

The ATLAS and iAtlantic projects

J Murray Roberts

ATLAS project coordinator, University of Edinburgh

Next Steps to Strengthen Stewardship of the Sargasso Sea
Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences, 13-14 March 2019



Ocean
Warming

Ocean
Acidification

Reduced
oxygen

Invasive
species

Plastics &
Pollution

Bioprospecting



Harmful
Fishing
Practices

Deep-sea
Mining

Hydrocarbon
Exploitation

REVIEW

Major impacts of climate change on deep-sea benthic ecosystems

Andrew K. Sweetman^{*}, Andrew R. Thurber[†], Craig R. Smith[‡], Lisa A. Levin[§], Camilo Mora^{||}, Chih-Lin Wei[¶], Andrew J. Gooday^{**}, Daniel O. B. Jones^{**}, Michael Rex^{††}, Moriaki Yasuhara^{‡‡}, Jeroen Ingels^{§§}, Henry A. Ruhl^{††}, Christina A. Frieder^{§§§}, Roberto Danovaro^{¶¶***}, Laura Würzberg^{†††}, Amy Baco^{‡‡}, Benjamin M. Grube^{§§§§}, Alexis Pasulka^{|||}, Kirstin S. Meyer^{¶¶¶****}, Katherine M. Dunlop[†], Lea-Anne Henry^{††††} and J. Murray Roberts^{††††}

- Abyssal temp \uparrow 1°C within 84 years
- O₂ declines in areas deep-water formation
- Up to 40-55% \downarrow in POC flux in some regions
- Rapid pH \downarrow at bathyal depths

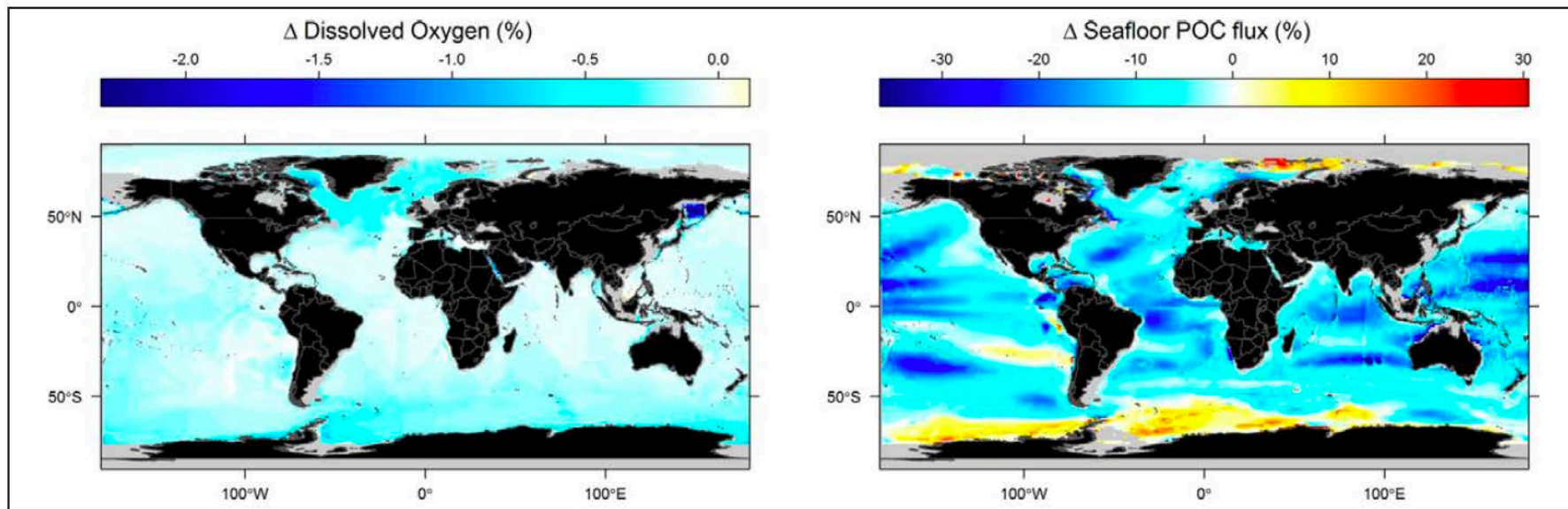


Figure 3: Relative environmental changes at the deep seafloor in the year 2100. Relative change (%) in dissolved oxygen (mL L^{-1}) and seafloor POC flux ($\text{mg C m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$) conditions that could be seen at the deep ($> 200 \text{ m}$) seafloor by 2100 relative to present-day conditions. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1525/elementa.203.f3>



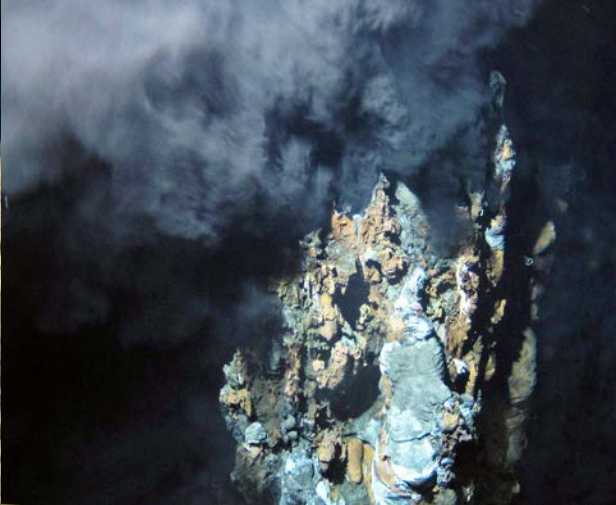
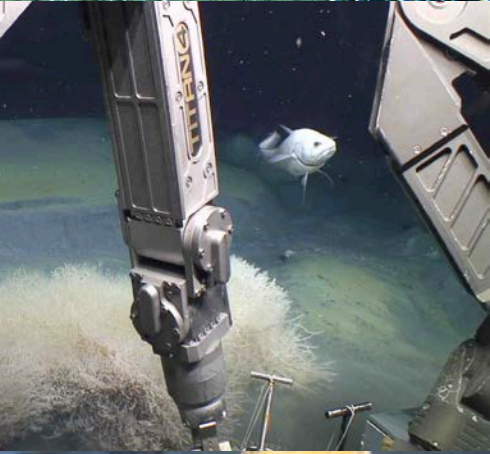
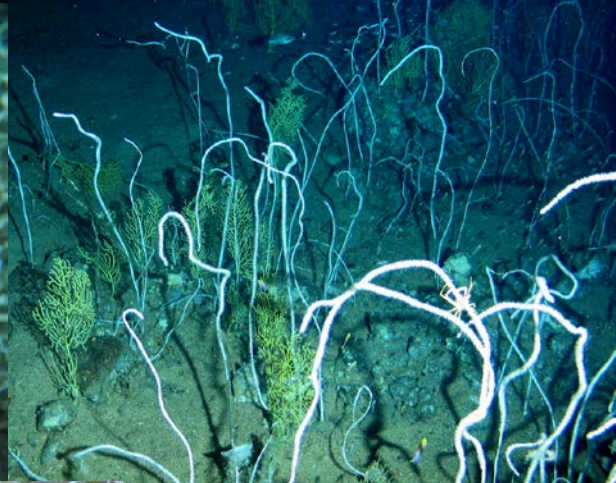
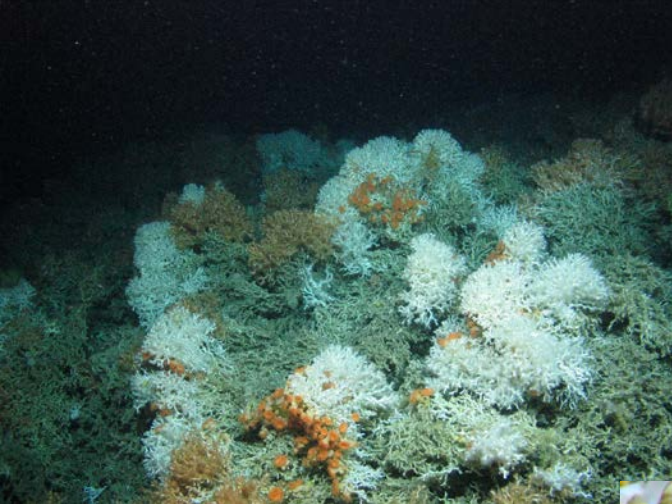
atlas

UNDERSTANDING DEEP ATLANTIC ECOSYSTEMS



A trans-Atlantic assessment and deep-water ecosystem-based spatial management plan for Europe







At a Glance

A trans-Atlantic assessment and deep-water ecosystem-based spatial management plan for Europe

Call: EU Horizon 2020: BG-2015-2
(Unlocking the potential of seas and oceans)

Duration: May 2016 – April 2020 (48m)

Consortium: 24 partners +1 linked 3rd party, from 12 countries

Budget: €9.3M

Coordinator: University of Edinburgh (UK)

Focus: Providing essential new knowledge of North Atlantic ecosystems through data gathering and synthesis

Impact: Discoveries and outputs will inform and facilitate stakeholder agreement on marine policy and regulation and spur Blue Growth

Core activities: 25+ research cruises investigating 12 case studies across the Atlantic

**Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation
Launching a European Union - Canada - United States of America
Research Alliance**

The Signatories of this Statement meeting on the occasion of the high level event

The Atlantic – a Shared Resource, held on

23 and 24 May 2013

at the Marine Institute, Galway, Ireland



Signed in Galway on 24 May 2013 in three originals in the English language.

For the European Union

**For the Government of
Canada**

**For the Government of the
United States of America**

Handwritten signature of Maire Geoghegan-Quinn in black ink.

**Máire GEOGHEGAN-
QUINN**
Commissioner for Research,
Innovation and Science

Edward FAST
Minister of International
Trade and Minister for the
Asia-Pacific Gateway

Handwritten signature of Dr Kerri-Ann Jones in blue ink.

Dr Kerri-Ann JONES
Assistant Secretary of State
for Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific
Affairs

Handwritten signature of Maria Damadaki in black ink.

