

How to get going with MABx

Here is some information for Māori agribusinesses and trustees of Māori whenua who are interested in establishing a cluster through the Māori Agribusiness Extension programme (MABx).

To participate in MABx, you will:

- Be interested in exploring new options for your whenua or other agribusiness asset
- Be willing to work with other trusts and go through a group learning process – committing time, effort and knowledge to make it work
- Be willing to make changes that apply good environmental practices
- Have whenua administered for the benefit of Māori and administered under a formal ownership structure.
- Have a functioning governance group and be able to obtain trustee agreement to participate.

If this sounds like you ...

The main steps to get going with the Māori Agribusiness Extension programme (MABx) are:

- **Proposal outline** – *Confirm the details of your idea with the local MPI Māori Agribusiness advisor, so they can put together a proposal outline. This will include a statement of intended outcomes and (whakapapa).*
- **MPI considers the proposal** – *The MPI Māori Agribusiness advisor will discuss the project with their manager and get it ready to be put to the MABx Panel, which meets bimonthly – the MPI Māori Agribusiness advisor will advise you of the response. **
- **If approved, fill in sign-up documents** – *If you've got the green light, all groups participating in the MABx cluster will be required to fill in an Expression of Interest form. It will include a statement of agreed outcomes for the cluster. This will trigger formalisation of the cluster.*
- **Kōrero about the appointment of a facilitator (and possibly other roles)** – *The regional advisor will liaise with you about the appointment of a facilitator and possibly a couple of other positions, depending on the cluster type.*
- **Meet with the facilitator and develop the Terms of Reference for your Cluster** – *These will guide your work together. Once these are agreed, the cluster is official and ready to go.*
- **Work with the facilitator to set up a cluster work plan** – *The facilitator will work with you to develop a work plan of activities that will meet the agreed outcomes for your MABx cluster.*
- **Undertake MABx cluster activities** – *Turn up, take part in kōrero and activities to learn, plan and implement change.*
- **Next steps** – *Meet with the MPI Māori Agribusiness advisor to plan what you will do next. Continue your development journey and maintain relationships, with a view to working together again.*

- * *If the project does not seem to be suitable for MABx, the MPI Māori Agribusiness advisor will support you to understand what other options may exist, including other programmes run by MPI, Te Puni Kōkiri or the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.*

Me haere ngātahi tātou – Let's go together

