RESEARCH DELIVERABLES AND INVESTMENT SIGNALS PROCESS
SNAPSHOT

HOAKETANGA | PURPOSE
This document presents a contextual brief for co-ideation workshops, as part of the investment signal development process for Phase II of the Urban Wellbeing & Development Research Programme.

In a series of workshops in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, we bring together Phase I BBHTC Urban Wellbeing & Development researchers and other stakeholders to contribute to an urban wellbeing ‘big picture’ ideation and mind-mapping process.

MAURITANGA | WELLBEING & RECIPROCITY
All participants will receive a personalised acknowledgment of invitation and attendance, expertise and contribution. The co-ideation process will be curated, visualised and published within a National Science Challenge commissioned short report with all contributors acknowledged as co-authors.

RANGAHAU RONGO | RESEARCH DIRECTIONS REPORT
The Phase II Urban Wellbeing Research Directions reporting will be compiled for the BBHTC Governance Group. This will draw together this Contextual Brief, visual brief materials, co-ideation workshop mind-maps and other workshop outcomes, with a contextualising statement. If approved by the Board, this Research Strategy document will set the contextual framework for the Phase II Urban Wellbeing & Development research programme.

RĀRANGI WĀ | TIMELINE
Phase II Wellbeing Urban Wellbeing & Development Research Development Process

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<td>OCTOBER 2019</td>
<td>Contextual Brief development</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER 2019</td>
<td>Co-ideation Investment Signal Development Process; workshops &amp; ideation mapping</td>
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<td>DECEMBER 2019</td>
<td>Commissioned Research Directions Report (Mind-mapping, contextual brief [visual and written]) to Governance Board</td>
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<td>JANUARY-APRIL 2020</td>
<td>Research Directions Report sets the framework for the research programme development (connected projects, teams, stakeholders, communities, and end-users)</td>
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THE CHALLENGE

TE HOAKETANGA | BBHTC CHALLENGE OBJECTIVE
This Challenge aims to improve the quality and supply of housing and enhance equitable, liveable, and thriving urban environments.

TE TEKOTEKO | VISION
Mā pango mā whero ka oti ai te mahi. Built environments that build and support communities.

Homes, neighbourhoods, kāinga, towns, communities and cities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand that enable people to thrive and reach their social, cultural and economic potential throughout their lives.

TE TAHUHU | MISSION
Our mission is premised on Manaaki Tāngata. Through co-created, innovative research, the Ko Ngā Wā Kāinga Hei Whakamāhorahora | Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities NSC aims to contribute to the transformation of systems and organisations that shape built environments, to deliver thriving homes and communities that are hospitable, productive, and protective.
NGĀ WĀ KĀINGA HEI WHAKAMĀHORAHORA | BBHTC COMPRISHE FOUR RESEARCH PROGRAMMES:

1. Kāinga Tahi, Kāinga Rua
2. Affordable Housing
3. Urban Wellbeing & Development
4. Thriving Regions

WHANONGA PONO | CHALLENGE VALUES
This Challenge is a meeting place and a wharenui – a gathering place where people connect and collaborate:

• Treaty partners: Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti in a research partnership;
• End-users and researchers: co-creating research priorities and projects together
• End-users and researchers: working in co-operation to achieve the desired changes in the built environment.
• Researchers: working together across organisations and disciplines.

The external values of the four wellbeing principles (Local Government Community Amendment Bill) frame the impacts from Challenge activities and influence the internal values of the Challenge and the ways we operate:

KAUPAPA | THE BBHTC VALUES

WHANAUINGATANGA
Enabling social interaction
- Aligned with social and cultural wellbeing;

KAITIAKITANGA
Connecting people to the natural environment
- Aligned with environmental wellbeing;

ŪKAIPŌTANGA
Meeting the needs of diverse peoples
- Aligned with social and cultural wellbeing;

WAHI MANAAKITANGA
Supporting people to be healthier and safer
- Aligned with social wellbeing;

WAIRAWA
Supporting equitable access to wealth, resources and amenities
- Aligned with equitable internal systems and processes for sharing the Challenge resources and outcomes.

