

# Creating partnerships for capacity building in ecosystem assessment at ocean basin scale – Case studies from the Atlantic

**J Murray Roberts**

ATLAS project coordinator, University of Edinburgh

Two-day multi-stakeholder dialogue and capacity-building partnership event  
United Nations, New York, 24-25 January 2019



Ocean  
Warming

Ocean  
Acidification

Reduced  
oxygen

Invasive  
species

Plastics &  
Pollution

Bioprospecting

Harmful  
Fishing  
Practices

Deep-sea  
Mining

Hydrocarbon  
Exploitation





# atlas

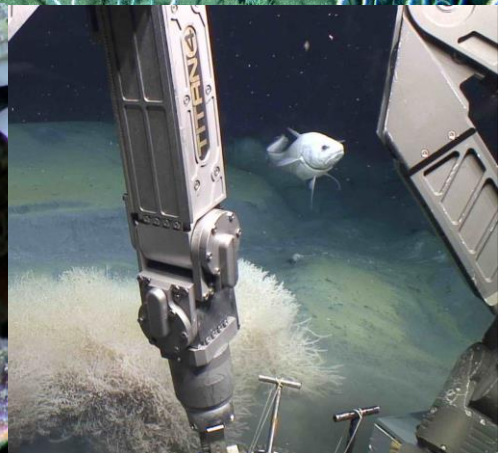
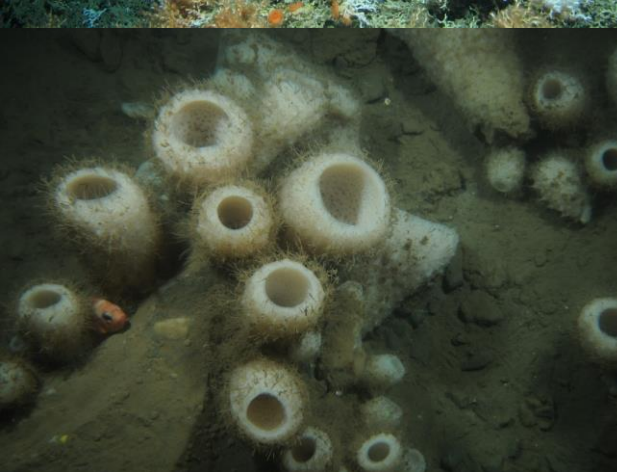
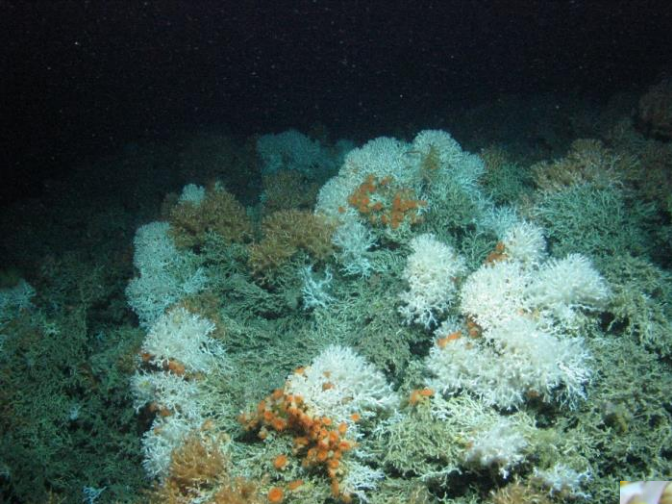
UNDERSTANDING DEEP ATLANTIC ECOSYSTEMS



## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Máire Geoghegan-Quinn'.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Edward Fast'.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Kerri-Ann Jones'.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Maria Damadaki'.

