



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC AND GEF LME:LEARN ENGAGE AFRICAN BUSINESS ACTION IN OCEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT SECOND REGIONAL WORKSHOP

World Ocean Council to Organize a Second Business Roundtable at Africa Regional Network Meeting, Dakar, Senegal, 3-4 September 2018, followed by Latin America-Caribbean Business Roundtable (Panama City, 1-2 October, 2018)

17 July 2018

The World Ocean Council (WOC) and the GEF LME:LEARN project continue collaborating to enhance regional marine projects and institutions to better work with the private sector to achieve sustainable development. **The GEF LME:LEARN project** (funded by the GEF, implemented by the UNDP and executed by the IOC of UNESCO) seeks to improve global ecosystem-based governance of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) and their coasts by generating knowledge, building capacity, harnessing public and private partners and supporting learning.

The second Annual Africa Regional Network Meeting for LMEs, marine projects and other ocean related initiatives will take place in Dakar, Senegal, 3-4 September, 2018 and the ocean business community is invited to participate.

Through these meetings GEF LME:LEARN seeks to enhance the development of partnerships in the region's LMEs by engaging stakeholders and managers involved in marine protected areas, coastal management, fisheries, biodiversity, and coastal climate change adaptation, and other activities in the overlapping LMEs.

GEF LME:LEARN is partnering with the WOC to engage with the private sector to promote innovative, market-based action in support of business-driven sustainable development, including identifying opportunities for investment in the region's Blue Economy.

The business roundtable, moderated by WOC COO Christine Valentin, will bring together senior representatives from key businesses in Africa, including offshore oil and gas, fishing and ports, to focus on:

- Global and regional priorities and opportunities regarding sustainable development from the ocean business community
- Needs and opportunities to collaborate across the sectors and at a regional scale

- How other stakeholders can best work with and through intermediary organizations to engage the private sector
- Developing an Africa ocean business leadership community for sustainable ocean development

Members of the African ocean business community are invited to participate in the workshop and engage in the ocean sustainable development dialogue across the sectors, with other stakeholders and with international projects such as GEF LME:LEARN. To participate, please contact info@oceancouncil.org.

The Latin America and Caribbean region workshop will take place in Panama on 1-2 October, 2018. Please contact the WOC at info@oceancouncil.org to participate.

SOS 2018: EARLY REGISTRATION AVAILABLE UNTIL 15/09/18

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

SOS 2018 Theme: “Ocean Sustainable Development- Connecting Asia and the World”

Registration Now Open !

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

Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

26-31 August, STOCKHOLM

World Water Week - “Source to Sea Solutions: Business leadership in protecting the marine environment from land-based pollution” (Invited Co-Organizer)

3-4 September, DAKAR

GEF-IW/UNDP/IOC-UNESCO Africa Regional Network Meeting - “Business Roundtable” - Global Environment Facility (GEF)-International Waters (IW), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO) (Invited Organizer)

4-17 September, NEW YORK

U.N. Law of the Sea, BBNJ Treaty - 1st Negotiation Session on international, legally binding instrument under the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea re the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) (Industry Representative)

12-14 September, SAN FRANCISCO

Global Climate Summit (Invited Organizer of “Private Sector Leadership in Climate Proof Ports for Small Island Developing States”, Official Affiliate Event)

1-2 October, PANAMA CITY

GEF-IW/UNDP/IOC-UNESCO Latin America-Caribbean Regional Network Meeting - “Business Roundtable” (Invited Organizer)

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.

Contact email: info@oceancouncil.org **Web:** www.oceancouncil.org

To subscribe to future WOC News or to update your contact information, [click here](#).

To share this issue of WOC News with others (on Facebook, Twitter, etc), [click here](#).