

The logo for the National Oceanography Centre, featuring a white square with a black border. The text "National Oceanography Centre" is written in black, stacked vertically within the square.

National
Oceanography
Centre

UPDATES FROM NOC 2025

ELLA DARLINGTON

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE



INTEGRATED SHIP AND EQUIPMENT POOL



RRS Discovery



RRS Discovery is a multidisciplinary ship, specifically designed for the challenges of 21st century oceanography.

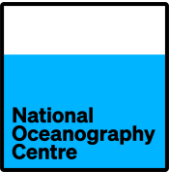


RRS James Cook

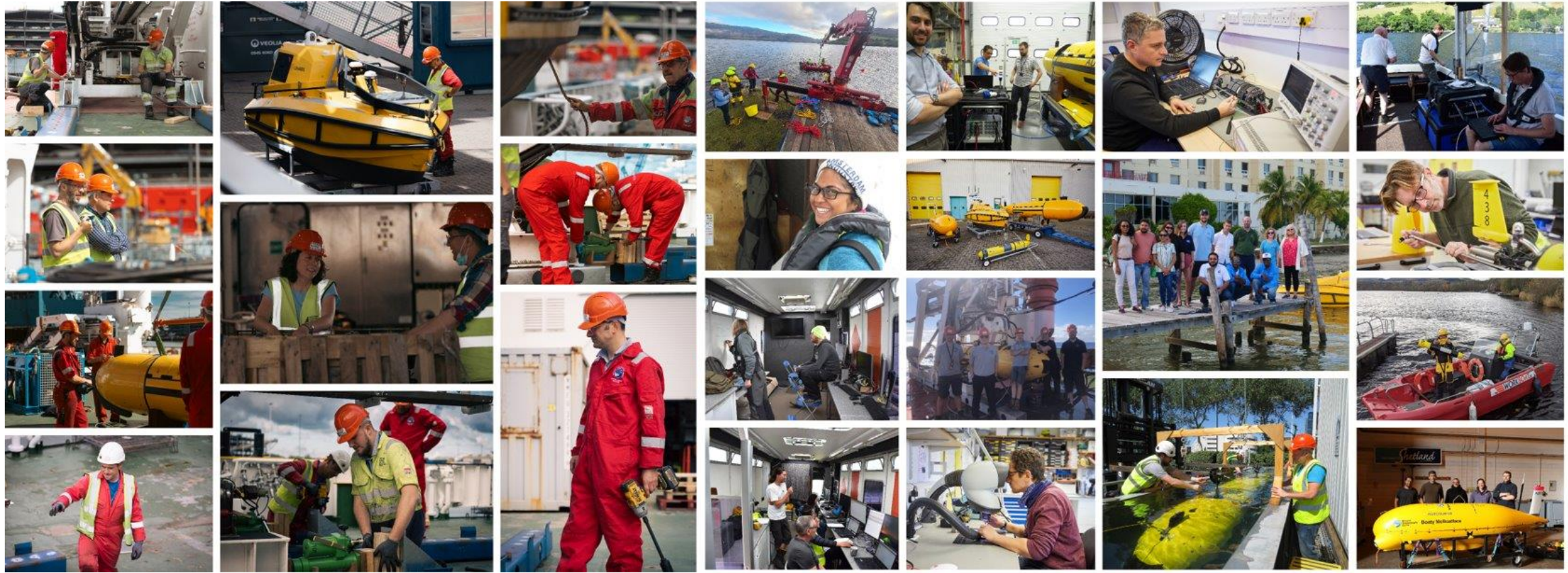


Fitted with state-of-the-art systems and equipment, RRS James Cook, is one of the most advanced research vessels currently in service.

NATIONAL MARINE EQUIPMENT POOL



ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE



OPERATIONAL UPDATE 2024-2025



- Atlantic operations
- Multi-year project in Greenland
- Multi-year project (moorings) in West Africa
- Increase in vessel deployed autonomy
- ROV work in the Mediterranean, Santorini

OCEAN FACILITIES EXCHANGE GROUP



OFEG consists of: UK (NERC) – (CSIC) – Netherlands (NIOZ) – Germany (BMBF) – Norway (IMR) – France (IFREMER)

UK-NERC is a barter conduit between OFEG and USA – UNOLS

Recent NERC activity

NERC – CSIC (December 2025)

RRS James Cook delivering seismic survey from Dominican Republic

NERC – UNOLS (October 2025 & January 2026)

RRS Discovery delivering moorings cruises for UNOLS, Portugal

UNOLS – NERC (August 2024)

RV Langseth delivered seismic survey in North Atlantic on behalf of NERC

NERC – NIOZ (August 2024)

RRS Discovery used to deliver NIOZ & US sections of the North Atlantic OSNAP programme

UNOLS – NERC (April 2023)

RV Atlantic delivered ROV survey in Galapagos on behalf of NERC

NERC – BMBF – CSIC (JC228 December 2022)

