

Unlocking the Seabed: Pioneering Offshore Innovations in the East

25th March 2026

Agenda

Time	Session	Speaker
09:00 - 09:30	Registration, coffee and networking	
09:30 - 09:35	Introduction	<i>Jenni Nicholls, EPI Group and Chair of MST Sector Council</i>
09:35 - 09:45	EEEGR Summary	<i>Kevin Keable, Chair, EEEGR</i>
09:45 - 10:20	Keynote Address	<i>Professor Ben Garrod, Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Science Engagement, UEA</i>
10:20 - 10:30	National Delivery for Offshore Wind & Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC)	<i>Ophelia Maxwell, Head of Renewable Programme Delivery & Regional Development, RenewableUK</i>
10:30 - 10:40	Coffee Break	
10:40 - 11:40	Session 1: Planning and Design <i>Chair: Katie Cross, ERM</i>	Overview of Natural England <i>Tamara Rowson, Natural England</i>
		Marine Restoration <i>Ben Green, National Grid</i>
		Drowned Landscapes <i>Roger Birchall, SSE Renewables</i>
		Oyster Seeding Project <i>Willie Athill, Norfolk Seaweed</i>
		Q&A

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11:40 - 12:00	Coffee Break	
12:00 - 13:00	<p>Session 2: Technical Case Studies Chair: Keith Higgins, Venterra Group</p>	<p>Boulders in windfarm development <i>Jenni Nicholls, EPI Group</i></p>
		<p>Confidence, Control and Better Way to Test - the evolution of geotechnical lab data management <i>Oliver Carnaby, Seequent</i></p>
		<p>Advancing offshore site investigation: Field data from the most powerful seabed CPT on the market <i>Chris Ruoso, Next Geosolutions</i></p>
		<p>Subsurface Acoustic Imaging Systems - Real World Examples <i>Mike Kingston, Gardline</i></p>
		<p>Q&A</p>
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch is served!	
14:00 - 15:05	<p>Session 3: Offshore Wind Focus Chair: Alison Lucas Collier, Enviros Group</p>	<p>Offshore Wind Update <i>Sophie Skipp, EastWind</i></p>
		<p>Nature Inclusive Design <i>William Coulet, EXO Engineering</i></p>
		<p>Innovative solutions for environmental and biodiversity monitoring around wind farms <i>Ian Wilson, Benthic Solutions</i></p>
		<p>Fleet agility: How a rapid response, multi-USV model can positively impact across the lifecycle of offshore wind <i>Joe Wheeler, XOcean</i></p>

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		Fishing, offshore wind energy, climate change and marine spatial planning: Is it possible to plan for a best use of space? <i>Neda Trifonova, UEA</i>
		Q&A
15:05 - 15:25	Coffee Break	
15:25 - 16:25	Session 4: Innovation - Focus on Earth Observation <i>Hosted by Connected Innovation</i>	Contributors: Stuart Catchpole, Space East Jon Rees, Cefas Peter Kinsley, ORE Catapult Scott Cogman, Connected Innovation
		Q&A
16:25	Closing Address	