

Kai Sovereignty: Stage Two Overview

Kai Sovereignty Stage Two builds on the foundations established described in the [Repairing our Food Web Report](#) and focuses on turning insight into action. Its purpose is to accelerate the transition from an industrial food system toward a regenerative, locally grounded food web that strengthens climate resilience, human health, cultural wellbeing, and local economies in Te Tai Tokerau.

Stage Two is structured around **12 interconnected workstreams** that span the food system — from land access and regenerative production, to processing, distribution, education, health, governance, and community engagement. Rather than creating new institutions, the programme focuses on **enabling what already exists**: strengthening coordination, building relationships, improving visibility, and identifying leverage points where modest interventions can unlock wider system change.

Key areas of work include supporting regenerative producers (including regenerative kiwifruit and livestock), exploring marae as food hubs, mapping the regional food system using GIS tools, developing viable kai distribution routes, and advancing a *total value proposition* that captures the economic, environmental, health, and sociocultural benefits of regenerative agriculture. Alongside this, Stage Two emphasises education, engagement, and strategic alignment — locally, regionally, and nationally.

Taken together, the workstreams form a practical, adaptive platform for transition: one that does not seek to control the food system, but to **nudge it toward regenerative outcomes** by better aligning people, knowledge, infrastructure, and resources already present in the region.

