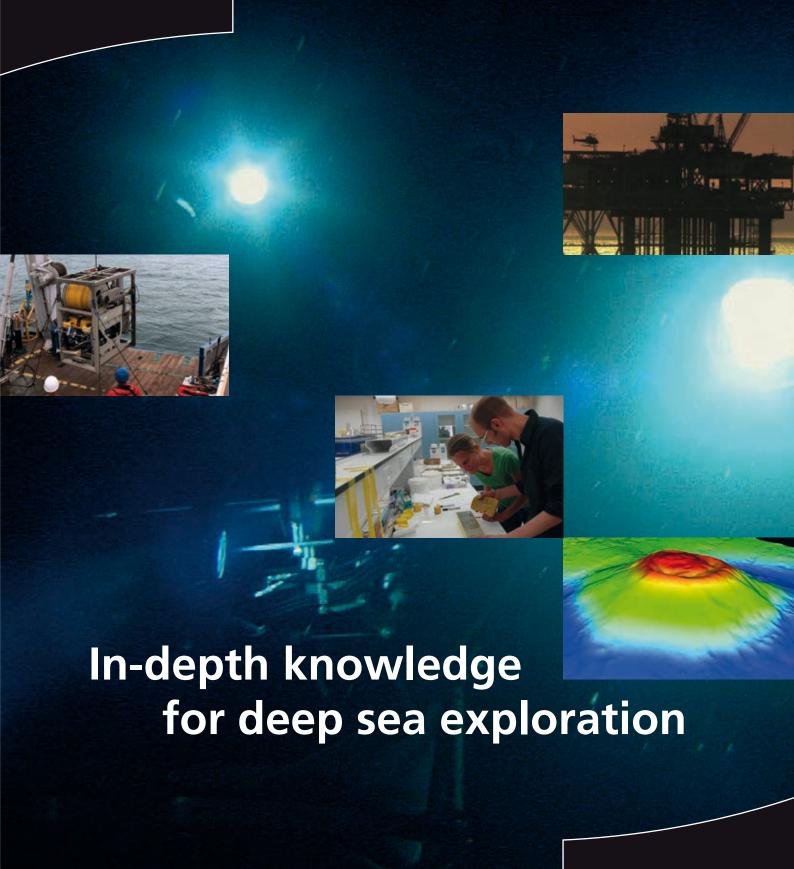


Netherlands Deep Sea Science & Technology Centre





Royal Netherlands Institute for



In 2050, an estimated 10 billion people will inhabit our planet. Will there be enough sources of raw materials, food, water and energy? Emerging sources, such as deep sea mining of valuable ores, or oil and gas exporation in deep water are great possibilities to fill our planets future needs of resources. However they must be developed and utilized in a way that is coping with the general threats of climate change, the loss of biodiversity by habitat destruction, overfishing, and pollution. It is difficult but crucial to maintain a delicate balance between People (corporate social responsibility), Profit (generation of continuous earnings over a prolonged period), and Planet (protection of the environment).

A maritime knowledge-driven infrastructure for sustainable explorations

The International Seabed Authority (ISA; 1994) was founded to set up internationally binding regulations for the utilization of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction. Protection against potential harmful effects of commercial exploitation of the deepsea is one of ISA obligations. Deep Sea Mining includes the exploitation of materials such as polymetallic sulphides, manganese nodules, cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts, rare earth elements, and oil and gas exploration, including methane hydrates. Sound knowledge of the deep sea is crucial for assessing potential environmental impacts on the communities at the sea floor and in the overlying water column before engaging on such activities, as well as the time it takes for ecosystems to recover.

