



Regional Infrastructure Fund

OVERALL BUDGET PACKAGE: The \$1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) aims to grow regional economies by investing in new and existing infrastructure projects.

Investment	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28 & outyears	TOTAL
Capital (Loans, equity and ownership investments)	300.000	300.000	300.000	-	900.000
Operating (Grant investments (including administration of the RIF))	100.000	100.000	100.000	-	300.000
TOTAL funding	400.000	400.000	400.000	-	1200.000

- The RIF will create Crown and regional assets, primarily through a mix of loan, equity, and other capital funding instruments, as well as some grant funding.
- The RIF will invest in infrastructure projects that would otherwise not happen. The RIF can also encourage private investment for critical projects by providing greater confidence in the project.
- The RIF has two main categories:
 - Resilience infrastructure – infrastructure that improves a region’s ability to absorb, adapt and/or respond to stresses and shocks. Investments will improve resilience in areas such as weather events, energy security, water security, food security, connectivity, and recovery infrastructure.
 - Enabling infrastructure – infrastructure that supports growth by ensuring regions are well-connected and productive. These projects will invest in assets that are used by, and/or generate benefits for, multiple businesses or many parts of a community. An example includes shared services such as innovation parks.
- The RIF will largely focus on, but not be limited to, projects where the RIF contribution is in the range of \$1 million to \$50 million. This will help to maximise distribution across a broad range of regions throughout New Zealand.

- Through the RIF, the Crown will be co-investing alongside local authorities, businesses and organisations, meaning all RIF projects will require an element of co-investment from the funding recipient.
- One of the RIF's initial focus areas will be on Māori development, given the barriers to investment faced by Māori entities, whenua Māori, iwi and Māori businesses.

HOW IS THIS BEING FUNDED?

- The National and New Zealand First coalition agreement committed to establishing a \$1.2 billion fund to invest in regional infrastructure.
- Tagged contingencies of \$1.2 billion have been committed to establish the RIF, consisting of \$900 million capital expenditure and \$300 million operating expenditure. The operating expenditure includes funding for administration of the fund.