

The Funders Commitment on Climate Action

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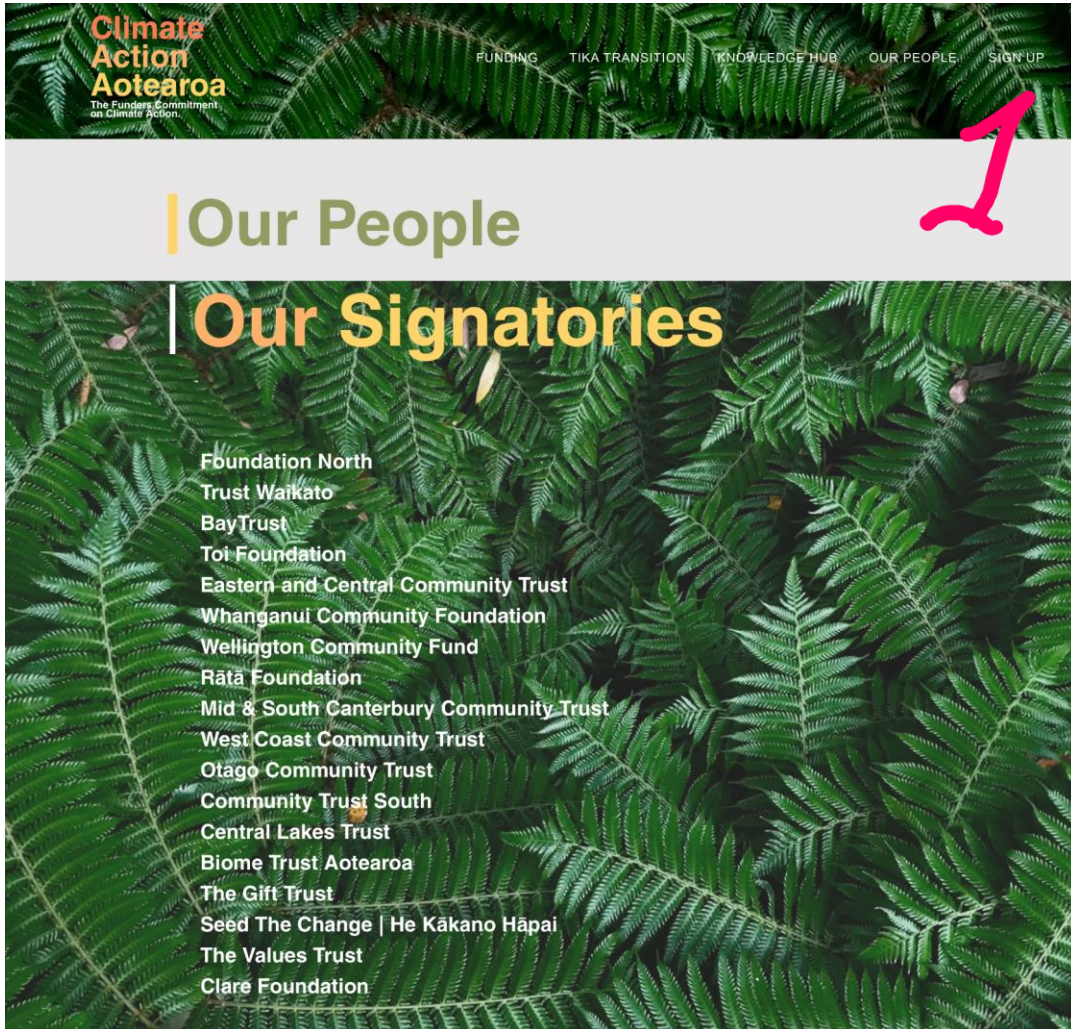
10 June 2025

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Karakia

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Who are we? What do we do?



Climate Action Aotearoa
The Funders' Commitment on Climate Action

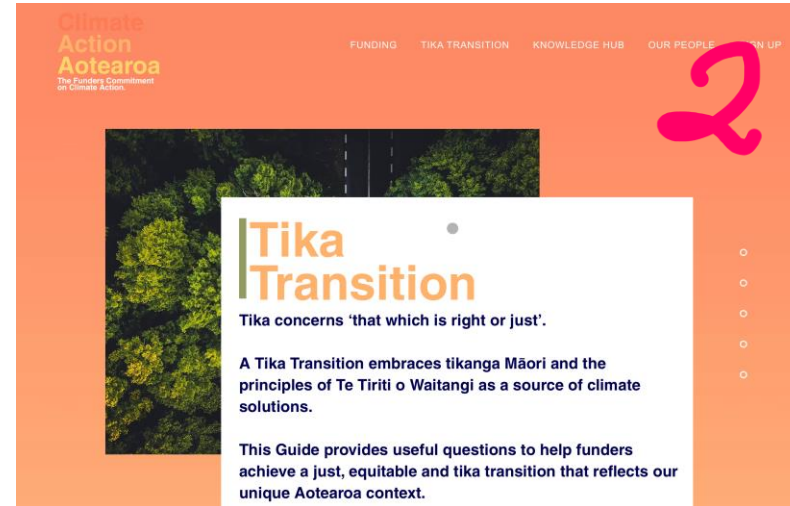
FUNDING TIKA TRANSITION KNOWLEDGE HUB OUR PEOPLE SIGN UP

Our People

Our Signatories

- Foundation North
- Trust Waikato
- BayTrust
- Toi Foundation
- Eastern and Central Community Trust
- Whanganui Community Foundation
- Wellington Community Fund
- Rātā Foundation
- Mid & South Canterbury Community Trust
- West Coast Community Trust
- Otago Community Trust
- Community Trust South
- Central Lakes Trust
- Biome Trust Aotearoa
- The Gift Trust
- Seed The Change | He Kakano Hāpai
- The Values Trust
- Clare Foundation

