

How well did we grant?

An overview of how we implemented our granting strategy

Financial Year 2022-2023

Our funding strategy is the way we decide how to give out grants.

We know, from research we commissioned, that there are communities in our region that experience exclusion, inequality, and disadvantage; and we want to fund work that supports equity and inclusion in our communities.

Our Strategy

Our Ambitions:

Advance equity by supporting communities experiencing the greatest inequity, exclusion, and disadvantage

- 1 Support tino rangatiratanga of mana whenua and taura here, in our region
- 2 Support inclusion of communities that experience exclusion
- 3 Work with others to focus our resources where they'll have the biggest impact
- 4 Increase capability, and support community-led initiatives
- 5 Increase access, and reduce barriers, to funding

Our Ambitions

To assess how well we granted in FY22-23, we looked at how we progressed against the 5 ambitions set out in our strategy

Ambition 1

Support Tino rangatiratanga of Mana Whenua and Taupū Here, in our region

He Rau Aroha

He Rau Aroha is an expression of Wellington Community Fund's commitment to assist and advance Māori aspirations (wawata) for Mana Whenua and Taura Here in our region. The administering of He Rau Aroha is key to us realising this ambition.

Through He Rau Aroha's highly relational approach, we have strong, growing relationships with Mana Whenua, resulting in:

- › Greater opportunities to hear about iwi and hapu wawata
- › Wide word of mouth reach

Ambition 1

Support Tino rangatiratanga of Mana Whenua and Taura Here, in our region

Highlights

52

Relationships

**Māori-led
Organisations**



\$807,673

Grants

Spend



- › We've influenced other funders to consider their support of Māori aspirations
- › We've unlocked collaborative funding opportunities to support Māori-led kaupapa in our region

