



UK Research
and Innovation

UKRI Space

A cornerstone of the government's
ambitions for the UK space sector



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Front cover image: The Copernicus Sentinel-3A satellite takes us over the UK.

Credit: ESA

Image opposite: Resolved ALMA and SMA Observations of Nearby Stars (REASON)

Credit: Trinity College, University of Exeter, Harvard University, University of Jena, and UK Astronomy Technology Centre

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Who we are

A guide to the world of UK Research and Innovation in Space

Foreword by the UKRI Space Champion

UKRI's mission is to build a world leading research and innovation ecosystem underpinning the success of the UK space sector. We are a key delivery partner of the National Space Strategy, funding space research and innovation in the UK.

Through discovery science, UKRI feeds economic growth and innovation and supports the pipeline of skills and talent needed for a successful innovative nation. Between 2021 and 2025, we have invested £735 million in space-related activities, spanning the entire value chain from fundamental research to commercialisation.

Space is deeply interwoven with our everyday lives and as UKRI Space Champion and Executive Chair of the Science and Technology Facilities Council, I've witnessed firsthand how space technologies and capabilities have transformed from aspirational scientific endeavors to essential tools that underpin our economy, security, and sustainability efforts.

Space initiated technologies and data from space, have opened new horizons for non-space sectors – from exploiting 5G, precise geolocation, and innovative media delivery methods – whilst revolutionising our transport systems through intelligent routing that benefits our communities and supply chains. We tackle climate change through Earth Observation satellites that help reduce carbon emissions through efficiency savings and by tracking methane leaks and other pollutants. And our positioning, navigation, and timing capabilities support critical decision-making for our infrastructure.

Our provision of access to world-class research infrastructure, fostering of extensive partnerships, and delivery of wide-ranging skills programmes supports the UK's significant strengths in space science and technology. This is exemplified by our leadership roles in internationally significant partnerships and programmes, as well as our technical excellence in critical technological areas.

The UKRI cluster model facilitates and enables the rapid commercialisation of world-class research and development, transforming ideas into innovative products and services to accelerate UK economic growth. Since founding the Harwell Space Cluster over a decade ago, space clusters are now operating across the entire United Kingdom through both regional and national support, including the UK Space Agency. These clusters work with other sectoral clusters, from life sciences to defence, to explore how space can inform and empower innovation across industrial sectors.

Through this brochure, I invite you to explore how UKRI is empowering the UK space sector to address UK and global challenges, drive economic growth, and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs—transforming our society.

Professor Michele Dougherty

Executive Chair, Science and Technology Facilities Council and UKRI Space Champion



UKRI: Empowering the space sector

UKRI is the UK's largest investor of taxpayer's money in research and innovation, spanning all disciplines and sectors. In the financial year 2022 to 2023, we invested £8 billion through our nine councils. Our budget represents around half of the total UK public spend on research and development.

We define our remit to encompass research and innovation activities that advance our understanding, utilisation, and habitation of space. This includes enabling the safe, responsible, and innovative use of space; supporting activities that are transformative when conducted in space; and driving research and innovation that harnesses space-derived data to support discovery, address global challenges, and deliver benefits for the UK.

Our mission is to support the UK space research and innovation ecosystem and reinforce national space capability. We deliver this by funding excellent science from space, focusing our research institutes on UK-financed satellite missions, investing in new technologies and digital infrastructure, and convening partnerships that drive new ways of working. We support our community's success in international collaborations, encourage space-related innovation across sectors, and contribute to growth in the UK space sector while inspiring discovery through space-based experiments.

The UK's largest public funder of research and innovation

Estimated spend between SR21/22 to 24/25: **£735 million**



Funds the research base



Provides access to instrumentation, testing, facilities and expertise



Invests in scientific and technical innovation



Collects, manages and exploits space-data



Develops space-based infrastructure



Commercialises novel technologies



Creates dynamic innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems

Our Councils



Pioneering space materials

EPSRC advances UK space capabilities by supporting research into new materials that withstand extreme space conditions, developing innovating manufacturing processes, funding collaborative projects with industry, training the next generation of material scientists, and creating technologies essential for satellites, spacecraft, and space exploration missions.



