

Frameworks to measure family and whānau wellbeing

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THE FOCUS

This *At A Glance* presents the Family Wellbeing and Whānau Rangatiratanga Frameworks used in the Family and Whānau Wellbeing Status Report 2015 and the Superu wellbeing research programme.

The distinction between family and whānau wellbeing as two research strands recognises:

- the fact that ‘family’ and ‘whānau’ are not interchangeable terms and mean very different things
- two separate but complementary knowledge streams builds a picture of family and whānau wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand
- the Crown’s unique relationship with Māori as the Treaty partner and tangata whenua (New Zealand’s indigenous people).

About *At a Glance*

Superu’s *At a Glance* series uses infographics to illustrate research findings or key information about a priority topic.

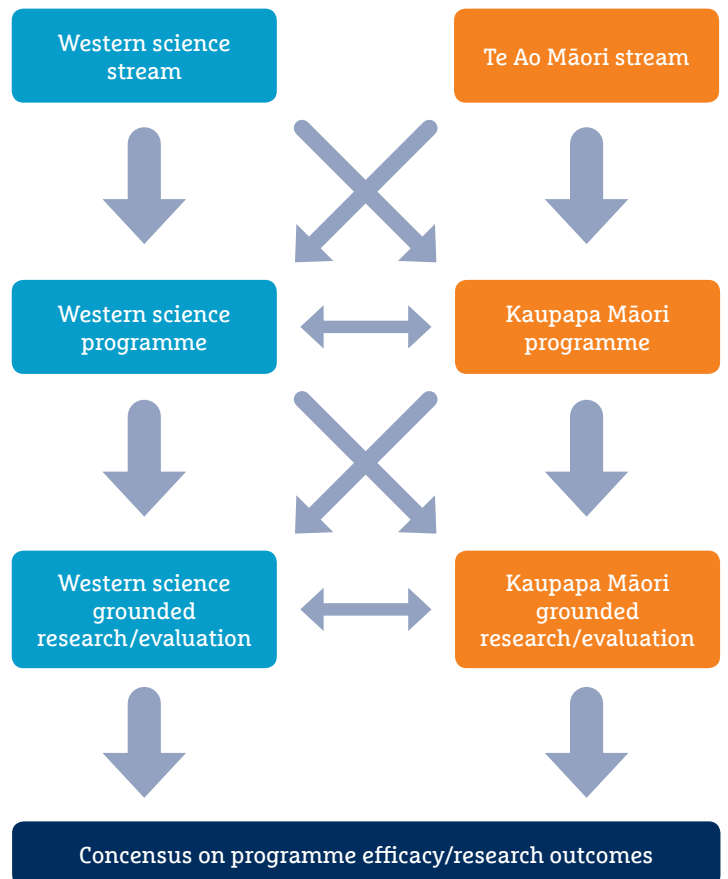
HE AWA WHIRIA “BRAIDED RIVERS”

He Awa Whiria – “Braided Rivers” was developed by Angus Macfarlane (2011) as a model for reconciling western science and Te Ao Māori research and evaluation perspectives.

