

Developing A Biosecurity Directional Framework

New Zealand's Experience

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



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Biosecurity is...

...the exclusion, eradication or management of pests and diseases that pose a risk to the economy, environment, cultural, and social values, including human health.



An aerial photograph of a New Zealand landscape. In the foreground, there are green hills and a river. In the middle ground, a town is situated on a peninsula. In the background, there are snow-capped mountains under a cloudy sky. A large, faint, stylized logo is overlaid on the left side of the image.

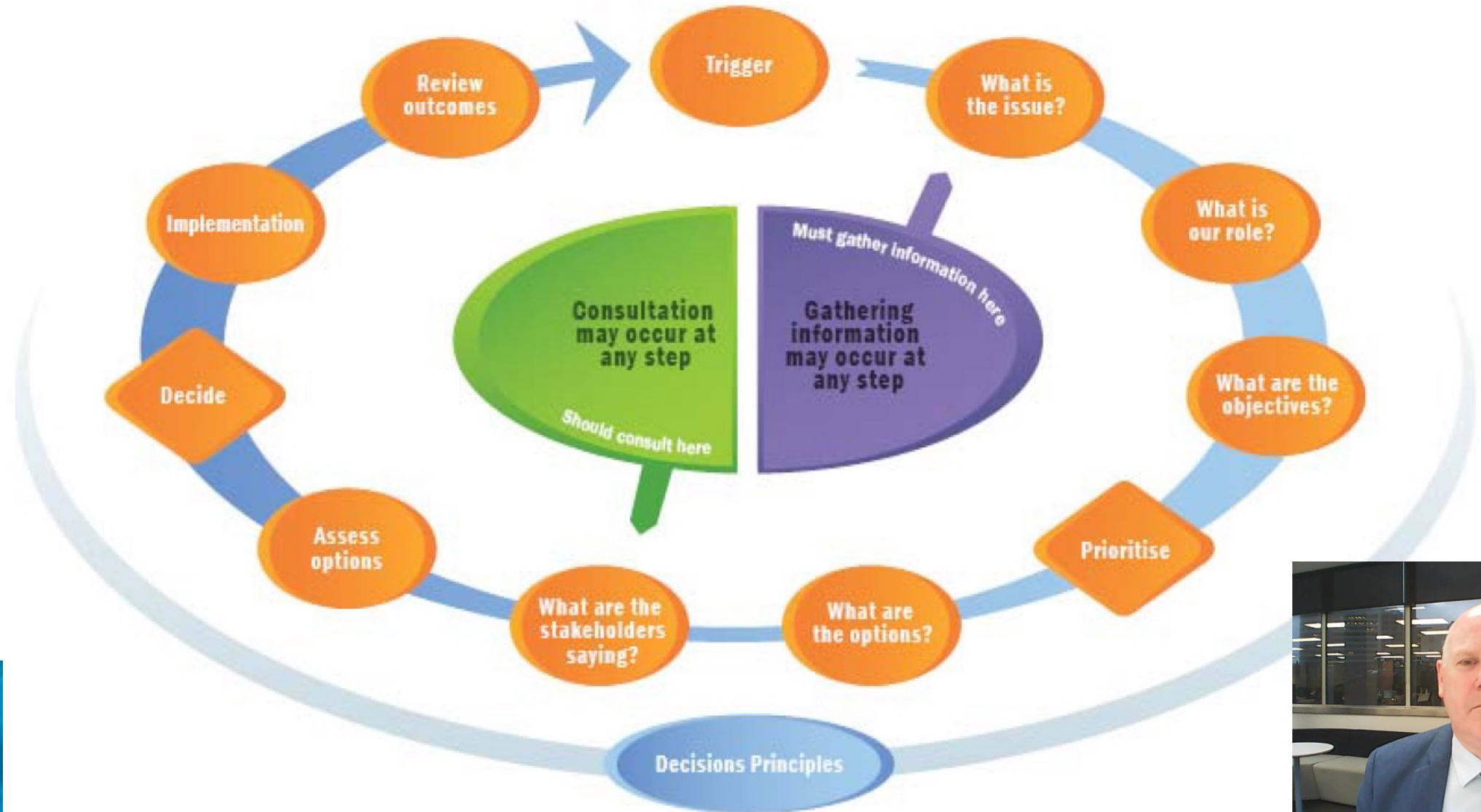
Biosecurity 2025

Direction Statement

for New Zealand's biosecurity system



General Policy Approach



Guiding Principles

Principles to Guide How We Work Together

1. **Everyone** has a role to play in biosecurity.
2. We learn from our experiences and **share learnings** with others.
3. **Collaborative approaches** and **wide participation** are enabled and encouraged.
4. The role of **tangata whenua as kaitiaki**, and Mātauranga Māori, are recognised and provided for.

Principles to Guide Decision-Making

5. Decision-making is **transparent** and takes into consideration cultural, social, economic, and environmental values.
6. Risk-based decision-making is informed by the best available **science and information**.
7. Decisions are **timely**, and take account of consequences that may be irreversible.
8. Where possible, **biosecurity risks are identified and managed** at the earliest intervention point, in many cases before reaching New Zealand.
9. Decisions recognise **international obligations** and commitments, and the need to ensure safe imports, safe travel, and support exports.



Participation

- The Ministry for Primary Industries
- Other government agencies
- Regional Councils
- Māori/iwi as Treaty Partners
- Industry organisations
- Industry businesses
- Scientists and research organisations
- Landowners
- Community Groups



FOOD SECURITY