1



Climate Action Aotearoa
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FUNDING TIKA TRANSITION KNOWLEDGE HUB OUR PEOPLE SIGN UP

Tika Transition

Tika concerns 'that which is right or just'.

A Tika Transition embraces tikanga Māori and the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi as a source of climate solutions.

This Guide provides useful questions to help funders achieve a just, equitable and tika transition that reflects our unique Aotearoa context.

2



Kaupapa of National Significance, climate action fund

Kaupapa of National Significance Climate Action Fund (KONS) is a collaborative funding model designed and contributed to by the Combined Community Trusts of Aotearoa New Zealand.

3

Climate
Action
Aotearoa

The Funders' Commitment
on Climate Action.

Te Pūaha o te Ako

1. **Reflecting Te Tiriti o Waitangi and supporting Māori aspirations regarding climate action**
2. **An equitable transition**
3. **Enable leadership**
4. **Commit and share resources**
5. **Learn and grow**
6. **Decarbonise our investments and operations**
7. **Report on progress**

How do we tell our impact story?

**What are the
facts**

look back

**What's the
evidence?**

look forward

**Who/what has
benefitted?
(or did not)**

What's next?

This led us to ask some questions

Te Pūaha o te Ako

**Measuring impact better in
granting was the first step**







Te Pūaha o te Ako

4%

Te Pūaha o te Ako

The impact story for grants is now easier

The 6 codes were created to answer your question; what constitutes as “climate action”?
How do we identify a climate action grant?

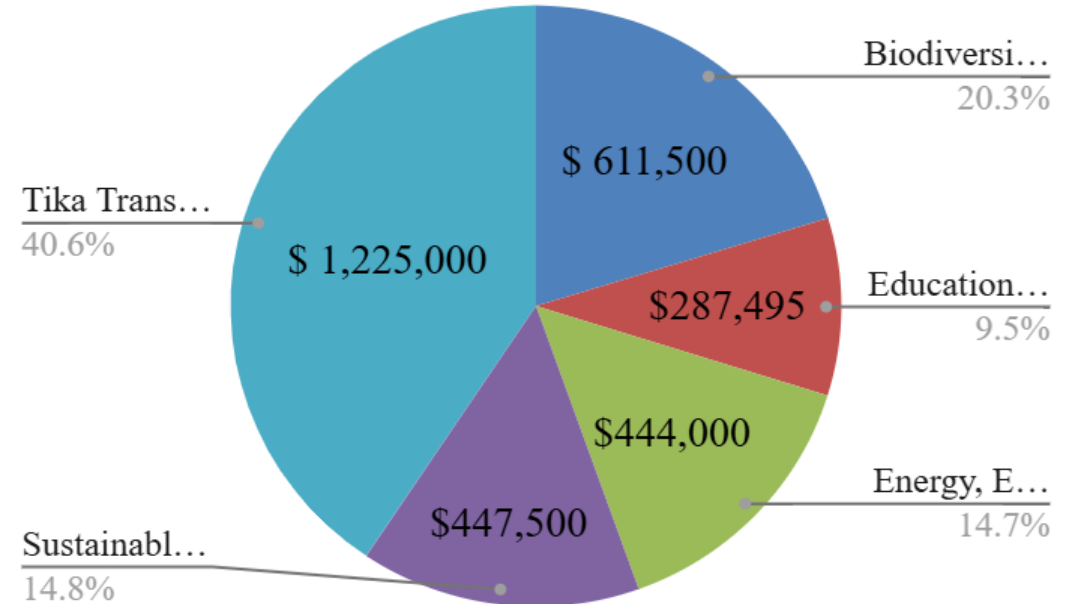
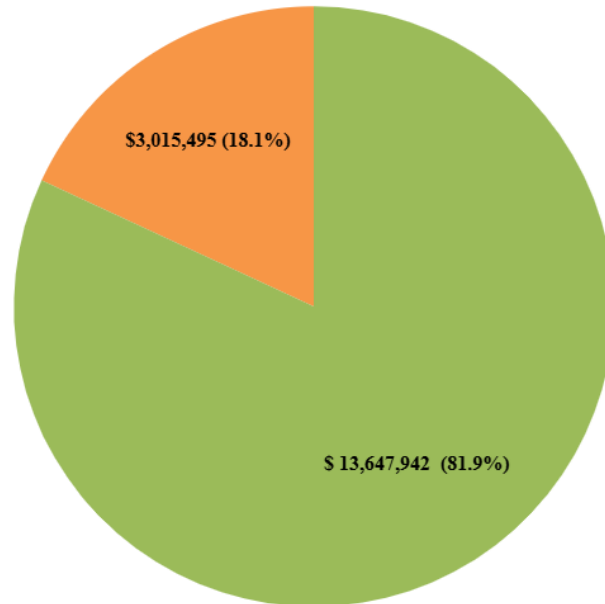
Tika Transition & Climate Justice 	Energy, Emissions Reduction and Circular Economy 	Biodiversity, Ecosystems, Land and Water Stewardship 
Sustainable Food and Agriculture 	Education, Advocacy and Capacity Building 	Climate Resilient Communities 

