

# NUCLEAR SECURITY IN ACTION AT

*Ghana asked the IAEA to co-develop an Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) to strengthen its national nuclear security regime.*



- 1 Nuclear security is a national responsibility. An Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plan (INSSP) is a tool that enables States to address nuclear security in a comprehensive way and to strengthen its national nuclear security regime, beginning with the legislative and regulatory framework within a State.



- 2 Operating areas in nuclear facilities like research reactors which use highly enriched uranium, require additional physical protection measures to ensure the security of the nuclear material and prevent acts of sabotage.



- 3 Other radioactive materials, like sealed radioactive sources used in radiotherapy machines in hospitals for cancer treatment, need to be protected so that they are not stolen and used with malicious intent.



- 4 Nuclear and other radioactive material needs to be kept in safe and secure storage, which incorporates various types of physical barriers to prevent theft and unauthorized access.

# FACILITIES IN GHANA

## *Nuclear Security Support Plan to strengthen*



5 Intrusion detection and assessment systems, like cameras and sensors, help to ensure timely and adequate responses to any security incident.



6 Responding to a nuclear security incident, and mitigating its consequences, requires specialized equipment like isotope identifiers, and competent and well trained personnel.



7 Nuclear Security Support Centres (NSSCs) focus on human resource development as well as technical and scientific support which contribute to the sustainability of nuclear security in a State.



8 Verna Vanderpuye, a Ghanaian clinical oncologist depends upon the radiotherapy machine, "Without our radiotherapy machine, I don't know where we would be. A lot of our young women have breast cancer. If we cure them, it improves their lives, their families, everything. It is a light for our patients and it gives them hope. Nuclear security measures matter. We cannot let anything threaten hope."

Text: Danielle Dahlstrom; Photos: Dean Calma, January 2013