

# PROJECT 2058

Helping build a sustainable future

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# OUTLINE

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1. Aim and Assumptions
2. What is New Zealand?
3. Project 2058 Methodology
4. Research in Depth
  - A. The World
  - B. New Zealand
5. What We Have Learned
6. Example
7. Concluding Remarks



# 1. AIM & ASSUMPTIONS

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*Promote integrated long-term thinking, leadership and capacity-building so that New Zealand can effectively explore and manage risks and opportunities over the next 50 years.*

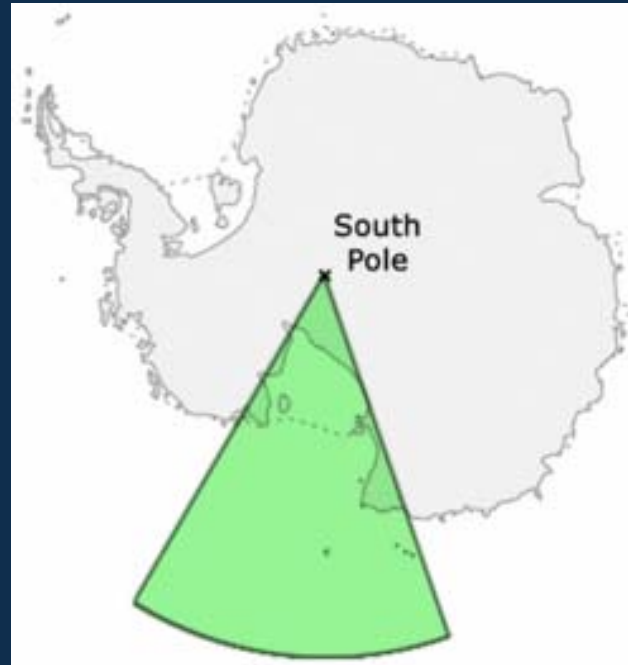
- Many ways to explore the future
- Project 2058 is a research based approach
- Strong sustainability approach
- Risk management
- Public good concept
- Participatory democracy



## 2. WHAT IS NEW ZEALAND?

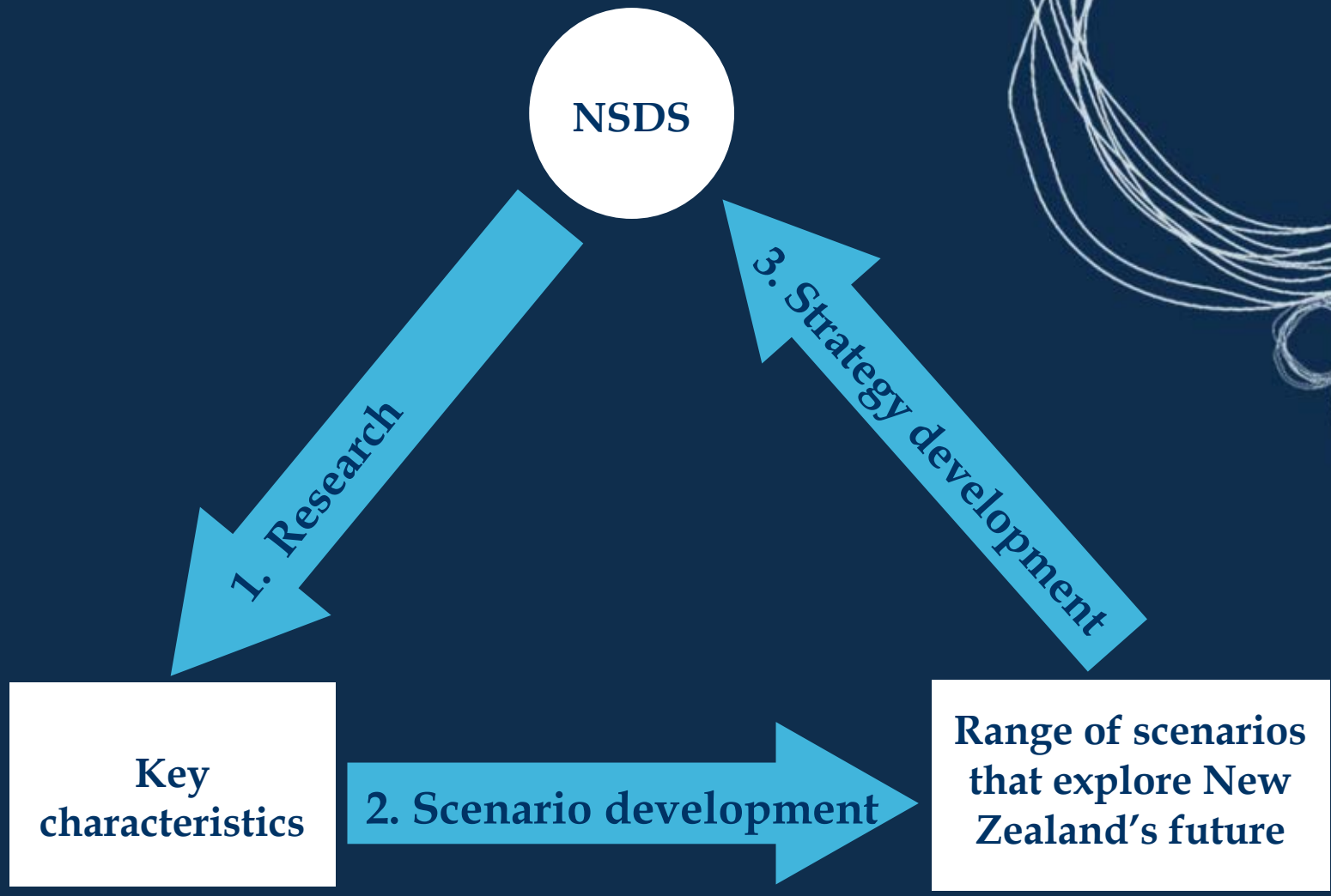
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- North, South and Stewart Islands
- Chatham Islands
- Kermadec Islands
- Sub - Antarctic islands
- Tokelau
- Cook Islands
- Niue
- Ross Dependency