Protecting human health in space

MRC supports UK space medicine by funding research into human health in space environments, providing expertise on microgravity effects, collaborating with international space agencies, developing medical protocols for astronauts, training space medicine specialists, and advancing knowledge crucial for long-term space missions and crew safety.



Exploring space culture

AHRC enriches UK space understanding by supporting research into space's cultural significance, funding studies on space in arts and literature, collaborating with museums and cultural institutions, developing public engagement programs, nurturing creative talent, and exploring how space exploration shapes human imagination.



Monitoring our planet

NERC strengthens UK environmental monitoring by supporting satellite-based Earth observation research, providing access to environmental data, collaborating internationally on climate studies, funding projects using space technology, training environmental scientists, and advancing capabilities critical for understanding climate change and natural disasters such as data assimilation into models and ties to sensor networks.



Sustaining life in space

BBSRC advances UK space life sciences by supporting research into biological systems in space, providing specialised laboratory facilities, collaborating with space agencies, funding projects on space agriculture, training space biologists, and developing knowledge essential for sustaining life during long-term space exploration.



Understanding the space economy

ESRC informs UK space policy by supporting research into the economic impacts of space activities, providing analysis on space sector growth, collaborating with government and industry, funding studies on space economics, training policy researchers, and generating evidence essential for maximising the economic benefits of space investment.



Advancing space innovation

STFC strengthens UK space capabilities by funding fundamental space science research, operating world-class telescope and laboratory facilities, collaborating with international agencies, supporting technology development from concepts to missions, training space scientists and engineers, and enabling discoveries that drive innovation in space exploration and Earth observation.



Commercialising satellite technology

Innovate UK accelerates UK space commercialisation by funding the Satellite Applications Catapult, supporting technology transfer from research to market, collaborating with businesses and academia, developing new applications for satellite data, training entrepreneurs, and creating innovations that drive economic growth in the space sector.

International space leadership

UKRI drives the UK's international space leadership through successful mission proposals from UK scientists working in global collaborations, the development of key technologies for public and commercial space missions, and the exploitation of space-derived data to advance scientific understanding.

Through its research councils—particularly the Science and Technology Facilities Council, Natural Environment Research Council, and Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council—UKRI enables the UK to participate in major international space collaborations. These include astronomy missions like the James Webb Space Telescope and the Global Atmospheric Interferometer for Astrophysics (GAIA) space telescope, as well as the Ariel space mission.

UKRI supports the UK to play leading roles in more than 20 international satellite missions, principally ESA and Eumetsat. The organisation's Earth observation leadership is demonstrated through successful UK-led missions including the TRUTHS mission (running until 2028), ESA's Earth Explorer missions EarthCare, Biomass and CryoSat, which enhance the ability to measure critical climate and environmental variables from space. The UK's £200 million investment in Earth Observation, coordinated through UKRI councils, reinforces this commitment to addressing climate change.

Working closely with ESA, UKRI maximises the scientific value of space datasets, including those from operational systems such as Copernicus. This collaboration ensures UK researchers can exploit the full range of available space data to drive scientific discovery and innovation.

Beyond direct mission participation, UKRI supports the UK government and the UK EO sector in inter-governmental and inter-agency international forums, influencing international space and climate policy. The UK will chair the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) in 2025, further cementing its international leadership role.

UKRI also supports the development of space technologies and infrastructure that enable UK participation in international missions, while fostering experiments in space that advance both fundamental science and practical applications.

Image: Webb Visits a Star-forming Spiral

A spiral galaxy seen close up and almost face on. It is filled with puffy, patchy clouds of hot gas and dust. Red, orange and yellow colours indicate light emitted by different particles. The brightest colours are in the centre along the two spiral arms, which wind out from the centre. Star clusters hide in the gas along the arms. A few large, bright white stars are prominent in the foreground, near to us.