Food security will change the dynamics of trade in food. How the international community manages food shortages will have long term impacts on biosecurity.

SPREAD OF PESTS AND DISEASES GLOBALLY



Pests and diseases will spread across world including to our current and future trading partners. How our trading partners manage their biosecurity will impact New Zealand biosecurity risk.

PORT INFRASTRUCTURE



As container numbers increase, limited container storage capacity could put pressure on ports and transitional facilities. Planned port infrastructure developments face numerous

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF CHEMICAL TREATMENTS



Domestic and international social and environmental reasons, pressure on New Zealand to find appropriate alternatives or face significant costs

CLIMATE CHANGE



Changes to the habitat of pests and diseases and pest and disease survivability will affect the biosecurity system. Previously benign species become a significant risk.

PASSENGER ARRIVALS AND DYNAMICS



Increasing arrivals and an increase in the number of passengers arriving from overseas associated with higher biosecurity requirements will increase pressure at the border.

TRADE VOLUME AND DYNAMICS



Increasing trade volume and changing types of goods entering the country will also change biosecurity risk.

PRODUCTION PRACTICES



Many primary production sectors are highly reliant on certain monocultures. Threats to those monocultures are potentially creating inordinate risk.

DEMAND FOR EXOTIC PRODUCTS



Increasing demand for exotic products will place pressure on the biosecurity system to adapt quickly to changing consumer demand. Balancing the effectiveness of the biosecurity system with efficiency in facilitating trade will be an ongoing priority.

ONLINE SHOPPING



The volume of parcels coming across the border will continue to increase. This will increase the pressure at the border.

LAND-USE CHANGE



Demand will drive land conversions which has an impact on the risk profiles of pests and diseases specific to the land conversion. Significant changes may require shifts in resourcing in the biosecurity system to address the changing risks.

