

Input from IWG+ to INVEST:

Scope of the Program

1. The new drilling program will maintain and develop international co-operation.
2. The new drilling program is open to a broad range of scientific communities and program collaborations (including geosciences and others).
3. In principle, the program will be 10 years.

Science Plan

4. Output of INVEST will be used by the Science Plan Writing Group to write the new science plan, which will define the strategy for the new program.
5. The new science plan must emphasize science relevant to society.
6. The new science plan will have to include firm deliverables, yet be flexible to include emerging science.

Science Community Input

7. The scientific community should consider ambitious, transformative new science for the new drilling program.
8. In addition to identifying new opportunities for the program, the scientific community is challenged to develop the key strategic themes that will underpin the funding case for international ocean drilling post-2013.
9. The scientific community must prioritize its science objectives.

Platforms

10. The scientific community should assume that the JOIDES Resolution (JR), the Chikyu and Mission Specific Platforms (MSPs) will be available to the new program with the following estimated guidelines for the first 5 years: JR: 35-60 months; Chikyu: around 25 months; MSPs: at least 5 expeditions.
11. The scientific community should consider what science can be done based on the unique and emerging capabilities of each platform and technological developments.
12. The scientific community should note that the planning processes will have different lead times for each platform and/or scale of projects. In particular, deep drilling projects which require riser capability need a very long lead time, and therefore, a different planning process is necessary where early selection should be made. In this context, the science community is requested to identify attractive candidates for possible riser drilling projects in the new science plan.