Image credit: ESA/Webb, NASA & CSA, A. Leroy

Looking further back in time than any other telescope

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is a one-of-its-kind observatory designed to explore the earliest galaxies, stars and planetary systems in the universe. The United Kingdom played a pivotal role in the development of JWST, particularly through its contribution to the Mid-Infrared Instrument (MIRI), one of the four scientific instruments onboard. The UK Astronomy Technology Centre (UK ATC), operated by STFC, led the European Consortium responsible for designing, building, and testing MIRI in collaboration with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the University of Arizona.

MIRI's unique features include imaging coronagraphs to block starlight and reveal planets, and various spectroscopic functions to study the chemical composition of distant galaxies, stars, and planetary atmospheres. The instrument operates at extremely low temperatures and requires a cooling system to function optimally at -266°C .

This collaboration has enabled JWST to provide unprecedented insights into the universe, from observing our Solar System, to studying the universe as early as 400 million years after its creation.



Our role in Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe, with its budget exceeding £82 billion running until 2027, represents a significant opportunity for UKRI to extend its global influence in space research and innovation.

UKRI, through Innovate UK, delivers the National Contact Point (NCP) service for space under the Horizon Europe programme, ensuring UK stakeholders have access to expert guidance on space-related funding opportunities.

The Space NCP service provides tailored support including information on open calls under Cluster 4 (Digital, Industry and Space), proposal development support, and capacity building through webinars and networking events.

UKRI has successfully secured funding for numerous space-related projects that draw on the complementary strengths of its research councils. A notable example is FARBES (Forecast of Actionable Radiation Belt Scenarios), where the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), part of NERC, serves as a key partner in this Europe-wide collaboration to enhance space weather prediction and management.

UK rejoined Copernicus Programme

Since January 2024, the UK has rejoined Copernicus as a full participating state. UK entities can now compete for contracts to build, launch and operate the Copernicus Sentinels, as well as supply data as Contributing Missions.

UKRI researchers across its councils are maximising Copernicus data for environmental science and climate research.

STFC's RAL Space and the National Centre for Earth Observation have developed key instruments including the Sea and Land Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR), providing temperature measurements accurate to 0.2°C from 800 km altitude.

UK expertise supports several high priority missions launching within five years, including the Land Surface Temperature Monitoring Mission.

NERC researchers use Copernicus data for real-time applications, working with forest managers on fire detection and monitoring vegetation health through specific light wavelengths. The programme's free and open data policy enables comprehensive access to land, ocean, and atmospheric datasets from the Sentinel constellation.

UKRI's engagement includes mission development and validation activities. With free data access, researchers can develop downstream services benefiting the scientific community and society.

This participation strengthens international collaboration in Earth observation while positioning UK researchers at the forefront of environmental monitoring and climate science.

Image credit: Copernicus



Supporting UK security and defence

Defence drives innovation through sustained investment in research and development, including the advancement and application of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and space capabilities. UKRI-funded research into improved data from space supports operational models from the Met Office through weather forecasting to operational oceanography and space weather.

These efforts generate positive spillover effects across the wider economy. UKRI supports this innovation ecosystem by funding national facilities and initiatives that enable the development of advanced technologies, for example, the National Satellite Test Facility (NSTF), which serves both the space and defence sectors.

The UK's first 'one-stop shop' for large space payload and satellite testing

Officially opened in May 2024, the NSTF is a landmark project designed by the space sector for the space sector, led by UKRI. Operated by STFC RAL Space, the NSTF features advanced equipment, including the largest UK thermal vacuum chamber, vibration test facilities, and an electromagnetic compatibility chamber. These facilities will allow users to simulate the harsh conditions of space on satellites weighing up to seven tonnes, ensuring space payloads and satellites are prepared for launch and orbit.

By establishing the NSTF, UKRI has positioned the UK as a leader in satellite manufacturing and testing, fostering innovation, creating jobs, and contributing to the UK's national space strategy.

Image: The Electrical Magnetic Compatibility and Antenna Test Facility

This image shows the assembly of the Electro Magnetic Compatibility and Antenna Test facility. The room provides an electrically clean environment so that a satellite's electromagnetic emissions can be accurately measured. It also contains a planar near-field scanner to measure the performance of antennas used for communications between the satellite and ground stations.



