



Regional Workshop on Nuclear Facilities Long Term Operation (LTO)

Hosted by

The Government of Bulgaria

through the

Kozloduy NPP

Kozloduy, Bulgaria

15 to 19 September 2025

Ref. No.: ME-RER2019-2406153

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to discuss and share knowledge and experience on what countries should consider when developing long term operation programmes with focus on training and competence management.

Working Language(s)

The working language(s) of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **28 April 2025** will not be considered.

Project Background

The project aims to comprehensively address aspects related to the operation of nuclear power plants (NPPs) beyond their existing long-term operation (LTO). It focuses on developing and enhancing capacities in the region, with a focus on the legal, technical, managerial, and research considerations, specifically covering challenges associated with the subsequent operation of NPPs beyond their existing LTO, such as maintenance effectiveness monitoring, ageing management, time limited ageing analysis management, technical obsolescence, spare part management, environmental risks, equipment reliability, knowledge management, preservation and retention, cycle fatigue calculations, embrittlement and irradiation issues, including their regulatory review, and human resources capacities, the use of advanced inspection topics, programmes and other aspects.

Previous IAEA TC projects, RER2012 (2016 2017) and RER2015 (2018 2022), have covered important aspects of LTO, including: (1) methodologies and techniques for the on-line monitoring of equipment performance (maintenance and qualification); (2) approaches in the field of passive components, resource evaluation and strength analyses; and (3) the regulatory requirements regarding LTO and regulatory oversight with regard to the subsequent period of LTO of NPPs. The current project builds upon the knowledge gained and aims to further explore the safety aspects through a coordinated approach among Member States (MSs) and will concentrate on building and developing capacities with particular focus on the period beyond the existing LTO programmes. The project is designed with a preliminary approach, allowing for a detailed analysis of the present LTO situation in the region, including the necessary identification of related technical issues, and the subsequent development of holistic approaches for possible extensions of existing LTO programmes which can be considered as a first phase. The outcomes of this project will serve as a basis for a more extensive and detailed exploration of identified technical aspects which could be covered in a second phase within future TC programmes.

The nuclear power field, comprising industry, government authorities, operators, regulators, R&D organizations and educational and training institutions, relies on a specialized, highly trained and motivated workforce for its sustainability and continued success. Experience has demonstrated that achieving professional and managerial competence requires training based on SAT, strategic human resources development (HRD), and the implementation of competence and knowledge management. These elements are essential prerequisites for the successful implementation of LTO. These programmes and tools should be well defined, established, maintained, and improved as a substantial element of NPP operation and regulatory body activities. The mentioned programmes contribute to consistent management of the nuclear organization in changing landscape.

Expected Outputs

- Improved understanding about the role of SAT, HRD and Knowledge Management in LTO
- Improved knowledge about how SAT provides a basis for establishing and sustaining the quality and reliability of training and qualification for all main categories of nuclear facility personnel
- Improved knowledge of SAT phases and training evaluation tools
- Improved understanding of HRD and Knowledge Management and its essential role in LTO
- Knowledge of managers and leader's role in training, HRD and Knowledge Management in LTO

- Improved skills to learn from experience
- Improved skills in leading teams to operational success
- Improved skills in leadership styles
- Improved understanding of leadership, management, and their dynamic interplay

Scope and Nature

This event is planned to be implemented as face-to-face event on 15 to 19 September 2025.

Event activities will revolve around three major inter-related objectives: providing knowledge of (i) systematic approach to training (SAT), (ii) human resources development in LTO (iii) competence mapping and knowledge management for safety in nuclear facilities and organizations. Also, development of skills in the mentioned areas will be a part a training course.

Participants will also learn how to enhance leadership, management and culture for safety programmes for their organizations through lectures, case studies, exercises and group discussions.

In addition, the training course will provide opportunities for participants to network and continue sharing information and good practices as well as other potential follow-up tasks and coordinated activities, as appropriate.

The event will be conducted by the IAEA staff and qualified international experts.

Structure

- Lectures with basic information on IAEA guidance for nuclear training and SAT implementation,
- Lectures with basic information on IAEA guidance for HRD and Knowledge Management implementation, including its aspects in LTO,
- Practical exercises like training of personnel and managers, “Leadership skills self-assessment and their development”, leadership tools for efficient teamwork force, etc.
- Selected case studies conducted through group teamwork

Participation

The meeting is open to 30 participants from Member States participating in the TC regional project RER2019. The workshop is meant for a team from each country consisting of up to two professionals from nuclear power plants (NPPs) and one regulator. Each country is invited to nominate three participants who must match the profile described in the corresponding paragraph.

Participants’ Qualifications and Experience

This workshop is open to participants from RER2019. The target audience of this workshop consists of officials involved in management of nuclear power plant and regulatory body, as well as junior/mid-level managers in both organizations. Also, experts contributing to training and development, human resources development and knowledge management may be invited.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
 - b. Download and complete the [Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form](#), and upload to InTouch+ ('Profile' tab under the personal section) specifying the document name. If already provided, kindly discard this step; and
 - c. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2406153) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the [IAEA website](#).

NOTE: A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected, and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency AX Travel Management, or a travel allowance, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

IAEA Contacts

Programme Management Officer (responsible for substantive matters):

Mr Azat Nurken
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA
Tel.: +43 1 2600 26542
Fax: +43 1 26007
Email: A.Nurken@iaea.org

Scientific Secretary (responsible for technical matters):

Ms Romana Kvetonova
Division of Planning, Information and Knowledge Management
Department of Nuclear Energy
International Atomic Energy Agency
Tel.: +43 1 2600 26257
Email: R.Kvetonova@iaea.org

Administrative Contact (responsible for administrative matters):

Ms Nindyo Haryanto
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA
Tel.: +43 1 2600 25987
Fax: +43 1 26007
Email: N.Haryanto@iaea.org