Community Business and Environment Centre
Creating 25 permanent jobs by installing clean energy solutions and insulating over 8000 homes in the last ten years.
Cargill Enterprises (Dunedin)

Established in 1960, Cargill Enterprises is a charitable company and the trading arm of the Disabled Citizens Society (Otago) Incorporated. It employs over 90 people in four business units. These are: timberworks, food packaging, recycling and assembly services. Services include e-waste decommissioning for recycling, packing items for dispatch, and manufacturing wooden pallets, boxes and crates.

Cargill enterprises had an annual turnover of $1,930,512 in 2016, with all profits going back into developing a forward thinking business, providing its staff with workplace training, literacy, numeracy and improved computer skills. In addition, there are plans to increase the number of staff, develop the facilities and services, and provide staff with an enhanced remuneration package.

Cargill Enterprises is excited that it will host the Dunedin City Council (DCC) in an initiative to repurpose an adjoining hall, owned by the company, into a community pop-up hub and library. The hub will have a large section of resources including access to DCC services, community meeting areas, digital resources, wifi, and books for all abilities.

www.cargillenterprises.co.nz
Cultivate Christchurch

Cultivate Christchurch is a charitable company operating two urban farms in Christchurch. The farms are used to promote youth development, sustainability, and community participation and wellbeing. They received their initial funding from the Vodafone Foundation Trust and the Wayne Francis Trust.

In association with a number of NGO’s working in youth services, Cultivate’s youth development programmes have assisted 500 young people in the past year, including 150 not in employment, education or training. They have also seen seven young people come through their internship programme. These programmes are designed to offer practical training and education, and inspire young people to realise their potential. Community participation is facilitated through their urban farm experiences, which host groups of all ages and sizes, and builds healthy soils to grow healthy food for healthy people and communities.

Cultivate’s trading activities involve collecting organic waste from the central city for composting and supplying top quality fresh produce from their urban farms to local cafes and restaurants. Their organic waste collection diverts nearly two tonnes of waste from landfill each week, and their produce has received praise from the city’s chefs for its quality and nutritional value. The organisation now employs eight people in various roles and has a goal to cover 90 per cent of all operating costs through trading activities by 2019. Future investment will enable Cultivate to grow its services, farm spaces and make the benefits of being involved more accessible to more people.

www.cultivate.org.nz
Destination Trades (Auckland)

Destination Trades is a new company that recruits and trains women for the construction, infrastructure and manufacturing trades, and places them in apprenticeships or jobs. Its first course, “Nailing It”, is underway, teaching general building skills to 17 Māori and Pasifka women. While “Nailing It” is currently conducting a course for the Ministry of Social Development, it is envisaged that future programmes will include students who pay for themselves, have an employer contribution, or will be completely paid by employers that need good workers. Manukau Institute of Technology has provided land from which Destination Trades has set up a Learning Site for all practical training.

Employers in a range of other trades have indicated enthusiasm for further courses to train women in truck driving and roofing, and to become arborists and glaziers. Destination Trades is currently participating in the Ākina Foundation’s Launchpad Work accelerator programme, being coached in successfully growing their business and measuring the impact of their programmes. It is already evident that participants are gaining increased self-esteem and job skills, which they are modelling to the next generations in their families.

www.destinationtrades.co.nz
Hikurangi Enterprises (Ruatoria)

Hikurangi Enterprises has a goal of creating jobs and increasing economic development on the East Coast. Established in 2015, it is a charitable company developing natural health products derived from kānuka, hemp, kina and fungi. For instance, kānuka oil is seen as having significant market potential for a variety of purposes. A trial crop of 5000 low-THC hemp plants has been grown for seed oil and fibre which can be used for textiles and building materials, with future potential medicinal purposes subject to appropriate trials and facilities.

