

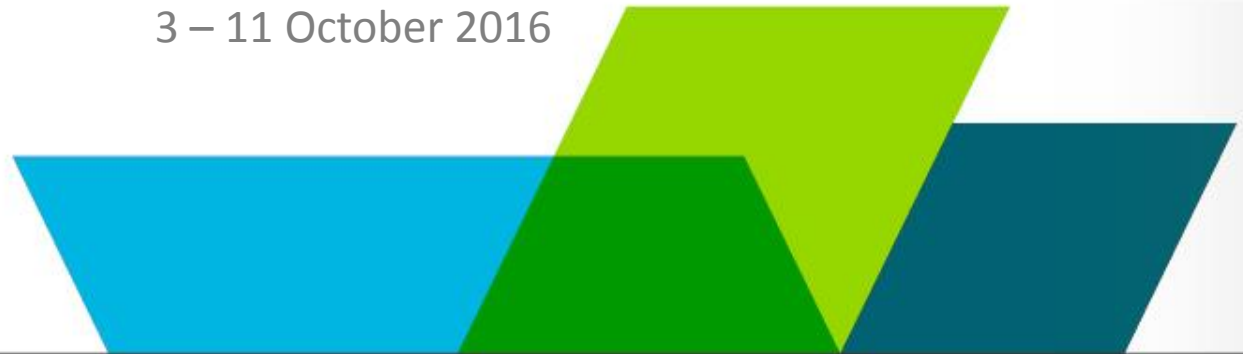


**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

MBIE Endeavour Fund

2017 Endeavour Round

3 – 11 October 2016



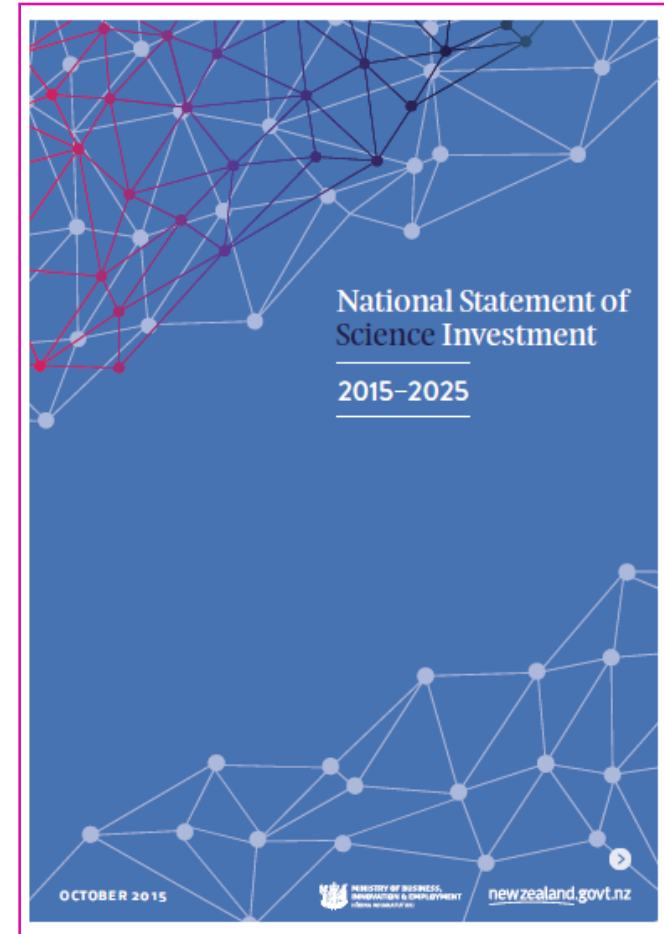
Introduction and Agenda

- Welcome & Housekeeping
- Agenda:
 - Introduction of the presenters
 - Policy Settings
 - Purpose of the Endeavour Fund
 - Lessons learnt from the 2016 Round
 - 2017 Endeavour Round
 - Other science funding opportunities
 - Q&A
 - Close