**Maria DAMANAKI**  
Commissioner for Maritime  
Affairs and Fisheries



# atlas Advisory & Stakeholder Board



Jake Rice, DFO  
Scientist Emeritus



**TOTAL**



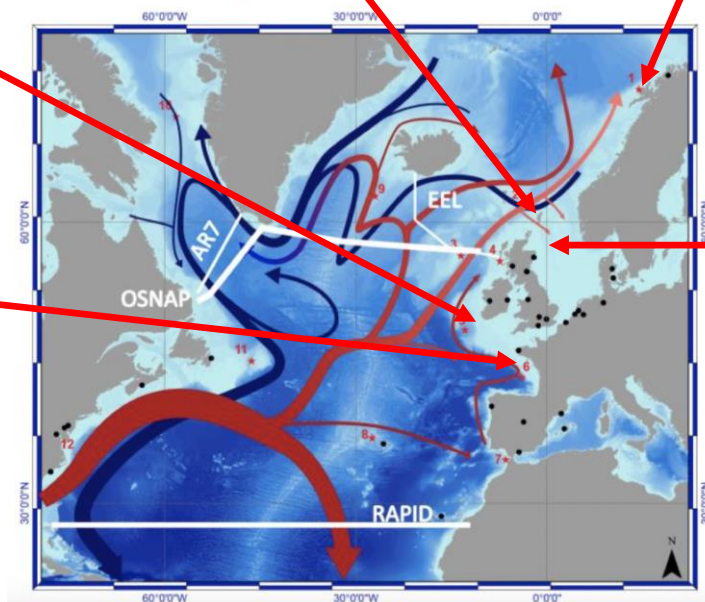
Statoil



equinor



Canadian Natural



Science Policy Panel



**NAFO**

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization

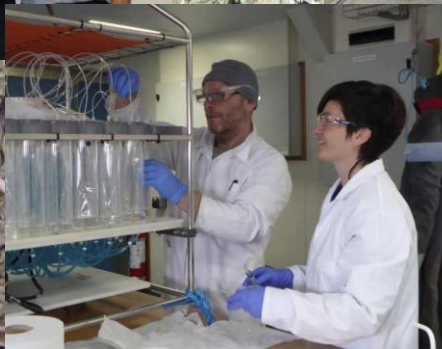
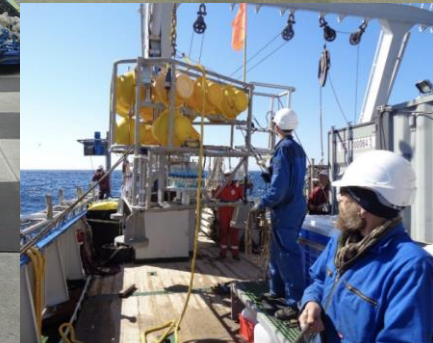
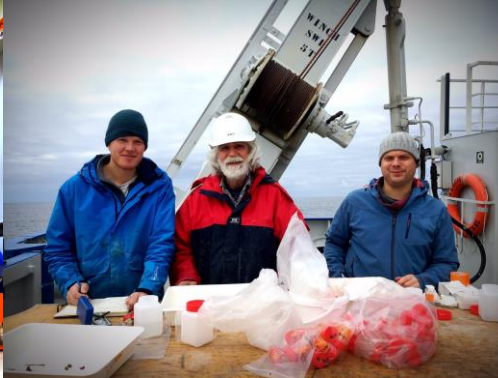




# Multidisciplinary Approach

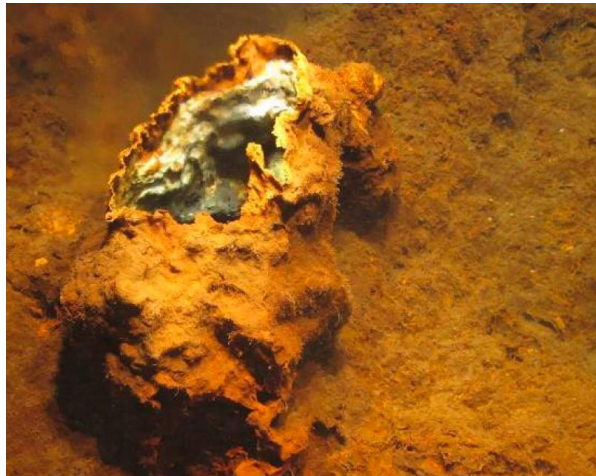
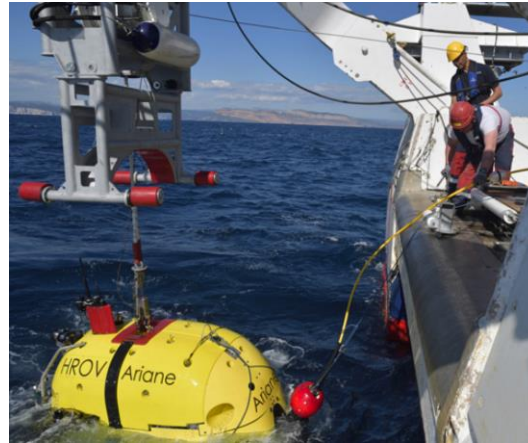