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Case study: Trust #1

Climate action granting sits at 3M or 18% of total spend. Over 1M given to progress a Tika Transition to a low carbon society. Kei wani kē koutou!

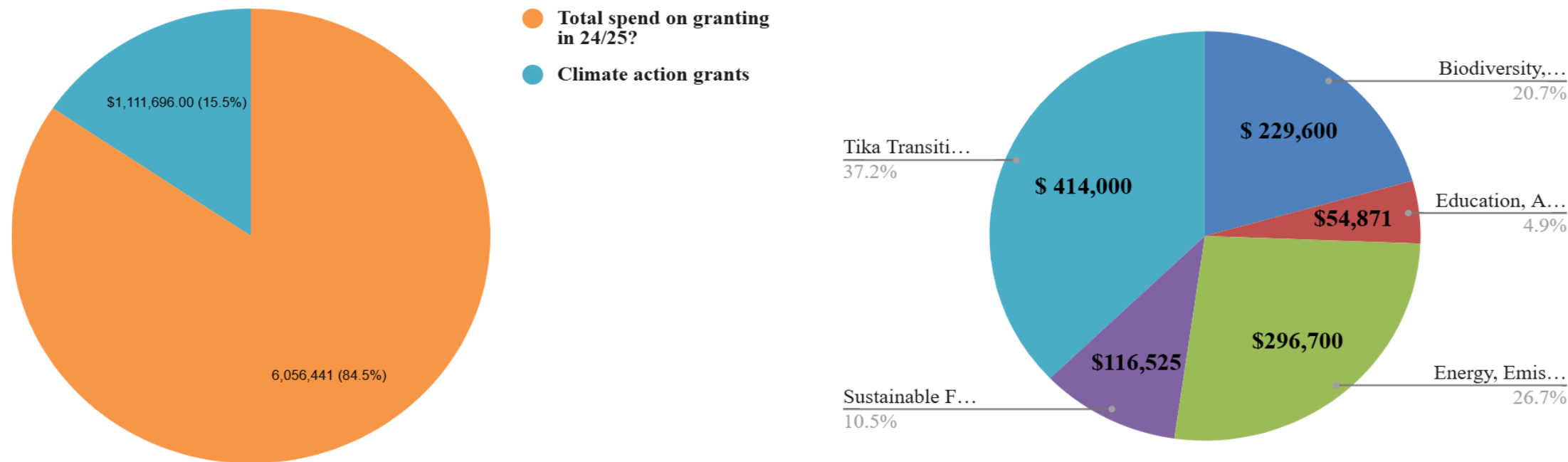
- Total spend on granting in 24/25
- Total spend on climate action grants in 24/25



