

Future funding opportunities for Vision Mātauranga research teams

Tiaki Mai Tiaki 11-12 April 2024

We have made an effort to pull together what information we can about funding avenues from a variety of different sources but know we definitely will not have captured everything! We know there is more out there, and that you will know about things we don't. Please share any opportunities you know of, and we can add to this document after Tiaki Mai Tiaki Atū. Funding rounds currently open for applications are highlighted green.

Feel free to come and talk with our team about this, particularly Kate or Phil.

****Kanapu opportunities****

Kanapu is designed by Māori, for Māori to ignite Māori talent and leadership across te ao Māori in research, science and innovation spaces; on marae, within hapū and iwi mahi, and throughout our hāpori in the cities. Kanapu is designed and led by Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, and funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Kanapu have a few opportunities for community building and learning coming up:

<https://kanapu.maori.nz/>

Te Ako Rau – Mentoring programme – now open for applications: a six-week online mentoring programme for grassroots Māori collectives to shape or consolidate their pūtaiao, rangahau or auaha initiatives. Three rounds of the programme will be offered from early 2024. Te Ako Rau is an opportunity for whānau Māori to come together in a safe space to learn, level up and connect with mātanga in their area of interest.

Tūhono Rau Tangata – Mātanga talks: eight online kōrero that highlight the inspired leadership journeys of mātanga (specialists) in pūtaiao, rangahau and auaha-related mahi, on national fronts and at home. Register to be notified of upcoming mātanga talks.

Hui Hihiri – 1-2 May: Hui Hihiri is a National Online Wānanga to share, see, and hear first-hand from our people about their aspirations for Māori workforce development in rangahau (research), pūtaiao (science) and auaha (innovation)-related spaces that are grounded in mātauranga Māori. This year's theme is **Hiki wairua – the power is within us**. We're going to be exploring how to find solutions within ourselves, working together to raise our spirits, and creating collective impact to reach our aspirations at home and in our communities.

Hui Hihiri is for whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori across the motu. If you're interested in mātauranga Māori, atuātanga, rangahau (research), pūtaiao (science) and auaha (innovation) then this event is for you, wherever you may find yourself – whether you're based at your marae, in an office, a laboratory, out at sea or anywhere in between. Hui Hihiri is online and free to register.

Health Research Council

Open funding round: Ngā Kanohi Kitea Community Advancement Grants – applications open until 8 May
<https://gateway.hrc.govt.nz/funding/maori-health-research/2024-ng-kanohi-kitea-community-advancement-grants>

Value: a variety of streams, from \$100-300k through various grants: Training Grant (individuals or groups), Development Grant (of a project), Project Grant, and Knowledge Mobilisation Grant (translation/sharing of knowledge).

Focus and eligibility: The Ngā Kanohi Kitea Community Advancement Fund provides opportunities for iwi, hapū, other Māori community groups or organisations, Māori researchers or research teams to undertake research or training and development activities that address community-identified health and wellbeing needs. This fund focuses on individuals or groups who have not previously received significant research funding but who want to build capacity and capability to undertake health research.

Department of Conservation

Open funding round: Mātauranga Kura Taiao Fund – applications open year round

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/funding/nga-whenua-rahui/matauranga-kura-taiao-fund/>

Value: no set limit

Focus and eligibility: The fund is open to individuals or organisations with legal status and representative of a whānau, hapū or iwi. There are five focus areas:

- Reverse the ongoing loss of traditional Māori knowledge and practice related to indigenous biodiversity.
- Protect, preserve, and promote traditional knowledge, history, stories, and practices of tangata whenua specific to their natural world and resources.
- Restore kaitiaki responsibilities to protect the mauri of the whenua and unite the spiritual, cultural, and physical caretaking of our natural resources.
- Increase tangata whenua capacity to retain and promote their traditional knowledge and use in managing indigenous biodiversity.
- Support tangata whenua participation in management of indigenous biodiversity, consistent with their traditional knowledge and practice.

Local governments

Some local government organisations offer contestable funds that could be of interest, e.g. Horizons Regional Council Pūtea Hapori Urupare Āhuarangi - Community Climate Response Fund (<https://www.horizons.govt.nz/about-our-region-and-council/grants-and-sponsorship/putea-hapori-urupare-ahuarangi-community-climate-r> - currently open for applications) and Waikato Regional Council Environmental Initiatives Fund (<https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/community/funding-and-scholarships/environmental-initiatives-fund/> - applications open 24 June – 19 July).

