



## Science Support & Advisory Committee

**ESSAC Spring Meeting 2022**  
25-26 April 2022  
Stockholm University  
Department of Geological Sciences  
Room Y11

Meeting Minutes  
DRAFT 11/05/2022

## List of participants

Role	Member country	Delegate	Alternate	Delegate	Delegate	Alternate
		<b>In person</b>		<b>Remote</b>	<b>FIELD TRIP</b>	
ESSAC	Austria			Michael Strasser		
ESSAC	Canada			John Jamieson		
ESSAC	Denmark			Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz		
ESSAC	Finland	Joonas Virtasolo				
ESSAC	France	Georges Ceuleneer			Georges Ceuleneer	
ESSAC	Germany	Jan Behrmann			Jan Behrmann	
ESSAC	Ireland			David Hardy		
ESSAC	Italy	Angelo Camerlenghi			Angelo Camerlenghi	
ESSAC	Netherlands			Martin Ziegler		
ESSAC	Norway	Helga F. Kleiven				
ESSAC	Portugal	Antje Voelker				
ESSAC	Sweden	Jorijntje Henderiks	Helen Coxall		Jorijntje Henderiks	Helen Coxall
ESSAC	Switzerland			Gretchen Früh-Green		
ESSAC	United Kingdom	Antony Morris			Antony Morris	
ESSAC SCI. COORD.	Italy	Hanno Kinkel				
ECORD EFB	Germany			Gabriele Uenzelmann (excused)		
MAGELLAN+	The Netherlands			Luc Lourens		
ESO	United Kingdom			David McInroy (excused)		
OBSERVER	Spain			Carlota Escutia (excused)		

## Agenda

<b>25 April 2022 (9:00-17:30) – Future scenarios and other boards</b>	
09:00 – 09:15	1 – Introduction, logistics (Helen Coxall, Angelo Camerlenghi)
09:15 – 10:30	2 - Outcomes of IODP Forum and future scenarios (Angelo/Tony) and discussion
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00-12:30	2- continued
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:30	3 - Reporting from boards and committees (~15 minutes each + discussion)
	Facility Board (Gabi Uenzelmann-Neben) (remote)
	PMO (Angelo Camerlenghi) on site
	ESO (David McInroy) (remote)
	SEP (Antje Völker) on site
	Magellan Plus (Lucas Lourens) (remote)
15:30	<i>Tea break</i>
16:00	Science Talk (Wei-Li Hong, Stockholm University)
17:00	<i>Reception</i>
19:00	<i>Dinner/Social event</i>

<b>26 April 2022 (9:00-17:30) – ESSAC reports and plans</b>	
09:00 – 10:30	4 - Training and Outreach (Hanno Kinkel /Angelo Camerlenghi):
	ECORD Grants, Summer Schools and Scholarships
	Distinguished Lecturer Program
	EGU GA 2022 and Puffersphere
	Early Career Researchers (Angelo)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 –12:30	5 - Expedition Staffing (Angelo / Hanno)
	Current quota table
	Future expeditions
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:30	6 - ECORD participation by countries (Angelo / Hanno /Tony)
	Open discussion on how to monitor ECORD country involvement beyond shipboard participation in the future

	National funding in support of scientists
	Involvement of Spanish scientists
<i>15:30 -16:00</i>	<i>Tea break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	7 - AOB
	8 - Next meeting
17:00	End of Meeting

## **1 – Introduction, logistics**

Helen Coxall and Angelo Camerlenghi reviewed the logistics for the meeting and from the Field Excursion.

No problems encountered. The meeting was organized very well, and the program was accomplished as planned. The meeting starts at 09:00 on April 25<sup>th</sup> as planned.

The meeting scope was defined as two-fold:

- 1) Mainly information and discussion on post-2024 scientific drilling (sharing the process of shaping our future with ESSAC Members)
- 2) Review ECORD activity since last meeting and discussion on how to improve the monitoring for post-2024 activities

## **2 - Outcomes of IODP Forum and future scenarios**

This Item was led by Angelo Camerlenghi, Tony Morris, and Hanno Kinkel, who attended whole or in part the different meetings on the subject since October 2021 and reported accordingly, also making use of the video recording of Gilbert Camoin's presentation at the ECORD-Japan Webinars.

