

The World Ocean Council (WOC) - the international business alliance on “Corporate Ocean Responsibility” - brings together companies from across the sectors to develop industry leadership and collaboration in ocean sustainability, science and stewardship. WOC Members include companies from marine science and technology, seabed mining, mining, oil/gas, shipping, fishing, offshore renewables and other sectors.

Because the kinds and levels of economic activity in the Benguela Current Commission area are growing, the private sector is an essential partner in addressing the challenges of responsible marine ecosystem use. Many companies are working to bring good science and risk assessment to understanding and addressing their activities in the marine environment. However, working in a coalition with other leadership companies can result in business benefits, such as synergies, economies of scale, and public-private partnerships to develop solutions.

WOC is catalyzing the development of multi-industry business leadership councils in many areas to address multi-sectoral, cumulative impacts of multiple use of marine space and resources. WOC is also creating industry working groups to address cross-cutting sustainability challenges, e.g. marine sound, marine invasive species, etc. – including the “Smart Ocean/Smart Industries” program, which is working to increase the number of companies sharing environmental data from baseline studies and monitoring and collecting ocean data from their vessels and platforms.