Title of <u>Proposed Panel</u>

Rethinking adaptation finance in radical times: Challenging conversations on who should pay, why and how for climate risk reduction.

Summary of proposed panel. This should outline an introduction of the objective/ purpose of the panel and contribution to new knowledge or practice

We live in a moment of radical potential. The balance of geopolitical power is shifting. Economic conventions are being overturned. Politics-as-usual is under duress.

These disruptions pose a threat to conventional models of adaptation funding and financing – in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond. Yet these same models have not succeeded in closing the adaptation finance gap, failing to deliver the volume and types of finance that countries and communities so urgently need. This is a moment of great risk for adaptation finance, but also an opportunity to ask anew what we are trying to achieve – and how.

The intent of this panel is to rethink adaptation funding and financing, to explore whether conventional models are fit-for-purpose in this dynamic moment. The panel will ask whether current crises of political economy are opening 'windows of opportunity' for new models of adaptation finance that are more feasible, impactful or just. Or whether this is a time to hold the line, to defend old models of adaptation finance against novel threats, not only to innovate and diversify.

In exploring the possible futures of adaptation finance in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally, the panellists will apply their diverse expertise to various topics:

- The loss of legitimacy to prevailing economic paradigms and the ascendance of new economic alternatives, including Indigenous and decolonising approaches.
- The threat to social cohesion from a changing climate and the potential of adaptation finance to ameliorate, or aggravate, these trends.
- The transition to a more multi-polar world, the retreat from official development assistance, and the implications for climate adaptation.
- The macroeconomic lessons to be learned from recent history – from the Global Financial Crisis to the Covid-19 recovery – for investment into climate adaptation.
- The potential for digital public infrastructure (DPI) and other technologies to unlock new possibilities for adaptation funding and financing.

Attendees can expect a dynamic, expansive and provocative discussion that aims to push the envelope on how we think about adaptation financing and funding.

INDIVIDUAL PANELLIST CONTRIBUTION

<u>Moderator Details</u>
Full Name: Dr David Hall
Organisation: Toha Network Limited / Auckland University of Technology (AUT)
Bio sketch (up to 50 words):
David Hall (tangata tiriti) is Policy Director of Toha Network and Member of the Aotearoa New Zealand Sustainable Finance Technical Expert Group (TEG). He served as Independent Specialist Advisor to the Finance and Expenditure Committee's Inquiry into

Climate Adaptation; Contributing Author to IPCC AR6 WG2; and teaches climate action at AUT.

Panellists (minimum of three)
<u>Panellist 1</u>
Full Name: Jo Hendy
Organisation: Climate Change Commission
Bio (up to 50 words)

Jo is Chief Executive of New Zealand's Climate Change Commission. With over two decades of experience at the intersection of science, policy, and economics, Jo is known for calm, clear thinking and bringing people together around complex issues. She's committed to building trust across government, business, iwi, and communities.

<u>Panellist 2</u>
Full Name: Shaun Awatere
Organisation: Bioeconomy Science Institute / Manaaki Whenua | Landcare Research
Bio (up to 50 words)

Dr Shaun Awatere (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Uepohatu) is Kaihautū Māori Research Impact Leader at Manaaki Whenua. He has actively supported Māori to manage collective assets more sustainably. He is currently engaged in research and policy to help prepare iwi/hapū Māori for climate change mitigation and adaptation planning.

<u>Panellist 3</u>
Full Name: James Paterson
Organisation: ASB
Bio (up to 50 words)

James Paterson is Head of Sustainable Finance at ASB Bank, where he leads debt structuring (green, social, and sustainability-linked lending) and customer engagement for ASB's sustainability strategy. He is Member of the Aotearoa New Zealand Sustainable Finance Technical Expert Group (TEG) and Board member for Protect our Winters Aotearoa.

<u>Panellist 4</u>
Full Name: Hong Paterson
Organisation: Greenbridge Capital Management
Bio (up to 50 words)

Hong Paterson is currently CFO at Greenbridge and previously held roles as the CFO and COO for Green Climate Fund (GFC) and Managing Director for Royal Bank of Canada's Investor Services business. She began her career at J.P.Morgan, working across Asset Management, Commercial Banking, and Investor Services.

<u>Panellist 5</u>
Full Name: Paul Watkiss
Organisation: Watkiss Associates Ltd.
Bio (up to 50 words)

Paul Watkiss has over 25 years of experience in the policy, economics and financing of climate adaptation. He is lead author of the Finance Chapter of the UNEP Adaptation Gap report and his current work includes the development of adaptation investment plans in multiple countries in Europe, Asia and Africa.