Te Pūaha o te Ako

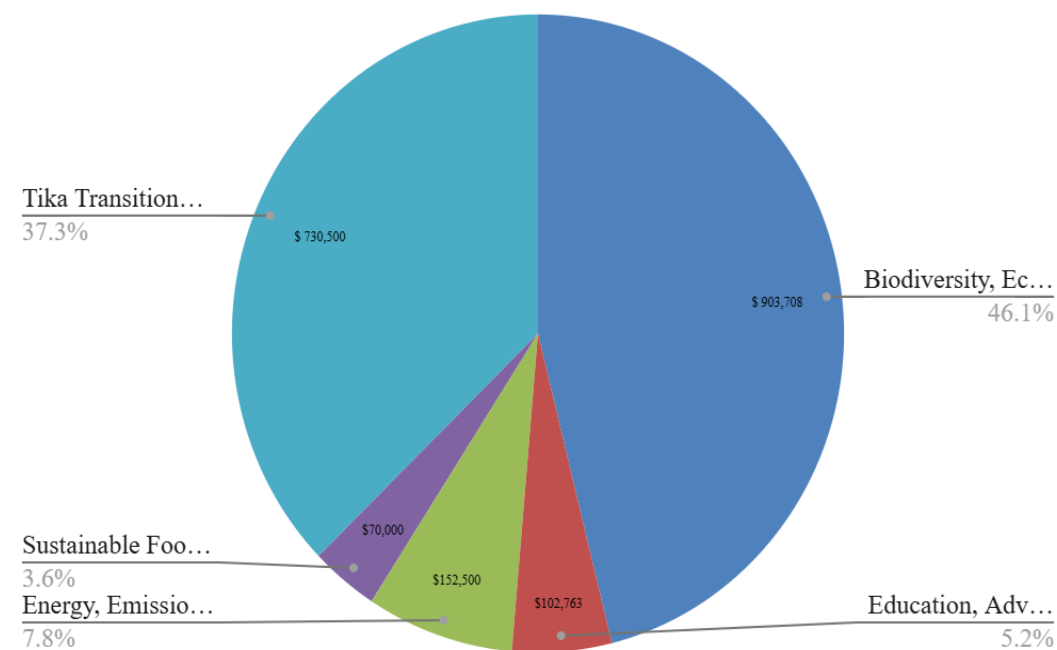
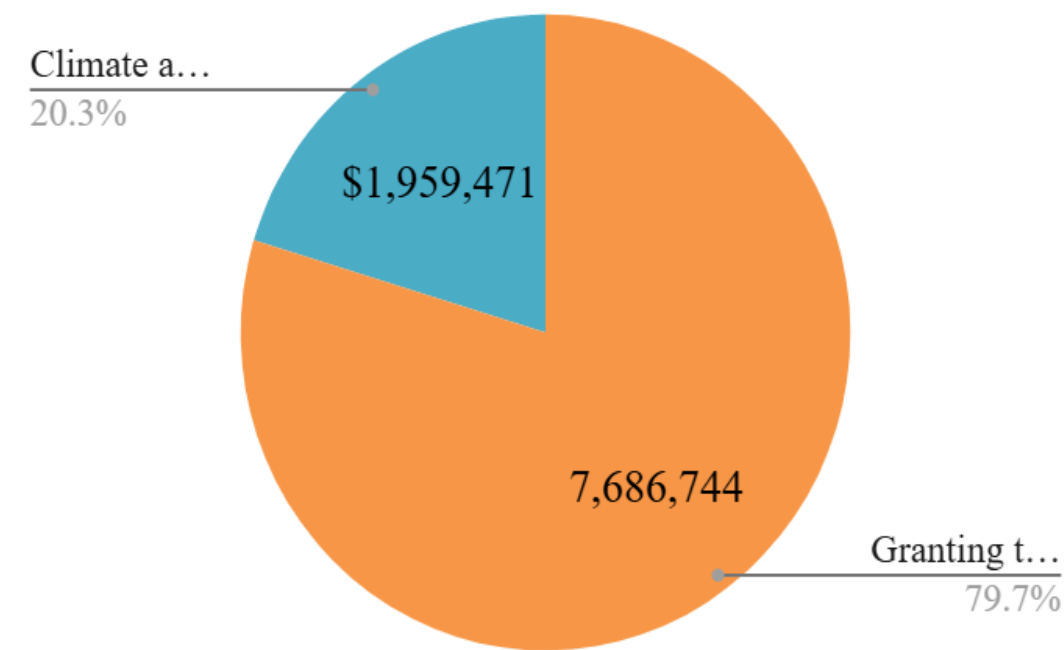
Case study: Trust #2

Climate action made up 16% of total granting in 2025. With over \$1M spread out amongst five of the six climate codes. Tika Transition was the highest granted code, making up 37% and over 400k.



Case study: Trust #3

20% of Granting spend was given to climate action. Biodiversity and Tika Transition being the most funded sectors.





Te Pūaha o te Ako

How do we tell our impact story beyond granting?

**What are the
facts?**

**What's the
evidence?**

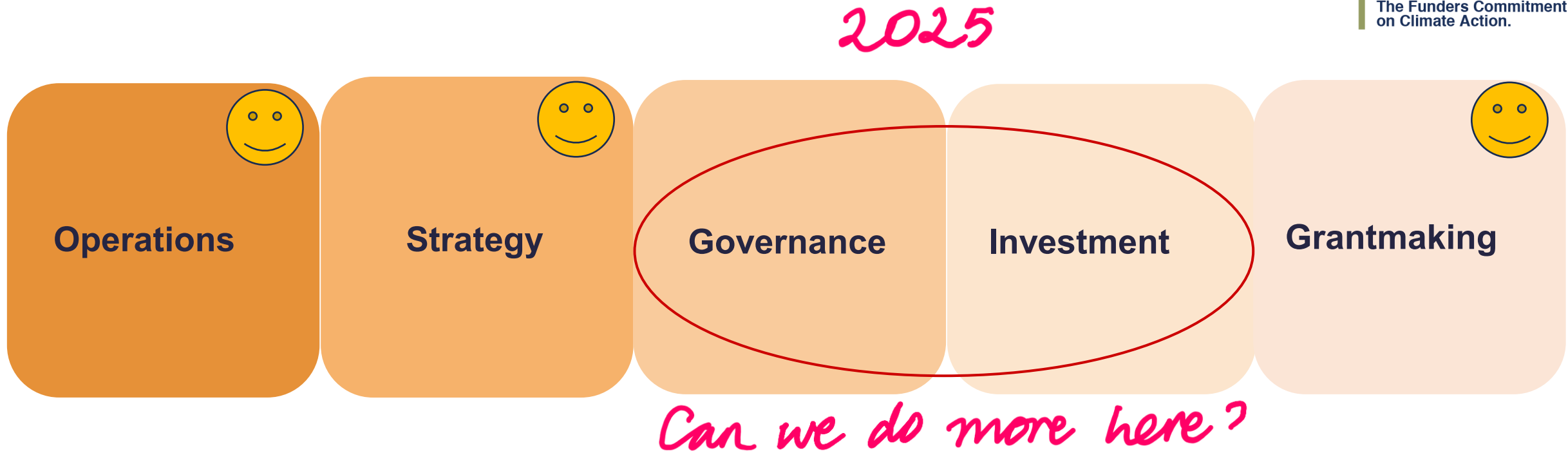
**Who's
benefitted?
(or did not)**

What's next?

