



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

WOC LAUNCHES OCEAN RESTORATION / CO2 REMOVAL ROUNDTABLE FOR BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT

Business and Investment Representatives Begin Meeting Monthly to Advance Private Sector Leadership in Restoring Ocean Health and Sequestering Carbon Dioxide

15 December 2020

The initial World Ocean Council (WOC) “Ocean Restoration and Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Roundtable” virtually gathered participants from the business and investment community on 24 November.

The WOC Ocean Restoration and CDR Roundtable brings together:

- Investors interested or involved in Ocean Restoration and Ocean CDR
- Companies who are seeking to support or invest in Ocean CDR as part of meeting carbon reduction targets
- Enterprises which are creating Ocean CDR / Ocean Restoration businesses
- Carbon removal marketplace organizations

The next meeting of the WOC Ocean Restoration and CDR Roundtable takes place on 17 December 2020 at 1900 GMT/UMC. Business and investment representatives interested in participating are invited to contact WOC at info@oceanCouncil.org.

The Roundtable covers the full range of ocean restoration, and Negative Emissions Technologies (Ocean NET) strategies, approaches and technologies. Building on WOC efforts since 2012 regarding these issues, the forum provides the structure and process for pre-competitive private sector leadership, collaboration and action among the growing number of businesses and investors interested or involved in ocean restoration and CDR.

These efforts also link to WOC Ocean Investor/Funds Roundtable, which began meeting in early 2020, building on the highly successful 8th WOC Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS). The **SOS 2019**, with its theme of “Investing in Ocean Futures: Finance and Innovation for the Blue Economy” is the most comprehensive global blue finance event organized to date.

The WOC Ocean Restoration and CDR Roundtable is working to:

- Facilitate company efforts in achieving carbon-reduction/carbon-neutral commitments by connecting them with viable ocean CDR opportunities
- Consider how Ocean Restoration and Ocean CDR can be assessed, screened and prioritized for

research, development and deployment efforts and resources

- Develop and advance a careful, science-based and business-smart process is required to determine what role the ocean can potentially play
- Determine the important timelines, legal and policy issues, resources and budgets (e.g. for research), financial options to deliver private sector Ocean Restoration and Ocean CDR solutions as an important contributor to climate solutions
- Foster global partnerships and relationships to test and validate Ocean Restoration / CDR solutions
- Advance the development of the appropriate tools to assess social, legal, environmental and economic aspects of ocean interventions to address climate change

If responsibly developed and implemented, ocean restoration and CDR have the potential to assist with achieving net-zero carbon targets and avoiding the worst effects of climate change.

Blue Economy by the Numbers

Percent of the 1300 Gt carbon dioxide from anthropogenic emissions over the last 200 years that has already gone into the oceans: **38%**

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ocean_storage_of_carbon_dioxide

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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