

# United Kingdom & Arctic Research: a bright future

The United Kingdom is a leading nation in Arctic research, with over 70 universities and research centres which carry out work in biological, physical, geological and social sciences. Understanding the pace of change in this region, including the local and global impact, is more important than ever. We are committed to the highest quality research which addresses the most significant questions in the Arctic. Working with international partners in the European Union, with the Arctic states, and across the globe will continue to be a vitally important part of our approach.

## Investment in Strategic Research

NERC has invested £30m into Arctic science research over the last 5 years.

Over 70 publications have resulted from the NERC Arctic Research Programme (2011-2016).

37 UK research institutions involved.

## NERC Changing Arctic Ocean Programme

£16m in a 5-year programme (2017-22) to investigate the effects of climate change on Arctic Ocean functioning and the impact on the ecosystem.

First cruises began in July 2017.

11 countries are partners.



## Arctic Council

The United Kingdom was amongst the first observers to the Arctic Council in 1996.

UK-based researchers play a full and influential part in the Working Groups and Expert Groups.

## Year of Polar Prediction

Our researchers are valued partners in international collaborations.

With Government and NERC support UK-based scientists will apply for funding to join the MOSAiC international Arctic drift expedition in 2019-20.



## RRS Sir David Attenborough

*A new polar research ship for Britain*

In 2019 RRS *Sir David Attenborough* will be ready for service. Commissioned by NERC, built by Cammell Laird and operated by the British Antarctic Survey, the new ship is a next-generation polar marine science platform for UK research in both Antarctica and the Arctic.

State-of-the-art onboard facilities and future-proof containerised laboratories on this world-leading science platform will offer new research opportunities for the UK's polar scientists who strive to make sense of our changing world for the benefit of society.

The new ship will ensure Britain's continued position as a world leader in polar science.

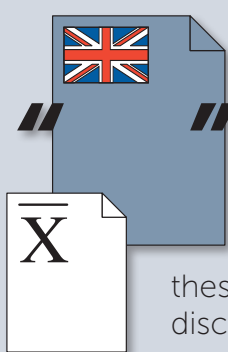


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## Strong, High Impact and International Arctic Research



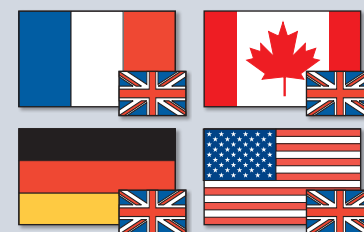
The UK is the 4th most productive country, measured by the number of papers in peer-reviewed journals (after the US, Russia and Canada).



Papers from UK-based researchers are cited 90% more than the global average for these individual disciplines.



Nearly two-thirds of the UK Arctic papers have international co-authors - higher than any of the other three nations with a larger output.



UK-based researchers are very regular co-authors

## Research Infrastructure

We have a wide range of safe and extremely capable assets to support ambitious and innovative research.



The **UK Science and Innovation Network** has 90 people in 35 countries to build partnerships in science and innovation, connecting the local research community to the UK, creating mutual benefits. The Network is active in each of the eight Arctic States.



**Arctic Office**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

The **Arctic Office** is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to:

- support UK research in the high North
- provide advice to policy-makers
- develop international scientific co-operation across all aspects of Arctic research

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