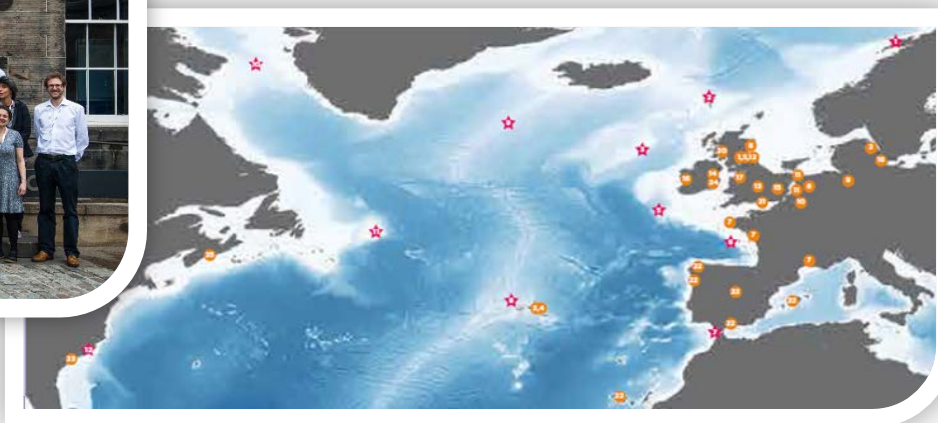
Maria DAMANAKI
Commissioner for Maritime
Affairs and Fisheries



Trans-Atlantic Collaboration



ATLAS kick-off meeting Edinburgh (June 2016)



★ Case studies ● Project Partners

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 University of Edinburgh (UEDIN) | 5 British Geological Survey (BGS/NERC) | 11 NIOZ Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut voor Onderzoek der Zee (NIOZ) | 19 UiT The Arctic University of Norway (UiT) |
| 2 Aarhus Universitet (AU) | 6 Gianni Consultancy (GC) | 12 Dynamic Earth (DE) | 20 Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) |
| 3 IMAR - Instituto do Mar (IMAR -Uaz) | 7 Institut Francais de Recherche pour L'Exploitation de la Mer (Ifremer) | 13 University of Oxford (UOX) | 21 Seascope Consultants (SC) |
| 4 Secretária Regional do Mar, Ciência e Tecnologia (DRAM) | 8 Marine Scotland (MSS) | 14 University College Dublin (UCD) | 22 Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO) |
| | 9 Universitaet Bremen (UniHB) | 15 University College London (UCL) | 23 University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) |
| | 10 Iodine (Iodine) | 16 National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) | 24 AquaTT UETP Ltd (AquaTT) |
| | | 17 University of Liverpool (ULIV) | 25 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) |
| | | 18 Syddansk Universitet (USD) | |



2017

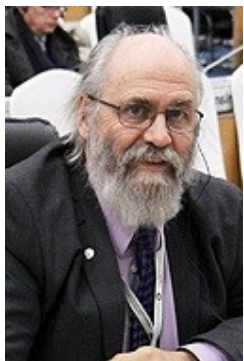


2018

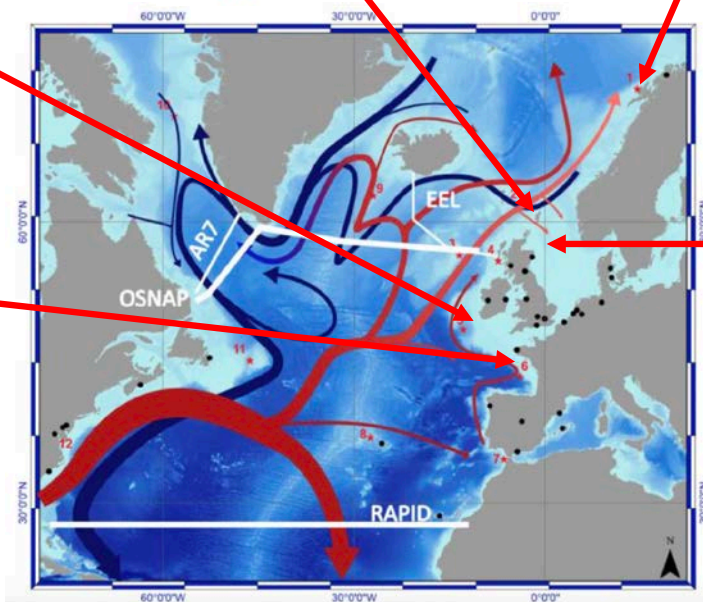




atlas Advisory & Stakeholder Board



Jake Rice, DFO
Scientist Emeritus



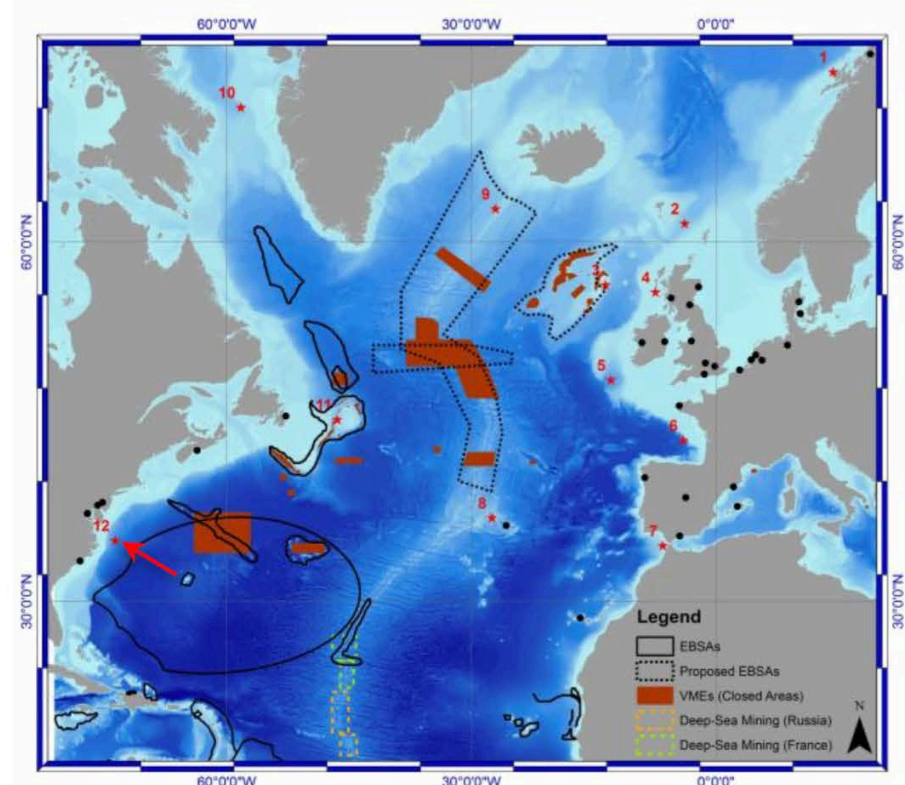
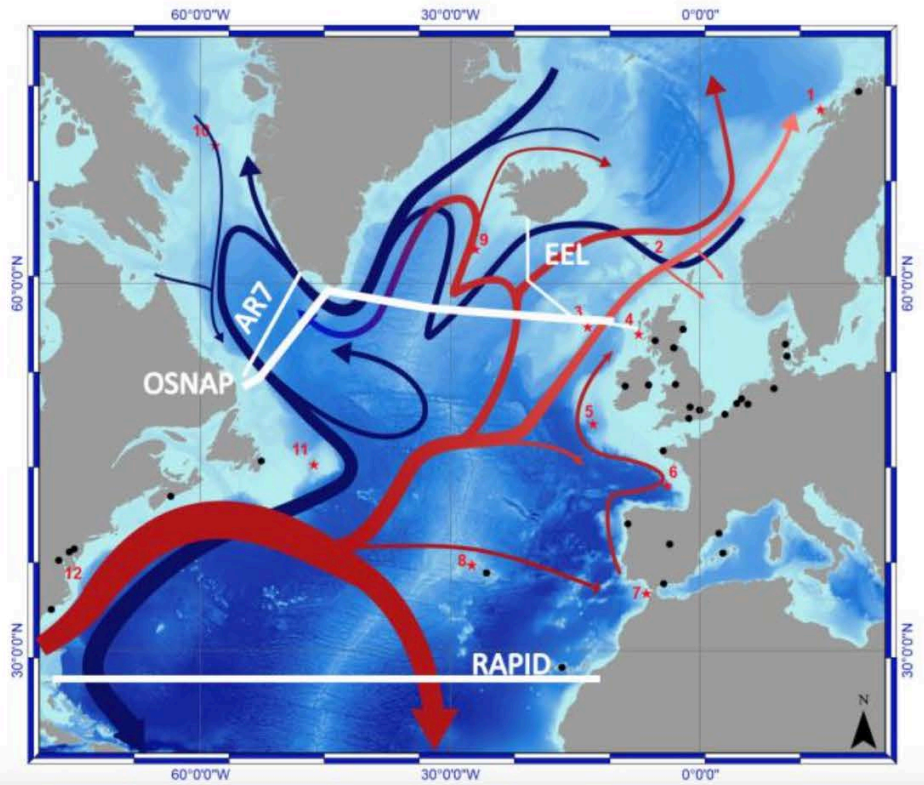
Science Policy Panel

Case Study	Focus Ecosystems (CWC, cold-water coral)	Current and BG Sectors*	Lead & collaborators
1. LoVe Observatory (Norway)	CWC reefs, sponges	F, OG, T	<u>Statoil</u> , NIOZ, UEDIN
2. West of Shetland and W Scotland slope (UK)	Sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>UEDIN</u> , BP, OGUK, MSS
3. Rockall Bank (UK & Ireland)**	CWC reefs, coral gardens, carbonate mounds, sponge grounds, cold seeps	B, F, OG	<u>MSS</u> , IEO, OXU
4. Mingulay Reef Complex (UK)	CWC reefs	F, T	<u>UEDIN</u> , MSS
5. Porcupine Seabight (Ireland)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, carbonate mounds, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>NUIG</u> , Woodside
6. Bay of Biscay (France)	CWC on slope and in canyon settings	B, F	<u>IFREMER</u>
7. Gulf of Cádiz/Strait of Gibraltar/Alborán Sea (Spain & Portugal)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>IEO</u> , IFREMER, IMAR-UAz
8. Azores (Portugal)**	Hydrothermal vents, seamounts, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, M	<u>IMAR-UAz</u> , IEO
9. Reykjanes Ridge (Iceland)**	Hydrothermal vents, CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, M	<u>UCD</u>
10. S Davis Strait/Western Greenland/Labrador Sea (Canada)	CWC reefs, coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F	<u>DFO</u>
11. Flemish Cap (Canada)**	Coral gardens, sponge grounds	B, F, OG	<u>IEO</u> , <u>DFO</u> , OXU, NAFO
12. SE USA (Bermuda transect)**	CWC reefs on slope and in canyon settings	B, F, M, OG	<u>UNCW</u> , AP-TU, NOAA

* Blue Growth sectors: **B**iototechnology; **F**isheries; **M**ining; **O**il & **G**as; **T**ourism; ** indicates data include ABNJ



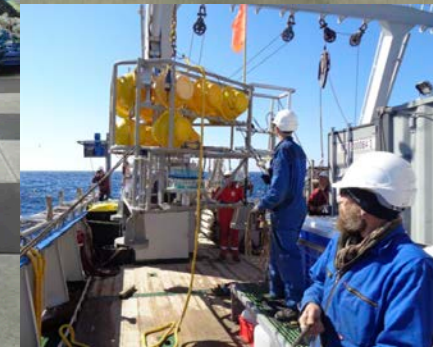
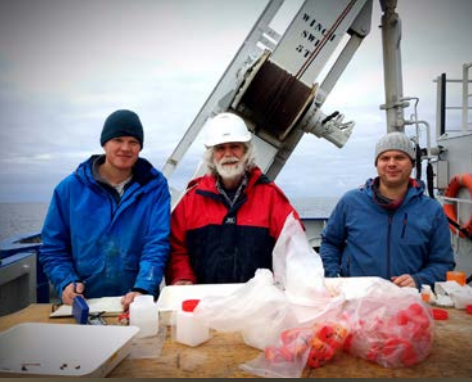
Lea-Anne Henry
 Case Study co-ordinator
 Chancellor's Fellow, University of Edinburgh



