CONCLUDING NOTES

Event facts

Bilingual (English/French) Plenary Sessions:
- Strengthening Scientific Knowledge
- Fostering new monitoring capacities
- Defining the future of IMDOS

~ 250 registered participants
23 presentations
49 posters

Collaboration with partner events:
- Remote Sensing and Smart Tech for Marine Litter
- OASIS (Observing Air-Sea Interactions Strategy) for a Clean Ocean

Many thanks to Mercator Ocean and GEO Blue Planet for their excellent logistical support!!!
CONCLUDING NOTES

**Take-home notes**

- Problem of marine debris continues to attract attention of an increasing diverse community of stakeholders.

- There has been significant recent progress in scientific understanding of sources, distributions, properties, dynamics, and impacts of marine debris, its in situ measurements, remote sensing, and numerical modelling.

- A comprehensive observing system is needed to fill remaining gaps in our knowledge and to coordinate mitigating measures.

- The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development calls for urgent actions to establish an Integrated Marine Debris Observing System (IMDOS).
CONCLUDING NOTES

Next steps

- The event webpage will be maintained as long as practical to support gained momentum. [https://www.eu4oceanobs.eu/ocean-decade-lab-satellite-activity/](https://www.eu4oceanobs.eu/ocean-decade-lab-satellite-activity/)
- Posters will remain available for questions and comments until November 30, 2021. [https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_IuGx3BM=/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_IuGx3BM=/)
- The event webpage will be also used to store copies of posters and recordings.
- The event organizers will produce and circulate to all participants the concluding document.
- The event organizers will form, together with the most active participants, a core group to discuss future steps, including:
  - Proposal to UN Ocean Decade endorsement (6-month cycle, next Jan 31, 2022).
  - Establishment of IMDOS working group and broader network.
  - Partnership/Collaboration with UNEP, GOOS, EMODnet, OASIS, SCOR FLOTSAM, PICES, ECOP, IOCCG RSMLD Task Force, and other groups, projects, observing systems, and organizations.

We look forward to continuation of our conversation!

In the meantime, please address your questions to Audrey Hasson [ahasson@geoblueplanet.org](mailto:ahasson@geoblueplanet.org) or any of organizers.
Urgent opportunity to support IMDOS in the US
!!! deadline is TODAY, Friday, November 19, 2021 !!!

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine published a short list of “themes” as a subset of promising areas selected to inspire additional investment during the Ocean Decade and invited comments to populate themes with concrete ideas.

IMDOS falls well into the “foundational theme” ”An Ocean of Data”.

Please visit

https://www.nap.edu/resource/26363/interactive/

and highlight the importance of IMDOS in your brief comment to motivate funding agencies in the US.

Big Mahalo!!!