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Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Friday, March 11, 2022 2:04:02 PM
Last Modified: Friday, March 11, 2022 3:43:10 PM
Time Spent: 01:39:07

Page 2: Section 1: submitter contact information

Q1

Name

Blue Cradle Foundation

Q2

Email address

Privacy - 9(2)(a)

Q3

Yes

Can MBIE publish your name and contact information with your submission?
Confidentiality notice: Responding "no" to this question does not guarantee that we will not release the name and contact information your provided, if any, as we may be required to do so by law. It does mean that we will contact you if we are considering releasing submitter contact information that you have asked that we keep in confidence, and we will take your request for confidentiality into account when making a decision on whether to release it.

Q4

Yes

Can MBIE contact you in relation to your submission?

Page 3: Section 2: Submitter information

Q5

Organisation

Are you submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Page 4: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q6

Respondent skipped this question

Are you a researcher or scientist?

Q7 Respondent skipped this question
Age

Q8 Respondent skipped this question
Gender

Q9 Respondent skipped this question
In which region do you primarily work?

Q10 Respondent skipped this question
Ethnicity

Page 5: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q11 Respondent skipped this question
What is your iwi affiliation?

Page 6: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q12 Respondent skipped this question
If you wish, please specify to which Pacific ethnicity you identify

Page 7: Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Q13 Respondent skipped this question
What type of organisation do you work for?

Q14 Respondent skipped this question
Is it a Māori-led organisation?

Q15 Respondent skipped this question
Which disciplines are most relevant to your work?

Q16 Respondent skipped this question
What best describes the use of Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) in your work?

Page 8: Section 2: Submitter information - organisation

Q17

Organisation name

Blue Cradle Foundation

Q18

NGO

Organisation type

Q19

No

Is it a Māori-led organisation?

Q20

Canterbury & Chatham Islands

Where is the headquarters of the organisation?

Q21

There is some Mātauranga Māori, but it is not the main science knowledge

What best describes the use of Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) in your organisation?

Q22

Priorities design: What principles could be used to determine the scope and focus of research Priorities?(See page 27 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Our organisation the Blue Cradle Foundation engages in oceanic research and marine education. Speaking from our position, we believe in the following.

-Noting the context of a rapidly changing climate, and also aggravated marine pollution and biodiversity loss, oceanic changes are taking a large brunt of our human-induced planetary warming and are accounting for the most significant physical, biological and chemical changes, including sea level rise, acidification and de-oxygenation, putting at risk its circulation, ability to store carbon and produce oxygen which forms the basis of a stable and functioning planetary system, putting our livelihoods and our lives at risk (IPCC Special report on the oceans and cryosphere - 2019 - <https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/>)

-Noting that Aotearoa New Zealand is a large ocean state surrounded by an Exclusive Economic Zone and extended continental shelf area 15 times larger than its land mass, in a temperate region both subtropical and sub-Antarctic, both the gateway to the Southern Ocean but also to the Pacific Islands tropics, both regions subject to very large climate-related changes, in a region with very high biological significance and very little capacity.

-Noting that there is significant gap in the overall available ocean data, including in the solutions-oriented applied sciences and biodiversity conservation initiatives.

The Blue Cradle Foundation estimates that:

-The favourable context of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) calls for an ambitious, modern, innovative, and in the context of Aotearoa New Zealand - grounded in Te Ao Māori and Mātauranga Māori - approach to marine science, oceanic research, blue economy innovation and accessible exploration.

-This ambitious approach should include a "Tara Expeditions-similar" sustainable hybrid/sailboat research vessel (<https://fondationtaraocean.org/en/home/>) with state-of-the-art scientific equipment, research and education priorities, as well as a major focus on community involvement, ocean literacy education, organizing interdisciplinary expeditions in partnership with government institutions, private sector companies, iwi, hapū and whānau.

-For the purpose formulating priorities, we believe that this new major sustainable and accessible research vessel infrastructure is much needed for the country and will form an essential component of the UN Decade contribution and stretching well beyond to accomplish major 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals. Our institution is thus ideally placed to host this new oceanographic and biological research platform, with state of the art dry and wet laboratories, media studio, submersible capabilities with deployment potential in Aotearoa waters as well as the Southern Ocean and Pacific Islands region.

Q23

Priority-setting process: What principles should guide a national research Priority-setting process, and how can the process best give effect to Te Tiriti?(See pages 28-29 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Building on the previous response, the Blue Cradle Foundation believes in the following.

-There are two major and distinctively environmentally and climatically vulnerable regions right on our doorstep, the Southern Ocean, with the world's largest marine protected area, the Ross Sea MPA, and the Pacific Islands region with a very large number of countries and islands with unique marine environment and species, coral reefs and highly significant biological areas. Both these regions have very little oceanic research scientific capacity, and both have significant New Zealand involvement already, scientific, economic and cultural. Our opinion is to build on our regional role and grow our presence across the region.

-Aotearoa New Zealand is a bicultural country with responsibility regarding Māori, incorporating Te Ao Māori, Mātauranga Māori and this is now being considered across all sectors of society.

-We propose that ultimately whatever the nature of our oceanic research and education activities that Mātauranga Māori and the Te Ao Māori worldview is incorporated into them at all levels. This is especially relevant for communicating outcomes to the broader public.

-A subsequent research vessel platform would culturally embed the two systems of knowledge and worldviews: they would host state of the art scientific equipment, and feature Mātauranga and Te Ao Māori symbolism and mana, and be built in such a way that characterizes Māori and Polynesian voyaging traditions and celestial navigation.

Ultimately in our view two distinct platforms would need to be commissioned and built. One waka-type multihull based on the North Island with South Pacific focus, for research and capacity development, and the second a monohull based on the South Island for more rugged waters and Southern Ocean expeditions.

These two ships would sit under Tiriti-based governance systems.

Q24

Operationalising Priorities: How should the strategy for each national research Priority be set and how do we operationalise them?(See pages 30-33 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Elaborating on our previous answer and focusing strictly on marine research as it is our focus. The Blue Cradle Foundation believes in the following.

-Significant infrastructure investment is needed now to build the platform(s).

-International collaboration will be needed and particularly in South Pacific Island countries who are on the frontline of climate change impacts and considering deep-sea mining exploration and exploitation. Caution will need to be taken not to be in a position where pursuit of profit or gain supersedes the importance of protecting the environment. Ultimately, international waters including Southern Ocean protection will be essential to maintain as a priority. Finally, research needs to also work hand in hand with the blue economy and invest in concrete regenerative solutions.

-The research priority for the ocean must be exploration, pure science, and applied science but with the understanding that the climate and biodiversity crisis call for solutions-oriented research, with also a strong emphasis on social aspects and community outreach, which includes ocean literacy education.

-Everyone will benefit. Crown Research agencies, Ministries, Councils, multilateral agencies, and non-profits will all benefit from this new significant offering.

Page 10: Section 4: Te Tiriti, mātauranga Māori, and Māori aspirations

Q25

Engagement: How should we engage with Māori and Treaty Partners?(See page 38 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation believes the following.

At all levels across every research area there should be engagement with Māori and Treaty Partners. This implies building real trust and understanding of tikanga.

Education should therefore be a priority.

Q26

Mātauranga Māori: What are your thoughts on how to enable and protect mātauranga Māori in the research system?(See pages 38-39 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation is committed to enabling and protecting Mātauranga Māori in the research system. In our view it is essential to develop legal tools to avoid cultural appropriation, and misinterpretation of concepts. Secondly it is key to educate and thirdly build data sharing systems that incorporate both knowledge systems so researchers can have access to information.

Q27

Regionally based Māori knowledge hubs: What are your thoughts on regionally based Māori knowledge hubs?(See page 39 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation supports regionally based Māori knowledge hubs, and understands these would inevitably be connected to iwi and hapū in those regions. It will be the role of whānau and Marae to act as focal points, ultimately resulting in a significant investment and capacity building prerequisite.

Page 11: Section 5: Funding

Q28

Core Functions: How should we decide what constitutes a core function, and how do we fund them?(See pages 44-46 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation believes that "core function" includes both the research but also the educational activities. Any core funding should support the two fundamental objectives equitably.

Q29

Yes

Establishing a base grant and base grant design: Do you think a base grant funding model will improve stability and resilience for research organisations?(See pages 46-49 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

Q30

Establishing a base grant and base grant design: How should we go about designing and implementing such a funding model?(See pages 46-49 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

In our view MBIE should not be receiving grant applications but instead MBIE should be actively identifying, evaluating and making decisions on which initiatives to fund based on simple audits, and possibly interviews. For smaller organisations, this will significantly cut down administrative time lost, time that could be better spent implementing research and/or education programmes.

Page 12: Section 6: Institutions

Q31

Institution design: How do we design collaborative, adaptive and agile research institutions that will serve current and future needs?(See pages 57-58 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to explore different public-private models, but avoid falling in the market-driven commercial traps that undermine environmental stability of our planet's ecosystems.

Q32

Role of institutions in workforce development: How can institutions be designed to better support capability, skill and workforce development?(See page 58 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to promote education alongside all research activities, thus supporting capability, skill and workforce development.

Q33

Better coordinated property and capital investment: How should we make decisions on large property and capital investments under a more coordinated approach?(See pages 58-59 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to explore innovative financial tools (e.g. cryptocurrencies) to fund research and education but to take a very cautious approach.

Q34

Institution design and Te Tiriti: How do we design Tiriti-enabled institutions? (See page 59 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to strive to balanced institutions, with equal representation.

Q35

Knowledge exchange: How do we better support knowledge exchange and impact generation? What should be the role of research institutions in transferring knowledge into operational environments and technologies?(See pages 60-63 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to support research that promotes and enables education simultaneously.

Page 13: Section 7: Research workforce

Q36

Workforce and research Priorities: How should we include workforce considerations in the design of national research Priorities?(See pages 69-70 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to take into account the urgency of our climate and biodiversity challenges first. Workforce considerations can be considered market driven therefore do not necessarily benefit our environment or climate.

Q37

Base grant and workforce: What impact would a base grant have on the research workforce?(See pages 70-71 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view is to support a base grant to enable the research workforce to work on the important vital projects rather than focus on the commercially viable, market driven ones.

Q38

Better designed funding mechanisms: How do we design new funding mechanisms that strongly focus on workforce outcomes? (See page 72 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation's view does not have a specific view on this.

Page 14: Section 8: Research infrastructure

Q39

Funding research infrastructure: How do we support sustainable, efficient and enabling investment in research infrastructure?(See pages 77-78 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question)

The Blue Cradle Foundation believes in significant investment in infrastructure that lasts several decades and delivers results, but more importantly that inspires and educates for future generations.
