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Building Capacity in Training Capabilities Nuclear Security Support Center Network Working Group C

The world moves at a very fast pace nowadays, and with it, new threats start to emerge and some of them come from the most unlikely sources. The whole world currently faces a common enemy, one that knows no boundaries, has no limits, has no fear. And this is the most dangerous enemy there is: the one which fears no death and whose only goal is to destroy, to inflict terror and make everyone feel helpless. This enemy is everywhere, and will take any resource necessary to fullfill its goal.
Communication and coordination among agencies, and among countries is a key element in responding to an incident. So communication protocols and channels have to work effectively, they have to be always on alert and ready to be activated, they have to have a clear understanding of which steps to take in order to manage the incident. And these mechanisms have to be developed among the involved actors, they have to be put to practice, and the best way to become proficient in responding is to train and exercise. Exercises have to be carried out on a daily basis, both tabletop exercises and field exercises are the most useful resource in order to test every protocol, and detect flaws and work in their solution.
And, since the threats are now global, recognize no borders and have no limits, they must be dealt with in that same spirit: with no boundaries, with no fear of the unknown. This is why Argentina and Hungary, like many other countries in their own national capacity, are developing its Supports Centers. These Centers are part of the International Network for Nuclear Security Training and Support Centres of the IAEA. The Network has 61 member states. The reason why it is important to be part of such a network is because it is the best way to learn from each other, to share information, to share experiences and best practices, to develop training strategies together, to learn about new ways to tackle with new threats, and to create a collaborative network that -at some point- would be able to do cross trainings between countries.

The training facility that is being currently designed is destined to work on the following areas: Basic practical radiation knowledge; Security and Safety in transport of radioactive sources and other nuclear and radioactive material; Perimeter nuclear asset custody and guard; Preparedness and safeguarding of crime scenes involving nuclear or radioactive material for forensic analysis; Cybersecurity and new threats; Human Resource Management in order to combat insider threats; Force on force adversaries combat; Tactical communications while on patrol; Fixed site security; Security drills; Intrusion detection time-lines; Set up and use of detection instruments and technology; Configuration and use of delay barriers.

Since March 2019, Argentina and Hungary chair the Working Group C of such network, which is in charge on Information Sharing, Promotion, and Outreach is to strengthen information sharing among NSSCs and help raise awareness of Network Member training courses and other activities. Maintaining and enhancing a database of all NSSC Network Members, to include search functions, key statistics, and a map of NSSCs by operational status, capabilities, and technical specialization. Facilitating the sharing, promotion, collation and dissemination of information related to nuclear security training and other activities carried out by NSSC Network Members through a NSSC Network events calendar. Monitoring use of and improvements needed for the NSSC User Group on the NUSEC Portal. Carrying out regular analysis of data contained in the NSSC Network events calendar and database and sharing a summary of this analysis at the Annual Meeting and Leadership Meeting, and coordinating development of each edition of the NSSC Network Newsletter and other outreach materials, working in close cooperation with the IAEA Secretariat. These tasks are crucial to develop proper training on nuclear security and be able to response to a possible event.

Gender

Male

State

Argentina

Author: BIEDA, Tomas (Ministry of Energy and Mining)

Co-authors: KOVACS-SZELES, Eva (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Centre for Energy Research); CÁCERES, L Federico (Undersecretariat of Nuclear Energy)

Presenter: BIEDA, Tomas (Ministry of Energy and Mining)

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