I.e. What happens in the non-funding parts of our organisation?

Te Pūaha o te Ako

The five levers of the organisation:



Impact 'happens' in all areas of business.

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Investment Insights from our research with Jana/Forsyth-Barr and 15 fund managers

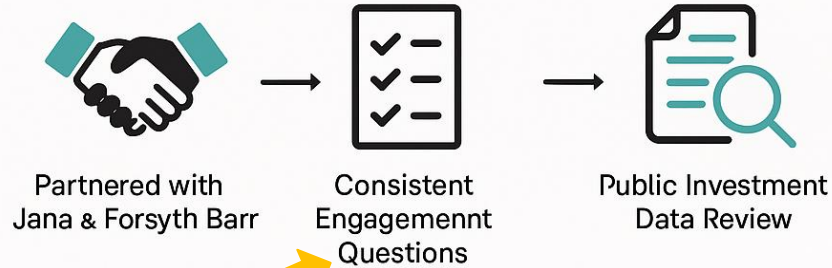


Te Pūaha o te Ako

Insights from our research with Jana/F-Barr and 15 fund managers cont..

1. Engagement effort

How we engage with
Our asset manager



AUM

Diverse portfolio sizes offer
a strong base for
collective impact



Asset Allocation

Growing potential to shift
capital towards climate
positive investments



Responsible Investment

Many are on the journey—
ready to move from ESG
principles to climate action



Net Zero Commitments

Momentum is building—
clear targets and pathways
can accelerate change

2. Investment effort

The money is 'doing the
work' for good or bad.

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Purpose of this work: influence and accelerate climate-aligned investment

With strong asset managers, many of our investments efforts are already delivering solid results.

Working collaboratively on engagement effort we can **go further, faster**:

- **engage** more deeply at the board level
- strengthen our **collective influence** on asset managers
- make climate investment conversations **accessible** and **relatable**.

1. **Engagement effort**

2. **Investment effort**

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Opening quote for reflection

“Collectively we have realised we are driving the car, not merely a passenger in the car being driven by the asset manager.”

— Rātā Foundation, 8th May Board Update

Individual Reflection

- What is our **Trust’s mission** and in what ways do our current investments support or contradict our mission?
- Are there sectors or companies in our portfolio that may be misaligned with our values?
- How proactive have we been in guiding our asset managers towards investments that reflect our purpose and engaging all board in reflections? Scale 1-5

Te Pūaha o te Ako

The Trusts Act 2019 outlines the powers and duties of Trustees and opens up new possibilities compared to previous legislation. **The Trust may prioritise community, social, environmental, or cultural impact alongside financial returns.** Decisions will balance risk, return, and purpose—as allowed under the Trusts Act and reinforced by the Law Commission.

Why this matters for Community Trusts:

- Your Trusts exist to support communities, not to maximise profits.
- This principle supports mission-aligned investing—including climate-positive, impact-first, or kaupapa Māori investments.
- It provides legal reassurance that values-based decisions—if made thoughtfully—are legitimate and responsible

7 Law Commission, Review of the Law of Trusts

Te Pūaha o te Ako

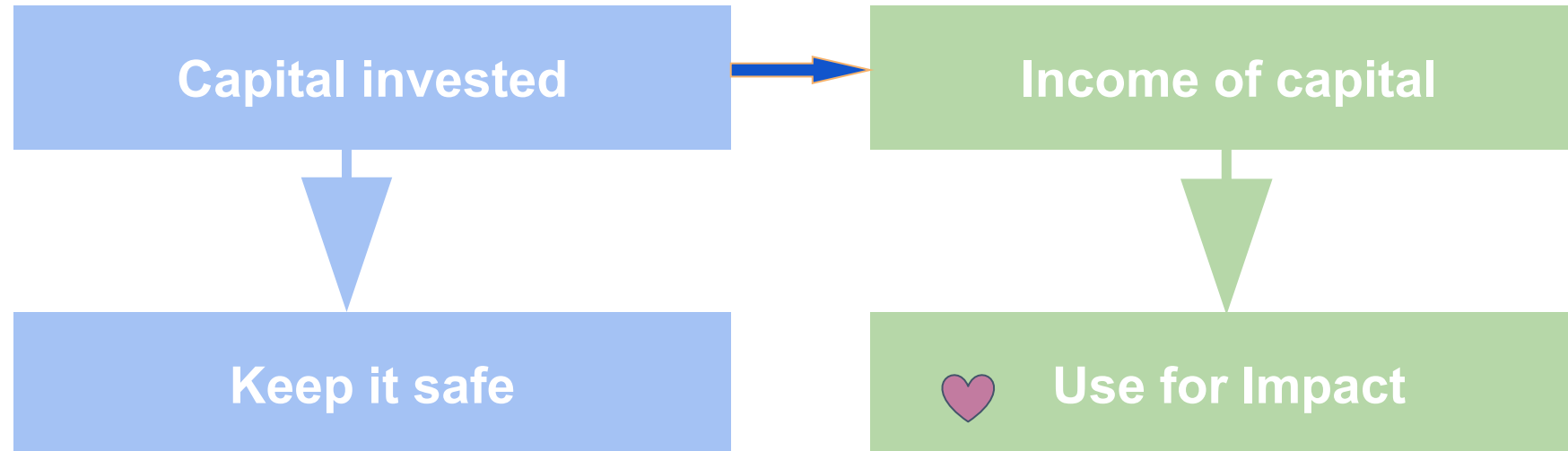
**Impact must be ‘material’,
proportionality matters**

