

Political context - what lies ahead ?

- Despite 2020 renewables targets, UK just ahead of Malta in European league table !
- Energy and climate change have been studiously avoided in run up to the May election – other than cost of energy to consumer,
- Nevertheless - significant European investment in R&D in offshore renewables through H2020 ,
- President of World Bank Jim Yong Kim, UK / US Universities and philanthropic foundations (eg. Wellcome) calling for subsidies on fossil fuels to be withdrawn

Is a level playing field in sight ? Withdrawal of subsidy could be a game changer for offshore renewables

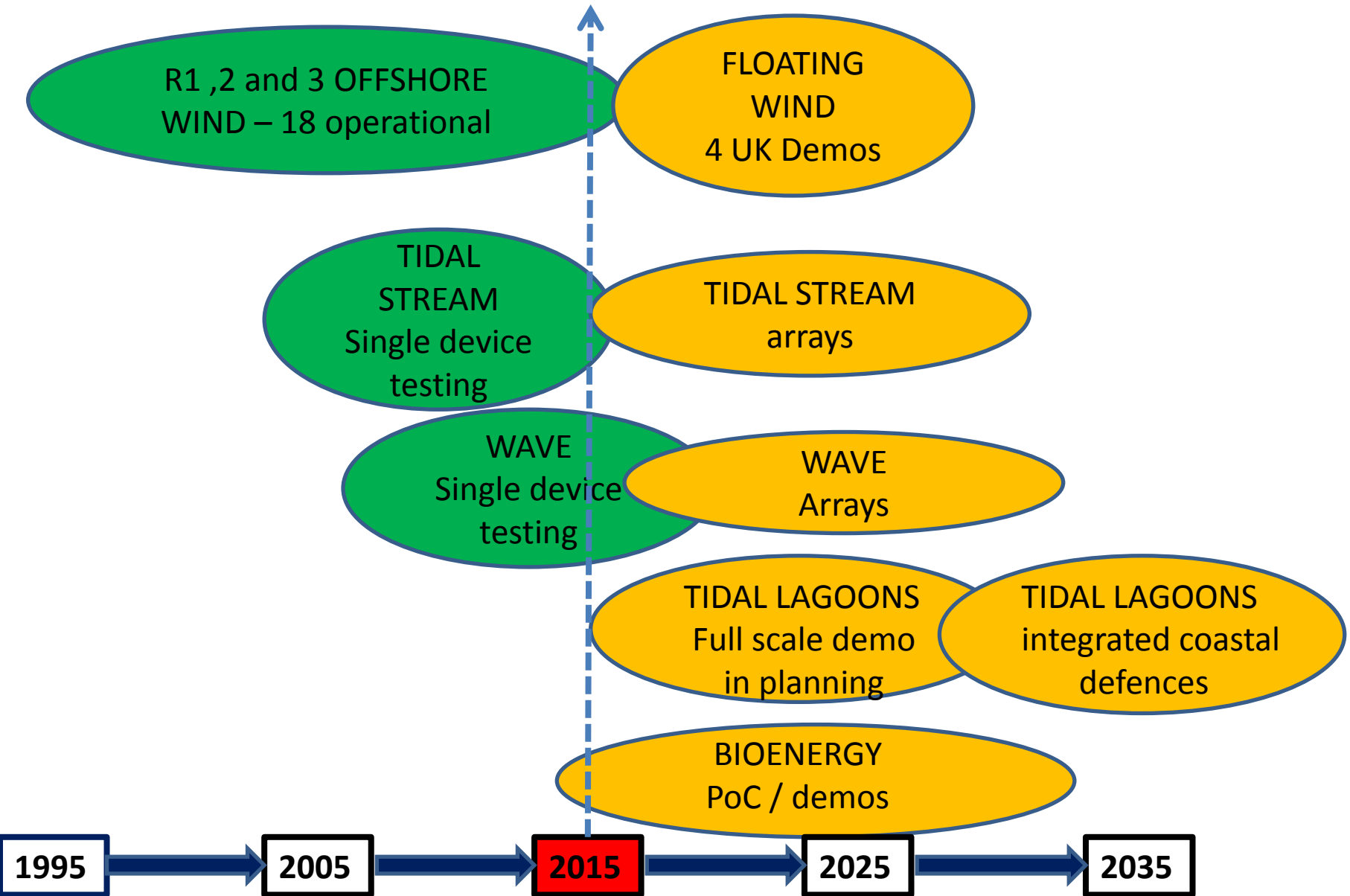
Offshore and coastal marine system - rapidly changing !

