



WOMEN IN SPACE

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Connect, Empower,
Inspire.

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Introduction

Women in Space Aotearoa New Zealand (WISANZ) is a not-for-profit, professional network established by women working in the New Zealand space sector.

WISANZ aims to support and enable women and gender minorities working in the New Zealand space sector, and those who want to join the sector.

We are committed to achieving gender equity in the New Zealand space sector and do so by,

- supporting our members,
- engaging with the space sector and the Government,
- undertaking outreach to inspire girls in Aotearoa.



Why Space?

The space sector is on the frontline of addressing the global threats to our natural environment and communities. Space-enabled tools are becoming ever more essential in our daily lives.

Space will also continue to provide more jobs as the sector expands rapidly, both globally and in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Space sector jobs are largely well paid with fulfilling career pathways. Such jobs can provide financial prosperity to workers, their whānau and communities.

Women are under-represented in the space sector; a trend set to continue if no action is taken.

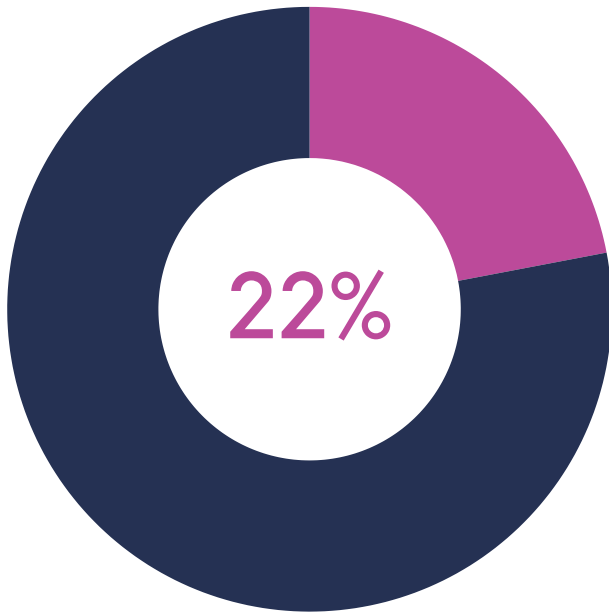
Very few women within New Zealand hold jobs in the space sector. Trends of girls studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, which can open opportunities for space careers, indicate this is unlikely to change in the near future.

Additionally, women within the sector are not advancing at the same rates as their male colleagues.

New Zealand prides itself on being a global leader in space. Yet when it comes to diversity in the sector, New Zealand writes the same story as everyone else.

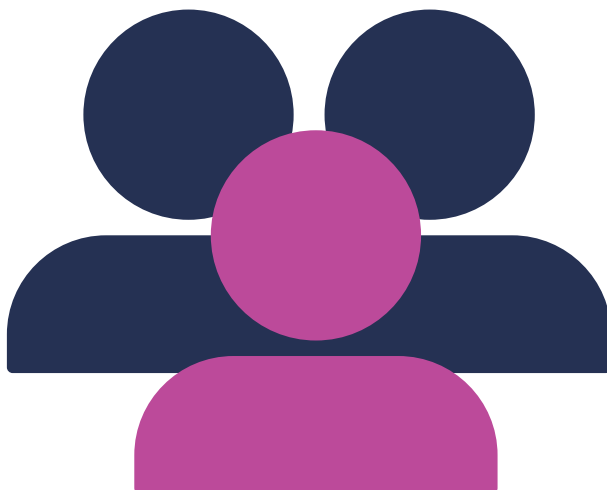
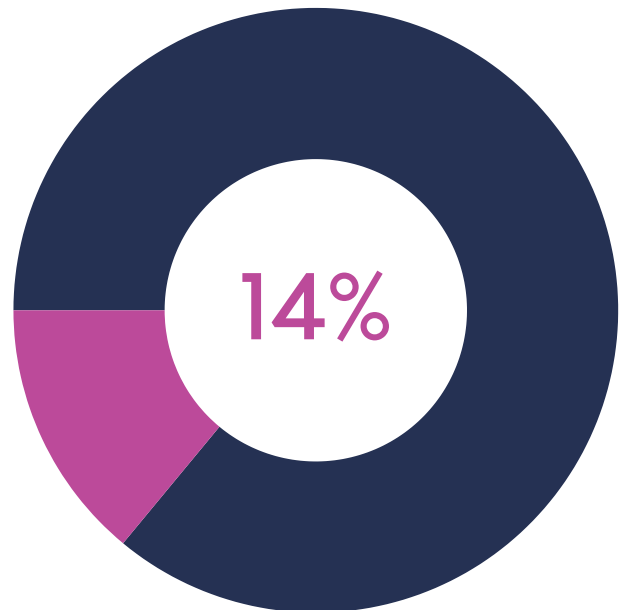
Let's change the narrative; lead by example.