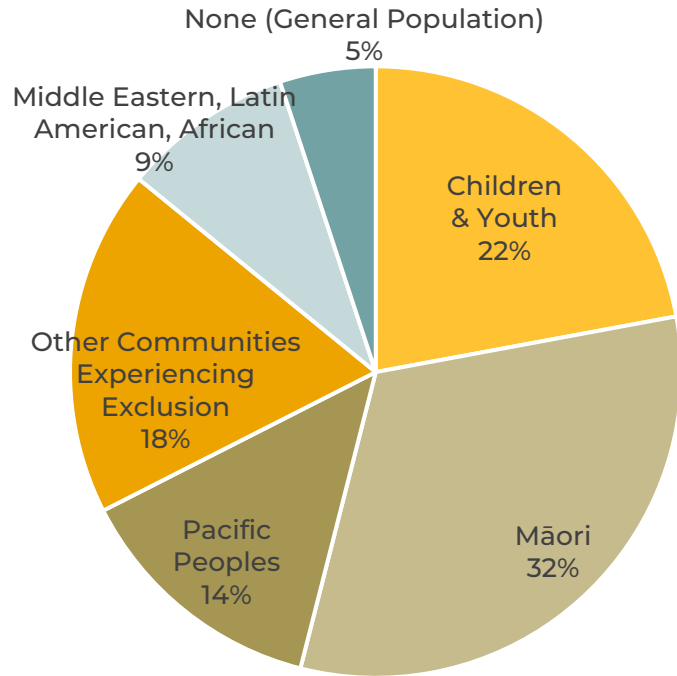
Ambition 1

Support Tino rangatiratanga of Mana Whenua and Taura Here, in our region

Ambition 2

Support inclusion of communities that experience exclusion

Who we funded

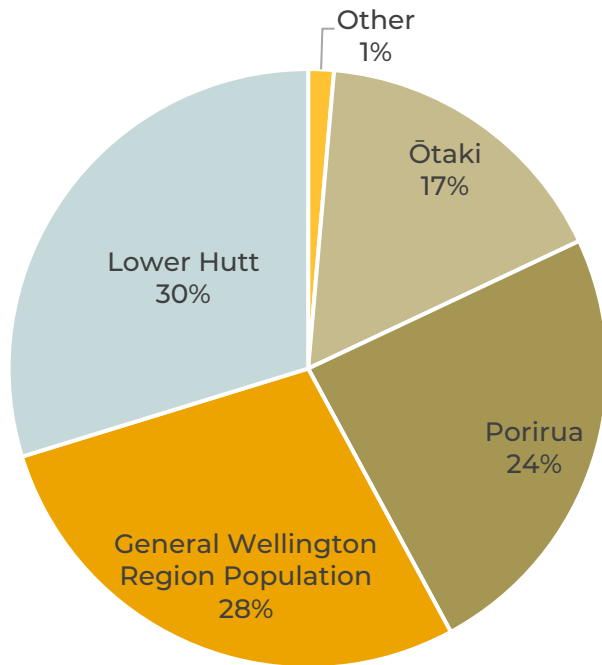


- › **95% of spend went to those experiencing inequity, exclusion, and disadvantage**
- › The spend to 'Other communities experiencing exclusion' is largely weighted by a significant Multi-year grant, which serves Māori, and homeless communities, as part of its service

Ambition 2

Support inclusion of communities that experience exclusion

Where we funded



- › **71% of spend went to priority location groups**
- › ‘General Wellington Region’ accounted for the biggest % of spend (28%); however, most of this spend (88%) went to priority population groups and others experiencing inequity

Ambition 2

Support inclusion of communities that experience exclusion

Ambition 3

Work with others to focus our resources where they'll have the biggest impact

Leveraging impact through co-funding

Amount leveraged

(other funders)

\$1.3m – 1.34m

WCF contribution

\$219,830



Ambition 3

Work with others to focus our resources where they'll have the biggest impact

Figures to: 31 Mar 2023

Ambition 4

Increase capability, and support community-led initiatives

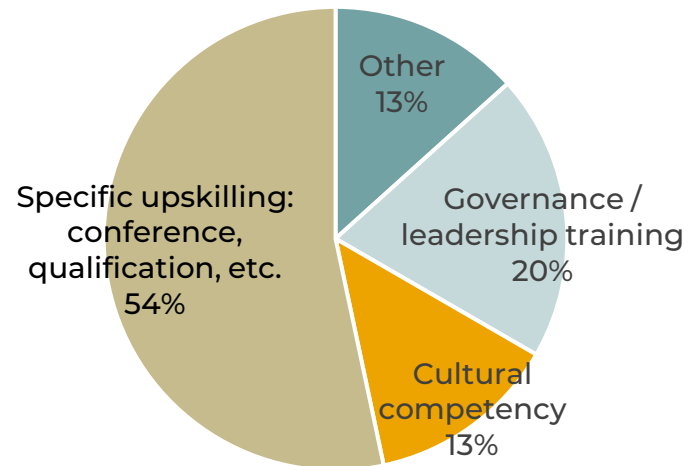
Capability-building

LIFT Grants support capability-building. Despite focusing our budget on General Grants to meet the high demand for immediate community need, we were able to support 11 organisations with LIFT Grants.

11
Grants
LIFT



LIFT Themes



Figures to: 31 Mar 2023

Ambition 4

Increase capability, and support community-led initiatives

Community-led

FY2022-23 saw a huge increase in community-led initiatives - supporting our ambitions & outcomes around communities having meaningful representation and leadership

76
Grants/Initiatives
Community-led



67%
Total grants spend
Community-led



Ambition 4

Increase capability, and support community-led initiatives

Figures to: 31 Mar 2023

Ambition 5

Increase access, and reduce barriers,
to funding

Increasing access

We've made it easy for organisations to apply for funding. Most of our first-time applicants were also new to funding in general. This continues to be a strong indicator of increasing access

