

Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund Investment Plan

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MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
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Te Pūnaha means system or group: the connection point; careful consideration

Hihiko means to be inspired, to be switched on and willing

Mātauranga in the Fund's name means knowledge in a broad sense compared to the more specific *mātauranga Māori*

Section 1:

Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund



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What is Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund?

This Investment Plan outlines the policy context for Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund (the Fund), and the aims and objectives of the Fund. It also outlines the funding schemes, and proposal submission, assessment and decision making processes for the allocation of funding to successful proposals.

Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund is a fund of around **\$6 million** per year. The Fund is administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).

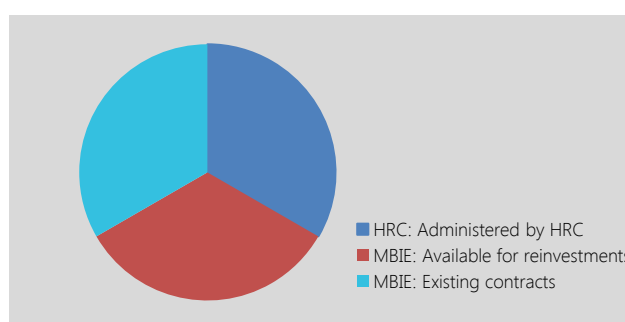
The aims of Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund are to:

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

The Fund invests in the development of skilled people and organisations that plan to undertake, or are undertaking, research that supports the themes and outcomes of MBIE's Vision Mātauranga policy. The Vision Mātauranga policy aims to unlock the science and innovation potential of Māori knowledge, resources and people to assist New Zealanders to create a better future.

\$1.982 million per year is contracted to the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC)¹ to support hauroa/health-related projects that meet the objectives of the Fund, and the balance is allocated through investment processes administered by MBIE.

Operating since 2013, around **\$2 million** per year is available for MBIE's allocation to new proposals.



Use of the Fund each year

Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund invests in activity to develop the system as a whole. The Fund focuses on achieving excellence and impact by investing in the development of people and organisations with the skills and capacity to develop high quality research programmes that are relevant to implementing Vision Mātauranga. It seeks impact through programmes of work that explore the ways in which scientific research and its development and application can benefit individuals, whānau, Māori communities and Māori organisations.

Investment in excellence through the Fund will help the science system develop, retain and attract talented individuals, develop people and organisations to benefit from new knowledge, increase relevant skills levels in order to carry out

¹ For further detail see www.hrc.govt.nz/funding-opportunities/maori-development

Vision Mātauranga relevant research and become sought after practitioners in their field.

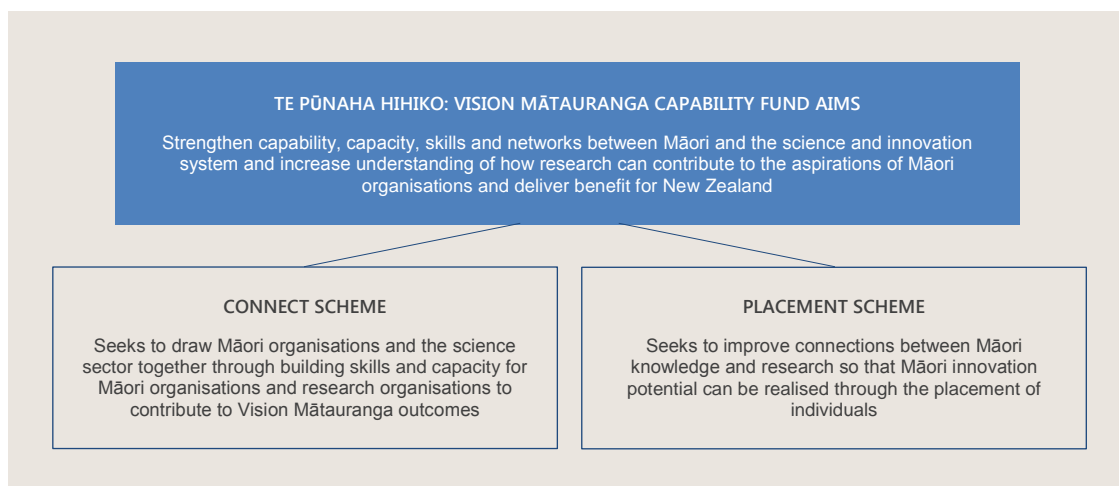
Investment Objectives

The investment objectives for the Fund are:

