

ABOUT US

Blue Cradle was established by marine scientist & filmmaker James Nikitine in April 2020, during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

It was initially conceived from the idea that the ocean is not only bearing the brunt of the climate and biodiversity crises, but it can also be a fundamental solution to some of these hugely complex problems. Through research, education, and by communicating these solutions worked on by inspiring people, we believe we can participate and scale the sustainable and regenerative blue economy, to secure a safe and healthy future for the next generations. Through the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030), we can seize what is a historic opportunity to invest in ocean science and research, and meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Blue Cradle is based in Ōtautahi–Christchurch, Aotearoa New Zealand, and works all around the South Pacific.

CONTACT US

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SUPPORTED BY



*the ocean is in
our hands*



Making ocean science & conservation more accessible through research, education, collaboration and digital production.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To promote the conservation and regeneration of the ocean's ecosystems and species.
- To promote and support communities working on ocean health impact solutions in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.
- To promote ocean literacy, marine science and conservation education and ocean science for sustainable development.

THREE PROGRAMMES

- A research programme, with coastal & offshore focus, aiming to address complex issues of ecosystem resilience, anthropogenic pressures, and marine biodiversity characterization.
- An education programme, promoting ocean literacy across schools, Universities and the broader public.
- A digital outreach programme, producing short and long form content for a wide range of audiences worldwide.

OUR RESEARCH AREAS



PLASTIC
POLLUTION



BIOSECURITY



BIODIVERSITY



CLIMATE CHANGE



PEOPLE

Filling an important gap in Aotearoa New Zealand and the South Pacific region, Blue Cradle aims to facilitate different kinds of partnerships with multiple stakeholders to acquire oceanographic, biological or geological data, solving problems while also promoting ocean literacy and documenting everything along the way.

Currently working in terrestrial and coastal environments or at sea on privately owned yachts, our long-term objective is to operate a purpose-built or refitted quiet, low emissions, and low-cost liveaboard research vessel, with dry and wet laboratories, and fully equipped with modern scientific equipment.



SOLUTIONS

By focusing on a wide range of ocean science and conservation projects, we bring in junior and senior scientists together to solve some of the most pressing issues around climate change impacts on the ocean, pollution and biodiversity. Recently we've worked using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to monitor native white-flipped penguins.

We will also be using manta trawls to sample surface microplastics and use purpose-built water samplers for biosecurity risks using eDNA analysis. In our activities, we promote the work of innovative startups, and strive to partner with a broad range of scientific institutions, research groups and nonprofits who work with technology, and Indigenous knowledge to solve our biggest challenges.



STORIES

Blue Cradle's main educational activity is documentary production. We are telling stories of people working on ocean solutions. Our objective is to create an ongoing series, using an adventurous style and with clear educational outcomes. By creating solutions-oriented documentaries, we bring ocean science to millions of viewers around the world, making it more accessible and inspiring them to take action.