### 3. PROJECT 2058 METHODOLOGY

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# PROJECT 2058 METHODOLOGY

## PART 1: RESEARCH

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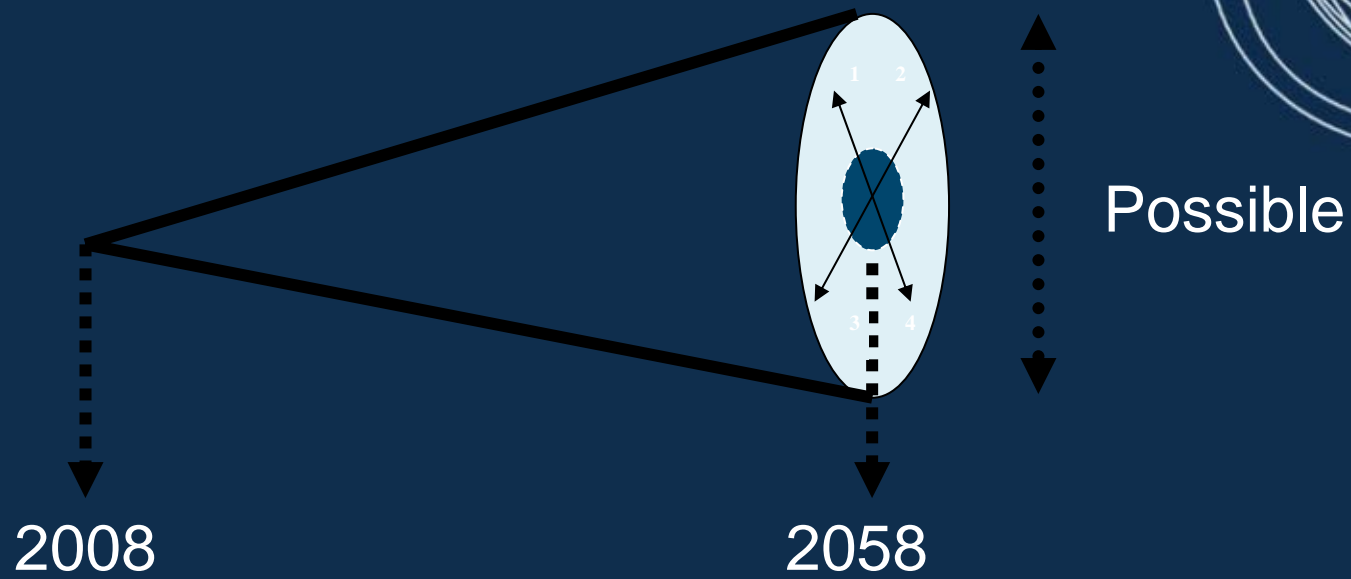