- > For Māori organisations (research users that identify themselves as Māori), to:
 - build Māori research users' understanding of what research can do for them, including contributing to economic, social and environmental goals
 - increase the uptake and application of research results by Māori research users
 - build research capability, capacity and skills in Māori organisations.
- > For individual researchers and research organisations (including Māori researchers and research organisations), to:
 - improve researchers' and research organisations' understanding of mātauranga, Māori research
 - build research capability relevant to Vision Mātauranga themes and outcomes.
- > For the science and innovation system, to:
 - identify effective ways to transfer knowledge between Māori and researchers
 - increase connections and collaborations between Māori organisations and individual researchers and research organisations
 - strengthen and increase networks of researchers, research organisations and Māori organisations that will encourage and support each other
 - explore and develop new opportunities to undertake research that contribute to the Vision Mātauranga policy themes and outcomes.

Investment Signals

MBIE invests funding across two schemes; the **Connect** scheme and the **Placement** scheme.



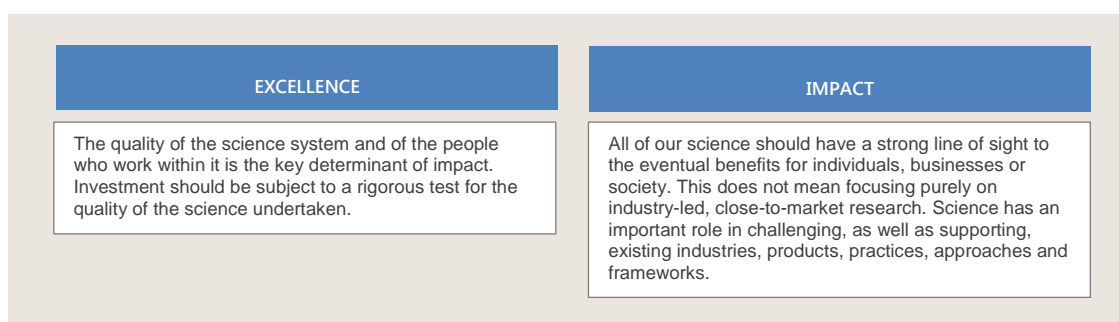
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Understanding Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund in the National Context

The Fund supports delivery on *The National Statement of Science Investment* and *He Kai Kei Aku Ringa* as well as the *Vision Mātauranga* policy, as detailed below.

The National Statement of Science Investment

The National Statement of Science Investment 2015–25 (NSSI) sets out the Government’s strategic direction for science investment. It outlines the Government’s vision for the science system for 2025 of “a highly dynamic science system that enriches New Zealand, making a more visible, measurable contribution to our productivity and wellbeing through excellent science”. It sets out two main pillars as the means to achieve that vision: excellence and impact.



The NSSI pillars

The NSSI describes the Fund as a tactical fund, because it invests in activity to develop the system as a whole.

He Kai Kei Aku Ringa

The Crown launched **He Kai Kei Aku Ringa** (*literally ‘food from our own hands’*), in December 2012, through release of a Strategy with an Action Plan with 26 recommendations to build momentum towards the six overarching goals:

1. Greater educational participation and performance
2. A skilled and successful workforce
3. Increased financial literacy
4. Government, in partnership with Māori, enabling growth
5. Active discussions about natural resources
6. Māori Inc as a driver of economic growth.