MOVEMENT OF VESSELS

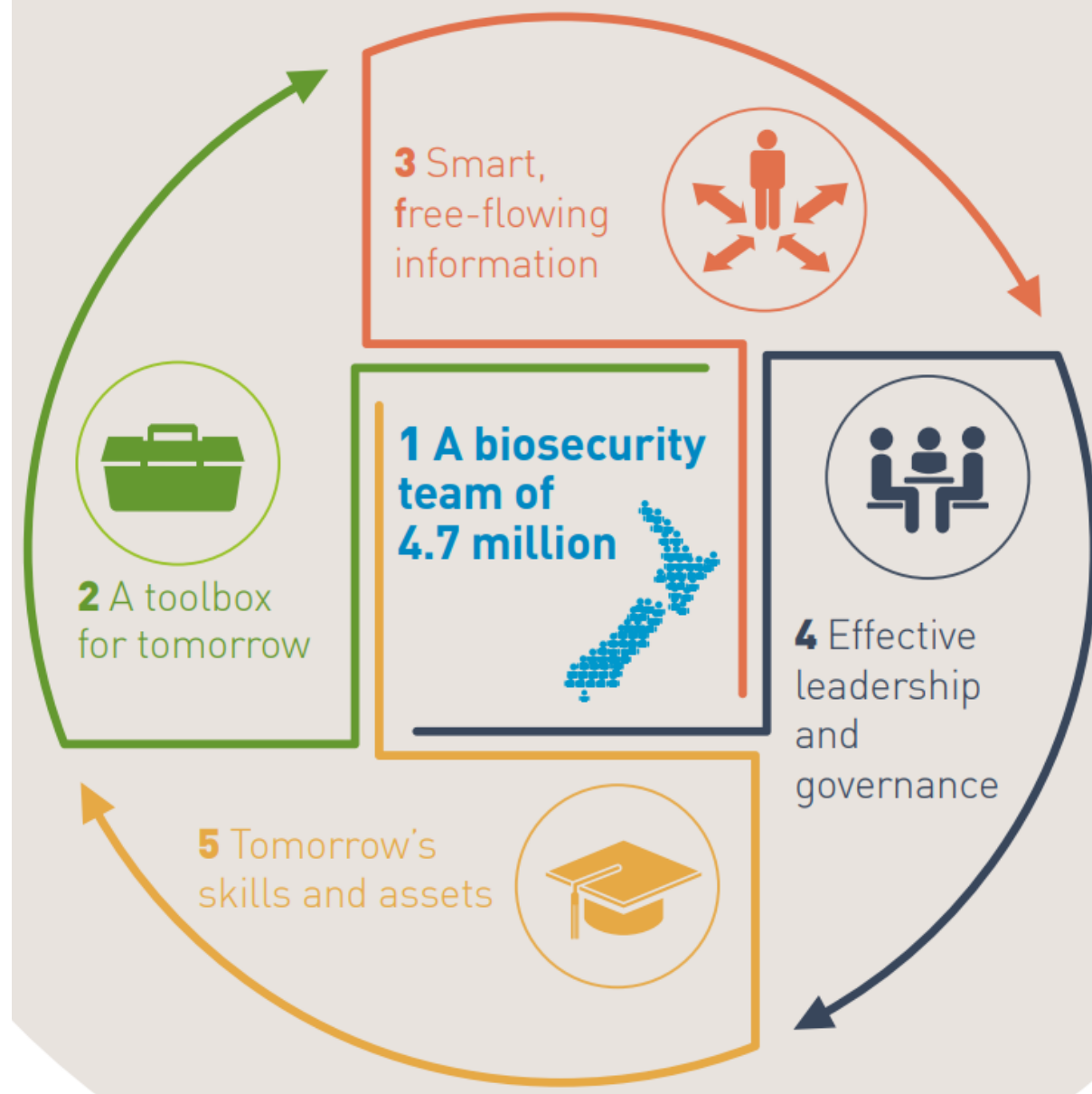


Increasing vessel numbers will pose a greater risk for biosecurity. Increasing vessel numbers and changing vessel behavior will increase the pressure associated with New Zealand.



