

Science in IODP³ is driven by community-generated drilling proposals targeting the vision outlined in the 2050 Science Framework and utilising multiple drilling platforms. The IODP³ proposal submission and evaluation process is designed to transform exciting science into successful drilling expeditions.



Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals



INTERNATIONAL OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAMME

Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
1.1. Overview of the Proposal Process	3
1.2. Proposal and Data Confidentiality	5
2. Summary of Drilling Proposal Document and Formatting Requirements	5
2.1. Summary of Proposal Requirements	5
2.2. Summary of Proposal Formatting Requirements	5
3. Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals	7
3.1. Preliminary Proposals	7
3.1.1. Structure of a Preliminary Proposal	7
3.1.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Preliminary (or Revised Preliminary) Proposal	8
3.1.3. Review of Preliminary Proposals by the SEP	9
3.2. Full Proposals	10
3.2.1. Structure of a Full Proposal	10
3.2.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Full (or Revised Full) Proposal	12
3.2.3. Submission of Full Proposals previously submitted to the International Ocean Discovery Program	13
3.2.4. Review of Full Proposals by the SEP	14
3.3. Addendum to a Drilling Proposal	15
3.3.1. Structure of an Addendum	15
3.3.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of an Addendum	17
3.4. Communication Between SEP and Proponents	17
3.5. Safety Review by the Safety and Environment Advisory Group (SEA Group)	17
3.6. Consideration by the MSP Facility Board	17
3.6.1. Expedition Scheduling	18
3.6.2. SEP Comment Forms to the MSP-FB	18
3.6.3. Proponent Response Letters (PRL)	18
4. Land-to-Sea Proposals (L2S)	19
4.1. Overview of Land-to-Sea Proposals	19
4.2. Schedule and Joint Review Process for Land-to-Sea Proposals	20
4.3. Summary of Land-to-Sea Proposal Requirements	21
4.4. Land-to-Sea Preliminary Proposals	22
4.5. Land-to-Sea Workshop Proposals	22
4.6. Land-to-Sea Full Proposals	24
4.6.1. Structure of a Land-to-Sea Full Proposal	24
4.6.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Land-to-Sea Full Proposal	26
4.7. Implementation of an Approved Land-to-Sea Proposal	28
5. Additional Information	28
5.1. Proposal Ratings	28
5.2. Proposed Drilling/Coring Site Names	29
5.3. Definition of an Alternate Site	29
5.4. Geographic Coordinates	29

5.5. The Site Characterisation Database (SCDB)	30
5.6. Science Communication Planning	30
5.7. Success Criteria and Risk Analysis.....	30
5.8. The Site Figure for Offshore Drill Sites	31
6. Using the IODP³ Gateway System for Submission of Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals ...	33
6.1. Requesting an IODP³ Gateway account.....	33
6.2. Selecting a proposal type to start a submission	34
6.3. The Submission Webforms	34
6.3.1. Proposal Cover Sheet webform	35
6.3.2. Proponent Details webform.....	36
6.3.3. Main Text of the Proposal webform	36
6.3.4. References webform.....	36
6.3.5. Science Communication webform	37
6.3.6. Success Criteria and Risk Analysis webform	38
6.3.7. CVs of Key Proponents webform	39
6.3.8. Proposed Sites webform	39
6.3.9. Site Location Analysis webform	40
6.3.10. Operational Information webform.....	41
6.3.11. Site Figures webform.....	44
6.3.12. Response to SEP Reviews webform	44
6.3.13. ICDP Support webform	45
6.3.14. Summary webform	45

1. Introduction

Science in the International Ocean Drilling Programme (IODP³) is driven by community-generated proposals targeting the seven *Strategic Objectives*, five *Flagship Initiatives*, and four *Enabling Elements* of the “**2050 Science Framework**”.

- **Strategic Objectives** comprise broad Earth science research areas that form the foundation of scientific ocean drilling through to 2050. Each objective focuses on understanding the interconnections within the Earth system, and is wide-ranging and aspirational to allow new science to emerge through bottom-up proposal development and peer review. Collectively, the *Strategic Objectives* cover the interconnected processes and feedbacks of the full Earth system that can be uniquely investigated with scientific ocean drilling.
- **Flagship Initiatives** are long-term research efforts that require multi-expedition scientific ocean drilling over long time intervals. They aim to test scientific paradigms and hypotheses that inform issues of particular relevance or interest to society. The *Flagship Initiatives* typically combine research goals from multiple *Strategic Objectives*.
- **Enabling Elements** serve to significantly advance the goals of scientific ocean drilling through numerous and varied broader impacts and outreach initiatives, partnerships and collaborations with organizations that have complementary scientific goals, and continued technology development and innovative applications of advanced data analytics

In addition to purely offshore-based proposals, offshore- and onshore-based drilling operations may be combined to investigate the interconnected global Earth system via integrative “Land-to-Sea” drilling proposals, representing a key “Enabling Element” of the *2050 Science Framework*. Land-to-Sea projects are implemented jointly with the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP).

IODP³ is committed to maximising the broader societal impact of the science it supports, and to communicating and sharing the data and results to generates, as described in the “Broader Impacts and Outreach” Enabling Element of the *2050 Science Framework*. In our proposal system, this is initiated through the Science Communications Plain Language Summary, and via subsequent expedition-linked outreach activities. Additionally, proposal proponents are encouraged to engage with local communities and populations early in the submission process to begin communicating the significance of their proposed scientific drilling research.

Development of compelling proposals and the successful achievement of their scientific objectives demands an iterative and open approach involving communication between the science proponents, the IODP³ advisory panels (the Science Evaluation Panel and the MSP Facility Board), and the IODP³ Operators (who implement successful proposals). The level of investment for a scientific ocean drilling/coring expedition goes beyond an individual researcher or a single research group. The IODP³ proposal structure and review processes are therefore designed to ensure extensive feedback between proposal proponents, members of advisory panels, and the IODP³ Operators. These processes are designed to transform great ideas at the scientific forefront into successful expeditions and overall outcomes.

1.1. Overview of the Proposal Process

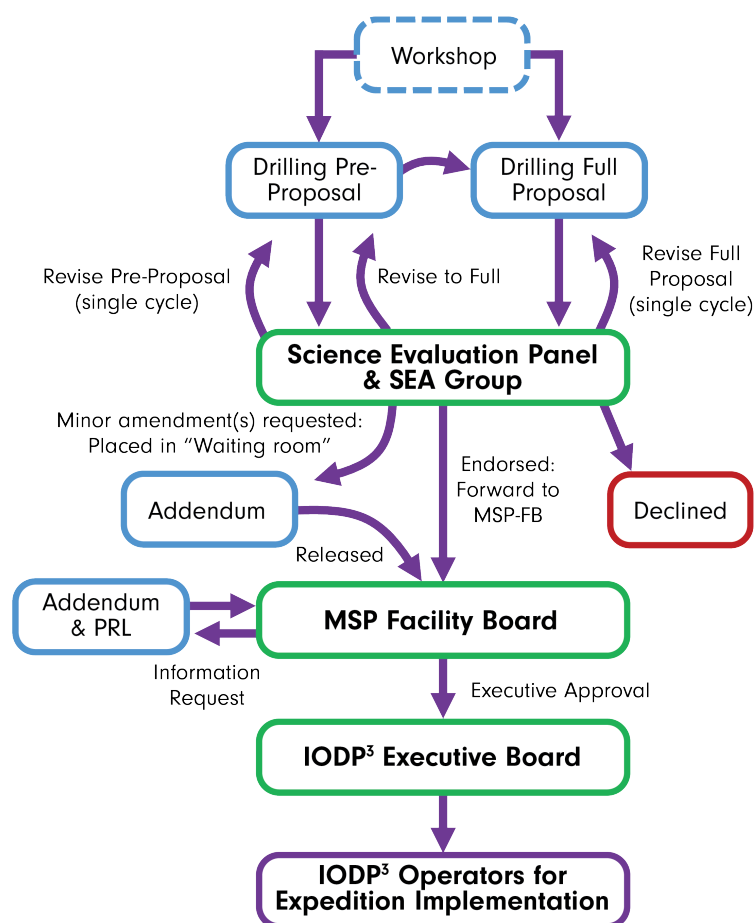
The scientific community submits scientific ocean drilling proposals to the Proposal Database (PDB) of the IODP³ Science Office through its online **IODP³ Gateway** system (accessible from the **IODP³ website** or directly at <https://gateway.iodp3.org>).

Scientific ocean drilling proposals can target any offshore environment, using the flexibility of the Mission Specific Platform approach of selecting appropriate drilling/coring technologies and platforms to achieve proposed drilling objectives. This includes use of the riserless/riser drilling

capabilities of the *DV Chikyu*, and contracting of suitable research or commercial vessels/platforms for the specific conditions of a proposal.

Proposals may be submitted any time, but evaluation takes place after the following deadlines:

- Scientific Ocean Drilling Preliminary and Full drilling proposals: 31 January and 1 July
- Land-to-Sea (L2S) Preliminary proposals: 15 January (submitted to ICDP, and uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway to receive an IODP³ proposal number)
- Land-to-Sea (L2S) Full proposals: 1 July (submitted to IODP³)



The IODP³ drilling proposal evaluation process from development to implementation

In most cases, proposal proponents are encouraged to submit a Preliminary Proposal first (see [Section 3.1](#)), that can go through one cycle of review, revision and resubmission in response to feedback from the Science Evaluation Panel (SEP). Upon positive review of a Preliminary Proposal by the SEP, the proponent team will be invited to submit a Full Proposal (see [Section 3.2](#)). At that stage, the Full Proposal must also supply supporting site characterisation data to the Site Characterisation Database (SCDB) of the IODP³ Science Office via the online IODP³ Gateway system. SEP can request no more than one revision to the Full Proposal, if necessary.

Full drilling proposals that are rated as “Transformative”, “Excellent”, “Very Good”, “Good” or “Fair” based on SEP evaluations will be forwarded to the Mission Specific Platform Facility Board (MSP-FB) to be considered for implementation (see [Section 5.1](#)).

Scientific ocean drilling proposals at the SEP and MSP-FB (see [Section 3.6](#)) are also examined by the Safety and

Environment Advisory Group (SEA Group) for safety and environmental issues that may be associated with the general and specific geologic circumstances of the proposed primary and alternate drill sites (see [Section 3.5](#)). To expedite this process, members of the SEA Group will conduct reviews of proposals at the earliest possible stage of the proposal evaluation process, i.e., as soon as site characterisation data associated with the proposal have been submitted.

The MSP-FB considers drilling proposals for implementation and expedition scheduling based on regional planning, funding availability, ship-time availability, safety, and other logistical constraints. The MSP-FB and the IODP³ Operators make decisions on proposal implementation, for final approval by the IODP³ Executive Board (ExB).

The process for Land-to-Sea (L2S) drilling proposals is different, as it involves joint evaluation through both the IODP³ and ICDP systems. These processes are described in [Section 4](#).

1.2. Proposal and Data Confidentiality

All IODP³ proposals are confidential documents throughout the nurturing, evaluation, and scheduling processes. Individuals who receive and review IODP³ proposals must agree not to disclose or disseminate proposal contents and not to discuss the proposal outside the context of their roles within IODP³. Unless a proponent requests otherwise, information in the Proposal Cover Sheet will be published on the IODP³ website upon acceptance of the proposal for consideration.

For drilling proposals, all documents (including uploaded site characterisation data files, and any other required data or optional supplemental documents) become available for expedition planning and implementation purposes when the MSP-FB schedules a proposal as an IODP³ expedition. Restricted site characterisation data that fall under a Limited Non-Disclosure Agreement (see **Standard IODP³ Confidential Policy**, Section 6) are the only exception.

Proponents of drilling proposals are responsible for ensuring the removal of all restricted text and figure information prior to the submission of a proposal document into the PDB and for identifying restricted data files in the SCDB. Before proceeding, proponents should read the **Standard IODP³ Confidentiality Policy**, available on the IODP³ website.

Restricted site characterisation data (e.g., confidential industry data or data covered by a Limited Non-Disclosure Agreement) should be uploaded into the SCDB, if possible, with at least a predefined subset of minimum data made available in support of the review process and expedition science, implementation, and safety purposes. For restricted data, the minimum data requirements are described in Section 5 of the **Standard IODP³ Confidentiality Policy**.

Before proceeding, please read the **Standard IODP³ Confidentiality Policy** and the **Use of Limited Non-Disclosure Agreements in IODP³ Policy**, available at <http://www.iodp3.org>.

2. Summary of Drilling Proposal Document and Formatting Requirements

The IODP³ Science Office (IODP³-SO) collects all proposal materials via the online **IODP³ Gateway** system for all proposal types – Preliminary/Revised Preliminary Drilling Proposals, Full/Revised Full Drilling Proposals, Addendums, and Proponent Response Letters (PRLs). Site characterisation data related to proposals must also be uploaded to the SCDB via the IODP³ Gateway.

The **Guidelines for Site Characterisation Data** outline data requirements for drilling proposals in detail, and the deadline for site characterisation data is typically one month after the drilling proposal deadline. The community interface to the PDB and SCDB is the IODP³ Gateway (<http://gateway.iodp3.org>). If you encounter submission problems, contact the IODP³-SO Proposal and Meetings Manager by email to proposals@iodp3.org.

2.1. Summary of Proposal Requirements

The table on page 6 provides a summary of requirements for each proposal type. Land-to-Sea proposals are deferred to **Section 4**.

2.2. Summary of Proposal Formatting Requirements

Many elements of proposal packages are generated interactively with the IODP³ Gateway system. However, some require upload of PDF documents prepared offline. These must adhere to the following formatting requirements:

- page size: A4
- line spacing: 1.5 (single spacing for CVs)
- figures: cannot be larger than a single A4 page
- font type and size: Arial, 11- or 12-point
- margins: 1.5 cm all around
- in-text references: must be (Author, year) and not numerical superscripts.