ESSAC supports the ECORD Japan plan to build a partnership in post-2024 scientific ocean drilling and supports the proposed concept of an Alliance in which the scientific proposal management and the proposal evaluation are managed as an overarching activity for the entire alliance of programs.

ESSAC acknowledges the uncertainties of the other potential program members of the Alliance (US, China, ANZIC, India, and S.-Korea). Regret is expressed to see the NSF plans departing from those of other long-time partners in Scientific Ocean Drilling after the long American leadership in the Program. Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that especially in the last phase of the program ECORD has provided the highest scientific input in scientific ocean drilling.

ESSAC is worried about the stated intention of NSF to enter a US-led phase of Scientific Drilling post 2024 and introduction of a participation unit of ~ 470 kUS\$ per berth for non-US scientists participating in JR expeditions (if any) post 2024. The concern is motivated by the fact that the involvement in scientific drilling activities is not limited to the participation on drilling expeditions (core curation, access to samples, analytical facilities, participation in the advisory structure, in outreach and educational activities). The possibility that Site Survey Cruises can be accounted as IKC has been discussed. Therefore, the introduction of a participation unit is considered as an over-simplification. ESSAC is also worried about the lack of statements on the US participation in ECORD-Japan MSP expeditions post 2024 and the risk that the US scientific community will not be able to participate in the future MSP expeditions led by ECORD and Japan.

ESSAC is also concerned that not only the ECORD Scientific community, but also the global scientific community, are not ready to accept a future scientific ocean drilling program/alliance without access to the JOIDES Resolution and encourages the continuation of the communication started with the ECORD-Japan webinars.

Additional concern is expressed by some (e.g., Switzerland, possibly UK) about the possibility that national funding will be reduced if access to the JOIDES Resolution will be decreased, and on the capabilities of ECORD to implement more than one MSP expedition per year.

ECORD should encourage participation with total increased number of scientists in the shore-based phase of future MSP Expeditions and the development of a strategy for fast-track evaluation of proposals already at the JRFB to modify them towards MSP implementation. At the same time concern

is expressed about the fate of existing proposals not yet approved for implementation. ESSAC suggests that the Chikyu in riserless mode can be used as platform of opportunity, with little or no impact on mobilization costs, during transits between operations scheduled for industry operations.

Regarding the future scientific and operational collaboration between ECORD and Japan, ESSAC agrees that the Magellan+ mechanism could be used to promote joint scientific collaboration focusing on bottom-up scientific proposals from joint European-Japan workshops addressing MSP drilling, provided the workshops are not exclusive of any other scientific communities.

**Action #1** Angelo Camerlenghi reports a summary of the discussion to the ECORD Council

### **3 - Reporting from boards and committees**

Reports were given on the recent activities of the SEP, ESO, EFB, PMO, Magellan+ according to the agenda. Since Dave McInroy and Gabi Uenzelmann-Neben were excused, their presentations were given by Angelo Camerlenghi.

The discussion was centered on the consequences of the postponement of Exp 377 (ArcOP). ESSAC shared the decision made by the Council and expresses concern at the same time about the staffing process. Should it be re-started considering the likely changes induced by the 2-year delay? This situation is similar to others induced by Covid for the JR (e.g., Exp. 390/393 South Atlantic Transect) or by operational constraints for MSP (Exp 389 Hawaiian Drowned Reefs, previous attempts to implement Exp 377). ESSAC suggests monitoring closely the future availability of invited scientists, especially regarding those of the Offshore Science Party. Another issue discussed was the expenses incurred by participants in the Offshore Party for mandatory Safety Training. Because the participation in MSP Expeditions will likely require in all cases the attendance of these courses, ESSAC proposes that these participation costs, like the travel to and from ports, are considered by funding agencies for all invited scientists. ESSAC will make a statement on those costs in the application procedure.

Additional discussion was on the status of new ideas for MSP proposals emerging from Magellan+ Workshops. ESSAC is pleased with the increasing number of applications to hold preparatory workshops stimulated by the two calls every year (January 15 and May 15). The objective should be to generate 2-3 new proposals per year from Magellan+ workshops. Luc Lourens reminds that there is a fund of 20k € for Travel Grants to attend Magellan+ Workshop and asks ESSAC to advertise this opportunity. Finally, ESSAC will consider promoting the opportunity for joint ECORD-Japan workshops in the framework of Magellan+. These workshops should be bottom-up initiatives by researchers in the two communities (ECORD J-Desc).