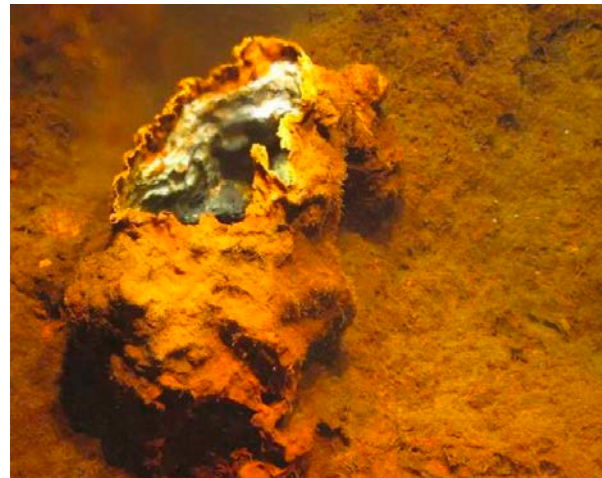
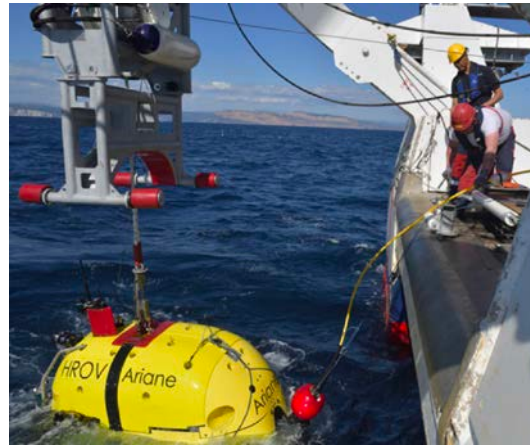


Multidisciplinary Approach





ATLAS @sea





Bermuda to Atlantic Canada
28 July – 8 August 2016

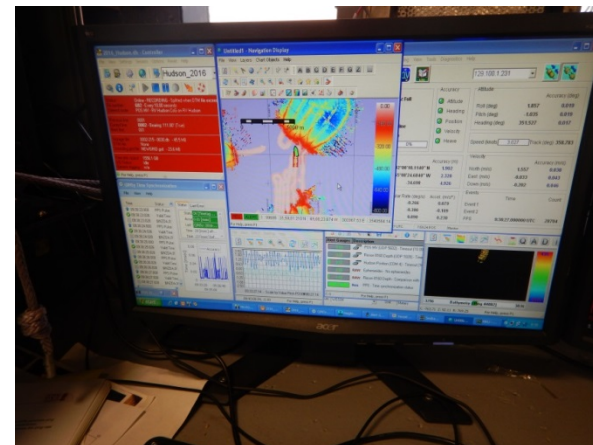
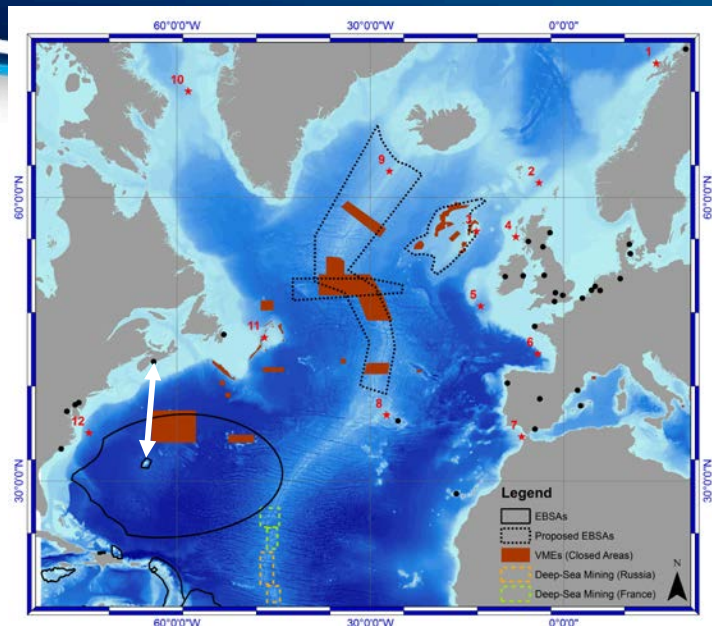
Deep-sea habitat mapping; Oceanographic profiling;
Seamounts; Biodiversity; Geology and fossil history



CGS *Hudson* in St. Georges' Harbour



CTD casts on 3 seamounts
(Argus, Challenger and Bowditch)



Oceanographic seamount profiling



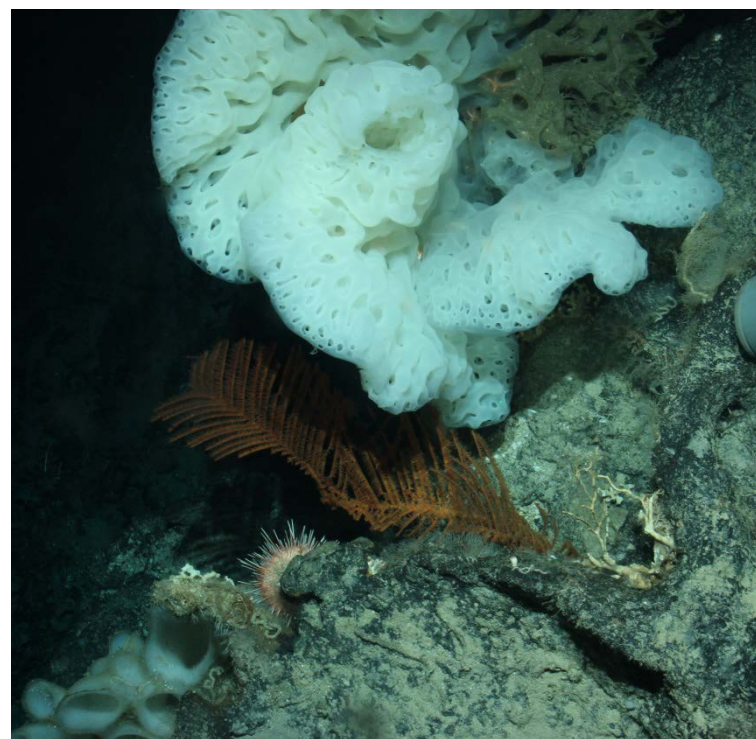
Fisheries and Oceans
Canada



NRCan's 4K dropcamera



Van Veen grabs on seamounts



Seamount biodiversity captured by 4k camera



**Fisheries and Oceans
Canada**



SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN **Ecosystem engineering creates a direct nutritional link between 600-m deep cold-water coral mounds and surface productivity**

Received: 05 April 2016
Accepted: 28 September 2016
Published: 13 October 2016

Karlina Soetaert¹, Christian Möller¹, Anna Ringstorff¹, Anthony Gruber¹ & Dick van Oevelen²

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Research

Sensitivity of marine protected area network connectivity to atmospheric variability

Alan D. Fox^{1,2,*}, Lea-Anne Henry^{1,4}, David W. Corrie⁵ and J. Murray Roberts^{1,3,†}

¹Centre for Marine Biodiversity and Biotechnology, School of Biological Sciences, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh EH8 8AA, UK
²Department of Computer Science, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh EH8 8AA, UK
³Centre for Marine Science, University of North Carolina, 101 S College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403, USA
⁴Coral Reefs, DOI 10.1007/978-93-816-1519-8

REPORT

Using novel acoustic and visual mapping tools to predict the small-scale spatial distribution of live biogenic reef framework in cold-water coral habitats

L. H. De Clippele¹, J. Gafiera², K. Robert³, S. Hennige⁴, M. S. Lavaleye⁴, G. C. A. Duineveld¹, V. A. I. Huvemé⁵, J. M. Roberts⁶

New name for the soft coral *Alcyonium rubrum* Stokvis & van Ofwegen, 2006 (Alcyonacea, Alcyoniidae): *Alcyonium burmedju* nom. n.

Iris Sampiao^{1,2}, Frank R. Stokvis¹, Leon P. van Ofwegen¹

¹Departamento de Oceanografía y Biología Marina, Universidad de Chile, Valdivia, Chile
²Department of Geology, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, UK

INVITED REVIEWS AND SYNTHESSES **WILEY** **MOLECULAR ECOLOGY**

Invertebrate population genetics across Earth's largest habitat: The deep-sea floor

M. L. Taylor¹ & C. N. Roterman²

Received: 24 March 2017
DOI: 10.1111/mec.14237
Revised: 14 June 2017
Accepted: 19 June 2017

Development of a sensitive detection method to survey pelagic biodiversity using eDNA and quantitative PCR: a case study of devil ray at seamounts

Laura M. Cargall^{1,2*}, Tamas Marai³, Christophe Joannete E. L. Carouso⁴, Jean Carouso^{4,2}

Mar Biol (2017) 164:112
DOI 10.1007/s00227-017-3141-4

METHOD

Marine Policy

Scientific rationale and international obligations for protection of active hydrothermal vent ecosystems from deep-sea mining

C.L. Van Dover^{1,*}, S. Amund-Haond², M. Gianni³, S. Holmquist⁴, J.A. Huber⁵, A.L. Juckel⁶, A. Metaxas⁷, L.H. Pedersen⁸, S. Perseus⁹, E. Ramirez-Llodra¹⁰, P.E. Steinberg¹¹, V. Tunnicliffe¹², H. Yamamoto¹³

Zoantharians (Hexacorallia: Zoantharia) Associated with Cold-Water Corals in the Azores Region: New Species and Associations in the Deep Sea

Marta Carreira-Silva^{1,2,*}, Oscar Ocaña³, David Stanokis⁴, Iris Sampiao⁵, Filipa M. Porteiro^{1,2,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14}, Maria-Cristina Fabrici¹⁵ and Sergio Stokvis¹⁶

REVIEW

Major impacts of climate change on deep-sea benthic ecosystems

Andrew K. Sweetman¹, Andrew R. Thurber², Craig R. Smith³, Camilo Moral⁴, Chih-Lin Wei⁵, Andrew J. Gooday⁶, Daniel O. B. Moriaki Yasuhara^{7,8,9}, Jeroen Ingels⁸, Henry A. Ruhl¹⁰, Christina Roberto Danovaro^{11,12,13,14}, Laura Würzberg¹⁵, Amy Baco¹⁶, Benjar Alexis Pasulka¹⁷, Kirstin S. Meyer^{18,19,20,21}, Katherine M. Dunlop²², J. Murray Roberts^{11,23}

ICES Journal of Marine Science

ICES Journal of Marine Science (2017), 74(1), 899–913. doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsw181

Contribution to the Themed Section: 'Case studies in operationalizing ecosystem-based management'

Food for Thought

Moving from ecosystem-based policy objectives to operational implementation of ecosystem-based management measures

Roland Cormier^{1,*}, Christopher R. Kelle², M. Robin Anderson³, J. Icarus Allen⁴, Anthony Grehan⁵ and Olivier Grégorien⁶

PeerJ

Assessing the living and dead proportions of cold-water coral colonies: implications for deep-water Marine Protected Area monitoring in a changing ocean

Johanne Vad^{1,*}, Covadonga Orejas², Juan Moreno-Navas³, Helen S. Findlay⁴ and J. Murray Roberts^{5,6}

Evidencias de expulsión de fluidos en el complejo Hespérides en el talud medio del Golfo de Cádiz

Evidence of fluid venting on the Hespérides complex at the middle slope of the Gulf of Cádiz

D. Palomares¹, J.T. Vázquez², N. López-González³, L.M. Fernández-Díaz-del-Río⁴

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Research

Next Gen Pop Gen: implementing a high-throughput approach to population genetics in boarfish (*Capros aper*)

Edward D. Farrell¹, Jeanette E. L. Carlsson and Jens Carlsson

Journal of Cleaner Production

Developing a performance evaluation mechanism for Portuguese marine spatial planning using a participatory approach

Maria Adelaide Ferreira^{1,*}, David Johnson², Carlos Pereira da Silva³, Tomás B. Ramos⁴