RRS James Cook used to deliver programme of work for BMBF off the coast of Costa Rica, using 6 km seismics streamers from CSIC



<https://www.ofeg.org>

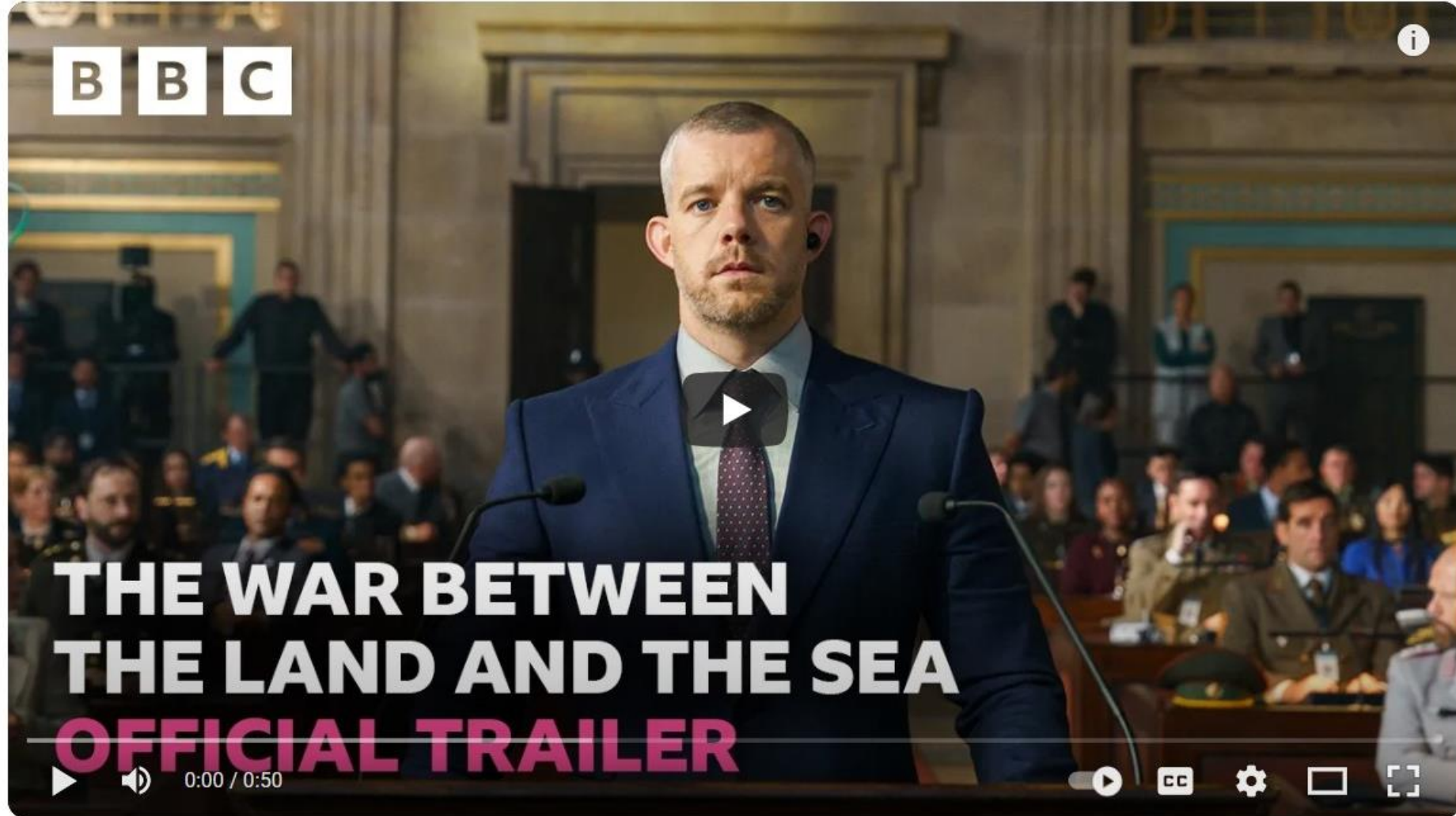
100 YEARS OF RRS DISCOVERY



~100 YEARS OF~
ROYAL RESEARCH SHIP
DISCOVERY



DIVERSIFICATION



All funded applications globally are put into an AI bot

scheduled in the most cost efficient, both financially and carbon, way possible

meets all the terms and conditions of all personnel contracts

manages all the different funding agencies and grants

arranges all port calls and logistics



... I/we'll be out of a job...




