**Call for applications:**

**School of Environment internal DRDF fund 2022 Call 2**

The purpose of this fund is to increase the quality and international reach of our research output. It will support initiatives that produce tangible outcomes that are in line with the School strategic objectives and improve our future PBRF quality scores. The fund will be distributed in two contestable application rounds in March and July 2022.

**Eligibility**: staff members who:

* are [PBRF-eligible](https://www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/assets/staff/staff/research/PBRF/PBRF%20Staff%20Eligibility%20Guide.pdf) (most staff in standard academic roles including research fellows on fixed term contract).
* have applied (AI or PI) to at least one external research funding source in the last year (January 2021 - February 2022)
* have generated tangible outcomes from previous PRBF projects (if applicable).

**What you can apply for:** direct research costs up to $10,000 for a single applicant, and up to $15,000 for a group of applicants from the SoE. Several items can be requested as long as they clearly support a single project. Examples include:

* Research contract: for a research assistant to carry out specific research-related tasks (capped to 5000 NZ$, about 200 hours of work)
* Write up contract: for recently completed Hons/MSc/PhD students to write their thesis as a publishable manuscript (capped to 3000 NZ$, about 120 hours of work).
* Field and travel expenses within NZ
* Visiting researcher/visit to collaborator
* Workshop/writing retreat
* Analytical expenses and consumables
* Software licences for research-related work
* One-off data purchases

**Priority** will be given to applications that:

* Are clearly in line with the **PBRF objectives** (e.g. high quality publications, external funding, more details [here](https://www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/en/research-gateway/pbrf-quality-evaluation/pbrf-overview.html)) and/or the **School strategic projects** (in particular, Kaupapa Māori, ENV in Schools, Pacific Engagement and ENV out there).
* Involve more than one ENV academic staff members
* Explore new research directions and/or are interdisciplinary

**Must:**

* Clear and tangible outcomes (e.g. a manuscript submitted, an externally-funded grant application, data collected and interpreted for proof of concept).
* Clear and justified budgets (e.g. quotes, HR rules for casual contracts)
* **Budget spent by 31st October 2022** at the very latest For large multi-year projects, the DRDF fund is not suitable and you should consider alternatives e.g. Faculty funds.
* Single project.
* Only one proposal per applicant with one exception: when applying for a write up contract to support a recent graduate (NZ$3000), you can also submit another proposal for up to NZ$7000.

**Please don´t:**

* Apply for mundane administrative/operational activities, conference attendance or publication costs. They will generally not be supported.
* Apply for more than you need as we aim to support as many projects across the school as possible.
* Overspend your allocated budget (you will have to pay back and/or will not be eligible for future DRDF support).

**In addition to the examples above, our priority for this specific call will be:**

To support our early to mid-career researchers in the broad areas of:

• Fellowship/grant applications: funding to support strengthening the competitiveness of external fellowship applications or working on funding applications

• Time to focus on research: time away from usual environment, e.g. writing retreats, enhanced support for engagement with communities etc.

• Ideation: funding toward development of innovative grant proposals – workshops, external stakeholder engagement, etc.

• Purchase of research services: Grant writing, editorial support, or funding research assistants

**Application process:** submit the application form and quotes (a single pdf please) to the Rangahau Committee (katarzyna.sila-nowicka@auckland.ac.nz) by **15th July 2022**. Applications will be evaluated by the committee by the end of July.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Katarzyna Sila-Nowicka (katarzyna.sila-nowicka@auckland.ac.nz )