Identify key characteristics of change

# PROJECT 2058 METHODOLOGY

## PART 2: SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT

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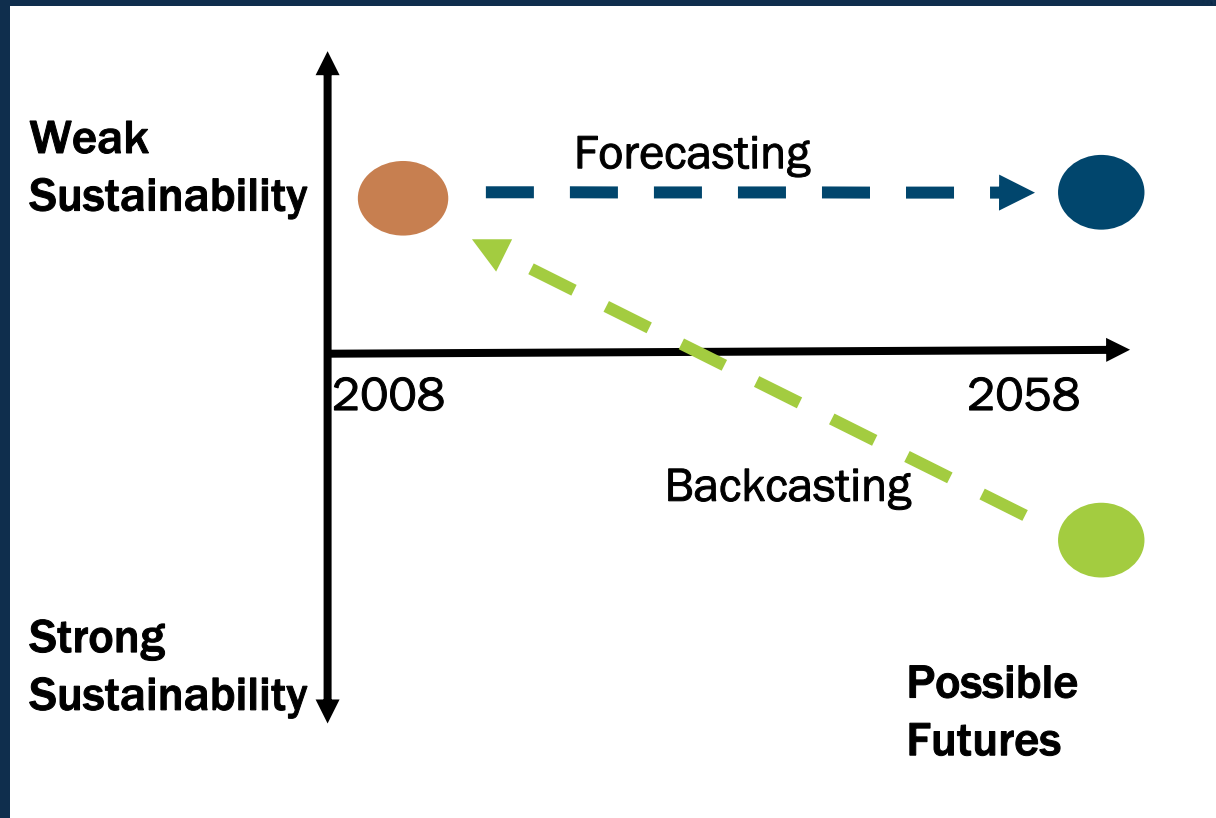


# PROJECT 2058 METHODOLOGY

## PART 3: BACKCASTING

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A National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS)



## 4. RESEARCH IN DEPTH

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Identify key characteristics of  
change



**‘Walk into the future backwards’**

1858

1908

1958

2008

2058?



# RESEARCH: KEY CHARACTERISTICS

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Discrete Event

Wild Cards

Technological Leaps

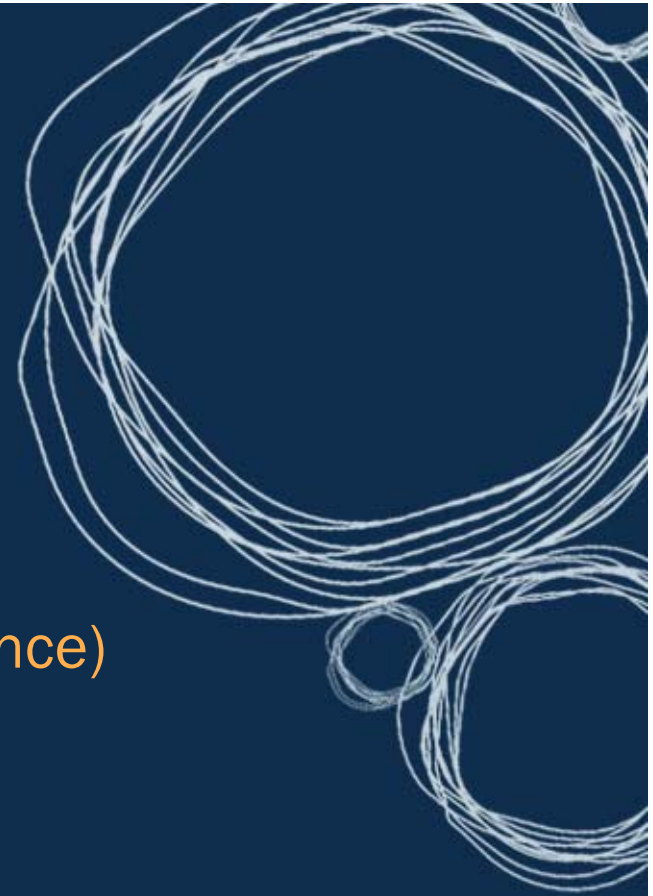
Semi-Known (innovation/capacity/acceptance)

Trends Over Time

Known

Underlying Tensions

Known and are likely to always exist (bubbling away)



# RESEARCH: WHAT MAKES A RISK – A RISK?

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## Assumptions:

- Multiplier effect
- All risks have opportunities
- A risk is anything that significantly breaks down society's thin veneer.
- A 'thin veneer' exists

**“Courtesy is only a thin veneer on the general selfishness.”**  
(Honore De Balzac 1799-1850)



## RESEARCH: HOW TO INCREASE THE DEPTH OF THE VENEER?

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1. Transparent Institutions
2. Reporting and Informing Institutions
3. Independent Institutions
4. Adaptive Institutions
5. Mature Institutions
6. Future thinking Institutions
7. Interlinking Institutions
8. Educated and Informed Public
9. Democratic Electoral System
10. Timely Infrastructure
11. Effective Foreign Policy (Neutrality / Alliances)



# RESEARCH: HOW TO REDUCE THE DEPTH OF THE VENEER?

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Do not:

