

Kia Kotahi Ako
Te Aweawenga

Haratua 2021 – Hakihea 2022

Kia Kotahi Ako
Impact So Far

May 2021- Dec 2022



**Kia
Kotahi
Ako**

Tā te Tiawahine

I kōkiritia a Kia Kotahi Ako i te kaupeka o Haratua, i te tau 2021, i runga tonu i te moemoeā “mā ngā kura iwi taketake hei whakaahua i ngā hua akoranga me ngā hua taiao nō Aotearoa”. He nui kē atu tōna whai take i hēnei rā. Kotahi me te hāwhe tau e mahi tahi ana, ā, e hikaka ana kia tohaina te whakaaweawenga o hā mātou mahi, me te whakaaraara hoki i ngā tikanga o te panoni whai hua, mā ngā kaupapa Māori, me ngā rautaki whakamana tauritenga i roto i hō mātou kura me hō mātou hapori.

Ko te whakarewanga o tētehi kaupapa hōu ki Aotearoa nei, ki tō We Share Solar taha, me te whakahihiko i ngā hua taiao i roto i ngā kura me ngā iwi mā te whakaatu i te ngao o Tamaiterā ki ngā ākonga. E tūhonotia ana ngā kaiarahi pākihi ki ngā hōtaka mātauranga kua waihangatia ki te whakaahua i ngā māramatanga ki te āhuarangi, ki te taiao me ngā panonitanga whai hua, ki tō AinHi Earth taha. E tautoko ana mātou i te kura o Te Pā o Rākaihautū, i Ōtautahi, me te tītoko ake i tēnei kaupapa tuatahi i waenga i te kura me te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga. Ko te whāinga ki te hanga i tētehi pā wānanga, e whanake ai ngā tikanga ako me te ora tonu o ngā ākonga Māori katoa, otinoa te whakatairanga i ngā tikanga pai ake o te

mahi tahi i waenga i te kāwanatanga me ngā hapori ā-rohe.

E whakahihī ana mātou i ngā ekenga o hō mātou hoa mahi tahi, i te poto tonu o te wā i eke hoki ai. Ka nui tonu te whakamihi i te takirua manutāiko i te tau 2022, i a Sarah Grant rāua ko Huia Lambie, i tō mātou kāhui arataki me te whakariterite hoki, i ngā hoa tata o Edmund Hillary, i hō mātou hoa mīharo, ngā puna pūtea, me ngā toa e mahi ana i ngā mahi. I tutuki ai ngā mahi katoa i tō koutou tautoko me tō koutou piripono hoki ki te kaupapa.

He roa tonu te ara kua takahia, ā, e ahu ana ki te tau kei mua i a tātou, kei tua hoki i tērā, i a tātou e mahi tahi ana kia hua mai ai ko ngā panoni whai hua. He mea nui ki a mātou te rongō i te hunga e kawē ana i ngā whāinga ōrite, me te hiahia hoki ki te mahi tahi i hēnei mahi – ngā puna pūtea, ngā hoa me ngā toa – whakapā mai. Mā te mahi tahi e taea ai ngā hua matatika.

Ā te tau 2023, ko te tūmanako ia ka mahi tahi tonu mā te wairua ako – he whakaako, he ako, ngātahi tonu.

“Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, ēngari he toa takitini.” Our success is not ours alone, it is the success of many.

Joanne McEachen (Waitaha, Ngāti Māmoe, and Ngāi Tahu)
Chair, Kia Kotahi Ako Trust



Sarah Grant, CEO and Joanne McEachen, Chair

From the Chair

We started Kia Kotahi Ako in May of 2021 with the vision of “Indigenous knowledge transforming education and environmental solutions from Aotearoa.” Today, this vision is more important than ever.

One and a half years into our partnership, we are thrilled to share the impact of our journey so far. We are also raising awareness of the ever-increasing importance of rising to opportunities for meaningful change in ways that, led by a kaupapa Māori approach, can create equitable solutions in our schools and communities.

Through 2022, our work has focused on three initiatives that support Papatūānuku (Mother Earth) and Māori education. With We Share Solar, we are sparking environmental solutions in kura, schools, and iwi by introducing the power of solar to ākonga (students) through a pilot programme being adapted for the first time in Aotearoa. Through our partnership with AimHi Earth, we are connecting business leaders to educational programmes that are designed to transform our understanding of climate and nature and create positive change. And working with Te Pā o Rākaihautū, a

kura (Māori place of learning) in Ōtautahi Christchurch, we are supporting a first-of-its-kind partnership between the kura and the Ministry of Education. The goal is to develop a new pā wānanga (learning village), improving learning and well-being for all Māori learners, and promoting better ways of working between the government and local communities.