Our strategic focus

Data from space

Research, innovation, and infrastructure enables long-term UK Sovereign capability in earth observation, the use of data from space. UKRI investments produce high quality EO data, provide compute infrastructure, and enable the development of skills to manage and utilise EO data for national public good and provision of information services to use EO information.

National Centre for Earth Observation

UKRI supports the National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO), an internationally leading research centre. It serves as the UK's focal point for Earth observation research, dedicated to long-term study and exploitation of satellite and remote sensing Earth Observation data for our planet's health and sustainability. NCEO brings together expertise from leading universities and research institutions to advance our understanding of Earth system science.

Earth Observation Data Hub

The Earth Observation Data Hub (EODH) pathfinder project provides streamlined access to UK Earth observation data for climate, environmental monitoring, and infrastructure insights. This cloud-based platform offers researchers, government bodies, and businesses a single access point to public Copernicus Sentinel data and commercial datasets through standardised APIs.

Led by NCEO teams at RAL Space and University of Leicester, the project is funded by NERC and UK Space Agency. The platform builds on UKRI's CEDA archives and JASMIN compute services, now available to relevant users.

Image credit: National Centre for Atmospheric Science

Understanding our people and planet

Space technologies offer unparalleled insights into Earth's systems and humanity's impact on the planet. Advanced Earth observation capabilities drive innovation by enabling the monitoring of climate change, tracking environmental degradation, and supporting disaster response efforts.

Through investment in national facilities and collaborative research partnerships, UKRI accelerates the development of cutting-edge Earth observation technologies. These innovations benefit multiple sectors and provide a powerful platform for scientific discovery across both Earth and space.

Nord Stream Pipeline Methane Leak Detection

The National Centre for Earth Observation (NCEO) team from University of Leeds, University of Leicester and STFC RAL Space, played a crucial role in detecting and monitoring methane emissions from the Nord Stream pipeline incident, demonstrating the vital importance of Earth observation capabilities for environmental monitoring and security applications.

Working together through a SENSE PhD studentship at University of Leeds, NCEO scientists and the Met office also made the first detection of a methane leak in the UK using a commercial satellite constellation from GHGSat.

Resilience and Security Applications

UKRI-funded Earth observation research supports critical resilience applications including flood monitoring and disaster response. Recent work includes research that has been adopted by the Royal Navy for operational use, and the development of near real-time deforestation alert systems that support forest rangers in Kenya in their conservation efforts.

Assessing drought risk in Africa

UKRI-funded Earth Observation Climate Information Service (EOCIS) scientists at the University of Reading and NCEO have created an operational product, launched in January 2024, that quantifies the availability of moisture in soil to plants. The product estimates rooting depth water availability in soil across Africa, using a combination of satellite-derived rainfall measurements and computer simulations of the land surface. The product allows farmers access in near real time to information with which to assess agricultural drought risk and plan crop management responses. The EOCIS project funded staff across the UK including 10 universities and 2 research laboratories through NCEO and the Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling, as well as the National Physical Laboratory and industry.

Securing resilient and sustainable space

Satellites and space technologies are vital to modern life, supporting everything from communications to navigation and remote sensing. As their use expands, ensuring the sustainability of near-Earth space becomes critical. This includes protecting ground infrastructure, understanding space weather, and tracking orbiting objects to prevent collisions and manage space debris in an increasingly regulated environment.

Severe space weather, while often harmless can pose serious risks to modern infrastructure—disrupting GPS, power grids, and communications. Recognising this, the UK government has listed space weather on its National Risk Register. Events like the 1989 Quebec blackout highlight the potential for widespread disruption, especially as our systems become more interconnected.

In 2019 the UK launched the £20 million SWIMMR programme, uniting academia, government, and industry to improve space weather forecasting and resilience. Led by RAL Space, with a legacy in solar science and collaboration with the Met Office, the SWIMMR programme coordinates 11 projects to protect critical infrastructure and support international partnerships. Its work spans from satellite operations to aviation safety, aiming to position the UK as a global leader in space weather mitigation.