Marine Policy

Mainstreaming marine biodiversity into the SDGs: The role of other effective area-based conservation measures (SDG 14.5)

Daniela Diz^{1,*}, David Johnson², Michael Riddell³, Stan Rees⁴, Jessica Battle⁵, Kristina Gjerdet⁶, Sebastian Hennige⁷, J. Murray Roberts⁸

Marine Policy

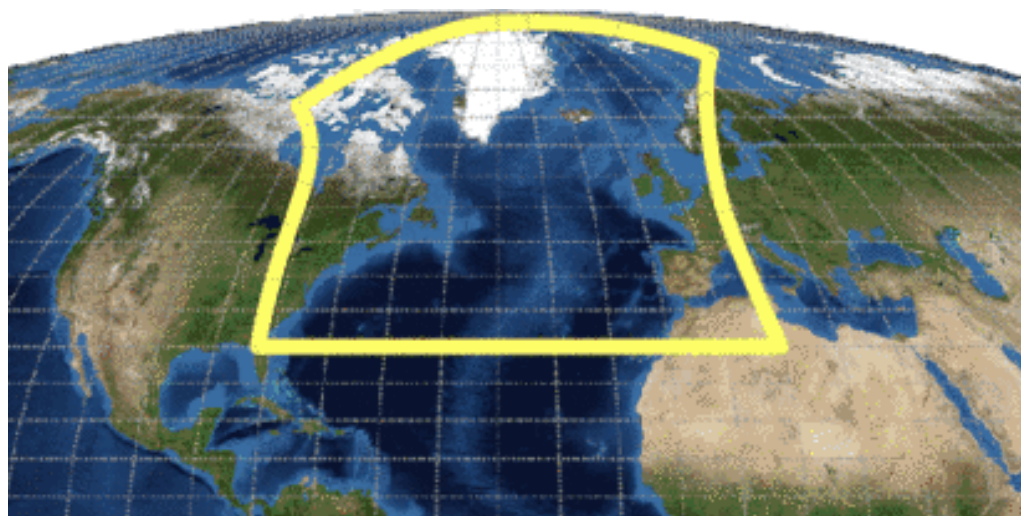
Climate change is likely to severely limit the effectiveness of deep-sea ABMTs in the North Atlantic

David Johnson^{1,*}, Maria Adelaide Ferreira², Ellen Roeschling³

- 52 ATLAS publications with 71 in preparation
- <https://www.eu-atlas.org/resources/atlas-library>



Expanding to basin-scale: How do behaviour traits impact deep-sea larval dispersal and population connectivity?



Viking 20 hydrographic model (GEOMAR): Nemo ocean, LIM2 sea ice.
1/20 degree nest within 1/4 degree global ocean. Years 1958-2009.

ARIANE particle tracking. Modified to include ontogenic vertical migration.



Stefan Gary
(SAMS)



Arne Biastoch
(GEOMAR)



Alan Fox
(UEDIN)



Lea-Anne Henry
(UEDIN)



Stuart Cunningham
(SAMS)



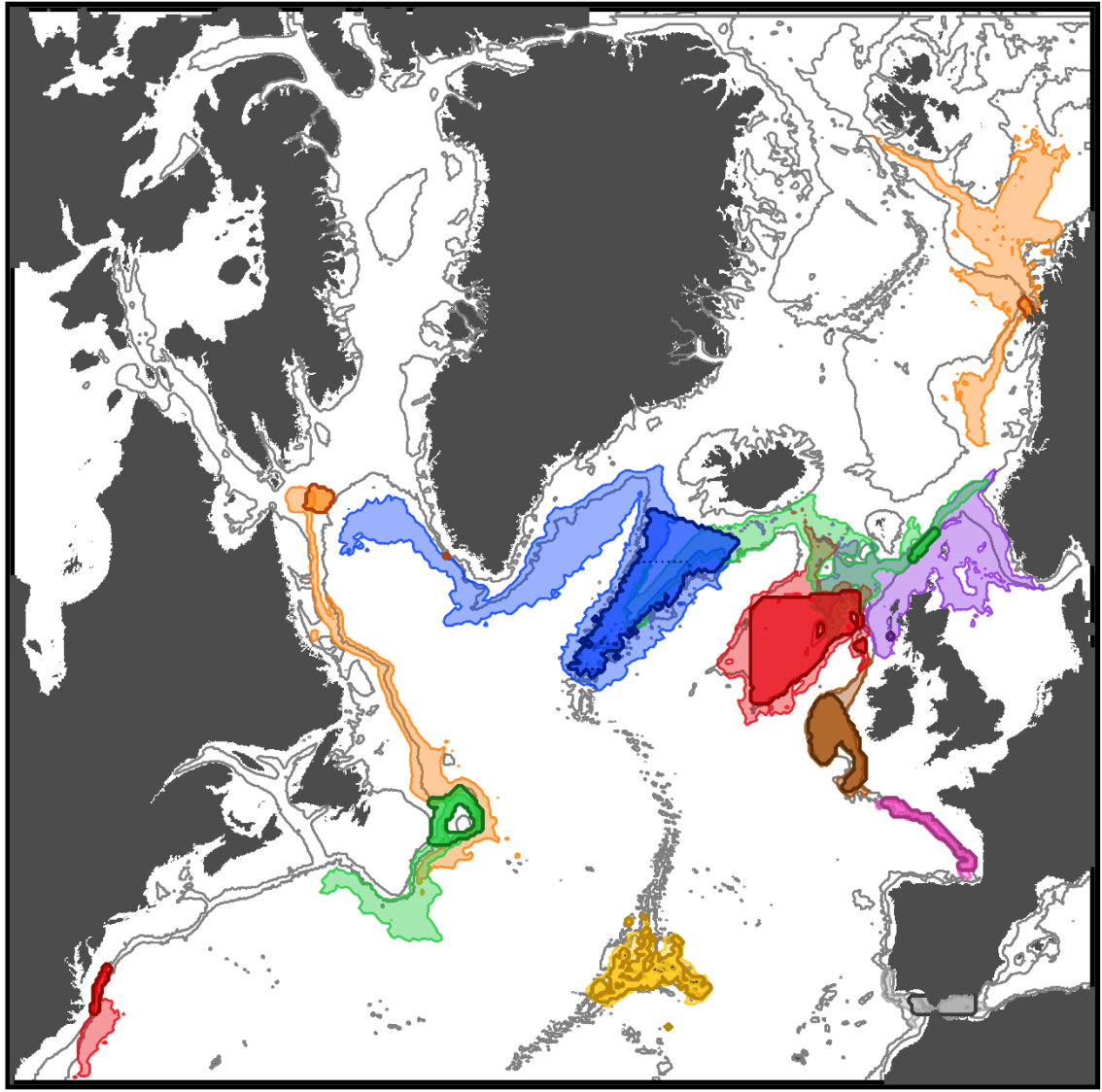
Murray Roberts
(UEDIN)

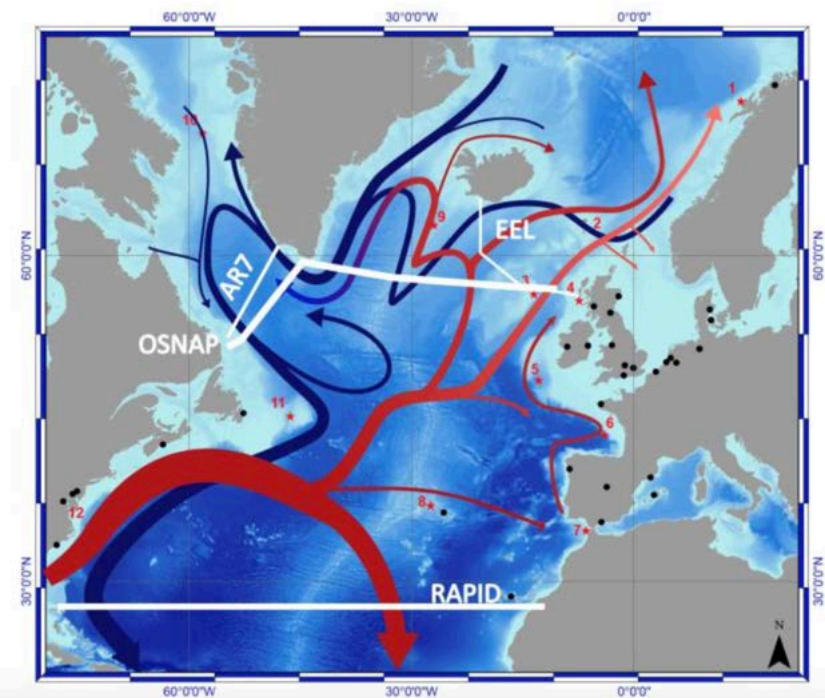
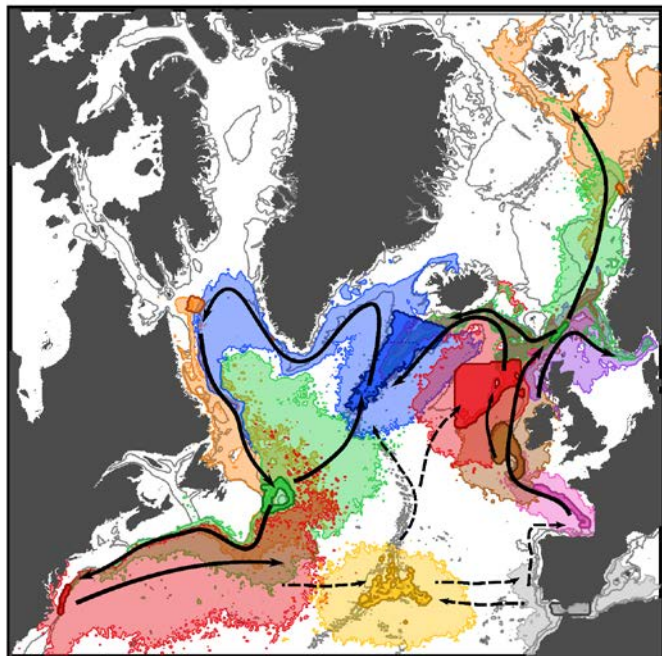




- Particle dispersal after 6 months for our most dispersive case.
- Particles rise to surface, drift there until six weeks old, then descend to bed where they drift until six months old (*Lophelia*-like behaviour).
- Dark shapes are the source regions (ATLAS case studies), pale shapes are the areas of dispersal.
- These are accumulated over 50 years, all seasons.