1. Invest in quality institutions, processes and infrastructure
2. Complete a risk assessment of the future
3. Have a vision for the long-term
4. Have an overarching strategy to deliver on the vision (and align institutions)
5. Develop an action plan that is easy to both assess, hold implementers accountable, monitor and understand



# RESEARCH: IMPLICATIONS

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A **Thin** Veneer

x

A Significant  
Risk  
(or two)

=

New Zealand  
in Crisis

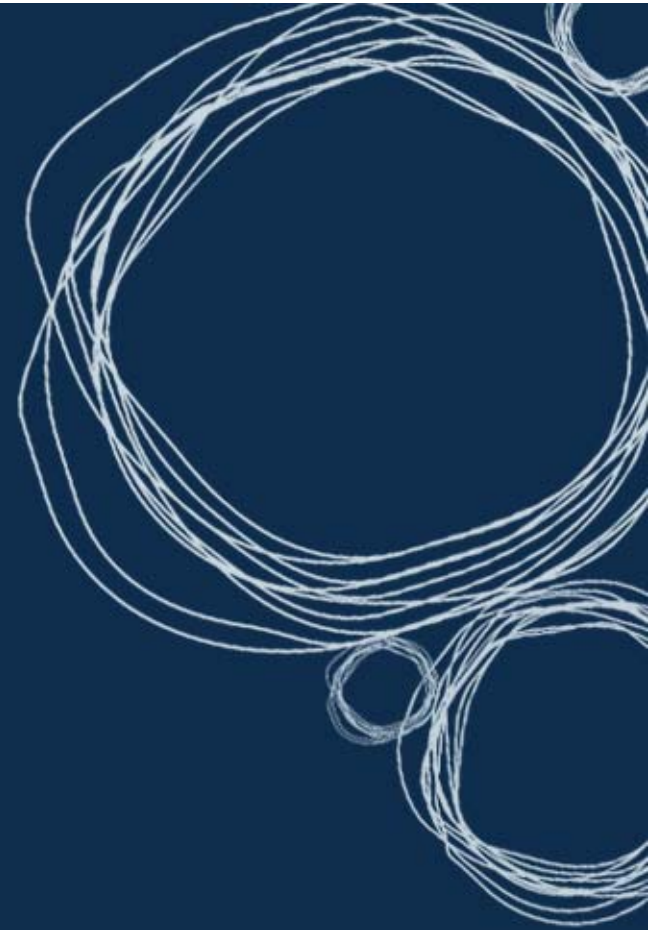
A **Thick** Veneer

x

A Significant  
Risk  
(or two)

=

New Zealand  
as Survivor



## RESEARCH: INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY

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I tend to think my childhood as having been fairly normal. But there were a few telltale signs....

All the years I was growing up, we had gold hidden in the basement of our house. “Dad,” I would plead, “*there are these things called banks ...*”. “*You never know.*” he would reply, thoughtfully holding up a gold bar, “*One of these might buy a loaf of bread, or a sack of potatoes, some day.*” And so the gold remained, a hedge against eventualities I could never quite wrap my head around.

SON OF A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR





## RESEARCH: THREE STEPS

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1. Where we have been in the past (our wisdom/baggage)?
2. Where and what are we now? What do we have to manage?
3. What is the future looking and feeling like?



A: The World

B: New Zealand



## A. THE WORLD

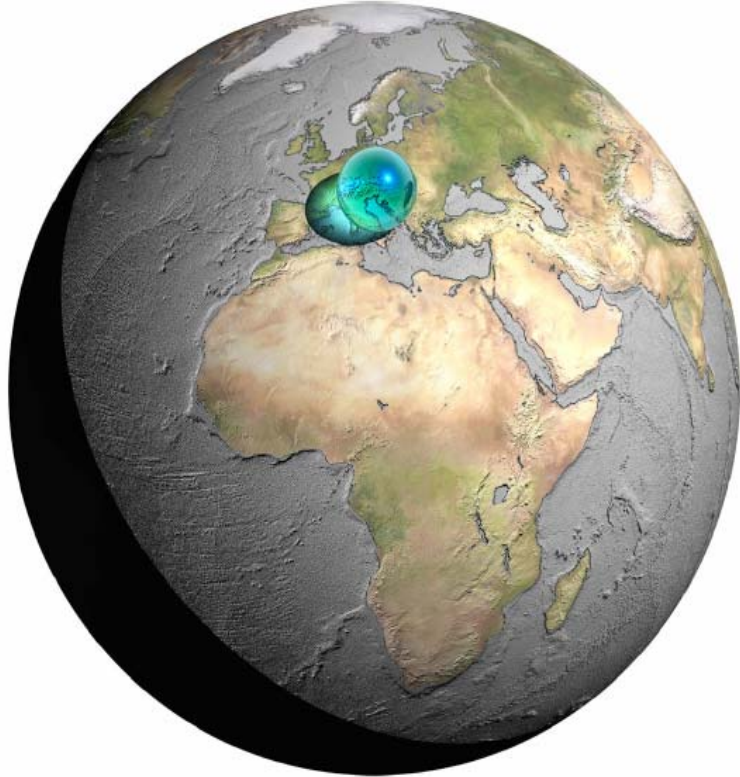
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1. Wild Cards (pandemic, financial collapse)
2. Technological Leaps (nuclear, medical, communication, carbon storage, robots, Antibiotic Resistance (leap backwards))
3. Trends Over Time
  - Population Growth (growing population)
  - Environmental disaster (climate change)
  - Economic Power Changes (BRIC Countries)
  - Scarce Resources and Security of Supply (oil, water, food, infrastructure, transport)
4. Underlying Tensions
  - Religious (Islam/Christianity), Terrorism (individual rights/security)