# ATLAS @sea







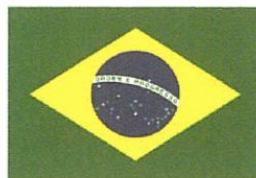




## Expected Impacts

- 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

Please visit the ATLAS stand for more info



**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,  
Technology, Innovations and  
Communications

# RESEARCH & INNOVATION

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### EU Programmes 2014-2020

Updates



Calls



H2020

3rd Health Programme

Asylum, Migration and  
Integration Fund

Consumer Programme

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

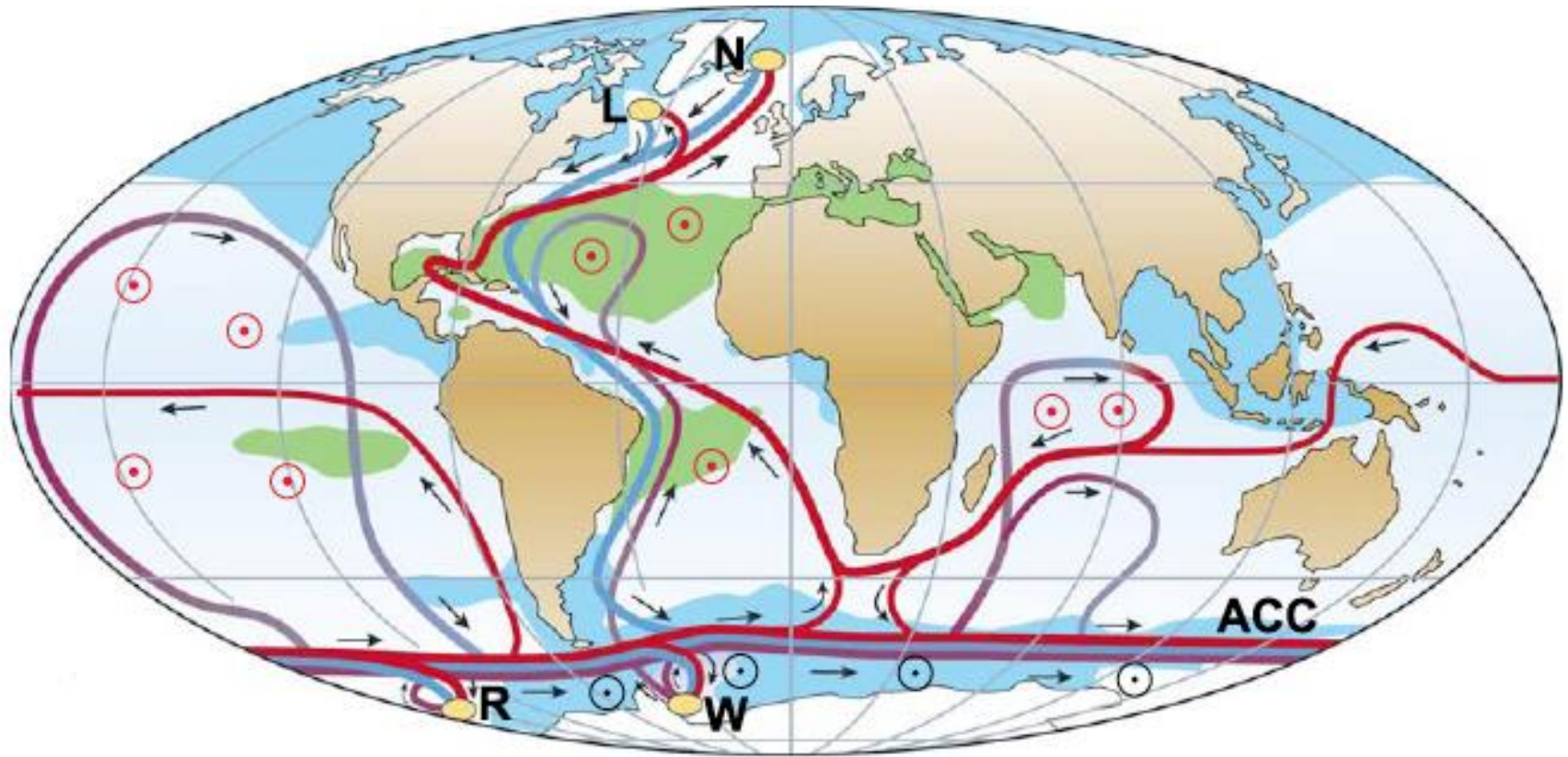
Time Zone : (Brussels time)