Te Pūaha o te Ako

‘Traditional fund management’ - grow money, then gift

Portfolios include:

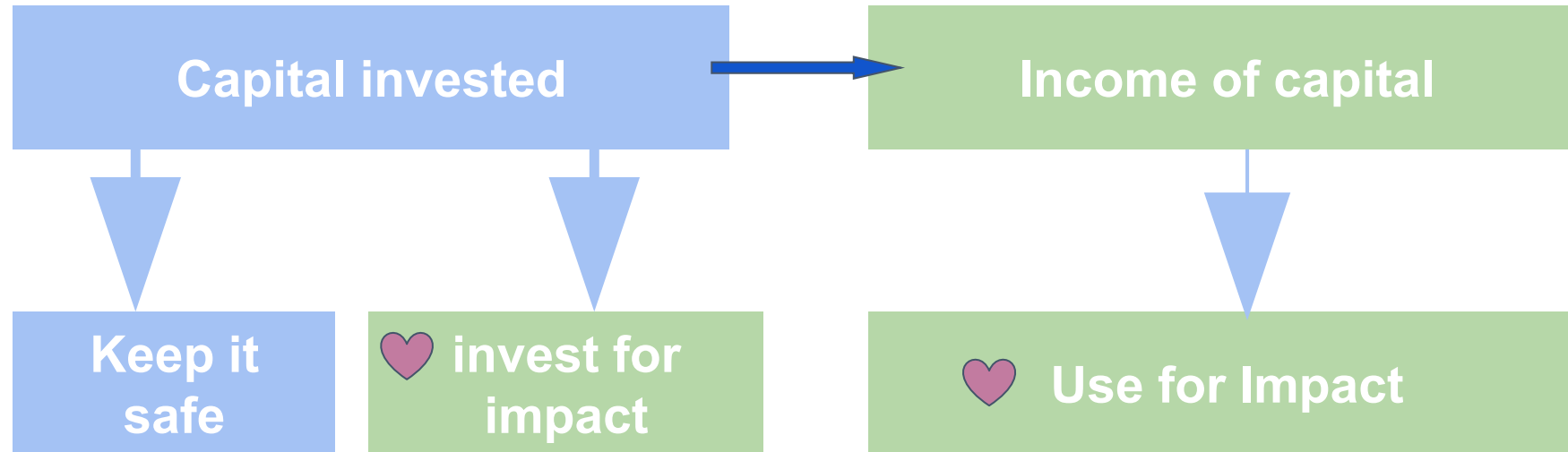
- ESG exclusions
- and non-ESG exclusions (may invest in some ‘bad’)



Example: Mainstream bank term deposits - these are perceived safe, financially driven

Te Pūaha o te Ako

The 'new' approach - invest for impact then gift



Example: Impact investment - Direct impact in emissions reduction. Purpose driven.

DATA!

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Savvy Leaders Invest in Strong Data Foundations

Insight: Behind every clear dashboard or visual insight is well-designed data architecture—leaders who support structured, user-friendly systems enable long-term success.

Impact: Good data architecture ensures accuracy, consistency, and the ability to scale across projects and partners.

