

# Plastics Innovation Fund

*Reimagining the way we make, use and dispose of plastics*

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# Overview:

- Fund overview and outcomes
  - Application process and time frames
- Announced projects - why were they selected?
  - Biodegradable plant pots
  - Closing the loop
- Rise up – overcoming challenges
  - Additionality barrier
- What you need to know – take home messages

# Fund Overview

## The Plastics Innovation Fund's **5** main outcomes



Te whakamauru  
i te para kirihou

Minimise  
plastic waste



Te tautoko ake  
i ngā whakatau  
āmiomio

Support  
circular solutions



Te tiaki i te  
taiao i ngā  
pōreareatanga

Protect the  
environment  
from harm



Te tautoko i te  
whakamaurutanga  
o ngā kirihou ka  
haria mai i tāwāhi

Support the  
reduction of  
imported plastic



Te whakapai haere  
i ngā aronga o  
te tangata me  
ngā pakihi  
(kei ngā taumata  
tiketike o te rārangi  
pakihi tuku rāpihi)

Improve the  
behaviour of people  
and businesses  
(up the waste  
hierarchy)

# The Application Process

A clear application process designed for a wide range of ideas and solutions



**Submit your expression  
of interest**



**Assessment stage**



**Application stage**



**Contracting and kick off**



# Announced Projects



Pinehurst Associates  
& Scion, R&D for  
bio-degradable  
nursery pots as an  
alternative to  
traditional plastics  
pots



Collecting old  
plumbing pipes  
made of PVC and  
HDPE, recycling  
into new pipes.



Expanding onshore  
polystyrene,  
recycling capability,  
turning appliance  
packaging &  
commercial waste,  
into building  
products.



Expanding  
reusable milk  
keg delivery  
service,  
removing a  
million+ single  
use plastic milk  
bottles a year  
from circulation.

# Pinehurst - Developing biodegradable bio-based nursery pots



Photo by Peter Wilson

**This project is now moving to be commercialised by Wilson & Ross:**

- They have trial plantings in Auckland
- Continuing to research other potential applications



# Marley - Closing the loop



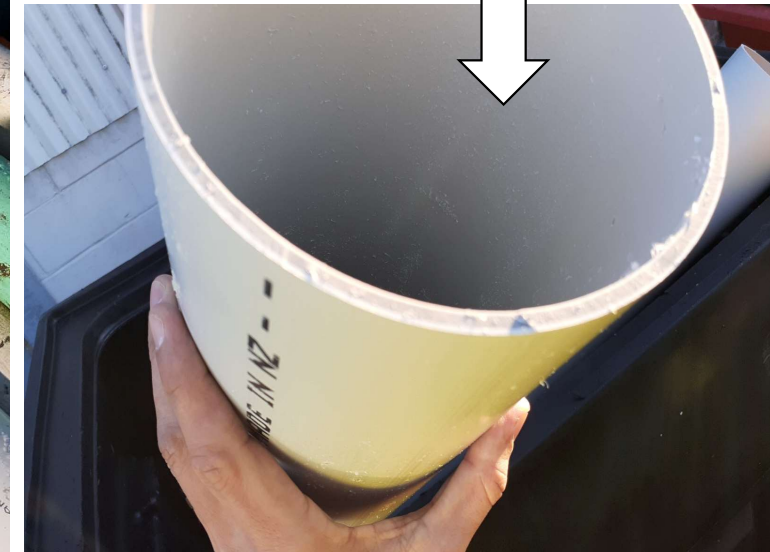
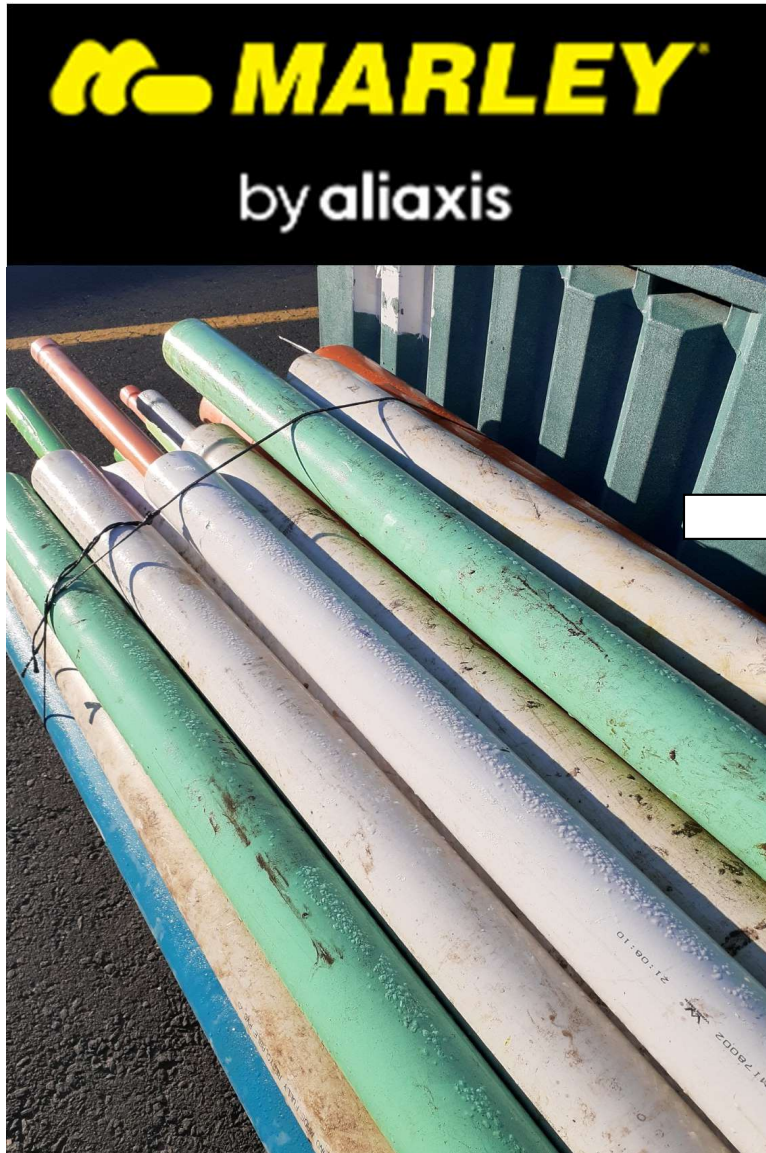
A Unitec Environmental Solutions Research Centre site audit



Marley's South Auckland site



WM Site for future plant





# Rise up – Overcoming challenges



Ministry for the  
**Environment**  
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# Additionality – What we want to see but how do we assess it?



# What you need to know

- The Fund is open till 30 June 2023
  - Investment signal is soft plastics
  - Aligning to the 5 outcomes will improve your chances to be selected regardless of focus
  - Projects that help cyclone impacted areas will be prioritized
  - Reopens later 2023 – investment signal TBC
- See website for details/guidance/ to apply:  
<https://environment.govt.nz/what-you-can-do/funding/plastics-innovation-fund/>
- Contact [PlasticsIF@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:PlasticsIF@mfe.govt.nz)



# Take home messages

- We want to help you to ‘rise up’ over these challenges
- Please contact us at [PlasticsIF@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:PlasticsIF@mfe.govt.nz) to arrange a meeting
- Finally, consider additionality and think bigger/quicker!
  - Are there any possible collaborators for you in this room....or at dinner tonight?





# Thank you



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