

The IODP³ Communications Task Force (CTF) is the entity responsible for the communication and promotion of the scientific and operational activities and of the achievements of IODP³. The CTF coordinates IODP³ outreach, public information and educational activities.

Communications Task Force Terms of Reference



**INTERNATIONAL
OCEAN DRILLING
PROGRAMME**

Change Log

Date of approval of Version 1.2: 5 June 2026

Approved by: IODP³ Executive Board (Consensus Item 2026-06-11)

List of changes:

- **Section 2:** Change from J-DESC to J-SSO (Japan Scientific Ocean Drilling Support Office) in the 4th bullet point
- **Section 2:** Addition of the following bullet point to the CTF mandate to reflect current practice for the selection of Science Communicators for offshore expeditions:
 - receive, evaluate and rank applications for expedition Science Communicators and provide nomination proposals to the relevant IODP³ Operator for final selection
- **Section 3:** Addition of representatives from J-SSO to the CTF membership
- **Section 3:** Addition of the Director of the IODP³ Managing Agency to the CTF membership to correct an omission in the original document.

Communications Task Force (CTF) Terms of Reference

1. General Purpose

The Communications Task Force (CTF) will be the entity responsible for the communication and promotion of scientific and operational activities and the achievements of IODP³. The CTF will coordinate IODP³ outreach/public information and educational activities.

2. Mandate

The main tasks of the CTF will be to:

- inform the general public and the scientific community about the scientific results and technological advances achieved by IODP³ and potential partner programmes.
- ensure that communications concerning the scientific and operational accomplishments of IODP³ are presented in a manner commensurate with a unified single program.
- promote programmatic activities via the IODP³ website, social media channels, information databases, publications, reports, exhibition booths, MSP expedition publications and press releases.
- assist ESSAC, J-SSO and Associate Member PMOs in the promotion of their respective Distinguished Lecturer Programmes, training events and grant/scholarship schemes, and the promotion of IODP³-related conferences and workshops.
- create, promote, and facilitate international sharing of outreach materials related to IODP³ activities.
- receive, evaluate and rank applications for expedition Science Communicators and provide nomination proposals to the relevant IODP³ Operator for final selection

3. Membership

The CTF meetings will be co-chaired by the ECORD and MarE3 Communications Coordinators. Membership will consist of:

- the Director of the IODP³ Managing Agency
- the Communications Coordinator of the ECORD Managing Agency (EMA), the ESSAC Science Coordinator, and representatives from the ECORD Science Operator (ESO).
- representatives from J-SSO, J-DESC and JAMSTEC/MarE3.
- representatives from IODP³ Associate Members.
- the Director/Co-Directors of the IODP³-SO and their nominated staff.

4. Liaisons

Liaisons from other international geoscience initiatives (e.g. the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program) may also attend CTF meetings by invitation.

5. Meetings

The CTF will normally meet twice a year, in hybrid mode. Additional virtual meetings may be held when necessary. One hybrid meeting will be organised by EMA, the other by JAMSTEC.

6. Recommendations

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