Evaluation criteria

Eligible proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria. Criteria of lesser importance are marked *.

Criteria	***Weighting***
1) Scientific and technical quality of the ship-time proposal a) General scientific background • Is the current state of knowledge in the research area well described? • Are cited references relevant and reflect the state-of-the-art? b) Specific aims of the expedition • Is the proposed topic of high scientific quality and does it provide innovative aspects? • Are the research objectives and expected deliverables/outputs of the proposal clearly stated? Are they achievable? • To which extent do the expected results lead to a progress beyond the current state-of-the-art?	30%
2) Quality of the work programme • Is the work plan adequate? Is it clearly described and well defined? Is the research area, the number of planned stations and transects well justified? Can the proposed work plan be realized in the set time? • Are the scheduled tasks and methods adequate to the set objectives? Is it clearly stated which methods and equipment will be employed? • Does the proposed project maximise the use of the research vessel and associated infrastructure? Has the proposal assessed any likely risks and are provisions for downtime/bad weather included?	25%
3) Scientific qualification/track record of the proposing PI and user group • Background/track record of the PI • Background/track record of the scientific team • Are the roles and responsibilities of the scientific team clearly stated? Is the combined expertise suitable to achieve the research objectives of the cruise?	10%
4) Technical capability to carry out the research cruise and data exploitation • Is all necessary equipment available to carry out the proposed project? • Is a clear concept presented how the gathered data will be shared with shore based scientists, analyzed and published? • Is additional funding available to support the research cruise and analysis of gathered data and samples? • *Will data be fed into international/national data banks or models?	10%
5) Collaboration with international/national partners/industry • To what extent are new European user groups with limited access to marine infrastructure integrated? • *To what extent is the proposed project embedded into larger research programmes on a national, EU or international level? • *What is the potential for a long term integration/collaboration on an international level? • *Are collaborations with industry envisaged? • *Are there “remote participants” for data treatment and exploitation?	15%
6) Training of young scientists/public outreach • How many young scientists and students at PhD level and below will be involved? • *Are dissemination activities addressing the general public planned? • *Are spare berths devoted to (international) young researchers/scientists in a training role?	10%

Applicants have to ensure that sufficient information is provided in the proposal to enable a thorough evaluation of all criteria.