

Career Profile

Veerle Huvenne

Principal Investigator, Marine Geologist, Seafloor & Habitat Mapping Specialist

Qualifications

Bio-Engineer in soil- and water-management (5yrs - equivalent to MSc), MSc in Oceanography, PhD in Marine Geology

Career Pathway

Post-doctoral Positions at the NOC as part of a European project and as Marie Curie Fellow

Number of days at sea

726 days

Best technology you've developed

The NOC deep-submergence vehicles which form part of the Marine Autonomous and Robotic Systems fleet. The complexity of tasks that can be achieved with the ROV Isis is unrivalled, while the AUV Autosub6000 has enabled us to give our deep-water mapping work a whole new dimension. Behind each vehicle stands a splendid team of engineers, who have been able to turn my vision of mapping vertical and overhanging cliffs in the deep sea into reality.

Favourite thing about working on a research ship

Working on a research vessel is exploration. You have the chance to observe the marine environment first-hand, you will see places on the planet nobody has ever seen before. The work can be hard, especially at 3am when you're out on deck in 6 degrees C in a driving rain, but it creates a team-spirit that you can't find in the office.



“I make use of the latest technology in deep-sea robotics and acoustic surveying. Once the data are collected, data processing and analysis require programming and writing scripts to apply numerical and statistical techniques, and to develop Geographical Information Systems (GIS), predictive habitat models and 3D spatial representations of the terrains we have explored.”