

IN CONFIDENCE**Assessment criteria***Project benefits*

1. Preference will be given to projects that are directed towards promoting or achieving both the primary and secondary objectives of the fund.
2. In general, projects that reduce some environmental harm, but are likely to increase climate change emissions will not be supported if evidence of mitigation of those impacts is not provided by the applicant.
3. In considering whether a project meets the secondary objectives (ie jobs, industry transformation and/or clean-green reputation), relevant Industry Transformation Plans (ITP) and advice provided by the lead agency for the ITP will be taken into account. Preference will be given to projects that collectively give the largest net benefit over time. Assessment of a project's effectiveness will include the extent to which the project can demonstrate:
 - potential to minimise waste (eg reduction, reuse, recycling, or recovery)
 - potential to reduce environmental harm, including climate impacts
 - the potential to add to our knowledge base (including wider New Zealand's access to the underlying data and results of the project)
 - the potential to act as a catalyst for innovative system change
 - the potential for collaboration across sectors
 - economic, environmental, social, or cultural benefits
 - longer term benefits after the completion of the project (how will this project move New Zealand toward a low-waste circular economy)
 - likelihood of success.
4. Projects will be assessed for their strategic value in achieving the fund's objectives.
5. The degree of partnership, collaboration and public benefit will be taken into account in assessing the strategic value of proposals.

Project delivery assessment criteria

7. The applicant must demonstrate:
 - clear understanding of the problem their project aims to solve
 - clear project governance, as well as the ability and expertise to deliver the project, (or, as part of the project scope, resources are allocated to enable delivery)
 - how the project will achieve its goals including an aligned project budget
 - how the project effectiveness will be monitored, evaluated and reported
 - if and how the project will benefit the wider public
 - if and how the project's identified outputs will continue after funding ends.