

Role of the Chair or Co-Chairs of the IMBeR Scientific Steering Committee (SSC)

The Chair or Co-Chairs of the SSC is/are responsible for the overarching leadership and future scientific direction of IMBeR including setting the priorities to ensure the successful completion of the scientific and capacity building objectives in the [IMBeR Science Plan and Implementation Strategy 2016-2025](#), and charting the course of IMBeR into the future to enable the community to take advantage of future funding and scientific opportunities, beyond 2025.

The role involves ensuring that all IMBeR activities (e.g. conference sessions, working groups and task teams) are aligned with and progress the objectives in the science plan, that activities are continually reviewed so that some may stop and others start based on changing international priorities and potential collaborations, and that the skills and experience of the members of the SSC are appropriate to ensure both completion of the science plan objectives and the continued positioning of IMBeR at the forefront of interdisciplinary marine research.

The SSC Chair or Co-Chairs is/are supported by the IMBeR International Project Offices in Canada and China which include a Director, a Strategic Director, two Deputy Directors and two Executive Assistants.

Examples of the activities of the current SSC Chair include:

International Project Offices (IPOs)

Maintain regular contact with the two IPOs to discuss, plan and prioritise the activities undertaken by the IPOs

Travel to sign Memoranda of Understanding with the IPO hosts when needed

Contribute to the recruitment of IMBeR Directors and Deputy Directors when needed

Maintain regular contact with the IPO hosts

Together with the IPO, draft the agenda for regular Executive Committee meetings

Together with the IPO, draft the annual budget prior to confirmation by the Executive and Scientific Steering Committees

Together with the IPO, draft the agenda for SSC meetings prior to confirmation by the Executive and Scientific Steering Committees.

Scientific strategy

Consider the legacy of IMBeR and develop future scientific and funding opportunities.

Financial strategy

Be aware of financial opportunities

Lead / contribute to funding applications when needed.

Executive Committee

Form an Executive Committee (this currently consists of three Vice Chairs – each of whom champions progress in one of the three Grand Challenges in the science plan)

Chair meetings of the Executive Committee to ensure that recommendations are made on the annual allocation of the budget, and scientific expertise required of new SSC members which are taken through to the SSC agenda.

Scientific Steering Committee

The SSC is the central decision-making body, setting the scientific direction and priorities of IMBeR. Together with the IPOs, and the Executive Committee, ensure that the agenda of SSC meetings cover all activities and decisions that need to be made, and that actions are completed in a timely manner

Chair the SSC meetings

Prepare an overall progress report to present at the meetings.

Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)

Maintain regular contact with SCOR

Work with the IPOs to produce an annual progress report for SCOR

Work with the IPOs to produce a presentation for the SCOR annual general meetings.

Future Earth

Maintain regular contact with Future Earth

Work with the IPOs to produce an annual progress report for Future Earth.

International Partners

Work with the IPOs and the SSC to keep in contact with partners and maintain collaborative activities with organisations such as the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the International Science Council (ISC), Vulnerability to Viability Global Partnership (V2V) and Too Big to Ignore (TBTI).