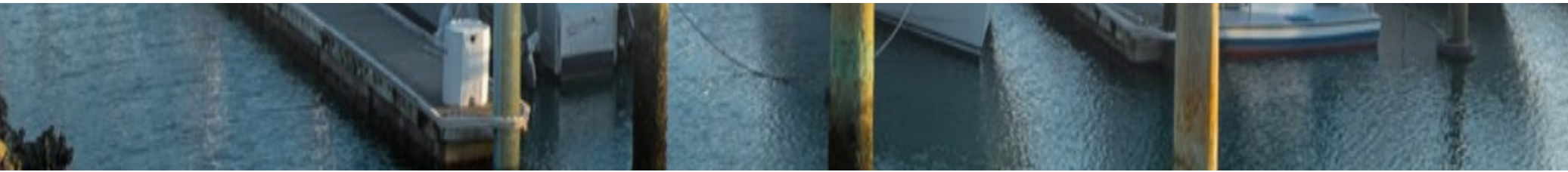


Five Themes



Five Themes

- **A biosecurity team of 4.7 million** - collective effort across the country: every New Zealander becomes a biosecurity risk manager and every business manages their own biosecurity risk.
- **A toolbox for tomorrow** – Harnessing science and technology to transform the way we do biosecurity
- **Smart, free-flowing information** - Tapping into the wealth of data available, building intelligence and using powerful data analysis to underpin risk management.
- **Effective leadership and governance** - System-wide leadership and inclusive governance arrangements support all system participants in their roles.
- **Tomorrow's skills and assets** – A capable and sustainable workforce and world-class infrastructure provide the foundation for an effective



Goals, Outcomes and Targets

Goals – what we want to achieve

Skills

The biosecurity workforce is made up of enough people, with the right knowledge and skills, to meet our current and future biosecurity challenges.

Assets

Robust, resilient and enduring infrastructure supports biosecurity system functions.

Outcomes – the end results

Biosecurity-related careers – Careers available in biosecurity-related fields are well understood and sought after.

Biosecurity in education – Biosecurity is incorporated into primary, secondary and tertiary education.

Training and building capability – Biosecurity skills and capability are enhanced across the system through training packages and modules, professional development initiatives, internships and work experience, and educational resources.

Retaining capability – Biosecurity skills and capability within the system are valued, shared and retained.

Biological collections – Biological collections and databases, supported by world-class taxonomic expertise and research, provide the evidence base for New Zealand to respond effectively to present and future challenges.

Physical infrastructure and systems – Critical system infrastructure is well resourced, maintained and accessible to support risk management; this infrastructure includes laboratories and information technology systems.

Legal and regulatory infrastructure – Critical policy infrastructure, such as legislation and standards, are fit for purpose and support agile biosecurity risk management.

Target for 2025 – to drive action

- At least 150,000 people with identified skills can be quickly drawn on to provide support during biosecurity incursions. This will be delivered by the National Biosecurity Capability Network or its successor.



Successes

- Broad engagement
- Themes with strong support
- Identifying and including delivery collaborators early
- Actions to address real issues in the biosecurity system
- Well developed goals, outcomes and initial targets



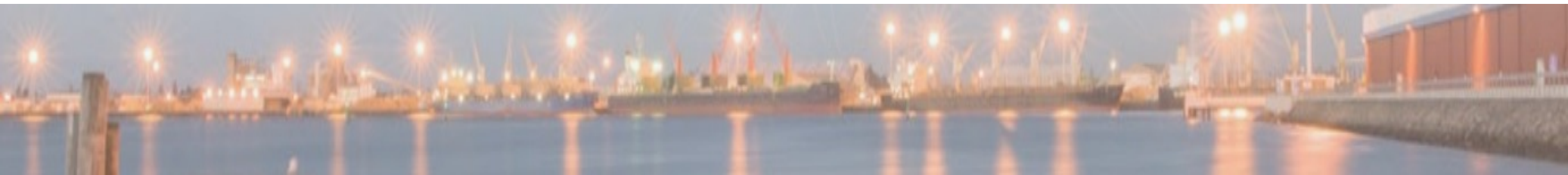
Challenges

- A very significant effort to coordinate
- Lots of workshops required to bring thinking together
- Prioritising long lists of ideas from vested interests
- Funding mechanisms for implementation
- Keeping pace with the changing environment



Lessons Learnt

- Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility. Success can't be achieved without everyone doing their part
- Keep the process apolitical, until the end
- Focus on a few important things
- Be realistic about resourcing, from the start
- Resources will always be limited. Sharing responsibility and mutually beneficial collaborations are key, including with like-minded countries.
- Be ambitious while also managing expectations



Where to find it



<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/14857-Biosecurity-2025-Direction-Statement-for-New-Zealands-biosecurity-system>





Thank You