Maximum file sizes are:

- Main Text PDFs including Figures: Maximum 15 MB.
- Single Site Figure PDFs: Maximum 10 Megabytes (MB)

NOTE: Uploaded files must be PDFs – upload of other file formats may invalidate your submission

Document type	Preliminary/ Revised Preliminary Proposals (Section 3.1)	Full/Revised Full Proposals (Section 3.2)	Addendum to a Proposal (Section 3.3)	Proponent Response Letter (PRL) (Section 3.6.3)
Deadlines	31 January & 1 July	31 January & 1 July	N/A	One month before the MSP- FB meeting
Proposal Cover Sheet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstract • Scientific Objectives • Science Communication Plain Language Summary 	Required ≤ 400 words ≤ 250 words ≤ 400 words	Required ≤ 400 words ≤ 250 words ≤ 400 words	Required ≤ 400 words ≤ 250 words ≤ 400 words	None None None None
Proponent Details	Required, max 20	Required, max 20	Required, max 20	None
Main Text (including figure and table captions)	≤ 4,500 words	≤ 10,000 words	≤ 4,500 words	≤ 2,500 words
Figures and Tables (included in Main Text PDF)	≤ 8	≤ 12	≤ 8	≤ 5
References used in Main Text	Required	Required	Required (newly- cited only)	
Science Communication Form	None	Required	None	None
Success Criteria and Risk Analysis Form	None	Required	None	None
Curricula Vitae (CVs) of Key Proponents	None	Required for Principal, Data and Science Communication Lead proponents	Required if change in list of Lead proponents	None
Proposed Sites	Required	Required	Required for newly-proposed and/or relocated sites	N/A
Operational Information (supplied by completing a matrix of required information for each site on a single webform)	Required	Required	Completion of full matrix of information required	None
Site Figures	Required	Required	Required	None
Review Response	< 300 words per point raised by in SEP reviews	< 300 words per point raised by in SEP reviews	< 300 words per point raised by in SEP reviews	N/A

3. Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals

3.1. Preliminary Proposals

Proponents who have a new idea for scientific ocean drilling/coring are advised to submit a Preliminary Proposal. The Preliminary Proposal should outline science that addresses one or more of the Strategic Objectives and/or Flagship Initiatives in the *2050 Science Framework* and the need for scientific ocean drilling/coring. *The 2050 Science Framework* provides a context for generating proposals, but we also envision that new and exciting ideas requiring drilling/coring will develop that are not in the current framework and flexibility is encouraged.

For Preliminary Proposals, it is strongly recommended that proponents contact the IODP³ Operators before proposal submission to discuss drilling platform capabilities, the feasibility of their proposed drilling/coring plan and strategies, success criteria, associated risk, cost categories, and the required overall timetable for transiting, drilling/coring, logging, and other downhole measurements.

Proposals that involve biosphere-related objectives may be affected by the “*Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity*” (<https://www.cbd.int/abs/>). For targets within an Exclusive Economic Zone or an Extended Continental Shelf, proponents should become familiar with the protocol’s requirements for potential users of genetic resources to obtain the prior informed consent of the country in which the targeted genetic resource is located.

3.1.1. Structure of a Preliminary Proposal

Preliminary Proposals are created by completing a series of webforms on the IODP³ Gateway (<https://gateway.iodp3.org>). This includes elements requiring completion of webform text boxes (by direct entry or by pasting text from elsewhere), uploading of pre-prepared PDF files, and selecting options from pull-down menus or via checkboxes. The content of each type of webform is illustrated in **Section 6**.

The webforms required for a Preliminary (or Revised Preliminary) Proposal submission are as follows:

- **IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.1**): containing the following elements:
 - the proposal **Title**
 - up to 5 **Keywords** and the broad geographic **Area** of the proposal
 - an **Abstract** of ≤ 400 words
 - a statement of the **Scientific Objectives** of ≤ 250 words
 - a **Science Communication Plain Language Summary** of ≤ 400 words. This should describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience (see **Section 5.6**).
- **Proponent Details webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.2**): consisting of a table for provision of the names, countries (by institutional affiliation), email addresses, organisations, ORCID numbers, areas of expertise, and career stages of all proponents (maximum of 20). The **Principal Lead Proponent** and **Data Lead Proponent** (i.e., the lead proponent for site characterisation data) are also identified from a pull-down menu, along with a **Science Communications Lead** at this stage if possible.
- **Main Text of the Proposal webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.3**): for upload of a PDF document of the main proposal containing the content outlined in **Section 3.1.2**.
- **References webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.4**): for upload of a document containing the references that are cited in the Main Text of the proposal (using the Harvard referencing style).

- **Proposed Sites webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.8](#)): provided basic details of planned drilling/coring sites and brief site-specific objectives. Alternate sites (see [Section 5.3](#)) may also be included but are not required at this stage. All **Site Names** must conform to the established system (see [Section 5.2](#)) and site **Positions** must use WGS 84 coordinates in units of decimal degrees to at least the fourth decimal place (see [Section 5.4](#)).
- **Operational Information webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.10](#)): consisting of a matrix of operational and safety information about the suite of proposed sites (completed interactively within the IODP³ Gateway system).
- **Site Figure webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.11](#)): for upload of a PDF containing the Site Figure for each proposed primary drilling/coring site (see [Section 5.8](#)).
- **Response to SEP Reviews webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.12](#)): (for Revised Preliminary Proposals only) for upload of a PDF file that succinctly summarises how your submission has addressed specific points raised in previous SEP reviews, i.e., what has been changed from previous versions of the proposal, using ≤ 300 words per point (see [Section 3.4](#)).

Upon acceptance of the proposal by the IODP³-SO, individuals listed as proponents will receive an automatic email notification to confirm that they have agreed to this role.

All proposals submitted prior to each successive submission deadline will be assigned a formal IODP³ proposal number on the IODP³ Gateway system after the deadline that will be used in all related correspondence from the IODP³ Science Office. Preliminary Proposal numbers will have the form “nnnn-Pre” or “nnnn-Pre2” (for Revised Preliminary Proposals), where “nnnn” is a 4-digit number.

Submission of a Preliminary Proposal indicates that the whole proponent team agrees to have the information provided in the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet and Proposed Sites webforms made available to the scientific ocean drilling research community via the IODP³ website shortly after the deadline passes.

The IODP³ Proponent Cover Sheet does not include information on the names of members of the proponent team or any other personal information. Members of the research community who wish to discuss with proponents any of the active proposals listed on the IODP³ website therefore need to email the IODP³ Science Office on proposals@iodp3.org, who will contact the Lead Proponent to seek permission to pass on their contact details to the enquirer.

3.1.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Preliminary (or Revised Preliminary) Proposal

A Preliminary Proposal should describe a compelling hypothesis, question, or idea of interest to the global scientific community that can be addressed by a drilling/coring strategy. Proposals range from hypothesis-driven to question-driven, from discipline-specific to inter-disciplinary, and from simple to complex. Proposals should address questions that are of interest to the global scientific community.

The **Main Text** of a Preliminary Proposal can contain no more than 4,500 words, including captions for figures and tables, and 8 or fewer figures and/or tables (see [Section 2](#)), and is submitted as a PDF file uploaded to the PDB via the **Main Text webform** on the IODP³ Gateway system. References are provided as a separate PDF document via the **References webform** and should not be included in the Main Text.

The Preliminary Proposal Main Text should:

- Include the proposal title at the top

- State the scientific objectives and explain how those objectives relate to or advance beyond the “2050 Science Framework”.
- Justify the need for drilling/coring to accomplish the scientific objectives.
- Present a conceptual strategy for addressing the scientific objectives through drilling/coring, logging, or other downhole measurements.
- Describe the proposed primary and alternate drilling/coring sites, penetration depths, and expected lithologies (in conjunction with the matrix on the **Operational Information webform** for each proposed site; see [Section 3.1.2](#)).
- Reference any previous drilling/coring in the area or relevant existing proposals or expeditions.
- Discuss the availability of, or plans to acquire, site characterisation data.
- Discuss the recovery rates needed to achieve key goals.
- Describe any development of advanced and non-standard tools, special sampling techniques, downhole measurements, and/or borehole observatories.
- Identify general risks or potential logistical problems (e.g., weather, core recovery issues, sites in an EEZ, seafloor, subseafloor or oceanographic hazards to drilling/coring, unexpected stratigraphy or age, uncertainty in target depths, engineering challenges). A full risk analysis is not needed at this stage.
- Note any relationships to other bio- or geoscience programmes or initiatives.

3.1.3. Review of Preliminary Proposals by the SEP

The IODP³-SO sends Preliminary Proposals to the SEP for review. The SEP consists of members of the international scientific community who volunteer to serve IODP³. The SEP is a rich advisory resource for proponents in providing guidance and critical advice about the science and feasibility of their proposals.

- Watchdog Assignments:

The SEP Co-Chairs assign watchdogs to examine and present each Preliminary Proposal to the panel. This watchdog team typically includes two scientists to assess the scientific objectives presented in the proposal and two to review the uploaded site characterisation data; the fifth watchdog is a representative of the IODP³ Operators.

The SEP assesses each Preliminary Proposal in terms of its relevance to the *2050 Science Framework*, the suitability of the study area, drill sites, and platform for addressing the proposed scientific objectives, and whether the achievement of those objectives would likely result in fundamental scientific advances. The SEP seeks advice on technical aspects of the drilling proposal and proposed drilling/coring strategies through the fifth watchdog and IODP³ Operators’ representatives at the evaluation meeting.

- Proposal Evaluation and Decisions

Proponents receive a written summary of the SEP’s review, including their consensus decision, after the meeting. The SEP review includes one of the following three decisions:

- **Request for a Revised Preliminary Proposal:** The SEP finds the proposal has a potentially compelling scientific objective, but further work is required before moving to the Full Proposal stage. The SEP recommends revision of the Preliminary Proposal to incorporate comments and suggestions from the review and to further develop the idea. Only one revision of a Preliminary Proposal is permitted.

- **Request for Full Proposal:** The SEP recommends development of a Full Proposal to further describe the idea and potentially to coordinate efforts with other closely related proposals.
- **Preliminary Proposal is Declined:** The SEP declines the Preliminary Proposal if the science objectives are not well described or are not compelling, if the drilling/coring strategy doesn't adequately support the science questions, and/or if the drilling/coring programme is simply not feasible. Declination of a Preliminary Proposal can harbour a supportive message to re-scope the proposal and resubmit a **thoroughly** new Preliminary Proposal.

The SEP review includes the contact information for the proposal watchdogs and the SEP Co-Chairs. It is recommended that the Lead Proponent contacts one or more of the watchdogs or Co-Chairs to discuss the SEP's recommendation and to gain more insight into the next steps in the proposal process. In these cases, proponents should copy the IODP³-SO Proposal and Meetings Manager (proposals@iodp3.org) on the email correspondence.

3.2. Full Proposals

A Full Proposal expands an initial idea, likely posed in a Preliminary Proposal, to a well-justified scientific plan that can be implemented in the real world with present technology and within a reasonable length of time. Proponents may submit a Full Proposal if advised to do so by SEP based on review of a Preliminary Proposal or a previous Full Proposal. Only one revision of a Full Proposal (called Full2) is permitted. Proponents may consider submitting a Full Proposal without a Preliminary Proposal; however, this is generally not advised as it limits review feedback.

Proposals that involve biosphere-related objectives may be affected by the “*Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity*” (<https://www.cbd.int/abs/>). For targets within an Exclusive Economic Zone or an Extended Continental Shelf, proponents should become familiar with the protocol's requirements for potential users of genetic resources to obtain the prior informed consent of the country in which the targeted genetic resource is located.

3.2.1. Structure of a Full Proposal

Full Proposals are created by completing a series of webforms on the IODP³ Gateway (<https://gateway.iodp3.org>). This includes elements requiring completion of webform text boxes (by direct entry or by pasting text from elsewhere), uploading of pre-prepared PDF files, and selecting options from pull-down menus or via checkboxes. The content of each type of webform is illustrated in **Section 6**.

The webforms required for a Full (or Revised Full) Proposal submission are as follows:

- **IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.1**): containing the following elements:
 - the proposal **Title**
 - up to 5 **Keywords** and the broad geographic **Area** of the proposal
 - an **Abstract** of ≤ 400 words
 - a statement of the **Scientific Objectives** of ≤ 250 words
 - a **Science Communication Plain Language Summary** of ≤ 400 words. This should describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience (see **Section 5.6**).
- **Proponent Details webform** (shown in **Section 6.3.2**): consisting of a table for provision of the names, countries (by institutional affiliation), email addresses, organisations, ORCID numbers, areas of expertise, and career stages of all proponents (maximum of 20). The **Principal Lead Proponent** and **Data Lead Proponent** (i.e., the lead proponent for site

characterisation data) are also identified from a pull-down menu, along with a **Science Communications Lead** at this stage if possible.

- **Main Text of the Proposal webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.3](#)): for upload of a PDF document of the main proposal containing the content outlined in [Section 3.2.2](#).
- **References webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.4](#)): for upload of a document containing the references that are cited in the Main Text of the proposal (using the Harvard referencing style).
- **Science Communication webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.5](#)): providing details of related previous scientific drilling expeditions/legs, existing articles or media relating to the research, and any existing contacts within local populations or communities (see [Section 5.6](#)). This information will help to inform a broader communication strategy should the proposal be implemented as an IODP³ drilling expedition.
- **Success Criteria & Risk Analysis webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.6](#)): that defines your minimum criteria for achieving scientific and operational success, primary risks to success and mitigating factors. Consultation with the IODP³ Operators is necessary for understanding risk and developing mitigation strategies (see [Section 5.7](#)).
- **CVs of Key Proponents webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.7](#)): for upload of a single PDF file containing two-page curricula vitae or biographical sketches for each of the Principal, Data, and Science Communication Lead Proponents (combined into one 6-page PDF).
- **Proposed Sites webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.8](#)): provided basic details of planned drilling/coring sites and brief site-specific objectives. Alternate sites (see [Section 5.3](#)) **must also be included at this stage**. All **Site Names** must conform to the established system (see [Section 5.2](#)) and site **Positions** must use WGS 84 coordinates in units of decimal degrees to at least the fourth decimal place (see [Section 5.4](#)).
- **Operational Information webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.10](#)): consisting of a matrix of operational and safety information about the suite of proposed sites (completed interactively within the IODP³ Gateway system).
- **Site Figure webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.11](#)): for upload of a PDF containing the Site Figure for each proposed primary drilling/coring site (see [Section 5.8](#)).
- **Response to SEP Reviews webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.12](#)): (for revised Full Proposals or ones building on a previously reviewed Preliminary Proposal) for upload of a PDF file that succinctly summarises how your submission has addressed specific points raised in previous SEP reviews, i.e., what has been changed from previous versions of the proposal, using ≤ 300 words per point (see [Section 3.4](#)).