OPPORTUNITIES



Opportunities

Search by keyword Open to Availability View all Organisations Reset view



Exploration of Deepwater habitats off Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands for Biotechnology Potential

PI: Tammy Russel | 8 Jul 2024 - 25 Aug 2024 | Southeast Atlantic


NERC [Read Synopsis](#)

Piggyback Project	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Netherlands
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	Nerc
Apply for opportunity	

Find A Science Berth	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Global
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	UNOS
Apply for opportunity	

Supplementary	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Europe
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	UNOS
Apply for opportunity	

Supplementary	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Europe
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	UNOS
Apply for opportunity	



Exploration of Deepwater Habitats around Bermuda and the Azores for Biotechnological Potential

PI: Kurt Russel | Expected year of delivery - 2024 | Northwest Atlantic

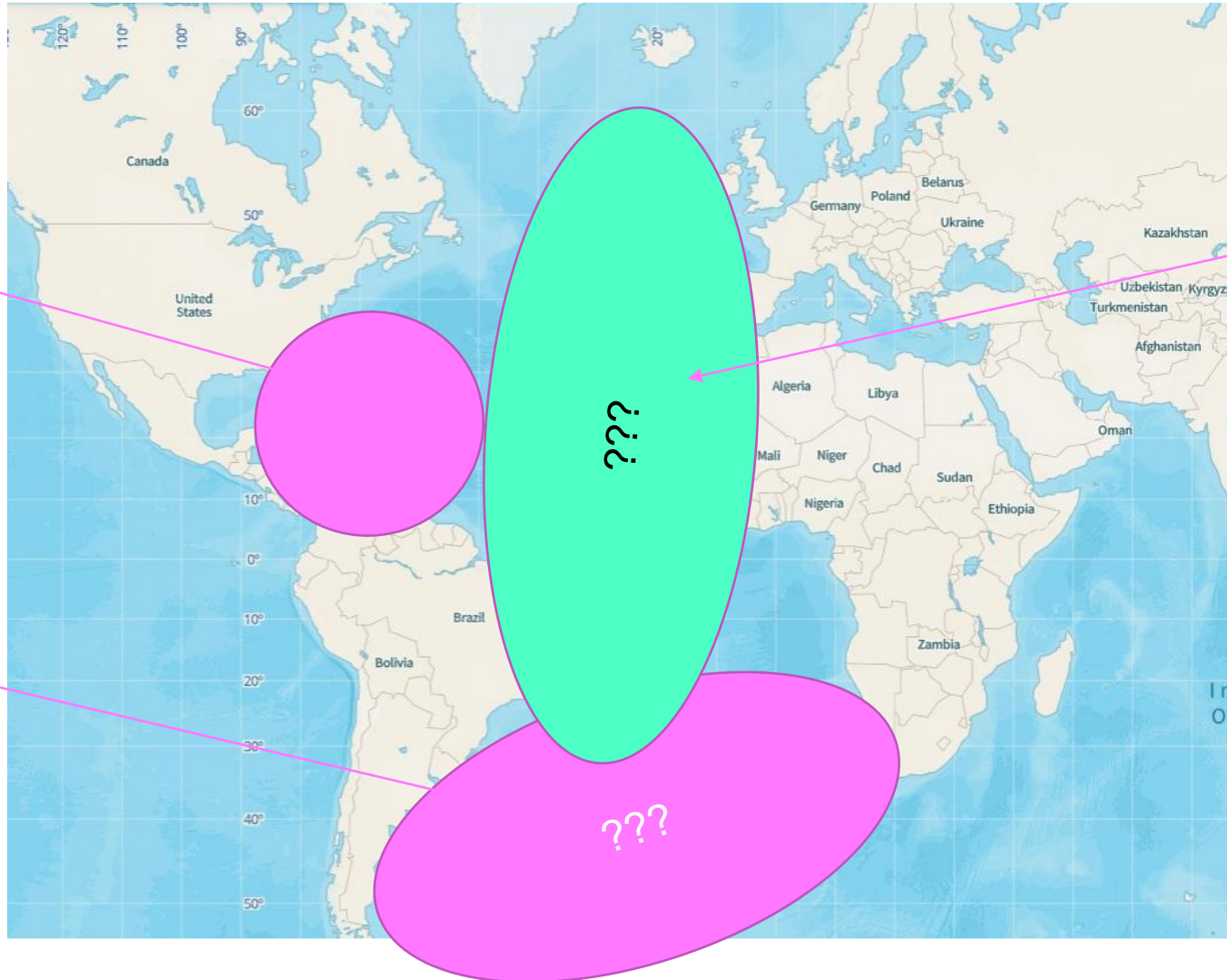
NIOZ [Read Synopsis](#)

Piggyback Project	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Netherlands
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	Nerc
Apply for opportunity	

Find A Science Berth	
Description	No berths or dedicated time available.
Open to	Global
Start date	18 Jul 2024
End date	16 Aug 2024
Institute	UNOS
Apply for opportunity	

- Use MFP to:
 - Highlight ALL funded applications publicly
 - Give an approx. delivery timeframe
 - Advertise type of opportunities
 - Spare berths
 - Piggyback projects
- Streamline the process to reduce overhead on people resource

UPCOMING AVAILABILITY



RRS James Cook:
Nov 2026 – Jan 2027

October 2027
– March 2028

RRS Discovery:
Nov 2026 – Mar 2027



THANKS FOR LISTENING...

eledar@noc.ac.uk

NOC.AC.UK