THE CO-IDEATION WORKSHOPS

The co-ideation workshops aim to identify key research priorities, focus areas, and engagement methods. The contextual brief and the parameters of the enquiry are set by a contextualising question – ‘what is urban wellbeing and development in a climate and ecological emergency?’

The workshops are open to Phase I Urban Wellbeing & Development researchers and stakeholder groups.

THE CONTEXTUAL BRIEF

The Phase II Urban Wellbeing & Development tahuhu [mission] is to activate transformational change for urban wellbeing in a time of climate and ecological emergency.
WHAT IS URBAN WELLBEING & DEVELOPMENT IN A CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY?

Urban wellbeing is framed, in this Challenge context, as a complex socio-cultural-ecological objective guiding the development of urban systems, structures and entities – ecological and socio-cultural, human and non-human. Such approaches recognise the dynamic responsivity between socio-cultural and ecological systems and enable integrative inter-cultural and inter-disciplinary research methodologies [1]; [2]; [3].

GLOBALISED EMERGENCY CONTEXT

This is an extraordinary time to research on urban wellbeing and development. For the first time in the life-time of the human species, a broad consensus of research shows that the planet’s life-systems are approaching critical limits [4], [5], [6]. We are experiencing unprecedented human-led shifts in the equilibrium of te Ao, the Earth-system, with changes are already manifesting in the wellbeing of urban systems [5].

This year, atmospheric carbon dioxide levels reached 415 ppm [7], a level never before reached in the Holocene. The last four years have been the warmest on record, while the average temperature of the last five years has been 1.1C above pre-industrial levels [8]. This ecological crisis is strongly driven by urban resource requirements for industrially-produced food, land, and water [4], in which biodiverse ecosystems are being exploited, cleared and/or polluted. A human-led sixth mass extinction event is in process [9]. Meanwhile, there are disparities in Aotearoa cities’ socio-cultural wellbeing, as evident in housing affordability, access to health, and health outcomes such as obesity and loneliness [10]. Such wicked problems are collectively threatening current and future urban wellbeing.

The following reports provide a basis to assess key urban wellbeing risks and opportunities for this BBHTC research programme:

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report [5]: outlines global heating limits to 1.5C to reduce the risk of catastrophic climate change and ensure sustainable development. It describes 4 pathways with different technological and land use strategies. The aim is for carbon emissions to decrease 45% by 2030, and go to nett zero by 2050.

- The IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land [6]: focuses on land use, calling for a transformation in the ways we relate to whenua, using land and producing food, towards regenerative models to address climate, biodiversity and socio-cultural crises. The report also emphasises actions to regenerate soil and forests, while sequestering carbon.

- The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Global Assessment Report [4]: outlines how the planetary ecosystem is the foundation of human culture, urban systems and wellbeing. IPBES Chair, Sir Robert Watson describes an ‘ominous picture in which the health of ecosystems on which we and all other species depend is deteriorating more rapidly than ever. We are eroding the very foundations of our economies, livelihoods, food security, health and quality of life worldwide’ [4].
Te Tiriti O Waitangi is a key contextualising framework for this central-government funded Aotearoa research. The Treaty articulates rights to kāwanatanga and tino rangatiratanga (self-governance and sovereignty) and directs transformational change in relation to whenua, authentic engagement with mana whenua, Māori communities, researchers and kaupapa Māori processes in this Challenge research context.

Approximately eighty percent of Māori now live in urban centres, often away from their ancestral whenua. How te Ao Māori can be enhanced in city-making, and in the analysis, policy, systems and structures influencing urban wellbeing in Aotearoa is relevant in the national context, while providing key learnings internationally.