Upon acceptance of the proposal by the IODP³-SO, individuals listed as proponents will receive an automatic email notification to confirm that they have agreed to this role.

All proposals submitted prior to each successive submission deadline will be assigned a formal IODP³ proposal number on the IODP³ Gateway system after the deadline that will be used in all related correspondence from the IODP³ Science Office. Full Proposal numbers will have the form “nnnn-Full” or “nnnn-Full2” (for Revised Full Proposals), where “nnnn” is a 4-digit number. If the Full Proposal relates to a previously submitted Preliminary Proposal then they will share the same “nnnn” number.

Submission of a Full Proposal indicates that the whole proponent team agrees to have the information provided in the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet and Proposed Sites webforms made available to the scientific ocean drilling research community via the IODP³ website shortly after the deadline passes.

The IODP³ Proponent Cover Sheet does not include information on the names of members of the proponent team or any other personal information. Members of the research community who wish to discuss with proponents any of the active proposals listed on the IODP³ website therefore need to email the IODP³ Science Office on proposals@iodp3.org, who will contact the Lead Proponent to seek permission to pass on their contact details to the enquirer.

3.2.2. *Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Full (or Revised Full) Proposal*

A Full Proposal should describe extensively all aspects of the scientific experiment, the drilling/coring plan, and the operational information necessary to determine feasibility, data availability, and site assessment needs. Full Proposals can be submitted for any expedition length. For example, the MSP-FB could implement a shorter scientific effort as a hybrid expedition or using platforms with different operational capabilities. **Note that for Full Proposals, contacting the IODP³ Operators before submission is required.**

The **Main Text** of a Full Proposal can contain no more than 10,000 words, including captions for figures and tables, and 12 or fewer figures and/or tables (see [Section 2](#)), and is submitted as a PDF uploaded to the PDB via the **Main Text of the Proposal webform** on the IODP³ Gateway system. References are provided as a separate PDF document via the **References webform** and should not be included in the Main Text. Prior SEP reviews, input from other IODP³ Advisory Panels, and/or workshops should be carefully considered and addressed in a Full Proposal.

Successful Full Proposals, whether complicated and extremely interdisciplinary, or simple and discipline-specific, share several key elements:

- They have strong and compelling science hypotheses/questions that are clearly articulated.
- They address scientific hypotheses or questions that require scientific ocean drilling/coring.
- They strongly link the scientific hypotheses or questions to the expected drilling/coring and logging results.
- They are responsive to the input from the SEP.
- They are innovative and have an acceptable balance between risk and potential for achievement.

A Full Proposal should:

- Include the proposal title at the top
- State the scientific objectives and explain how those objectives relate to or advance beyond the *2050 Science Framework*, including its Strategic Objectives and/or Flagship Initiatives.
- Justify the need for drilling/coring to accomplish the scientific objectives.
- Present a well-defined strategy for addressing the scientific objectives through drilling/coring, logging, or other downhole measurements. This should be framed in the form of hypotheses or questions resolvable by drilling/coring.
- Describe the available site characterisation data and/or any plans for acquiring additional data, and discuss how the drilling targets relate to those data. Proponents are reminded to upload a comprehensive set of all available site characterisation data into the SCDB via the IODP³ Gateway by the data deadline.
- Discuss the expected scientific outcome of drilling/coring and any subsequent work required to complete the overall project.
- Describe any development (including a development timeline) of advanced and non-standard tools, special sampling techniques, downhole measurements, borehole observatories or

other tools, and include an out-year plan for observatory data recovery, maintenance, and ultimate termination.

- Describe any external funding for non-standard tools.
- Identify any risk or potential logistical problems (e.g., weather, core recovery issues, sites in an EEZ, seafloor, subseafloor or oceanographic hazards to drilling/coring, unexpected stratigraphy or age, uncertainty in target depths, engineering challenges).
- In order to increase operational flexibility, Full Proposals are required to outline three different implementation plans:
 - An **Essential Plan** listing the site(s) that is/are proposed for drilling/coring to guarantee the fulfilment of the crucial scientific objectives that must be achieved in order for the expedition to be successful.
 - An **Intermediate Plan** in which specific priority sites are proposed for drilling/coring to guarantee the achievement of major scientific objectives and benefits achievable beyond the Essential Plan.
 - An **Advanced Plan** including all proposed sites for drilling/coring to achieve all scientific objectives to their full extent and benefits achievable beyond the Intermediate Plan.

If proponents are unable to outline three different implementation plans, they must explain the reasons in detail. In any case, an Essential plan must be provided!

- Describe, briefly, relationships to other bio- or geoscience programmes and/or other initiatives, including relevant previous drilling/coring, current proposals, or expeditions.
- Outline potential in-kind contributions (IKC) and project-based cash contributions from any institution, agency, or industrial partnership. IKCs may include essential scientific or operational services that the IODP³ would normally pay for, fully/partly funded drilling platforms, support vessels, hazard site survey (if required), permitting assistance, onshore facilities near drill sites (if required), ice management, and remote logistical assistance.

It is essential that Advanced Plans include multiple alternate drill sites should safety or site characterisation concerns preclude drilling/coring at one or more primary sites (see [Section 5.3](#) for definitions of alternate sites). Site characterisation data must be submitted to the SCDB via the IODP³ Gateway to support review of the proposals. The site characterisation data deadline is typically one month after the proposal submission deadlines; see the [Guidelines For Site Characterisation Data](#) for more information.

In addition, proposals should discuss required recovery rates in general as a function of depth and highlight target zones (including required recovery rates for these) in order to achieve the primary objectives of the proposal. Finally, the proposal should address the impact on the science if required recovery rates, target depths or specific sites are not achieved.

[3.2.3. Submission of Full Proposals previously submitted to the International Ocean Discovery Program](#)

There is no mechanism for transfer of proposals between the *International Ocean Discovery Program* and IODP³. Hence the only way to pursue the development of a proposal previously submitted to the *Discovery Program* is to make a new submission to IODP³ via the Gateway system, following the guidance and requirements outlined above. The new submission will receive a new IODP³ proposal number.

However, the review of such a new submission by the Science Evaluation Panel (SEP) may be expedited by providing the proponents' record of the history of the previous *Discovery Program* proposal to the IODP³-SO. This will then be passed to SEP along with the new submission so that it

may be considered along with the new proposal. **Review histories are not submitted via the Gateway system but instead will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the IODP³-SO.** Lead Proponents wishing to follow this path should therefore seek advice on how to proceed by emailing proposals@iodp3.org prior to submitting their proposal. During the submission process they should also use the **Response to SEP Reviews webform** to outline how the new submission addresses points raised in previous *Discovery Program* SEP reviews and ensure that the relevant past proposal number is specified.

3.2.4. Review of Full Proposals by the SEP

The IODP³-SO sends all new and revised Full Proposals, with the accompanying site characterisation data, to the SEP for review. The SEP consists of members of the international scientific community who volunteer to serve IODP³. The SEP is a rich advisory resource for proponents in providing guidance and critical advice about the science and feasibility of their proposals.

- Watchdog Assignments

The SEP Co-Chairs assign watchdogs to examine and present each proposal to the panel. This watchdog team typically includes two scientists to assess the scientific objectives presented in the proposal and two to review the uploaded site characterisation data; the fifth watchdog is a representative of the appropriate IODP³ Operators.

The SEP assesses each proposal in terms of its relevance to the *2050 Science Framework*, the suitability of the study area, and study sites for addressing the proposed scientific objectives, and whether the achievement of those objectives would likely result in fundamental scientific advances. The SEP seeks advice on technical aspects of the drilling proposal and proposed drilling/coring strategies through the fifth watchdog and other IODP³ Operators' representatives at the evaluation meeting.

- Proposal Evaluation and Decisions

The SEP evaluates **new** and **revised** Full Proposals, and a written review report is prepared and sent to the proponents. Depending on the stage of the proposal and the latest assessment in the review process, an evaluation may have one of the following outcomes:

- **Request for Revision of the Full Proposal:** The SEP may request a revision of the Full Proposal. Full Proposals can be revised **only once**. There is no strict time limit for resubmission because proponents may require time to seek essential outside advice on technical and funding aspects to improve the overall feasibility of their drilling proposal, collect additional site characterisation data, and/or reprocess existing data. Proposals that are inactive for 5 years are flagged and the Lead Proponents are contacted by the IODP³-SO to update the status of their proposal. Proponents may submit the revised proposal and/or new data; or proponents may request a specified time extension via submission of a Proponent Response Letter (see [Section 3.6.3](#)). Inactivity or no response to the IODP³-SO inquiry results in the deactivation of the proposal.
- **Full Proposal is Forwarded to the MSP-FB for Potential Scheduling:** SEP reviews all available and updated site characterisation data in the SCDB for completeness and adequacy. The SEP then decides whether the proposal should be forwarded for possible implementation to the MSP-FB (see [Section 3.6](#)). A proposal can only be forwarded to the MSP-FB if the site characterisation is complete. The SEP also rates the proposal (see [Section 5.1](#) for rating definitions) and writes a final review assessing the priority of the proposal with respect to the *2050 Science Framework*.

If the site characterisation data package is not sufficient and more data needs to be collected the proposal may be forwarded to the Proposal Waiting Room. There, the proposal will await the completion of the site characterisation, upon which SEP will forward it to the MSP-FB.

- **Full Proposal is Declined:** The SEP may decline Full Proposals at any stage if the science objectives and hypotheses, drilling/coring plan, or the accompanying site characterisation data are not sufficiently compelling or developed. This means that the proposal is no longer active in the system, and proponents can only re-enter the system via the submission of a new Preliminary or Full Proposal.

Reasons that a proposal might not advance include:

- The proposal's science is incremental (i.e., makes only a small step forward) or is one-sided (i.e., doesn't account for alternative hypotheses).
- The proponents are unresponsive to the SEP comments.
- The proposed science is simply undrillable.
- The proposal does not critically select drilling/coring sites and target depths to answer well-defined questions.
- The proposal does not clearly state how the proposed measurements will be used to answer the scientific questions/hypotheses.
- The proposal has scientific objectives that conform poorly with the overall goals of the *2050 Science Framework* or/and that do not bring added value to IODP³.
- The data that are needed to characterise the drill site (location, target depth, stratigraphic and structural framework) and place it in a proper context are not sufficient to underpin the science or to conduct operations safely.

3.3. Addendum to a Drilling Proposal

If drill sites are changed or added or additional/missing site characterisation data are submitted, submission of an Addendum is required to describe the changes or new sites, and to provide a rationale for how these fit the objectives of the proposed scientific drilling/coring project. Any new location, even a small move from a previous location, requires that a new site be created. The Addendum must provide details of the newly-proposed and/or relocated drilling/coring sites using the Proposed Sites webform and Operational Information webform on the IODP³ Gateway system, and the relevant SCDB site data and metadata must be updated. However, if significant changes are made to the objectives or strategy of the original proposal, the proponents must submit a new proposal instead of an Addendum.

3.3.1. Structure of an Addendum

The webforms required for an Addendum submission are as follows:

- **IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.1](#)): containing the following elements:
 - the proposal **Title**
 - up to 5 **Keywords** and the broad geographic **Area** of the proposal
 - an **Abstract** of ≤ 400 words
 - a statement of the **Scientific Objectives** of ≤ 250 words
 - a **Science Communication Plain Language Summary** of ≤ 400 words. This should describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience (see [Section 5.6](#)).

- **Proponent Details webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.2](#)): consisting of a table for provision of the names, countries (by institutional affiliation), email addresses, organisations, ORCID numbers, areas of expertise, and career stages of all proponents (maximum of 20). The **Principal Lead Proponent** and **Data Lead Proponent** (i.e., the lead proponent for site characterisation data) are also identified from a pull-down menu, along with a **Science Communications Lead** at this stage if possible.
- **Main Text of the Proposal webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.3](#)): for upload of a PDF document of the main proposal containing the content outlined in [Section 3.2.2](#).
- **References webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.4](#)): for upload of a document containing the references that are cited in the Main Text of the proposal (using the Harvard referencing style).
- **Science Communication webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.5](#)): providing details of related previous scientific drilling expeditions/legs, existing articles or media relating to the research, and any existing contacts within local populations or communities (see [Section 5.6](#)). This information will help to inform a broader communication strategy should the proposal be implemented as an IODP³ drilling expedition.
- **Success Criteria & Risk Analysis webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.6](#)): that defines your minimum criteria for achieving scientific and operational success, primary risks to success and mitigating factors. Consultation with the IODP³ Operators is necessary for understanding risk and developing mitigation strategies (see [Section 5.7](#)).
- **CVs of Key Proponents webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.7](#)): for upload of a single PDF file containing two-page curricula vitae or biographical sketches for each of the Principal, Data, and Science Communication Lead Proponents (combined into one 6-page PDF).
- **Proposed Sites webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.8](#)): for an Addendum, the table in this webform should be used to provide basic details of **only the newly-proposed and/or relocated primary and alternate drilling/coring sites**, and associated brief site-specific objectives. All **Site Names** must conform to the established system (see [Section 5.2](#)) and site **Positions** must use WGS 84 coordinates in units of decimal degrees to at least the fourth decimal place (see [Section 5.4](#)).
- **Operational Information webform** (shown in [Section 3.6.10](#)): consisting of a matrix of operational and safety information (completed interactively within the IODP³ Gateway system). This matrix will automatically list the **newly-proposed or relocated primary and alternate drilling/coring sites** specified in the Proposed Sites webform.
- **Site Figure webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.11](#)): for an Addendum, this should be used to upload of a PDF containing the Site Figure for **each of the newly-proposed and/or relocated primary and alternate drilling/coring sites** specified in the Proposed Sites webform (see [Section 5.8](#)).
- **Response to SEP Reviews webform** (shown in [Section 6.3.12](#)): for upload of a PDF file that succinctly summarises how your Addendum has addressed specific points raised in previous SEP reviews, i.e., what has been changed from previous versions of the proposal, using ≤ 300 words per point (see [Section 3.5](#)).

Submission of an Addendum indicates that the whole proponent team agrees to have the information provided in the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet and Proposed Sites webforms made available to the scientific ocean drilling research community via the IODP³ website shortly after the deadline passes.

