



# Māori Development Fund (MDF)

## Eligibility and Investment Criteria

### MDF Eligibility Criteria

For a Proposal to be eligible for investment, it must meet all the eligibility criteria set out below. Proposals that do not meet these criteria will be declined on eligibility grounds.

#### To be eligible for investment, Proposals must:

<b>a. Be made by a single legal entity based in New Zealand, including the following:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. registered incorporated society</li> <li>b. limited liability company</li> <li>c. trust incorporated under the Charitable Trust Act 1957 and registered with the Companies Office</li> <li>d. statutory entity, including a Māori Trust Board (Māori Trust Boards Act 1955) or Māori Association (Māori Community Development Act 1962), Māori Incorporation</li> <li>e. trusts and Incorporations set up under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993</li> <li>f. other entities with a demonstrated ability to receive and administer Government funds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Groups can partner with a legal entity, or a legal entity can act as an umbrella organisation for another entity or group of entities, with the documented consent of those groups.</p>
<b>b. Meet due diligence requirements for investment, including:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. entity can meet their financial obligations</li> <li>b. if co-funding is required from entities other than the applicant, written confirmation of their commitment to contribute the stated amount must be provided with the proposal</li> <li>c. any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest are declared, able to reasonably be managed, and a management plan is in place</li> <li>d. if a decision-making member of the organisation has been declared bankrupt or convicted of offences that could impact the initiative or reasonably be seen to bring it, or Te Puni Kōkiri, into disrepute, a management plan sufficiently addressing the risk must be provided</li> <li>e. identifies potential risks and has mitigations in place to manage these</li> <li>f. governance approval is evidenced. For proposals involving joint governance or an umbrella organisation, written confirmation of governance or ownership arrangements must include agreement from all parties, and provisions for conflict resolution and exit</li> <li>g. providing a Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy if the Proposal includes working with children (under 18 years) or vulnerable adults</li> <li>h. a completed proposal that is signed and endorsed by an authorised signatory.</li> </ul>
<b>c. Intend to deliver the Investment Outcomes of at least <u>one</u> of the two Investment Priorities in the Māori Development Fund Investment Plan, or an initiative building capability to deliver economic, social and cultural outcomes for local Māori communities.</b>	

<b>⚠ Proposals <u>will not</u> be eligible for investment if they are for:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. activities that will mostly be undertaken outside of New Zealand (some very limited exceptions may be possible if the activities are essential for the delivery of a specific initiative)</li> <li>b. international travel and accommodation</li> <li>c. initiatives with options for alternative finance or funding from other sources and investment from the Māori Development Fund would not significantly accelerate change</li> <li>d. business-as-usual activities for the kaitono such as operational costs</li> <li>e. legal advocacy, arbitration/mediation, or litigation costs, including court costs (legal advice of other kinds may be able to be funded)</li> <li>f. purchase of vehicles, buildings, land, businesses, or shares</li> <li>g. retrospective events and activities</li> <li>h. alcohol</li> <li>i. medical bills</li> <li>j. payment of existing debts</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k. events that have a political component or purpose.</li> <li>l. Medical bills</li> <li>m. Payment of existing debts.</li> <li>n. Events that have a political component or purpose.</li> </ul>
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## MDF investment criteria

Eligible proposals will be prioritised for investment if they meet the following investment criteria:

<b>1. Provide data and evidence to demonstrate the achievement of outcomes.</b>	Te Puni Kōkiri is required to report the outcomes the Māori Development Fund is delivering. To enable this, funding proposals need to describe the change the investment support has achieved since the investment. Kaitono agree to provide data and evidence to Te Puni Kōkiri to show that investment outcomes have been achieved.
<b>2. Provide credible evidence to substantiate the expected return on investment.</b>	Kaitono will need to provide credible data and analysis that demonstrates how the expected return on investment will be achieved.
<b>3. Demonstrate a robust, specific and credible plan to secure any further investment that the initiative may need for implementation.</b>	The Māori Development Fund is not intended to provide ongoing funding for programmes and services. Proposals should clearly identify how their initiative will be implemented (including how investment for implementation will be secured), how the initiative will be financially viable once Te Puni Kōkiri funding ceases, and their plan to achieve self-sustainability. An application, or an intention to apply, for further Government funding will not be sufficient unless there are very specific circumstances that make this pathway credible.
<b>4. Avoid duplication of Government investment and support.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Te Puni Kōkiri seeks to make a distinct contribution to Māori wellbeing and development. It is expected that kaitono have been supported to explore whether other agencies are the more appropriate funding or co-funding partner to ensure that Te Puni Kōkiri funds are not invested in activities typically supported by other agencies.</li> <li>b. Where Te Puni Kōkiri is co-funding a proposal with another Government agency, the activities funded by Te Puni Kōkiri should be distinct from those funded by the other agency and must be independently attributed.</li> <li>c. If a kaitono has requested funding for multiple proposals, or via multiple Te Puni Kōkiri offices, these proposals will, where possible, be consolidated into a single proposal to ensure there is no duplication.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Maintain a balanced portfolio of investment across investment priorities, entities, and regional distribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. There is an expectation that investments will be distributed in a balanced way across investment priorities, regions and entities.</li> <li>b. Where an investment of a large value is requested, or repeated investment from a single entity is requested, or a proposal duplicates activities in an existing application or investment, the impact of this on the balance of the investment portfolio will be taken into consideration during investment decisions.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Demonstrate reasonable costs and value for money</b>	Proposals should provide sufficient detail around proposal costs to enable analysis of the comparative value of expenditure. Where costs are considered comparatively high, justification for expenses may be requested, or taken into consideration during investment decisions.