

# Our many partners

NIWA has a broad skill base in atmospheric and aquatic sciences, but it is essential that we collaborate with other researchers and end-users so we can maintain and deliver excellent science and outcomes that benefit New Zealand and the globe. This collaborative approach has resulted in the establishment of an extensive and enormous number of working relationships with research institutions, central and local government organisations and entities, Māori, non-governmental organisations, and private companies. Our research programmes funded through the Foundation for Research, Science & Technology alone had more than 770 working relationships in 2006–07.



*Acting Chief Executive Bryce Cooper and US Assistant Secretary of State Claudia McMurray sign a memorandum of understanding on joint research and services on water resources.*

Our collaboration with New Zealand universities is especially important. Not only does it provide us with the opportunity to harness additional complementary expertise, but it also enables us to develop the future research capability we need by training postgraduate students. NIWA provided New Zealand universities with more than \$1.7 million of research funding in 2006–07 to support collaboration and student projects.

Many of our collaborations are long-term and ongoing, but we established a number of significant new collaborations with New Zealand and overseas organisations in 2006–07. These included:

- A formal alliance with CRL Energy, Industrial Research Limited, GNS Science, and Scion for collaboration and coordination of research to meet New Zealand's future energy needs. This integrated four new energy research programmes: an assessment of New Zealand's total energy resources, biomass as an energy source, a hydrogen-based energy system, and carbon capture and storage.
- Joint research with New Zealand King Salmon on the co-culture of different species of marine plants and animals to ensure sustainable aquaculture.
- Agreement between the Crown Research Institutes AgResearch, GNS Science, Landcare Research, and NIWA, in collaboration with a number of universities, especially Victoria University of Wellington, to form a centre for climate change research. The aim is to coordinate climate change research and information to help New Zealand manage the threats and exploit the opportunities associated with predicted climate change.
- Joining, as a partner member, the Joint Antarctic Research Institute with GNS Science and Victoria University of Wellington to further collaborate in Antarctic scientific research.

- Collaborating with SurfCo (Aotearoa Fisheries Ltd) on a multi-year project to assess New Zealand surf clam populations.
- Agreeing to merge the salmonid research of the Cawthron Institute into NIWA's larger research programme on the sustainable allocation of New Zealand's water to facilitate greater coordination and integration of water resource research.
- A 3-year collaborative modelling project between the Food Safety Authority, ESR, Massey University, the Ministry for the Environment, and NIWA to identify effective control measures for campylobacteriosis.
- Agreement through a Memorandum of Understanding with the US Geological Survey to collaborate on research and services associated with water resource measurement technologies.
- Developing intellectual property and data sharing agreements with Neptune Resources to advance environmentally sustainable mineral exploration of the submarine Kermadec region.
- A joint programme of research with the Bluff Oyster Management Company to develop ecosystem-based management techniques to restore Bluff oyster populations within Foveaux Strait.
- A new initiative with Environment Waikato, Ngāti Whanaunga, and Thames Coromandel District Council to develop the necessary information and tools that will enable central and local government and communities adapt to the impacts of climate-induced change on the coastal environment.
- Co-investment by the Department of Conservation, Wellington Regional Council, and NIWA in a project to identify natural hazards and the different habitats within Wellington Harbour through high resolution mapping of the bathymetry.

Collaborations involved	Total number of parties
New Zealand researcher or organisation	
• University	71
• Crown Research Institute	67
• Other	31
Overseas researcher or organisation	327
Central government	57
Local government	37
Māori	25
New Zealand private business or associations	106
Overseas organisations (non-research)	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>776</b>