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Author(s):

Gert Van den Eynde

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DELIVERABLE 10.12: COMMUNICATION ACTION PLAN

This Communication Action Plan is an overview of how the FP7 Supporting Action “ARCAS” - ADS and Fast Reactor Comparison Study in support of Strategic Research Agenda of SNETP – will communicate with those inside and outside the project.

Objective of the project

The ARCAS project wishes to analyze the economic consequences of different options to handle Minor Actinide nuclear waste. In previous EC-FP projects (PATEROS, RED-IMPACT) scenarios have been analyzed in which mainly two distinct options have been identified. The first one is a single stratum approach where Minor Actinide transmutation is reached in heterogeneous targets in critical Fast Reactors. The second option is a double strata approach where the Minor Actinides are sent to a dedicated transmutation facility, an Accelerator Driven System.

ARCAS wishes to analyze both options from an economical point of view: given a certain stream of Minor Actinides produced typically in Light-Water Reactors, what infrastructure is needed to transmute this stream in either option. ARCAS will define a representative Fast Reactor system, Accelerator Driven System, Fuel reprocessing and fabrication facility and will analyze the economic aspect, not forgetting the important issue of transportation of highly radioactive material from site to site.

Audience

ARCAS considers three types of audiences:

1. Scientists and engineers involved in the design of all components relevant to ARCAS (FR, ADS, fuel facility, transportation, ...) They will be a source of input for the project, indicating current technology, trends and possibilities for the future.
2. Nuclear waste authorities. In the end, they can be seen as the end-customer of this project since they will have to advise their authorities and policy makers on what options are more appropriate for their country (not solely based on the economic aspect but, for sure, this aspect will play an important role).
3. Policy makers. They will have to decide on the policy a country will adopt in managing its nuclear waste.

Communication tools

Different tools are used to communicate within the project and to the outside world (focusing on the three types of audiences mentioned in the previous section).

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Conferences/meetings

Different types of conferences might be of interest to present ARCAS work. A list of possible events, indicating the type of audience, is presented below. This list is of course a dynamic list and will be posted on the ARCAS internal project website

Event	Location	Date	Audience
ENS European Nuclear Conference	Manchester UK	November 2012	1,2
12th International Exchange Meeting on P&T	?	Fall 2012	1,2
4th General assembly of the SNE-TP	?	Fall 2012	2,3

Project website

As coordinator, SCK•CEN has taken the responsibility for setting up a project website (<http://arcas.sckcen.be>). This website has both a public part and a private part. The public part gives information on the project, the partners, the scope and objectives. When deliverables are issued, they will also be posted on the public site.

The internal website, set-up as a collaborative portal, allows participants to share documents, presentations etc. in an easy way. Also a bibliography with useful scientific papers has been established and can be consulted and improved by the different partners. Participants can subscribe to an email alert system that sends out a message as soon as an item has been updated, a new item has been added etc. Clearly, this private project portal is password protected.

Internal communication

Internal communication is done through the project portal to share documents and presentations. Clearly, communication between partners is done by classical means like telephone calls and emails.

Full project meetings are held every 6 months with a Project Coordination Meeting just before. At the kick-off meeting, all dates have been fixed (indicative days, but certainly the week of the meeting). This allows for better time management of the different partners.

In between project meetings, work package meetings are organized and to reduce cost and time investment of the partners, SCK•CEN has been hosting these meetings by means of a web conference. Already several of these web conferences have been held and after some trial and error phase, most partners are accustomed to this method.

To quickly get feed-back from what the project considers as one of their main end-users, the waste authorities, the project officer suggested to invite one or two experts from these waste authorities as external advisor. They will be invited to attend the project meetings and will receive access to the private part of the website. The project coordinator will make sure that questions and remarks from the external advisors to the project as well as in the other direction will be recorded and answered.

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