



ECORD DEFINES IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MSP EXPEDITIONS

The ECORD Council has recently approved a document defining in-kind contributions for Mission-Specific Platform expeditions (see <http://www.ecord.org/about/aboutecord.html>). The major points are summarized below.

✚ Eligible contributions that can be considered as In-Kind Contributions (IKCs) include : drilling platforms, support vessels, essential scientific services that the ECORD Science Operator (ESO) would normally pay for, hazard site survey (if required), onshore facility near the drill site (if required), ice management, remote logistics and assistance.

✚ Any IODP member and non-member country can propose IKCs. The ECORD Managing Agency (EMA) shall issue open calls to the international community for IKCs.

✚ Offers of IKCs will be evaluated by ESO on a case-by case basis. Propositions and options of IKCs and their proposed cash-value based on actual costs, shall be presented to the ECORD Facility Board for discussion and then to the ECORD Council for final approval.

✚ IKCs shall be rewarded by extra Science Party positions on the MSP expedition for which the IKC has been rendered. For ECORD countries, IKC extra Science Party positions may be used to solve/mitigate unbalanced situations in the quota system, based on case-to-case negotiation between EMA and the contributing nation.

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