The Māori Economic Development Advisory Board was established in 2013 to provide on-going stewardship, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of He Kai Kei Aku Ringa.

The Māori Economic Development Advisory Board:

- > provides regular reports to the Ministers of Economic Development and Māori Affairs
- > provides advice to MBIE on the implementation of the Action Plan
- > provides a progress report on progress to the chief executive of MBIE
- > works with MBIE to produce recommendations at five yearly intervals on renewing the strategic direction.

MBIE is responsible for the overall coordination of He Kai Kei Aku Ringa; this task is carried out by the Māori Economic Development Unit, which is also responsible for providing support to the Board.

MBIE is one of six public sector agencies with the responsibilities of fulfilling the He Kai Kei Aku Ringa goals, the others being:

- > The Treasury
- > Te Puni Kōkiri
- > Ministry of Primary Industry
- > New Zealand Trade & Enterprise
- > Callaghan Innovation.

The Fund provides a valuable contribution to supporting the recommendations and actions in He Kai Kei Aku Ringa², especially to strategic goals 2, 4, 5 and 6.

Vision Mātauranga Policy

The purpose of the Vision Mātauranga policy is to provide strategic direction for government's investments in science and innovation, focusing on four themes³:

1. **Indigenous innovation** – Contributing to economic growth through distinctive science and innovation
2. **Taiao/environment** – Achieving environmental sustainability through iwi and hapū relationships with land and sea
3. **Hauora/Oranga** – Improving health and social wellbeing
4. **Mātauranga** – Exploring indigenous knowledge and science and innovation.

“To unlock the science and innovation potential of Māori knowledge, resources, and people to assist New Zealanders to create a better future”

The Vision Mātauranga mission statement

Research relevant to the four themes will be carried out by a range of stakeholders that include research organisations, iwi, individuals, trust boards, rūnanga, private entities, and wānanga. It envisages developing relevant capability, capacity skills and networks amongst these stakeholders.

The Vision Mātauranga policy is relevant to all New Zealanders. While it identifies that there are distinctive research related issues, challenges and opportunities within Māori communities, it encourages initiatives with outcomes that contribute to New Zealand as a whole. The policy is descriptive rather than prescriptive, allowing for wide application by the broad science sector as well as suggesting ways to develop innovation, opportunities or knowledge creation.

MBIE envisages the science, innovation and business sectors are well informed about the Vision Mātauranga policy, view it as relevant to their activity and are involved in contributing to its outcomes. As such, the Fund is a step toward developing skills in individuals and organisations able to contribute toward a science and innovation system that delivers Vision Mātauranga outcomes for the benefit of New Zealand.

The policy notes that it:

- > is a creative and exciting thread that will be woven into government's science and innovation investments over a period of some years
- > is concerned with discovering the distinctive contribution that Māori knowledge, resources and people can make to science and innovation
- > is a policy framework that provides strategic direction for research of relevance to Māori, funded through Vote Business, Science and Innovation
- > advocates for innovation potential opportunity - many people will be involved in the research designed to produce and apply the knowledge envisaged by the policy
- > is about creating an environment in which distinctive activities and products of which the nation can be proud are fashioned from the materials of the Māori world – its knowledge resources and people.

² See <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/infrastructure-growth/maori-economic-development> for more information.

³ The full Vision Mātauranga policy is available at <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/science-innovation/pdf-library/vm-booklet.pdf>.

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The Vision Mātauranga policy describes **mātauranga Māori** as distinctive knowledge traditionally held within Maori communities. This knowledge was brought to New Zealand by the earliest Polynesian ancestors of the Māori and developed with the experience of living in New Zealand. Encompassing the rules and processes for how this knowledge should be managed, Mātauranga Māori can exist and be applied at a national level as well as tribal and whānau levels.

The Vision Mātauranga policy seeks to develop a distinctive body of knowledge spanning indigenous knowledge, science and innovation which can be applied to aspects of research and innovation activities.

