



Slavutych, December 12, 2019

EU helping Ukraine to improve radioactive waste management training

The European Union project: "Improvement of national personnel training system in the field of radioactive waste management, decommissioning and remediation" has produced the training materials on radioactive waste management for Ukrainian training centres in Kyiv and Slavutych. These materials are expected to enhance the skills of personnel handling dangerous materials and thereby to strengthen the protection of population and environment from radiological hazards. This was announced at the Project Dissemination Workshop in Slavutych on December 12, 2019.

"High level of qualification of the personnel is one of key requirements for ensuring safe management of radioactive waste, protection of the personnel, population and environment. That is why the development of Ukrainian training systems is in focus of EC-Ukraine nuclear safety cooperation," **Hans van Vliet, manager of this project in the European Commission**, remarked.

"This project made an important step forward in the development of Ukrainian Training System in the field of radioactive waste management, decommissioning and remediation, helping the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant Training Centre and Ukrainian Radiological Training Centre to implement best international practices in their day-to-day activities. The State Agency of Ukraine on Exclusion Zone Management is very thankful to the European Union for the continuous support," **Mariya Verbylo, the Head of Department of the State Agency of Ukraine on Exclusion Zone Management**, said.

"The Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant Training Centre and Ukrainian Radiological Training Centre now have a wealth of up to date, internationally focussed training material thus allowing them to provide sustainable training in the years to come," **Peter Booth, Project Team leader, Idom** commented.

Following the Chornobyl accident and subsequent decommissioning of the remaining reactors at the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant, and running a sizeable nuclear industry, Ukraine has amassed a considerable volume of radioactive materials. By volume of radioactive waste – about 3.4 million m³ as of October 2018 – Ukraine ranks second in Europe and fourth in the world. A total of 95% of these wastes were formed as a result of the Chornobyl accident. The handling of these materials requires special care, facilities and skills, and modern and effective training of personnel at all levels within the organisations undertaking such work is therefore clearly crucial. The Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant Training Centre and Ukrainian Radiological Training Centre now possess training modules of highest international standards and well-prepared instructors to underpin both existing and future training programs and practical exercises. Such training will greatly enhance the ability of this staff to plan, manage and successfully deliver future nuclear-related projects.

Background information:

Since 1991, the European Union has contributed more than EUR 1.05 billion to improve the safety of Ukraine's nuclear industry. Projects cover the provision of support to improved safety in the operation and maintenance of Ukraine's four nuclear power plants and establishment of an appropriate national radioactive waste management infrastructure, institutional support to Ukraine Nuclear Regulator, financial contributions to the construction of a new safe confinement over the Shelter Object, as well as a number of social projects to support the communities living with the consequences of the 1986 Chornobyl accident.

The project "Improvement of national personnel training system in the field of RAW management, decommissioning and remediation" is one of 19 ongoing EU projects on nuclear safety. It was implemented by a Consortium made up of two Spanish organisations (Idom and GDES), and their Ukrainian partner Nuclear Power Plants' Operational Support Institute. Partners included the State Agency of Ukraine on Exclusion Zone management as the project Beneficiary, Chornobyl NPP Training Centre, Ukrainian Radiological Training Centre and State Specialized Enterprise "Central Enterprise for Management of Radioactive Waste". The project duration was from February 2017 to December 2019. Budget: EUR 988,000.

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