



## to all our icdp friends

from **Marco Bohnhoff,**  
**icdp Executive Director**

The 2022 ICDP panel meetings have just been completed in Flagstaff/US, where many strategic topics and this years' proposals have been evaluated. The good news is that ICDP is up and in full swing despite the difficulties we were all facing during the last two 'pandemic' years. Along that lines, several ICDP drilling projects are now on the way and either started or will start soon! I wish all scientists, engineers and technicians involved in the many current drilling efforts good luck and every success.

**Keep the drill bit rotating!**

Marco (Bohnhoff) - ICDP Executive Director



## icdp activities

## during spring 2022

### ICDP @ EGU 2022

This years' EGU General Assembly will be held in Vienna from 23 to 27 May 2022, as a hybrid meeting. ICDP representatives will be on-site to meet you at the joined ICDP-IODP booth and during our session. The IODP-ICDP session entitled "Achievements and perspectives in scientific ocean and continental drilling" (SSP1.2) will be held on Tue, 24 May, 08:30–11:44 (CEST) in Room -2.32/33 and online. Following our tradition, we will also hold again the ICDP-IODP/ECORD Town Hall Meeting. It will take place on Tue, 24 May, 18:00 CEST as a pure online event (zoom) and will focus on news from both programs with highlight talks and plenty of time for discussion.

**The meeting-ID for the event is: 838 5213 9544, code: drilling.**

After the Town Hall Meeting, we invite those who will be attending the EGU in Vienna to an informal get-together. Details will be announced in the session, during the Town Hall meeting and at the booth.



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**IODP-ICDP Session "Achievements and perspectives in scientific ocean and continental drilling" (SSP1.2)**  
**TUE, 24 MAY, 08:30-11:44 (CEST) ON-SITE/VIRTUAL**

**ICDP-IODP/ECORD Town Hall Meeting TUE, 24 MAY, 18:00 (CEST) ZOOM**

Meet **icdp** at the booth or virtually!

### ICDP Training Course

After a hiatus of more than two years, we are pleased to announce that an ICDP Training Course will be held between September 25-30, 2022, at the Geocenter KTB in Windischeschenbach (Germany). This training course will touch upon all relevant aspects of continental scientific drilling, including project planning and management, pre-site surveys, drilling engineering, sample handling and storage, on-site studies, downhole logging, data management, post-drilling measures, and outreach. Deadline for application is **3rd July, 2022**. For the successful candidates, expenses including traveling, visa, meals and accommodation will be covered by ICDP. Applications should include a letter of interest, a CV, and at least two letters of support.



There are many active and upcoming projects within ICDP at the moment. One ICDP project currently underway, **BASE (Barberton Archean Surface Environments project)**, is not only very successful in drilling and sampling, but is also very active in outreach and is well received by the scientific community. An article published in *SCIENCE* reports on Earth's oldest living landscape spotted in South African rock cores derived from BASE drilling in Barberton. The BASE project targets precambrian sedimentary strata, the so-called Moodies Group, in the Barberton Greenstone Belt in South Africa. With an age of about 3.22 Ga, the Moodies Group sediments are among the oldest well-preserved shallow water layers in the world. Eight drill holes, five of which have been already completed, will produce up to 500 m core from each hole.



*Impression from one of the BASE drillsites (center image) and activities at the BASE Outreach Center (left and right). Photos: Christoph Heubeck*



Another very active and ongoing drilling project is **GRIND (Geological Research through Integrated Neoproterozoic Drilling: The Ediacaran-Cambrian Transition)**. With a hiatus of 2.5 years GRIND Namibia is back in Namibia and started drilling its last hole in Orange River. Furthermore, GRIND Brazil will start drilling in the next weeks. Also, the third project part, GRIND China, successfully completed its sample and data management training with ICDP and plans to start drilling in the upcoming months. The project targets the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition (ECT; c. 560-530 Ma) strata of Brazil, China and Namibia to create a core network of correlative ECT strata that will enable constructing a highly resolved, temporally constrained geobiological, stratigraphic and geochemical database, as well as provide a legacy archive for future research.

After a pause of several months, the ICDP project **STAR (A Strainmeter Array Along the Alto Tiberina Fault System, Central Italy)** will resume drilling activities this month to drill and instrument the remaining three out of six scheduled boreholes. STAR drills boreholes of 80 to 160 meter depth near Gubbio to address the low-angle fault paradoxon through long-term monitoring of seismic and aseismic deformation using borehole strainmeters, seismometers and fibre—optic cables.

**DIVE (Drilling the Ivrea-Verbano zoneE)**, which will also be drilling in Italy, is expected to start drilling one of the first of the two 1,000 m deep boreholes in summer. The Ivrea-Verbano zone provides a truly unique natural laboratory to fundamentally advance our understanding of the continental lower crust and the crust–mantle transition zone (the “Moho”). Work in the Ivrea-Verbano zone include a combination of geoscientific approaches and scientific drilling.

ICDP projects **DOVE (Drilling Overdeepened Alpine Valleys)** and **EGER Rift** have held in-person post drilling and sampling meetings in Bern (Switzerland) and at the Geothermal Research Centre Ringen in Litomerice (Czech Republic) respectively. Preparations for upcoming drilling is continuing in Denmark (**PVOLC**), in the Amazon Basin in Brasil (**TADP**) and in the Bushveld complex in South Africa (**BVDP**).



*DOVE: Curation and Description of core material originating from a drill site near Bad Aussee (Steiermark, Austria) in the salt mine Altaussee (Salinen Austria AG). Photo: G. Firla*

**Stay safe, stay healthy, keep calm & drill**

**your icdp team from potsdam**