



Antarctic Science Platform

Role Description: Tipuranga Research Programme Lead (PL)

Formally accountable to	ASP Director – Natalie Robinson Kaiārahi Rangahau Māori – Delane Luke	Date of last Review:	August 2026
Team / Work unit	ASP PI team	Location	Christchurch or options for remote - to be discussed
Direct Report	None	Work Environment	Christchurch AntNZ offices or remote options – to be discussed
Status	Fixed term: October 2026 – 1 st July 2030	Hours	0.2 FTE

Antarctic Science Platform

The Antarctic Science Platform (ASP) is a Strategic Science Investment, funded by the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and hosted by Antarctica New Zealand. The Antarctic Science Platform involves Public Research Organisations, universities and independent researchers, and comprises a portfolio of research that contributes to understanding Antarctica's impact on the global climate system and how this might change in a +2°C (Paris agreement) world.

Antarctic Science Platform's Core Principles

- **Excellence:** we apply our expertise to conducting the highest quality research to urgent and important challenges
- **Impactful:** our research is relevant and contributes meaningfully to the Platform's mandate and impact statements. We are committed to making a difference to current and future generations and to supporting stakeholder needs.
- **Collaborative:** we harness the power of teamwork, valuing diversity in thinking and approach, and work with partners across New Zealand and elsewhere.
- **Leading:** our team is professional, acting with integrity and openness.
- **Discovery:** we are curious and explore every challenge with enthusiasm.

Tipuranga Research Programme Lead

Tipuranga is the ASP's Mātauranga Māori Hoe (Māori Knowledge Programme). It is tasked with delivering a targeted programme of work focused on strengthening Māori leadership, participation and knowledge within Antarctic and Southern Ocean research. The programme has three interconnected workstreams:

- Kaupapa Māori Research Programme

- Māori Capability and Leadership Pathways
- Māori Knowledge Transfer and Communications

The Programme Lead will provide strategic leadership, program management, stakeholder engagement, and operational delivery across these workstreams.

Position Purpose

The Tipuranga research Programme Lead provides strategic, operational, and kaupapa Māori leadership for the Antarctic Science Platform, coordinating implementation and delivery of the Programme's key work-streams. The role ensures the development of a portfolio of kaupapa Māori research centered on the Antarctic and Southern Oceans, strengthens Māori participation, capability and leadership pathways, and facilitates effective knowledge transfer of ASP research to iwi, hapū, whānau Māori and other audiences. Working closely with the Kaiārahi Rangahau Māori, Te Kāhui Māori, research partners and ASP leadership, the Programme Lead has a responsibility to integrate the three workstreams and support two-way knowledge and learning development opportunities within the ASP's two core research programmes based in the terrestrial ('Tiaki Whenua') and marine ('Tiaki Moana') realms as well as the suite of targeted research projects ('hoe').

Location of Role

This role will largely be a remote role. The person may be required to spend time in the Antarctica New Zealand office (Ōtautahi | Christchurch). Travel is an expectation of the appointment, to engage with stakeholders (internal and external), and a travel budget will be agreed.

The Tipuranga role requires the support and hosting of an established institution to provide the organisational infrastructure necessary for success. The institutional affiliation of the appointed Hoe Lead will ordinarily determine the locational base for the role. Where a Hoe Lead is not affiliated with a suitable host institution, AntNZ will provide the hosting function, including employment, administration, financial management, operational support, and access to relevant networks and resources. This ensures the role has an appropriate organisational base while maintaining flexibility in leadership appointments.

Work of Role

Strategic Leadership and Program Development

- Lead the implementation of the Tipuranga programme.
- Manage annual workplans, budgets, milestones and reporting.
- Ensure delivery aligns with the Tipuranga Programme Delivery Framework; in particular, Te Tiriti as an operational responsibility; recognition of Māori authority and tino rangatiratanga; protection of mātauranga and IP; genuine partnership; the return of research to communities; and Kāhui Māori involvement in significant matters.
- Identify opportunities to leverage investment, secure co-funding and build strategic partnerships.
- Work collaboratively with ASP leadership, science teams and support personnel.
- Advise ASP leadership on Māori research opportunities, risks and emerging priorities.

Kaupapa Māori Research Programme

- Establish and manage a portfolio of kaupapa Māori research projects.
- Coordinate and administer the research selection and assessment process in accordance with the approved governance and assessment framework. Coordinate the contestable research funding rounds.
- Manage and coordinate successful contracting, monitoring and reporting of funded projects.
- Foster collaboration between Māori researchers, iwi partners and ASP science teams.

- Ensure projects contribute to one or more of Tipuranga's guiding themes and support the mandate and impacts statements of the Platform.

Māori Capability and Leadership Pathways

- Lead development of Māori participation and leadership end-to-end pathways in Antarctic research.
- Build relationships and wānanga with kura, iwi, Māori organisations, universities and research providers.
- Identify scholarship opportunities, internships, mentoring programmes and research placements.
- Facilitate opportunities for Māori involvement in Antarctic and Southern Ocean field activities where feasible.
- Monitor and evaluate capability-building outcomes.

Knowledge Transfer and Communication

- Lead the coordination of the Tipuranga communications and engagement.
- Ensure research findings are returned to participating iwi/hapū/communities before wider dissemination where appropriate, and ensure the research is shared in ways that are accessible and meaningful to Māori communities.
- Work with Tipuranga project PIs to develop tailored communication outputs.
- Facilitate Māori-focused knowledge exchange activities, workshops and engagement opportunities.
- Promote storytelling, visual media and innovative approaches to communicating research outcomes.
- Ensure communications uphold intellectual property protections and Māori data sovereignty principles.

Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships

- Build and maintain trusted relationships with iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori organisations.
- Work closely with Te Kāhui Māori.
- Work closely with ASP teams such as PLT, research teams and Antarctica New Zealand.
- Engage with Antarctic New Zealand, universities, Crown Research Institutes, government agencies and relevant Māori entities.
- Contribute to national and international Indigenous research collaborations where appropriate.
- Support opportunities for Indigenous participation within Antarctic and Southern Ocean research initiatives.

Skills & Experience

Essential

- Demonstrated experience leading kaupapa Māori programmes, research initiatives or strategic projects.
- Strong understanding of mātauranga Māori, tikanga Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- Significant experience working with iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori organisations in a scientific or research capacity.
- Experience developing and managing research programmes, projects or contestable funding processes.
- Strong and demonstrable stakeholder engagement, relationship management and facilitation skills.
- Experience developing strategic plans, work programs and reporting frameworks.
- Knowledge of Māori Data Sovereignty and kaupapa Māori research principles.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Desirable

- Postgraduate qualification or equivalent leadership experience in Mātauranga Māori or Science roles.
- Experience leading or participating in environmental, climate, marine or Antarctic research.
- Understanding of the New Zealand research funding landscape, including Vision Mātauranga.
- Experience designing capability-building or workforce development initiatives.
- Connections within Māori research, education and innovation networks.
- Competency in te reo Māori me ōna tikanga is an advantage.
- Experience working across science, government and Māori sectors
- Reporting to governance group(s)
- Have an understanding of Environmental/climate change impacts for Māori communities.

Key Functional Relationships

Internal	• Antarctic Science Platform Leadership Team • Antarctic Science Platform Kāhui Māori • Antarctic Science Platform Programme and Project Leaders & researchers • Relevant Antarctica New Zealand teams
External	• Iwi, hapū and whānau- Māori, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. • New Zealand's Antarctic science community, Māori researchers, aligned research programmes and research organizations