



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC AND SEABED 2030 LAUNCH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL OCEAN BATHYMETRIC MAPPING

World Ocean Council to Engage Ocean Business Community in Contributing Bathymetric Data to Seabed 2030 for Sustainable Development

22 May 2019

[The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project](#) and the World Ocean Council (WOC), the Global Blue Economy Business Organization, have forged a partnership to advance mapping the world's ocean floor.

WOC will engage the ocean business community to promote the Seabed 2030 vision and the ways in which organizations in the maritime community can collect and contribute bathymetric data to Seabed 2030. Companies interested in participating in providing seabed data are encouraged to contact the WOC at info@oceanuncouncil.org.

The agreement between the organizations was signed in Copenhagen on 14 May by Dr Graham Allen, Acting Director of Seabed 2030, and Paul Holthus, WOC Founding President and CEO, on the fringes of the 1st Global Planning Meeting of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

To mark the signing of the agreement, it was announced that Seabed 2030 will take part in the WOC 7th annual Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS), Paris, 20-22 November 2019, and will collaborate with WOC to conduct an SOS workshop for industry on bathymetric data collection and sharing.

"Collaboration across continents and different sectors of the maritime community is absolutely essential to our goal of producing a definitive, publicly available map of the world's ocean floor," said Dr Graham Allen, Acting Director of The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project. "This partnership with the World Ocean Council will help us engage the ocean business community in pursuit of this goal. The role that they can play contributing or collecting data will help advance our understanding of the ocean, and of how we can act sustainably and responsibly in the future."

Speaking after the signing, WOC CEO Paul Holthus said, "The World Ocean Council is the unique international cross-sectoral business leadership alliance for ocean sustainable development, science and stewardship. The MOU with Seabed 2030 strengthens our efforts to

encourage ocean industries to contribute bathymetric data, which we are advancing as part of the broader WOC SMART Ocean – SMART Industries program, which engages the full range of ocean business sectors to participate in data collection and sharing.”

[The Nippon Foundation-GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project](#), launched by Mr Yohei Sasakawa of The Nippon Foundation at the UN Ocean Conference in 2017, is a collaborative project to map the entirety of the world’s ocean floor by the year 2030, and to include all bathymetric data in the freely available GEBCO Ocean Map.

In pursuit of this goal, Seabed 2030 is building a global community of ocean mappers, hydrographers, scientists, industry and the public to discover and publish all existing bathymetric data. Seabed 2030 also aims to inform and inspire new mapping expeditions to “map the gaps” in our knowledge of the seafloor, and provide the world with the definitive map of ocean bathymetry.

SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2019: 20-22 Nov, Paris

“Investing in Ocean Futures: Finance and Innovation for the Blue Economy”

Mark your calendars for this unique gathering of the global Ocean Business Community.

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

22 May, LONDON

Sea: The Future (Participant)

23 May, PARIS

Ocean Workshop (Speaker)

23 May, PARIS

Economic Challenges of Silk Road Developments (Participant)

23-24 May, MAPUTO

Growing Blue Conference (Session Chair: Oil and Gas; Speaker: Regional Business Collaboration)

27-29 May, MAURITIUS

Western Indian Ocean Regional Science to Policy Workshop (Speaker)

27-29 May, PARIS

Blue Forum (Participant)

28 May, PARIS

Oil & Gas and Offshore Wind Energy Synergies Conference (Participant)

28 May, PARIS

Maritime Economy Task Force Conference (Participant)

29-30 May, ATHENS

International Green Shipping and Technology Summit (Chair, Speaker)

13 June, PARIS

High Seas Workshop (Participant)

17-20 June, MARSEILLE

OCEANS 2019 (Speaker)

25-26 June, TUNIS

Africa Blue Economy Forum (Strategic Partner, Session Organizer)

World Ocean Council (WOC) – The Global Blue Economy Business Organization

The WOC is the international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership, collaboration and action on ocean 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 and 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, UK and France.

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](#).