Project Overview:
The Te Whaihanga resources are designed to increase the capacity of built environment students and professionals to engage with and develop positive long-term working relationships with Māori; and as a result give practical effect to Te Tiriti / Treaty of Waitangi and Māori aspirations.

Built environment professionals include planners, engineers, architects and landscape architects. Through the project the aim is to bring these professions closer together since in New Zealand they are taught in silos.

An important part of the project is to model working together. The project is ongoing. It started in 2015 with a collaborative project between the tertiary funding body, Ako Aotearoa, Universities teaching built environment programmes, employers such as Auckland Council (Te Kaunihora o Tāmaki Makaurau), Māori community representatives and professional institutions. The project has enabled the development and trialing of a set of teaching and training resources; from 2018 onwards the video components were complete and at the beginning of 2019 the final report with the complete resources was available.

SDG3 Good Health and Wellbeing:
Te Whaihanga addresses the well-being of Māori by ensuring that Council employees and university students have the capability to "incorporate the values, culture and beliefs of the Māori people in all Auckland–related policies and RMA advice and decisions by 2020."

SDG10 Reduced Inequalities:
Te Whaihanga addresses target 10.2 – to empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all by equipping built environment professionals to work inclusively.

SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities:
Te Whaihanga addresses target 11.3 – to ensure inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning by building the capacity of built environment professionals to engage with Māori.

SDG17 Partnerships for the goals:
Te Whaihanga addresses target 17.17 by demonstrating effective partnership between Māori communities, tertiary institutions and local authorities and professional bodies.

Project Reach:
The Te Whaihanga resources have resulted from Collaboration between Māori community representatives and university teachers, the funders, Local government and professional institutes.

So far at least 500 students and professionals (planners, architects, engineers and landscape architects) have benefited from the training and capacity building.

For more information please see http://bit.ly/tewhaihanga

With special thanks to our partners:

Community Involvement:
Māori as Mana Whenua (holding land rights), Kaitiaki (guardians) and Rangatira (authority), tertiary education institutions and funders, Local Government and Professional Bodies.

Whakataukī: "Aho te roa no te roa, a roa nei a roa iwi. With your bucket and my basket the people will thrive"