

High-Value Nutrition Call for Participation

HIGH-VALUE
NUTRITION

Ko Ngā Kai
Whāi Painga

High-Value Nutrition (HVN) National Science Challenge (NSC) is building the science excellence and knowledge New Zealand needs to create and deliver foods to the world that people choose to stay healthy and well.

As the second funding tranche for National Science Challenges begins in July 2019, HVN invites NZ researchers to apply to participate in a workshop that will determine whether their expertise could build on the strength and progress of current research teams and bring additionality to achieve the objectives of HVN. Once the teams have been confirmed, a detailed five-year research plan for each of the four priority health

themes and the supporting platform of Consumer Insights (see detail below) will be developed for submission to the HVN international Science Advisory Panel (SAP), Industry Advisory Panel (IAP) and Board. Funding will then be allocated to research teams, based on external and internal assessment of science quality and relevance.

Workshop Objective:

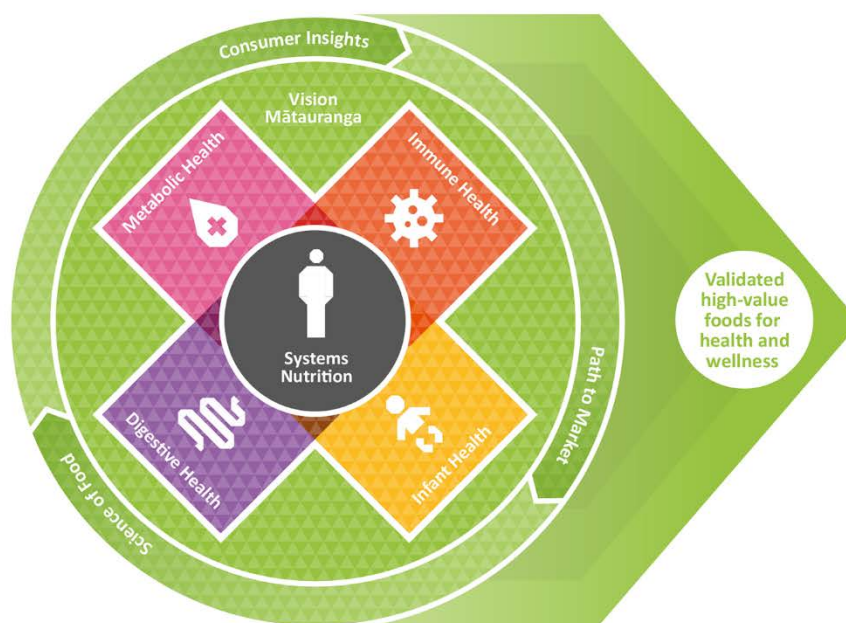
Refresh research teams with members from across NZ research institutes who are able to support the HVN objective through world leading science collaborations.

Cross-institutional researchers will come together to form the best team that will enable creation of a robust research plan within the HVN themes to achieve the HVN mission and support the KPI's over the next five years.

HVN Strategy:

The HVN strategy for the next five years is to;

- Use a holistic approach including Systems Nutrition and Vision Mātauranga principles to integrate the best researchers in NZ and globally with NZ F&B producers and exporters
- Support NZ food and beverage companies to export high-value foods
- Validate the health benefits of NZ foods and beverages with robust science
- Use the existing knowledge of biomarkers and food-health relationships to underpin clinical research to provide evidence for health claims
- Use consumer insights to identify health issues our target consumers are seeking food and beverage solutions for.



High-Value Nutrition has four food-for-health research themes that share a Systems Nutrition approach. Three Sector Support programmes provide pre-competitive advice and expertise for New Zealand's food and beverage sector.

Who should respond to the Call for Participation?

Researchers, including health professionals, who believe their expertise can enrich and complement the HVN health areas or the supporting platforms of Vision Mātauranga, and Consumer Insights. Assessment of teams to deliver the Science of Food programme, and activities to support the Path to Market will be done at a later date. It is anticipated the current Principal Investigator for each of the areas will continue to lead the research in Tranche two. If you are currently in one of the teams, please ensure you have discussed with the theme leader whether there is a need to re-apply.

To be eligible to participate, you need to be New Zealand based and employed or contracted by a New Zealand organisation.