Ministry for the Environment

MfE hosts or offers a variety of different grants, here: <https://environment.govt.nz/what-you-can-do/funding/>

Philanthropic organisations

Community Trusts of Aotearoa New Zealand and other funders who have signed a climate change pledge: <https://www.climateactionaotearoa.co.nz/> With any philanthropic funding, its best to contact the funders or managers directly to discuss your project to ensure that it aligns with the scope of their fund.

The Tindall Foundation partners with WWF to offer a Community Conservation Fund focussed on education and Conservation, open in August: <https://www.wwf.org.nz/community-conservation-and-education-fund> . This fund is more likely to fund action and implementation, rather than research.

Research grants that would require partnerships
(with either research institutions or Partner Entities (Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga))

Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga – Indigenous Centre of Research Excellence

Lead applicants for funding must be at one of 21 Partner Entities: <https://www.maramatanga.co.nz/about/partners>

Open funding round: Matakītenga Research Fund – applications close 29 April

<https://www.maramatanga.co.nz/funding-opportunity/matakītenga-research-round>

Value: \$10-60k per project; funding pool \$500k

Focus and eligibility: This year priority will be given to Pae Auaha applications (our Te Ao Māori data and digital technologies domain). We also welcome applications from new and emerging researchers. The lead applicant must

be a Māori researcher employed at a NPM Partner Entity. The wider team must be multi-institutional and can include community-based partners.

Upcoming funding round: Whakaaweawe Grant – applications open 7 – 31 July

<https://www.maramatanga.co.nz/funding-opportunity/whakaaweawe-grant>

Value: \$3-7k per project; funding pool \$60k

Focus and eligibility: This grant supports Māori researchers employed at a Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga (NPM) partner entity to achieve impact and transformational research outcomes and knowledge sharing pathways that harness connectedness with research partners and communities; and shares and promotes research uptake and impact. Examples of what the grant might be used for include: publication and final editing costs; hosting or attending an in-person event, hui, wānanga or conference for the purposes making presentations; creating digital assets including film, photography, infographics, illustrations; creating performative or artistic articulations of research findings.

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment

Endeavour Fund

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/endeavour-fund/>

The Endeavour Fund is one of the largest funds available to researchers in New Zealand. It encourages researchers to consider a diverse range of ideas and conduct excellent research, with transformational potential. It will provide the highest potential impacts across a range of economic, environmental and societal objectives, and give effect to Vision Mātauranga. The fund is available through two mechanisms:

- **Smart Ideas:** This investment mechanism catalyses and rapidly tests promising, innovative research ideas with high potential for benefit to New Zealand, to enable refresh and diversity in the science portfolio. Applicants can request between \$0.4 million to \$1 million, for a term of 2 or 3 years.
- **Research programmes:** This investment mechanism supports ambitious, excellent, and well-defined research ideas which, collectively, have credible and high potential to positively transform New Zealand's future in areas of future value, growth or critical need. Applicants can request \$0.5 million or more per year, for a term of 3, 4 or 5 years.

Applications must be made by a New Zealand-based research organisation or a New Zealand-based legal entity representing a New Zealand-based research organisation. The fund is guided by MBIE's Vision Mātauranga policy: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/vision-matauranga-booklet.pdf>. These funds are closed for 2024, and will likely open for registration again in October/November of this year.

Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund – likely open around September (as per 2023 round)

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/vmcf/>

Value: approx. \$2mil total available through two funds, Connect and Placement.

Focus and eligibility: The fund aims to:

- strengthen capability, capacity, skills and networks between Māori and the science and innovation system, &
- increase understanding of how research can contribute to the aspirations of Māori organisations and deliver benefit for New Zealand.

You can subscribe to updates here: <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/r/518BD57FB2880987>

Royal Society Te Apārangi

The Royal Society administers several large research funds, and many smaller ones, with different focus areas and criteria. All are listed on the Royal Society funding page, and we have highlighted the larger ones below.