### IMPLICATIONS:

terrorism, war, poverty, disease, migration, invasion/takeover, an increase in multi-country agreements/protocols (and foreign policy)





**All the water in the world (1.4087 billion cubic kilometres of it) including sea water, ice, lakes, rivers, ground water, clouds, etc. Shown on the same scale as the Earth.**



**All the air in the atmosphere (5140 trillion tonnes of it) gathered into a ball at sea-level density. Shown on the same scale as the Earth.**



We choose recycled, renewable and sustainable resources and make alternative energy the right choice.



Our mission is to create economic partnerships with the poor in developing world communities who supply our stores.



Certification Partnership Program Guarantees.

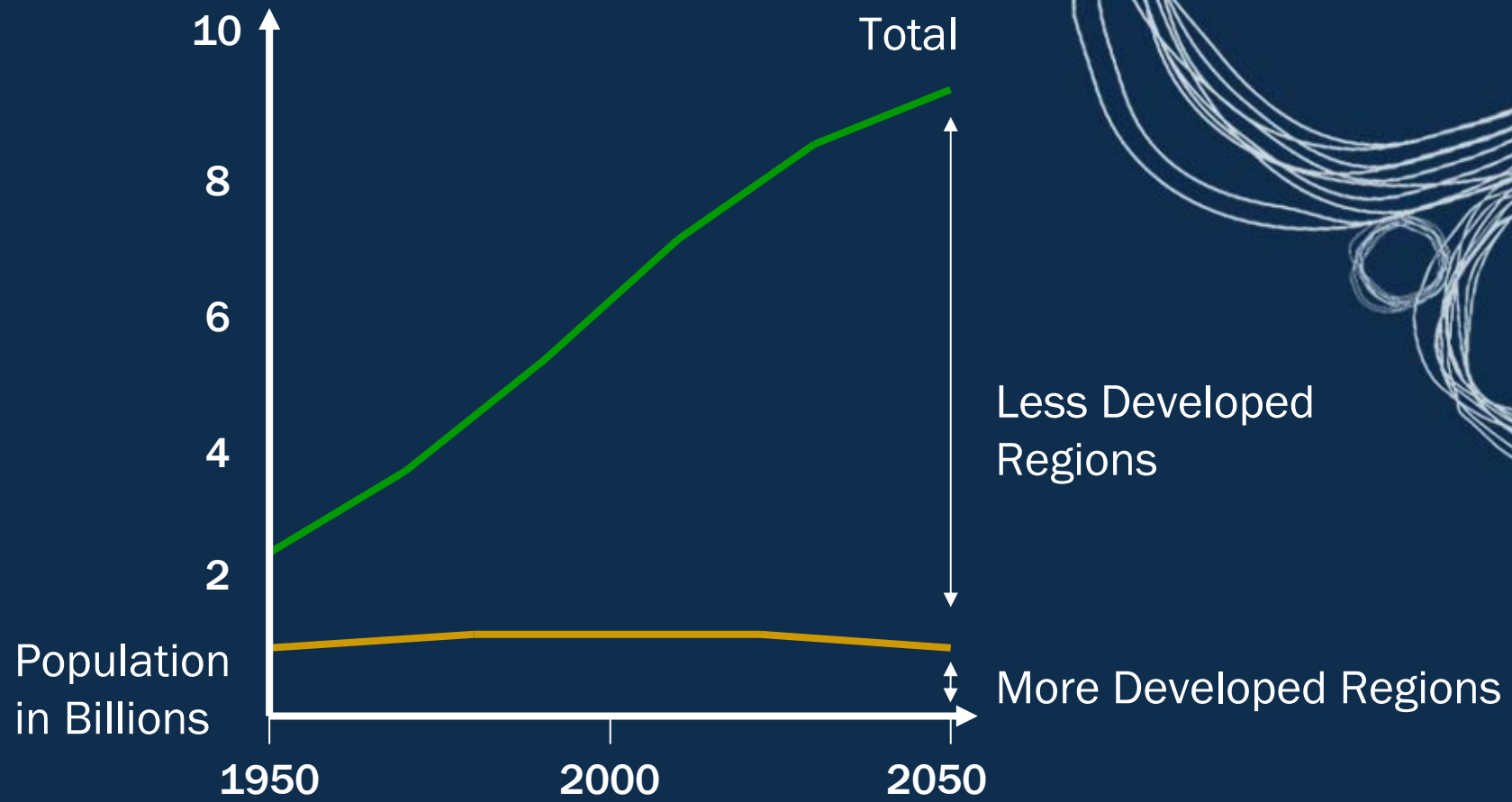
- Fair Price
- Labour Welfare
- Sustainable Environment
- Quality



We seek to raise industry standards and improve the quality of life for farm animals around the world.



