



FI6O-516529

ENETRAP

European Network on Education and Training in Radiological Protection

Coordination Action

EURATOM Research and Training on Nuclear Energy

PP – Project Presentation

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Duration: 24 months

SCK•CEN / Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie • Centre d'Etude de l'Energie Nucléaire

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

Coming closer together: integration and harmonisation of existing education and training infrastructure in radiological protection

The development of a common European radiation protection and safety culture and, based on that, the mutual recognition of radiation protection courses and the acquired competencies of radiation protection experts is becoming a real need. The ENETRAP project (European Network on Education and Training in Radiological Protection) aims at bringing together different ideas and approaches in order to better integrate and harmonise national education and training activities on a European level.

1. Nature and scope

Occupational, public and environmental radiation protection is a major challenge in the industrial applications of ionising radiation, both in the nuclear and non-nuclear domain. There is a trend of decreasing number of experts in radiation protection (all areas) due to various reasons; therefore, maintaining a high level of competencies in this field is crucial for (i) the future safe applications of ionising radiation, and (ii) the assurance of the protection of workers, the public and the environment.

A sustainable Education and Training (E&T) infrastructure for radiation protection is an essential component in combating the decline in expertise and in ensuring the continuation of a high level of radiation protection competency in the future. Any such infrastructure must ensure that provision is made for both the appropriate initial education and for the subsequent gaining and maintaining of specific expertise and competencies (training).

2. Structure and activities

The ENETRAP consortium consists of 11 partners from 7 different countries and is coordinated by the Belgian Nuclear Research Centre SCK•CEN.

Two important characteristics of this project are the "bottom-up" approach instead of the more usual "top-down" and the decision for developing a modular structure as well for the education as for the training programmes.

The project will produce a state-of-the-art report on radiation protection education and training activities in the enlarged European Union. Assessment of training needs and capabilities within the EU Member States, the New Member States and the Candidate States and an evaluation of the current multilateral recognition of competencies and diplomas are the keys for developing a common radiation protection E&T infrastructure in Europe. The qualifications and training required for key professional functions in industry, medicine, research and the public sector will be assessed, including On-the-Job Training (OJT) programmes and e-learning opportunities. Past and current training programmes will be studied and the current European Radiation Protection Course (ERPC) will be revised.

Special attention will be given to the compliance of European and International E&T requirements in radiation protection with the Basic Safety Standards for protection against ionising radiation established and promoted by the European Union (and by IAEA)

A pilot session of one or two revised modules of the ERPC will be organised.

In the field of "Education", an Erasmus Universities Consortium for developing a European Master in Radiation Protection (EMRP) will be established. A curriculum will be developed using information evaluated from qualified courses offered by ENETRAP partners.

3. Expected results

An expected outcome of the ENETRAP project is an operational network of different institutions carrying out or promoting E&T activities in radiation protection at different levels.

First steps will be taken for creating a consortium of universities which will deliver a project proposal for a European Master in Radiation Protection (EMRP), submitted to the DG Education. Linking those European countries with established and active programmes in E&T (BE, DE, ES, FR, IT, NL, UK) via a structured network will facilitate the integration and optimisation of existing resources within Europe. In a later phase, extension to other Member States will be established. Such extension should be performed in close relation with the European Training and Education in Radiation Protection (EUTERP) platform which could play a role in reaching consensus about an internationally agreed system of recognition of radiation protection experts, when this platform will be established.

The network aims to achieve close and sustainable collaboration between the main education and training providers in Europe. This will be achieved via exchange of information on training events, on-the-job training opportunities, standardising training modules and efficient use of resources by sharing of lecturers and training facilities. Links will be established with other European projects and networks dealing with education and training.

4. Transfer of project results

All outcomes of the project will be made public via the ENETRAP web-site (www.sckcen.be/enetrapp). Links will be established with other networks, such as the European ALARA Network (EAN), the Central and Eastern European ALARA Network (CEEAN), IRPA and IAEA in order to transfer results to appropriate institutions in other EU Member States including the New Member States and Candidate States.

While participation in the project will initially focus on the network of the main developers and providers of E&T in radiation protection in Europe, effective linkage with institutions outside of the network will be established in order to expand the network at a later stage, specifically to institutions from the New Member States and Candidates States.

The EUTERP platform has to be considered as a key project as far as the ENETRAP network is concerned. Indeed, ENETRAP will provide for useful deliverables regarding the Education as well as the Training in the Member States. On the other side, the EUTERP platform could act as the body which should deliver an “independent EU quality label” to training events. Active co-operation will be established with this Platform when it is operational.

5. Information about important public events

The ENETRAP website gives the ideal opportunity to summarise all important E&T events. The start of the ENETRAP network will be announced at the national level of all partner countries as well as at the international level. The status of the work packages will be presented at all relevant international conferences (ETRAPP2005, ENC2005, IRPA2006...). An international seminar to communicate the results of the project will be organised in 2007.

6. Project information

<i>Project title</i>	European Network on Education and Training in Radiological Protection
<i>Project acronym</i>	ENETRAPP
<i>Contract n°</i>	FI6O-516529
<i>Project website</i>	www.sckcen.be/enetrapp

Partners

SCK•CEN	The Belgian Nuclear Research Centre (coordinator)
INSTN (CEA)	The Institute for Nuclear Sciences and Technology
FTU-FZK	Centre for Advanced Technological and Environmental Training
BfS	German Federal Office for Radiation Protection
ENEA	The Italian National Agency for New Technology, Energy and Environment
NRG	Netherlands Research and Consultancy Group
CIEMAT	The Research Centre for Energy, Environment and Technology
HPA	The Health Protection Agency, Radiation Protection Division
UCL	Université Catholique de Louvain
UJF	Université Joseph Fourier
NHC (UHI)	North Highland College, University of the Highlands and Islands

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