Section 2:

Funding Opportunities



10 The Funding Available

MBIE funds Te Pūnaha Hihiko: Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund projects from the Vote Business, Science and Innovation: Talent and Science Promotion appropriation⁴.

Each year, in the MBIE administered investment round, approximately **\$2 million** per year will be allocated to new proposals through two separate schemes: the Connect Scheme and the Placement Scheme.

1. The **Connect Scheme** seeks to draw Māori organisations and the science sector together through building skills and capacity for Māori organisations and research organisations to contribute to Vision Mātauranga outcomes
2. The **Placement Scheme** seeks to improve connections between Māori knowledge and research so that Māori innovation potential can be realised through the placement of individuals.

Investment decisions are influenced by:

- > available funds for investment, and may be subject to government changes to investment levels or appropriations
- > the quality of proposals received, with final allocations of funding to successful proposals made by MBIE.

Who can apply for funding?

For a proposal to be considered for assessment for either the Connect Scheme or Placement Scheme, it must meet the eligibility criteria for proposals are set out below. Proposals that MBIE considers do not meet these criteria will be declined for funding on eligibility grounds.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS

1. Be made by a single legal entity that is a Māori organisation, research organisation or individual researcher.

A **Māori organisation** is defined as an organisation that identifies itself as Māori and uses (or wishes to use) research, science and technology or related activities.

A **research organisation** is defined as an organisation that has the internal capability to carry out research, science and technology or related activities.

Government departments (as defined in Schedule One of the State Sector Act 1988) are not considered to be research organisations and are not eligible to apply for this funding.

An **individual researcher** is defined as a person operating on his or her own, and is not employed by a research organisation, with the capability to carry out research, science and technology or related activities.

2. Include both a research organisation/individual researcher and a Māori organisation, with one or the other taking the lead as contracting organisation and the other as partner organisation.

A relationship must not be solely between the applicant and an organisation that is either a parent entity, subsidiary, or co-subsidiary of another organisation; or between departments within a single organisation (for example, a tertiary institution).

3. Be for activities that fit one of the two schemes, and the requirements of one of the two schemes as set out in this section.
4. Not be for activities for the same purpose already funded by any government agency.
5. Not include any full-time students.

⁴ See <http://www.treasury.govt.nz/> for more information.

6. Address one or more Vision Mātauranga themes, and not solely address the hauora/health theme.

The MBIE-led investments outlined in this Investment Plan and the Health Research Council (HRC) investments are designed to complement each other. To avoid duplication with the investments made by the HRC, MBIE does not provide funding for programmes exclusively relevant to the health/hauora area. Proposals where hauora improvements are part of a much broader suite of outcomes will be considered.

7. Be for activities the majority of which are to be undertaken in New Zealand, unless MBIE considers there are compelling reasons to consider the proposal.

If the majority of the work programme will not be carried out in New Zealand, then explain in the proposal the reasons for this and why they are compelling. If a work programme is to have significant linkages with indigenous knowledge practitioners in other countries, demonstrate how this will be of benefit to New Zealand.

8. Be submitted via MBIE's online portal and meet any applicable timing, formatting, content or other administrative requirements set out by MBIE.

How will proposals be assessed?

An assessment panel will assess Connect and Placement Scheme proposals against the following criteria. Each criterion has a 25 per cent weighting.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	WEIGHTING	
EXCELLENCE	DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE, RELATIONSHIPS, AND SKILLS Key question: To what extent are longer-term skills, capability, networks, relationships and research opportunities likely to emerge and be sustained from the proposed work programme?	25%
	ABILITY TO DELIVER Key question: What is the likelihood that the proposed outputs of the work programme will be achieved?	25%
IMPACT	VISION MĀTAURANGA OUTCOMES Key question: To what extent does the proposal support the Vision Mātauranga policy and support unlocking the science and innovation potential of Māori knowledge, resources, and people for the benefit of New Zealand?	25%
	BENEFITS TO RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY Key question: How will the increased capability, capacity, skills and networks benefit the research, science, and technology sector, and achieve the objectives and outcomes of the Vision Mātauranga policy?	25%

In addition to the criteria above, assessment and funding decisions will also take account of the overall mix of investments, the extent to which proposals achieve the aims and objectives of the Fund, and value for money.