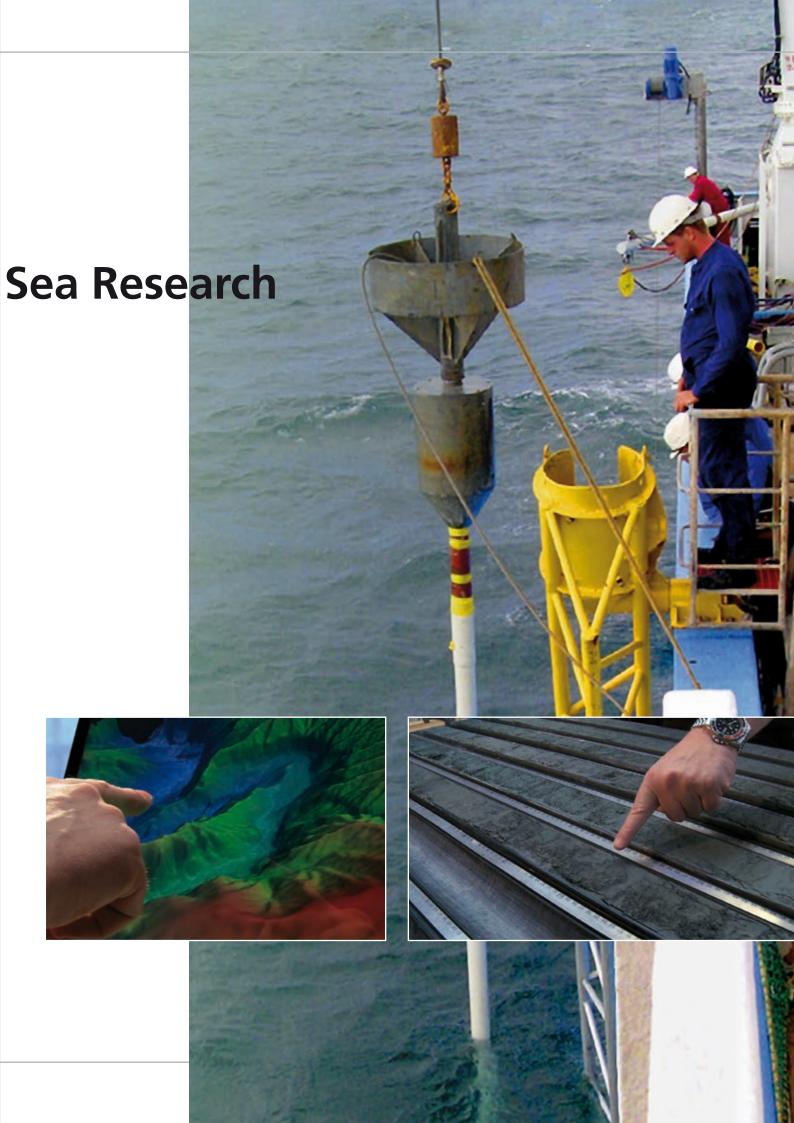
Independent research for a sustainable management of emerging open ocean resources

More than a century of worldwide marine research

With a history of almost 140 years of worldwide research in estuaries, coastal seas and open oceans; from the tropics to polar regions, we can address these possibilities either by ourselves, or in cooperation with our national science partners in the Maritime Consortium of Environmental Science and Technology (MUST): Deltares, IMARES and TNO.

Close cooperation between fundamental and applied research focusing on the deep sea has been geared towards exploring the sedimentary environment, reconstruction of the geological history and the biogeochemical functioning of the oceans. New techniques are continuously developed for this research and technical innovation has been instrumental for many of the research projects carried out, often in close collaboration with industry.

Applied research includes exploration strategies for Deep Sea Mining and identification of the potential environmental impacts, either directly on the communities at the seafloor and in the overlying water column, as well as indirectly by the sediment plume generated by the activity. New techniques are developed for the analyses of precious metals in different materials and settings.



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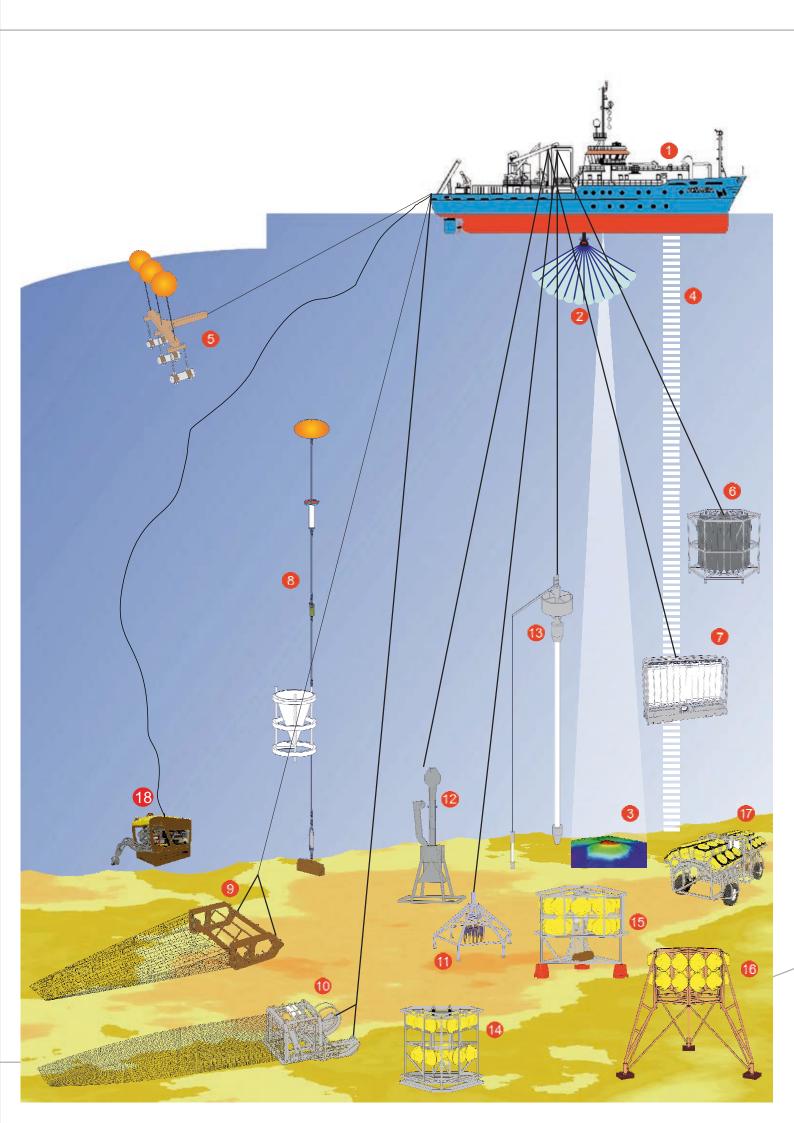
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RV Pelagia: tools & capabilities