As well as providing jobs, there is potential to generate income for whānau and land owners by supplying ingredients to multi-national companies with licenses to use Hikurangi Enterprises’ intellectual property. While aiming for a multi-million dollar trading income, Hikurangi Enterprises has financial support from Callaghan Innovation, and various other government and philanthropic sources, and is partnering with several Crown Research Institutes and universities.

hikurangi.enterprises
KidsCoin

To combat the lack of financial literacy in Pacific communities, a mother and daughter duo have created the online tool KidsCoin. This Auckland-based venture uses inspiring ways to build financial capability and entrepreneurialism in children at decile 1 and 2 schools.

Through the website, kids earn ‘kids coins’ through online quizzes that teach fundamentals of transactions, banking, saving, making loans, tax paying, entrepreneurship and more. All of these activities involve their actual ‘money’ and at the end of the term the kids can buy goods and services from the KidsCoin shop with any money they have left over.

KidsCoin addresses the concerns of many commentators who have criticised the school curriculum for its lack of real world financial education. After a year, KidsCoin has cracked into the market with a subscription model with iwi clients who have purchased the programme to increase the financial capability of their children. Subscription uptake within a wide but connected group increases the effectiveness of KidsCoin through competition, sharing and communal fun.

Brittany and Teri Teei have extensive experience in business and education and are passionate about making a difference for the future of Pacific and Māori communities. The platform has been expanded for family use and Brittany and Teri plan to increase their customer base through workshops that show how it works and explain the benefits. They aim to increase the products available in the store, and incorporate donations of products in return for local business exposure on the site, while keeping things evolving organically.

www.kidscoin.co.nz
Loomio

Loomio is an online space that helps people make better decisions together. Over 35,000 groups have used Loomio to make over 52,000 decisions. Loomio is being used in over 100 countries, and has been translated into 35 languages.

Established in 2012, this Wellington-based co-operative company has an active team of 9 and an annual turnover of $150,000. Customers pay a monthly subscription for using the hosted service. Community groups without a budget are supported by voluntary donations.

In the first three years of operation, Loomio raised $400,000 in debt and philanthropic donations, including $130,000 in crowdfunded donations. Loomio found that traditional venture capital was not a good fit for a company that puts its social mission first, and traditional charitable funding did not operate at the scale or speed required for a globally scalable software company. In 2015, Loomio met this challenge by using redeemable preference shares, which offer a fair rate of return while protecting the company’s social mission. This raised $680,000 in new capital through 18 investors, including a lead investor in South Korea who recognised Loomio’s social impact.

Each week 1000 people sign up to Loomio. To engage more global users, Loomio continues to add new functions to its online space to help people make better decisions together.

www.loomio.org
OOOBY (Out Of Our Own Backyards)

OOOBY provides fruit and vegetables, grown close to the customer, with an emphasis on supporting small and artisan producers. Approximately eighty percent of the produce is organic. Customers buy the produce online, which is then delivered to their doors. This creates fairer local economies and reduces the carbon footprint of food transport. OOOBY has hubs in Auckland, Christchurch, Sydney (Australia) and Fresno (California).

OOOBY is a limited liability company majority owned by the OOOBY Foundation Charitable Trust. Established in 2010, OOOBY now has a turnover of around $70,000 per week across all hubs. It has around 40 part-time staff and a leadership team of three. Over 200,000 boxes have been delivered to over 8000 homes.

In seeking finance, the target is investors who are willing to take on a longer term and non-standard investment because they value OOOBY's social and environmental purpose. Initial funding was a loan by the founding team, then an equity crowdfunding campaign in 2015 raised $284,756. More recently $140,000 in loans has been obtained from some key customers and growers, on the understanding that this will be converted into shares. A further equity funding round will occur this year. Establishment of the Californian food hub was enabled by a USD$150,000 philanthropic donation.

www.ooooby.org/auckland
Pomegranate Kitchen is a not-for-profit social enterprise where former refugees receive training and experience in commercial cooking, and a chance to share their traditional food with the Wellington market.

