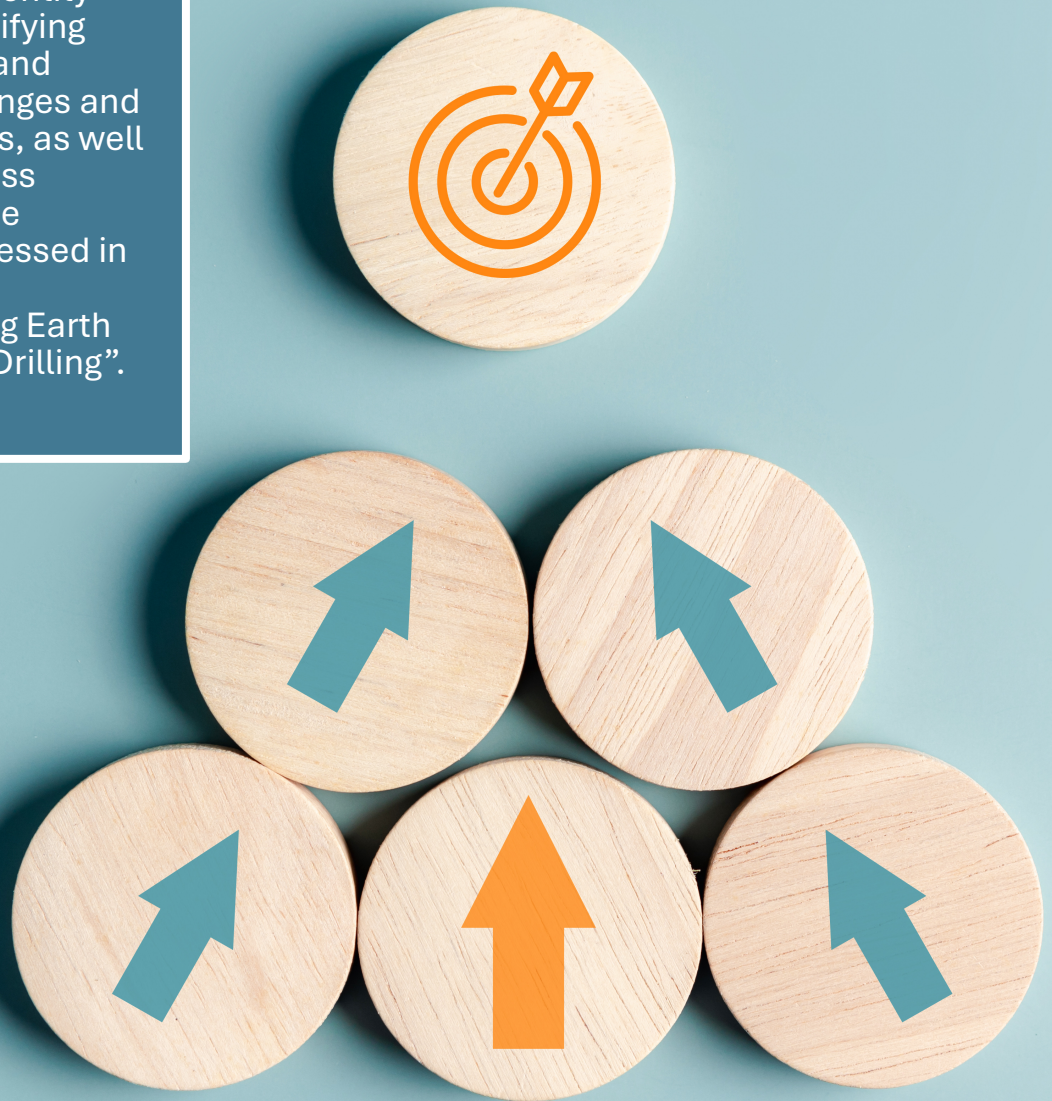


The IODP³ Vision Task Force (VTF) is the strategic entity responsible for identifying long-term scientific and technological challenges and funding opportunities, as well as monitoring progress towards achieving the scientific vision expressed in the “2050 Science Framework: Exploring Earth by Scientific Ocean Drilling”.



Vision Task Force

Terms of Reference



INTERNATIONAL OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAMME

Vision Task Force (VTF) Terms of Reference

1. General Purpose

The Vision Task Force (VTF) will be the strategic entity responsible for identifying long-term scientific and technological challenges and funding opportunities, as well as monitoring progress towards achieving the scientific vision expressed in the “*2050 Science Framework: Exploring Earth by Scientific Ocean Drilling*”.

2. Mandate

The main tasks of the VTF will be to:

- give general direction to IODP³ and help to develop its long-term planning, scientific and operational strategies.
- consider the impact and/or translational benefits of IODP³ science to society.
- discuss emerging scientific and technological challenges and advise other IODP³ entities on how best to meet these challenges and benefit from them.
- identify potential new partners, including commercial companies, and potential in-kind contributions, and engage in appropriate actions to explore associated benefits to IODP³ and to scientific drilling in general.
- consider and assess the progress made by IODP³ towards the vision of the “*2050 Science Framework*”, and review and improve procedures to maximise the scientific return from budgets.
- identify synergies with other programmes/initiatives with similar scientific objectives.

In delivering this mandate, the VTF will have no decision-making powers on IODP³ implementation, but instead will develop and present recommendations to the other IODP³ entities for their consideration and potential adoption/ratification.

3. Membership

The VTF will consist of representatives (normally Directors/Deputy Directors, Co-Chairs) of EMA, ESSAC, ESO, BCR, ECORD Council, JAMSTEC, J-DESC, MarE3, KCC, MEXT, MSP-FB, SEP, and the IODP³-SO.

The VTF will also include:

- single representatives from each IODP³ Associate Member.
- external invited participants from different entities/disciplines/programmes on an *ad hoc* basis.

4. Meetings

Meetings of the VTF will be held virtually (with an *ad-hoc* Chair) to ensure speed and flexibility in response to changing circumstances. Meetings will be held annually before the MSP-FB meeting. Additional *ad hoc* meetings may be scheduled as required.

5. Recommendations

Recommendations affecting IODP³ should be formulated by consensus between all members of the VTF, but recommendations affecting only ECORD or Japan may be based on consensus between their respective representatives.