We are so proud of our partners’ achievements so far, and of our progress and successes in a short period of time. An enormous thank you to our Co-CEO’s during 2022, Sarah Grant and Huia Lambie, our team of advisors and coordinators, Edmund Hillary Fellow supporters, our wonderful partners, funders, and champions of our work. Your support and dedication has made everything possible.

We have already come a long way, and are looking emphatically forward to the coming year and beyond as we continue to work collectively for positive change. We love hearing from others who share our vision and want to join us on this journey- future funders, partners and champions- get in touch. Together we can enable equitable solutions.

In 2023, we hope to continue to work together in the spirit of ako—in teaching and learning, together as one.

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Te Moemoeā

Mā ngā kura iwi taketake hei whakaahua i ngā hua akoranga me ngā hua taiao nō Aotearoa.

I takatūria a Kia Kotahi Ako i te tau 2021, hei tarati ohaoha, ki te whakatū i ngā kaupapa mātauranga e pākaha nui ana ki a Papatūānuku. Nā te tukinotanga i āhuarangi me te hē o ngā tohanga pūtea ki ngā kura, he kohinga whakaeaea nō Edmund Hillary Fellows me ngā hapori e mahi tahi ana ki te whakaora i ngā raru e rua nei.

Ngā Whāinga Pākaha

Ngā panonitanga e hiahiatia ana te kite i Aotearoa

1. Mā ngā reo iwi taketake hei arataki i ngā hua mātauranga me ngā hua taiao.
2. He pūnaha mātauranga ōrite mō te katoa, e ako ai ngā ākonga ki te takoha ki tōna anamata ora.
3. Ka pakanga tonu ki ngā tukinotanga mā ngā rautaki pākaha.

Ngā Whāinga Rautaki

Ngā ara e tutuki ai tēnei

1. He whakatere i ngā hua mātaurangi hei painga mō taiao.
2. He kōkiri i ngā kaupapa o Te Ao Māori.
3. He raranga i ngā painga ki te panoni pūnaha ture.

Ka whakatinanahia e mātou ngā whāinga nei mā ngā takohanga ki ngā kaupapa matua e toru. Ka whakakōkī ngā kaupapa nei kia pākahatia a Aotearoa, me te kōkiri tonu i ngā panonitanga ki te pūnaha tonu.

Our Vision

Indigenous knowledge transforming education and environmental solutions from Aotearoa.

Established in 2021, Kia Kotahi Ako (Learning As One) is a charitable trust, activating education initiatives that will have the biggest impact for Papatūānuku (Mother Earth). Motivated by the climate crisis and an inequitable education system, Kia Kotahi Ako is an ambitious alliance of Edmund Hillary Fellows and communities to tackle these two challenges together.

Our Impact Goals

The change we want to see in Aotearoa

1. Indigenous voices inform our education and environmental solutions.
2. An equitable education system where students learn how to contribute to a better future.
3. Positive and bold action taken to tackle the climate and nature crisis.

Our Strategic Goals

How we are doing this

1. Accelerating education solutions for the environment.
2. Championing Te Ao Māori initiatives.
3. Weaving opportunities for policy system change.

We are doing this through our contributions to three key projects. We see these projects as catalysts to wider impact in Aotearoa and driving the change needed at the system level.



He panoni whakakōkī

Ngā kaupapa matua e toru

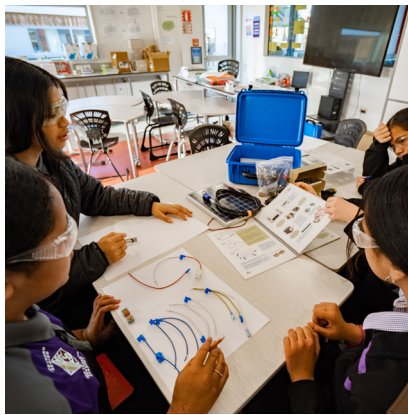
He Pā Wānanga



He pā wānanga hōu, nō te rautau 21, i te takiwā mōrearea o Ōtautahi.

Takohanga: he tuku me te whakarite i tētehi kaupapa kōhi pūtea ā-rōpū ki te whakatinana i te whāinga ā-uki hei te 2025.

We Share Solar



He hōtaka mātauranga pūngao o Tamaiterā, hei whakahihiko i ngā hua mai i ngā ākonga kia waihangatia he anamata ora.