The authentic embeddedness of the 3 Treaty Principles – Partnership, Protection, and Participation – in research pathways and impacts is crucial to promote adaptation in Aotearoa New Zealand, while providing a reference for the application of indigenous and other local traditional knowledge systems to strengthen adaptive transformative responses focused on human and whenua interconnectedness [11].

COLLECTIVE RESPONSE NEEDED

The unprecedented complexities of our context today requests for collective responses [12], building from and enhancing collective and social capital for the activation of authentic, local based, and socially equitable adaptation to climate change [13], [14]. The co-ideation and mind-mapping approaches adopted in our workshop aim to enhance, test, and model collective knowledge and capacity as a way to foster system change for urban wellbeing.

KEY AREAS OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- Future-focused approaches (2030, 2050 [1 generation], 2110 [3 generations])
- Communities of practice
- Activations & exemplar live case studies

KEY APPROACHES INCLUDE:

- Kaupapa Māori
- Co-ideation & co-design methodologies
- Collective intelligence & collaborative planning

KEY RISKS INCLUDE:

- Climate & ecological emergency
- Tipping points & uncertainty
- Socio-political instability

The visual context brief aims to map key areas, risks and opportunities interdependently.
6th extinction event

1 million animal and plant species threatened with extinction

1.5°C 45% reduction in carbon by 2030 (re 2010 levels)

1.5°C Nett Zero Carbon by 2050

280 PPM Atmospheric carbon levels, pre-industrial era

415 PPM Atmospheric carbon levels, May 2019

REFERENCES


[8] Copernicus (2019) Last Four Years Have been the warmest on record – and CO2 continues to rise. Retrieved from climate.copernicus.eu/las-four-years-have-been-warmest-record-and-co2-continues-rise


In the following short report – co-authored with workshop attendees – we outline findings from co-ideation research directions workshops (Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch) conducted with Phase I BBHTC researchers and related stakeholders. Workshop attendees are experts and specialists in a diverse range of fields, with highly relevant and valuable knowledge that they shared generously. They were highly engaged, proactive and creative in their responses. As workshop leaders we found the experience to be very enriching and we take the opportunity here to thank all involved (see citation at the end of this co-authored publication for a list of attendees).

The workshopping process was contextualised by a review of Phase I research. We are keen to acknowledge the value of this work and leverage the impact of this research by drawing relevant strands through into Phase II in order to give best effect to the research funding.

Further orientation was by provided by the Contextual Brief report which provided a strategic framework to enable focused and impactful workshop engagement.

BBHTC KĀINGA ORA, URBAN WELLBEING & DEVELOPMENT - PHASE I: BRIEF REVIEW

The Urban Wellbeing & Development research produced in Phase I has a wide range of impacts and benefits for Aotearoa, with meaningful pathways that honoured the Treaty of Waitangi. Interdisciplinary, community partnered, and future focused research was central in Phase I. Projects such as Māori Design Principles & Kaupapa Māori Design, Mauri Ora & Urban Wellbeing, Te Aranga Design Principles, Māori Cultural Landscape, Activating Water Sensitive Urban Design for Healthy Resilient Communities, Give Us Space, are crucial in providing a basis for future research directions focused on holistic approaches to indigenising planning with focus on urban wellbeing in Phase II. Other projects such as Delivering Urban Wellbeing through Transformative Community Enterprise, Environmental Sustainability Outcomes at Neighbourhood Scale, Designing Walkable Future Neighbourhoods, and Shaping Place: Future Neighbourhoods, Soft Infrastructure for Hard Times, and Autonomous Vehicles and Future Environments provide an extensive range of approaches focused on socio-cultural and environmental aspects of urban wellbeing, which also inform the future research programme of Phase II on Urban Wellbeing and Development.