As well as the operation of satellites and other space technologies, SWIMMR addresses the impacts of space weather at lower altitudes, including radiation effects on aviation and at ground level for various governmental and commercial sectors. Developing a cutting-edge capability for space weather forecasting and mitigation will protect the UK’s substantial investment in space-based infrastructure, and reinforce the UK’s status as a global leader, thereby opening doors for even closer collaboration with key international partners.

Protecting UK interests in space and Earth

UKRI also supports the **National Space Operations Centre (NSpOC)** bringing together advanced space domain awareness capabilities to enable operations and protecting UK interests in space and on Earth.

Launched in May 2024, NSpOC uses a global network of sensors and data streams, overseen by a team of co-located civil and military analysts to deliver critical missions in support of UK and allied space objectives.

The RAL Space team at Chilbolton Observatory provides high-precision radar and optical observations directly to NSpOC, enabling real-time tracking of satellite movements and supporting NSpOC’s mission to safeguard national space assets.

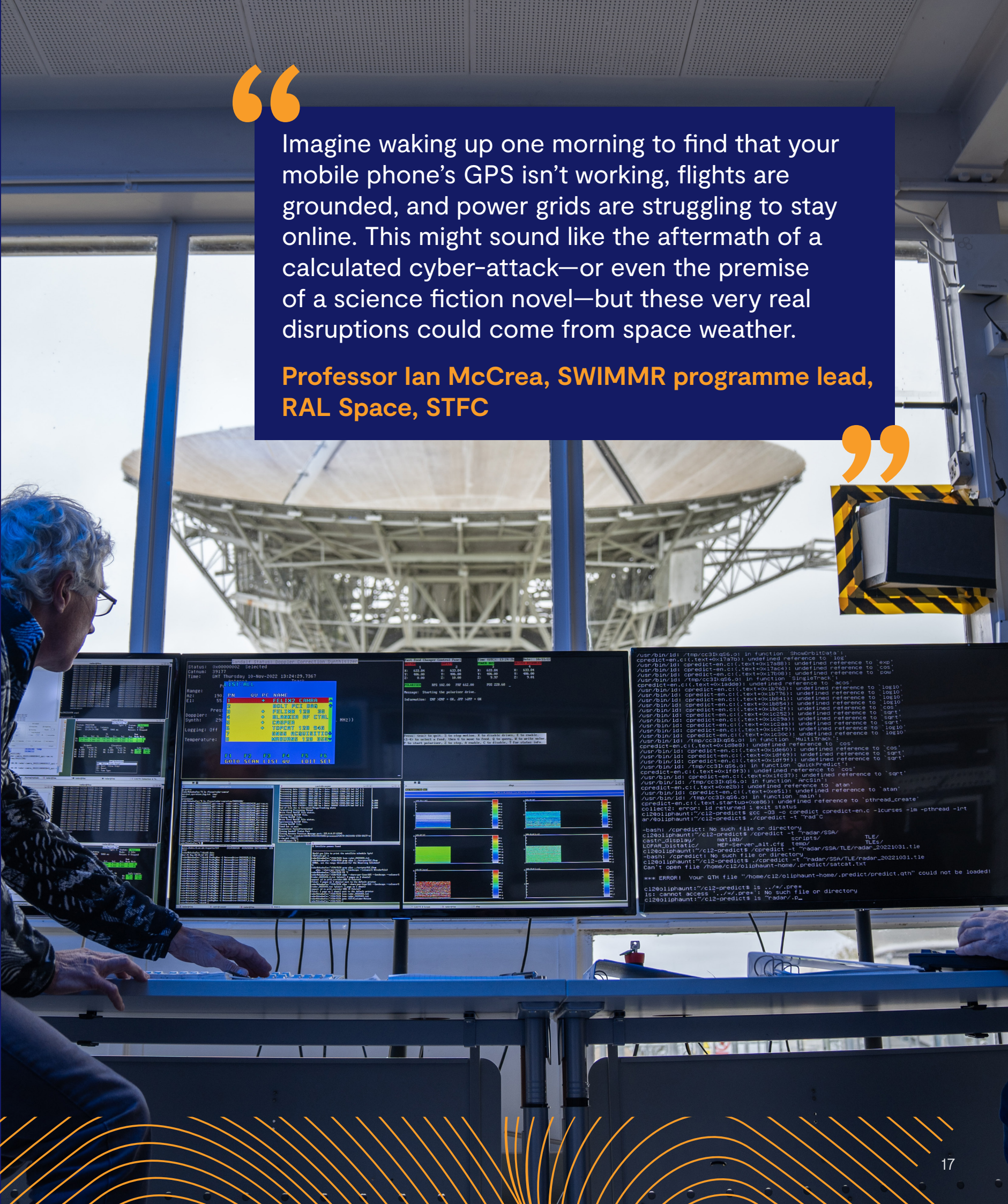
Image credit: National Centre for Atmospheric Science