Gender Diversity



Women make up only 22% of the global space workforce across all roles, even less in technical fields.

Women make up less than 14%* of technical roles in New Zealand space companies.



Only one in three space-related researchers is a woman, and women account for just 35% of graduates in STEM-related fields.

These numbers are unchanged in over 30 years.

Women Supporting Women

WISANZ was registered as an Incorporated Society in New Zealand on 16 May 2022.

76

Financial Members

Members comprise of women currently working in Aotearoa's space sector, tertiary students studying towards space careers and women working in other sectors interested in working in space.

Under the WISANZ Constitution, decisions and management of the network is held by a Committee of between 7 and 10 Members, elected by Members annually.

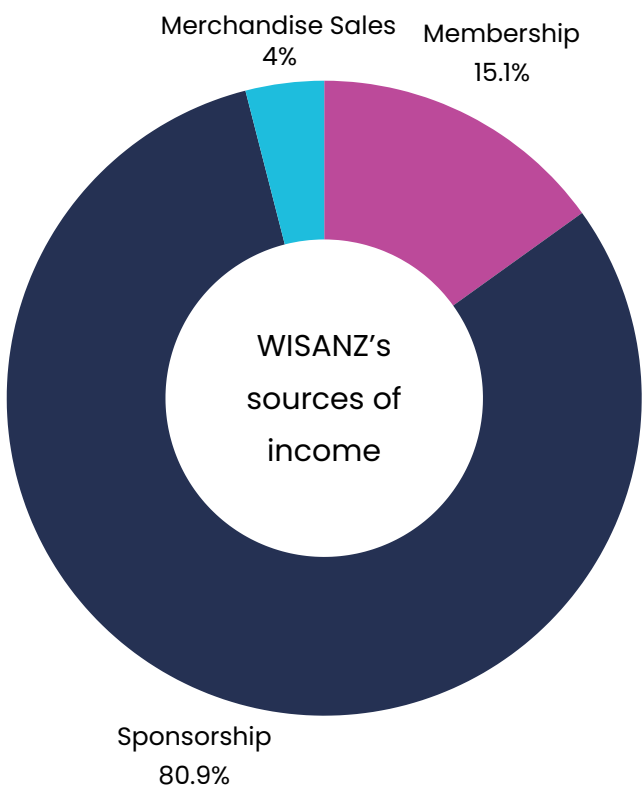
All WISANZ membership is in a personal capacity only, with no corporate members. This enables WISANZ to remain an independent advocate both for our Members and in engagement on gender equity issues with the New Zealand Government and Space Sector.



Not-For-Profit

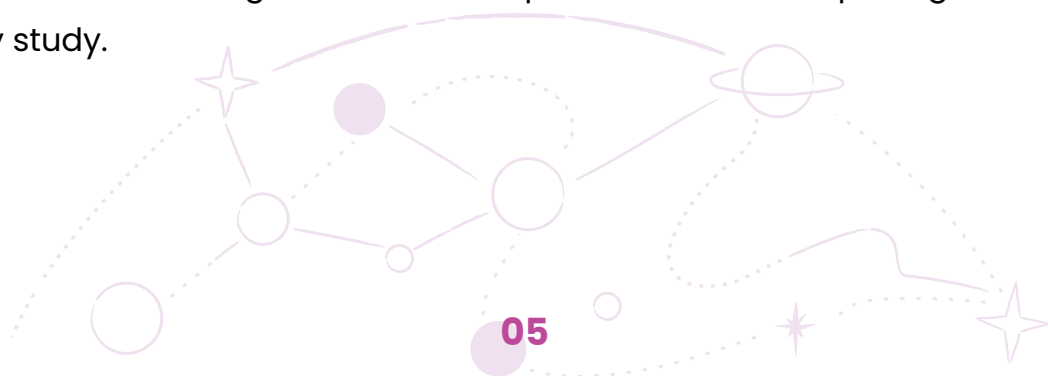
WISANZ holds Not-For-Profit status with the New Zealand Inland Revenue Department.

