

## AFRA-NEST: A tool for Human Resource Development

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Investigation carried out in Ghana in 2003 revealed that Nuclear Scientists were dwindling in numbers. This threatened and endangered the Human Resource base of Nuclear Scientists. It also seemed to be the trend in Africa as a region and the whole world. With this awareness, it became necessary that measures should be taken to reverse this situation.

In Ghana, the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission in collaboration with the University of Ghana, and in co-operation with the International Atomic Energy Agency, (IAEA), established the Graduate School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences (SNAS) which has become a Regional Designated Centre, to improve the Human Resource base of Nuclear Scientists in Ghana and Africa.

The Africa Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research Development and Training related to Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA) also established the African Network for Education in Nuclear Science and Technology (AFRA-NEST) in order to implement AFRA strategy on Human Resource Development (HRD) and Nuclear Knowledge Management (NKM).

The establishment of AFRA-NEST, and the recent installation of its e-learning platform (CLP4NET) with the assistance of the NKM Unit of the IAEA which went on-line on about October 25, 2013 with the URL; <http://lms.afra-nest.org> is a further step to enhance the Human Resource Development.

Essentially, the main function of the AFRA-NEST is to foster sustainable human resource development and nuclear knowledge management to satisfy the needs of African countries with/without higher education in the priority areas of non-power and power applications of nuclear energy. In this regard, Ghana was nominated to host the Cyber Learning Platform for Nuclear Education and Training for the AFRA region.

This presentation gives the status of the project so far.

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