



Call for Continental Scientific Drilling Proposals

The International Continental Scientific Drilling Program ([ICDP](#)) invites proposals for pioneering research through continental drilling that will help revealing Earth's history and address global challenges. As a multinational initiative supported by 21 member countries and UNESCO, ICDP offers a unique platform for scientists to address fundamental questions about our planet and pressing societal issues. Projects are encouraged under ICDP's four core themes: [Geodynamic Processes](#), [Geohazards](#), [Georesources](#), and [Environmental Change](#). In the proposal evaluation process ICDP will primarily consider scientific quality and global relevance. Technical and financial aspects as well as equality, gender and contribution of early-career scientists also will be taken into consideration.

With this announcement, the ICDP invites Earth scientists to submit Preliminary Proposals, Workshop Proposals, Full Proposals or Fast-Track Proposals in which continental drilling is required to achieve world-class research goals. This call is open to Principal Investigators from ICDP member countries; international collaboration is encouraged. ICDP Member countries are Australia, Austria, Belgium, China, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

ICDP employs a co-mingled funding principle, typically contributing 5–70% of total project costs, with the remainder sourced from national or international funding agencies or other partners. This model has achieved notable leverage: ICDP has invested roughly US\$60 million in over 60 projects, facilitating more than US\$260 million from additional sources.

ICDP supports projects showing strong scientific merit, international collaboration, and clear societal relevance. All proposals should align with the ICDP Science Plan and may include land–sea drilling in partnership with the International Ocean Drilling Programme ([IODP](#)³). Principal Investigators who plan to submit a proposal to ICDP in the area of geothermal research are asked to consider the information on [ICDP Geothermal Support](#). PIs who wish to submit a proposal for drilling lacustrine sediments, particularly in East Africa, are strongly encouraged to read the [ICDP Lake Drilling Support](#).

All PIs are encouraged to carefully follow the updated proposal guidelines to make sure proposal meet funding criteria, improve proposal quality and thus increase the chances of success. For detailed proposal guidelines, an explanatory video on how to prepare and submit proposals, and contact information for the ICDP Office, please visit:

<https://www.icdp-online.org/proposals/>

The deadline for submission of all proposals is January 15, 2027. Please submit a single PDF file of less than 10 MB size using the latest proposal cover sheet according to the latest guidelines via e-mail to the ICDP Program Office using: proposal.submission@icdp-online.org.