iAtlantic project selected for funding and currently in Grant Agreement Preparation



# iAtlantic Objective 01

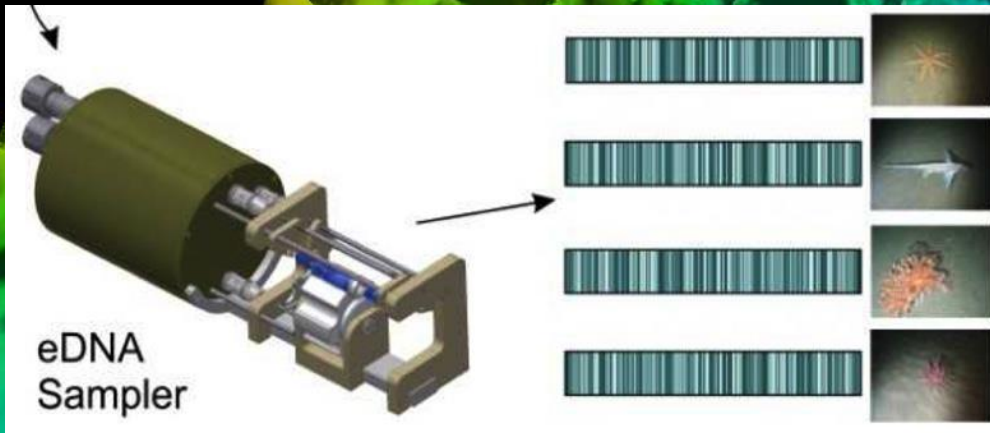
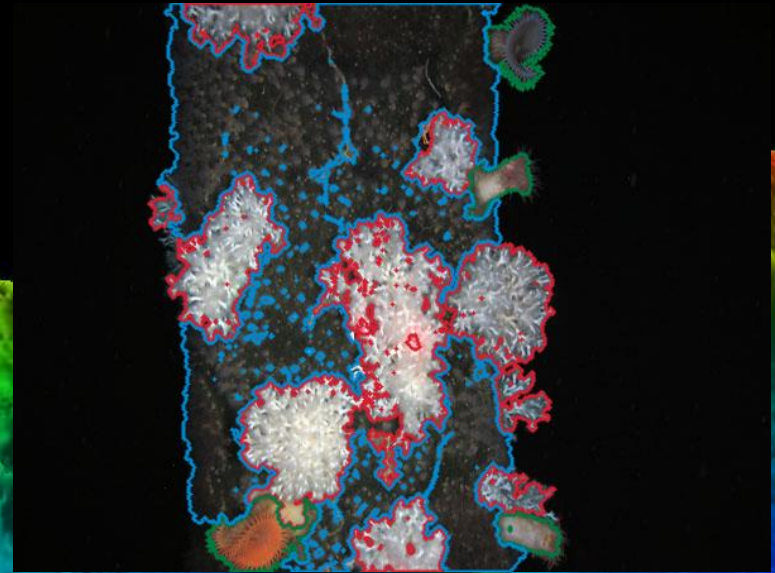
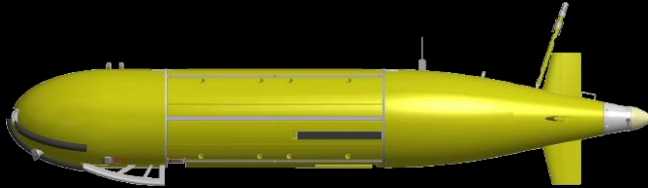
## Ocean Observation



