Isblue Emergence Project TECTOLIFE

A partnership between the IUEM, MATIS in Iceland and the University of Bergen

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Iceland is an ideal natural laboratory to:

- quantify the energy release at divergent plates boundaries
- study speciation processes during early life evolution (Isblue Tectolife)









Price et al. 2017 Low-T hydrothermal system, Iceland (shallow seawater)

# M 6.5 - 25 km E of Selfoss, Iceland 63.966°N 20.487°W

2000-06-17 15:40:41 (UTC)

10.0 km depth



Steffanson et al., 2003

## **KLEIFARVATN : a key for life evolution?**



# Looking for Kleifarvatn 'lost water': the HYDRORIFT 1 experiment



Date: 04/2005 to 08/2005 Number of stations (3C, 1-2Hz): 18 + 5 SIL Number of recorded events:900 Magnitude range:0 to 3.7 Precision (after relocation) z:~200m, H~100m







## Kleifarvatn shallowest hot springs



@ Dive.is

COMMUNICATIONS EARTH & ENVIRONMENT | (2022)3:54 | https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-022-00382-0 | www.nature.com/commsenv



Seismic faulting => fluid recharge in the crust => onset of convection cells => / hydrothermal activity

#### **TECTOLIFE AIMS**

What is the influence of fault-controlled T/chemical cyclic variations on the biocenose?

Could such cyclic environmental stresses exert a pressure on species evolution\*?

Could Icelandic lakes be a proxy of early life conditions and evolution?

\*

Periodically stressful conditions may influence evolutionary rates by generating and maintaining variability and by overcoming adaptation limits caused by gene flow, helping to explain diversification patterns in the fossil record Hoffmann & Hercus, 2000 It is technically possible to calibrate the variations of (replicated) DNA sequences of living or past bacteria and/or archaea in cores

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#### Microbial Community Structure in Arctic Lake Sediments Reflect Variations in Holocene Climate Conditions



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Archaeal community changes in Lateglacial lake sediments: Evidence from ancient DNA



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Sedimentological imprint on subseafloor microbial communities in Western Mediterranean Sea Quaternary sediments

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#### Thick sediment sections are known from nearby lakes of similar dimension



**Figure 3.** (a) Multibeam bathymetric map of the lake floor of Hestvatn with seismic profiles (white lines) and core locations for 1A and 2A (white dots); (b) seismic profile across 2A core site in the north basin showing the four units of glacial deposit, glacial marine sediment, turbidites and lacustrine sediments; and (c) seismic profile across 1A core site in the south basin with glacial marine sediments at the bottom, turbidites in the middle and lacustrine sediments on top. More detailed information on the seismic units is given in Hannesdóttir *et al.* (2009).



# JQS Journal of Quaternary Science QRA

Recurrent outburst floods and explosive volcanism during the Younger Dryas–Early Holocene deglaciation in south Iceland: evidence from a lacustrine record

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### The TECTOLIFE IsBlue project in 2023

Coring Kleifarvatn to study :

- Microbiote with time (assemblages + DNA) at 3 locations
- Correlation with chemistry
- Correlation with seismic cycle



Approximate location of sampling sites A (~40m, at vent), B (~55m) and C (~75m) (note that red dots correspond to known hydrothermal vents). 3x3 drills are scheduled.