



Poipoia

# **Emmission Reduction Monitoring Iwi/Māori Chapter Review Report**

**Reporting to:** Climate Change Commission

**Reporting Period:** June 2024

**Prepared by:** Poipoia



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# INTRODUCTION

Poipoia Ltd have produced this Report on the kaupapa Māori chapter for the Emissions Reduction Monitoring report for He Pou a Rangi | Climate Change Commission (the Commission).

The purpose of the Commission is to provide independent, expert advice to the New Zealand Government on mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, and to monitor and review the Government's progress towards its emissions reduction and adaptation goals. The Commission's advice will help the government to set targets, set emissions budgets, monitor progress towards goals, prepare policies and plans to reduce emissions, adapt to climate change and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change.

The Commission in delivering its first Emissions Reduction Monitoring (ERM) report in July 2024, reporting on progress towards meeting an emission budget and the 2050 target, and an assessment of the adequacy of the Government's Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) has sought review of the kaupapa Māori chapter.

Under Section 5M(f) of the Climate Change Reduction Act 2002, requires the Commission to consider where relevant, the Crown-Māori relationship, te ao Māori, and specific effects on iwi and Māori. The ERM report is the Commission's opportunity to independently monitor the adequacy of the ERP and progress in its implementation (including any new opportunities to reduce emissions) with regard to the aspects relating to iwi/ Māori.

Poipoia Ltd provide this Report documenting our review of the kaupapa Māori chapter for the Emissions Reduction Monitoring report. We provide a summary of the recommendations for the report, and suggested improvements to the Commission's approach for future reports.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Poipoia has reviewed the Climate Change Commission approach to monitoring emissions reduction in a way that is informed by Iwi Māori. The chapter has been prepared to progress actions that centre on Iwi Māori and discusses further options to reduce emissions in the future. This report has been prepared to summarise recommendations from our review of the chapter provided by the Climate Change Commission. A copy of the document with our track-changes has been provided.

A summary of recommendations has been provided below:

- Recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and role of Iwi Māori as Tiriti Partners in emissions reduction within the introduction and throughout the chapter.
- Recognise that an effective Crown-Māori relationship must be based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi takes a partnership approach where the views of whānau, hapū and iwi are sought early, and co-development models are developed and implemented.
- A comprehensive assessment of existing barriers relating to the Māori economy, cultural, spiritual, physical and environmental health and wellbeing, should be included or referenced so that the reader can gain awareness of the barriers when working with Iwi Māori to reduce emissions.
- Provide a summary of implications for Iwi Māori along with the methods of engagement or sources of such information

- Include within the chapter or reference how the Māori Economy has been defined and used within the context of this chapter to provide the reader with greater awareness of the issues and barriers Māori face (e.g. undeveloped land) regarding land use and therefore reducing emissions.
- Highlight information gaps required to fully characterise carbon footprint of Māori sector.
- Summary of engagement findings to date to set the baseline of current state for Iwi Māori regarding emissions reductions. An appendix or table should be included to provide a summary of the engagement and the numbers of participants. It should also be made clear where this report has been provided to them for their own review if this has been completed, and if it hasn't, this should be transparent.
- Resource hapū, iwi and communities to assess and determine their own Te Ao Māori indicators at place. By doing this they can engage across their own iwi and hapū spaces to capture their own perspectives.
- Using kaitiakitanga as the guiding principle for transition into low emissions severely limits a Te Ao Māori worldview by only incorporating one Māori concept. A greater Te Ao Māori framework to provide guidance should be considered. See example attached in *appendix 1*.
- Identify positive case studies within the Māori sector regarding emissions reduction.
- Identify mātauranga led projects to collaborate with to determine Te Ao Māori indicators for emissions reduction monitoring.

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# TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Whilst the Commission recognises that reducing emissions will have implications on Iwi Māori, Te Tiriti o Waitangi has not been appropriately recognised within the chapter. Recognising whānau, hapū and iwi as Tiriti Partners, and the rangatiratanga they hold over their lands and waterways is integral to incorporating a Te Ao Māori worldview of emissions reduction.

The Commission has highlighted the need to reduce emissions in a manner that is informed by Iwi Māori engagement, however for this to be constructive and meaningful it must be informed through a Te Tiriti partnership approach where the views of whānau, hapū and iwi are identified at the beginning of the process to inform a co-development model.

