



Jena, December 30, 2023

[Our website](#)

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A year ago, we mourned the loss of Nic Beukes, BASE's co-leader. He is not forgotten!



Much of 2023 was spent by many dedicated persons generating geochemical, lithologic, high-res photographic, hyperspectral etc. reference data sets. I believe we now have an excellent data set which will provide a very solid framework for our research and for which we will be envied in the community.

A special “thank you” to Cindy from ICDP who is acting as our temporary database manager; she is going with a fine comb through our data in mDIS. We are looking for a BASE member who would be willing to do this (part-time) more permanently.

The 1050 samples which the 41 participants of the first sampling workshop took to their labs may seem a lot but average only about one sample every 3 m drilled, that is, only three samples probing two adjacent core trays! Large parts of the core are poorly or not sampled at all; there is running room. Please think about BSc / Honor's / MSc-sized projects and additional sampling.

A second sampling workshop has been scheduled in Spandau for Monday, March 11, and Tuesday, March 12. Members of the Bremen-Münster sed-strat group will log core already earlier. Only a few BASE members have registered; it will be rather informal.

Christoph has been invited by GSSA to present on BASE through [Alex du Toit lectures](#), hosted by several South African universities, in the second half of February.



We will hold a Moodies field workshop in Barberton, arrival July 15, departure July 20; pay your own expenses; bring your own transport. This event has attracted 26 expressions of interest from BASE science team members. As participation firms up, I will find out whether our booking of Bushwhacked will be sufficient to accommodate us all.

As you start to prepare conference presentations and abstracts, please include BASE and ICDP, and take full use of the plentiful images and texts on our ICDP website and of previous talks ([here](#)). The BASE Operational Report has been submitted to ICDP. It will become available as a digital supplement to the Scientific Report, to be submitted soon.



May 2024 bring us peace.

Frohes Forschen !
Christoph and the SMB