Recognising the research findings and outcomes of Phase I is a critical component for the development of an excellence-based, interconnected, collaborative, and future oriented research programme in Phase II to achieve impactful outcomes in the context of Aotearoa and internationally.
CO-IDEATED WORKSHOPS: SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

The discussion of the climate and ecological emergency as a critical framework for Urban Wellbeing and Development was well received and endorsed by the workshop participants, with emphasis on holistic, indigenising and ecological approaches, urban ecological infrastructures, and localised energy solutions activated through community governance.

A diverse range of perspectives, expertise, and contributions was gathered for the identification of critical risks and urban opportunities for urban wellbeing in the current context of climate and ecological emergency. Dissenting / diverging views occurred at times, but in most groups this was well mediated through consensus building debates.

Constructive feedback has been received informally after each workshop: participants felt heard, recognised, and energised by the collective thinking and debates in the workshops. Several participants alluded to the workshops as a ‘transformational’ experience.

THE FOLLOWING CRITICAL RISKS FOR URBAN WELLBEING AND DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH WERE IDENTIFIED:

- **Current economic systems** operating as business as usual may accentuate inequalities and inequitable distribution of climate change risks/impacts and decision-making. Transitioning to carbon neutrality pose socio-technical risks/challenges to industry and market;

- **Current political systems** have limited agility to address climate change and ecological emergency: short-time electoral cycles, inflexible policy, bureaucracy led processes, siloed approaches and lack of holistic thinking. Inaccurate assessment of priorities and resources was also identified as a risk.

- **Socio-cultural risks** include adversity to risk and lack of behaviour change, inertia and overwhelming eco-anxiety, resource dependency, population growth, lack of social cohesion, cumulative and intersecting inequalities, and exclusion of indigenous knowledge and perspectives;

- **Urban environment risks** include ageing infrastructure, lack of fresh water and depleted water sources, energetic transition, heat island effects, loss of biodiversity and ecosystems services, and loss of connection with nature.
The following urban opportunities for urban wellbeing and development research were identified:

- **Kāinga ora | Urban Wellbeing**: socio-cultural-ecological focused approaches, bio-based and circular economy, local governance, community development, more-than-human focused design, intergenerational connectedness, localised energy transitions, and biodiversity enhancement.

- **Activation-based research**: local, small, creative, incremental, experimental, scalable, collaborative, socio-culturally-engaged, and tactical urbanism.

- **Mauritanga | Wellbeing practices**: socio-cultural-ecological approaches to enhance participatory/community-led research methodologies, enhancing local agency and governance, localism, inclusion, equitable decision-making, and diverse of ways of knowing/doing.

- **Whakawhanaungatanga | Relational practices**: holism and systems thinking, with approaches focused on more-than-human and socio-ecological interconnections. Intergenerational connectedness and learning were also identified as a key opportunity for urban wellbeing.

- **Aotearoa | New Zealand context**: Te Tiriti o Waitangi: research methodologies honouring the Treaty of Waitangi and indigenising planning in Aotearoa New Zealand through genuine partnerships to enhance and support mātauranga and kaupapa Māori in urban wellbeing and development.

- **Te Ao | Global context**: Mātauranga Māori and bicultural planning as unique to Aotearoa, supporting its unique international positioning.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

To the engaged, proactive and creative workshop attendees and to the individuals who gave feedback verbally or by email – thank you for sharing your time and expertise so generously.

Sincere thanks also to BBHTC Directors; Ruth Berry for her insightful and generous contribution in the three workshops, and Dr Jessica Hutchings for her steering feedback on strategies for engaging with Māori scholarship within the programme.

We thank Anastasia Dailianis (AUT Masters student and meditation teacher) for leading the powerful meditation sessions that brought wellbeing to the heart of the workshop process.

And finally thanks to our kaikarakia Matangireia Yates-Francis (AUT Masters student) for so ably registering tikanga Māori within the workshop process.

RECOMMENDED CITATIONS:


OTHER REPORTS:

Kia ora, thank you for your time and expertise