# WORLD POPULATION GROWTH



# WORLD TENSIONS

## ARAB/ISRAEL CONFLICT

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‘In essence, the conflict that exists today is no more than an old-style struggle for power, once again presented to mankind in semi-religious trappings. The difference is that, this time, the development of atomic power has imbued the struggle with a ghostly character; for both parties know and admit that, should the quarrel deteriorate into actual war, mankind is doomed.’

**Einstein: A Final Message 1960**



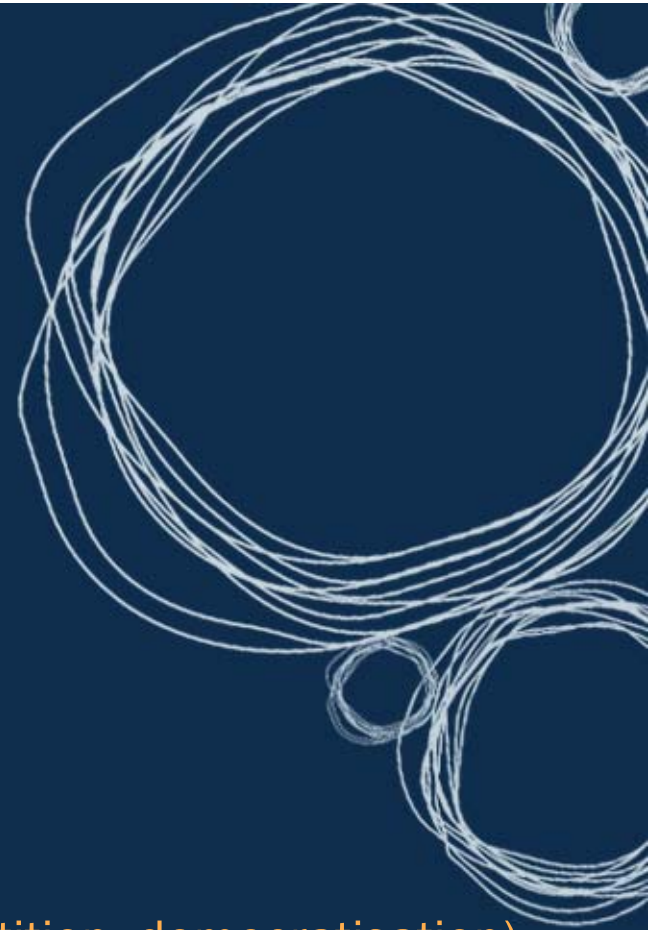
## B. NEW ZEALAND

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1. Wild Cards (environmental, pandemic)
2. Technological Leaps (agricultural)
3. Trends Over Time
  - Population Growth (ageing population)
  - Environmental disaster (climate change)
  - Economic Power Changes (Asia)
  - Scarce Resources and Security of Supply (oil, water, food, infrastructure, transport)
  - Wealth distribution expanding (crime, health)
  - Media (concentration, fragmentation, competition, democratisation)
4. Underlying Tensions (cultural tensions, local/central government, individual rights/security, land use, land access, public/private ownership)

### IMPLICATIONS:

poverty, immigration, invasion/takeover, health, poor governance, weak infrastructure, pollution, economic downturn, damage to clean-green brand





