



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC AND EU-POLARNET LAUNCH GLOBAL SURVEY TO ADVANCE INDUSTRY/SCIENCE COLLABORATION ON POLAR DATA COLLECTION

[If you are a member of the polar and ocean business community, we need your feedback!](#)

12 December 2016

The World Ocean Council (WOC) and EU-PolarNet are reaching out to the polar and ocean businesses community to [identify opportunities to collaborate on data collection in support of improved science and sustainable development.](#)

To advance this collaboration, the polar and ocean business community is invited to participate in the WOC/EU PolarNet [survey on vessels in polar regions.](#) If you are part of the polar and ocean business community which includes shipping but also fishing, tourism, extractive industries (minerals, oil & gas) and other activities, [whether or not you are in the EU, your input to this survey will be precious.](#) We also invite you to spread the word if you know companies and industries in the Polar regions!

EU-PolarNet is the world's largest consortium of expertise and infrastructure for polar research, representing 22 research institutions from 17 European countries, supported by Horizon 2020. The WOC is the EU-PolarNet industry partner, working to foster and facilitate private sector interaction with the polar research community.

Expanding the scope and scale of polar ocean and atmosphere observations is essential to improved understanding, modelling, and predicting of conditions in these areas. This will in turn reduce risks to industries operating in polar areas.

There are important opportunities for science and industry to collaborate in the use of 'ships of opportunity' to facilitate data collection and achieve the mutual benefits of increased and improved information from polar areas.

[The present survey builds on the discussions on "Polar Region Sustainable Development: Business and Science Collaboration in the Arctic and Antarctic" at the recent WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit \(SOS\).](#) The survey also contributes to the WOC *Smart Ocean-Smart Industries* program, which is working to systematically scale up industry involvement in data collection worldwide.

About the World Ocean Council (WOC)

The WOC is the only international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in sustainability, stewardship and science. Companies from a range of industries worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in “Corporate Ocean Responsibility”, including: shipping, oil and gas, tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, mining, renewable energy, ocean technology, investment. WOC Members are listed [here](#), a part of the WOC Network of 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and the UK/Europe.

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