The consequences of climate change are much more visible in the Arctic than in other regions of the world. The increasing loss of sea ice allows to use parts of the Arctic Ocean for a longer time and more intensively than before. This could threaten biodiversity in the polar region critically. Ecologic Institute and its partners are analyzing how a network of marine protected areas in the region could help to conserve marine biodiversity and ensure the functioning of marine ecosystems and their effective management.

The Convention on Biological Diversity and the targets adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development/UNCSD advocate for at least 10% of the world's oceans to be effectively protected by 2020. The project intends to make a contribution to this within a national and international context.

Ecologic Institute, together with its partners, the Institute for Transformative Sustainability Research (IASS) and WWF Germany, prepares nature conservation contributions for the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN). These contributions can be used both for Germany's participation in the Arctic Council's marine nature conservation bodies and for the National Arctic Dialogue, e.g. through several studies and policy papers. The studies will take particular account of geographical diversity, sectoral activities,
proximity to biodiversity hotspots, use by people in the Arctic, such as indigenous groups, and the current political importance of specific Arctic development activities and governance processes. The policy paper will develop recommendations on how possible governance gaps at regional and international level could be closed.

**Ecologic Related Websites**

- Arctic Summer College Website

**Related Articles**

- Spuren in der Arktis
- Energie- und Umweltgovernance in der Arktis
- Arctic Summer College Yearbook
- WWF Arctic Council Conservation Scorecard
- Arctic Summer College 2018 – Webinar Series
- Arctic Summer College 2017 – Webinar Series

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**Links**