1858

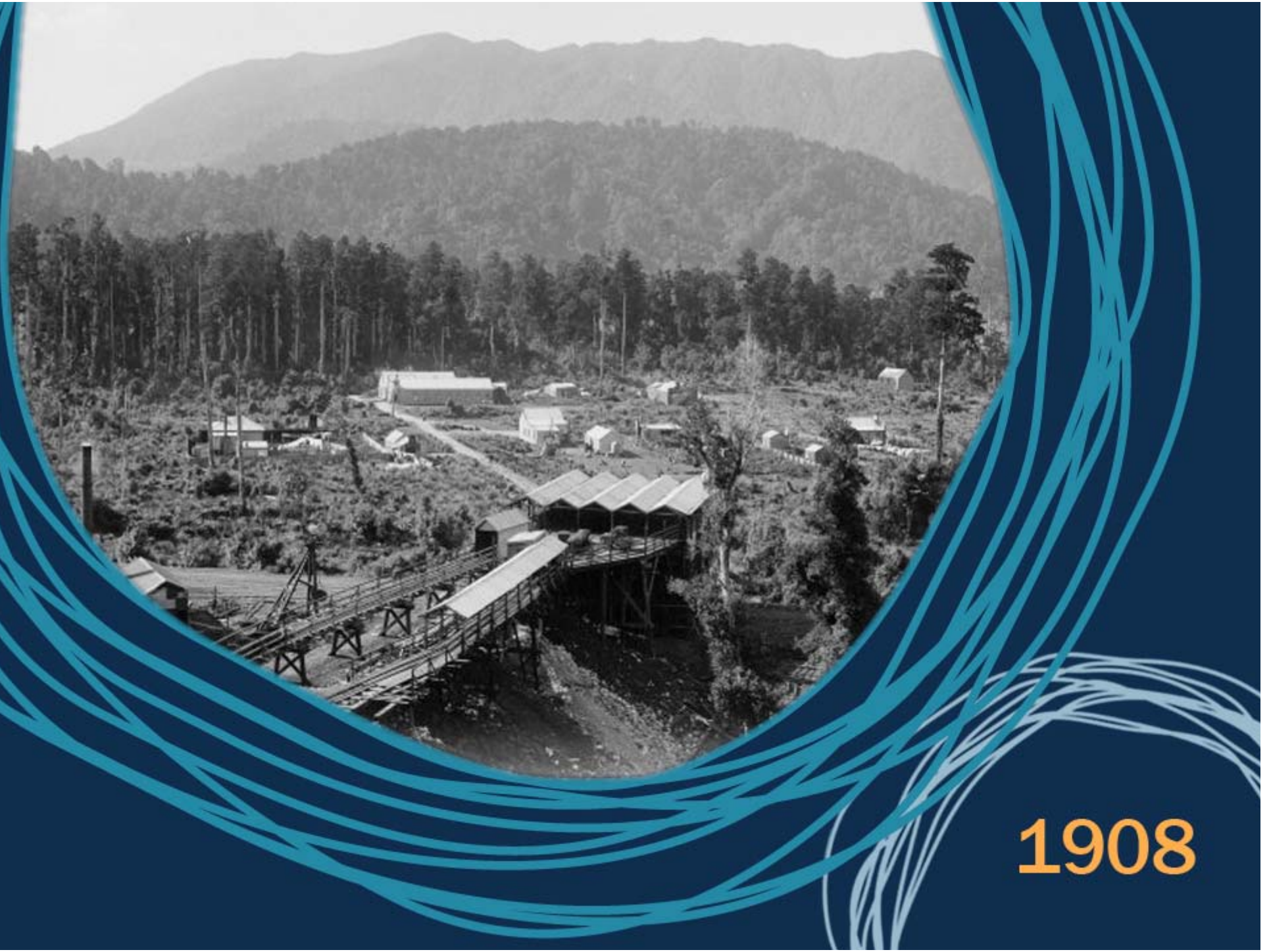




1858



1908



1908



1958



1958



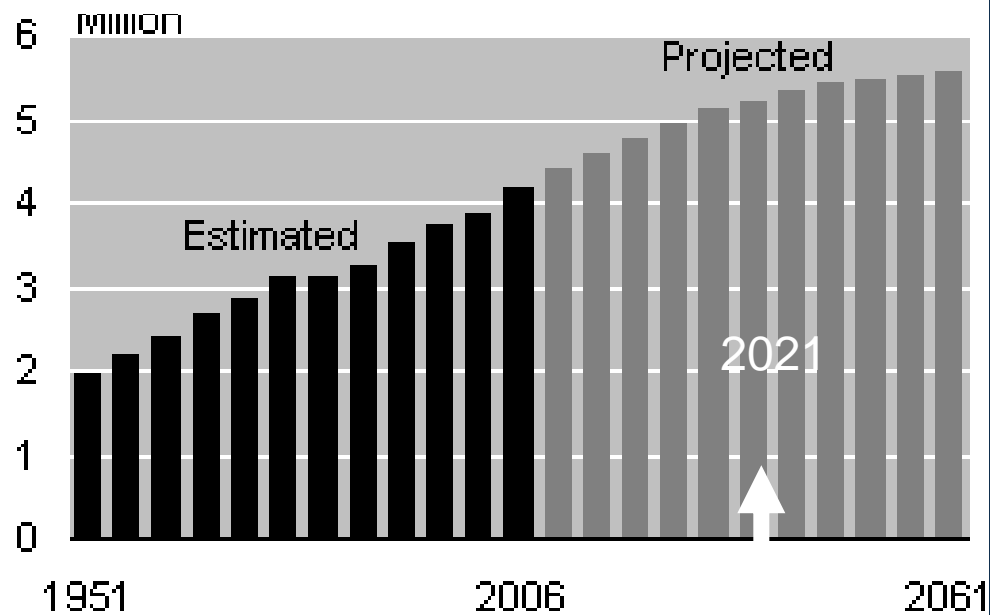
2008



2008

# NEW ZEALAND: POPULATION CHANGES

## New Zealand Population 1951-2061



In 2021 - More New Zealanders over 65 years of age than under 15 year olds



# NEW ZEALAND: RURAL DRIFT

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1858	1908	1958	2008
60%	52%	26%	14%



# NEW ZEALAND: FIVE LARGEST EXPORTS

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## By Type

1958	2008
	NB: Not Comparable
Wool	Dairy
Lamb	Meat
Butter	Wood
Beef	Machinery
Cheese	Aluminium

## By Country

1958	2008
UK 56%	Aust 21%
US 15%	US 14%
France 6%	Japan 11%
Aust 4%	China 5%
Germany 3%	UK 5%



# NEW ZEALAND: FIVE LARGEST IMPORTS

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## By Type

1958	2008
Machinery	Vehicles and Parts
Base Metals	Mechanical Machinery
Textile / Clothing	Mineral Fuels
Food Beverages	Electrical Machinery
Chemicals / Fertiliser	Plastics

## By Country

1958	2008
United Kingdom	Australia
Australia	Japan
USA	China
Germany	USA
India	Germany



## 5. WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

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1. No Government Commitment to a NSDS
2. Lack of Government Strategy Framework
3. Lost opportunity of *Long-Term Fiscal Position*
4. Many barriers to effective Public Science Funding in order to deliver well-being
5. Lack of co-ordination at a national level of local SD initiatives
6. Past governments have actively sought long term thinking but there have been political challenges

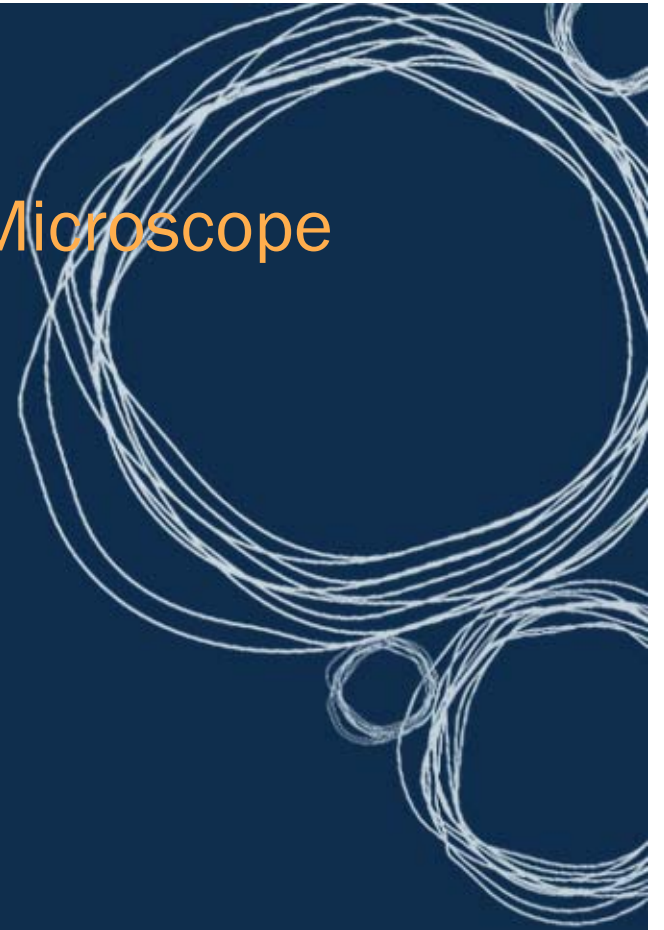


## 6. EXAMPLE

### Publicly Funded Science Under the Microscope

Aim:

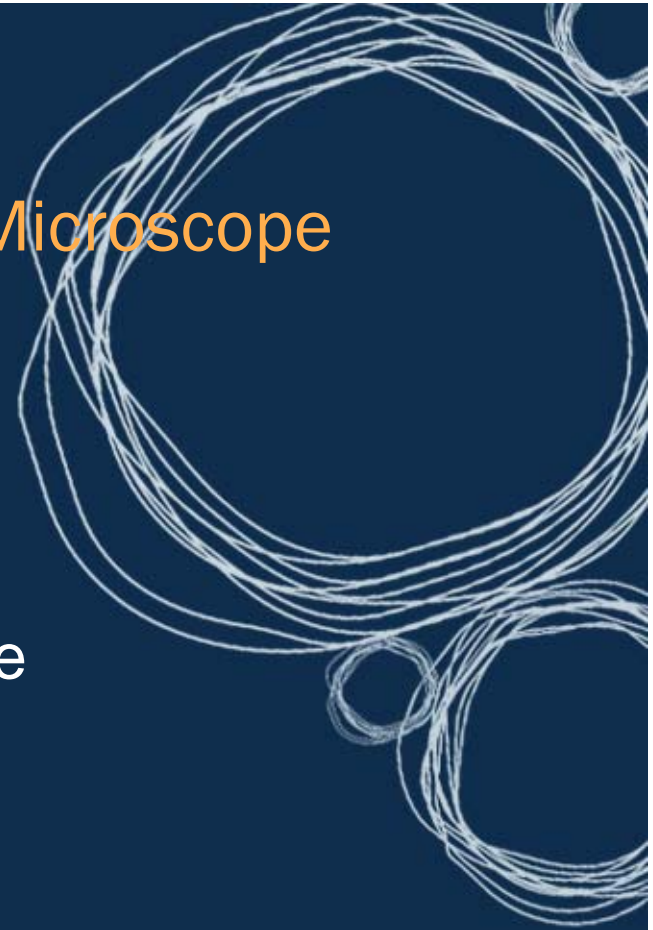
*To identify and explore barriers to an optimal publicly-funded science system in New Zealand.*



## 6. EXAMPLE

### Publicly Funded Science Under the Microscope

1. Lack of overarching sustainability strategy guiding investments
2. Deficient funding
3. Contestable Funding
4. Commercialism in science and the public/private funding split
5. Diminishing Environment Fund
6. Maori research funding
7. Lack of Social Research Funding
8. Lack of basic untargeted research
9. Policy, Purchase, Provision
10. Disaggregated Funding



## 7. CONCLUDING REMARKS

### A Vision

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...To be the first nation to be truly sustainable — across the four pillars of the economy, society, the environment, and nationhood.” (Clark, 2007)





[www.sustainablefuture.info](http://www.sustainablefuture.info)