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

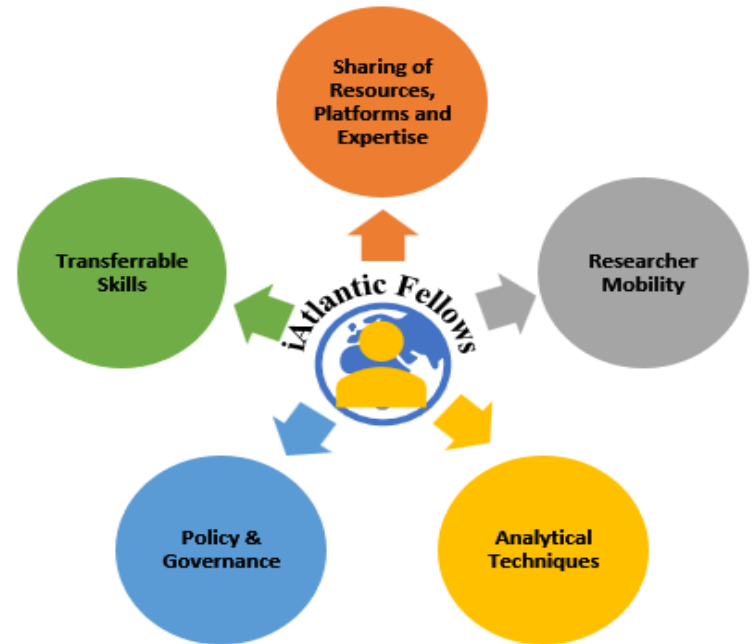


Assess the stability, vulnerability, and any tipping points of deep and open-ocean Atlantic ecosystems to changes in ocean circulation, and effects of single and multiple stressors.