3.3.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of an Addendum

The Addendum **Main Text** can contain no more than 4,500 words, including captions for figures and tables, and 8 or fewer figures including tables (see [Section 2](#)). If newly available site characterisation data are referred to, it should discuss how the drilling/coring targets relate to those data. **In case of small changes**, the main text of the Addendum can be brief, simply stating the reason for the site changes. The abstract, scientific objectives, and science communication plain language summary provided in the Addendum Proposal Cover Sheet webform **can remain unchanged** from those presented previously in the cover sheet of the associated Full Proposal submission.

3.4. Communication Between SEP and Proponents

When submitting a revised proposal at any stage (including a Full Proposal developed from a Pre-Proposal, or a new submission of a previously declined proposal), proponents must complete the **Response to SEP Reviews webform** on the IODP³ Gateway submission system by uploading a PDF document that succinctly summarises how their submission has addressed the specific points raised in previous SEP reviews (i.e., what has been changed from previous versions of the proposal, using ≤ 300 words per point).

Please note that PDF document uploaded via the Response to SEP Reviews webform is an important part of a revised proposal and differs from a Proponent Response Letter, which is described in [Section 3.6.3](#). A revised or new submission can be rejected without SEP review if, for example, the proponent has submitted essentially the same proposal without making changes asked for by SEP in previous reviews. This decision will be made by the SEP Co-Chairs and the primary basis of this decision will be the information that the proponents provide in the PDF document uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway via the Response to SEP Reviews webform. **Note that the information provided in the response PDF does not need to be repeated in the Main Text of the new proposal.**

3.5. Safety Review by the Safety and Environment Advisory Group (SEA Group)

As part of the SEP review of drilling proposals and the subsequent development of a proposal into an expedition, members of the SEA Group will conduct a safety review of the proposed drill sites. To expedite the process, SEA Group members will evaluate the site data in parallel to the SEP review. If possible and necessary, members of the SEA Group may be invited to workshops preceding the submission of a proposal to discuss potential problems with site selection.

The evaluation by the SEA Group members will be added to the SEP Review Letter.

After a proposal has been forwarded to the MSP-FB, the SEA Group makes the final recommendations for each proposed site (by meeting virtually). These are: **Recommend as Proposed**; **Recommend with Modification** (e.g., in position and/or target depth); or **Not Recommend** with suggestions for improvement.

The IODP³ Operators have final approval of all drill sites, and the MSP-FB Co-Chairs decide whether any SEA Group modification to the drilling/coring plan creates a need for re-examination by the SEP. Any changes to a proposed drill site or addition of new primary or alternate drill sites requires submission of an Addendum to enter new site information (see [Section 3.3](#)); the latter also requires uploading of new site characterisation data in the SCDB. When an Addendum captures SEA Group-directed site modifications, the main text can be brief (e.g., “site modification requested by the SEA Group”) and the information in the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet can remain unchanged.

3.6. Consideration by the MSP Facility Board

Once the SEP has forwarded a Full Proposal to the MSP-FB, further actions are within the jurisdiction of the MSP-FB. Any dialog to develop the proposal into an IODP³ expedition takes place between the MSP-FB, the IODP³ Operators, the proponent team, and the Co-Chief scientists, which are assigned after scheduling. On some occasions the MSP-FB can request additional analysis by the SEP, for

example if changes to planned drilling/coring operations are made (see [Section 3.6.2](#)). All correspondence between the MSP-FB and proponents must be copied to the IODP³-SO (to proposals@iodp3.org) for the proposal's formal record.

Until a proposal is scheduled as an expedition, the Principal Lead Proponent can be contacted by interested scientists to discuss additional scope such as, e.g., the application of special tools, by emailing the IODP³ Science Office at proposals@iodp3.org who will seek the Principal Lead Proponent's permission to pass on their contact details. The MSP-FB and the IODP³ Operators need to be included in any such discussion, by copying emails to proposals@iodp3.org for the proposal's formal record.

3.6.1. Expedition Scheduling

In general, the MSP-FB considers scheduling once per year. A proposal may be included in an upcoming schedule of expeditions based on factors such as platform location and capability, regional planning, estimated operational cost, and anticipated science outcome and returns. Action also may be deferred to a future scheduling opportunity.

The MSP-FB Co-Chairs communicate any decisions to the proponents, which must be done via email through the IODP³-SO. At any stage, the MSP-FB may ask the proponents for more information. Replies to specific MSP-FB inquiries should be made via a **Proponent Response Letter** (PRL) (see [Section 3.6.3](#)) submitted through the IODP³ Gateway. Proponents can also submit an unsolicited PRL to communicate any changes or status updates that are important for scheduling decisions about a proposal to the MSP-FB.

The MSP-FB may also ask the proponents to submit an Addendum (see [Section 3.3](#)) to provide an update on relevant scientific research, provide more information, relocate proposed primary or alternate drilling/coring sites, or add new primary or alternate sites.

When drill sites are changed or added to an already scheduled expedition, but before the expedition sails, submission of an Addendum is required to describe the changed or new sites and to provide a rationale for how those fit the primary objectives in the proposed scientific drilling/coring project. Upon review by the MSP-FB Co-Chairs, the SEP may be asked to provide comments on the Addendum (see [Section 3.6.2](#)), and, in all cases, the SEA Group reviews the sites in question (see [Section 3.5](#)). The MSP-FB has the final decision in approving or rejecting any or all of the changed or added sites that are part of an Addendum.

Note that, although at least one Co-Chief Scientist is normally selected from the proponent team of an implemented proposal, proponents do not automatically become members of the Expedition Science Team, as staffing of expeditions is achieved by an open, competitive, international call process involving evaluation of applicants by the Programme Member Offices.

3.6.2. SEP Comment Forms to the MSP-FB

The MSP-FB may ask the SEP to give an opinion on specific aspects of a proposal to help the MSP-FB in its scheduling decisions or implementation of expeditions. In this case, the SEP comments to the MSP-FB become part of the proposal record maintained by the IODP³-SO via the SEP Comment Form. The IODP³-SO sends the SEP Comment Form only to the MSP-FB Co-Chairs and the IODP³ Operators. The MSP-FB Co-Chairs and/or the IODP³ Operators may follow up with the proponents and Co-Chief Scientists (if appointed by this stage) to explain what actions, if any, they require based on the SEP opinion. It is important to understand that such proposals retain their MSP-FB status; they are not being re-reviewed by the SEP.

3.6.3. Proponent Response Letters (PRL)

Proponents must submit a Proponent Response Letter (PRL) to address inquiries by the MSP-FB. A PRL is a PDF file emailed to the IODP³ Science Office at proposals@iodp3.org that contains no more

than 2,500 words, including captions for figures and tables and 5 or fewer figures and/or tables (see [Section 2](#)). The PRL should address only the specific comments or questions posed by the MSP-FB.

4. Land-to-Sea Proposals (L2S)

4.1. Overview of Land-to-Sea Proposals

Land-to-Sea Proposals are those for which full achievement of the scientific objectives requires scientific drilling at both onshore and offshore sites or at shallow marine sites. They are jointly implemented by ICDP and the International Ocean Drilling Programme (IODP³). Both programmes focus on various challenging themes of global geoscientific and socio-economic relevance, including: (1) geodynamic processes; (2) geohazards; (3) georesources; and (4) environmental change.

To date, IODP and ICDP have jointly funded proposals which demonstrate a scientific need for one of the following:

- Both land and sea drilling (e.g., IODP Expedition 313/ICDP New Jersey)
- Shallow marine locations where the collaboration between IODP and ICDP can achieve much more than either entity on its own (e.g., IODP Expedition 364/ICDP Chicxulub 2).

ICDP and IODP³ have a common proposal submission process at each proposal stage and a joint review process by ICDP and IODP³ with a clear schedule and set of guidelines for proponents.

All proposed L2S projects will need to submit a **Preliminary Proposal**, a **Workshop Proposal**, and a **Full Proposal**. A workshop is required due to the complexity of such projects (see [Section 5](#) for full details).

Proponents (i.e., Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators) should prepare a single L2S Proposal at each stage combining the ICDP and IODP³ elements.

Land-to-Sea Preliminary Proposals and Workshop Proposals should be submitted to ICDP by emailing a single PDF file (< 10 MB in size) to proposal.submission@icdp-online.org. In addition, once notification is received from ICDP that the submission is in the ICDP system, this same PDF file should be uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway system at <https://gateway.iodp3.org> so the proposal receives an IODP³ proposal number identifier. This requires the Lead Proponent to register for an IODP³ Gateway account (this typically takes < 5 minutes), and, once registered, to drag and drop the PDF onto a simple webform and click submit.

Land-to-Sea Full Proposals should be submitted to IODP³ via the IODP³ Gateway system (<https://gateway.iodp3.org>).

The ICDP and IODP³ programmes will share all L2S proposal documents between them and arrange for joint review and response.

To summarize, L2S proposal submission requires a Preliminary Proposal, followed by a Workshop Proposal, and finally a Full Proposal. Full Proposals may only be submitted after the Workshop is held.

Details of each step and the specified schedule are given below. This deviates somewhat from the submission procedure for other ICDP and IODP³ proposals, therefore proponents should pay close attention to requirements, deadlines and where to submit to at each stage. To the largest extent possible, review procedures of both programmes are preserved. The joint implementation of a L2S Proposal will be resolved between the IODP³ MSP Facility Board (MSP-FB) and ICDP Executive Committee (EC) and Assembly of Governors (AoG), on a case-by-case basis.

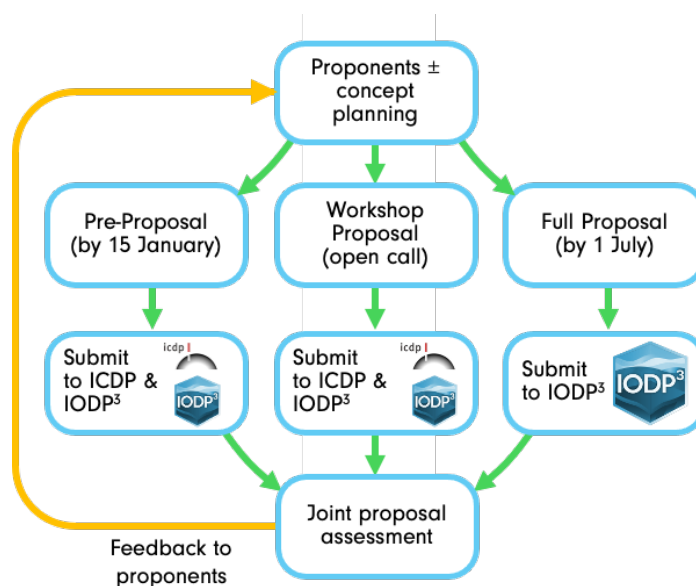
An overview of the criteria used for evaluation of proposals is provided in the [IODP³ Proposal Evaluation Overview](#) and [ICDP Proposal Processing](#) guidelines.

Note on Expedition Science Team Selection: Proponents should be aware that the science teams for the ICDP and IODP³ components of L2S projects are selected in different ways. In the case of the IODP³ component, any scientist from an IODP³ member country can apply for participation. Selection is a combined effort by the Programme Member Offices, the Co-Chief scientists of the expedition, and the platform operator, with the aim to enable appropriate participation of member countries and to provide the relevant scientific skills needed for the expedition. Therefore, proponents of the IODP³ component do not automatically become members of the Expedition Science Team. In the case of the ICDP component, up to 50% of the Expedition Science Team may be specified in the L2S Proposal. In addition, L2S Proposals may: (1) include Land-to-Sea drilling; or (2) comprise only shallow marine locations. If the former, the two science teams must work closely together to prepare for the paired expeditions/projects and after for analysis and integration of results. Some overlap in membership of the two science teams is to be expected.

More information about **ICDP proposals** and how to submit a Preliminary or Workshop L2S proposal via ICDP is available [here](#).

4.2. Schedule and Joint Review Process for Land-to-Sea Proposals

L2S Preliminary Proposals (15 January deadline) and **Workshop Proposals (no fixed deadline)** should be **submitted as a single PDF file by email to ICDP at proposal.submission@icdp-online.org**. Once notification is received from ICDP that a L2S Preliminary or Workshop Proposal is in the ICDP system, the same proposal PDF file should be uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway system at <https://gateway.iodp3.org>. **Full Proposals (1 July deadline)** are **submitted to IODP³** via the Gateway system and will be shared with ICDP. All proposals will receive review by the IODP³ Science Evaluation Panel (SEP) and the ICDP Science Advisory Group (SAG). IODP³ SEP watchdogs and ICDP appointees will generate a joint review of Preliminary and Full proposals, with subsequent panel review at the ICDP-SAG meeting in the Spring and IODP³ SEP meeting in the Autumn. A joint review letter of L2S proposals will be sent to the proponents following the IODP³ SEP meeting. A revised Pre-Proposal (“Pre2”) may be requested and is permitted prior to moving to the Workshop proposal stage. Workshop proposals are accepted at any time, are reviewed by ICDP and IODP³, and will receive a response as soon as possible following submission. Outcomes of the workshop should inform the development of the L2S Full Proposal. In parallel with other IODP³ Full Proposals, only one revision of the Full Proposal (to “Full2”) is permitted.



Land-to-Sea drilling proposal system

4.3. Summary of Land-to-Sea Proposal Requirements

Proposal Type	L2S Preliminary Proposal	L2S Workshop Proposal
Deadlines	15 January	Any time
How and Where to Submit	Submit a single PDF file to ICDP at: proposal.submission@icdp-online.org Upload same PDF file to the IODP ³ Gateway system at: https://gateway.iodp3.org	
General	Abstract: ≤ 400 words Scientific Objectives: ≤ 250 words Figures: Cannot be larger than a single-page A4 In-text References: Must be (Author, year) and not numerical superscripts Font size: 11- or 12-point Line Spacing: 1.5 Margin: 2.5 cm all around	
Main Text	≤ 4,000 words	≤ 5,800 words
Figures and Tables (embedded in Main Text PDF)	No limit, so long as they convey essential information	
List of Proponents	Required	
Curricula Vitae (CV)	Required	
Proposal Cover Sheet	Required	

Land-to-Sea Full/Revised Full Proposals (Section 4.6)	
Deadline	1 July
How and Where to Submit	Submit via the IODP ³ Gateway system at: http://gateway.iodp3.org
Proposal Cover Sheet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abstract Scientific Objectives Science Communication Plain Language Summary 	Required ≤ 400 words ≤ 250 words ≤ 400 words
Proponent Details	Required, max 20
Main Text (including figure and table captions)	≤ 12,000 words
Figures and Tables (embedded in Main Text PDF)	≤ 14
References used in Main Text	Required
Science Communication Form	Required
Success Criteria and Risk Analysis Form	Required
Curricula Vitae (CVs) of Key Proponents	Required for Principal, Data and Science Communication Lead proponents
Proposed Sites	Required
Operational Information (supplied by completing a matrix of required information for each site on a single webform)	Required
Site Figures	Required
Summary of Support Requested from ICDP	Required
Review Response	< 300 words per point raised by in SEP reviews

4.4. Land-to-Sea Preliminary Proposals

The deadline for submission of L2S Preliminary Proposals through the ICDP system is 15 January each year. Proponents should email a single PDF file to: proposal.submission@icdp-online.org. Once notification is received from ICDP that a L2S Preliminary Proposal is in the ICDP system, the same proposal PDF file should be uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway system at <https://gateway.iodp3.org> so that the proposal may receive an IODP³ proposal number.