In the 2022/23 financial year, WISANZ's income was NZ\$22,868.98. Expenses for the same period were NZ\$15,807.85.



WISANZ is funded only by modest member subscriptions.

Facilitation costs of WISANZ outreach initiatives to date have been met through sponsorship from New Zealand space companies, universities and government agencies. However, sponsorship has not covered the many hundreds of volunteer hours of WISANZ Members spent planning and facilitating these vital initiatives while working full time in the space sector or completing full time tertiary study.



Ways to Support

WISANZ has extraordinary potential to be a leading force to advance gender equity in the space sector, not only in Aotearoa New Zealand but across global space.

To achieve this potential, WISANZ is exploring new ways to adequately resource our activities and advancing the level of our initiatives, for both our Members and the girls of Aotearoa.

WISANZ aims to fundraise a minimum of NZ\$150,000 in 2024 to advance our network towards its potential as a leading change maker for gender equity in the New Zealand and global space sectors.

WISANZ Fundraising Avenues for 2024

WISANZ has Not-For-Profit status with the New Zealand IRD

Donations

WISANZ is accepting donations via a Credit/Debit card donation facility on the our website, and via bank transfer. We can share the WISANZ bank account details via email:

info@womeninspace.co.nz

Sponsorship

WISANZ will be hosting the 'Fly Me to the Moon' Fundraiser Dinner & Auction, 12 July 2024. This event will raise funds through sponsorship of the event, ticket sales and an auction of sponsored or donated prizes.

Your donations and sponsorship will not only support women in the space sector, but also students in high schools and universities across Aotearoa New Zealand. With your support, we can inspire current and future generations to build our space sector.

Read on for more about our success stories and future initiatives

Driving Change

WISANZ has developed a strong, supportive community within our network through a number of initiatives.



Member-only events to gain further insights across the New Zealand space sector.

Including VIP tours of Rocket Lab and the NASA Sofia Flying Observatory

Professional networking opportunities with the New Zealand and global space sectors.

Including facilitating free tickets for Members to attend the New Zealand Aerospace Summit.



Virtual Member Spotlight Presentations, allowing WISANZ Members share their space careers and/or space research with fellow Members.

In-person social events, in both Auckland and Christchurch.



Collective Voice

WISANZ provides communication to and from our Members with the New Zealand Government and the New Zealand Space Sector.

WISANZ submitted a response on behalf of our Members for the public consultation of the New Zealand Government's first national Aerospace Strategy, stressing the importance of gender equity as a focus for all sector development policies and action plans.

WISANZ as an organisation and WISANZ Members have been invited to participate in panel discussions at the 2022 and 2023 New Zealand Aerospace Summits and the launch of the Aotearoa New Zealand Aerospace Strategy in July 2023.



In October 2023, two WISANZ Committee Members were invited to participate in the **UN Space4Women Expert Meeting**, co-hosted by the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Canadian Space Agency.

The Expert Meeting reviewed the first ever UN Global Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit, to be published June 2024. WISANZ is proud to have New Zealand women's perspectives incorporated in review of this global guidance.

We were able to showcase our network's achievements to the 69 participants from 35 different countries and to be part of a global community of women leading actions towards space gender equity around the world.

This was the first time New Zealand women have participated in this UN initiative.

Inspiration & Outreach

Our **Pathways to Space** event series ran in October and November 2022.