12 Connect Scheme

The Connect Scheme invests in proposals of up to two years for work programmes that build skills, networks, and capacity of Māori organisations and research organisations or individual researchers, in areas that contribute to the Vision Mātauranga policy's themes and outcomes. It funds programmes of work which would not ordinarily be achievable in the course of normal business.

Target Outcomes

Māori organisations and research organisations / individual researchers, have:

- > developed new relationships, or expanded on existing ones
- > the confidence to engage across organisations to incorporate the themes and outcomes of Vision Mātauranga into research practice and organisational planning
- > developed networks that support each other in their practice, and share knowledge, methodologies, and general support to build strong connections and linkages
- > engaged relevant stakeholders and the community/public in work programmes through outreach, communication, and education activities.

Work Programme Requirements

Work programmes should provide a catalyst for Māori organisations and research organisations or individual researchers to establish new connections and opportunities to work collaboratively. They should not support or extend existing research projects currently being funded, or be for student projects.

Proposals must be co-developed between the research organisation/individual researcher and the Māori organisation. A proposal must be accompanied by written endorsement of the proposed work programme from both the research organisation / individual researcher, and a Māori organisation that will be involved with the proposal.

Example Connect Scheme options include *(but are not limited to)*:

- > the development and delivery of innovative initiatives that encourage Māori organisations and the research community to engage effectively
- > the formation and support of groups of researchers across organisations to collaborate on Vision Mātauranga capability building initiatives to support research programmes and provide mutual support/mentoring
- > fostering and establishing new networks between mātauranga holders or practitioners, and the research community, with a view to exploring and implementing innovative ways to use mātauranga
- > mentoring for research organisation staff members that manage research programmes, with a view to increasing Vision Mātauranga relevance across an organisation's business, capability or science plan beyond *business as usual*.

Conditions

- > The maximum funding for a connect proposal available from MBIE is \$100,000 for up to two years. It is not a requirement to apply for the full funding available.
- > MBIE's funding will cover up to 75% of work programme development and delivery, and operating costs (including travel). Capital expenditure is not funded.
- > The contracting organisation must provide minimum co-funding of 25% of the total applicable work programme costs. This contribution reflects a tangible commitment from the applicant in the project. Co-funding from a partner organisation is not required but is strongly encouraged. Additional co-funding received from other parties will not result in an increase to MBIE's contribution.
- > Funding provided by MBIE will be provided as follows:
 - 50% at commencement,
 - 40% at the mid-point, and
 - 10% on completion of the work programme.
- > The contract holder must manage the funding to ensure consistent delivery of the contract work programme.

Placement Scheme

The Placement Scheme invests in:

- > full-time or part-time placement(s) of named skilled researcher(s) from a research organisation or an individual researcher not working in a research organisation, into a Māori organisation for up to two years; or
- > member(s) of a Māori organisation being placed with a research organisation for up to two years. This person could be a researcher or someone in a role that would benefit from a placement, such as a research manager or a business manager wanting to better understand what research can do for the Māori organisation and to improve knowledge transfer, sharing and uptake, so that Māori innovation potential can be realised.

Target Outcomes

By the end of their placement individuals will:

- > have greater confidence in working across Māori organisations and research organisations to create new opportunities for research and development programmes and the application of research results
- > have built up greater skills, capability, understanding or knowledge of research relevant to Vision Mātauranga outcomes and how R&D can be used to benefit the Māori organisation
- > be able to use their skills and capability to identify and support future opportunities to participate in research relevant to Vision Mātauranga outcomes.