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Imagine waking up one morning to find that your mobile phone’s GPS isn’t working, flights are grounded, and power grids are struggling to stay online. This might sound like the aftermath of a calculated cyber-attack—or even the premise of a science fiction novel—but these very real disruptions could come from space weather.

Professor Ian McCrea, SWIMMR programme lead, RAL Space, STFC

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Pioneering growth

The space sector drives economic growth through investment in research and development. This includes the development and application of new technologies such as advanced materials, autonomous systems, and artificial intelligence. UKRI, through providing access to national facilities, support for commercialisation of novel technologies and providing dynamic innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems, helps to accelerate the development of space technologies that strengthen the UK's position as a leader in the global space market and helps drive sector growth.

Space Clusters

The UK has a connected network of 15 space clusters, supported by various partners including the UK Space Agency, Satellite Applications Catapult, and regional bodies.

UKRI contributes to this ecosystem alongside these partners. This cluster strategy builds on proven success in creating collaborative R&D ecosystems.

The Harwell Space Cluster demonstrates this approach in action. Home to 105 space organisations, it brings together key institutions including STFC RAL Space, UK Space Agency headquarters, Satellite Applications Catapult, and ESA's ECSAT centre. This co-location creates a thriving ecosystem where academia, industry, and government collaborate on shared challenges.

UKRI leads two clusters directly—Harwell and the North West Space Cluster—while supporting others through targeted investments. Recent examples include Research England's backing for the University of Leicester's METEOR centre at Space Park Leicester (part of the Midlands Space Cluster), and EPSRC funding for the North East Space Communications Accelerator (NESCA) led by Northumbria University.

These clusters create the conditions for innovation by connecting organisations, sharing resources, and building the critical mass needed for the UK space sector to compete globally.

European Space Agency Business Incubation Centre (ESA BIC UK)

The European Space Agency's Business Incubation Centre for the UK provides start-ups with technical expertise and facilities, business support, networking, office space and funding needed to overcome innovation challenges and accelerate business growth; the ESA BIC UK is also partnered with UK Space Agency and University of Leicester. For almost 15 years, it has supported over 170 UK space startups. Currently accepting approximately 15 startups per year via a responsive mode, open call competition, its successes include:

x30

return on investment for UK government

based on cumulative direct, adjusted economic impact of over £350 million vs lifetime cost of around £11 million

£230 million

private equity investment crowded-in to UK start-ups

1,000

highly-skilled and high-productivity UK jobs created or sustained



Priming skills and talent

UKRI supports the pipeline of talent and research investments, including doctoral studentships, fellowships, and grants that nurture researchers and innovators throughout their careers. It also invests in digital research technical professionals such as software engineers and data scientists. UKRI promotes engagement and inclusivity through programmes such as the Innovate UK Young Innovators and Women in Innovation awards, and national initiatives such as the STEM Ambassador Programme and CREST Awards, with a strong emphasis on space-related skills.