Climate Action in Aotearoa



Great Leaders Demand Measurable Results

Measure what matters for enduring impact



Inclusive Leaders Embraces All Knowledge Systems

Honour mātauranga Māori and local insights



Strategic Leaders Drive Alignment and Efficiency

Standardise metrics for collaboration and impact



Forward-Thinking Leaders Use Data to Attract Investment

Clearly show value and results



Inspiring Leaders Tell Stories That Matter

Connect data with compelling narratives



System-Savvy Leaders Invest in Strong Data Foundations

Design architecture that honours Iwi and donor priorities



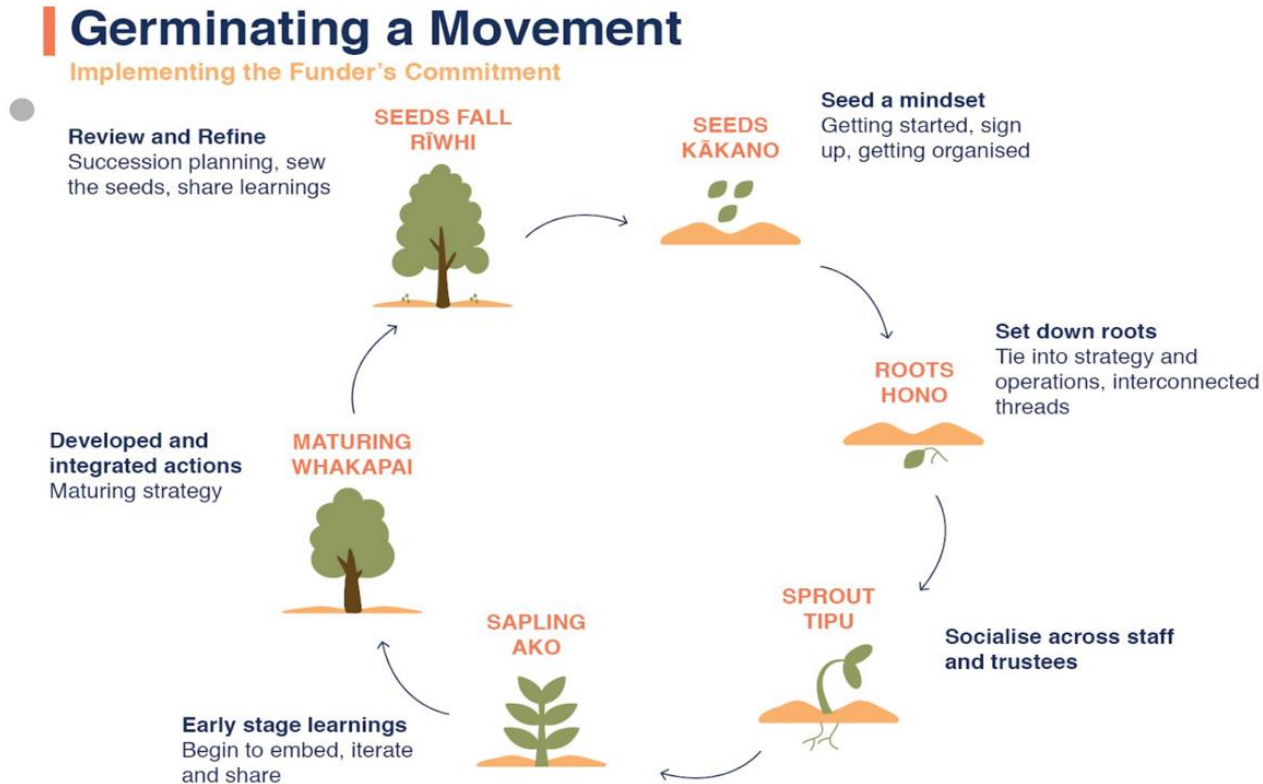
Te Pūaha o te Ako

The dashboard asks for substantiated evidence on only 10 indicators rather than setting goals:

Lever	Indicator	Progress Question	Evidence – Provide Links to Reports / References	Progress 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.
1.1 Governance	Climate & Tika Leadership at Board Level	How is climate literacy and kaupapa Māori leadership embedded in your governance?		
1.2 Governance	Climate Accountability & Transparency	How regularly and transparently does your board engage with climate risk and opportunity?		
2.1 Operations	Organisational Emissions Reduction Plan	What steps have you taken to measure, reduce and report your organisation's carbon footprint?		
2.2 Operations	Tika-aligned Procurement and Internal Practice	How are you evolving your procurement and operations to reflect low-carbon and tika practices?		
3.1 Grantmaking	Climate & Nature-aligned Funding	What proportion of your funding supports climate action and nature-based solutions, and how are you tracking that?		

Te Pūaha o te Ako

The dashboard asks for substantiated evidence on only 10 indicators rather than setting goals:



Self-review of progress on Life Cycle

1 - seeds, 2 - roots, 3 - sprout, 4 - sapling, 5 - mature, 6 - sew seeds for succession

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Evidence

Make it accessible



Make it relatable



Te Pūaha o te Ako

Where does governance fit?

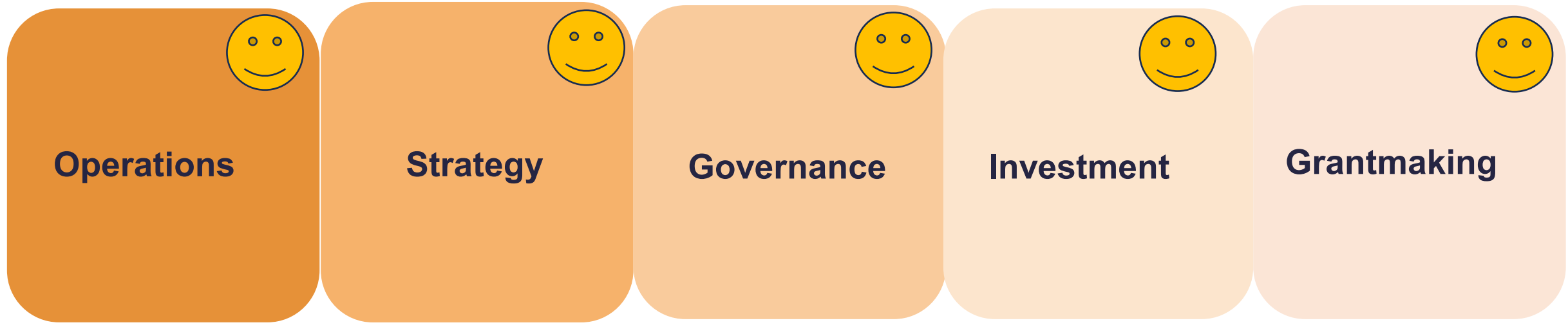
Te Pūaha o te Ako

Telling our impact story reflects good climate governance in action



Te Pūaha o te Ako

2025: happy faces across the five levers of the organisation



Impact 'happens' in all areas of business.