Work Programme Requirements

A placement can include more than one individual. The individual(s) undertaking the placement must carry out a work programme that provides benefits for the research related capability of both the Māori organisation and research organisation/individual researcher(s). It should not support or extend an existing research project currently being funded, or be for a student project.

The work programme must be co-developed between the research organisation/individual researcher and the Māori organisation, and be endorsed in writing by both the researcher organisation/individual researcher(s) and the Māori organisation. For clarity, the individual(s) involved in the placement do not need to be of Māori ethnicity⁵ although this may be important to the organisations involved given the particular focus of the proposal.

The applicant or organisations involved must be confident that the individual(s) selected for placement are suitable for the role and will benefit from it. Proposals should indicate how the individual(s) were selected, and indicate clearly the nature of the anticipated benefits. The organisations involved in the placement should also provide appropriate support to assist the individual(s) to negotiate through any different or new knowledge approaches.

Example Placement Scheme options include *(but are not limited to)*:

- > coaching for either the Māori organisation or researcher/research organisation to identify potential research and development (R&D) opportunities arising from mātauranga
- > identifying possible applications of mātauranga, and assisting the Māori organisation or researcher to develop a plan for its application
- > assisting a Māori organisation or individual researcher/research organisation to identify and realise opportunities using research across relevant sectors including: environmental, social, manufacturing and business
- > building the number of researchers with capacity and capability to assist with issues and opportunities including, for example:
 - innovative uses of mātauranga to unlock resources on Māori land, and
 - greater connectivity and increased productivity of existing Māori primary sector businesses
- > building the capacity of both research organisations and Māori organisations to develop innovative methods of implementing research outcomes.

⁵ Māori organisations or individuals are those who self-identify as such.

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A placement must incorporate:

- > mentoring arrangements to support the individual(s) delivering the work programme as part of the placement
- > regular assessment of: support needs (including cultural needs if appropriate); progress; and identification of issues to be actively managed by parties to the placement
- > opportunities to engage the relevant stakeholders and the community/public with the programme through appropriate outreach, communication, and education activities.

Conditions

- > The maximum funding for a placement proposal available from MBIE is \$180,000 for up to two years. It is not a requirement to apply for the full funding available.
- > MBIE's funding will cover up to 75% of work programme salary and salary-related costs, travel costs related to the work programme, overheads, and other operating costs. Capital expenditure is not funded.
- > The partner organisation (*Māori or research organisation*) must provide minimum co-funding of 25% of the total applicable work programme costs. This contribution reflects a tangible commitment by the partner organisation to the project. Co-funding from the lead organisation or individual is not required but is strongly encouraged. Additional co-funding received from other parties will not result in an increase to MBIE's contribution.
- > Funding provided by MBIE will be provided as follows:
 - 50% at commencement,
 - 40% at the mid-point, and
 - 10% on completion of the work programme.
- > The contract holder must manage the funding to ensure consistent delivery of the contract work programme.
- > More than one person can be placed into the same organisation, in the same area, for the same purpose, within a single proposal. The proposal should explain why more than one person is required.
- > Part-time placements are possible. There is no minimum definition of *part-time* although the number of hours worked must be sufficient to achieve the target outcomes of the Placement Scheme.

