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Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission



2021 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
2030 for Sustainable Development



# OCEAN DECADE CORPORATE DATA GROUP



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## WHY PARTICIPATE?

Launched in January 2021, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) (the 'Ocean Decade') provides a convening framework for a wide range of stakeholders across the world to engage and collaborate outside their traditional communities to trigger a revolution in ocean science. To achieve the Ocean Decade's 2030 vision of "the science we need for the ocean we want", we need relevant, timely, reliable, and accessible ocean data, information, and knowledge – and private industry has a key role to play in this endeavour.

Established jointly in January 2023 by Fugro and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission IOC of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO) in its role as coordinator of the Ocean Decade, the Corporate Data Group (CDG) comprises private sector companies representing a wide variety of marine industries, including fisheries, energy, telecommunications and marine contractors.

### The goal of the Corporate Data Group

is to establish strategies and best practices for private sector organisations to provide public access to their privately owned ocean data. This work will help fill data gaps to boost our scientific understanding of the ocean and help develop sustainable solutions and policies to reverse the cycle of decline in the ocean's health. It will also provide valuable new insights to private companies operating offshore and in coastal environments.

## What is expected of members?

- Participate in regular online calls, plus a couple of in-person meetings or events per year.
- Discuss and help implement strategies to provide public access to privately owned ocean data.
- Actively promote the Ocean Decade within members' industries and professional associations.

## Why is this important?

1

**Ocean health** - The ocean is our planet's life support system, but its health is declining under pressure from pollution, overfishing and climate change - this is threatening not just our businesses, but our very existence globally.

2

**Science-based solutions** - We must develop science-based approaches to reverse this cycle of decline towards lasting ocean resilience and a thriving, sustainable ocean economy.

3

**ESG drivers** - Now more than ever, companies understand that employees, shareholders, customers, suppliers and society expect them to contribute to a sustainable future.

4

**Filling data gaps** - Private sector companies are an essential partner in expanding the pool of ocean data generators and users to fill existing data gaps and support 'the science we need for the ocean we want'.

5

**Boosting knowledge to optimise operations** - Helping facilitate access to privately-owned ocean data, information and other in-kind resources will improve our collective understanding of the world's ocean, including improved modelling and predictions to optimise sustainable offshore operations and reduce business risk.

6

**Leading the way** - Members of the CDG are leading the way in establishing ocean data sharing strategies and best practice, encouraging other organisations to join the movement.

## What are the benefits to you and your company?



**Help** protect our planet and our ocean and the livelihoods that depend on it.

**Participate** in high level networking events with peers and other industry thought leaders.



**Achieve** greater visibility and enhanced reputation as a leader in the ocean economy, supporting sustainable development.

**Access** leaders in ocean science and grow new partnerships.



**Be** an employer of choice and become more attractive for potential investment and financing.

**Navigate** potential new business opportunities with access to R&D work performed under the Ocean Decade.



**Boost** tangible ESG contributions to accelerate achievement of company targets.

**Benefit** from loop-back of ocean insights, models and forecasts improved due to data sharing, which in turn can help optimise operations.



For more information, please contact [l.demargne@unesco.org](mailto:l.demargne@unesco.org), or check out our website:

