

ECORD as part of IODP

IODP: Exploring the Earth under the Sea

Since 2003, the **European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD)**, has been part of IODP, the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP, 2003-2013) and the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP, 2013-2023). The **ECORD Managing Agency (EMA)** is responsible for ECORD's membership and represents ECORD in all IODP entities.

IODP is an international research programme supported by its members, to explore the oceans. Building on the legacy of the Deep Sea Drilling Program (DSDP, 1968-1983) followed by the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP, 1983-2003), IODP addresses global challenges facing current and future generations with new research approaches, expanded scientific communities and continued development of its unique collaborative model.

Scientific drilling and coring is the only direct approach to investigate the archives recorded beneath the seafloor. Access to ocean-drilling technology through the IODP is therefore essential to our understanding of the global Earth system and its societal impacts. The scientific themes as defined in the **IODP Science Plan** include:

- Studying records of past climate changes to better understand the future;

- Exploring biodiversity below the seafloor;
- Establishing seafloor laboratories for the study of natural hazards in sub-marine systems;
- Documenting how tectonic plates move and recycle themselves into Earth's deep mantle.



Two dedicated vessels and **mission-specific platforms (MSPs)** provide the scope to work in all water depths and environments from ice-covered areas, shallow water to deep oceans and trenches:

- the **JOIDES Resolution** is a multi-purpose drilling vessel funded and operated by the NSF (USA);
- the **Chikyu** is a riser-drilling-capable vessel operated and funded by MEXT and JAMSTEC (Japan) for ultra-deep drilling;
- **MSPs** are funded by ECORD on a case-by-case contract to operate in technically challenging conditions that are inaccessible to the *JOIDES Resolution* and *Chikyu*.

IODP brings together hundreds of participants from its member countries, being USA, Japan, ECORD, China, South Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand and Brazil. As a member of IODP, ECORD takes part in all activities of the programme, from decision making to science expeditions and outreach/educational activities.



JOIDES Resolution (W. Crawford, IODP/TAMU).



Mission-specific platform Liftboat Myrtle (D. Smith, ECORD/IODP).



Chikyu (photo K. Michibayashi).

Getting involved in ECORD and IODP

The **ECORD Science Support and Advisory Committee (ESSAC)** is responsible for the planning and coordination of Europe's scientific contribution to and participation in IODP. The main purpose of ESSAC is to maximise ECORD's scientific contribution to IODP. ESSAC therefore not only plays a major role within the ECORD science community but is also the contact point with IODP for all scientific and educational activities.



SCIENTISTS

- Submit an IODP drilling proposal
- Apply to sail on an IODP expedition
- Convene a MagellanPlus workshop to develop new projects
- Volunteer to serve on an ECORD committee or IODP panel
- Request data and samples to use in your research
- Host/Be an ECORD Distinguished Lecturer

EARLY-CAREER SCIENTISTS

- Take part in ECORD Summer Schools or Training Courses
- Apply for an ECORD Scholarship
- Apply for ECORD Research Grants
- Apply to sail on an IODP expedition
- Request data and sample to use in your research



TEACHERS & OUTREACH SPECIALISTS

- Apply to sail on an IODP expedition
- Organise ship-to-shore videos during IODP expeditions
- Take part in School of Rock initiatives
- Request materials and activities for the classroom



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ESSAC contact: <http://www.ecord.org/about-ecord/management-structure/essac/>

<http://www.ecord.org>

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