The Application Process

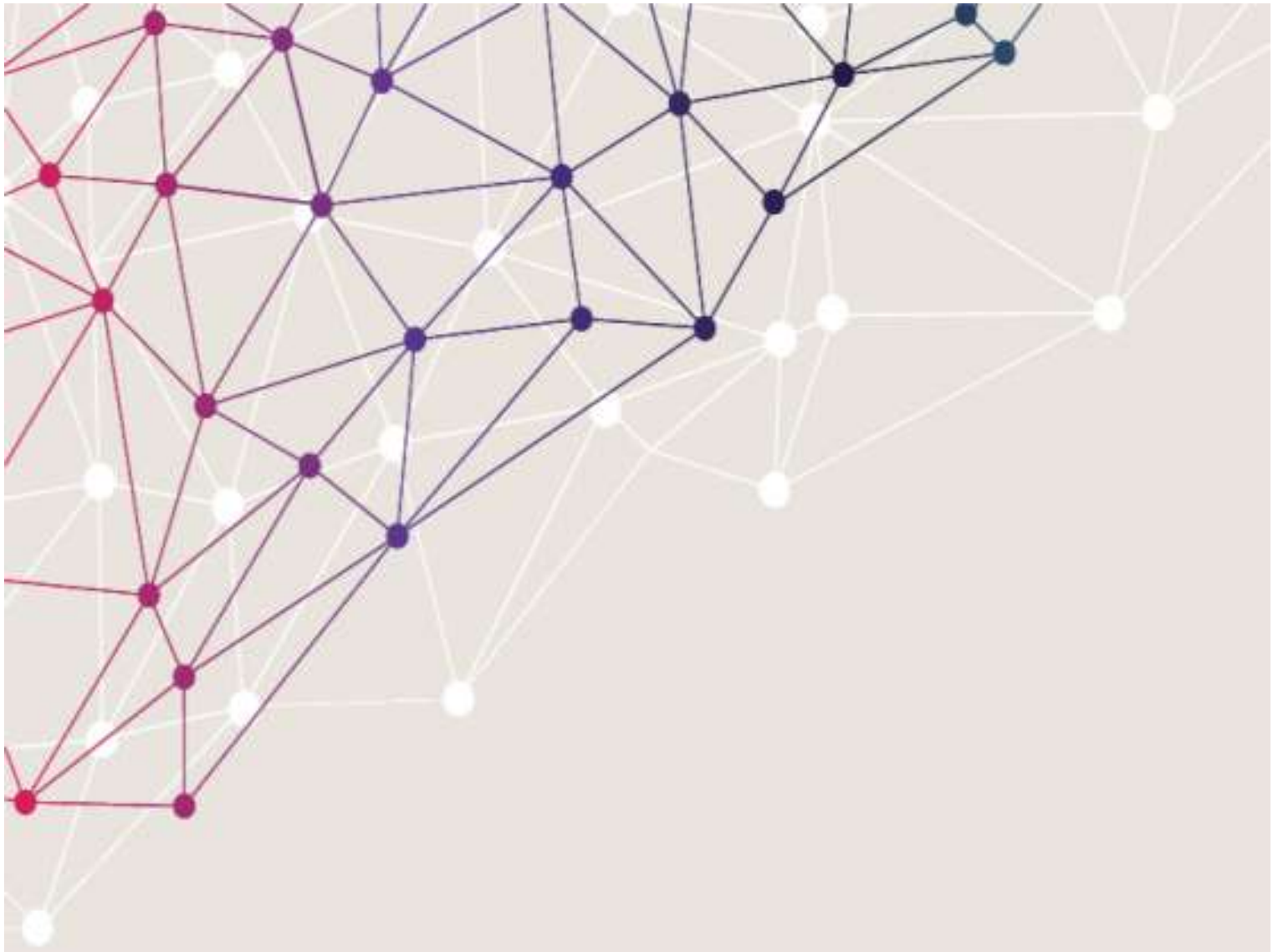
MBIE runs the annual application process, and makes funding decisions for this Fund.

Under section 5(2) of the Research, Science, and Technology Act 2010 and the *New Zealand Gazette* Notice number 61, 7 July 2016, the Fund is subject to a separate decision-making process that does not involve the Science Board.

MBIE will issue annual Calls for Proposals which details in full the proposal requirements and assessment process, timeline for proposals, and the funding available for investment.

MBIE establishes an independent assessment panel to assess all eligible proposals against the criteria for assessment outlined in the Call for Proposals and make funding recommendations.

The Deputy Chief Executive of MBIE's Labour, Science, and Enterprise Group makes decisions on the successful proposals and allocation of funding.



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