

Whanau Development Action Research Project

The Runanga working in conjunction with Marae, Hapu and Whanau have just completed the second phase of the Whanau Development Action Research, an initiative co-sponsored by Te Puni Kokiri and the Runanga. The next step for WDAR is the alignment with the Maori Potential framework, specifically the Ngati Porou Hapu Success Model. The Runanga secured funding from TPK to support Whanau, Hapu and Marae progress their own development strategies

In recognising that we would not be able to progress all the recommendations in the 2005 WDAR Reports, we identified those recommendations and projects that would provide the best mileage, in terms of coverage of marae, hapu and whanau, and would return direct benefits to the majority of our WDARP participants.

Furthermore, while we chose to engage with the groups of marae, hapu and whanau, who had participated in the 2005 WDAR- Programme, we were committed to developing products, toolkits and information packs that would be made available to all Ngati Porou Marae and Hapu.

Highlight , key findings, and achievements from this year's WDAR projects

Ma Wai Ra – Cultural Audit Tool

The development of a Marae Cultural Audit Tool, will assist Marae assess their own cultural capital and develop strategies to grow and sustain this capacity. Three Wananga were held with Pakeke from different Ngati Porou hapu who assisted with the compilation of the tool .

Lessons learned and Key Findings

- The Marae Audit Tool, is **Optional** and the information is **Confidential** to the marae.
- We need to utilize our own whakatauaki and waiata to brand products ie “Ma Wai Ra”
- Packaging the tool in attractive, yet simple and accessible medium/s assists whanau use and promote of the product.
- Facilitators need to be bilingual and proficient in Te Reo ake o Ngati Porou.
- Facilitators have to have credibility as people who have practical as well as theoretical understanding and knowledge of the functioning and operations of the marae. People who walk the talk.
- Facilitators need to have a range of skills for engaging people, including humour, story telling and the ability to engage people in waiata

At the moment the Runanga is completing the packaging of the Audit Tool and it will be launched at the 1st of September celebrations. We will provide a CD to each participating marae. The real value of the Ma Wai Ra Audit tool has yet to be realized, as a tool to assist marae assess their cultural capital, to record their assets, resources and members and to inform their development and planning, through having quality, accessible and relevant information.

Whanau Development – E Nati

E-Nati was all about improving communications with whanau and hapu members. Participants in the Whanau Development received an independent IT Infrastructure and

Communications assessment, webpage and training and the ability to access their members details on the Runanga beneficiary database to compile their own Marae or Hapu registers.

The Marae and Hapu representatives that participated in the ‘E’ Nati Website and Database Development Training workshops found that, the ‘hands on learning approach’ made an immediate and positive impact on their learning. Marae will be able to have their own marae site or domain name at a minimal ongoing cost. Initially they will have 3 pages including Calendar of Events, Panui page and feedback forum but the possibilities are endless once they become familiar with navigating the website. The websites will go live at the 1st of September celebrations.

Whanau Enterprise

Whanau, Hapu and Marae participated in the completion of their own Business plans, to progress their enterprise initiatives. Without exception all the whanau involved in the Whanau Enterprise project gained immensely from the one-on-one mentoring support that they received from Bryan McKinlay and Don Hammond and believe this type, of on-site business mentoring support is absolutely critical to their success. The added value identified by whanau through this approach include;



Lyn & Wiri Fox home based business, making outdoor furniture including toilets!

- Accessible, regular business mentoring or coaching helps people to evaluate what they are doing, to celebrate their successes as well as address problems as they occur
- Mentor's can undertake regular, independent reviews of the progress of respective businesses in meeting their own plan and targets.
- Whanau will not have to bear the cost, time and inconvenience factors of traveling considerable distances to receive business support

Participating groups were given practical and motivational business advice, a business assessment and business plan, budget and cashflow analysis templates and aerial photographs and maps of their site. In addition they will receive electronic versions of their information on disc for ease of updating and sharing with their members. An important observation in going through this process is that