These highly successful events provided inspiration and information to high school and tertiary students about study and career pathways that could lead to work in Aotearoa New Zealand's space sector



The three in-person events allowed for students and their parents/care givers to hear from and engage directly with women mentors working across a range of different space roles in New Zealand.

WISANZ plans to conduct an expanded Pathways to Space event series in late 2024.



170

student attendees engaged with women space mentors from 19 space career fields.

Inspiration & Outreach



WISANZ launched **Space Up!** on International Women's Day 2023.

260+ high school students and 30+ high school teachers in New Zealand signed up for Space Up! membership

Space Up! is a free club for high school students in Aotearoa New Zealand providing access to space resources, information on space career pathways and direct engagement with women space role models – no matter where in the country they are based.



Two competitions were hosted in 2023 for our space up members.



The 'Design the Logo' competition received 14 entries and was won by a student in Orewa.

The Essay competition asked high school students to imagine life on Lunar Base Kiwi in 2053. 25 students entered and our winners and runners up came from Auckland, Christchurch and Invercargill. This event was sponsored by the New Zealand Space Agency, Rocket Lab and Nova Systems



More information about Space Up! can be found here: womeninspace.co.nz/space-up

2024 Initiatives

WISANZ Space Expo

WISANZ will organise and host a Space Expo that offers WISANZ Members, the opportunity to engage with New Zealand and international space companies, with research organisations and with each other. Tertiary and high school students will also be encouraged to attend

Pathways to Space

We are keen to expand upon the success of the 2022 Pathways to space events by hosting more in-person events; providing inspiration and information to students about space careers



Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit

The UN Gender Mainstreaming Toolkit will be released in June 2024. WISANZ will help develop a New Zealand specific toolkit through workshops with our Members. This toolkit will include practical guidance on how to implement the recommended measures.

Space Experience Opportunity for Space Up! Members

WISANZ are developing an opportunity with international partners to offer an incredible space experience for Space Up! members. We hope to provide an out-of-this world opportunity for one or more girls at high school in New Zealand. Details to be announced soon.

Get in touch!

WISANZ has extraordinary potential to be a leading force in advancing gender equity in the space sector. In doing so, we will create a diverse, innovative sector with opportunities for all New Zealanders. Drawing on the full talent of Aotearoa will lead to innovative solutions that enable our communities to prosper and help address the challenges threatening our natural environment.

Our initiatives to date have been incredibly well received by our Members, the girls at high schools around Aotearoa New Zealand, and by those who have generously sponsored our initiatives. We hope you are keen to help New Zealand lead by example and support the women who work tirelessly to support our space sector.

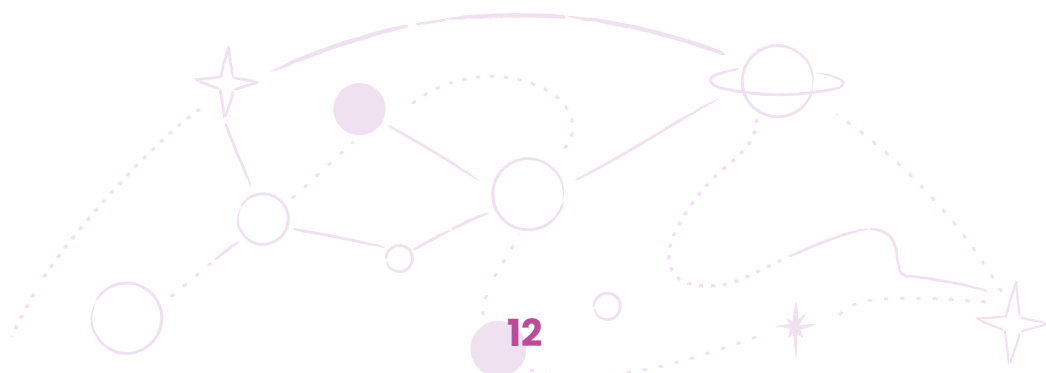
The WISANZ committee is looking forward to running these exciting 2024 initiatives with your generous support.

Ngā mihi,

The WISANZ Committee

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    @womeninspacenz





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