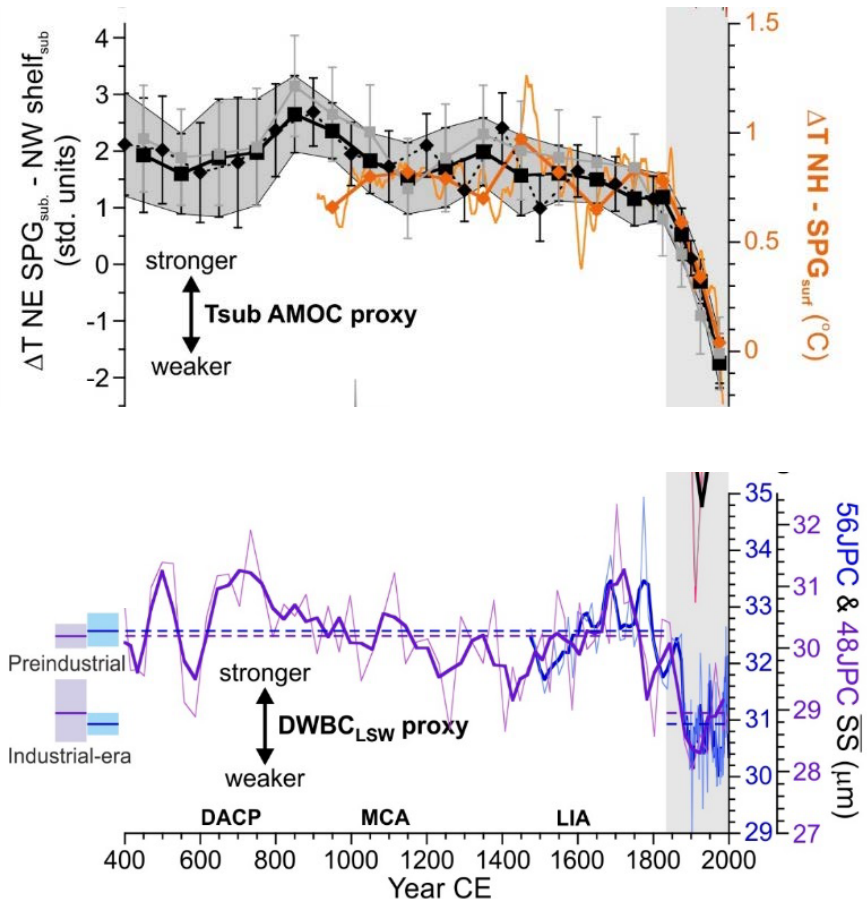




AMOC strength over last 1600 years

- Proxy-records show anomalously weak AMOC strength over past ~150 years.
- Imply modern circulation atypical of longer term.
- Important when interpreting distribution & functioning of Atlantic ecosystems.

Thornalley et al. (2018) Anomalously weak Labrador Sea convection and Atlantic overturning during the last 150 years. *Nature*.



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Science & Environment

Climate change dials down Atlantic Ocean heating system

By Victoria Gill
Science correspondent, BBC News

11 April 2018

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Climate change

Gulf Stream current at its weakest in 1,600 years, studies show

Warm current that has historically caused dramatic changes in climate is experiencing an unprecedented slowdown and may be less stable than thought - with potentially severe consequences

Damian Carrington
Environment editor
@dpcarrington
Wed 11 Apr 2018 18:00 BST

20,035

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World faces climate CHAOS because the circulation of the Atlantic Ocean is the weakest it has been in more than 1,500 years, warn scientists

- A key cog in the global ocean circulation system has not been running
- If the system continues to weaken, researchers say it may disrupt weather
- Experts believe the Atlantic began to warm near the end of the Little Ice Age

By PHOEBE WESTON FOR MAILONLINE

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InFact. Environment

Is the Gulf Stream about to collapse and is the new ice age coming sooner than scientists think?

Josh Gabbatiao Science Correspondent | @josh_gabbatiao | Thursday 12 April 2018 15:47 BST

- 1 What is the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation?
- 2 So is the Day After Tomorrow about to become a reality, and are we going to plunge into another ice age?
- 3 So how likely is it that those ocean currents will collapse?
- 4 If the AMOC isn't shutting down completely, what is going on?

1K likes

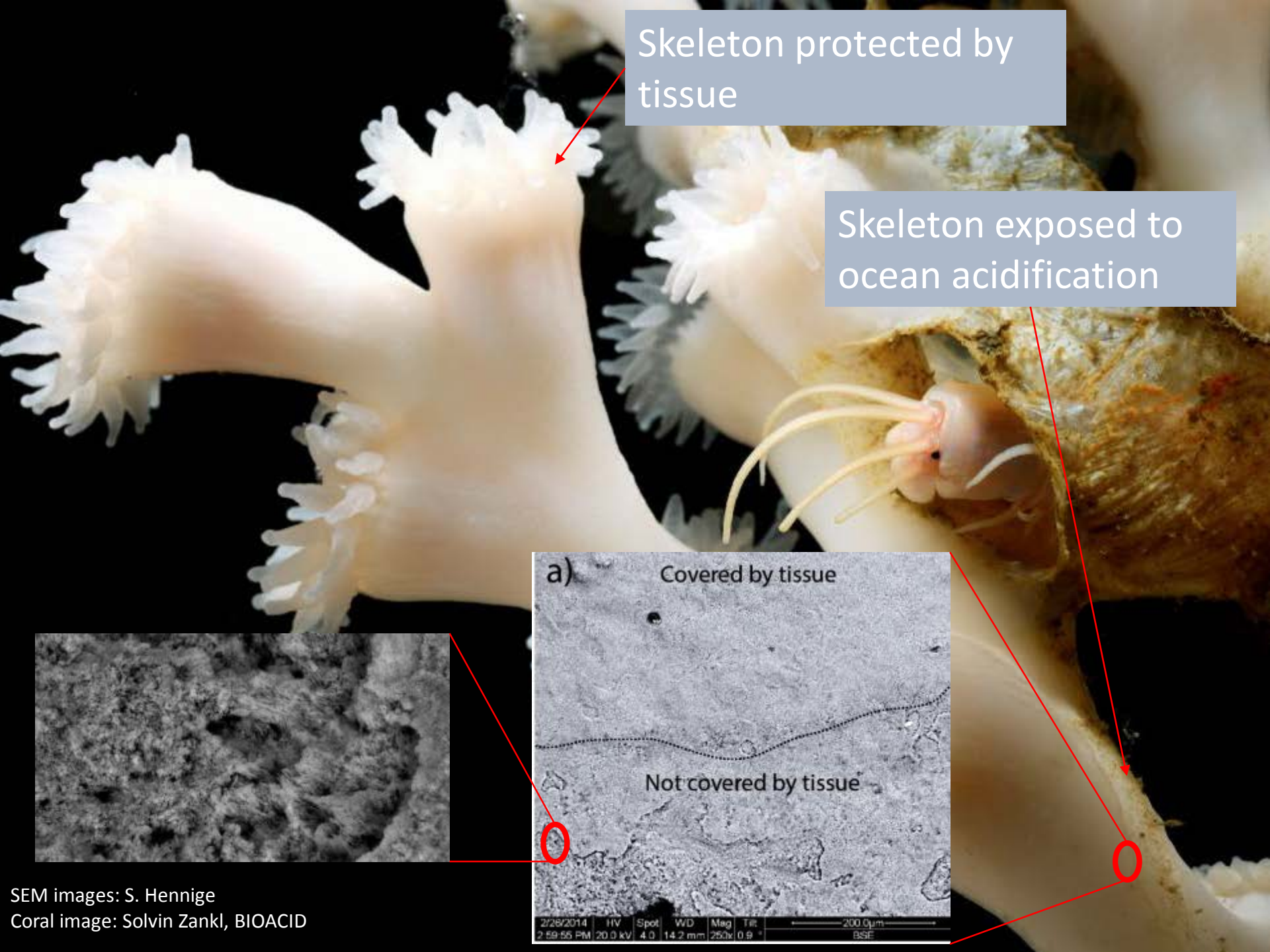
INDEPENDENT

Energy and Environment

The oceans' circulation hasn't been this sluggish in 1,000 years. That's bad news.

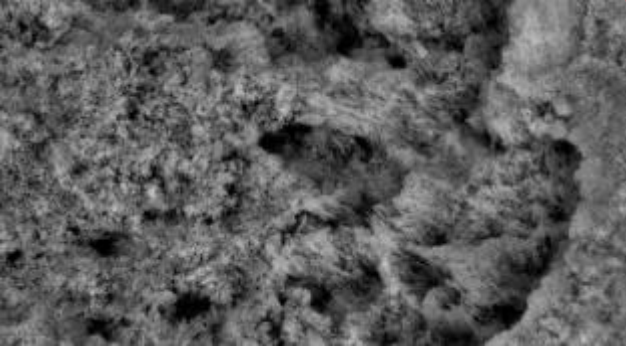
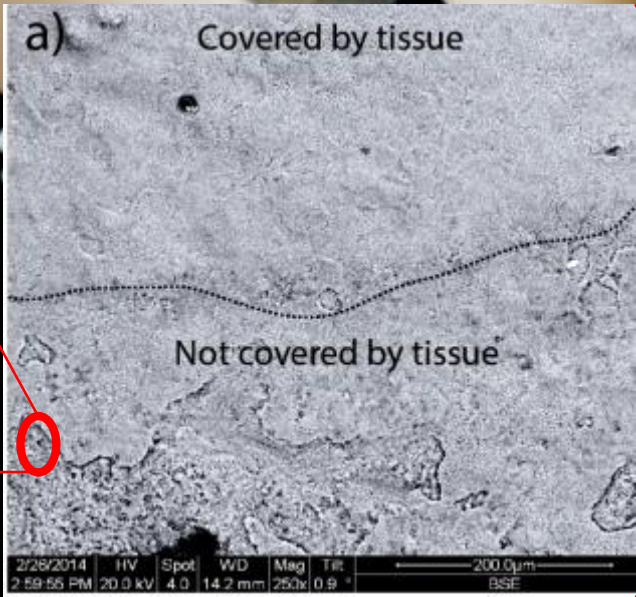
By Chris Mooney April 11 Email the author

