



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC WORKS WITH PARTNERS TO SURVEY OCEAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY REGARDING MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND EFFORTS IN WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

UN Environment, South African Institute of International Affairs and World Ocean Council Engage Business, Industry and Other Stakeholders in the Western Indian Ocean to Advance Marine Ecosystem Management

7 May 2020

The United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) and the World Ocean Council (WOC) are collaborating to conduct a survey on private sector practices and partnerships related to marine and coastal environmental issues and efforts in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO).

The Western Indian Ocean business survey can be found [here](#) and is open for input until 22 May.

The survey will contribute to the development of a regional private sector engagement strategy for the *Western Indian Ocean Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms* (WIO LME SAPPHIRE) project. The SAPPHIRE project's overall objective is to achieve effective long-term ecosystem management in the WIO's Large Marine Ecosystems.

This survey addresses five key categories of stakeholder institutions in the WIO region:

- Private sector representative organizations (such as business chambers or industry associations), including small-scale / SME associations or networks
- Individual private sector companies, including small scale / SME organizations
- NGOs and relevant NGO initiatives
- Regional and/or multilateral institutions and intergovernmental organizations (Regional Economic Community Secretariats, UN Agencies, Regional Fisheries Commissions, IUCN etc)
- Research institutions, associations and networks (e.g. WIOMSA, KMFRI, TAFIRI)

Ocean business and industry organizations are especially requested to both complete the survey and to disseminate it among their membership and encourage individual companies to respond to the survey.

For more information about the survey please contact:

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The WOC - the Global Blue Economy Business and Investment Organization - works to develop ocean business leadership networks at the regional and national level around the world in order to foster and facilitate collaboration and action on ocean sustainable development. This includes ongoing efforts in the Western Indian Ocean region and with individual countries in and around the region.

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

21 April, 15:00-16:00 CEST, [Online Webinar](#)

SEA20 – Weathering the Storm: COVID 19, Port Cities and Maritime Industries (Panel Speaker)

<https://www.sea20.org/read/weathering-the-storm-while-preparing-for-a-leap>

19 May, [9:00-10:00 CEST](#), [20:00-21:00 CEST](#), [Online Webinar](#)

International Union of Marine Insurers (IUMI) – WOC Briefing on the New U.N. Ocean Treaty: Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) (Speaker)

20 May, [10:00-11:00 CEST](#), [19:00-20:00 CEST](#), [Online Webinar](#)

Fishing For Data: Ocean Observations and Data Collection from Fishing Vessels (Partner)

14-16 October, STAMFORD, USA

CMA Shipping 2020 (Plenary Speaker on Law of the Sea/BBNJ Treaty)

<https://informaconnect.com/cma-shipping/>

Dates TBD, NEW YORK

U.N. Law of the Sea, BBNJ Treaty – 4th (Final) Negotiation Session on the 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)

Dates TBD, BRUSSELS

4th Meeting of the EU Marine Knowledge Expert Group (Participant)

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.

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