Our economic footprint is moving offshore :

- Expansion of offshore energy – wave and tidal arrays, floating wind, tidal lagoons and new grid infrastructure,
- Decommissioning oil and gas platforms and pipelines,
- Coastal defences for flood protection,
- Expansion of offshore mari / aquaculture,
- Consolidation / expansion MPA network,

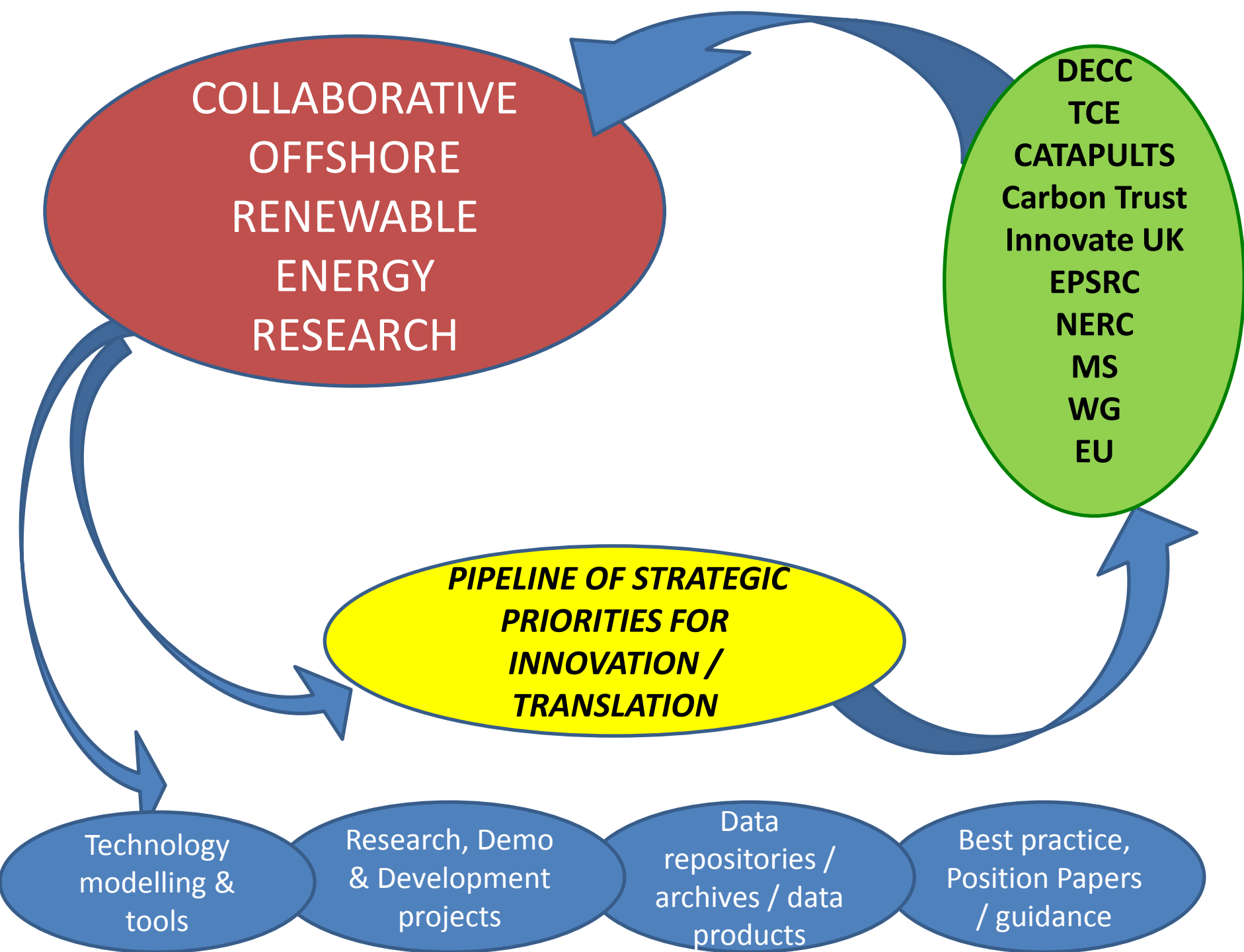
Increasing intensity of space use against a background of ecosystem change

Development trajectory - offshore renewables



Common themes driving NERC business and policy innovation

- Sustainable use of natural resources – offshore wind / wave / tidal energy, oil /gas, minerals,
- Low carbon innovation / translation leading to greater cost / fuel efficiencies, dematerialisation, and to de risk consenting and improve environmental management,
- Marine planning system / MSFD - need to ensure coordination / shared knowledge as basis for innovation / translation.



Future NERC programme strategy ?

To maximise impact of NERC investments :

- Continue processes of innovation and translation in offshore renewable energy to support :
 - scaling up to wave and tidal arrays ,
 - development of offshore grid
 - de risking deployment of floating wind / tidal lagoons .
- Integrate with other infrastructure to ensure sustainable use of marine system :
 - Oil and gas – focussing on decommissioning - platforms, pipelines etc.
 - Coastal engineering / flood defences .