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness



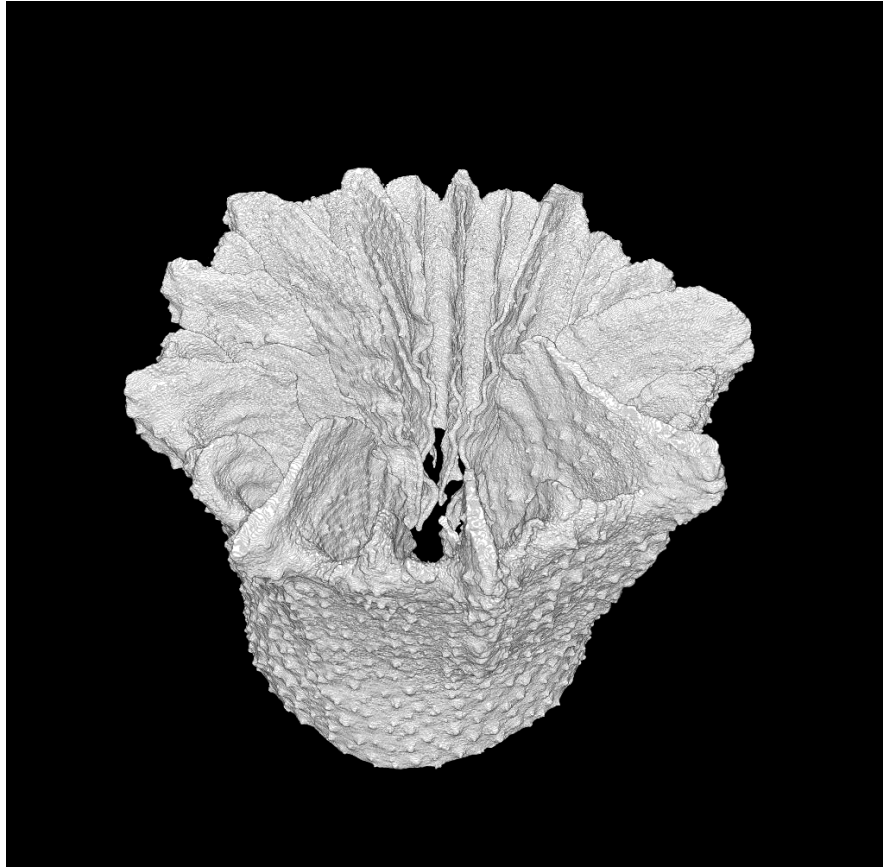
Skeleton protected by tissue

Skeleton exposed to ocean acidification

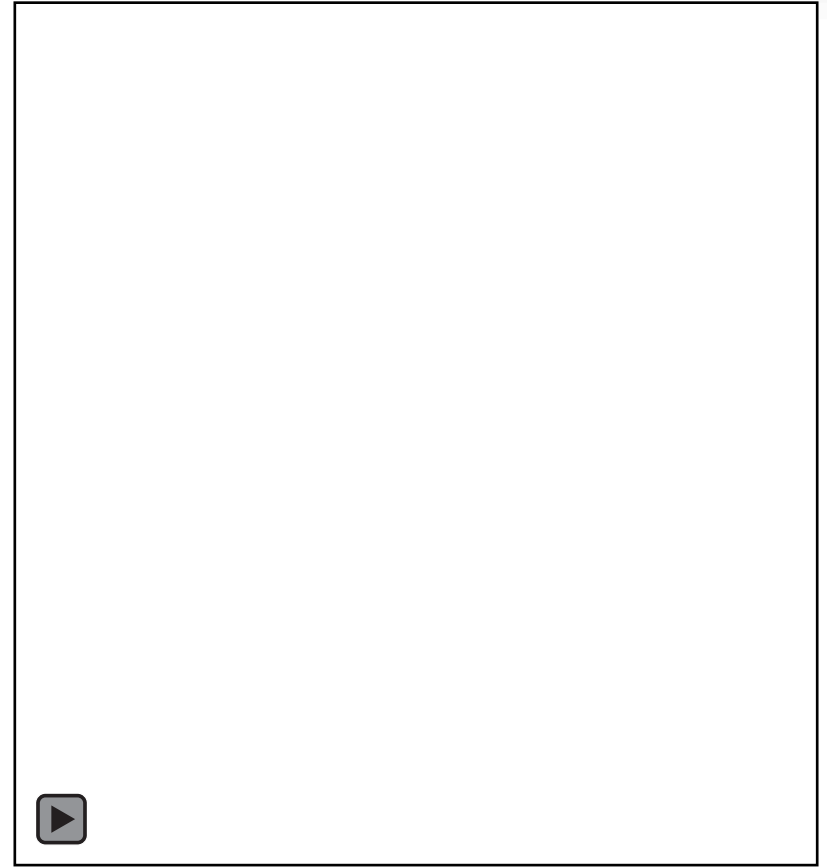


SEM images: S. Hennige
Coral image: Solvin Zankl, BIOACID

Synchrotron reconstructed images



Skeleton protected by tissue



Skeleton exposed to dissolution





ELSEVIER



Climate change is likely to severely limit the effectiveness of deep-sea ABMTs in the North Atlantic

David Johnson^a, Maria Adelaide Ferreira^{a,b,*}, Ellen Kenchington^b

^a Seascope Consultants, Ltd., Jermyn's House, Romsey SO52 0QA, UK

^b Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, 1 Challenger Dr., Dartmouth, N.S. Canada B2Y 4A2



Impacted

Low impact

No impact

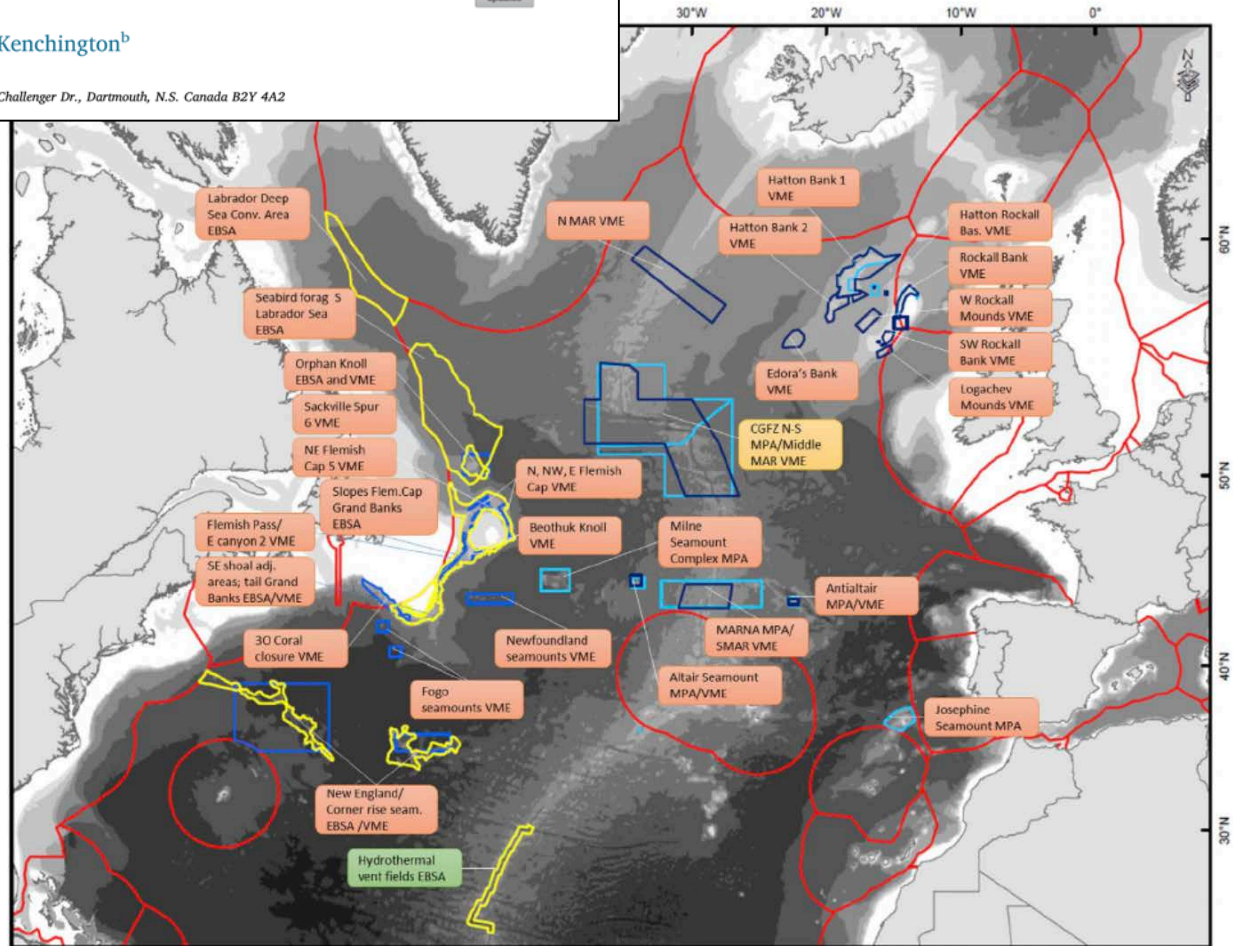


Fig. 2. Expected effect of changing environmental variables on main taxa listed in the conservation objectives for each North Atlantic ABMT in ABNJ. Green: no expected impact; Yellow: low expected impact; Orange: impacted. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)



Expected Impacts

- Improve **resource management** (ecosystem approach) and governance
- Improve **cooperation** within EU and transatlantic
- Contribute to the **EU Integrated Maritime Policy**
- Strengthen international **agreements to conserve** Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Ecologically & Biologically Significant Areas
- Engage with UN process developing an international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction



**Belém Statement on
Atlantic Research and Innovation Cooperation**
Conference in Lisbon on 13-14 July 2017

**FOR THE
EUROPEAN UNION**

**FOR THE DEPARTMENT
OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, A
GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF
SOUTH AFRICA**

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY,
INNOVATIONS AND
COMMUNICATIONS OF
THE FEDERATIVE
REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL**

Carlos Moedas
Commissioner for
Research, Science and
Innovation

Naledi Pandor
Minister of Science and
Technology

Gilberto Kassab
Minister of State for Science,
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COSME

European Statistics Programme

Hercule III Programme

TOPIC : All Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Flagship

Topic identifier: BG-08-2018-2019

Publication date: 27 October 2017

Types of action: CSA Coordination and support action

DeadlineModel: single-stage

Planned opening date: 31 October 2017

Deadline: 13 February 2018 17:00:00

Types of action: RIA Research and Innovation action

DeadlineModel: two-stage

Planned opening date: 31 October 2017

Deadline: 13 February 2018 17:00:00

2nd stage Deadline: 11 September 2018 17:00:00

Types of action: RIA Research and Innovation action

DeadlineModel: two-stage

Planned opening date: 16 October 2018

Deadline: 23 January 2019 17:00:00

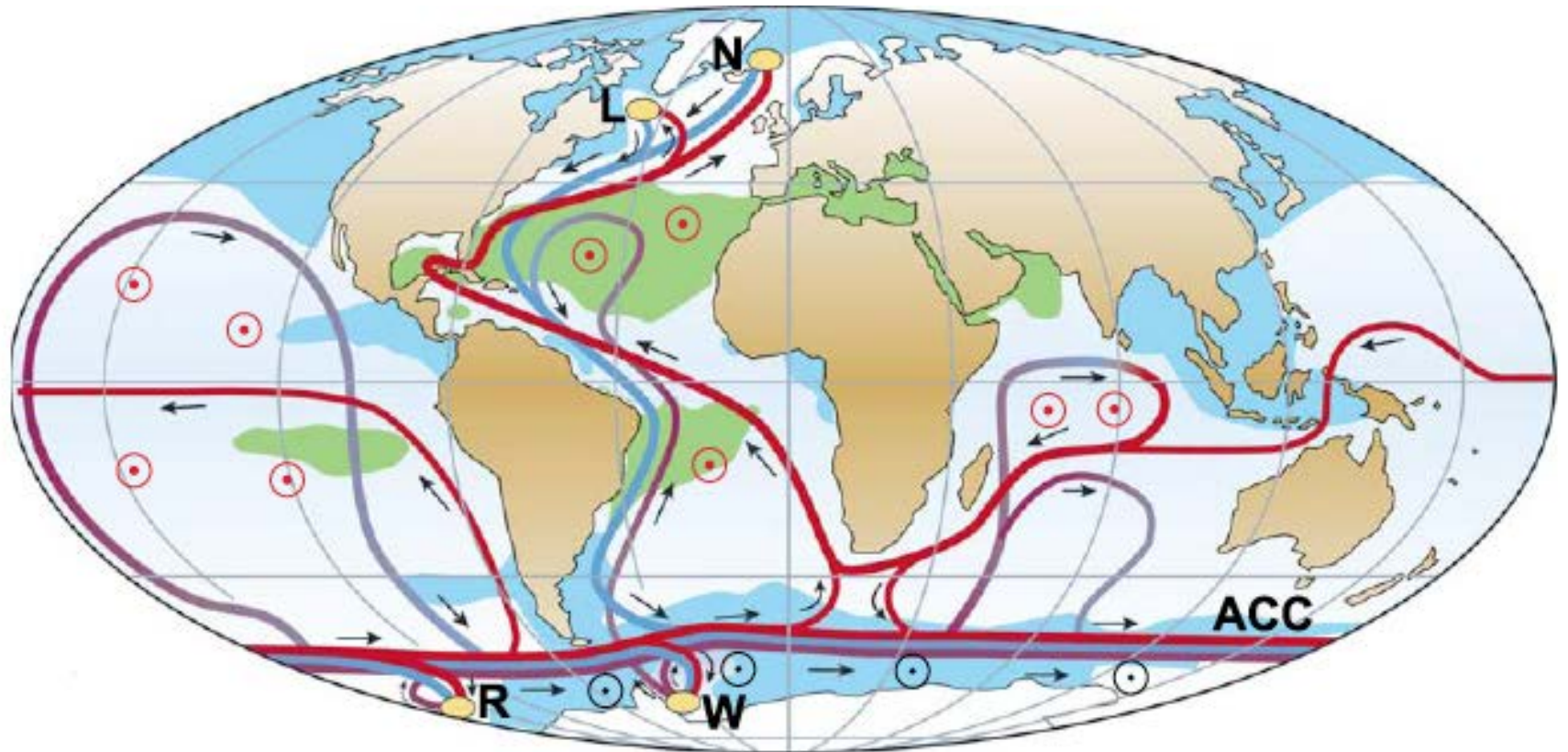
2nd stage Deadline: 04 September 2019 17:00:00