Takohanga: he whakamātau me te whakahāngai i te hōtaka toa ki Aotearoa ki tō ngā kura me ngā iwi taha.

AimHi Earth



He māramatanga mataora, mā te ipurangi o te kura, e whakaahua ana i te āhuarangi me taiao.

Takohanga: he tūhono i ngā pakihi me ngā kaiarahi ture ki ngā hōtaka mātauranga o AimHi Earth ki te whakatinana i ngā panonitanga mō te āhuarangi me taiao.

Catalysing change

The first three initiatives

He Pā Wānanga



A world-first Māori learning village in the red zone of Ōtautahi Christchurch.

Our contribution:

mobilise and coordinate a collective fundraising approach so the intergenerational vision becomes reality by 2025.

We Share Solar



A hands-on solar education programme to spark students solutions to design a better future.

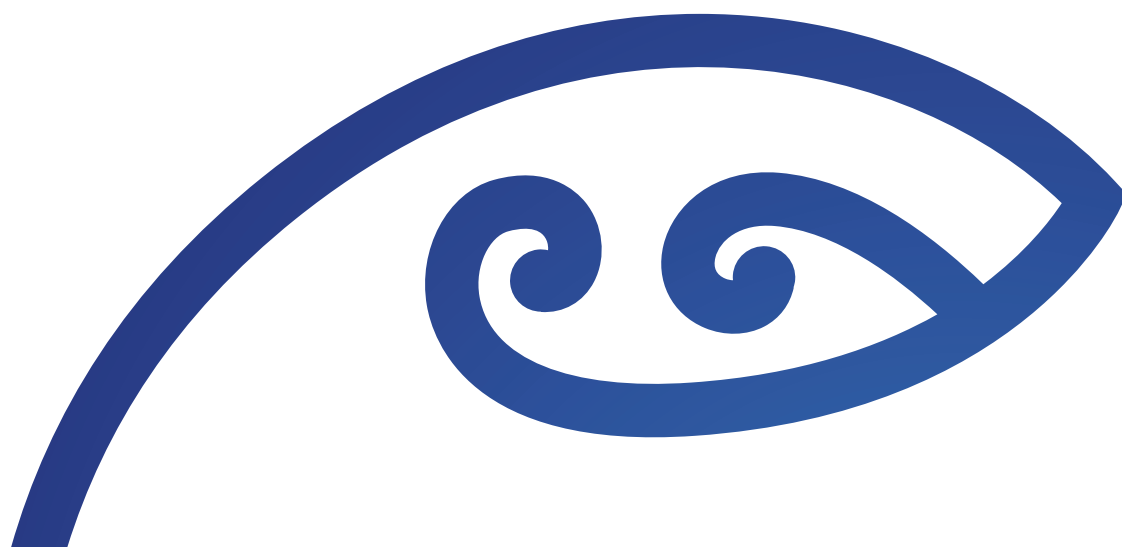
Our contribution: pilot and adapt the award-winning programme to Aotearoa New Zealand with kura, schools and iwi.

AimHi Earth



A live, online school, transforming global understanding of climate and nature.

Our contribution: connect businesses and policy leaders to AimHi Earth education programmes so they make climate and nature positive changes.



Tōna paki...

The story so far...

We Share Solar

- We adapted and piloted the successful US programme in a range of locations across Aotearoa New Zealand- Ōtautahi Christchurch, Tāmaki Makaurā Auckland and Taranaki .
- We have tested the solar programme so far with **97 students** across a range of ages at 1 primary, 2 high schools and 1 kura kaupapa Māori. **(watch the pilot video).**
- With our partner kura (school) in Taranaki, Te Pihipihinga Kāhano Mai i Rangiātea Kura Kaupapa Māori (TPKMIR), we won the Canon Oceania award for education. We hosted the Canon team and our funding partner, The Toi Foundation, as they presented Canon cameras for students to capture their stories.

"I was super impressed with the Solar suitcase project and extremely interested to hear about the future plans" - Kim Conner, CEO Cannon New Zealand



Homai Primary School Students experiment with mini solar panels.



Te Waioira Wanoa-Sundgren, Project Coordinator, with the solar suitcase.

