



## RESEARCH EXCELLENCE DEFINITION

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### Background

The primary funding for Coastal People: Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence (the Centre) is from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). The Terms of Reference for the Centres of Research Excellence states that the fund was established to encourage the development of excellent tertiary education-based research that is collaborative, strategically focused and creates significant knowledge transfer activities. Centres of Research Excellence must be world-class research collaborations in an area of importance to New Zealand.

The **vision** of CPSS is flourishing wellness (mauri ora) of coastal communities.

The **mission** of CPSS is to connect, understand and restore coastal ecosystems of NZ and the Pacific through transformative research, local action and by unlocking potential through new pathways to learning.

The **values** of CPSS are central to all that we do and all of our actions are underpinned by these values; our values are based on KAITIAKITANGA and MANA:

MEANINGFUL  
AUTHENTIC  
NATURAL  
ACTION

### Content

Excellent research in the context of the research undertaken by the Centre or aligned with the Centre has the following attributes:

- (i) It is developed and undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the vision, mission and values of the Centre.
- (ii) It will deliver benefits for Aotearoa New Zealand and or the Pacific, specifically it will benefit coastal communities, Māori and Pacific peoples.
- (iii) The research project is realistic and achievable.
- (iv) It has a research team that has academic strength and is appropriate for the project.
- (v) It is academically strong (and sound).
- (vi) It is innovative, outcomes-focussed and has impact.
- (vii) There has been meaningful collaboration and investment in the development of the proposal by all team members and collaborators.
- (viii) It is likely to have both national and international influence.
- (ix) It contributes to equity and wellbeing outcomes, including encouraging and enabling diversity and inclusion in the proposed research project and/or in the proposed research team.



- (x) It makes a positive contribution to the tertiary education system, including:
  - a) contributing to the priorities of the Tertiary Education Strategy and The Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities;
  - b) contributing to graduate, postgraduate and new researcher education; having an impact on the development of New Zealand's future workforce.
  - c) demonstrating a commitment to prioritising equity and wellbeing outcomes, including encouraging and enabling diversity and inclusion in research, teaching and outreach activities.
- (xi) It contributes to New Zealand's future development, including:
  - a) Having a public good and or economic impact in Aotearoa New Zealand and or the South Pacific.
  - b) A commitment to engagement and exchange with potential stakeholders and or end-users.