Time Zone : (Brussels time)

iAtlantic project selected for funding and currently in Grant Agreement Preparation

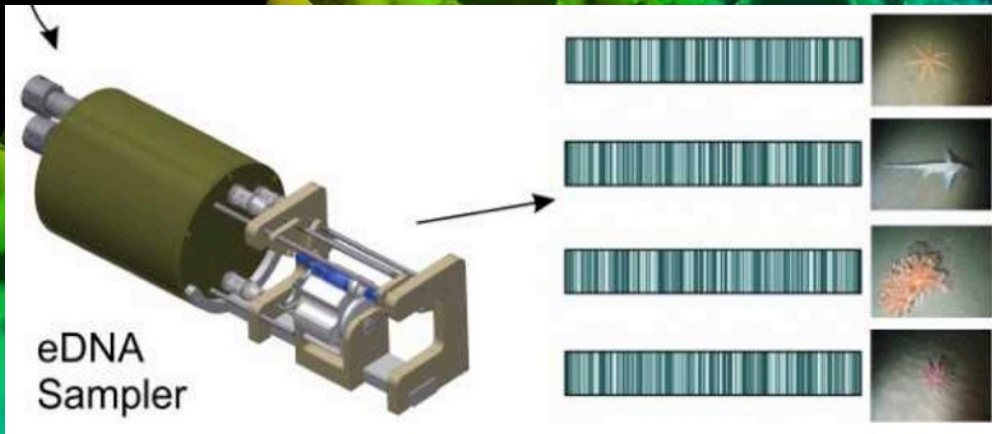
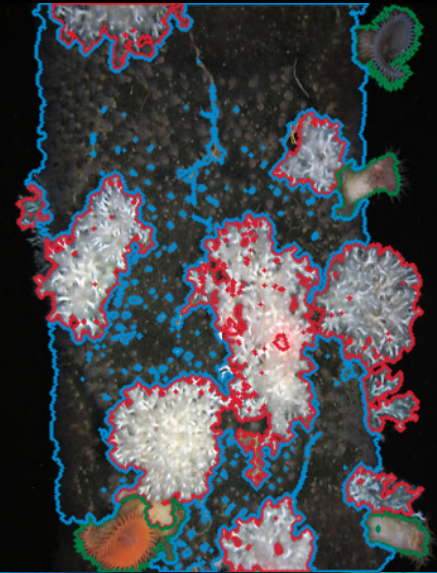
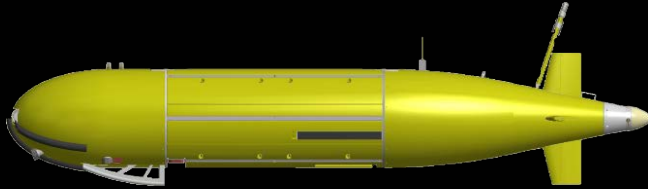
iAtlantic Objective 01

Ocean Observation



Standardise South and North Atlantic Ocean observations to enable short, medium and long-term assessments of Atlantic Ocean circulation and its physico-biogeochemical environment.

iAtlantic Objective 02 Ocean Mapping



Map deep and open-ocean ecosystems at basin, regional and local scales.

iAtlantic Objective 03

Deep & open ocean ecosystem assessment



Assess the stability, vulnerability, and any tipping points of deep and open-ocean Atlantic ecosystems to changes in ocean circulation, and effects of single and multiple stressors.

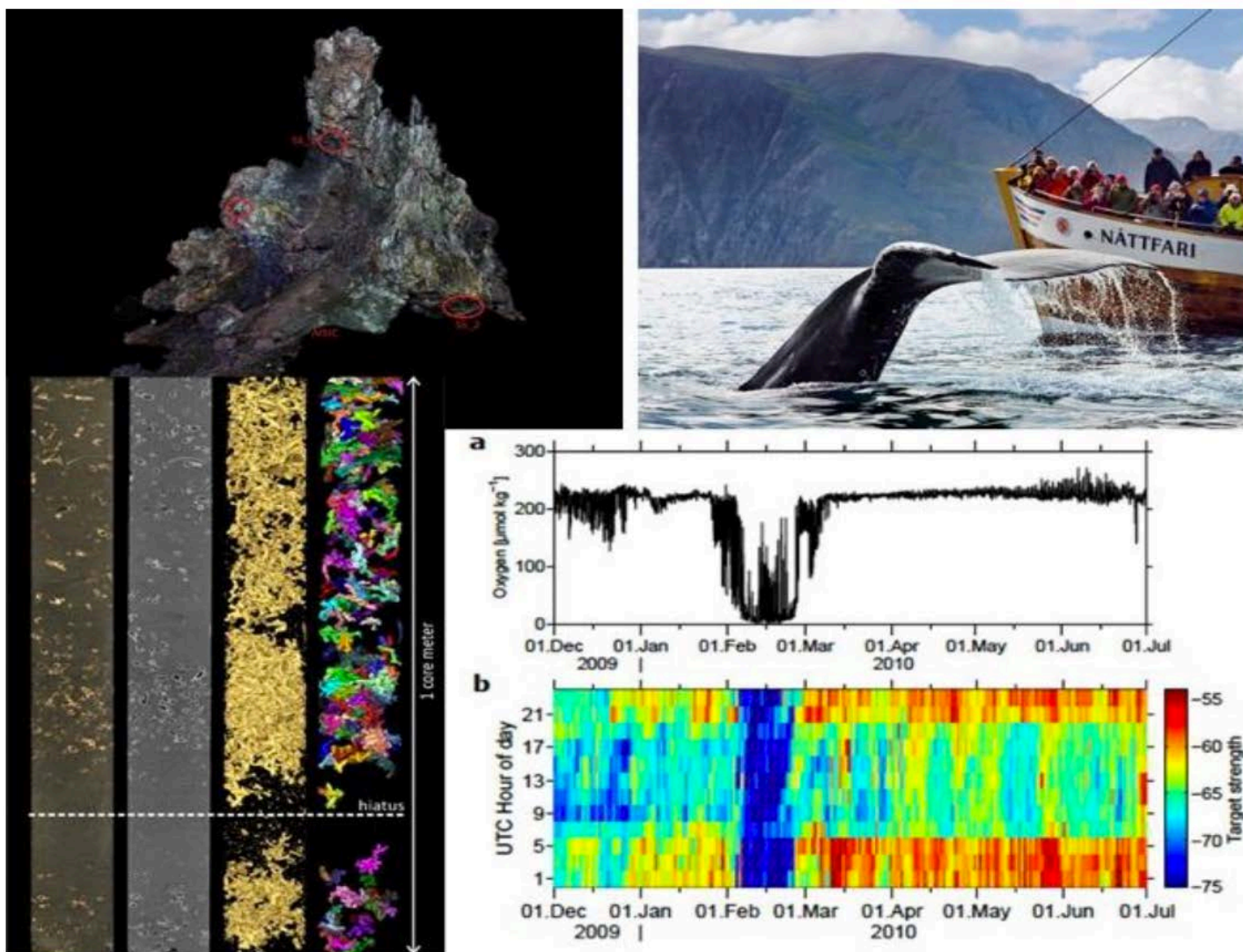


Figure 6: Examples of novel methods to create ecosystem timeseries. Clockwise from top left: 3D reconstruction of benthic communities at the Lucky Strike hydrothermal vent using photomosaics; whale fluke identifications from Iceland and Bermuda to reconstruct temporal changes in population size; inter-annual changes in oxygen (a) and effects on zooplankton (b) derived from ADCP from the CVOO off Cape Verde (Karstensen et al., 2015); sediment core from Mauritania with periods of coral growth and hiatuses from Wienberg & Titschack (2017).

iAtlantic Objective 04 Capacity Building



Agreement in principle for industry sponsorship to enhance iAtlantic fellowship scheme



