

**Endorsed Project Application Form**

# Benefits – Why seek IMBeR endorsement?

## a. Enhanced scientific coordination and cooperation

* Facilitates cooperation with other IMBeR activities, projects and programmes in similar fields and/or addressing similar issues, including through information about IMBeR-related research cruises;
* Provides an international framework to help assimilate, integrate and synthesise the outputs of IMBeR-related research;
* Enhances the scientific value of research through the provision of complementary information, for example, a wider (spatially and temporally) range of studies, or co-authorship of synthesis articles.

## b. Enhanced communication, outreach and visibility

* Swift and wide communication of ideas and outputs via the IMBeR network, workshops, conferences and publications, newsletter, website and mailing list;
* Increased visibility of your project via its description on the IMBeR website, advertising of its activities and outputs, and its annual reporting to IMBeR’s sponsors;
* Other opportunities to communicate and disseminate your project research outputs to other researchers, the public, marine resource managers and policy-advisers or decision-makers;
* Receiving of the IMBeR newsletter as one source of information about IMBeR activities and work of other IMBeR researchers.

## c. Improved funding opportunities

* Provides an international framework for your research, which can help to leverage support and funding;
* Strengthens national funding proposals through links to IMBeR and other IMBeR-endorsed projects;
* Increased access to information related to funding and the science community via the IMBeR contact database.

## d. Strategic involvement and development

* Opportunities for co-organising, co-sponsoring workshops, conferences and meetings organised by IMBeR – a collaborative, internationally recognised project;
* Invitation to submit new ideas and suggestions for workshops, and different types of activities and support.

## e. Improved data management system

* Enhanced scientific value of your project through a cooperative metadata management approach;
* Improved interaction with specialist data centres through the IMBeR Executive Officer (data liaison person);
* Access to data management documentation and training sessions;
* Access to metadatasets collected in IMBeR-related studies, and development of a common data management strategy.

## f. Support in capacity development

* Access to information directly sent to IMBeR-related community about IMBeR summer schools – international, high-quality, innovative training sessions and knowledge exchange fora, for early-career researchers;
* Publication of early-career scientists’ work in the IMBeR newsletter;
* Networking opportunities for early-career researchers;
* Enhanced networking opportunities for early-career researchers with peers and more senior scientists at IMBeR meetings, including through mentoring activities;
* Access to data management documentation and training;
* Access to the IMBeR website for posting and obtaining job vacancies.

# Responsibilities of the leader of an IMBeR-endorsed project

Responsibilities of the leader of an IMBeR-endorsed project are as follows:

* Comply with the IMBeR general principles and goals (see, [IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy](http://www.imber.info/resources/images/prosjekter/imber/IMBeR-Science-Plan-and-Implementation-Strategy-2017.pdf));
* Ensure open access to project data, in accordance with IMBeR principles for international data exchange (see, [IMBeR Data Policy](http://www.imber.info/en/projects/imber/science/working-groups-1/data-management-dm-working-group/imber-data-policy));
* Include key project metadata to the IMBeR metadata portal within six months of project endorsement;
* Acknowledge your project´s affiliation with IMBeR in key products, including the project website and scientific papers (e.g., by including the statement ‘This study is a contribution to the international IMBeR project’ in the acknowledgement section of publications). The IMBeR logo is available upon request;
* Provide a short annual report for the IMBeR Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) on the progress of your project ([Report Template](http://imber.info/resources/images/prosjekter/imber/IMBeR-endorsed-project-Annual-Progress-Report.docx));
* Use the IMBeR outlets (newsletter, website, e-bulletin, …) to inform the community of the project´s progress;
* Collaborate with other members of the IMBeR community to facilitate the synthesis of IMBeR research and expand the IMBeR network of researchers and stakeholders;
* Inform the IMBeR IPO of products and publications resulting from the project;
* Be an ambassador for IMBeR and promote IMBeR activities where appropriate.

# Endorsement criteria, process and guidelines

## Criteria

Project endorsement depends primarily on the project’s relevance to IMBeR science. Activities that seek IMBeR endorsement should address at least one of the IMBeR themes and/or priority topics outlined in the IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy.

In addition, applications for IMBeR endorsement will be considered according to the following criteria:

* High scientific merit / quality;
* Multidisciplinary or integrated perspective;
* Dissemination and outreach that will lead to better public knowledge.

## Process - How to have your research project endorsed by IMBeR

### Projects that are already funded

If your project is already fundedand the research is relevant to areas defined in the IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy, just complete the Endorsement Form and send it to the IMBeR Regional Project Office [imber@ecnu.edu.cn](mailto:imber@ecnu.edu.cn).

Before submitting it, please consider the project’s responsibilities regarding IMBeR’s data management policy and the other items outlined in "Responsibilities" above.

If IMBeR has a national representative in your country, inform him/her about your project (see, IMBeR National Network <http://www.imber.info/science/national-contacts--archive>).

Your request will be considered by the IMBeR Endorsement Committee, which could request additional information. If the project is considered appropriate for IMBeR endorsement, an official letter of notification will be sent to the project leader.