Vision for the Science System

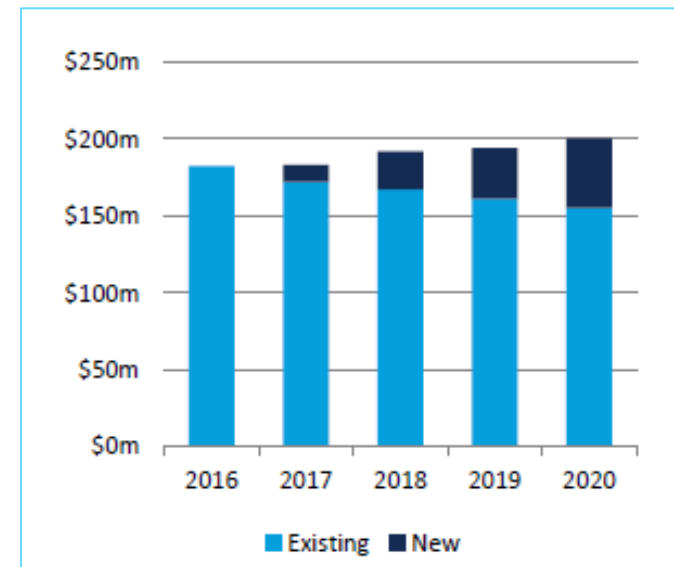
National Statement of Science Investment 2015-2025

- A highly dynamic system that enriches New Zealand, making a more visible, measurable contribution to our productivity and wellbeing through excellent science.
- Focus is on two pillars:
 - Excellence
 - Impact – economic, environment, social and health