SENSE CDT

SENSE (Centre for Satellite Data in Environmental Science) is a collaborative Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) run jointly by the Universities of Edinburgh and Leeds, the British Antarctic Survey, and the National Oceanography Centre. SENSE is equipping the next generation of environmental data PhD scientists with the knowledge and expertise to use data from space to tackle the most challenging environmental problems.

In turn this will create a workforce who will strengthen the UK's leadership in understanding global threats from land use and food production to the mitigation of climate change, biodiversity and natural hazards, grow our high-tech industries, and promote international collaborations.

EU-27

ASTRAIOS (Analysis of Skills, Training, Research and Innovation Opportunities in Space) Horizon Europe project, will map current space-related training against the future needs of the European space industry and provide an exhaustive view and understanding of the current and future offer of Space curricula and courses in the EU-27.

£1 billion

invested across UKRI, universities, and sectors to support talent and innovation

including 65 Centres for Doctoral Training—19 of which focus on critical technologies like AI, quantum, semiconductors, telecoms, and engineering biology, all highly relevant to the space sector.

Inspiring space for all

Our mission is to convene, catalyse and invest in close collaboration with others to build a thriving, inclusive research and innovation system that connects discovery to prosperity and public good. Space is a phenomenal platform and laboratory to do this and UKRI, through our funded researchers, communities, centres and initiatives is championing this mission. As an example, The Wonder Initiative engages with schools and communities in the 40% most deprived areas of the UK to inspire curiosity and encourage the next generation to seek a deeper understanding of the universe.

Jon Egging Trust partnership

We work in partnerships to strengthen our impact on audiences and help break down barriers to opportunities in space. In 2022, RAL Space proudly launched a long-term partnership with the Jon Egging Trust, delivering hands-on workshops for the Blue Skies multi-intervention programme for secondary school students. These sessions build confidence, resilience, technical skills, social-emotional skills, and raise aspirations, helping young people unlock their potential and envision exciting futures.



2,500

visitors were welcomed to the Royal Observatory (Edinburgh) open day in 2023 for a chance to see behind the scenes and discover more about our amazing science.

700

people on average attend our annual star gazing events at our Harwell campus.

Discovery science: research to solutions

Discovery research is a vital asset for the nation. It lays the foundations to understanding the big questions within and across disciplines. But it also underpins the ingenious solutions that will solve our most pressing societal challenges, from ensuring healthy ageing to providing cheap, clean, and secure energy.

Smarter pastures: AI and satellite transform dairy farming

The UK Agri-Tech Centre, which receives its core funding from Innovate UK, has been working with the SME Agribot on a grasslands management project. The project is helping dairy farmers improve pasture use through AI and satellite technology. The system replaces manual grass measurement with real-time, data-driven insights. It uses satellite imagery, weather data, and AI models to forecast grass growth, helping farmers plan grazing, reduce fertiliser use, and improve soil health.

Understanding emperor penguin population

The UKRI-supported British Antarctic Survey have used satellite imagery to understand changes in Antarctica's emperor penguin population. This work revealed that the population may be decreasing faster than some of the most pessimistic predictions. A new analysis of up-to-date satellite data suggests the birds' numbers declined 22% over a 15-year period (2009 to 2024) in a key sector of the continent—encompassing the Antarctic Peninsula, Weddell Sea and Bellingshausen Sea.

Transforming satellite imagery into insights for society

Imago, Data Service for Imagery, is a new programme set up to revolutionise how social scientists, researchers and policymakers use satellite data to understand urgent challenges facing the UK.

Led by world-leading experts Professor Daniel Arribas-Bel from the University of Liverpool and Professor Rachel Franklin from Harvard University, Imago will make satellite data more useful, usable, and used by transforming complex satellite imagery into research-ready datasets that address environmental vulnerability, urban development, housing inequalities, and wellbeing.

The service translates pixels into actionable insights, delivering data products through intuitive, user-friendly interfaces, designed specifically for non-traditional space data users.

Imago processes high-resolution satellite imagery from urban and rural environments, alongside remotely sensed data including nighttime lights, radar, and pollution measurements. These are converted into meaningful metrics for sustainability, prosperity and wellbeing across different geographies and time periods.

