



30 September 2024

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0002890

Tēnā koe Andrew

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

“Can you please provide me with the formula used to determine the organisational cap for MBIE Smart Ideas applications? For clarity, this refers to the formula described on slide 11: “Organisational cap is based on a formula using a rolling number of awarded contracts as a baseline” of this powerpoint: [Organisations applying for the 2025 Endeavour Fund – Smart Ideas funding mechanism have a cap allocated outlining the maximum number of Smart Ideas proposals an organisation can submit to MBIE. The table is definitive in setting the cap and it is published on MBIE’s website <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/endeavour-fund>.](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mbie.govt.nz%2Fassets%2Fendeavour-fund-2025-webinar-presentation.pptx&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7Ce3e99c417d6b4f043d3008dcd2dcb523%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638617093489498179%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWlloiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ltVoiXlxfcJ0ktn6hXS80Ye7NJJeV9ektJipg6P1vUo%3D&reserved=0”</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The organisational cap for the 2025 Endeavour Fund Investment Round is calculated by applying a multiplier to the average number of awarded contracts over the previous three years of investment rounds (investment rounds 2021 to 2023). Organisations that have had at least one contract in 2021-23 receive an organisational cap which is the greater of the result of the above calculation or 2 (see attachment). New organisations and any organisations that have not been awarded a contract in 2021-23 are allocated a cap of 1. Please note that the formula is based on the host organisation held contracts at the time of the organisational cap calculation, to account for novated contracts.

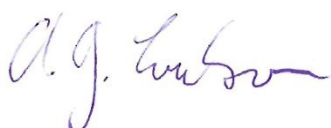
The formula was created with the aim of MBIE receiving around 150 applications, this being the maximum number of applications MBIE has the capacity to process. To account for submissions of new organisations, those that will have a cap of 1, the formula makes a contingency for new organisations again based on the average number of new organisations submitting over the past three years. This new process is currently run as a pilot which will be reviewed at the end of the 2025 Investment round. Review findings, including the effectiveness of the cap and underpinning formula in limiting submissions to the target of 150, will feed into the 2026 Endeavour Fund design.

Successful Endeavour Fund programmes over the years are published on MBIE’s website. Information for previous funded Smart Ideas programmes can be found here <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and->

[technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/endeavour-fund/currently-funded-smart-ideas.](#)

I trust that you find the information helpful.

Yours sincerely



Dr Alan Coulson

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Attachment: Table outlining the calculation of the organisation cap.

Organisation	Contracts (3-year avg)	Cap (contracts x2.5)
University of Auckland	9.3	23
University of Otago	6.0	15
University of Canterbury	5.7	14
National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Limited	4.3	11
The Research Trust of Victoria University of Wellington	4.3	11
The New Zealand Institute for Plant and Food Research Limited	4.0	10
University of Waikato	4.0	10
Massey University	3.3	8
Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences Limited - Trading as GNS Science	1.3	3
The Cawthron Institute Trust Board T/A The Cawthron Institute	1.3	3
AgResearch Limited	1.0	3
Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd T/A Manaaki Whenua	1.0	3
Auckland University of Technology	0.7	2
New Zealand Forest Research Institute Ltd Trading as Scion	0.7	2
Barenbrug New Zealand Limited	0.3	2
Blue Carbon Services Limited	0.3	2
Bodeker Scientific Limited	0.3	2
CLIMATE PRESCIENCE LIMITED	0.3	2
Lincoln Agritech Limited	0.3	2
Lincoln University	0.3	2
New Zealand Leather and Shoe Research Association (Inc)	0.3	2
Stoneleigh Consulting Limited	0.3	2
Te Pou Tiringa Incorporated	0.3	2
Te Reo Irirangi o Te Hiku o Te Ika trading as Te Hiku Media	0.3	2
X-craft Enterprises Limited	0.3	2
	<i>Buffer existing small orgs</i>	13
	Total	152