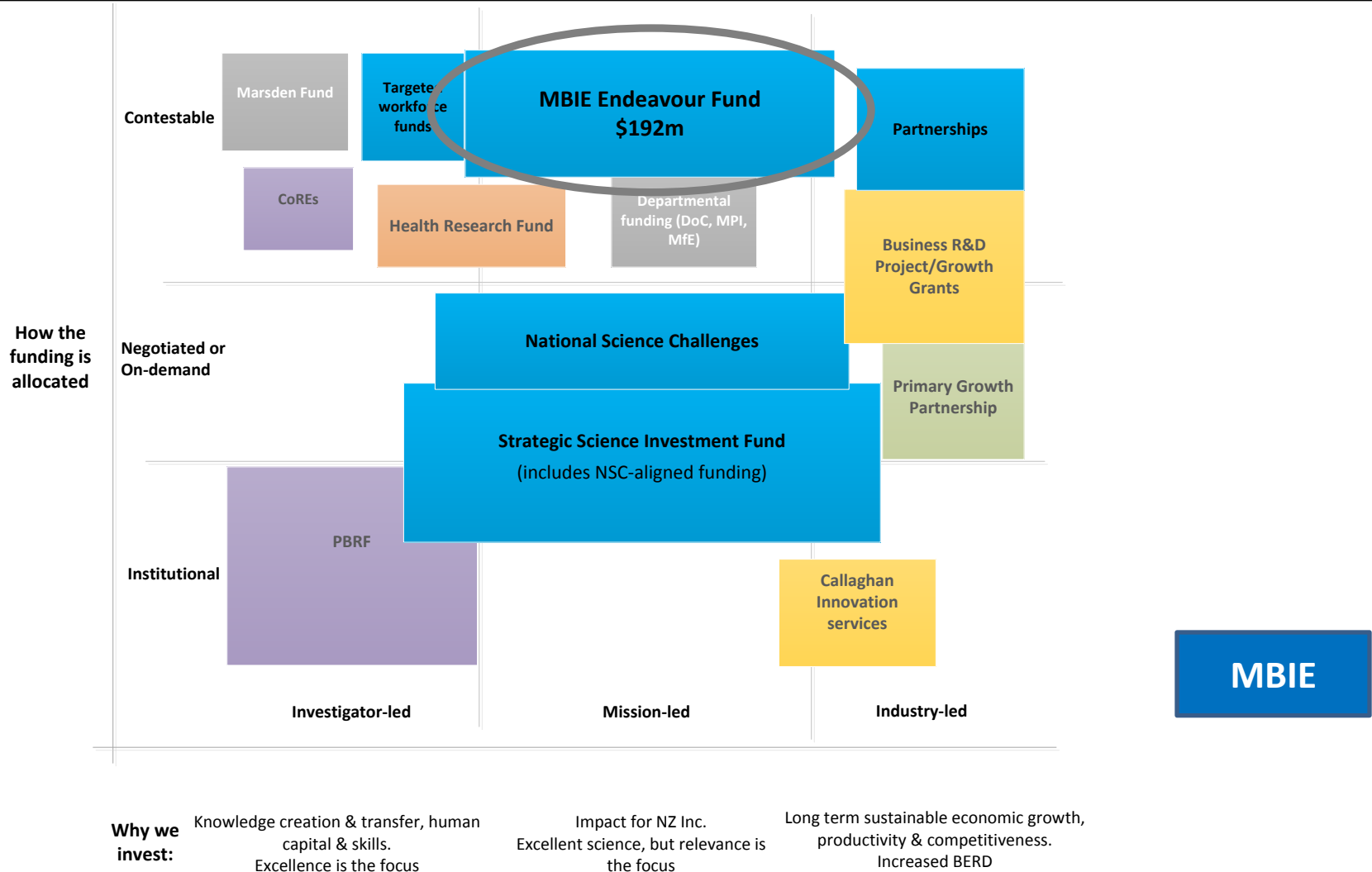


Budget 2016 - “*Innovative New Zealand*”

- Will increase annual investment in science and innovation by 15% to \$1.6 billion per year by 2019/20
- MBIE Contestable Research Fund renamed to the Endeavour Fund with increased funding



Government Science Funding Landscape



Purpose of the Endeavour Fund

Focus on scientific research with potential for long-term, transformational impact for New Zealand:

- Economic performance
- Sustainability and integrity of our environment
- Help strengthen our society
- Give effect to the Vision Mātauranga Policy

Note: research may contribute to improved health outcomes for New Zealanders, but this may not be its primary objectives.

Endeavour Fund Investment Plan 2016-2019

Economic (70%)

- Investments to positively transform NZ's future economic performance, supporting the long-term growth, diversification and resilience of our economy.
- Areas include:
 - ICT, high value manufacturing, primary sectors, energy and minerals, infrastructure, transport, tourism and construction.

Environment (25%)

- Investments to improve how we use, monitor and maintain the sustainability and integrity of our natural environment.

Society (5%)

- Investments to help strengthen our society, increasing social cohesion and equity for New Zealand.



Summary of 2016 Endeavour Round

Success Rates:

Number of Smart Ideas Concepts submitted	Number of Smart Ideas funded
338	28 (8.3%)

Number of Research Programmes submitted	Number of Research Programmes funded
168	28 (16.7%)

Summary of 2016 Endeavour Round

- 2016 - first year of newly designed process
- Encouraged by number and diversity of applications
- Overall quality and expression of Vision Mātauranga improved
- Economic objectives were well represented
- Society, ICT, high value manufacturing, transport and infrastructure were under represented.

Current Portfolio by Economic, Environmental, Social Outcomes:

Economic	Environment	Social
Target: 70.0%	25.0%	5.0%
Actual: 73.4%	22.3%	4.3%

Summary of 2016 Endeavour Round

Key messages from Science Board and assessors

- Thanks for your efforts in bidding, taking part in surveys
- Excellence and impact were assessed separately – both areas need to be addressed thoroughly
- Need to provide link between opportunity and proposed research
- Appetite for investing in higher risk, stretch projects has increased – needs to be credible

Summary of 2016 Endeavour Round

Treatment of Vision Mātauranga

- Giving effect to Vision Mātauranga for each proposal was important.
- Key questions when assessors were assessing **EACH** proposal:
 - Relevant? (>90% applications were)
 - Have the applicants identified VM relevance in their applications?
 - If **yes**,
 - how did the applicants address VM?
 - If **no**,
 - How have the applicants verified this?

Summary of 2016 Endeavour Round

- **Success rates:**

- Research Organisations that managed applications tended to be more successful than those that took an open approach.
- Poor quality applications have high cost to both applicant organisations and process.
- Poor quality applications perform poorly.

Resubmissions:

- It's ok to improve a proposal and resubmit.
- If you aren't ready, wait until you are.



The 2017 Endeavour Round



Endeavour Funding available (2017-2019)

Investment mechanism	Indicative funding (\$ M per annum ex GST)	Duration (years)	Funding per contract (\$ ex GST)
Smart ideas	10.0	2 to 3	\$400k - \$1M over the term of the contract
Research Programmes	38.0	3 to 5	> \$0.5 M per year
Total	48.0		

Decisions may result in funds moving between:

- investment mechanisms
- between or within economic, environmental, social outcome areas

2017 Endeavour Round

Unchanged from previous investment rounds:

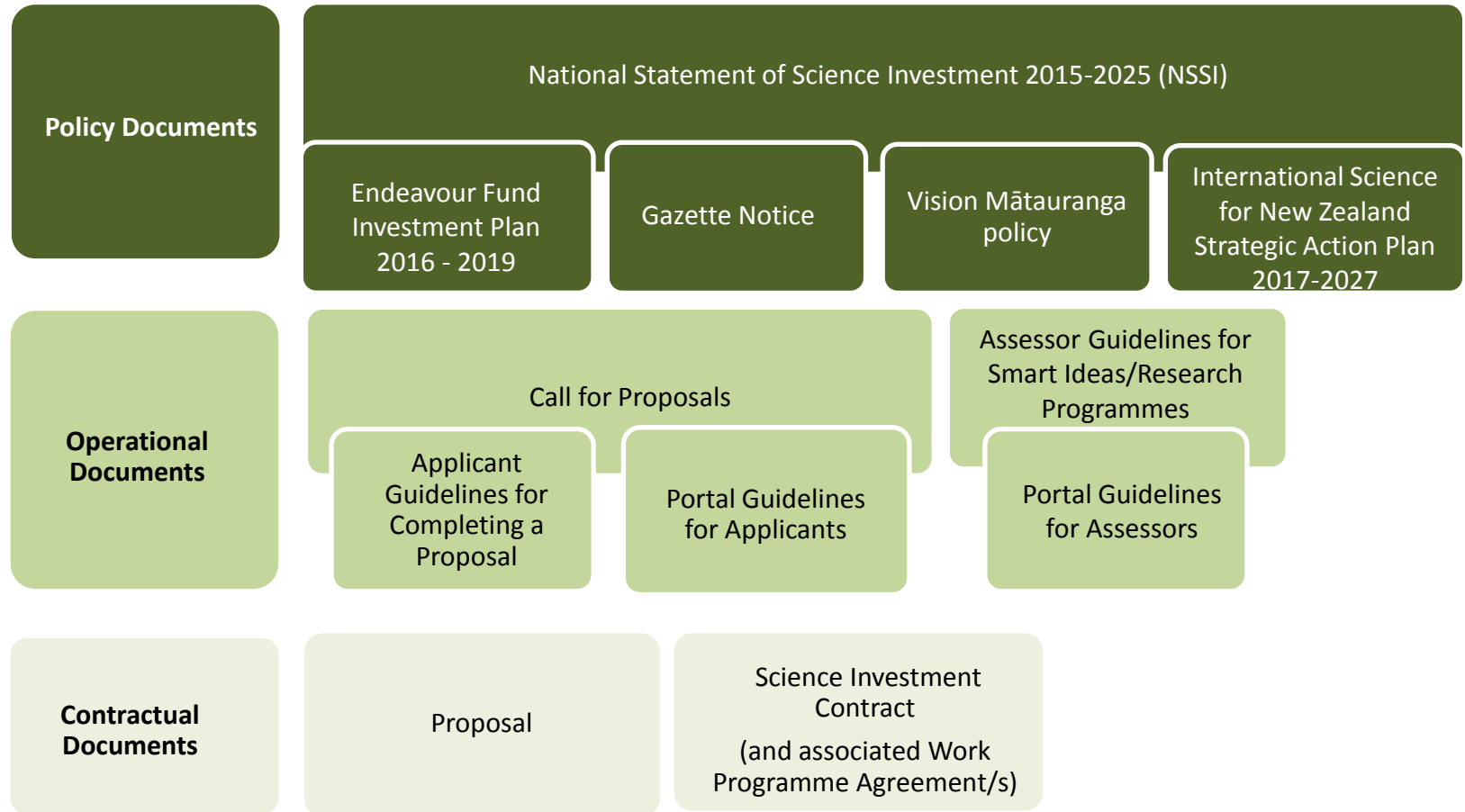
- The **Investment Plan** & the **investment signals** on p.19
- 3-year horizons
- **Assessment criteria**

New in 2017:

- **Eligibility criteria:** *“not for research with the primary objective of health outcomes”*
- **Smart Ideas Concept** needs to describe both Excellence and Impact. But only Excellence will be assessed.
- **Application form**
- **Time line** for submissions



2017 Endeavour Round Documents



Links to these documents can be found at <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/science-innovation/investment-funding/current-funding/2017-endeavour-round>

Smart Ideas:

“To catalyse and rapidly test promising, innovative research ideas with high potential for benefit to New Zealand, to enable refresh and diversity in the science portfolio.”



