

WINS: Supporting the Sustainability of Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres

The World Institute of Nuclear Security's (WINS) mission is to be the leader in knowledge exchange, professional development and certification for nuclear security management. One principal way in which it turns this mission into concrete action is to provide targeted support for the work of Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres (NSSCs), globally. Over the past decade, several States have established specialised national and regional centres for nuclear security training and technical support. The objective of these centres is to ensure that key stakeholders in a State's nuclear security regime have sufficient human, financial and technical resources to carry out their nuclear security responsibilities. NSSCs support this goal by providing training and evaluation to ensure the effectiveness of their nuclear security systems over time. WINS programmes support NSSCs by contributing to the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres (NSSC) Network. WINS has been a key contributor to the NSSC network since its foundation, serving as the original chair of Working Group B on Best Practices. Among other support, WINS led Working Group B to publish guidance on topics such as: identifying capacity and capability gaps for NSSCs, developing competency frameworks for nuclear security; developing metrics for NSSCs, implementing a national nuclear security strategy to sustain NSSCs, and implementing quality management systems. In 2017 experts from WINS supported the IAEA in its revision of IAEA TECDOC 1734 on Establishing and Operating a National Nuclear Security Support Centre (NSSC). The revised TECDOC considers the actual experience of NSSCs with a focus on providing guidance leading to the long-term sustainability of centres. This effort is aligned with the strategic objectives of WINS, which supports sustainable nuclear security practices and the development of internal capacity for nuclear security professional development. WINS has put these principles into practice through a cooperative effort, supported by the government of Canada, to work with the Mexican Secretariat of Energy (SENER) and provide technical expertise to its National Nuclear Research Institute (ININ) in the development of its national NSSC, called the Nuclear Security Training Centre (NSTC). Under this agreement, WINS supports ININ in achieving and maintaining external certification against quality management standards for the NSTC and its nuclear security training programme, producing learning materials in Spanish to complement existing WINS on-line training modules, running train-the-trainer courses and delivering nuclear security training events to selected participants in Mexico and in the Central American region. WINS plans to support additional NSSCs with similar projects that build internal capacity and are focused on long-term sustainability for developing nuclear security competencies in a State. For example, WINS has established an Advisory Group to bring together a group of likeminded NSSCs who have achieved, or are seeking to achieve, excellence in the delivery of learning services for nuclear security through the adoption of quality management standards. These initiatives are complementary to the work being undertaken by the IAEA and the NSSC network. Fundamentally, WINS believes in the importance of a wide variety of targeted programmes, implemented by a broad range of expert bodies, including non-governmental organisations like WINS, to assist all States in developing sustainable capacity for nuclear security.

State

Other

Gender

Male

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Track Classification: CC: Role of Nuclear Security Support Centers to support and sustain national

nuclear security regimes