The proposal for implementing the Flagship Initiatives has been discussed according to the presentation by Carl Brenner at the IODP Forum. ESSAC endorses the proposed plan according to the Agenda Book.

**Action #2** Angelo Camerlenghi reports to the ECORD Council the need to ensure the coverage of costs for safety courses needed to board MSP Expeditions.

**Action #3** ESSAC Office advertises further the opportunity of the Magellan+ Grants.

**Action #4** ESSAC Office contact J-Desc to give publicity to the opportunity to apply for joint ECORD-Japan workshops.

### **4 - Training and Outreach**

The various activities in training and outreach have been discussed according to the agenda. Notably, in 2022 several of such activities resume in person. The summer schools in Urbino and Bremen are offered in person, while the school in Leicester will remain in on-line format. ECORD is supporting 8 participants in the GLASS Summer School with a grant of 1000 € each. More grants and Scholarships are available with an increased budget with respect to the previous years. ESSAC agrees that the Call for applications for speakers in the Distinguished Lecturer Program (DLP) should be issued soon.

The participation of ECORD in EGU GA 2022 will be limited by the hybrid mode of the Conference. The Booth will be shared with ICDP. Angelo Camerlenghi, Tony Morris, and Hanno Kinkel will attend the GA and the Booth. The Puffersphere will not be displayed. The scientific session “Achievements and perspectives in scientific ocean and continental drilling” has received 24 abstracts and will be run in hybrid mode. The possibility of moving the session from the SSP Division to the Inter- and Transdisciplinary Sessions (ITS) at EGU 2023 discussed previously among the co-conveners (Jorjintje Henderiks, Thomas Wiersberg, Cindy Kunkel, Tony Morris) has been presented. ESSAC is in favour of such change provided that EGU will give the proper space in the ITS. More specifically, the proposal of one single session for all scientific drilling, or a set of session each focussing on a different target (e.g., ocean, continental, ice drilling) should be considered.

Following a recent e-mail discussion about staffing, the uncertainty on the meaning of Early Career Researchers was noted. After a review of the different definition in Europe, EGU, AGU and IODP, it has been decided to consider ECR a researcher who has achieved the PhD in the previous 10 years. This is in line with US-IODP statements. However, this limit should be considered with flexibility considering temporary leaves for health, maternity/paternity, other personal needs, and for secondments to the industry. The ESSAC office retains the right to adapt the category of applicants for science party after the evaluation of the information contained in the CV.

**Action #5** ESSAC Office issues a Call for applications for the Distinguished Lecturer Program.

**Action #6** Angelo Camerlenghi will contact the Chair of the Program Committee of EGU during the GA 2022 to propose and discuss the details of the shift for the GA 2023.

## 5 - Expedition Staffing

The staffing of recent expeditions has been reviewed:

- Exp. 390 South Atlantic Transect 1
- Exp. 393 South Atlantic Transect 2
- Exp. 397 Iberian Margin Paleoclimate
- Exp. 398 Hellenic Arc Volcanic Field

There is a general satisfaction with staffing of these expeditions and the high number of ECORD co-chief scientists has been welcomed. Twin expeditions 390-393 have a long and problematic staffing process, which ended shortly before the date of the cruises, implying the issue of several Special Calls. Several ECORD Scientists participate in these expeditions following the application to special calls. This is not considered a problem, because they all participate in the total number of ECORD scientists. Antje Voelker notes that Sedimentologist Alina Shchepetkina was invited through a Special Call. Georges Ceuleneer notes that the staffing of Exp- 398 only has 2 French participants (note: a few days after the meeting a third French scientist has been invited by JRSO).

At the time of the meeting the staffing of Exp. 399 Building Blocks of Life, Atlantis Massif is in progress, and the Call for applications to Exp. 400 NW Greenland Glaciated Margin will expire on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

The table of the balance of participation in expeditions by ECORD countries has been presented and discussed. ECORD counts 82 berths beyond the 335 berths entitled according to the quota of financial contribution to the project. The balance according to individual ECORD members is variable, with

France and Germany under-quota among the three main ECORD contributors, and Switzerland more severely under-quota among the other ECORD Country (this is partly due to the impossibility of one already invited scientist to board the JR and follow the COVID protocol). A discussion has addressed the metrics of the quota balance, that can be by counts of individual scientist or percentage with respect to the total contribution. The two methods have pros and contras and it is decided to maintain the double accounting initiated by Tony Morris in 2021.