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Our mindset on Impact is changing through the FCCA

Capital...

- **Away from** an accumulation of capital in extractive industries
- **Towards** a re-allocation of capital to directly support communities (distant or local) by investing in impact.

Granting...

- **Away from** an unbalanced power dynamic of givers and receivers
- **Towards** more power sharing and participatory granting through involving communities in decisions made on their behalf.

Governance....

- **Away from** generic governance
- **Towards** including climate governance.

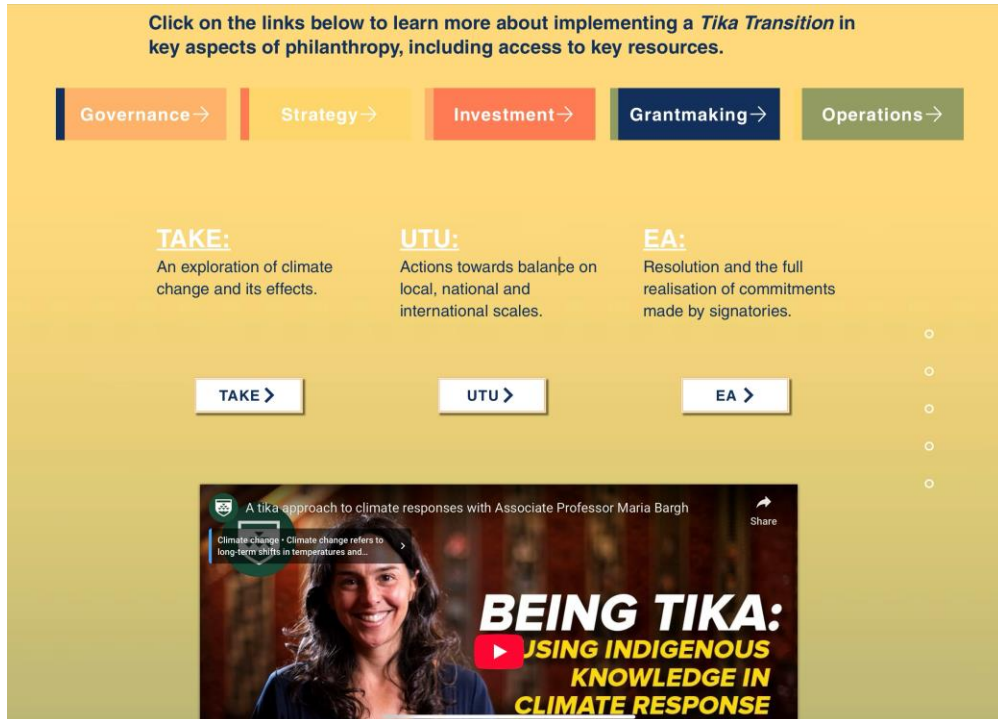
Reporting....

- **Away from solely** sentiment based data
- **Towards** including substantiated evidence of impact data.

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Climate Action Aotearoa Website and some example resources

www.climateactionaotearoa.co.nz



Webinars/in person training available for staff/board

- Climate Change and Financial Stability Workshop (avoiding too little too late)
- Practical Strategies to mitigate Greenwashing and legal risks
- Climate Related Disclosures- Be ahead of the curve!
- Decarbonisation 101
- Breaking down the Tika Transition
- Supporting Māori climate aspirations
- Biomimicry and Nature-based Solutions

Briefing Papers for Boards

- Climate Governance - What trustees need to know
- Engaging Asset Managers in moving to Net Zero

Research

- Commissioned to your needs

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Prompts for discussion in your organisation

Prompts for discussion for funders board of trustees:

- Do we have relevant data on who will be most impacted in our community?
- Has our Climate Action Plan accounted for a Tika Transition?
- Has my organisation done proactive transition planning?
- Who is responsible for transition planning and impact reporting?
- Have we had a discussion about what we see our role as during times of local emergencies?
- Have we included local whānau, iwi, hapū and community groups in these discussions & decision-making processes?
- Who at board level has climate competencies or do we use external advisers?

Prompts for discussion for grant recipients:

- How might climate change affect the people or environment we work with?
- In what ways can our mahi help build local resilience to climate impacts?
- Are we involving Funders in helping us shape our response to environmental challenges?
- Can we identify any climate or sustainability impacts from our activities, even small ones? Can these support our application process.
- What support would help us better understand or act on climate issues in our network?

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Karakia

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Thank you