- We partnered with Orion NZ, the electricity distributor, so Ao Tawhiti students could learn about energy efficiency and solar from industry experts. **(read more and watch the students in action).**

"Thank you so much to everyone who worked so hard to make this a success. It really was such a delight to be able to participate and I am excited about what next year will bring!" - Pip Newland, Head of Sustainability and Risk, Orion

- We were invited to share the solar suitcases at the tribal gathering for Ngāi Tahu, Hui-ā-iwi. The solar suitcases were **re-assembled over 20 times** by visitors and used to charge mobiles.
- Newsroom filmed students at Homai school in South Auckland presenting their solar project "follow the sun, the adventures of Maui" and asking questions to solar experts, Helios **(read more).**
- The We Share Solar programme inspired **student-led action** as students measured the school roof for solar, analysed their school energy data, researched and contacted EV vans for the community to charge with school solar and drafted proposals to petition their school board for solar...watch this space...

- We received great feedback from students, teachers and our partners, confirming the huge potential for this programme.
- **95% students** from the Homai primary pilot would like to do a similar project again.
- **80% students** from Haeata and Homai are now more interested in solar after this project.

"How else are you going to learn if you don't try anything new?", "It was definitely unique. I feel pretty honoured to be part of this project.", "I don't find science interesting but I loved this class." "It was interesting, you don't really see much of this stuff" - Students at Haeata School

- **100% teachers** involved would strongly recommend this programme to other teachers.

"I have been teaching for 20 years and I don't think I have ever seen such a high level of student engagement. There are just so many benefits in terms of practical knowledge, climate change awareness, teaching them for careers, and giving them literacy support" - Science Teacher at Haeata School

- Schools told us they received great support for the training and setup of pilots.
- Great support provided from Kia Kotahi Ako for the training and setup.
- In spite of delays to pilots due to COVID, we finished the first phase of pilots thanks to our amazing students, teachers, partners and funders for their support, resilience and enthusiasm.

"The advancement of the program in NZ is truly inspiring to us... students turning their new learning into advocacy and action... is the very best outcome any of us could hope to have"
- Gigi Goldman, We Share Solar Co-Founder



Ao Tawhiti students start building the suitcases as part of a summer project.



Gavin Bonnett, Orion Engineer, shares the latest industry developments in solar.



Next generations of indigenous innovators at Te Pihipihinga Kākano Mai | Rangitēa Kura Kaupapa Māori with their winning Canon Cameras.



AimHi Earth

- We coordinated and **hosted two taster sessions** in partnership with Auckland University Executive Education and the Edmund Hillary Fellowship springboard to test the interest for the climate and nature leadership course.
- Participants loved the taster and would all recommend it, giving a **net promoter score of 90!**
- There was great feedback and offers of support including:

"Keep bringing "the light" to the issue. People want to know"

"Great presentation! Clear and simple examples to truly understand the impact and importance of nature"

- "We are building relationships with businesses and funders to be the early adopters and champions of AimHi Earth programmes in Aotearoa"



**AIMHI
EARTH**



- Whilst listening to feedback so we can guide AimHi Earth in their design of climate courses.
- We deepened our partnership with AimHi Earth, building a collaboration based on reciprocity rather than being transactional.

"...I feel so grateful that you respect and trust us enough to know that you can rely on us to give back, not because we feel we have to, but because we want to. Thank you for building the future we need. And thank you for teaching me that it's possible" - Matthew Shribmam, Co-Founder AimHi Earth

He Pā Wānanga (a learning village)

- We've supported behind the scenes as this amazing organisation, Nōku Te Ao, completed the first phase of the design brief and presented it to the Ministry of Education and wider community.
- Nōku Te Ao formed an unprecedented agreement with the Ministry of Education to co-design and co-deliver this vision.
- We've worked on fundraising strategy and materials and are excited by the relationships and excitement already building.
- Planning is well underway to identify the resources and supporters that will be needed over and above what "schools" are typically funded to do. The next part will include:
 - Integrating whānau, environmental and economic wellbeing into the village of learning.
 - Designing and building Māori community facilities for the wider community to access in the arts, sciences, sports, kapa haka, whānau enterprise and innovation.
 - Developing 10 hectares of gardens and urban farming to feed 1000 people a day.
 - Restoring wetlands and the health of the surrounding waterways.
- We can't wait to share this amazing story and vision more widely this year.

"...thank you for all your mahi and tautoko this year." - Rangimarie Parata Takurua, Chair Te Pā o Rākaihautū.



"Tamaiti akona i te pā, Tū ki te ao, tau ana!"

It takes a village to raise a child.



**Te Pā o
Rākaihautū**
— Tū ki te ao, tau ana —

He raranga i ngā painga ki te panoni pūnaha ture Weaving opportunities for policy system change

Ko tā mātou whāinga rautaki tuatoru Our third strategic goal

- We are leveraging the Edmund Hillary Fellowship impact and policy change. We have over **18 Fellows involved** as funders, project champions and staff. We **co-led two events for over 100 Fellows** and are co-leading Climate Action and Education group calls..