Please note that IMBeR has developed a NASA Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) metadata portal for all IMBeR endorsed projects. Together with the official letter of notification, the project leader will also be asked to complete a form with the metadata information of the project.

### Projects that are not yet funded

Although IMBeR will not endorse projects until they are funded, applications for endorsement are accepted for projects that have not yet secured funding. If approved by the IMBeR Endorsement Committee, an unfunded project will then be eligible for letters of support from IMBeR. Once funding is secured, the project will then be eligible for endorsement, and depending on the project in question, this may require submission of an updated application.

# Letters of support

IMBeR can will provide letters of support for projects that have passed through the endorsement application process, either becoming endorsed projects or those that have been approved but are pending funding. Letters of support will not be issued for projects that have not applied to become an IMBeR-endorsed project.



**Endorsed Project Application Form**

Please answer each question in English and email the application to [imber@ecnu.edu.cn](mailto:imber@ecnu.edu.cn)

1. PROJECT TITLE

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| Full title |  |
| Acronym |  |
| Website |  |
| Keywords (up to 10, describing the project research) |  |

1. APPLICANTS

Lead applicant / Project Leader / key research contact person:

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| --- | --- |
| First name |  |
| Last name |  |
| Affiliation |  |
| Postal address |  |
| Country |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email address |  |
| Institutional or personal website |  |
| Recent, relevant publications (up to six) |  |

Other key participants / research team leaders: *(repeat as needed)*

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| First name |  |
| Last name |  |
| Role in the project |  |
| Affiliation |  |
| Country |  |
| Email address |  |
| Institutional or Personal website |  |

N.B.: Please note that all these names and contact details will be added to the IMBeR membership database.

1. ABSTRACT – Brief description of the project (half page maximum)

This will be placed on the IMBeR website after endorsement.

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1. RESEARCH THEMES and OBJECTIVES (half page maximum)

Please outline the research themes and objectives of the project.

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1. DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH PLAN (one page maximum)
   * + - * Cruises, fieldwork, experiments, and other research activities planned (e.g., modelling, synthesis)
         * Research methodologies (e.g., field observations and survey, remote sensing and proxies, models and inter-comparison, experimental and theoretical approaches)
         * International scope of the project
         * Emphasis on interdisciplinarity and integration

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1. REGION(S) OF STUDY

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1. TIMETABLE of the project

Start date:

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End date:

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Key milestones anticipated (e.g., meetings, fieldwork, reporting, synthesis) *(half page maximum)*

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1. ANTICIPATED RESEARCH OUTPUT (half page maximum)

New scientific knowledge to be delivered.

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1. DATA MANAGEMENT

The project endorsement requires a credible commitment to the timely submission of data to a project database to ensure open access to the data.

Describe the data management strategy adopted in the framework of your project *(half page maximum)*

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1. Will new data be collected as part of this project? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Name and website of the data centre where the project data will be centralized, reported / archived

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1. Contact information for the person in charge of the data management (the Data Scientist). If a Data Scientist has not been appointed, show what steps are being taken to rectify this.

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1. When will your data be submitted?

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Please note that for all IMBeR-endorsed projects, IMBeR has developed its own metadata portal (<http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/KeywordSearch/Home.do?Portal=imber>) within the Global Change Master Directory (GCMD <http://gcmd.nasa.gov/>). Once the project is endorsed, the project leader will also be asked to complete a form with the metadata information of the project.

1. CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN & ACTIVITIES (half page maximum)

Describe education, training, mentoring or capacity building plans and related activities in the project

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1. COMMUNICATION / OUTREACH / DISSEMINATION PLANS (half page maximum)

Describe the plans the project to communicate with various target audiences (e.g., other researchers, early-career researchers, policy advisers and decision makers, general public, NGOs, research funders).

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1. FUNDING

Please note that IMBeR will not endorse unfunded projects.

Has funding been obtained? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate the sources of funding, approached or secured. If no, indicate the sources of funding to be approached, and for which a letter of support from IMBeR is sought.

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1. LINKS TO IMBeR SCIENCE PLAN (half page maximum)

How do you anticipate your project to contribute to the IMBeR strategy and science delivery?

Describe specific issues and questions addressed by your project that are relevant to [IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy](http://www.imber.info/resources/images/prosjekter/imber/IMBeR-Science-Plan-and-Implementation-Strategy-2017.pdf).

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1. LINKAGES WITH OTHER PROJECTS / PROGRAMMES / INITIATIVES

Is the project part of a national activity? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide the activity title and website, if available:

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Is your project part of, or affiliated to, another [SCOR](http://www.scor-int.org/) or [Future Earth](http://www.futureearth.org/) activity or project ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is your project part of, or affiliated to, another marine research activity ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have responded “yes” to any of the two questions above, please indicate which activity or project:

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1. BENEFITS FROM IMBeR ENDORSEMENT (half page maximum)

Specify how the activity would benefit from endorsement, and how the IMBeR SSC could assist.

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