

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 7th September meeting included an update on skills development programme; agreed upon developing a joint position on Manuka definition; update on mapping project; and progress towards the planting target which is currently ahead of the 500ha/year target and producer estimates for the next 10 years project doubling the target
- Landowner Support Service proposal shelved following further discussion with the Management Group and work stream leads as timing not right with other potentially competing initiatives evolving

KEY PRIORITIES

- The agri-business work stream to now focus on supporting the Manuka industry in addressing barriers and issues to development
- Work with ApiNZ and Primary ITO on development of a Certificate in Apiculture and apprenticeship programme
- Work with Manuka Farming Ltd on disseminating information on Manuka farming in the BOP

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Building sufficient trust within a new industry to allow cooperation continues to be work in progress

AQUACULTURE

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Ongoing negotiations with preferred tenderer, HEB Construction, to reach best price for harbour design and construction
- Development of detailed business case for harbour on track
- WMOL commenced their second commercial harvest

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

FORESTRY & WOOD PRODUCTS

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS At Risk

- Meetings have been held with MPI and supporter/stakeholder groups since the FIF funding advice
- The Sustainable Farming Fund has proved to be unsuitable as an alternative source of funding as it is targeted at a specific block of land and sees this project as way too big for it to support

KEY PRIORITIES

- The combined BOC land use group has placed its project on HOLD so that avenue is also closed off to the Afforestation project

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- The best way forward is to go back to where we started and make an application to the RGF for support for the project
- Advice has been received that the Labour Party is developing a new Forestry policy, which is closely aligned with the Afforestation projects goals

HORTICULTURE

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- \$8.4m Government funding for Plantech Regional Research Institute

KEY PRIORITIES

- Establish Plantech - board and operational team by 2017 year end

VISITOR ECONOMY

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Final revisions from regions with drafts to MBIE in week of 11th September
- Overarching strategy to be finalised on 17th September

KEY PRIORITIES

- MBIE review of sub regional strategies
- MBIE briefing of key recommendations end of September
- Communication plan for outputs and next steps

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Present the key findings to Governance and MBIE



EDUCATION & SKILLS

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Draft BOP labour market literature review completed by UoW
- RGS co-funding request for \$120k to support implementation of the Eastern BOP Career Link proposal submitted to MBIE
- Awhina August appointed as BOP Maori Economic Development Coordinator in a role co-funded by Priority One, Bay of Connections and TPK. One function of the role will be to help support Maori youth education & training initiatives.

KEY PRIORITIES

- Review UoW BOP labour market report and use to inform development of BOP labour market model
- Finalise Maori youth/employment opportunities infographic and support implementation of Maori youth initiatives, including development of a Maori youth mentoring programme
- Establish EBOP Career Link programme

GEOTHERMAL

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- BDL business case approved - Central Govt Funding \$150k matched by BoC and Industry funding of \$150k, being total \$300k for two years
- Geoheat Strategy Governance Group initiated 21st August 2017 - Mike Dunstall (Contact Energy), Taparoto Nicholson (Wairaiiki Maori Geothermal Advisory Group), Andy Bloomer (President NZGA), Stephen Daysh (Mitchell Daysh), Brian Carey (GNS Science), Andy Blair (BoC)
- Presentation to NZ Geothermal Association Board Meeting 28th August
- DUG met with Data Centre operator - introduced by NZTE

KEY PRIORITIES

- Recruit BDL
- Contract and invoice funding for BDL Lead
- Collateral development & potential client interaction through NZTE

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Aquaculture Conference in Nelson (20-21st Sept) - focus on understanding the market, issues and key players
- Invited presentation on NZ direct use at Mexico Workshop (11th Sept) from SENER (Mexican Ministry of Energy)
- Iceland visit to direct use operations (26-19th Sept)

MĀORI LAND UTILISATION

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- Funding unsuccessful for 6 of the 7 priority project proposals
- Two year grant approved for Kaihauatu Ōhanga Māori coordinator co-funded by Priority One and BOPRC with TPK contribution pending
- No project fundings secured service delivery diluted to that of Kaihauatu Ōhanga Māori capacity
- Kaihauatu Ōhanga Māori will assist entities to apply for central government funding

KEY PRIORITIES

- Arrange next HMO Advisory Meeting; Note: Kiriwaitangi Rei appointed as a member on the Maori Advisory Board replacing Tiaki Hunia
- Complete Kaihauatu Ōhanga Māori induction and work plan

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- Major capability reduction with no project funding

WATER

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS On Target

- MPI confirmed joint funding in July 2017 for Water Opportunities/Barriers
- Six responses were received to the RFP with MPI/BOPRC shortlisting the vendors in August
- Currently working through clarification queries

KEY PRIORITIES

- Finalise clarification and proceed with negotiation for Water Opportunities/Barriers
- Expect contract to be let in Septemebr 2017

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

- We will need support from RSG (Action Leads) for Water Opportunities/Barriers
- Regional Water Advisory Panel to agree/confirm engagement plan for this work

MILESTONES & UPCOMING EVENTS

MILESTONES ACHIEVED

- Whakatōhea Mussels Ōpōtiki commenced their second harvest
- \$8.4m Government funding for Plantech Regional Research Institute
- BDL business case approved for \$300k over two years with \$150k from Central Govt & \$150k from BoC and industry
- Two year grant approved for Kaihauatu Ōhanga Māori coordinator co-funded by Priority One and BOPRC
- Ahead of the 500ha/year Manuka planting target & 10 year producer estimates project doubling target
- Water Opportunities/Barriers joint MPI/BOPRC funding was confirmed with six submissions received following RFP

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4 Oct - Bay of Connections Mngt & Action Lead Meetings (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.