50
Organisations
**First time
applying to us**



31
Organisations
New to funding



Ambition 5

Increase access, and reduce barriers,
to funding

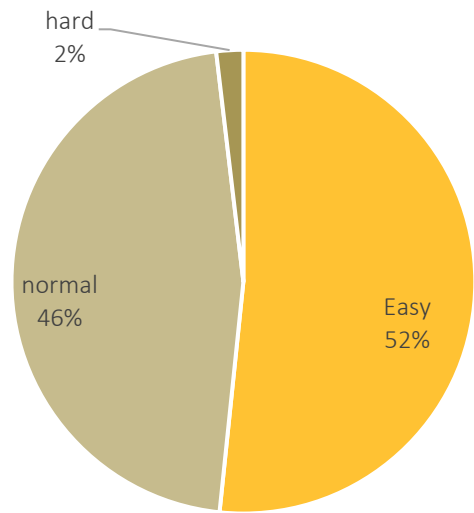
Reducing barriers

Most organisations found our application process normal or easy; with no major critical feedback given. The small percentage who find the process hard were supported by WCF staff to successfully submit applications

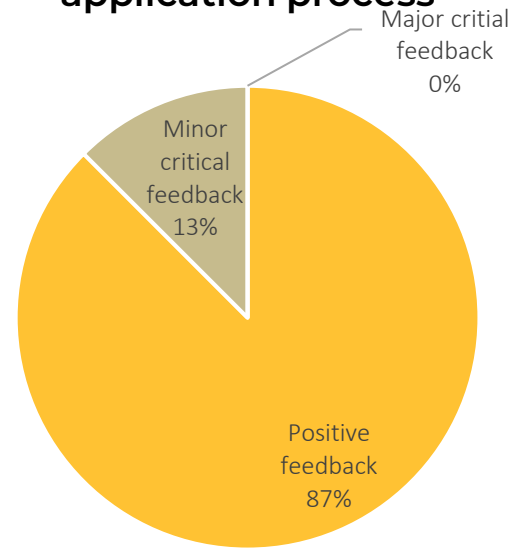
Ambition 5

Increase access, and reduce barriers, to funding

How applicants rated the application process



Feedback received about the application process



Figures to: 31 Mar 2023

Applicant feedback

“Excellent application process, easy to understand and complete”

“It is probably the best one I have experienced. **Thank you** for taking away the pain”

“Having someone available and knowledgeable to kōrero with has been a great help and made the journey more enjoyable”

“**Thanks so much**...this is very straight forward and doesn't require many hours to put together. Really appreciated”

“**Ngā mihi** nui ki tō koutou kaitakawaenga me āna āwhina mai”

“For someone who struggles with grant applications, I didn't find this too bad at all. **THANK YOU**”

“It was a great process. **Thank you so much**”

“This is honestly one of the easier applications I have had to submit, **thanks** for making the process a lot easier than many!”

Ambition 5

Increase access, and reduce barriers, to funding

In summary

How well did we grant against our ambitions?

Ambitions

- 1** Support Tino rangatiratanga of Mana Whenua and Taura Here, in our region
- 2** Support inclusion of communities that experience exclusion
- 3** Work with others to focus our resources where they'll have the biggest impact

Strong relationships and growing opportunities

We've established relationships with 52 Māori-led organisations; and spent over \$800k – plus unlocked collaborative funding opportunities - supporting Māori-led kaupapa in our region

Funding going to those experiencing exclusion and inequity

95% of our funding went towards those population groups/locations who experience inequity and disadvantage

Leveraged over \$1.3m

Through our co-funding we've leveraged over \$1.3m in additional funding to those organisations whose work aligns with our strategy

Ambitions

4 Increase capability, and support community-led initiatives

5 Increase access, and reduce barriers, to funding

Community-led initiatives account for majority of spend

67% of our spend went towards community-led initiatives

Process working well for applicants

We've received overwhelmingly positive feedback on our process, from applicants who completed the feedback section of our application form

Who did we fund?

Every year we publish an annual review which lists the organisations we funded in the last financial year. Find our annual reviews on our website [here](#)