



## News Release

# EU-POLARNET: INTEGRATED EUROPEAN POLAR RESEARCH PROGRAMME COMPLETES ITS WORK; FINAL WHITE PAPERS PUBLISHED

## After Five Exciting Years, EU-PolarNet and WOC Completed the Project's Activities in June 2020 and Delivered a Final Set of Achievements

16 November 2020

From 2015-2020, the EU-PolarNet project, which included the World Ocean Council (WOC) as its key industry partner, worked to co-design polar research projects that deliver tangible benefits for society, through new partnerships, prioritizing science and optimizing the use of polar infrastructure.

The EU-PolarNet consortium engaged in closer cooperation with all relevant actors on an international level, with the purpose of reaching a higher degree of coordination in polar research and operations.

**EU-PolarNet came to an end in June 2020 and delivered its final round of outputs, which are all accessible [here](#).**

**The deliverables notably includes the first fully co-designed European Polar Research Programme, which is available [here](#).**

In addition, two final white papers have been published on:

- European Infrastructure Access and Interoperability
- Status of Stakeholder Engagement in Polar Research

Christine Valentin, WOC Europe's Executive Director has been a contributing author to the European Polar Research Programme and the white paper on European Infrastructure Access and Interoperability.

WOC efforts in the Arctic began in 2012 with the pioneering Arctic Business Leadership Council Meeting. Currently WOC is a partner in numerous EU Arctic projects, including: ARICE, Blue Action and PolarNet 2.

Increase in the number of ships entering the Arctic, 2013 to 2019:**25%**  
Increase in the distance sailed by ships in the Arctic, 2013 to 2019:**75%**.

Source: The Increase in Arctic Shipping: 2013-2019. Arctic Council – Protection of the Marine Environment (PAME).

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## SAVE THE DATE

### Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2020: 8-11 Dec, online

*“Ocean Vision 2030 - The Decade for Ocean Action: Connecting Sustainable Development, Business and Investment for the Blue Economy”*

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## Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

5 November, Online Event

**WOC Global Blue Economy Innovation Initiatives Workshop** (Organizer)

10 November, Online Event

**Blue Economy for Prosperity in Post Pandemic World: Opportunities in Traditional Sectors and New Avenues for Financing** - [Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry](#), Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Energy and Resources Institute, National Maritime Foundation (Partner, Speaker)

10 November, Online event

4th EU Marine Knowledge Experts Group Meeting (Participant)

10 November, Online event

Columbia Climathon (Speaker: Blue Economy and Maritime Clusters)

16-17 November, Online Event

[Biofouling Global Virtual Seminar](#) (Partner)

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## 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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