

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/>
- Posters will remain available for questions and comments until November 30, 2021.
https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_luGx3BM=
- 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 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!!!