

SCOR-Affiliated Projects and Programs

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SCOR sponsors many major international ocean research projects and programs. Some projects not co-sponsored by SCOR can gain benefits from association with SCOR, such as (1) increased visibility; (2) participation in SCOR activities through project engagement and annual SCOR meetings; (3) opportunities to provide comments on working group proposals; (4) access to national SCOR contacts; and (5) opportunities to apply for SCOR funding for travel of scientists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to their workshops and symposia. In 1995, SCOR developed the option of formal affiliation of relevant projects/programs with SCOR. Unlike projects sponsored by SCOR, affiliated projects and programs receive funding from organizations besides SCOR and do not need staff support from SCOR.

SCOR's role in relation to affiliated projects and programs is one of advice (e.g. about having a balanced geographic, gender, and expertise composition of the steering committee members, and about their periodical renewal mechanism) and annual review. SCOR's national contacts can be used to find new members in regions where there is a need, or to entrain new countries into projects/programs. SCOR can also provide an independent mechanism for the review of planning documents such as science or implementation plans.

Application process

Application to SCOR for project/program affiliation should be initiated with a proposal of 2 to 5 pages, sent to SCOR at least three months before an annual SCOR meeting. The proposal should include an outline of the program's science plan, the terms of reference, current membership of the steering committee, and rotation procedures and schedule. The proposal for SCOR affiliation should also address the following criteria, expanded from the 1995 SCOR Executive Committee meeting (see *1995 SCOR Proceedings*) and approved by the Executive Committee in May 2023:

- show that it is in SCOR's interests to establish this affiliation (e.g. aligns with SCOR's mission of advancing ocean sciences and developing capacity worldwide)
- be of global relevance and broad scale
- have a scientifically well-integrated theme
- demonstrate a benefit from SCOR affiliation
- be truly international, with a committee membership that rotates on a regular basis
- be inclusive, balancing geographic, gender, career stage, expertise representation, addressing Equity-Diversity-Inclusion (EDI) SCOR policies and including Early Career Scientists (ECS) and scientists from developing countries
- show evidence of existing financial and/or organizational support and sponsorship
- show other relevant affiliations (e.g. governmental and/or governmental organizations, academy, industry, sponsors, etc.)

- show that any scheme of membership dues (if applicable) includes some nominal level to encourage the widest possible international participation and that scientists from any country can become a member of the Steering Committee
- be willing to adhere to the SCOR Publication Policy

After an application satisfies the criteria, the SCOR Executive Director will bring it to the Executive Committee at the upcoming SCOR Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee will decide on whether to accept the request for a new affiliation based on the criteria and on the current project management capacity of the SCOR Secretariat.

Reports to SCOR

After a program is affiliated with SCOR, annual reports are required, and scientific presentations will be invited to SCOR Annual Meetings as a basis for the decision on continuing the relationship between SCOR and each project/program. Continued affiliation with SCOR depends on the project meeting the guidelines specified above and maintaining high scientific quality and adequate rotations of committee members and chairs.

Annual reports to SCOR should answer the following questions and present any additional information that the project/program would like to transmit to SCOR:

- What scientific accomplishments have been achieved by the project/program in the past year?
- What is the composition of the project's steering committee and what membership changes have taken place in the past year?
- What is the financial status of the project?
- What is the status of the project's secretariat?
- What are the plans for the scientific development and implementation of the project over the next two to three years?
- How is the project interacting with and contributing to other SCOR activities?

In addition, projects/programs should communicate regularly with their SCOR Executive Committee Rapporteur regarding their activities and progress.

Review and de-affiliation

When an affiliated project/program completes its life, the affiliation to SCOR is automatically terminated. Continuing affiliated projects will be reviewed by the SCOR EC on a yearly basis at SCOR Annual Meetings and recommendations for renewal will be based on the project's performance and relevance to SCOR. If an affiliated project does not satisfy its requirement of affiliation, a one-year extension may be given to improve the project's performance.