The main text of an L2S Preliminary Proposal is $\leq 4,000$ words long, (A4 size, 11- or 12-point font, 2.5 cm margins, line spacing 1.5). The text limit does not include the reference list, figure and table captions, cover sheet or details of proponents (see below for details). There is no limit to figures and/or tables so long as they convey essential information.

The **Main Text** of a L2S Preliminary Proposal should:

- State the scientific objectives and explain how those objectives specifically address or advance the 2050 Science Framework and the ICDP Science Plan
- Justify the need for drilling to accomplish the scientific objectives
- Present a conceptual strategy for addressing the scientific objectives through drilling, coring, logging, or other down-hole measurements
- Describe the proposed drilling sites, penetration depths, and expected lithologies
- Discuss the availability of, or plans to acquire, site characterisation data
- Discuss the % core recovery rates needed to achieve key goals
- Describe any requirements for or development of advanced and non-standard tools, special sampling techniques, down-hole measurements, and/or borehole observatories.
- Identify any logistical problems, e.g., political issues, permitting problems, extreme weather, sea-ice, piracy, or others.
- Describe briefly any relationships to other international geoscience programmes or initiatives.

L2S Preliminary Proposals should also include the following items (that do **not** count towards word or page limits). Writing guidelines and templates can be found [here](#).

- An official ICDP Proposal Cover Sheet (available [here](#)), complete with an abstract of ≤ 400 , and a statement of the scientific objectives of ≤ 250 words.
- A list of proponents (maximum of 14, comprising a maximum of four Lead Proponents and a maximum of 10 Co-Proponents), specifying the name, affiliation, email address, and expertise of each proponent. Within the Lead Proponent team, the Principal Lead Proponent and Data Lead Proponent (i.e., the person who will be responsible for submission of site characterisation data at the Full Proposal stage) also need to be identified.
- A standard 2-page Curriculum Vitae of all proponents listed in the cover sheet (please use the ICDP CV template available [here](#)).
- A list of proposed drilling sites, including alternate sites if known, with brief site-specific objectives.
- **NOTE:** No site characterisation data should be uploaded to the IODP³ Site Characterisation Database at this stage, but this will be required for a Full Proposal.

4.5. Land-to-Sea Workshop Proposals

Submission through ICDP at any time, open submission deadline. Proponents should email a single PDF file to: proposal.submission@icdp-online.org. Once notification is received from ICDP that a L2S Workshop Proposal is in the ICDP system, the same proposal PDF file should be uploaded to the IODP³ Gateway system at <https://gateway.iodp3.org>.

L2S Workshop Proposals should state the scientific objectives of the workshop and explain how those objectives relate to, or advance, the *2050 Science Framework* and the *ICDP Science Plan*. A revised L2S Workshop proposal may be required after review.

An L2S Workshop Proposal should include the items below and meet the formatting requirements. Writing guidelines and templates can be found [here](#).

- An official ICDP Proposal Cover Sheet (available [here](#)), complete with an abstract of ≤ 400 words, and a statement of the scientific objectives of ≤ 250 words.
- A main proposal document consisting of a maximum of 5,800 words, excluding references (A4 size, 11- or 12-point font, 2.5 cm margins, line spacing 1.5).
- A list of proponents (maximum of 14, comprising a maximum of four Lead Proponents and a maximum of 10 Co-Proponents), specifying the name, affiliation, email address, and expertise of each proponent. Within the Lead Proponent team, the Principal Lead Proponent and Data Lead Proponent (i.e., the person who will be responsible for submission of site characterisation data at the Full Proposal stage) also need to be identified.

A standard 2-page Curriculum Vitae of all proponents listed in the cover sheet (please use the ICDP CV template available [here](#)).

- If this is a revised workshop proposal, a clear response to previous review comments should be included in a cover letter.

The main proposal document should address the following items:

- Discuss the scientific objectives and explain how those objectives specifically address/advance the IODP³ and ICDP science plans.
- Explain why the research goals are of global and far-reaching importance and why drilling is needed to achieve these goals (the programmes do not consider topics of only local or regional relevance).
- Discuss the specific drilling site(s) or how these will be selected, and how they facilitate reaching the research goals.
- Discuss the societal relevance of the project and plans for education and outreach. **Please note**, an education and outreach plan is required for a L2S Full Proposal.
- Discuss the expected scientific outcome of drilling and subsequent work required to complete the overall project.
- Present a preliminary list of workshop participants to demonstrate international participation and a broad range of expertise, including those with knowledge of the IODP³ and ICDP programmes essential to the development of the proposal (this preliminary list should not exceed 50% of the total number of workshop participants). The proposal should specify how efforts will be made to open the workshop and project to the wider international community of researchers from various disciplines.
- Give a brief description of the structure and agenda of the planned workshop.
- Outline specific scientific and technical issues that will be discussed and developed by the workshop participants. Summarize the planned strategy for addressing the scientific objectives through drilling, core/cuttings/fluid sampling, logging and down-hole measurements, laboratory testing and/or analysis of recovered samples, and integration with existing or planned surface-based studies, and highlight any particular aspects that will be discussed at the workshop. Note that technical and drilling details only need to be briefly outlined, as it is the task of a workshop to gather a critical mass of international researchers together to develop these aspects in a Full Proposal.

- Describe the proposed drill sites (and alternate sites) on the basis of the available data, which may include geologic maps, seismic sections and other geophysical data, sediment cores or other stratigraphic interpretations, cross-sections showing expected lithologies, and relevant information from prior drilling operations. If existing site characterisation data are insufficient, the workshop agenda should clearly address what is needed for further site characterisation prior to drilling (please refer to the [IODP³ Guidelines for Site Characterisation Data](#) and the [Pre-site survey and site selection](#) chapter of the [ICDP Primer \(v6, 2024\)](#)), and discuss how the necessary additional site characterisation data will be obtained.
- Include a workshop budget.
- Describe briefly any relationships of the drilling project or supplemental science investigations to other international geoscience programmes.
- In case of similar projects already conducted within ICDP or IODP³ (or its predecessor ocean drilling programs), accurately describe the relationship to these other projects and to what degree and how this project is unique.
- Note that one IODP³ and one ICDP review panel member will attend the workshop.
- Note that no site characterisation data should be uploaded to the IODP³ Site Characterisation Database (SCDB), but this will be required for a Full Proposal.

If a Workshop proposal is accepted, the proponents must have an open call (a web-based and/or printed advertisement) to the international scientific community for participation in the workshop of at least 50% of the total number of participants. Proponents are encouraged to seek co-funding of the ICDP workshop through [IODP³ Programme Member Offices](#) (PMOs).

4.6. Land-to-Sea Full Proposals

L2S Full Proposals must be submitted through the IODP³ Gateway system (<http://gateway.iodp3.org>). It is strongly encouraged that they are submitted ahead of the 1 July proposal submission deadline, with a deadline for upload of site characterisation data to the SCDB (via the IODP³ Gateway) approximately one month later. We do not recommend submission at the 31 January deadline, as the proposal will not be reviewed until the following review cycle (associated with the 1 July submission deadline).

Proposals that involve biosphere-related objectives may be affected by the “*Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity*” (<https://www.cbd.int/abs/>). For targets within an Exclusive Economic Zone or an Extended Continental Shelf, proponents should become familiar with the protocol’s requirements for potential users of genetic resources to obtain the prior informed consent of the country in which the targeted genetic resource is located.

4.6.1. Structure of a Land-to-Sea Full Proposal

Land-to-Sea Full Proposals are created by completing a series of webforms on the IODP³ Gateway (<https://gateway.iodp3.org>). This includes elements requiring completion of webform text boxes (by direct entry or by pasting text from elsewhere), uploading of pre-prepared PDF files, and selecting options from pull-down menus or via checkboxes. The content of each type of webform is illustrated in Section 6 of the IODP³ [Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals](#).

The webforms required for a Land-to-Sea Full (or Revised Full) Proposal submission are as follows:

- **IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet webform:** containing the following elements:
 - the proposal **Title**
 - up to 5 **Keywords** and the broad geographic **Area** of the proposal
 - an **Abstract** of ≤ 400 words

- a statement of the **Scientific Objectives** of ≤ 250 words
- a **Science Communication Plain Language Summary** of ≤ 400 words. This should describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience.
- **Proponent Details webform:** consisting of a table for provision of the names, countries (by institutional affiliation), email addresses, organisations, ORCID numbers, areas of expertise, and career stages of all proponents (maximum of 20). The **Principal Lead Proponent** and **Data Lead Proponent** (i.e., the lead proponent for site characterisation data) are also identified from a pull-down menu, along with a **Science Communications Lead** at this stage if possible.
- **Main Text of the Proposal webform:** for upload of a PDF document of the main proposal containing the content outlined in [Section 6.2](#).
- **References webform:** for upload of a document containing the references that are cited in the Main Text of the proposal (using the Harvard referencing style).
- **Science Communication webform:** providing details of related previous scientific drilling expeditions/legs, existing articles or media relating to the research, and any existing contacts within local populations or communities (see Section 5.6 of the IODP³ [Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals](#)). This information will help to inform a broader communication strategy should the proposal be implemented as an IODP³ drilling expedition.
- **Success Criteria & Risk Analysis webform:** that defines your minimum criteria for achieving scientific and operational success, primary risks to success and mitigating factors. Consultation with the IODP³ Operators is necessary for understanding risk and developing mitigation strategies (see Section 5.7 of the IODP³ [Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals](#)).
- **CVs of Key Proponents webform:** for upload of a single PDF file containing two-page curricula vitae or biographical sketches for each of the Principal, Data, and Science Communication Lead Proponents (combined into one 6-page PDF).
- **Proposed Sites webform:** provided basic details of planned drilling/coring sites and brief site-specific objectives. Alternate sites **must also be included at this stage**. All **Site Names** must conform to the established system and site **Positions** must use WGS 84 coordinates in units of decimal degrees to at least the fourth decimal place.
- **Operational Information webform:** consisting of a matrix of operational and safety information about the suite of proposed sites (completed interactively within the IODP³ Gateway system).
- **Site Figure webform:** for upload of a PDF containing the Site Figure for each proposed primary drilling/coring site.
- **ICDP Support webform:** for upload of a two-page PDF summarising the support requested from ICDP for onshore drilling.
- **Response to SEP Reviews webform:** (for revised Full Proposals only) for upload of a PDF file that succinctly summarises how your submission has addressed specific points raised in previous SEP/SAG reviews of the Preliminary Proposal or the previous Full Proposal in the case of Revised Full Proposals, i.e., what has been changed from previous versions of the proposal, using ≤ 300 words per point.

Upon acceptance of the proposal by the IODP³-SO, individuals listed as proponents will receive an automatic email notification to confirm that they have agreed to this role.

All proposals submitted prior to each successive submission deadline will be assigned a formal IODP³ proposal number on the IODP³ Gateway system after the deadline that will be used in all related correspondence from the IODP³ Science Office. Land-to-Sea Full Proposal numbers will have the form “nnnn-L2S-Full” or “nnnn-L2S-Full2” (for Revised Full Proposals), where “nnnn” is a 4-digit number. The “nnnn” number will be the same as that assigned to the L2S Preliminary Proposal.

Submission of a Land-to-Sea Full Proposal indicates that the whole proponent team agrees to have the abstract provided in the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet made available to the scientific ocean drilling research community via the IODP³ website shortly after the deadline passes.

No information on the names of members of the L2S proponent team or any other personal information will appear on the IODP³ website. Members of the research community who wish to discuss with proponents any of the active L2S proposals listed on the IODP³ website therefore need to email the IODP³ Science Office on proposals@iodp3.org, who will contact the Lead Proponent to seek permission to pass on their contact details to the enquirer.

4.6.2. Scope and Content of the Main Text of a Land-to-Sea Full Proposal

The main text of a L2S Full Proposal should be a maximum of 12,000 words long, including captions for figures and tables but excluding references, with ≤ 14 figures and/or tables. The document should be formatted for A4 size, using 11- or 12-point font, 2.5 cm margins, and line spacing 1.5. The word limit does not include the proposal cover sheet, any appendices, or the list of proponents; these should not be included in the Main Text (see below for details). The proposal should describe extensively all aspects of the full scientific experiment, drilling plans, and the operational information necessary to determine feasibility, data availability, and site assessment needs. Prior reviews, input from other Advisory Panels, and/or workshop input should be carefully considered and addressed in the Full Proposal. However, note that the IODP³ Gateway system also requires completion of a **Response to SEP Reviews webform** (not included in the proposal word/page limit) to summarize changes made in response to previous reviews, and **the information provided via that webform does not need to be repeated in the Main Text**. Details of the budget, technical and drilling plans, data management plans for the land sites (see information below) should be included as Appendices.

The **Main Text** of a L2S Full Proposal should:

- Include the proposal title at the top
- State the scientific objectives and explain how those objectives specifically address/advance the *2050 Science Framework* and the *ICDP Science Plan*.
- Indicate how the results from the Workshop have been integrated into the proposal.
- Justify the need for drilling to accomplish the scientific objectives.
- Present a well-defined strategy for addressing the scientific objectives through drilling, coring, logging and/or other down-hole measurements.
- Provide detailed estimates of, and justification for, the time required for drilling, coring, logging, and/or other down-hole measurements.
- Describe the available site characterisation data and any plans for acquiring additional needed data, and discuss how the drilling targets relate to these data.
- For offshore site characterisation requirements, please refer to the [IODP³ Guidelines for Site Characterisation Data](#). For land site characterisation recommendations, please refer to the [Pre-site survey and site selection](#) chapter of the [ICDP Primer \(v6, 2024\)](#).