The chapter would benefit from outlining upfront the various commitments to Iwi Māori the Commission has regarding emissions reduction, including upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The document includes a series of actions to empower Iwi Māori in the transition to a low emissions future from the first emissions reduction plan and notes that transition will be more successful and more equitable for Iwi Māori, if it:

- upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi with the Government and tangata whenua working together in partnership to meet the challenges of climate change in a way that respects kāwanatanga and tino rangatiratanga.
- elevates Te Ao Māori including concepts such as kaitiakitanga in planning, problem-solving and decision-making.

- Dismantles existing barriers for the Māori economy to benefit from our low-emissions transition while avoiding creating new disadvantages.
- Enables whānau, hapū and iwi to determine and deliver their own climate education, action and resilience at a local level.

This section should be elevated higher within the chapter as this is key in assessing whether this chapter meets those requirements and also highlighting where such commitments and obligations to Iwi and Māori may need to be included in other sections. By outlining such commitments, the need to include the requirement for quality engagement, resourcing and social justice within climate change regulation and adaptation becomes more explicit.

Currently the document oversimplifies the barriers Iwi Māori are currently facing regarding emissions reduction. Iwi Māori face many barriers that are not restricted to the Māori economy. A comprehensive assessment of existing barriers relating to the Māori economy, cultural, spiritual, physical and environmental health and wellbeing, should be included or referenced so that the reader can gain awareness of the barriers when working with Iwi Māori to reduce emissions.

Overall, the language within the document pertaining to Iwi Māori involvement is very non-committal e.g. 'consider the diverse needs and aspirations of iwi/Māori' and 'consider the role of iwi/Māori'. Such language may convey that the views of Iwi Māori are not important and will not be acted upon or will be unfairly balanced amongst other priorities. The use of positive language that centres Iwi Māori is essential as Iwi Māori should not be relegated as stakeholders but as Tiriti Partners.

## Recommendations:

- Recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and role of Iwi Māori as Tiriti Partners in emissions reduction within the introduction and throughout the chapter.
- Recognise that an effective Crown-Māori relationship must be based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi takes a partnership approach where the views of whānau, hapū and iwi are sought early, and co-development models are developed and implemented.
- A comprehensive assessment of existing barriers relating to the Māori economy, cultural, spiritual, physical and environmental health and wellbeing, should be included or referenced so that the reader can gain awareness of the barriers when working with Iwi Māori to reduce emissions.

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# IWI AND MĀORI IMPLICATIONS

Understanding the disproportionate impacts of climate change on Iwi Māori is crucial for those working with Iwi Māori to effectively participate in emissions reduction. The chapter recognises that Iwi Māori are disproportionately impacted by climate change such as sea level rise as many Māori communities are located near the coast. There are many ways in which Māori are disproportionately impacted by climate change, including implications for whenua Māori, relationship with wai, whenua and moana, and impacts on wellbeing.

This chapter would benefit from a more comprehensive summary of disproportionate impacts on Māori captured through engagement to date. Summarising impacts already identified by Iwi Māori sets the baseline for assessing whether engagement to date has adequately captured Iwi Māori views has been effective and enable gaps to be quickly identified during further engagement.

## **Recommendations:**

- The document states that there are specific effects on Iwi Māori that has been informed through engagement with Māori. These effects should be summarised in the chapter along with the methods of engagement or sources of such information. Effects could include loss of access to sites of significance, cultural practices and the mātauranga that those practices convey.

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# ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

The document outlines the need for Iwi Māori engagement and partnership however there is no pathway identified to implement effective engagement or partnerships.

Incorporating Te Ao Māori concepts and Mātauranga Māori must be done at a local scale with hapū and iwi at place. Resourcing hapū and iwi at place to engage on such matters is essential to ensure meaningful engagement.

## Recommendations:

- Summary of engagement findings to date to set the baseline of current state for Iwi Māori regarding emissions reductions. An appendix or table should be included to provide a summary of the engagement and the numbers of participants. It should also be made clear where this report has been provided to Iwi and Māori for their review if this has been completed, and if it hasn't, this should be transparent.
- Resource hapū, iwi and communities to assess and determine their own Te Ao Māori indicators at place. By doing this they can engage across their own iwi and hapū spaces to capture their own perspectives.
- Using kaitiakitanga as the guiding principle for transition into low emissions severely limits a Te Ao Māori worldview by only incorporating one Māori concept. A greater Te Ao Māori framework to provide guidance should be considered. See example attached in *appendix 1*.

