

“LIVING WITH UNCERTAINTY” CALL FOR RESEARCH IDEAS

Background information

In recent years, the policy landscape for climate adaptation in Aotearoa has shifted dramatically.^{1,2} There is also growing recognition that stakeholders and end users require methods and tools that help them make decisions despite uncertainty.³

Our mission is to enable New Zealanders to anticipate, adapt, manage risk and thrive in a changing climate. To date, our comprehensive research suite has delivered strongly on the first part of our mission: “anticipating” the nature and magnitude of the challenges ahead, and the urgency with which action needs to be taken.

We are now ready to look towards the second part of our mission statement. We are therefore announcing a new Impacts and Implications funding round, “Living with Uncertainty.”

We are looking to fund projects that either:

- Work with end users or stakeholders on implementing adaptation approaches, where possible utilising existing research, or
- Develop or apply approaches to support decision making under uncertainty.

We recognise that, as a “climate adaptation” science challenge, it’s incumbent upon us to be adaptive! We are up for the challenge of changing, not just with our climate, but with the needs of our communities, in line with expert advice from adaptation researchers.

1 <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/climate-change/assessing-climate-change-risk>

2 <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rmreview>

3 <https://www.ipcc.ch/srccl/>

www.deepsouthchallenge.org.nz

Changing with our climate

**START ADAPTATION
PLANNING TODAY**

PROCESS

This round of **Impacts and Implications** funding will follow a two-stage process:

Stage One: Interested researchers (institutionally affiliated or independent) provide a brief outline of their research idea/s, using the template provided.

The Challenge, and key stakeholders, will review research ideas to identify those which clearly address either of the priority areas; have new or existing teams which could credibly conduct the research; and correspond with research needs already identified by stakeholders.

Stage Two: Based on these research ideas, the Challenge will develop an RFP, and invite a small number of research teams to develop full research proposals. In this stage, we may suggest that researchers combine forces, or that particular researchers work with specific or general stakeholder groups.⁴ This may include limited funding and support for co-development.

TIMELINE

December 14, 2020	Request for research ideas released
February 19, 2021	Brief research ideas due (Email: deepsouth@niwa.co.nz by 12pm)
February 22 – March 5, 2021	Review of research ideas
March 10, 2021	4-6 research teams invited to develop full research proposals (with co-development where appropriate)
April 30, 2021	Full proposals due (Email: deepsouth@niwa.co.nz by 12pm)
May 1 – 16 July, 2021	Review of proposals: External peer review Independent Science Panel review
August 5, 2021	Challenge's Governance Group considers recommendation for funding
Mid-August, 2021	Successful applicants notified
October 1 – December 1, 2021	Projects begin
September 30 – November 30, 2023	Projects end (engagement on research project outcomes expected through to June 2024)

BUDGET

The Challenge is expecting to fund projects of up to \$500,000, for two years, from the end of 2021. The final budget will be confirmed when we invite research teams to develop full research proposals (March 2021).

For more information please contact:

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⁴ The Challenge acknowledges that previous research proposals may have been built on extensive engagement with stakeholders. We're prepared for previous engagement to form the basis for new proposals.