

Toi Moana BOP Economic Action Plan Summary

In 2014 an independent study on the Bay of Plenty's economic opportunities was commissioned by MBIE and MPI, in partnership with the Bay of Connections.

The Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Growth Study (RGS) identifies a range of short to mid-term opportunities (0-10 years) that could assist in increasing investment, employment, and incomes across the regions.

The RGS was launched by Ministers in May 2015 and an Economic Action Plan created in partnership with regional stakeholders, to identify how key opportunities can be realised, who is responsible and by when.

There are nine key areas for development, with individual action plans developed for each.

AGRIBUSINESS

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Manuka Action Group 6 July meeting key focus will be on mapping current plantings, skills development, advocacy on definition
- Feedback received on the Landowner Support Service business case indicates need to strengthen focus integrating existing initiatives at the landowner level to address the identified market failure

KEY PRIORITIES

- Complete mapping of current manuka planted area and continue to explore options for mapping potential planting area
- Landowner Support Service business case to be amended accordingly
- Attending APINZ conference mid July in Rotorua - a useful opportunity for information sharing and to raise issues for the industry in the BOP

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Confirmation from BOC Management Group on whether they wish to proceed with a modified business case for the Landowner Support Service as a cross-group action, would be useful. Will also require a commitment from other Action Leads.

AQUACULTURE

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Harbour tenders closed on 17 March, followed by detailed evaluation process including reviews by expert advisers
- Development of Detailed Business Case for harbour on track
- WMOL continued to install additional lines, bringing total to 208

KEY PRIORITIES

- Recommendation of harbour tender outcomes to be considered
- Detailed Business Case preparation

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Expansion of Opotiki developments are key to achieving regional aspiration of a \$250M industry by 2025
- Finfish activity parked until 2017 elections are held

EDUCATION & SKILLS

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- ME contextualised learning programme in horticulture being reviewed by NZKGI after completion of pilot
- HMO & TIS Leadership Group workshop held to progress initiatives at improving successful pathways to meaningful Maori youth employment
- Met with & updated Minister for Economic Dev. on TIS priorities
- Initial meeting held with health sector, secondary schools and tertiary providers to co-design a health pathway (NCEA L2) for students enrolled in secondary schools
- Work on developing a BOP regional labour market framework presented to CoBOP Leadership group

KEY PRIORITIES

- Developing aspirational statement for Maori youth employment aspirations and infographic with BOP picture and connections
- Receiving UoW stocktake on regional and sub-regional labour market trends and initiatives as input into regional labour market framework

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Independent advice/eval. for measurement & evaluation of BOP TIS undertaken to provide input into good practice evaluative measures

FORESTRY & WOOD PRODUCTS

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- The FIF fund managers have advised that the assessment panel has concluded deliberations as at end of June and Minister Smith will announce outcomes early July.

KEY PRIORITIES

- Focus has been on securing co-funding and taking the project forward.

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- This is becoming a national issue and the window of opportunity for BOP to act as a pilot scheme with its 150,00 ha of suitable land, is closing as events may overtake our plans

GEO THERMAL

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Andy Blair gave a presentation at the NZ Geothermal Association Seminar (Taupo, 27th June) on 'Geothermal Fuels Prosperity' with respect to regional economic development
- NZ Geoheat strategy officially released at the NZGA seminar, outlining targets for direct use investment in NZ: 500 new jobs & 15 PJ of energy per annum from direct use geothermal by 2030 (currently at 8 PJ per annum)
- The strategy envisages creation of 4 or 5 larger direct use projects (eg. timber processing, large glasshouses) & a range of smaller projects (eg. bathing) over the next 10-12 years
- BDL funding proposal submitted to central government

KEY PRIORITIES

- Work with NZTE and Direct Use Group (DUG) to develop a collaborative plan to seek out partners, clients and investors for direct use projects. Primary focus is on brown field opportunities.

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Await decision from central government on funding BDL lead



HORTICULTURE

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Plantech regional research institute business case submitted and proposal presented to MBIE funding panel. Currently awaiting response from central government.
- Review of the 'ME' contextualised learning programme piloted at Katikati College being undertaken by NZKGI
- Final workshop for Maori kiwifruit productivity cluster (led by MLU workstream). Overall the 5 trusts who have participated have raised on-orchard productivity significantly.
- Maori Kiwifruit Growers Forum supported by TPK

KEY PRIORITIES

- Implement Plantech regional research institute (if MBIE funding application successful)
- Meet with Miro Berry stakeholders to better understand opportunity, scale and barriers, including how RGS can best assist

MĀORI LAND UTILISATION

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

No update available

VISITOR ECONOMY

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Regions have all reviewed sub regional strategies and TRC/Governance Group are finalising including overarching regional strategy
- There have been some delays due to workloads on RTOs and other stakeholders with Annual plan and LTP submissions but on track for final submission to BOC/MBIE end of August

KEY PRIORITIES

- Release communications of outcome of work and potential next steps
- Recommendations are framed around core pillars (Access, Amenity (includes Accommodation), Attractions and Awareness)

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Present the key findings of the Visitor Economy Strategy

WATER

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- MPI approved funding (\$50,000) for Water Opportunities/Barriers project

KEY PRIORITIES

- Initiate Request For Proposal process to let contract for completion of the Water Opportunities/Barriers project.

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Water bottlers are progressing with increasing their consents, which may gain some media attention

MILESTONES & UPCOMING EVENTS

MILESTONES ACHIEVED

- Bay of Connections Yearly Forum - 14 July 2017 (Rotorua)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 9 Aug - Bay of Connections Governance Group Meeting (Rotorua)
- 30 Aug - Regional Aquaculture Organisation (RAO) Meeting (Tauranga)
- 4 Oct - Bay of Connections Mngt & Action Lead Meetings (Tauranga)
- 11 Oct - Regional Aquaculture Organisation (RAO) Meeting (Tauranga)
- 25 Oct - Bay of Connections Governance Group Meeting (Tauranga)
- 14 Nov - Bay of Connections Mngt & Action Lead Meetings (Rotorua)
- 7 Dec - Bay of Connections Launch of Yearly Report (Rotorua)

BAY OF CONNECTIONS
ONE REGION . ONE GOAL . ONE FUTURE

Overall progress is self-assessed by Action Leads as being: On Target, Achieved, At Risk or Not Achieved.