Angelo Camerlenghi has introduced the need to project the participation in future cruises until the end of the current program (end of 2024) and to carefully monitor the balance of ECORD participation as the time becomes shorter until the end. A rough estimate calculated with an average of 7 ECORD berths per future expedition shows clearly that it is unlikely that each country will reach the end of the program in balance. ECORD as a consortium will end with a very positive balance. The proposed way to monitor participation in expeditions is through the total participants per country, therefore adding the participants from Special Calls to the quota participants. This number helps demonstrating the success of individual countries in obtaining berths regardless of the quota entitlement. The matter will be proposed to the ECORD Council as a matter of discussion in the joint Fall 2022 ECORD-Council-ESSAC meeting

**Action #7** ESSAC Office proposes the projected ECORD participation in expedition as an item for discussion in the joint Fall 2022 ECORD-Council-ESSAC meeting

## **6 - ECORD participation by countries**

The discussion of this item is motivated by the need to monitor consistently in the future a wide range of scientific activities in addition to the participation in drilling expeditions. ESSAC is preparing statistics reflecting the participation of its member countries in the program with the available information including sample and data requests, participation in educational activities and publications. Sample requests have been presented and were discussed, as they seem to be incoherent in some cases (e.g. Antje Voelker checked the Portuguese numbers and asks if they contain onboard science party samples/ shipboard sampling as well.)

A recognized gap is information on PhD theses originated from samples and data collected by IODP and its precursor programs, where a discrepancy between the US data and the ECORD data is obvious. The ESSAC Office has started to compile a spreadsheet file that should be updated by the national offices/delegates and subsequently made public for further improvements (e.g., metadata, site numbers, etc.).

The preliminary list of relevant information for future monitoring is the following:

### **Expeditions:**

- Applications
- Invitations
  - Co-Chief Scientist
  - Regular calls
  - Special Calls
- Observers

### **Sample Requests**

### **Participation in Science Advisory Structure**

- SEP
- EPSP
- ILP
- EFB

Magellan+

**Offer of Training Activities (number of activities)**

Summer Schools

Courses

Distinguished Lectures

**Participation in Training Activities (number of applicants and participants)**

Summer Schools

Courses

Distinguished Lectures

**Grants and Scholarships received**

**Offer of Outreach activities (number of activities)**

**Scientific Publications (number of indexed articles (Scopus/Clarivate Web of Science) with ECORD co-author)**

**PhD thesis accomplished**

**Ms Theses accomplished (to be discussed)**

**In-Kind Contributions (e.g., Site Survey Cruises, technological development....)**

Angelo Camerlenghi asked for opinions on the need of a person dedicated to data management withing ECORD. This data manager should develop a new fully online system to track any participation in the program according to the above list. Some information could be easily and automatically extracted from the online system. Other information should be collected with the help of national delegates. Scientific publications could be tracked with the aid of specialized search engines.

**Action #8** Angelo Camerlenghi will enquire with ECORD Council on the possibility to include in the budget the resources of a dedicated data manager, including the possibility of assigning a PhD thesis in data science on the topic.

**7 - AOB**

No items raised

**8 - Next meeting**

The next ESSAC Meeting will be held as usual in conjunction with ECORD Council in the form of a retreat as decided in Granada in 2021:

**November 14-18 2022**

- Monday 14/11 Afternoon: ESSAC meeting
- Tuesday 15/11 all day: Council-ESSAC meeting (with JAPAN delegation)
- Wednesday 16/11 all day: Council ESSAC meeting (with JAPAN delegation)
- Thursday 17/11 all day: Filed excursion in Tuscany
- Friday 18/11 all day: EOTF meeting

Venue:

**Castello di Gargonza**, Monte San Savino (Arezzo), Tuscany, Italia <https://gargonza.it/>

Because the venue is not easily reachable with public transportation, ECORD MA and ESSAC will organize transportation from main airports/train stations.

End of meeting 26/04/2022 16:00