- **NOTE:** Proponents must upload the required, comprehensive set of site characterisation data into the IODP³ SCDB for both land and offshore sites by approximately one month after the proposal submission deadline. While we normally require data submission as described in the [IODP³ Guidelines for Site Characterisation Data](#), exceptions may be made under specific circumstances, e.g., use of proprietary data. This would require communication with the Chair of the ICDP Executive Committee.
- For the **offshore** component of the L2S project, in order to increase operational flexibility in IODP³, proponents are **required** to outline three different implementation plans for the offshore operations in their L2S Full Proposal:
 - An **Essential Plan** listing the site(s) that is/are proposed for drilling/coring to guarantee the fulfilment of the crucial scientific objectives that must be achieved in order for the expedition to be successful.
 - An **Intermediate Plan** in which specific priority sites are proposed for drilling/coring to guarantee the achievement of major scientific objectives and benefits achievable beyond the Essential Plan.
 - An **Advanced Plan** including all proposed sites for drilling/coring to achieve all scientific objectives to their full extent and benefits achievable beyond the Intermediate Plan.

If proponents are unable to outline three different implementation plans, they must explain the reasons in detail. In any case, an Essential Plan must be provided!

- Include sufficient alternate drill sites as safety or site characterisation concerns may preclude drilling at one or more primary sites either before or during operations. This is an essential element of a Full Proposal.
- Discuss required % core recovery rate(s) as a function of depth and highlight particular target zones in order to achieve the primary objectives of the proposal.
- Address the impact on the science if required recovery is not achieved.
- Discuss the expected scientific outcomes of drilling and subsequent work required to complete the overall project.
- Describe any requirements for and/or development of advanced and non-standard tools, special sampling techniques, down-hole measurements, borehole observatories or others, and include a funding plan for observatory data recovery, maintenance, and ultimate termination.
- Describe any external funding for non-standard tools.
- Identify any logistical problems, e.g., permitting issues, extreme weather, ice conditions, piracy, etc.
- Describe briefly any relationships to other international geoscience programmes and/or initiatives.
- Provide a detailed response to the joint IODP³-ICDP review(s) of previous versions of the proposal via the **Response to SEP Reviews webform**.
- For **offshore sites**, please note that if the proposal is selected for drilling, sites will also need to be approved by the IODP³ Safety and Environment Advisory (SEA) Group.
- For **onshore sites**, include:
 - A detailed budget including at least two full quotes from drilling contractors. These should include costs for site preparation, drilling, down-hole measurements, on-site sample handling and analyses, down-hole monitoring, logistics/travel, etc., and should separately classify costs as contracts, consumables, and services (such as mobilisation/demobilisation), as well as time-dependent services in different phases.

- A detailed technical plan and a permitting plan with details of the authority that grants permission for drilling. Note: ICDP categorizes a project according to its technical complexity and requires different degrees of technical planning for executive operations.
- A detailed drilling, testing and logging schedule or timetable.
- A project management plan, defining roles and responsibilities for key personnel and identifying all proponents in essential scientific and operational aspects of the project.
- An Education and Outreach Plan defining implementation and individual responsibilities.
- Up to 50% of the Expedition Science Team for land site drilling may be specified - this list of names should be included within the Main Text of the proposal.

4.7. Implementation of an Approved Land-to-Sea Proposal

If the Full L2S Proposal is reviewed favourably by the ICDP-SAG and the IODP³ SEP, it may be forwarded to the Executive Committee (EC) and Assembly of Governors (AOG) in ICDP and the IODP³ MSP-FB for possible implementation. At this point, issues of coordination between the onshore and offshore drilling components are discussed between the MSP-FB and ICDP Operational Support Group (OSG).

5. Additional Information

5.1. Proposal Ratings

The SEP grades scientific drilling proposals according to the criteria described as follows:

- **Transformative Proposal:** The proposal addresses science that is likely to transform our understanding of globally-significant processes, help to define new approaches to scientific ocean drilling science, and/or is likely to lead to a step-change in resolving scientific problems or controversies, especially those of high societal relevance. The proposal has the highest potential for new discoveries and breakthroughs and/or for opening or defining exciting new avenues of research. It should be implemented if feasible to do so.
- **Excellent Proposal:** The proposal addresses science considered of very wide importance. It tackles new and exciting scientific problems, or it will take novel approaches to existing problems that remain unresolved/controversial. The proposal has strong potential for new discoveries and breakthroughs and most likely will open new avenues of research. It should be implemented if feasible to do so.
- **Very Good Proposal:** The proposal addresses science considered of probable wide importance. It will significantly advance understanding of existing scientific problems. Compared to 'Excellent' proposals, 'Very Good' proposals have reduced potential for major new discoveries but will produce datasets to address globally important scientific problems. It should be implemented if feasible to do so.
- **Good Proposal:** The proposal has potential for producing good scientific results. The scientific problems to be addressed are important, but potentially more regional in nature. Compared to 'Excellent' and 'Very Good' proposals, 'Good' proposals address more mature scientific problems with limited potential for major new discoveries, but they are still likely to produce important datasets and result in important refinements of existing scientific concepts. It should be seriously considered for implementation if it can be incorporated into long-term efforts and platform schedules.
- **Fair Proposal:** The proposal falls behind in terms of excitement and potential for discovery. The research may still be able to provide important, complementary data sets that can help fill specific niches, but is unlikely to move the field of research significantly forward, or to lead

to new avenues of research. Nevertheless, the proposal may contain elements that, if fit into other proposals or other planned drilling activities (e.g., regional proximity), could provide a solid scientific return for a limited programme investment, and therefore might be considered for (partial) implementation at some point.

5.2. Proposed Drilling/Coring Site Names

IODP³ follows a uniform system for naming proposed drilling/coring sites whereby any seafloor site ever considered for possible drilling/coring receives a unique name. **Incorrect site names are the single largest reason that proposals fail compliance checks.** Site names must strictly conform to the general format AAAAA-nnX, where AAAAA represents a string of two to five alphabetic characters referring to the geographic area of the proposed drilling/coring site, nn represents the specific two-digit site number within that area (always preceded with a 0 for site numbers less than ten, e.g., WLSHE-01A), and X represents a capital alphabetic character indicating the version of a specific site. For all newly proposed sites, site names thus end with X=A. For the second version of a site (if necessary) the site names end with X=B, etc. Proponents are encouraged to check site names with the IODP³-SO in advance of completing Site Forms and proposal documents.

Sites cannot be moved after they are submitted as part of a proposal unless they are renamed. Sites that are shifted a small distance and have the same scientific objective should be named by incrementing the X. New sites that are further away geographically or have a different scientific objective should have a new AAAAA or nn in the site name. Designated primary and alternate site names should not encode any indicators of relative priority, because site priorities often change as a proposal develops and matures. Alternate sites must have unique site names by changing nn or AAAAA (but not X). For example, PIG-03B refers to the second (hence “B”) proposed location of Site 3 in Pigafetta Basin. PIG-04A could represent a newly proposed alternate site for PIG-03B.

5.3. Definition of an Alternate Site

An important way to mitigate the risk of not reaching the scientific objectives of an expedition is through operational and scientific alternate sites. An operational alternate site offers an alternative location where scientific objectives similar to the primary site can be achieved. The site data should be interpreted so that it is clear the site can act as an alternate to the primary site. It should be sufficiently far from the primary site such that the same operational problems would be unlikely or less likely to occur. Ideally, an operational alternate site would offer a lower probability of operational problems than the primary site (e.g., shallower target depths or differing sea ice conditions), providing the opportunity to meet similar objectives if problems are encountered at the primary site. Additional alternate sites should also be proposed in the event that additional operational time becomes available.

A scientific alternate site offers an alternative location for cases where an underlying assumption of the primary site proves incorrect, such as stratigraphic intervals being different than anticipated in lithology or age so that expedition goals are not served, errors in depth estimates to targets (based on seismic velocities) resulting in untenable drilling/coring times, or if engineering requirements to obtain a scientific objective cannot be met (e.g., inability to re-enter a previous scientific drilling hole in order to deepen it or an observatory installation encounters challenges at the primary site).

5.4. Geographic Coordinates

IODP³ uses the WGS 84 reference system for all geographic coordinates. Any geographic coordinates presented in documents or data submitted to IODP³ must use WGS 84 and be written in decimal degrees, to the 4th decimal place if possible.

5.5. The Site Characterisation Database (SCDB)

The Site Characterisation Database (SCDB) is the official digital repository for all site characterisation data related to a particular proposal or expedition. Proponents submit to the SCDB via the IODP³ Gateway (accessed from <https://www.iodp3.org>). Required data types and acceptable file formats are explained in full in the [Guidelines for Site Characterisation Data](#).

5.6. Science Communication Planning

Proponents of drilling proposals will provide valuable information in the **Science Communication Plain Language Summary** section of the IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet webform and the **Science Communication webform** (Full drilling proposals only). This information is used to support the development of expedition communication plans and other IODP³ outreach goals. The Science Communication Plain Language Summary asks proponents: “Describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience.” This section is intended to provide a non-technical summary of a proposal’s research and societal impacts; it is not intended to include specific outreach activities. Proposals should consider the unique aspects of their proposed research or drilling plan in writing their summary. The Science Communication Plain Language Summary will be evaluated during the standard proposal review process, with proponents of drilling/coring proposals receiving feedback and advice on how to improve their summary (e.g., by speaking with communication specialists within IODP³).

The **Science Communication Form webform**, required for Full drilling proposals, asks if the proposal builds on past scientific ocean drilling/coring experience or knowledge. Proposals do not have to build on past scientific ocean drilling legs/expeditions to be successful, but this information is useful in structuring a broader communication strategy. The Science Communication Form prompts are:

- Does this proposal build on previous scientific ocean drilling legs/expeditions from which a wider communications narrative could be built? If so, please provide the leg/expedition number(s).
- Do articles or media about this research already exist in the popular press or general interest literature? If so, please provide references, with links if available.
- Do contacts exist already to local communities and populations? If so, names, mail addresses and details on the exchange need to be provided.

Proponent responses to these sections will be available to PMOs, funders, IODP³ Operators, and/or others as they develop education, outreach, and communication activities.

5.7. Success Criteria and Risk Analysis

The topics of success, risk, and cost are closely related to each other (e.g., likelihood of success depends on risk, steps to mitigate risk will affect cost). Proponents of drilling proposals should describe their success criteria with benchmark steps, scientific and operational risks, and mitigation strategies by answering the following prompts in the **Success Criteria and Risk Analysis webform** on the IODP³ Gateway system:

- Define your minimum criteria for achieving both scientific and operational success.
- What are the primary risks to not achieving your scientific and operational success?
- What factors in your proposal (e.g., operational and scientific alternate sites) mitigate these risks?

Outlining these elements will require proponents to communicate with the IODP³ Operators at an early stage of the proposal writing process. The IODP³ Operators may set a deadline prior to the proposal submission deadline for beginning these discussions to ensure enough time for analysis.

5.8. The Site Figure for Offshore Drill Sites

For all Full Proposals, a Site Figure must be prepared for each proposed primary and alternate drilling/coring site and uploaded via the **Site Figures webform** the IODP³ Gateway. While the Site Figure does not substitute for submitting data files to the SCDB, it gives a quick overview of the quality of the SCDB files for each proposed drill site. Proponents must create each Site Figure as a single-page PDF document (see the representative example below) that contains the following elements, depending on data availability:

- A label identifying the document as the Site Figure and **indicating the site name**. The site name should also be included in the PDF file name.
- For any displayed data that have not been submitted to the SCDB yet, the form should specify when the data will be uploaded into the SCDB.
- A clearly annotated map showing all relevant details around the proposed drilling/coring site, including:
 - seafloor bathymetry, with labelled contours or a depth scale
 - the exact site location
 - track charts for the key seismic lines, annotated at regular intervals with the same horizontal unit (e.g., CDP (common depth point), shot-point number, etc.) as the accompanying seismic profiles
 - a distance scale if not apparent from the horizontal and vertical annotation.
- Two versions for each seismic line that crosses the proposed drilling/coring site where appropriate. The first version should include an annotated vertical line showing the location (e.g., Site ABC-01A, CDP 4871) and penetration time (or depth using best depth-to-time conversion) of the proposed drilling/coring site; this version may also show an interpretation of the seismic data. The second version should show the same image as the first version, but without showing the drilling/coring site or any interpretation.
- Each seismic profile should indicate the name and orientation (e.g., NW–SE) of the survey line, have well-annotated horizontal and vertical axes, including a horizontal scale bar in kilometres, and have sufficient resolution to show the relevant structure imaged by the data.