<https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/>

Marsden Fund

<https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/marsden>

There are three categories within the Marsden Fund:

- **Marsden Fund Fast-Start grants:** come from a special pool of funds set aside for emerging researchers (up to seven years after the conferment of their PhD). Funding is set at NZ\$120,000 (ex GST) per year for 3 years.
- **Marsden Fund Council awards:** a new category to support large interdisciplinary projects and are open to established researchers as well as emerging researchers. Funding is for three years and is capped at \$1 million per year (ex GST).
- **Marsden Fund Standard grants:** open to established researchers as well as emerging researchers. Funding is for three years and the amount of funding is flexible, depending on project needs

Focus and eligibility: The Marsden Fund supports investigator-initiated research in science, engineering, maths, social sciences and the humanities in New Zealand. The Fund does not provide fellowships but rather delivers grants for discrete projects for researchers employed at universities, Crown Research Institutes, private research organisations or as private individuals. These funds have closed for 2024. The call for applications is made annually in November / December and the initial closing date for applications is late February.

Catalyst Fund

<https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/catalyst-fund/>

The Catalyst Fund focuses on supporting and seeding international partnerships with New Zealand scientists, and does this through four different streams: Catalyst Seeding, Catalyst Influence, Catalyst Leaders and Catalyst Strategic.

Horizon Europe

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/international-opportunities/horizon-europe/>

This is a huge research and innovation fund out of the EU, that NZ is recently able to access. The programme funds collaborative projects (with at least 3 countries on each project) worth around \$7-27 million over 3 years. For those with partnerships with research institutions, there may be opportunities to collaborate on multi-partner case study projects within NZ. This is a new fund, and New Zealand is currently figuring out how to engage with it. Andrew Sporle is the Māori National Contact Point for the fund (details in link above).

Antarctic Science Platform

<https://www.antarcticscienceplatform.org.nz/about/mātauranga-māori>

If your research ideas have connections to Antarctica, have a chat with Sandy (Morrison), our Deep South Vision Mātauranga programme lead and chair of our Kāhui Māori, who is also joint chair of the ASP Kāhui Māori.

Earthquake Commission Toku Tū Ake – soon to be Natural Hazards Commission Toka Tū Ake

<https://www.eqc.govt.nz/resilience-and-research/research/all-about-funding/>

We are investigating avenues that Toka Tū Ake might have coming up – TBD. For example, they have an existing partnership with Te Toi Whakaruruhau o Aotearoa, the Māori Disaster Research Centre at Massey University, and previously funded research has included [Māori whare construction techniques](#) (lead by Anthony Hoete).

Te Toi Whakaruruhau o Aotearoa - the Māori Disaster Research Centre

<https://www.tetoiwhakaruruhau.co.nz/about-us/#whakapapa>

A new research centre as of July 2020, Te Toi Whakaruruhau o Aotearoa is committed to developing research that addresses issues related to disasters, natural hazards, and risk reduction. They are working with iwi whānui to increase Māori disaster research capability, through developing the next generation of Māori researchers as well as the disaster risk and resilience research capacities of our communities. They welcome iwi whānui to contact them to discuss research opportunities. They also share contestable funding opportunities here:

<https://www.tetoiwhakaruruhau.co.nz/research/funding-opportunities/>

Ministry for Primary Industries

Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/funding-rural-support/farming-funds-and-programmes/slmacc/slmacc-adaptation/>

Value: up to \$300k; each year, the programme has \$2.9 million to fund scientific projects.

Focus and eligibility: Would require partnership with a research organisation. The SLMACC Adaptation Programme focuses on social impacts, policy research, and the science around adaptation to climate change. It aims to:

- understand people's needs, including looking at barriers to behavioural change.
- develop tools and practices to enable adaptation to climate change.
- put adaptation into practice, providing examples that show how research can be used by different sectors and regions in practical ways.

Scholarships and Fellowships

Many organisations have grants and avenues for postgraduate student and early career researcher scholarships, e.g.:

- Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga (<https://www.maramatanga.co.nz/manaaki>)
- Royal Society Te Apārangī; for example:
 - o Rutherford Foundation Fellowships and Scholarships: <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/rutherford-foundation/>
 - o Tāwhia te Mana Research Fellowships: <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/tawhia-te-mana/about-en/>).
 - o Rutherford Discovery Fellowships: <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/rutherford-discovery-fellowships/apply-for-rutherford-discovery-fellowships/>
- Coastal People Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence (<https://www.otago.ac.nz/sciences/research/coastal-people>)
- Health Research Council (<https://gateway.hrc.govt.nz/funding/maori-health-research>)