



The International Business Alliance
for Corporate Ocean Responsibility

News Release

ARCTIC ACTION PLAN FOR U.N. DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE – OPPORTUNITY FOR OCEAN INDUSTRY INPUT

WOC Supports Arctic Task Force Consultation on Draft Action Plan for the Arctic Region in the U.N. Ocean Decade

12 March 2021

The World Ocean Council (WOC) is working with the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to advance the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030 ('Ocean Decade'), including for the Arctic.

This builds on the WOC's longstanding interaction with the IOC, which formally recognized WOC as a key partner and the international organization bringing together leaders from ocean industries to collaborate on achieving a healthy, productive global ocean and its sustainable development. WOC efforts have focused on engaging ocean industries in collecting and sharing data ("[SMART Ocean-SMART Industries](#)").

The U.N. Ocean Decade offers the Ocean Business Community a unique opportunity to join efforts, mobilize resources, create partnerships and engage governments in advancing science for ocean sustainable development.

The Ocean Decade's Arctic Task Force is developing an 'Ocean Decade - Arctic Action Plan' in a participatory and consultative process lead by the Danish Center for Marine Research. The Ocean Decade Implementation Plan provides the strategic global framework for the Arctic region and identifies actions and priorities.

The 'Ocean Decade - Arctic Action Plan' is available for review and feedback from 13 March – 11 April 2021.

WOC invites the Ocean Business Community to the online consultation event for the Arctic Action Plan, to be held on 16 March 2021, 16:00 - 17:30 CET. Participants will have the opportunity to share feedback on the draft Action Plan and network with science, governments, industry and NGO participants.

To register for the Arctic Action Plan Consultation event, [click](#)

For companies interested in participating in WOC data collecting and sharing program ("[SMART Ocean-SMART Industries](#)"), which enables participants to implement SDG 14.a,

[click](#)

WOC efforts in the Arctic region began in 2012 with the pioneering Arctic Business Leadership Council meeting in association with the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group. Currently WOC is a partner in numerous EU Arctic projects including ARICE, Blue Action and PolarNet 2

The draft Arctic Action Plan and additional details on the process are available [here](#).

UPCOMING WOC EVENT

Global Blue Finance Summit (BlueFIN '21) – Dates to be determined

Recent and Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

8-9 March, Online event

Middle East Transport and Logistics Summit 2021 (Speaker)

15 March, Online event

Seafood and Fisheries Emerging Technologies (SAFET) webinar: “ Fishing vessels as platforms of opportunity” (Keynote Speaker)

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

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