

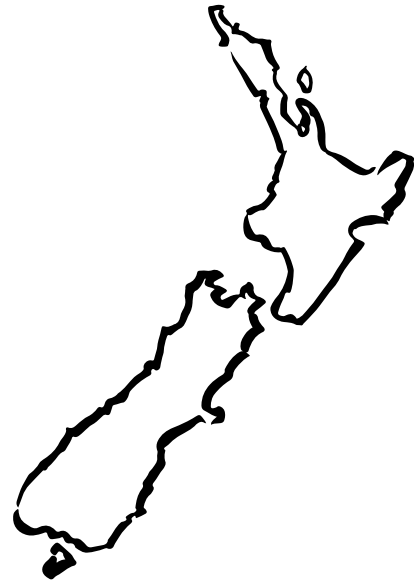


Building strong relationships through the Accord

Transformation to a high-performing building and construction sector is a challenging long-term goal that needs all building system players to work together. This year, we saw just how effective working together can be, when all members of the Construction Sector Accord joined forces to tackle the sector's COVID-19 Response Plan.

We have worked with the Construction Sector Accord, a partnership between the sector and government, since its launch in 2019 to identify research that supports industry transformation. Throughout lockdown, BRANZ took part in regular meetings with industry leaders to develop the Accord's COVID-19 Response Plan. During this time, the Accord focused on industry resilience and recovery.





This year, BRANZ commissioned interviews with industry leaders to identify the most pressing environmental issues facing the sector.

Industry leaders worked alongside ministers and officials to minimise negative impacts of the pandemic across the sector. An outstanding level of industry collaboration, leadership and ability to take urgent action was demonstrated.

Leading the discussion on environmental impacts

In mid-2020, the Accord expanded its Transformation Plan to include the new Environment workstream, aiming to improve environmental sustainability and support the industry to prepare for a zero-carbon future. This workstream complements the Accord's 3 year plan of action launched in January 2020, tackling change in a further six areas including leadership, business performance and people development.

In recognition of BRANZ's expertise in and passion for the challenge, BRANZ CEO Chelydra Percy was invited to lead the new workstream. Her appointment also reflected BRANZ's leadership in previous work on system transformation. Since the start of 2021, the Environment workstream has been hard at work. We looked at the sector's environmental challenges as well as opportunities.

Great ideas, excellent research and practical tools are already available. What has been missing until now is sector-level environmental leadership that enables better coordination and collaboration to implement solutions with industry.

This year, BRANZ commissioned interviews with industry leaders to identify the most pressing environmental issues facing the sector. These insights were collated into a paper together with trends and developments influencing the industry's environmental actions. The paper, published in June 2021, will form the foundation of the workstream's direction.

During June and July 2021, an expert advisory group will be working on a roadmap that sets out the construction sector's contribution to meeting Aotearoa New Zealand's carbon zero and other environmental goals. The roadmap will outline a vision and the actions to be taken by the different system players over the short, medium and long term to achieve that vision. The roadmap also aligns with other work already happening both as part of the Accord and outside of it. The roadmap will spark discussions across the sector about how environmental sustainability and performance can be improved.

Read more:

- ▶ **Discussion paper:** [Environmental challenges, opportunities and transition for construction in NZ](#)
- ▶ [Environment stream of the Construction Accord](#)