**Researcher Development Plan**

**How to use this tool**

It is recommended that this form is completed within the first months of your candidature, and you may add to your developmental needs during your doctoral journey. If you started your journey some time ago, you can still use this form by recalling and including the accomplishments you have achieved thus far.

Completing this form is not compulsory and it may take time and planning.

Discuss your researcher development plan with your supervisors during your supervisory meetings. Your supervisors can assist you in identifying key skills you need to acquire.

Steps:

1. Select the category or categories that interest you and evaluate your skill level in each category—low, medium, or high. This step gives you a detailed understanding of your current skill set in each chosen category.
2. Assign a priority level to each chosen category, labelling them as 'low', 'medium', 'high', or 'not applicable (n/a)' based on their importance to your overall goals. This helps you focus on what matters most to you.
3. For each prioritised category, list specific learning or practical activities that you will take or have already taken to enhance your skills. Feel free to add as many activities as needed.
4. Set a deadline for each activity within your categories. Specify the day, month, and year to help you stay organised and on track.
5. Regularly assess your progress by answering ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to indicate whether you've completed the planned activities within the specified deadlines.

Reassess your researcher development plan regularly so that you can monitor your progress and address any changing needs that may come up during your PhD journey.

If you have any questions or need help with this form, please contact your doctoral development coordinator at [william.eulatthvidal@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:william.eulatthvidal@vuw.ac.nz).

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| **Skill Categories** | **Skill Level (1)** | **Priority Level (2)** | **What will I do to achieve this? (3)** | | **Deadline (4)** | **Achieved? (5)** |
| **Type of action** | **Action** |
| SC1. Core subject expertise | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC2. Cultural competence and responsiveness | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC3. Research design and methodology | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC4. Research ethics and integrity | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC5. Academic and professional writing | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC6. Literature analysis and academic reading | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC7. Impact and mobilization | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC8. Research project management | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC9. Professional and career development | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |
| SC10. Soft skills for independent and collaborative work | Choose an item. | Choose an item. | Choose an item. |  | Click or tap to enter a date. | Choose an item. |