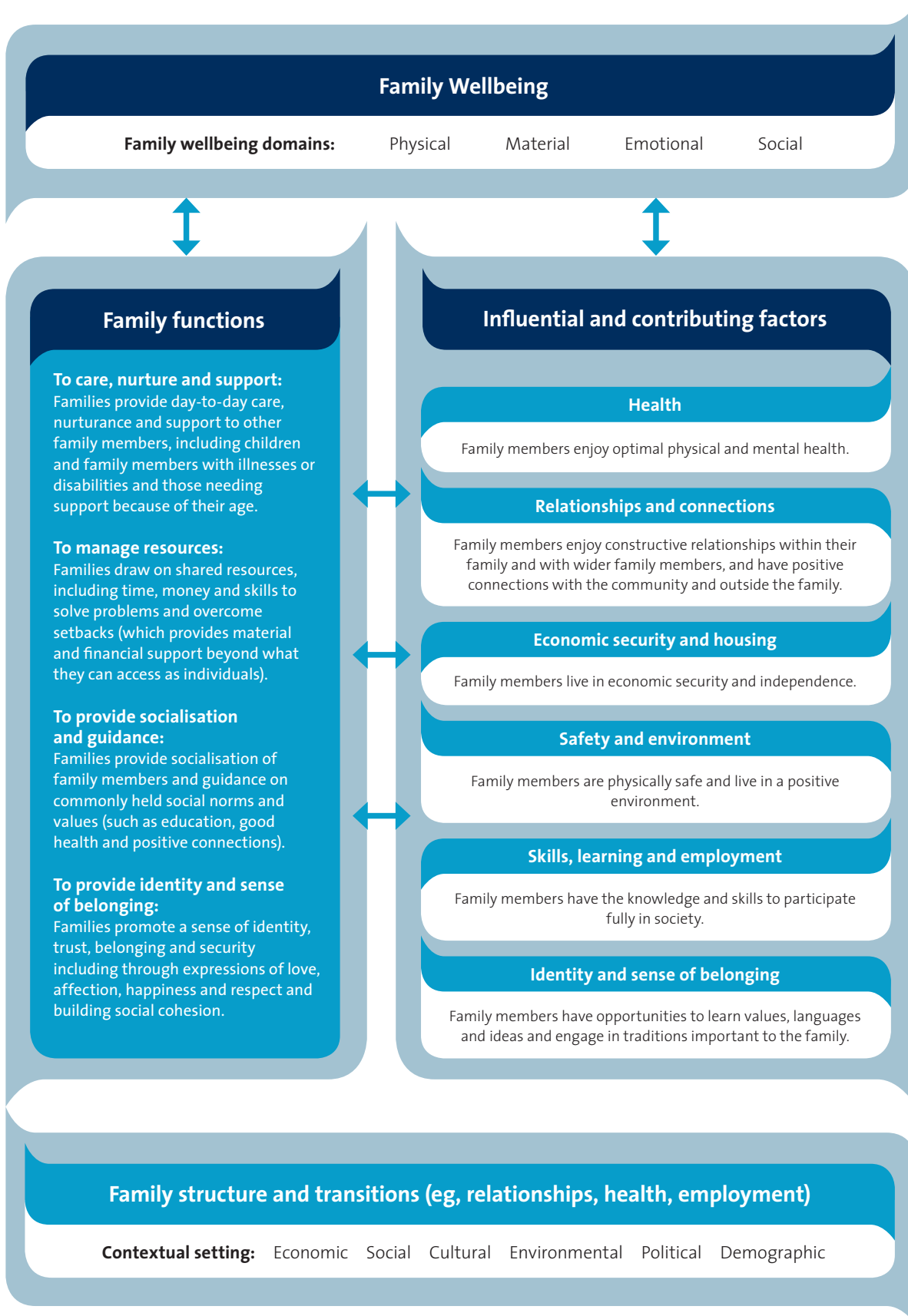
He Awa Whiria has been adopted by Superu for our ongoing work programme to measure and monitor family and whānau wellbeing. As part of this work, we have developed separate family and whānau wellbeing frameworks that are presented on the following pages.

Fig 1: Parallel streams of western science and Kaupapa Māori programme development, research and evaluation.

Adapted from Macfarlane (2011).



The Family Wellbeing Framework provides a comprehensive structure for understanding family wellbeing. It identifies four core functions of family wellbeing and factors that influence and contribute to the ability of families to fulfil their core functions. These core functions and factors contribute to family wellbeing across the wellbeing domains. There is a complex interplay across these functions, factors and domains.



The Whānau Rangatiratanga Conceptual Framework has drawn on capability dimensions and whānau rangatiratanga (whānau empowerment) principles to measure and understand outcomes of whānau wellbeing. The framework provides a Māori lens to view trends in whānau wellbeing over time. Inside the framework there are also 'areas of interest' or 'factors' that contribute to or influence whānau wellbeing.



The Whānau Rangatiratanga Measurement Framework

presents an initial set of aspirational outcome statements that describe 20 Māori-specific wellbeing domains that are measured.

The framework uses the Whānau Rangatiratanga principles and capability dimensions presented in the conceptual framework.



WHĀNAU RANGATĪRATANGA PRINCIPLES

WHAKAPAPA
Thriving relationships

MANAAKĪTANGA
Reciprocity & support

RANGATĪRATANGA
Leadership & participation

KOTAHĪTANGA
Collective unity

WĀIRUATANGA
Spiritual & cultural strength
(Distinctive Identity)

CAPABILITY DIMENSIONS



SUSTAINABILITY OF TE AO MĀORI
(language, identity, culture, institutions)

Whānau have a positive relationship with Te Ao Māori

Whānau are able to foster and develop their connections to Te Ao Māori

Whānau exercise leadership in Te Ao Māori

Whānau are able to meaningfully engage with Māori culture and Māori institutions

Whānau can access and express their culture and identity in ways that are meaningful to them



SOCIAL CAPABILITY
(trust, volunteering, connectedness)

Whānau are connected and safe

Whānau care for themselves and for others

Whānau exercise leadership in Te Ao Whānui

Whānau are able to access and trust institutions

Whānau are able to express and embrace spiritually



HUMAN RESOURCE POTENTIAL
(health, education, quality of life)

Whānau wellbeing is enhanced

Whānau support each other to succeed

Whānau are able to live well

Whānau are able to achieve their aspirational goals

Whānau are resilient and able to overcome adversity



ECONOMIC
(employment, wealth, housing)

Whānau can manage and leverage collective resources

Whānau are able to support each other financially and to accumulate financial reserves

Whānau enjoy economic security

Whānau can navigate barriers to success

Whānau can access their material and non-material resources

'We require better knowledge about families and whānau if we are to build programmes that will endure, or adapt to the changing nature of families and whānau. Superu's investment in research to better understand and develop the wellbeing frameworks will lead to the provision of better information about families and whānau which will be available to everyone.' (Len Cook, 2013)