If you have skills or knowledge in the below areas and are interested in adding value to the HVN mission, tell us about yourself by completing the application form. **Please complete the application form and return to HVN by the 20th July 2018.**

Applications will be reviewed by our Best Teams panel with successful applicants invited to attend a collaborative workshop to refine the activities within the research theme five year plan. After the workshop, the team submits a full research proposal to HVN;

- Metabolic Health led by Prof Sally Poppitt – prevention of adverse metabolic health, with a primary focus on preventing type-2 diabetes via food and beverage solutions
- Immune Health led by Dr Olivier Gasser – identifying food and beverage strategies to support immunological defence mechanisms in the lung and in associated respiratory diseases

- Digestive Health led by Prof Nicole Roy – identification of food and beverage strategies to support healthy digestion, particularly among those with functional gut disorders such as Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)
- Infant Health led by Assoc. Prof Clare Wall – focus on proving the impact of complementary foods on infant health, focusing on immunity and a reduced number of infections in early life
- Consumer insights led by Dr Roger Harker– using social media data and consumer insights to support F&B stakeholders with science and export investment strategies. Understanding the how, what and why of food choices in our export target market
- Vision Mātauranga led by Dr Meika Foster – understand and analyse the aspects of the Challenge that relate to VM and to identify Māori research needs and opportunities arising from the Challenge

Who will be assessing the call for participation and decide who will be invited to the workshops?

The applications will be assessed by a panel comprising: HVN management, HVN Science Leadership team and representatives from each of the HVN Partners. Any conflicts of interest will be noted and managed throughout the process. Other members or observers may be added to the panel as appropriate.

Assessment criteria

- Expertise likely to complement and enrich the HVN health themes or supporting platforms
- Promotes the Vision Mātauranga framework
- Potential opportunities within the priority health targets and/or target consumers, additionality to the current team
- Overall experience, evidence of research quality, previous HVN performance
- Potential consumer health and wellbeing opportunities and not curing disease or ill health
- Knowledge or experience of working in Asia
- Clinical research experience
- Expertise in working with the food and beverage industry

Workshop Terms of Reference

HVN operation principles are available from the [HVN website](#)

The workshops will be independently facilitated by Mark Buntzen.

Costs to attend each workshop will be by the applicant or their employer.

The intent of each workshop is to continue to strengthen the current world leading research team, to support the economic growth of NZ via the F&B industry exporting products with validated health benefits.

Workshop dates and locations

13th September; Auckland - Infant Health and Immune Health

14th September; Auckland – Consumer Insights

16th October; Christchurch – Digestive Health

18th October; Dunedin – Metabolic Health

After the workshop, the work begins...

The assessment panel will make final observations of the workshop and invite researchers, in writing, to join the research team. Once the teams are formed, the Priority Research Programme leader and the team will work together to finalise a research plan for the next five years, based on the HVN strategy. It is anticipated each research team will also seek co-funding from F&B stakeholders and incorporate this into their research plans.

When will the research begin?

The research plans will be verified internally and externally for science and impact quality prior to confirming any funding allocation. The assessment process will include but is not limited to; HVN Industry Advisory Panel, Science Advisory Panel, HVN Directorate and Board.

As per the timeline, funding will be confirmed by MBIE in November 2018, this will enable HVN to complete the above review process and begin contracting between March and June 2019, for research to commence from the 1st July 2019. Note that funding will be within a limited budget, and some aspects of the proposal may need to be adjusted as part of this process.

Unsuccessful and withdrawal of applications

If your application is not successful at any point of this process, or you need to withdraw your application, there will be future opportunities to work with HVN. More information will be available in 2019.

Contact

If you wish to clarify any aspect of the Call for Participation or arrange a discussion on a potential collaboration (and can't attend the workshop) please send an email with your query to hvn@auckland.ac.nz, individual discussions with theme leaders may also occur.

Confidentiality

The University of Auckland (as Challenge Contractor for HVN) will treat all applications as confidential subject to any legal requirements under the Official Information Act 1982 or any other relevant law. Applications may be viewed by the HVN team, members of the Assessment Panel and the HVN Board. Applications will be stored electronically in a folder accessible only to the HVN team (and UoA IT staff). Applicants must be willing to present their proposals to all attendees of the workshop.

Notwithstanding the above, the University of Auckland through the HVN Challenge may make the following information publically available:

- The names of successful applicants and their employer
- Photos, quotes and or videos from the workshop may be used in HVN communications

Obligations of Applicants

Applicants agree to enter into the Call for Participation process in good faith. This includes maintaining correspondence from HVN in confidence, and acting reasonably in agreeing any future participation and subsequent subcontract, if awarded funding.

Complaints

Any applicant research organisation may complain to the University of Auckland about any aspect of the process under this Call for Participation. The University of Auckland will pass any complaints on to the HVN Directorate and/or Board to investigate and respond to. Applicants will accept the findings of any review in good faith and take no further action in relation to it. In considering any complaint HVN will assess whether the processes outlined in this Call for Participation were followed in good faith and that the outcome in relation to the complaint is a reasonable consequence of following the process.

Individuals have no standing under this Call for Participation and any complaints from an individual will be referred back to their employing organisations.

The contact for this communication is Shireen Nanayakkara, University of Auckland Research Operations Centre, sn.nanayakkara@auckland.ac.nz.

DISCLAIMER

Disclaimer: The University of Auckland on behalf of the HVN Board reserves the right to withdraw or amend this document and/or the timelines set within it at any time.