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# MĀORI ECONOMY EMISSIONS

A comprehensive assessment of the Māori economy and how it is defined in the context of this chapter would be beneficial for the reader. There is a need to provide greater context of how the Māori Forest Industry and vast amounts of undeveloped Māori land, areas of protected indigenous biodiversity on the remaining 1.4m hectares Māori Land is factored into the statistics and emission reduction efforts within the chapter.

To provide the reader with further context of Māori land management, the barriers that Māori commonly face regarding land use and management due to impacts of colonisation and subsequent legislative and policy drivers should be clearly identified within the chapter. Land confiscation, loss, and amalgamation have resulted in multiple ownership models that impacts on decision-making, compliance, capital investment and development opportunities available to Māori land blocks. Highlighting the Crown's role in creating barriers within Māori land management provides greater context as to why the Crown has identified the need to dismantle such barriers.

The chapter highlights the emissions from the Māori economy however does not mention examples of how the Māori sector is working to reduce emissions, or the vast amount of indigenous biodiversity remaining on undeveloped Māori Land that provides carbon sequestration.

## Recommendations:

- Include within the chapter or reference how the Māori Economy has been defined and used within the context of this chapter to provide the reader with greater awareness of the issues and barriers Māori face (e.g. undeveloped land) regarding land use and therefore reducing emissions.
- Identify positive case studies within the Māori sector regarding emissions reduction.
- Highlight information gaps required to fully characterise carbon footprint of Māori sector.

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# MĀTAURANGA MĀORI

Mātauranga provides a transformative knowledge system that centres the natural environment. It has been successful for thousands of years throughout the Pacific in creating thriving civilisations who have lived within environmental limits. This paradigm is important in transforming the pervasive western views of extractive economies which have resulted in emissions in the first place. Mātauranga provides strong avenues for system change rather than mitigation which should be explored.

Acknowledging the need for Māori leadership in championing mātauranga Māori that is equitably resourced should be supported with case studies of how this can be achieved. Using mātauranga Māori case studies to build baseline data will support progress reporting. There are multiple projects around measurement and monitoring through maramataka which all are connected to climate change and further can be extended to address emissions reductions. For example, Ngā Tai o Rongo, led by Francine Wineti and Che Wilson that focuses on recording and interpreting climate related indicators through mātauranga to monitor change.

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# SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This does not feel like a chapter which summarises where Te Ao Māori is currently at when it comes to Emissions Reduction, it describes problems or opportunities, but provides no examples of a baseline of a current state for Iwi Māori in this space and so is unable to demonstrate progress or otherwise against the outcomes, or the questions being posed.

The document provides no new information and largely repeats standard narratives that exist and have existed in this space for decades, particularly from a Crown perspective. This will provide a Māori reader with little confidence that the Commission is engaging widely or deeply with Iwi and Māori on these matters.

There is a missed opportunity to include analysis of existing and emerging work by Māori in climate change, mātauranga and Māori frameworks for business models. The chapter largely ignores the extensive body of work being undertaken within Māori Trusts and Incorporations to reduce emissions, nor does it provide examples of this or highlight the views and aspirations of Iwi Māori which would provide some confidence that the engagement with Māori of the climate commission was effective.

Identifying pathways for engagement and opportunities for Iwi Māori to collectivise to progress shared outcomes utilising forums such as FOMA and the Iwi Chairs Forum who have previously worked together as a result of the ETS review last year.

The chapter lacks a cohesive framework from which to analyse progress and change. See *appendix 1* for an example framework developed by the Iwi Chairs Forum. This demonstrates how a framework can ensure a holistic review of where and how emissions fit within the wider work of Te Ao Māori through multiple lens all at once. Currently the chapter lacks a cohesive summary of key issues identified by Iwi Māori, the current state in those spaces and a review of progress towards emissions reduction.

In conclusion, this chapter fails to look across the whole system of emissions reduction and how Te Ao Māori is crucial to all layers and not just those within the Māori economy. Considering a holistic approach across health, education, social inequities, poverty and how those intersect across emission reduction outcomes will provide greater context on how Te Ao Māori can contribute to emissions reduction.

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# APPENDIX

- 1 *Atutahi 30112023 DLT Taunaki*
  - *Document sent as attachment*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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*We extend our thanks to the Climate Change Commission for considering and entrusting us with the opportunity to contribute to this vital report. We acknowledge the importance of this work and value the opportunity to support the Commission's efforts in addressing the pressing challenges of climate change. Your confidence in our team is appreciated.*

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