Smart Ideas Timeline

2 Nov 2016	Closing date for registration
30 Nov 2016	Closing date for concept proposals
April 2017	Science Board decides which concepts proceed to full proposals
May	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
14 June 2017	Closing date for full proposals
Aug	Science Board makes funding decisions
Sept	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
1 Oct 2017	Contracts begin

Smart ideas: two-stage application process

Concepts: Assessment of excellence only

Full Proposals: Assessment of excellence and impact in concurrent processes.

Assessment Criteria:

Excellence

- Science (weighted **50%**)
- Team (weighted **15%**)

Impact

- Benefit to New Zealand (weighted **25%**)
- Implementation Pathway(s) (weighted **10%**)

Hints for *good* Smart Ideas Concepts

- Executive Summary: Limited words only, use them wisely. Do not include references, hyperlinks or images.
- Explain the novelty and innovations.
- Also explain briefly the attributes of impact in your proposed research.
- *“My Smart Idea is.....”*
- Refer to NSSI p.13 for ‘Science Quality’ descriptions

Hints for *good* Smart Ideas Concepts

Science

- How your approaches or ideas are innovative or novel?
- The significant scientific and technical risk contained in the proposed research and the additional benefits those risks will make possible, and how those risks will be managed.
- Be explicit of the international and domestic landscape: has this proposed research already been done somewhere?



Research Programmes

‘to support 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.’



Research Programmes Timeline

8 Feb 2017	Closing date for registration
9 Mar 2017	Closing date for proposals
May 2017	Science Board Excellence decision
Aug 2017	Science Board makes funding decisions
Sept 2017	Applicants notified of Science Board decisions
1 Oct 2017	Contracts begin for funded proposals

Research Programmes

One proposal and two-stage assessment processes:

Excellence

- Science (weighted 25%)
- Team (weighted 25%)

Impact

- Benefit to New Zealand (weighted 25%)
- Implementation Pathway(s) (weighted 25%)

Hints for good Research Programmes

What is impact?

- One step(s) beyond producing outputs
- Typically involves someone else doing something with your research

Output	New knowledge/product
Impact	Organisation X is using the knowledge/product to solve a problem/create an opportunity

Important for thinking about what difference your research will make

Some fictional examples

Output	Impact
Development of new seahorse varieties	By 2025 the research will deliver at least three new commercially viable seahorse varieties, approved by the seahorse industry body. The industry body will have plans on how to roll out the new varieties for full scale production by NZ farmers.
Development of a quantitative system for evaluating the health of wetlands	By 2020 the quantitative system is being applied to 'score' wetlands on public land. DOC and MfE will then have evidence to develop policy and a Wetlands Reserve Act aimed at preserving wetlands from changes in land use practices.



Important when describing impact

- What is the problem/opportunity and who owns it?
- How big is the problem (economic, environmental, social)?
- What can you do to solve the problem – and has someone already solved it?
- How do you get your solution to the user(s) – pathway?
- Are there indirect benefits like building capacity, upskilling industry staff in research projects ?
- Look to deliver broad impact.

Research Programmes (RP) Impact Panel

- The Panel worked well and brought different skill sets and assessed across the three objective outcomes
 - Outcomes from research, details should have line of sights
 - Assume nothing, the panellists were international and domestic, context is important
 - Vision Mātauranga matters
 - Proposals should express the benefits identified & look to deliver broad impact.

Important when describing impact

- Implementation pathway should be fit for purpose for the stage of the research.
- Next users should be mentioned where relevant.
- Think of how many industries, sectors could be impacted.
- Describe spill over benefits.
- Publishing results with no further action won't cut it with impact panel.



