



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK: FINANCING NATURAL CAPITAL FOR VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT IN POST COVID-19 AFRICA

World Ocean Council Partners with AfDB's African Development Institute (ADI) on Seminar to Facilitate Knowledge Synthesis and Policy for Financing Natural Capital, with WOC Input Focused on the Blue Economy

8 October 2020

The African Development Institute (ADI) of the African Development Bank will host a seminar on financing natural capital and policies for value chain development regarding natural resources. The seminar will engage African Regional Member Countries to facilitate knowledge synthesis and policy dialogue, training, capacity development and technical assistance in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The WOC CEO, Paul Holthus, has been invited to provide a keynote on the Blue Economy and natural capital development globally and in relation to Africa.

The ADI/AfDB seminar is developed in collaboration with the Global Green Growth Institute, the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Green Growth Knowledge Partnership, International Resources Panel, Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative, UN University Institute for Natural Resources, the African Society for Ecological Economics, together with several global and African institutions, Universities and Think Tanks.

The seminar will be structured around eight themes relating to financing natural capital in post-COVID-19 Africa including: prospecting, exploration and contracting; extraction/mining – (artisanal, small scale and large scale); beneficiation – processing and value addition; trade – intra-regional and international trade; appropriation of benefits; environmental and social governance – conservation, mine closure and ecosystem restoration; corporate social responsibility and local content; and value chain audits.

[Blue Economy by the Numbers](#)

Extent of maritime zones under Africa's jurisdiction: [About 13 million square kilometers](#)

Source: Africa's Blue Economy: A policy handbook. 2016. Economic Commission for Africa.

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

27 September - 2 October, Florida/Online Conference

[Underwater Minerals Conference \(UMC\) 2020](#) (Speaker, Sponsor)

30 September, 10:00 BST, Webinar

[Breakbulk – The Digital Special: Building a Sustainable Future](#) (Speaker)

1-2 October, Online Conference

[Reuters Offshore and Floating Wind Europe](#) (Speaker)

6-8 October, Rotterdam/Online Conference

[World Conference on Floating Solutions](#) (Keynote Speaker, Partner)

8 October, 9:30-11:30 EST, Online Conference

[Role of the Ocean in Climate Change and Sea Level Rise](#) (Speaker)

12-13 October, Online Seminar

[African Development Institute \(ADI\) Global Community of Practice Seminar – Financing Natural Capital: Policies for Value Chain Development in Natural Resources in Post COVID-19 Africa](#) (Keynote Speaker, Partner)

14-16 October, Online Event

[CMA Shipping](#) (Speaker, Supporting Organization)

15-16 October, Online Event

[Global Forum on Human Settlements 2020](#) (Speaker, Partner)

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 and France.

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