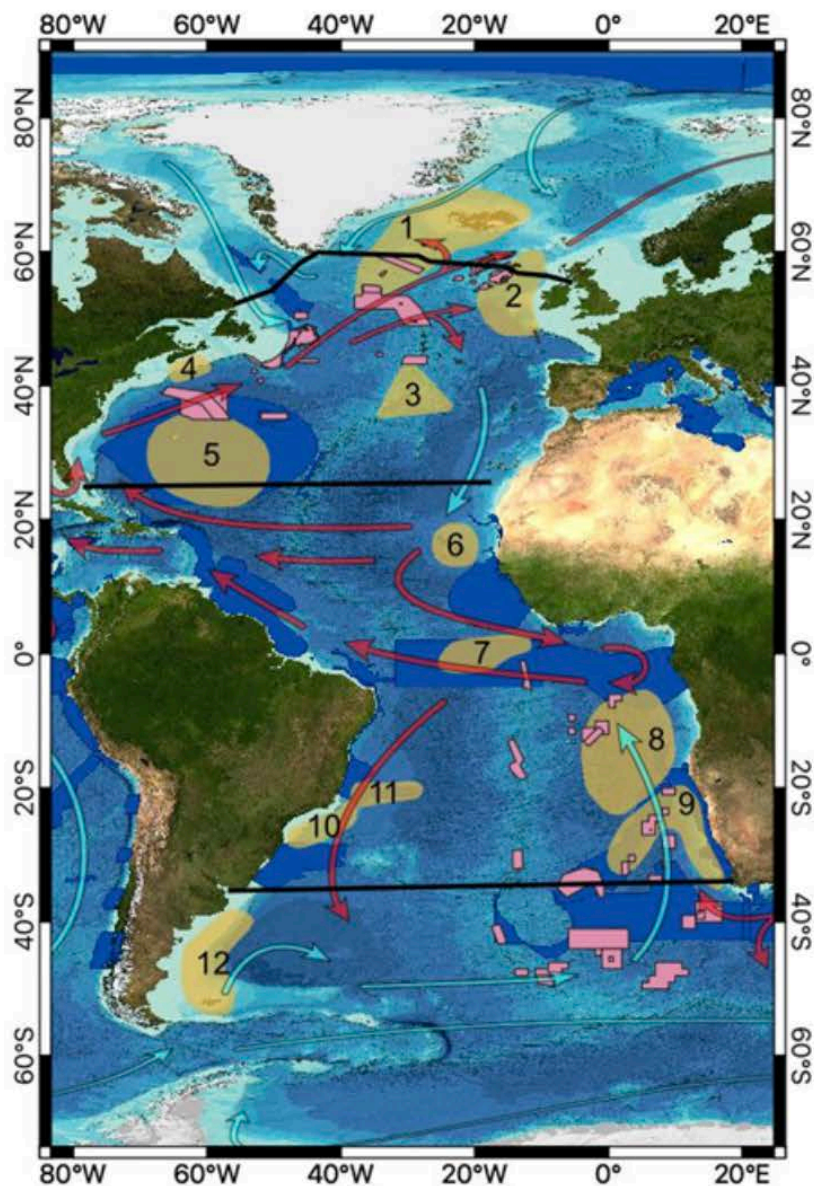
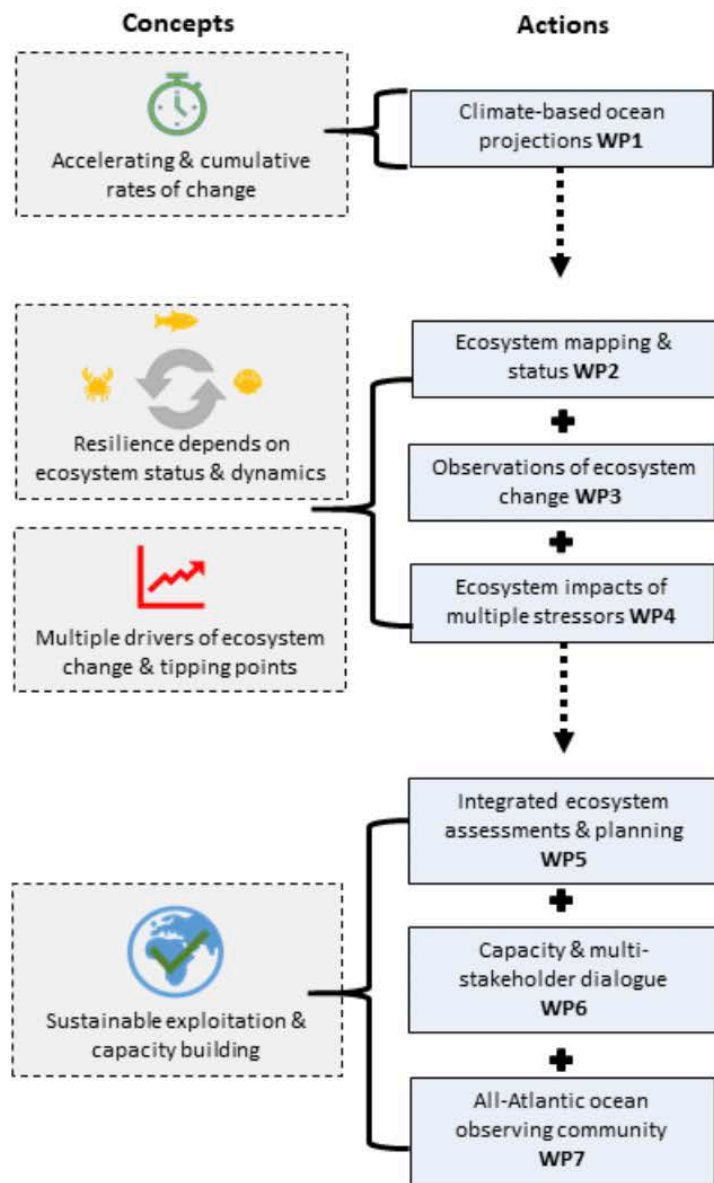
Align and enhance human, technological and data inter-operability capacities for cost-effective cooperation and planning across the Atlantic.

iAtlantic Objective 05 Sustainable Management



Define requirements for sustainable management with industry, regulatory and governmental stakeholders to reflect societal needs and inform policy developments that ensure and encourage a sustainable Blue Economy.

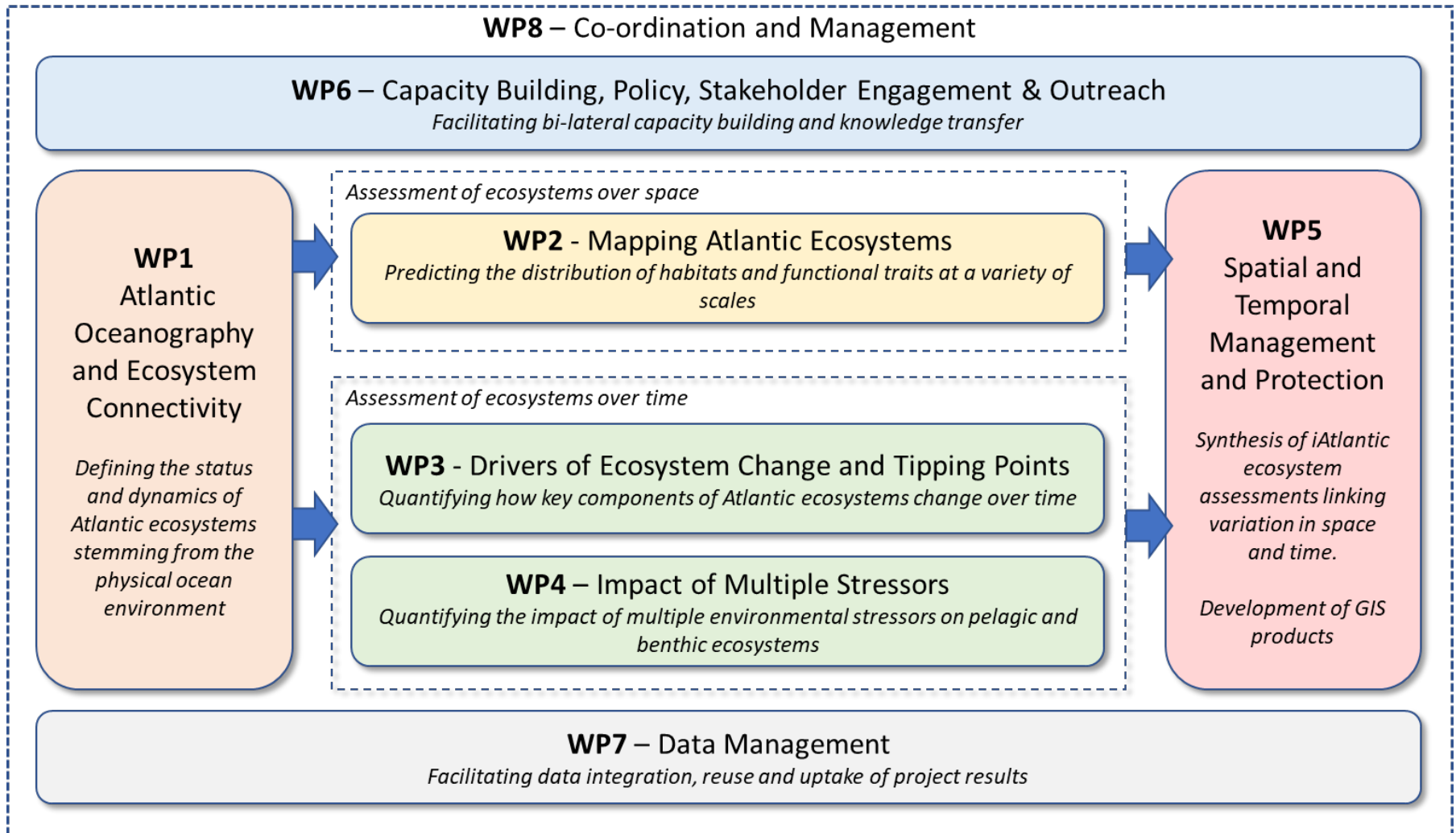
iAtlantic



COMMON TOOLS & DATA STANDARDS
LONG RANGE PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE BLUE GROWTH

iAtlantic

Integrated assessment of Atlantic marine ecosystems in space and time





UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG



iAtlantic Team

Integrated assessment of Atlantic marine ecosystems in space and time



Phil Williamson (Chair)



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Gordon Paterson
(Chair Science Council)



GLOBAL OCEAN TRUST

Thorsten Thiele



iAtlantic Advisors

Integrated assessment of Atlantic marine ecosystems in space and time

iAtlantic

- 34 partners
- €10.6M budget
- 11 international associate partners
- €27M programme of 32 cruises

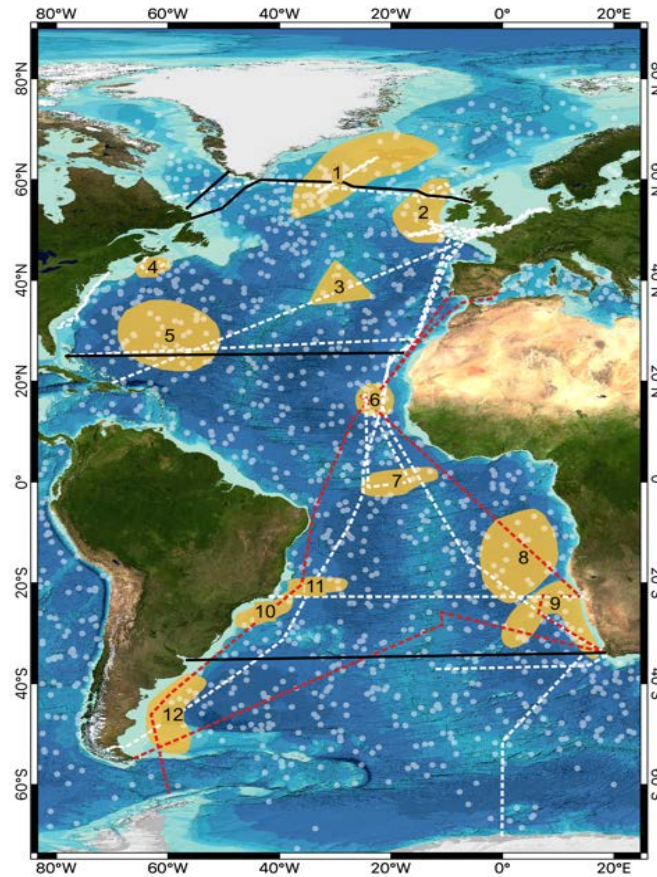


Figure 2: Chart illustrating the density of ARGO floats (grey circles) and positions of transatlantic monitoring arrays (black lines) providing oceanographic data to iAtlantic. Dashed white lines illustrate tracks of iAtlantic cruises with the two *S Atlantic Demonstrator Capacity Building cruises iMirabilis and iCorsage* shown in red. Led by the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO) and named for iconic plants of W Africa and S America, these cruises are dedicated to the iAtlantic consortium. iMirabilis targets Regions 6–9 and will bring the UK Autosub6000 AUV equipped with the MAPS eDNA sampler and the Portuguese Luso ROV to the S Atlantic for the first time. The iCorsage cruise primarily targets Region 11 where it will conduct extensive mapping of the Vitória-Trindade Seamounts and provide training in the latest shipboard mapping approaches. iAtlantic will run a third Demonstrator Capacity Building cruise on a UK vessel in Region 2. Equipped with Autosub6000 and science-class ROV, this cruise will be open to iAtlantic fellows with dedicated berths for S Atlantic researchers.



Take home messages

- Deep & open ocean remains largely unexplored but human activities are expanding rapidly
- Ocean monitoring & ecosystem assessment technologies improving at exponential rate
- Need to work closely with Blue Economy stakeholders from data gathering to sustainable management
- Vital to invest in the human element throughout the science-to-policy process



Many thanks!

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- UK Global Challenge Research Fund
- £20M budget
- 2019-2024
- 8 UN partners
- 4 regional bodies
- 7 Government Depts
- 4 NGOs
- 3 Think Tanks
- 5 Private sector

- Research team from UK, S Africa, Ghana, Namibia, Kenya, S Pacific, Caribbean
- Led by University of Strathclyde (Scotland)