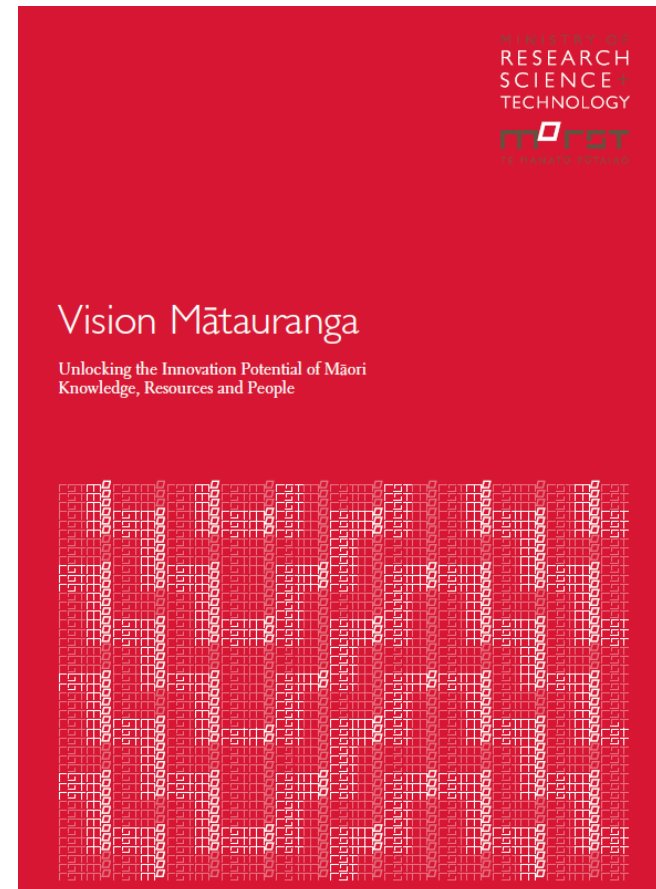
Some useful tips

- Design with the end in mind
- Bring right people in early
- Be clear
- Avoid generalities – be specific
- Co-funding not mandatory
- Link to relevant strategies – government and sector



Your proposal must address Vision Mātauranga

- At the **start** of proposal planning, identify:
 - opportunities, needs, requirements, contributions or innovations from Māori knowledge, people or resources
 - relevant, specific Māori interests (collectives, businesses and communities)
 - line of sight from research design to delivery of outcomes
- Appropriate and relevant elements should be integrated throughout your proposal



2017 Call for Proposals – Critical Information

- If you want to submit a proposal you **must register** via the MBIE portal
 - High level information in registration
 - Registration helps us manage the process including identifying suitable potential assessors for proposals
 - Registrations close:
 - Smart Ideas **12 noon, 2nd November 2016**
 - Research Programmes **12 noon, 8th February 2017**
- (note: earlier than last year.)**

2017 Endeavour Round – submitting proposals

- All applications need to be submitted through the MBIE Portal
- New Portal users need to register online to receive a username and password
- Your research office is the first point of contact
- Only Super Users are able to ‘submit’ proposals to MBIE

Submitting proposals

How Does MBIE use the Registrations?

To assist with the identification of suitable assessors for your research project.

- Avoid using this as a placeholder
- Minimise changing details from registration to proposal stage.
- Provide meaningful key words and accurate ANZRC codes

Submitting Proposals

How Does MBIE use the ANZSRC Codes

- To assist with the identification of suitable assessors for your research project.
- To classify which sector or sectors (Economic, Society or Environment) a research project falls under.

Submitting Proposals

How Does MBIE use the ANZSRC Codes

- Be careful if you choose:
 - Division 92: “Improve health outcomes for New Zealanders.”
 - Division 97: “Expanding knowledge”.
 - Division 95 & Group 9503: “Heritage”

Want to know more from MBIE?

We can explain the:

- process
- use of the Portal and resolve Portal problems

We cannot:

- interpret the Call for Proposals
- provide specific advice about your proposal

Contact us

Further questions on the process, CfP or content?

Email investmentround@mbie.govt.nz

Further questions on the portal or submitting applications?

Email IMSsupport@mbie.govt.nz

Call 0800 693 778 8.30am – 4.30pm

Web <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/science-innovation/investment-funding/current-funding>

Other MBIE funding opportunities

- Funding for international linkages – Catalyst Fund
- Vision Mātauranga Capability Fund
- Regional Research Institutes
- Unlocking Curious Minds
- Genomics Investments

Visit the MBIE website for more information:

<http://www.mbie.govt.nz/info-services/science-innovation/investment-funding/current-funding>

International Science Strategic Action Plan

- Will reinforce role of international collaborations to support excellence and impact of New Zealand science
- Action Plan under development, due to be finalised early 2017
- Endeavour Fund can support international team members
- Action Plan will see no change to impact or excellence criteria
- But guidelines now include:
 - reference to the Action Plan as a supporting document
 - reminders that good proposals will demonstrate relevant international collaborations to strengthen excellence and impact

Other news: IMS Replacement Update

- With your help, we'll start configuring the new system from Jan 2017 for the 2018 Endeavour Round with phased implementation from mid 2017 for other funds.
- We will provide you with ongoing training and support for the new system as we roll it out.

Questions?