This pioneering work demonstrates that social scientists are not just users of space data, but essential partners in unlocking its potential to address society's most pressing challenges. Imago is part of Smart Data Research UK, the UK's national programme for smart data research. One of six data service, unlocking the power of data to improve lives.

'Eye in the sky' service helps safeguard UK fish farms

The 'Eye in the sky' service is an innovative satellite-based system designed to monitor harmful algal blooms (HABs). HABs can produce toxins, deplete oxygen in water, and take over habitats, posing significant risks to aquatic farming operations in the UK.

The service leverages data from the European Space Agency's Copernicus Sentinel-3 satellite and other sources to monitor water quality and algal bloom growth. This information is fed into a web-based alert system, allowing farmers to make informed decisions about managing their operations.

This service was developed with the support from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

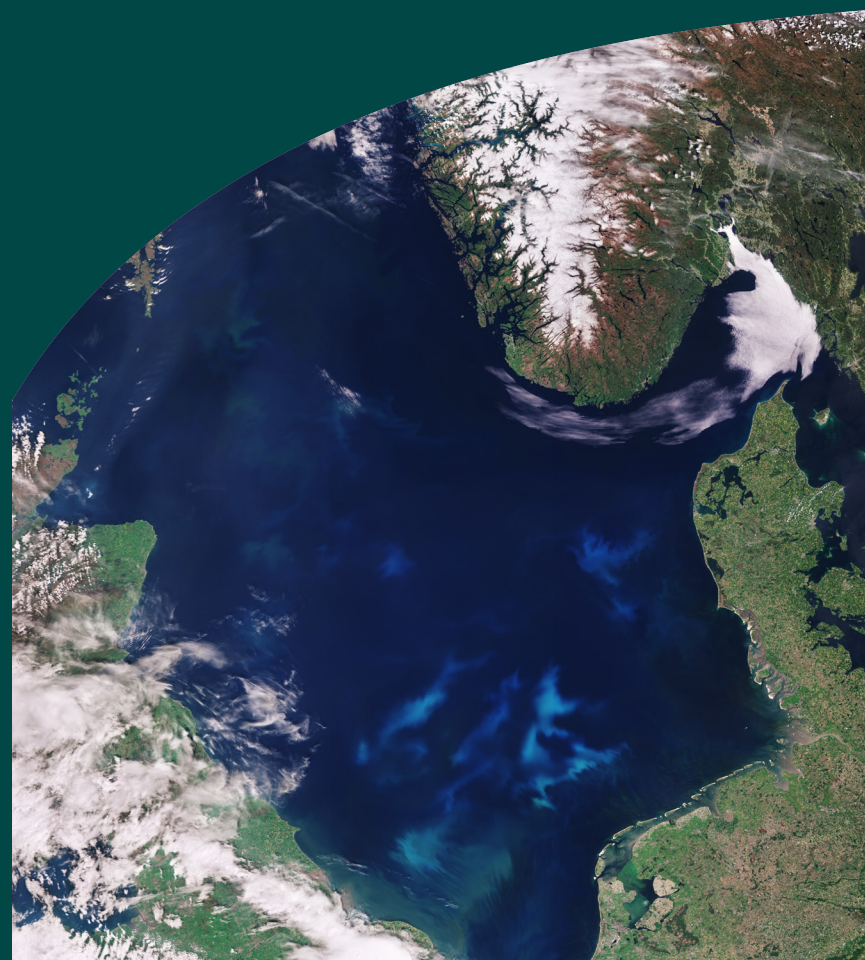


Image: North Sea Bloom

The Copernicus Sentinel -3A satellite takes us over one of Europe's most productive fisheries, the North Sea. The North Sea covers 570 000 km² and is linked to the Atlantic by one of the world's busiest shipping regions—the English Channel.

This true-colour image taken using Sentinel-3's Ocean and Land Colour Instrument shows a significant algae bloom.

Credit: ESA



**UK Research
and Innovation**



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**Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council**



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