Site Figure IODP proposal 834-Full Site AP-03A

coordinates: -41.2631989/ 26.3272991

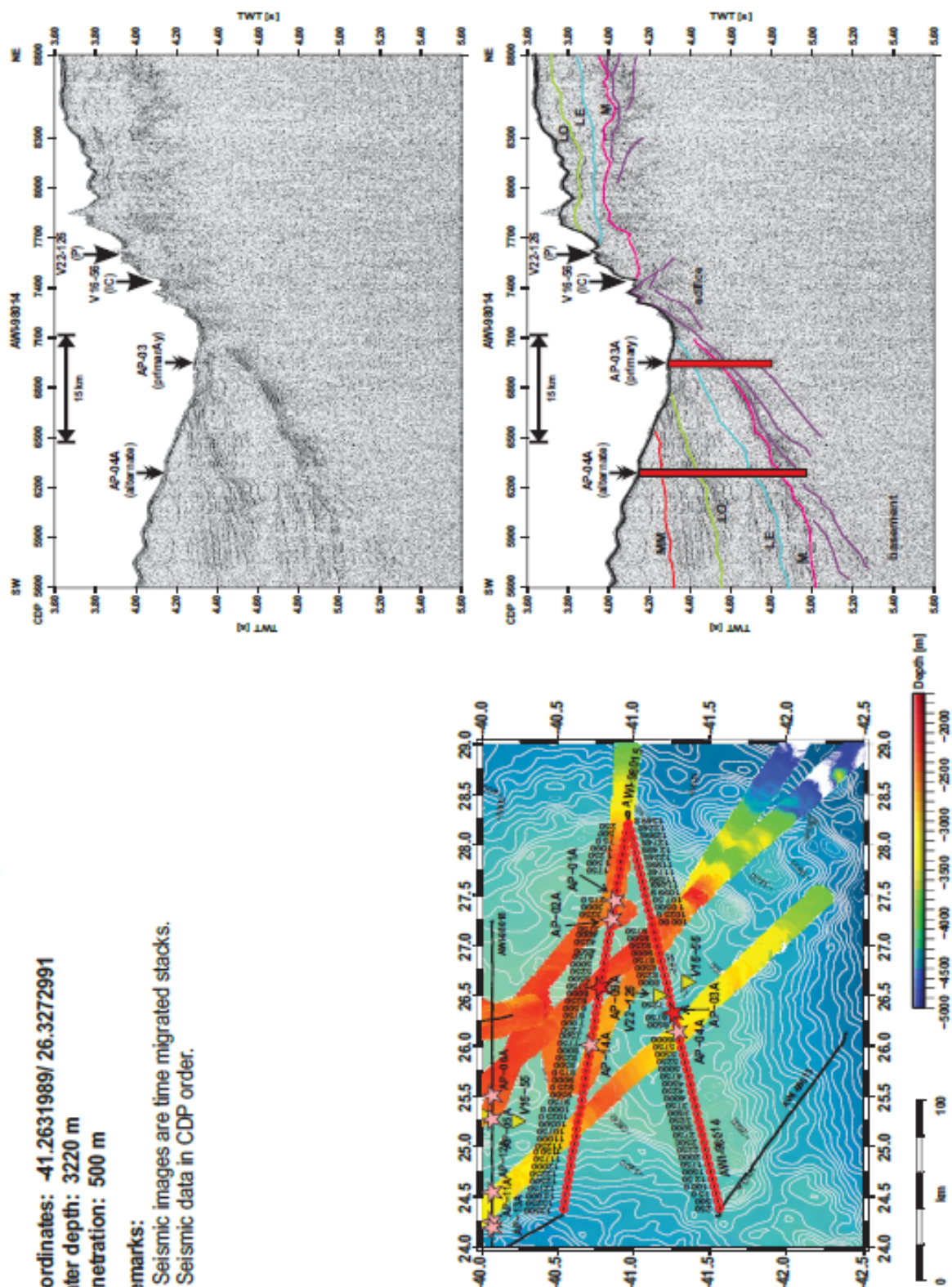
water depth: 3220 m

penetration: 500 m

Remarks:

⚠ Seismic images are time migrated stacks.

⚠ Seismic data in CDP order.

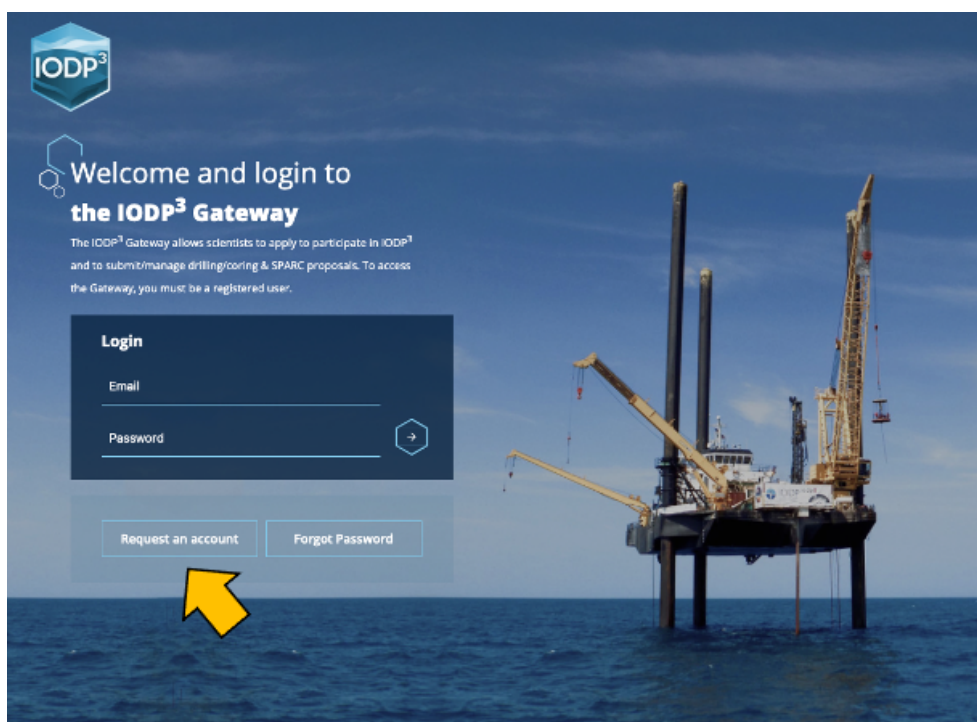


Example of a Site Figure

6. Using the IODP³ Gateway System for Submission of Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals

6.1. Requesting an IODP³ Gateway account

The IODP³ Gateway log-in page can be accessed via **Submit a Proposal** on the IODP³ website, or directly at <https://gateway.iodp3.org>. From there, you can request an IODP³ Gateway account (or login if already registered):



You will then need to complete this registration form and submit your request:

Request

Title

First name *

Last name *

Email address (institution provided) *

Organisation

ORC ID

By submitting this account request, you agree that your contact information may be viewed by other users of the platform.

Send Request

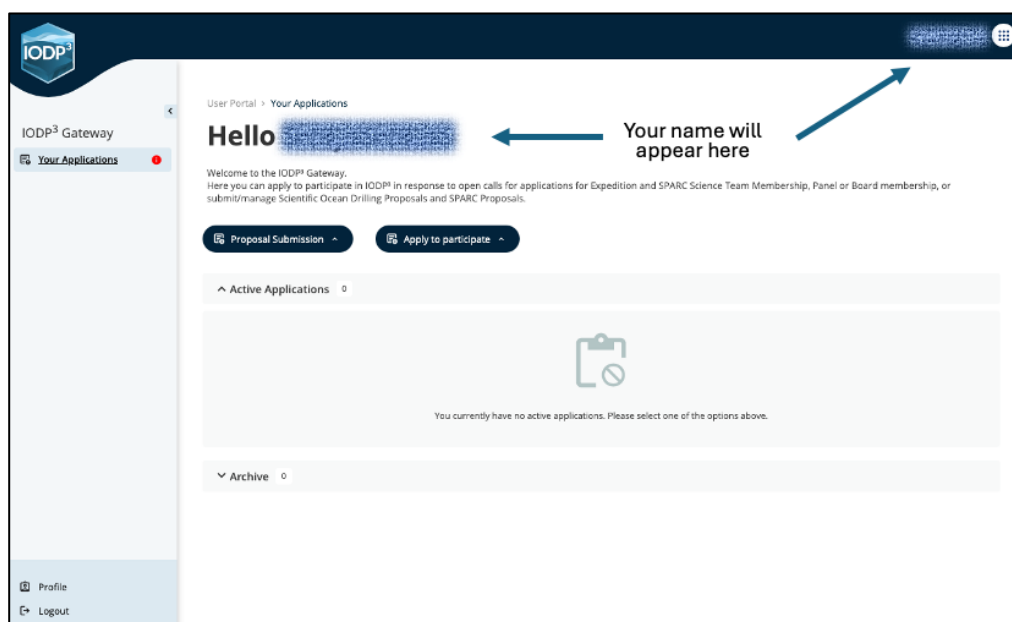
NOTE: Registration is faster using a university/institutional email address. Registration using a generic email address (e.g. Gmail) is possible but requires validation by the IODP³ Science Office.

After you click “Send Request”, you will receive an email asking you to validate your account and set up your IODP³ Gateway account password. This email may take some time to arrive (**please check your spam folder!**).

If you do not receive an email confirmation within 24 hours then please contact the IODP³ Science Office at enquiries@iodp3.org for assistance.

6.2. Selecting a proposal type to start a submission

Once registered, log-in to the IODP³ Gateway. Your homepage will initially look like this:



Note: Clicking on the “bento box” icon (9 dot grid symbol) in the top-right corner of the Gateway system and on the “IODP³ Gateway” icon that then appears will take you to this homepage at any time

Note: Please ignore the “Research Planning” icon that also pops up when you click on the “bento box” icon as this isn’t used in the IODP³ Gateway within the Marine Facilities Planning software environment.

Click on “**Proposal Submission**”. A pop-up box showing proposal types will appear, and you should click on the required proposal type to begin your submission. This will take you to a page of general information about the selected proposal type, and you then need to work through the webforms listed in the lefthand menu to prepare your submission.

NOTE: You can complete the webforms listed in the left-hand menu in any order, but you must click “Next” to save the content of the current webform. If you select another webform from the left-hand menu without clicking “Next” then your entries on the current webform will not be saved. Please also click on “Next” to save if leaving a session unattended for any length of time as the system will automatically time-out and require a new log-in if left inactive for too long.

6.3. The Submission Webforms







Screenshots of the webforms referred to in Sections 3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.3 and 4.4 are provided below.

6.3.1. Proposal Cover Sheet webform

IODP³ Proposal Cover Sheet

Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposal Title

Type directly into the boxes or cut and paste text from elsewhere







B I U      

Keywords

Provide up to 5 keyword terms related to the proposal







- Keywords -

Broad Geographic Area of the Proposal

B I U      







0 / 10

Abstract

B I U      

0 / 400







Scientific Objectives

B I U      

0 / 250


Science Communication Plain Language Summary

Describe the proposed research and its broader impacts in a way that can be understood by a general audience.

B I U      

0 / 400

←

 Next

35

6.3.2. Proponent Details webform

Proponents

Complete the table. The first line will be partially filled with the details of the person preparing the submission. Use pull-down menus for Country (by affiliation, not nationality), Career Stage, and Proponent Type. Table self-expands to maximum of 20 lines.

Only list details of proponents that have agreed to be named on this proposal submission.

Title	Name	Surname	Country	Email	Organisation	ORC ID	Area Of Expertise	Career Stage	Proponent type	
A	Title	Name	Surname	- select a country -	Email	Organisation	ORC ID	Area Of Expertise	Senior scientist (Over 10 years post-PhD)	Principal Lead Proponent
	Title	Name	Surname	- select a country -	Email	Organisation	ORC ID	Area Of Expertise	Early career researcher (Up to 10 years post-PhD)	Data Lead Proponent
	Title	Name	Surname	- select a country -	Email	Organisation	ORC ID	Area Of Expertise	Early career researcher (Up to 10 years post-PhD)	Science Communications Lead Proponent
	Title	Name	Surname	- select a country -	Email	Organisation	ORC ID	Area Of Expertise	PhD student	Co-Proponent

←

Next

6.3.3. Main Text of the Proposal webform

Main Text of the Proposal

Drag and Drop or Select a PDF file to upload containing the main text of the proposal.
NOTE: It is ESSENTIAL that this is provided as a PDF file. Uploading any other file format (e.g. Microsoft Word files) will result in your submission being incomplete and the proposal text not being received by reviewers.

Please upload a PDF file of the Main Text of the proposal (see the Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals for content requirements).

Figures/tables should be embedded within the text at appropriate points (and not appended to the end of the text).

The Main Text must adhere strictly to the following maximum word limits and numbers of figures/tables:

- Pre-Proposals: =4,500 words (including figure/table captions), = 8 figures/tables
- Full Proposals: =10,000 words (including figure/table captions), = 12 figures/tables
- Land-to-Sea Full Proposals: =12,000 words (including figure/table captions), = 14 figures/tables
- Addenda to Proposals: =4,500 words (including figure/table captions), = 8 figures/tables

Proposals that exceed these limits will be rejected.

Please ensure that the PDF follows the formatting requirements outlined in Section 2.2 of the Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals.

Note: references are provided separately and not included in the proposal text.

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document

←

Next

6.3.4. References webform

References

Drag and Drop or Select a PDF file to upload containing the references.
NOTE: It is ESSENTIAL that this is provided as a PDF file. Uploading any other file format (e.g. Microsoft Word files) will result in your submission being incomplete and the references not being received by reviewers.

Please upload a PDF file containing the references cited in the main text of your proposal (using the Harvard referencing style), ensuring that the document follows the formatting requirements outlined in Section 2.2 of the Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals.

Note: if you are submitting an Addendum to a proposal, you should only include newly-cited references in your uploaded PDF.

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document

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Next

6.3.5. Science Communication webform

Science Communication Form

Type directly into the boxes or cut and paste text from elsewhere

Does this proposal build on previous scientific ocean drilling legs/expeditions from which a wider communications narrative could be built? If so, please provide the leg/expedition number(s):

Format

▼

Default

▼




































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Do articles or media about this research already exist in the popular press or general interest literature? If so, please provide references, with links if available:

Format ▾ **Default** ▾ **B** *I* U **A** ▾

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Do contacts exist already to local communities and populations? If so, names, mail addresses and details on the exchange need to be provided:

Format

▼

Default

▼






























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6.3.6. Success Criteria and Risk Analysis webform

Success Criteria and Risk Analysis Form

Type directly into the boxes or cut and paste text from elsewhere

This form defines your minimum criteria for achieving scientific and operational success, primary risks to success and mitigating factors. Consultation with the IODP³ Operators is necessary for understanding risk and developing mitigation strategies.

Define your minimum criteria for achieving both scientific and operational success:

Format













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What are the primary risks to not achieving your scientific and operational success?:

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x^2

x_2



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What factors in your proposal (e.g., operational and scientific alternate sites) mitigate these risks?:

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x²

x₂

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6.3.7. CVs of Key Proponents webform

Curricula Vitae of Key Proponents

Drag and Drop or Select a PDF file to upload containing the CVs.
NOTE: It is ESSENTIAL that this is provided as a PDF file. Uploading any other file format (e.g. Microsoft Word files) will result in your submission being incomplete and the CVs not being received by reviewers.

