

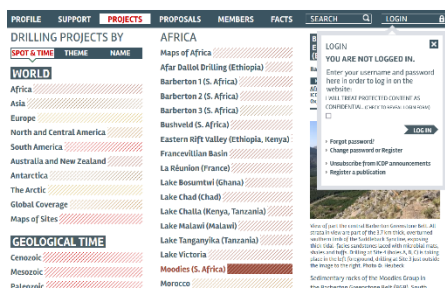


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The pallets with the stacks of working core, residing in the BIAS hall since August, was loaded into two short 20' containers on a truck on Sept. 30 and driven to Durban. From there, the cargo was scheduled to leave on the container ship Santa Cruz (follow it on Vessel Finder) October 3rd, with an ETA in Europe (Hamburg?) November 17. Depending on customs, it may arrive at the ICDP core repository about a week later where it needs to be inventoried and prepared for layout and access.



All BASE data (including lithologic descriptions, core tray photographs, close ups, geophysical logs etc.) were uploaded to ICDP's Moodies webpage in September. For this, a big thank you to Dora and Cindy, the two main movers behind this massive effort, and to all others who contributed in acquiring and shaping these data ! You (that is, all Science Team members) were given account and password a while ago (April?). Please download, study the photographs etc., enjoy the views, and fine-tune existing proposals or invent new projects !



Teams around Stefan Lalonde and Paul Mason are set to do scanning and XRF sampling of the Berlin core so that we have some first-order geochemical logs at the sampling workshop. Experience shows that scheduling towards the end of the years becomes tight, so we do not know yet whether this project will start only in January or earlier. Sampling will take at least 6 weeks full-time, then the analysis. Stefan has a fully funded student for three years to do much of this work. A likely date for the Berlin workshop would still be late March / early April – this may conflict with Easter Holidays.

Please be aware that non-destructive analysis will have priority in all sampling. The South African CGS is planning to do hyperspectral scanning on the “archive half” of the BASE core, and complementary scanning will be done on the “working half”. We are currently working on a protocol that would enable some sections of the “archive half” of the core to be sampled in South Africa.

Christoph Heubeck and Nic Beukes