



Call for bids to host the next InterRidge Office, 2013-2015

Submission deadline: **31 March 2012**

In January 2013 the InterRidge Office is due to rotate under the appointment of a new Chair. All interested Members of InterRidge are invited to submit bids to host the new office and nominations for the new Chair. The full call for bids is posted on the IR website (http://www.interridge.org/files/interridge/Call_for_bids_next_InterRidge_Office_2013.pdf)

The following conditions apply:

The InterRidge Office is co-located at the home institution of the selected Chair. Only Principal Members of InterRidge are eligible to host the Office and the InterRidge Chair (bids will be accepted from those countries who are not currently Principal Members, if the bid is accompanied by an undertaking to become a Principal Member by 1 January 2013). The period of tenure of the Chair is normally three years. Each bid should be submitted through the National Representative on the Steering Committee. Each country may submit more than one bid, on the understanding that the Member will accept the decision of the Steering Committee as final. Bids should include: a commitment to contribute double the Principal Membership annual fee (i.e. currently 2 x US\$25,000), a proposed budget, a vision for InterRidge, and an implementation plan. Bids should be received by the InterRidge Office by **31 March 2012**. The final decision on the bids will be made at the InterRidge Steering Committee meeting to be held in June 2012. The Steering Committee may seek further information and/or negotiate with Members who have submitted bids before making a final decision.

Bids should be about 5 to 10 pages in length, and should include a brief supporting case together with the following:

- The name and institution of the proposed Chair, who should be active in ridge research and have an international reputation;
- A statement of the resources that will be available to the Office, including office space and communications links and commitment of the hosting institution/country to contribute yearly funding equivalent of one Principal Member;
- A statement of the services it is proposed to offer. The level of service should not be less than that offered by the current Office;
- A proposed budget, to include Office costs (e.g., Coordinator's salary, running costs of the Office, travel costs for Office personnel, Office set-up costs) and InterRidge activity costs (e.g., funds for workshops, travel, student awards, education and outreach);
- A statement of the proposed Chair's vision for the period of office and a copy of the proposed Chair's CV.

Bids should be submitted electronically to the InterRidge Coordinator:

coordinator@interridge.org.

More information can be obtained from the IR office (coordinator@interridge.org) or from the IR Chair, Bramley Murton (bramley.murton@noc.ac.uk)

What Services Does InterRidge Provide?

- Project Coordination - the InterRidge Office provides scientific and logistical coordination for the InterRidge working groups.
- Promotes communication and exchange of information and ideas amongst members of the international ridge-crest research community. By organizing and facilitating meetings and workshops around the InterRidge scientific themes, InterRidge provides a venue for identification and discussion of the scientific issues of chief concern to the community.
- Promotes informing and educating the press, policy-makers and the public in ridge crest science through education outreach initiatives.
- Promotes the next generation of ridge-crest scientists through student poster awards and the InterRidge Student and Postdoctoral Fellowship Program at US\$ 5,000.00 each (which includes a partnership with the International Seabed Authority Endowment Fund for nine Fellowships during 2012 – 2014).
- Disseminates information:
 - InterRidge website (<http://www.interridge.org>) includes:
 - Information on the organization (current office, steering committee members, member nations, working groups, the ‘Third Decade’ science plan),
 - Databases (member database, cruise database, global hydrothermal vents database),
 - News and upcoming events calendar,
 - Education and Outreach (projects, free downloads, links to E&O websites).
 - InterRidge biweekly e-news mailing list,
 - InterRidge edits and publishes InterRidge News - this annual newsletter is distributed free to approximately 200-300 members of the ridge crest research community and is available in electronic form on the website. It contains reports on recent ridge-crest cruises, updates on InterRidge projects, news from national and international research programs, various announcements and notices pertaining to ridge-crest research, and an up-to-date schedule of international ridge crest cruises.
 - InterRidge edits and publishes Meeting and Workshop Reports - these reports serve not only to communicate the proceedings of workshops and meetings to members of the community, but are also a vehicle for recommendations to various national and international research and funding agencies.

A rough guide to the InterRidge 2013 expected income

The income is subject to membership changes, but should these stay as present, this would be:

Host Country Contribution = US\$ 25,000

Principal Members: China, France, Germany, Japan, UK, US = US\$ 150,000

Associate Members: India, Korea, Norway = US\$ 15,000

TOTAL BUDGET from membership dues = US\$ 190,000

Previous InterRidge Offices:

1991 – 1993: USA/France (Co-chairs J. Delaney/D. Needham)

1994 – 1996: UK (R. Searle)

1997 – 1999: France (M. Cannat)

2000 – 2003: Japan (K. Tamaki)

2004 – 2006: Germany (C. Devey)

2007 – 2009: USA (Chair J. Lin, Co-chair C. German)

2010 – 2012: UK (Chair B. Murton, Co-chair J. Copley)