- Notes:
- For all forms of Full Proposal, please upload a single PDF file containing two-page CVs or biographical sketches for each of the Principal, Data, and Science Communication Lead Proponents, following the formatting requirements outlined in Section 2.2 of the Submission Guidelines for Scientific Ocean Drilling Proposals.
 - If submitting an Addendum to a proposal, you should only provide CVs in this section if there have been changes to any of the three key proponents.
 - CVs are not required for Preliminary Proposals

Drag and drop document here or...
Select document

Next

6.3.8. Proposed Sites webform

Proposed Sites

Complete the table. Use pull-down menus for Site Type. Table self-expands as rows are completed. **NOTE: This table must be completed before the Operational Information and Site Forms webforms as the site details entered here define the content of those forms.**

Site Name	Site Type	Latitude	Longitude	Water Depth (m)	Proposed penetration			Brief Site-Specific Objectives
					Sediment (m)	Basement (m)	Total (m)	
AM-01A	Primary	30.1523	-40.2569	3,196	56	150	206	Testing Objective 1
AM-02A	Alternate	31.5606	-40.1523	2,812	30	150	180	Testing Objective 1
AM-03A	Primary	30.8845	-41.2658	2,330	86	150	236	Testing Objective 2
Site Name		Latitude	Longitu...	Water De...	Propos...	Propos...		Brief Site-Specific Objectives

Next

6.3.9. Site Location Analysis webform

Note that this webform provides an automated tool for location checking and requires no actions.

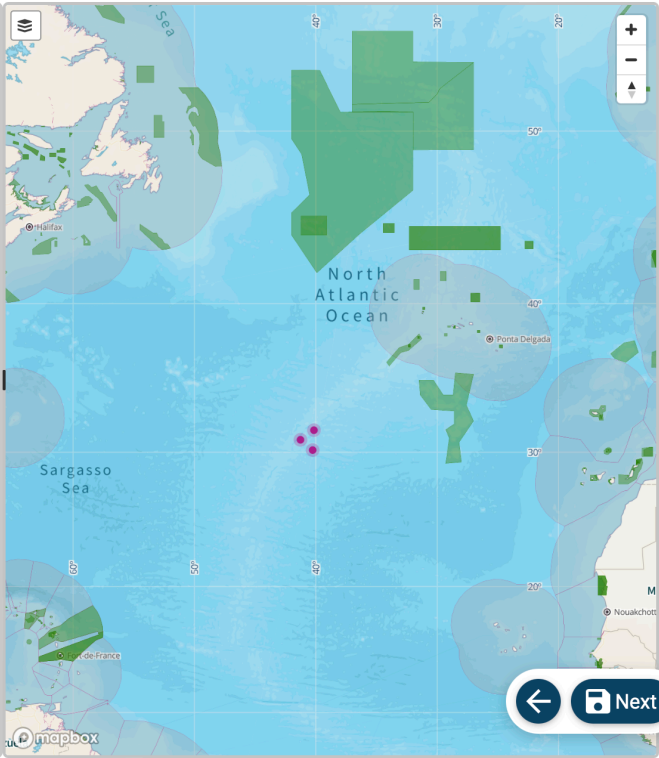
Site Location Analysis

This webform provides a map tool for checking whether the sites entered in the Proposed Sites webform table are correctly located. Sites located in EEZs or Marine Parks will be flagged for information. Ignore the Port info element here... this functionality is not used by the IODP³ Gateway.

The below is a visual summary of your proposed sites and shows the EEZ and Marine Parks. You can view additional map layers. No other action is required on this page.

Preferred Port of Mobilisation: Preferred Port of Demobilisation:
(Lat.; Lon.) (Lat.; Lon.)

#	Station Name	Time	EEZ	MPA	Sea Depth
1	AM-01A	-	-	-	~3,196m
2	AM-02A	-	-	-	~2,812m
3	AM-03A	-	-	-	~2,330m



6.3.10. Operational Information webform

Operational Information

Complete the matrix, consisting of one column per site (you may need to scroll sideways if there are many sites in your proposal - only three are shown here for illustration purposes). Penetration data will pre-fill from the Proposed Sites webform

Basic information

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
Proposed penetration - sediments (m)	Proposed penetration - sediments (m)	Proposed penetration - sediments (m)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Proposed penetration - basement (m)	Proposed penetration - basement (m)	Proposed penetration - basement (m)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total penetration (m)	Total penetration (m)	Total penetration (m)
0	0	0
Total sediment thickness (m)	Total sediment thickness (m)	Total sediment thickness (m)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
If an alternate site, which primary site does it substitute for?	If an alternate site, which primary site does it substitute for?	If an alternate site, which primary site does it substitute for?
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
List previous drilling in this area (if any)	List previous drilling in this area (if any)	List previous drilling in this area (if any)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Drilling/coring plan

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
Brief description of drilling/coring plan	Brief description of drilling/coring plan	Brief description of drilling/coring plan
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> APC	<input type="checkbox"/> APC	<input type="checkbox"/> APC
<input type="checkbox"/> XCB	<input type="checkbox"/> XCB	<input type="checkbox"/> XCB
<input type="checkbox"/> RCB	<input type="checkbox"/> RCB	<input type="checkbox"/> RCB
<input type="checkbox"/> Re-entry required	<input type="checkbox"/> Re-entry required	<input type="checkbox"/> Re-entry required
<input type="checkbox"/> PCS	<input type="checkbox"/> PCS	<input type="checkbox"/> PCS

Wireline logging plan - standard measurements

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> WL	<input type="checkbox"/> WL	<input type="checkbox"/> WL
<input type="checkbox"/> Porosity	<input type="checkbox"/> Porosity	<input type="checkbox"/> Porosity
<input type="checkbox"/> Density	<input type="checkbox"/> Density	<input type="checkbox"/> Density
<input type="checkbox"/> Gamma ray	<input type="checkbox"/> Gamma ray	<input type="checkbox"/> Gamma ray
<input type="checkbox"/> Resistivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Resistivity	<input type="checkbox"/> Resistivity
<input type="checkbox"/> Sonic	<input type="checkbox"/> Sonic	<input type="checkbox"/> Sonic
<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (resistivity)	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (resistivity)	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (resistivity)
<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (zero offset)	<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (zero offset)	<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (zero offset)
<input type="checkbox"/> Formation temperature and pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation temperature and pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation temperature and pressure

Wireline logging plan - special tools

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetic susceptibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetic susceptibility	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetic susceptibility
<input type="checkbox"/> Borehole temperature	<input type="checkbox"/> Borehole temperature	<input type="checkbox"/> Borehole temperature
<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (acoustic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (acoustic)	<input type="checkbox"/> Formation imagery (acoustic)
<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (walkaway)	<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (walkaway)	<input type="checkbox"/> VSP (walkaway)
<input type="checkbox"/> LWD	<input type="checkbox"/> LWD	<input type="checkbox"/> LWD
Other tools	Other tools	Other tools
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Estimated operational days

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
Drilling/Coring	Drilling/Coring	Drilling/Coring
Logging	Logging	Logging
Total on site 0	Total on site 0	Total on site 0
Long-term borehole observatory plan/re-entry plan	Long-term borehole observatory plan/re-entry plan	Long-term borehole observatory plan/re-entry plan

Potential drilling/coring hazards

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Shallow gas <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrocarbon <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow water flow <input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Objects (e.g. seafloor cables, dump sites) <input type="checkbox"/> H2S <input type="checkbox"/> CO2 <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated seabed condition <input type="checkbox"/> Soft seabed <input type="checkbox"/> Currents <input type="checkbox"/> Fracture zone <input type="checkbox"/> Fault <input type="checkbox"/> High dip angle <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrothermal activity <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide and turbidity current <input type="checkbox"/> Gas hydrate <input type="checkbox"/> Diapir and mud volcano <input type="checkbox"/> High temperature <input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions Sensitive marine habitat (e.g. reefs, vents)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shallow gas <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrocarbon <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow water flow <input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Objects (e.g. seafloor cables, dump sites) <input type="checkbox"/> H2S <input type="checkbox"/> CO2 <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated seabed condition <input type="checkbox"/> Soft seabed <input type="checkbox"/> Currents <input type="checkbox"/> Fracture zone <input type="checkbox"/> Fault <input type="checkbox"/> High dip angle <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrothermal activity <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide and turbidity current <input type="checkbox"/> Gas hydrate <input type="checkbox"/> Diapir and mud volcano <input type="checkbox"/> High temperature <input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions Sensitive marine habitat (e.g. reefs, vents)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shallow gas <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrocarbon <input type="checkbox"/> Shallow water flow <input type="checkbox"/> Abnormal pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Objects (e.g. seafloor cables, dump sites) <input type="checkbox"/> H2S <input type="checkbox"/> CO2 <input type="checkbox"/> Complicated seabed condition <input type="checkbox"/> Soft seabed <input type="checkbox"/> Currents <input type="checkbox"/> Fracture zone <input type="checkbox"/> Fault <input type="checkbox"/> High dip angle <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrothermal activity <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide and turbidity current <input type="checkbox"/> Gas hydrate <input type="checkbox"/> Diapir and mud volcano <input type="checkbox"/> High temperature <input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions Sensitive marine habitat (e.g. reefs, vents)
Other	Other	Other

Assessment of pollution and safety hazards

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
Hydrocarbon occurrences based on previous scientific drilling	Hydrocarbon occurrences based on previous scientific drilling	Hydrocarbon occurrences based on previous scientific drilling
Commercial drilling in this area that produced or yielded significant hydrocarbon shows	Commercial drilling in this area that produced or yielded significant hydrocarbon shows	Commercial drilling in this area that produced or yielded significant hydrocarbon shows
Indications of gas hydrates at this location	Indications of gas hydrates at this location	Indications of gas hydrates at this location
Are there other reasons to expect hydrocarbon accumulations at this site?	Are there other reasons to expect hydrocarbon accumulations at this site?	Are there other reasons to expect hydrocarbon accumulations at this site?
What special precautions will be taken during drilling/coring?	What special precautions will be taken during drilling/coring?	What special precautions will be taken during drilling/coring?
What abandonment procedures need to be followed?	What abandonment procedures need to be followed?	What abandonment procedures need to be followed?
Natural or manmade hazards that may affect ship operations	Natural or manmade hazards that may affect ship operations	Natural or manmade hazards that may affect ship operations
Summary: what do you consider the major risks of drilling at this site?	Summary: what do you consider the major risks of drilling at this site?	Summary: what do you consider the major risks of drilling at this site?

Available site survey data types

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (primary)	<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (primary)	<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (crossing)	<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (crossing)	<input type="checkbox"/> High-resolution seismic reflection (crossing)
<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (primary)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (primary)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (primary)
<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (crossing)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (crossing)	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep penetration seismic reflection (crossing)
<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic velocity	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic velocity	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic velocity
<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic grid
<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (surface)	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (surface)	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (surface)
<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (bottom)	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (bottom)	<input type="checkbox"/> Seismic refraction (bottom)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment echo-sounder	<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment echo-sounder	<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment echo-sounder
<input type="checkbox"/> Swath bathymetry	<input type="checkbox"/> Swath bathymetry	<input type="checkbox"/> Swath bathymetry
<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (surface)	<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (surface)	<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (surface)
<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (bottom)	<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (bottom)	<input type="checkbox"/> Side looking sonar (bottom)
<input type="checkbox"/> Photography or video	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography or video	<input type="checkbox"/> Photography or video
<input type="checkbox"/> Heat flow	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat flow	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat flow
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Magnetics
<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravity
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment cores	<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment cores	<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment cores
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Rock sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> Rock sampling
<input type="checkbox"/> Water current data	<input type="checkbox"/> Water current data	<input type="checkbox"/> Water current data
<input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice conditions
<input type="checkbox"/> OBS microseismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> OBS microseismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> OBS microseismicity
<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation
Other	Other	Other

Expected stratigraphy

AM-01A (Primary)	AM-02A (Alternate)	AM-03A (Primary)
Provide the following information (one line per interval): sub-bottom depth range (m); Nature of base of interval (reflector/unconformity/fault); Predicted age of interval; Assumed seismic velocity (km/s); Predicted lithology; Additional comments (if any)	Provide the following information (one line per interval): sub-bottom depth range (m); Nature of base of interval (reflector/unconformity/fault); Predicted age of interval; Assumed seismic velocity (km/s); Predicted lithology; Additional comments (if any)	Provide the following information (one line per interval): sub-bottom depth range (m); Nature of base of interval (reflector/unconformity/fault); Predicted age of interval; Assumed seismic velocity (km/s); Predicted lithology; Additional comments (if any)

6.3.11. Site Figures webform

Site Figures

For each proposed site, Drag and Drop or Select a PDF file to upload containing the Site Figure.
NOTE: It is ESSENTIAL that these are provided as PDF files. Uploading any other file format (e.g. JPEG, PNG) will result in your submission being incomplete and the Site Figures not being received by reviewers.
Ensure that each Site Figure includes the site name in the figure and in the PDF filename.

AM-01A

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document

AM-02A

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document

AM-03A

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document



6.3.12. Response to SEP Reviews webform

Response to SEP Reviews

Drag and Drop or Select a PDF file to upload containing your response to review comments.
NOTE: It is ESSENTIAL that this is provided as a PDF file. Uploading any other file format (e.g. Microsoft Word files) will result in your submission being incomplete and your response not being received by reviewers.

For revised submissions only, please upload a PDF file summarising how you have addressed specific points raised in previous SEP reviews (i.e., what has changed from previous versions of the proposal, using = 300 words per point).

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document



6.3.13. ICDP Support webform

Summary of Support Requested from ICDP

Please upload a two-page PDF summarising the support requested from ICDP for onshore drilling

Drag and drop document here or...

Select document



6.3.14. Summary webform

Summary webform

Dear [redacted]

Please review your draft application form below, and submit the application should it be complete, or save for later should you wish to make further edits prior to submission.

Download Combined PDF

Save but don't submit

Submit Application

IODP³ Drilling/Coring Proposal Submission

This final webform provides an overview of your proposal (not shown in the screenshot). This on-screen summary excludes the content of the uploaded PDFs but the complete proposal can be seen in the Combined PDF (see below).

There are also three buttons with the following functions:

- **Download Combined PDF:** This downloads a single PDF to your computer that contains all of your responses to the webforms, **with the content of the uploaded PDFs appended at the end**. You can use this to review your whole proposal before further editing at any time or to download a copy of your finalised proposal prior to submitting.
- **Save but don't submit:** Use this to save your proposal between Gateway sessions. Your proposal will then appear on your Gateway homepage under “Active Applications” and can be reopened from there.

Submit Application: Click this to submit only when you are certain you are happy with your proposal. Once clicked, the proposal will still appear under “Active Applications” on your Gateway homepage, but you will only be able to view it and not edit it further.