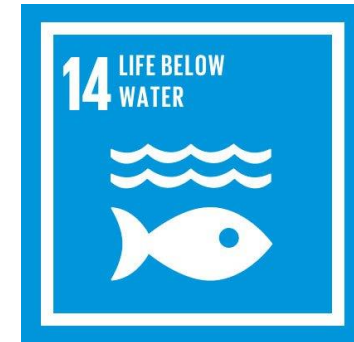
# iAtlantic Objective 04

## Capacity Building



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

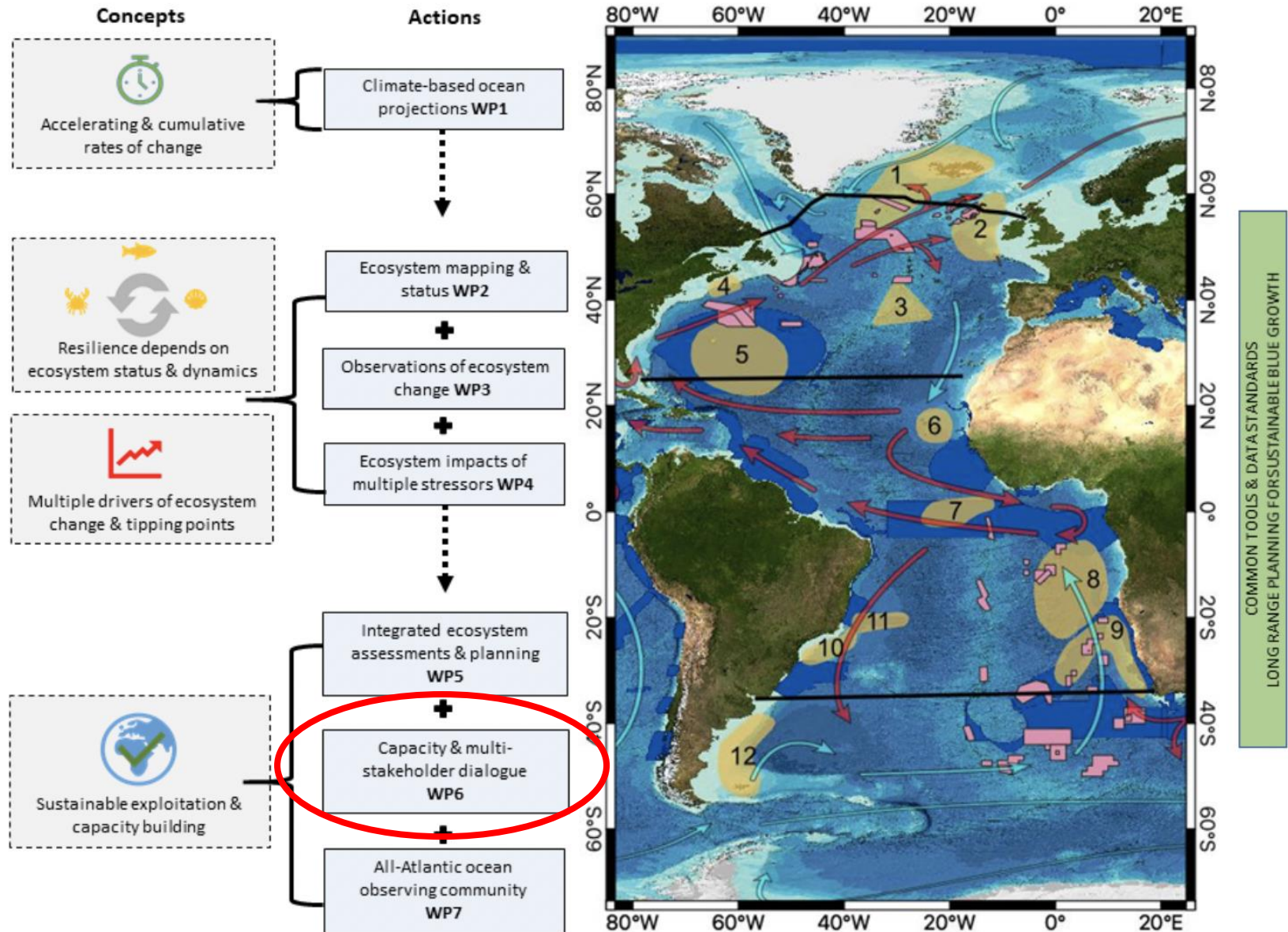
## iAtlantic Objective 05 Sustainable Management



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.



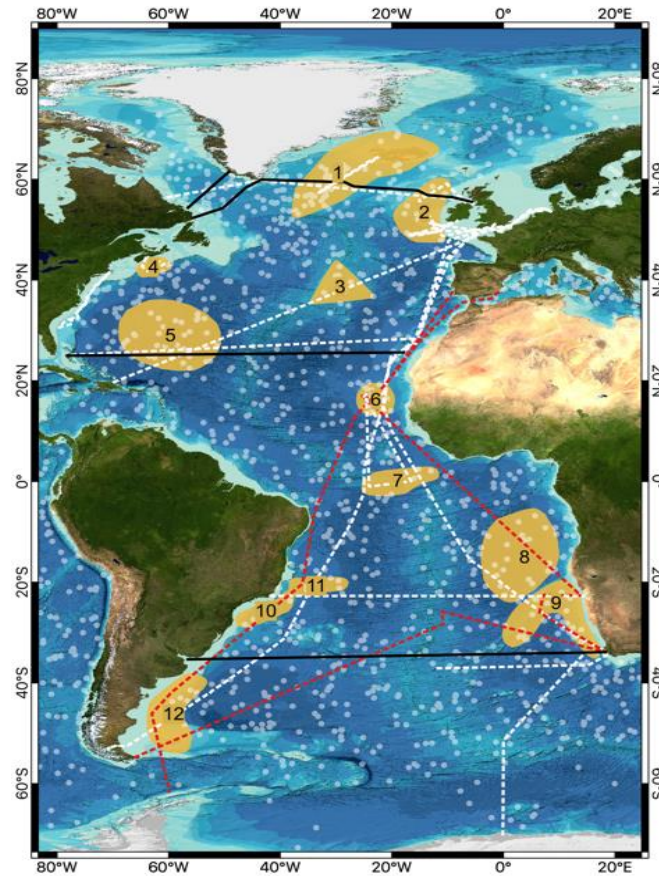
# iAtlantic





# 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!

Please visit the ATLAS stand  
for more information

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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)