- 1 RV Pelagia
- 2 Hipap 100 USBL acoustic direction finder
- 3 Kongsberg EM-302 Multibeam Echosounder
- 4 Bottom penetrating echosounder
- 5 Seismic Array (Sleeve Guns)
- 6 CTD Rosetta frame with water samplers
- 7 Ultra-clean-CTD Frame 'Titanium' with Pristine® water samplers
- 8 Deep Sea Mooring with ADCP, current meter and Sediment Trap
- 9 Agassiz Trawl for quantitative deepsea bottom trawling
- 10 Deep Digging Dredge (Triple-D) for sampling benthic macrofauna
- 11 Multi-Corer for multiple small samples of surface sediments
- 12 Box Corer for large samples of surface sediments
- 13 Piston Corer for sampling long (10-20 m) sediment cores
- 14 Altrap Bottom Lander with larvae collector
- 15 Albex multi-purpose Bottom Lander for measurements and experiments at the sea floor
- BoBo Bottom Lander with downwardlooking ADCP current meter
- 17. Mobile underwater vehicle (MOVE)
- 18. Remotely operated vehicle (ROV)











Polar operations

The Arctic: a sensitive environment

The oil and gas industry is increasingly interested in Arctic explorations because this region experiences substantial warming and its ice cover is rapidly melting. However, conditions are still harsh and the biologically highly productive Arctic region also contains vitally important fishery grounds and nursery areas for many different fish species, which in turn form the main food stock for large populations of marine mammals and birds. With the environment already being under stress due to climate change, economic development potentially brings additional risks.

What can we offer?

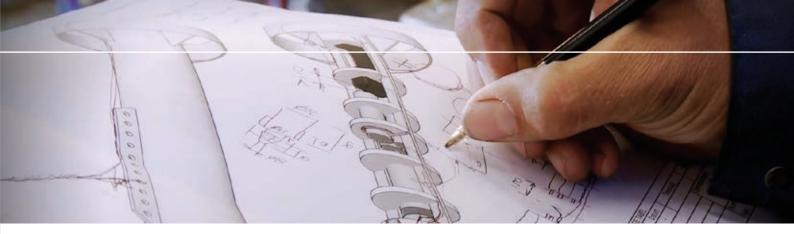
Together with industry, our scientists are geared towards investigating effects of oil and gas exploration and production on the sedimentary environment. Research on past sedimentary environments includes investigating conditions suitable for oil source rock deposition by the analysis of sediment samples. Mitigation planning will ask for monitoring studies of the major local food webs, including studies of the distribution and productivity of various species and studies of the hydrography, driving the food supply towards hotspot ecosystems, such as cold water coral reefs. With our high technology deep sea instruments, we are able to cover all aspects of studying the Arctic ecosystem.



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Hi-Tech for the Deep Sea

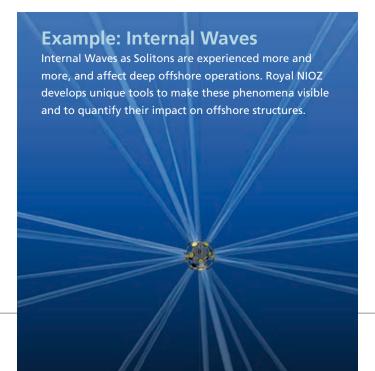
Relying on a 40 years track-record in deep sea technology the Deep Sea Centre manages to supply effective, innovative and robust solutions for the deep sea community.

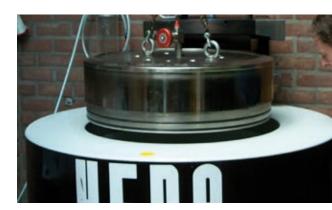
We can support you with:

- Sea operations support
- Instrument development
- Pressure testing up to 700 bar
- Equipment rental
- Ocean going research vessels
- Sea trials and measurements
- Specialized mobile laboratories

Well-equipped workshops:

- Deep Sea Electronics
- Deep Sea Instrumentation
- Deep Sea Mechanical









www.deepseacentre.nl



NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research is an institute of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO).

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The Netherlands Deep Sea Science & Technology Centre has been established within Royal NIOZ to bring together researchers from various disciplines and technical departments to respond to issues related to mining and oil & gas exploration in deep sea environments. The centre has knowledge of potentially threatened ecosystems, physical and chemical conditions at great depths, deep sea and sea floor microbiology, geology and biogeochemistry.





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Hydrografische en oceanografische systemen









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•MTI Dredging Consultants

•Training Institute for Dredging
•Mining Advisory Services