



# Success Story: Te Whaihanga



## Te Whaihanga to better prepare built environment professionals to work with Māori.

This project was funded by Ako Aotearoa and Auckland Council and involves the tertiary sector plus professional institutes and Māori partners. The primary aim of the project has been and continues to be to help people employed in or studying towards careers in planning, architecture, engineering and landscaping to better engage and work with Māori professionals, iwi representatives and community and papakāinga developers.

### SDG it links to:

- SDG 3, Good health and wellbeing: Te Whaihanga addresses the well-being of Māori by ensuring that Council employees and university students have the capability to 'incorporate the values, culture and beliefs of the Māori People in all Auckland-related policies and RMA advice and decisions by 2020.'
- SDG10 Reduced inequalities: Te Whaihanga addresses target 10.2 - to empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all by equipping built environment professionals to work inclusively.
- SDG11 Sustainable cities and communities: Te Whaihanga addresses target 11.3 – to ensure inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning by building the capacity of built environment professionals to engage with Māori.
- SDG17 Partnerships for the goals: Te Whaihanga addresses target 17. 17 by demonstrating effective partnership between Māori communities, tertiary institutions and local authorities and professional bodies.



**Te Whaihanga**  
To better prepare built environment professionals to work and engage with Māori  
Ako Aotearoa National Project

### Sectors involved:

Māori as Mana Whenua, Kaitiaki and Rangatira, Tertiary education institutions and funders, Local government, Professional Bodies.

### Outcomes you're seeking:

To increase the capacity and capability of built environment professionals to engage with Māori and as a result give practical effect to Te Tiriti / Treaty of Waitangi and Maori aspirations. The materials have been available for use since 2017 and so far at least 500 students and professionals (planners, architects, engineers and landscape architects) have benefited from the training and capacity building.

<http://bit.ly/tewhaihanga>

### Contact

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Penny Pirit: Auckland Council  
Helen te Hira: Auckland Council

### Most relevant SDGs:





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## Acknowledgements

### Main collaborator and funder Ako Aotearoa

National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence

### Main industry partner Auckland Council

Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

### Project team

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Professor John Tookey, Auckland University of Technology

### Tertiary partners

University of Auckland – Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau (lead partner)  
Auckland University of Technology – Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau  
Lincoln University – Te Whare Wānaka o Aoraki  
Unitec Institute of Technology – Te Whare Wānanga o Wairaka  
Victoria University of Wellington – Te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui

### Industry partners

Engineering New Zealand – Te Ao Rangahau (previously known as Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand)  
Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research  
Ngā Aho Māori Designers' Network  
New Zealand Planning Institute – Te Kōkiringa Taumata and Papa Pounamu  
New Zealand Institute of Architects  
New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects – Tuia Pito Ora  
Te Hana Te Ao Marama Community Development Trust

### Researchers

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### Kaitautoko

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Tipa Mahuta

### International reviewers

Professor Alison Phipps OBE, University of Glasgow, Scotland  
Professor David Jones, Deakins University, Australia

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## Most relevant SDGs:

