Kingdom.	\$50,000	New Zealand Trade and Enterprise	This supported an industry capability mapping study into future industrial requirements to support the development and operation of large-scale offshore windfarm in Taranaki.
5	<b>He Kākano Programme 2023</b>	To support greater collaboration ten regional Māori Business Networks and Māori Economic Development Agencies in Northland, Auckland, East Coast, Tauranga, Taranaki Whanganui, Kāpiti, Wellington Otago, and Southland to foster Māori economic development outcomes.	\$450,000	N/A	Early stages. Impact reports are expected from the business network/agencies in March 2024.

6	<b>Sponsorship</b>	<b>Ahuwhenua, Māori Excellence in Primary Sector Awards 2023</b> Sponsors the excellence in Māori horticulture trophy.	\$40,000	Te Puni Kōkiri Ministry for Primary Industries	
		<b>New Zealand International Business Awards 2022</b> Co-sponsors with Te Puni Kōkiri the He Kai Kei Aku Ringa Award for Māori Export Excellence Award.	\$10,000	Te Puni Kōkiri New Zealand Trade and Enterprise	
		<b>Te Manu Atatū Māori Business Awards 2023</b> The event celebrates Māori regional business awards, Māori owned and operated businesses within Whanganui and surrounding iwi and hapū.	\$1,304	Whanganui Māori Business Network, Economic Development agency	
		<b>Aotearoa Māori Business Leaders Awards 2023</b> This event celebrates Māori excellence and success in business by Māori making impact on communities and the world.	\$6,000	University of Auckland	
		<b>IWI Indigenous Women in Industry 2024</b> This event supports empowerment of Māori women and economic development.	\$25,000	Rise Global	
7	<b>He Kai Kei Aku Ringa: Māori-Crown Economic Growth Partnership 2023 refresh</b>	Iwi and Māori stakeholder feedback and insights to inform the strategy and action plan refresh for He Kai Kei Aku Ringa.	\$124,710	Te Amokura	The insights from this work informed the He Kai Kei Aku Ringa Strategy and Action Plan refresh that was agreed to by the then Cabinet in 2023.
<b>TOTAL (excl. GST)</b>			<b>\$1,442,814</b>		