"You are helping to weave together, not only the activities but also the life stories of Fellows: I am convinced many of the connections and ideas catalysed at these hui will have profound impact for the world. So we cannot thank you enough for your care, passion and commitment!"

"It is a joy... to see how Kia Kotahi Ako is thriving as such a beautiful demonstration of what can happen when Fellows come together. So much potential!!!" Rosalie Nelson, CEO, Edmund Hillary Fellowship

- We're helping to influence education policy change affecting Māori education opportunities through working with Nōku Te Ao and the Pā Wānanga (learning village).
- We were thrilled to see education actions now included in the **Emission Reduction Plan**, after coordinated submissions to the draft plan.



The Kia Kotahi Ako Trust team.

Ngā māramatanga

What we are learning

We've learned huge amounts in the first 18 months, both as an organisation and personally. Some of our key learnings so far:



Through piloting the We Share Solar programme we have learned that:

- Students would like more hands-on activities as well as building the solar suitcases and experimenting with mini solar panels
- Schools can feel overwhelmed with the number of available programmes alongside their priorities so it is important to schedule carefully, link up with other programmes, align content to the curriculum and get buy-in from principals and multiple teachers.
- Partners think the current cost of the solar suitcase will be the main challenge to expanding the programme but there are lots of opportunities to design and source parts in Aotearoa.



Leave space for the magic!

We've found strategic planning and goals really helped set our direction but leaving space for magic and wisdom has led us towards unexpected impact.



We need to tackle educational and environmental challenges together. Our current system wants to separate things out into boxes and work in silos, for example categories on funding applications. When we look at it from Te Ao Māori (Māori worldview), these areas can't be separated. We're very grateful to our funders and champions who are embracing this holistic approach.



Follow the energy!

When we look for where there is the most energy for action then things will happen fast. Having patience or changing course can be more effective than pushing on when the timing or energy isn't right.



Many organisations show willingness to take bolder action on environmental challenges but then struggle to prioritise it with competing demands. We are learning lots about how to refine our communication with businesses and funders and focus on bringing people together around a shared purpose.



Join the dots

There is lots of amazing work happening across education and the environment but often it isn't joined up. The best outcomes have come when we approached partnerships in the spirit of ako, learning and teaching, to connect people and add value to what is already working.



We also shared some of our learnings about using the Open Collective Platform for fundraising and how to collaborate for impact [in their blog](#).

Te ara whakamua

What we are doing next

Hei te tau 2023, ka mahi tonu mātou ki te taha o hō mātou hoa mahi, ngā toa me ngā hāpori hei whakakōkī i te pākaha mā ngā kaupapa matua e toru e hāngai ana ki te mahere rautaki whānui.

In 2023 we will continue to work with our amazing partners, champions and communities to catalyse impact through our three key projects aligned with our wider strategic plan.



We Share Solar- solar education

Co-design the Te Ao Māori expression of the programme with Te Pihipihinga Kākano Mai i Rangiātea Kura Kaupapa Māori. Scale the programme with other kura (schools) in Taranaki.

Create a version of the solar suitcase in Aotearoa to reduce the cost of the programme.

Plan the next phase of the We Share Solar rollout in Aotearoa including sustainable funding models.



AimHi Earth- business climate course

Coordinate a climate networking event in Ōtautahi Christchurch and an online masterclass for businesses and funders in March and April .

Plan the next steps for rolling out AimHi Earth in Aotearoa to transform understanding of the climate and nature crisis.



He Pā Wānanga- a learning village

Create a film for funders to share the story and vision.

Coordinate a network of funders to drive intergenerational change for Māori education, environment and health outcomes.

Host a visit of Edmund Hillary Fellows to He Pā Wānanga to showcase their vision and create a group of funders and champions.

Huge thanks to our Partners

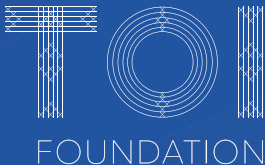
Our Funders



TE HONONGA
AKORANGA
COMET



Helios



Orion



Namaste
Foundation

Our Programme Partners and Champions



Nōku Te Ao



we share
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AIMHI
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Edmund
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Te Pihipihinga Kakano Mai i Rangiatea Kura Kaupapa Māori, Homai Primary,
Haeata School, Ao Tawhiti School and Climate Action Campus, Ngāi Tahu,
Canon Narrative and Rezone



**Kia
Kotahi
Ako**

To support us and get involved: contact@kiakotahi.org