This hui was held at Turanga, Central Library, Christchurch on Wednesday, 21 October 2020. The event was well attended with 50+ participants from a diversity of community organisations across greater Christchurch.

The objective of the day was to learn about the funding opportunities that are currently available, what’s on the horizon and explore the idea of collaborative projects to strengthen prospect of success.

Session 1: National Agencies and Philanthropic provided a short overview of their organisation and available support /funding for environment projects/community organisations. There was then a Q&A panel with all the speakers. The following key points were captured on the white board for this session:

DOC- Leeann Ellis, Community Supervisor- Mahaanui District.

* Community Enhancement Fund- Priority on protection. Opens in February
* Jobs for Nature- Kaimahi for Nature. Employment options in conservation for businesses post Covid-19
* Restoring Nature- Priority on restoration. Process TBC
* No extra internal resource to keep up with demand

MFE- Kelly Bisset, Relationship Manager

* Te Mana O Te Wai opens in late 2020
* Use the website [www.mfe.govt.nz](https://apc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mfe.govt.nz%2F&data=04%7C01%7CAlison.Bower%40ecan.govt.nz%7C26808555ed4044a5256e08d87ea391f0%7C984befeac12e454e91117b8d8da5e7e1%7C0%7C0%7C637398588320172897%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=imvRqLT4fIQvmU1HiusR2OtNca%2BJ313NGvGmnn3HB6c%3D&reserved=0)
* Read criteria carefully
* Get your application proof-read. MFE may be able to pre-read drafts. Landcare Trust might be another option.
* Fresh Water Improvement Fund- $200K+ Opens late January and closes early Feb 2021
	+ Sediment, wetlands, estuary, streams, fish passage
	+ Collective, collaborative projects
* Waste Minimisation Fund
* Environmental Legal Assistance Fund
* Contaminated Sites Fund – councils only

MPI- Clayton Wallwork, Senior Advisor One Billion Tree Partnership- Te Uru Rākau

* Nearly over- closes February 2021
* Landowner grants- 1/3 exotics and 2/3 natives
* Partnerships- training, Science
* Matariki Tē Rākau- remembrance plantings, community
* Knowledge hub- new science
* Restoration Ambassadors can help- Adam Forbes
* Challenge for seedling supply

Rātā Foundation- Millie McDonald, Grants Advisor

* Money for non-profits
* Sustainability (environment and engagement)

Session 2: The group discussed what they heard and opportunities/ interest in collaboration on projects.

Key Ideas:

* be holistic- we need to be looking at the whole system of a specific place for the long term
* form partnerships with funders and others and collaboration
* tap into expertise
* collaboration is a long game
* project needs to be ready
* be conscientious of Rūnanga
* support for coordinators of volunteers and grow knowledge
* Government doesn’t want to fund local government plant nurseries but so much demand, need everyone
* new funds- investigate them, don’t dismiss options
* try to be proactive not reactive
* Envirohub can help? Perhaps could make space available for a monthly 2 hour ‘funding clinic’ where people can book a 20-minute session with a funding expert to ‘spit ball’ or funding challenges.
* cultural connections
* coordinating support
* another funding application workshop please
* money for shared funding for administrator wanted
* help create collaboration

Session 3: Regional and local government provide a short overview of their organisation and available support /funding for environment projects/community organisations. The following key points were captured on the white board for this session:

Environment Canterbury- Lan Pham, Councillor

* The Statement of National Significance in the Freshwater NPS describes the concept of Te Mana o te Wai as the integrated and holistic well-being of the water. It is up to communities and councils to consider and recognise Te Mana o te Wai in their regions.
* Te Mana o te Wai will be better for the environment.
* New Strategic Direction 2020-2023 ‘Taking action together to shape a thriving and resilient Canterbury, now and for future generations.”
* This stands in sharp contrast to the old on “Sustainable development”
* Me Uru Rākau is a program proposed for the new LTP to give life to the Strategic Direction. It will focus on restoration/regeneration. Starting on ECan land and ideally shared with District Councils and bigger landscape collaborations, and help nurseries ramp up to meet the need.

Additional info: ECan currently has over a million dollars available annually for protection and restoration of biodiversity on private and public land through the Immediate Steps program.

* Support for regionally significant- flagship projects (e.g. Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere enhancement project)
* For more information on support of biodiversity projects and/or community organisations visit <https://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/support/>

Community Boards, CCC- Maryanne Lomax

* Each community board has a different flavour. Banks Peninsula and coastal- Burwood are most environmentally focused
* Money for restoration/ engagement/ coordination
* Easier application, apply online
* Smaller $
* Boards also influence CTP
* See presentation strengthening communities
* Discretionary, youth development and others
* Metropolitan for projects across several boards

SDC- Andy Spanton, Biodiversity Coordinator

* Natural Environment Fund $75K
* Developing a biodiversity strategy, LTP
* Grants for groups delivering significant restoration projects i.e. Te Ara Kakariki and Waihora/ Ellesmere Trust
* Grants for planting through partnerships with Central Plains Water, Meridian Energy and Trustpower

WDC- Kate Steel, Ecologist Biodiversity

* Community grants- enviroschools, etc.
* Operational funding
* Community events
* Heritage and biodiversity
* 7 parks and reserves supported
* Cam River is priority
* Would like a Te Ara Kakariki type group in Waimakariri District for planting projects

General Comments and information:

* Support more on traditional Maori medicines- Kahukura Rongoa Maori can help
* Indigenous ecosystems maps/information by Lucas Associates
* [www.lucas-associates.co.nz](http://www.lucas-associates.co.nz) › christchurch-ecosystems
* [Four broad land types or ecosystems of the city:](https://apc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lucas-associates.co.nz%2Fecosystems%2Fwet-plains.html&data=04%7C01%7CAlison.Bower%40ecan.govt.nz%7C3bf3eb51be584e2abf5b08d8762651ce%7C984befeac12e454e91117b8d8da5e7e1%7C0%7C0%7C637389254274242796%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=1uAfxzOeuMWJsL8PNo6v4paqu6ktlvZ6MlXthg%2FYv50%3D&reserved=0)
* <https://www.lucas-associates.co.nz/christchurch-banks-peninsula/christchurch-ecosystems/>