Finding work is one of the most challenging aspects of resettling in a new country. Language barriers and a lack of local experience or references means it can be very difficult for former refugees to find the right training or job opportunities. Pomegranate Kitchen addresses these issues by providing a training and development programme which includes English language, health and safety, kitchen skills and on-the-job catering experience.

Pomegranate Kitchen provides group catering and individual lunch delivery in Wellington. Its menu takes inspiration from the diverse backgrounds of the former refugees they work with, giving them a chance to give back and share their culture with their new community.

Founded in 2016, it raised over $18,000 in start-up costs through a successful PledgeMe campaign, and received some funding from Wellington City Council. Former refugees who are now Wellington locals are involved at every level of the business, including management, writing menus and preparing dishes. The sales from catering account for most of their income. They have recently expanded to hire three more cooks and move into a new kitchen.

www.pomegranate.org.nz
Pukaha Mount Bruce (Wairarapa)

Pukaha Mount Bruce is a conservation-centred enterprise in the Wairarapa owned by a charitable trust. Visitors to Pukaha experience native animals such as a tuatara, long fin eels, and native birds such as kiwi, hihi and kōkako in the wild and in captivity.

Pukaha earns most of its trading income from its visitor centre and café, profits from which support its captive breeding programme and conservation activities. Pukaha has been running a social enterprise model since 2013, incrementally taking over functions at Mt Bruce from the Department of Conservation between 2013 and 2016. Local iwi Rangitane o Wairarapa and the Department of Conservation play a role in governance of the charitable trust.

Pukaha employs eight full time staff, eight part-time staff and up to ten casual staff, in addition to volunteers equivalent to over five full-time staff. Trading income in 2015/16 was $1.1 million, with a further $1.6 million from other sources such as grants and donations supporting forest restoration and the captive breeding programme.

Pukaha has had many successes, such as biodiversity increases in the area, with sustainable kākā and kōkako populations, and wild kiwi living in the forest. Pukaha has formed strong relationships with regional councils in the area, and with its farming neighbours who are huge supporters and advocates of its work. Balancing affordability with meeting rising costs is always a challenge, as are combating ferret incursions into the forest, and meeting the community’s expectations around kiwi.

www.pukaha.org.nz
Waewae Pounamu (Hokitika)

Established in 2011, Waewae Pounamu is a charitable company selling pounamu carvings through a retail store, where visitors see the carvers in action. As a commercial arm of Te Runanga o Ngāti Waewae, the business provides jobs and training for whānau members, particularly those who have been unemployed. Pounamu carvings are supplied to 74 New Zealand outlets, and to dignitaries requiring New Zealand gifts, such as the Governor-General. A second retail store has been opened in Christchurch. The annual turnover is $1.8 million.

With eleven current employees, much of the profit is channelled into creating further jobs. Other profits are used for charitable purposes such as school holiday programmes, marae-based activities and sponsoring sport. Waewae Pounamu supports the Child Cancer Foundation by providing around 300 pounamu beads each year for the Beads of Courage programme. Through this, child patients get a bead for each cancer treatment they receive.

www.waewaepounamu.co.nz
Whale Watch (Kaikoura)

Whale Watch is a limited liability company and registered charity, which has emerged as one of the prime eco-tourism operations in New Zealand. Its aim is to run a sustainable whale watching business, whilst seeking to minimise the impact of its operations on the environment. Whale Watch promotes recycling, uses eco-friendly products, and seeks to reduce its energy consumption and carbon footprint. Whale Watch also provides grants to charities in the education and training, environment and conservation sectors.

Whale Watch generates income from whale watching tours in Kaikoura and the Gold Coast, Australia, and through leasing out land and office space, which it owns. Its annual income is approximately $10+ million and it has over 70 employees. Whale Watch has strong support from the local community and has provided jobs and stimulated economic development in Kaikoura.

www.whalewatch.co.nz