



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

INVESTORS AND CEO'S FOCUS ON "CLIMATE-SMART CARIBBEAN" AT WOC/SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUND INSTITUTE "OCEAN DAY"

Sir Richard Branson, Investors and Ocean Industry CEO's Highlight Opportunities to Build a "Climate-Smart Caribbean" at the World Ocean Council/SWFI *Institutional Investor Forum*

27 February 2018

The World Ocean Council (WOC) brought investors and ocean industry CEOs together for the SWFI *Institutional Investor Forum* (Santa Monica, California, 20-22 February), with a special day focused on the ocean, coasts and islands on 22 February.

The "Ocean Day" brought together high-level CEO panels covering: 1) Aquaculture, 2) Renewable Energy, and 3) Port/Coastal Infrastructure Resiliency and Adaption. A special 4th session focused on Small Island/Caribbean investment opportunities - including the "Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator".

Richard Branson opened the Small Island/Caribbean session by describing the need and opportunities for investment and business involvement in the constructing of a "Climate-Smart Caribbean" in the aftermath of the devastating hurricanes of 2017. Sir Richard participated live from Necker Island in the British Virgin Islands, which was itself hit hard by Hurricane Irma in September 2017.

Branson described the coalition led by Caribbean Leaders and launched at President Macron's One Planet Summit in Paris in December 2017 that is facilitating a new vision for the Caribbean as it recovers. He encouraged investors and ocean industries, especially from the renewable energy sector, to participate in the Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator (www.caribbeancoalition.org), as the region works to rebuild smart. The World Ocean Council is a founding Partner of the Caribbean Climate-Smart initiative.

The sector panels included CEO's and investor representatives from leadership companies, including:

- Renewable Energy: Principle Power, Resolute Marine Energy, Verdant Power, Orsted North America, Siemens Wind Power, SeaAhead, Perkins Coie

- Aquaculture: Cuna del Mar, Protix, Calysta, Catalina Sea Ranch, Primary Ocean Producers
- Port/Coastal Infrastructure Resiliency and Adaption: Agawa Fund Management, Baird and Associates, Lightsmith Group, American Association of Port Authorities

The SWFI membership and their annual Investor Forum brings together senior representatives of sovereign wealth funds, pensions, superannuation funds, central bank reserves, endowments. SWFI covers an investor segment with an aggregate Assets Under Management of greater than US\$ 30 trillion.

SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2018: 14-16 November, Hong Kong

Mark your calendars for this unique gathering of the global ocean business community.

Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

28 February-1 March, DUBAI

Offshore Arabia - Invited Plenary Speaker

14-16 March, SINGAPORE

Asia Pacific Maritime, Work Boat Conference - Invited Plenary Speaker

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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