



IAEA

60 Years

Atoms for Peace and Development

# Nuclear Installation Safety

CAPACITY BUILDING

## SCCIP | Safety Culture Continuous Improvement

### Why is this important?

Strong safety culture is an important part of ensuring nuclear safety performance. This has been demonstrated by, for example, the analysis of the accidents at the Fukushima Daiichi NPP and Chernobyl.

Over the years, the nuclear community has adopted best practises to enable organizations to continuously improve safety culture. The 2016 IAEA International Conference on Human and Organizational Aspects of Assuring Nuclear Safety commemorated 30 years of work in improving safety culture. However, the conference chair concluded by saying that in order to effectively continue the improvement of safety culture, a thorough understanding of the organization's overall culture is needed.

Self-assessment of safety culture is a vital instrument for gaining such an understanding. A self-assessment that identifies attitudes, underlying beliefs and assumptions driving behaviours in the organization can serve to highlight weaknesses and strengths, and help create an effective programme to improve safety culture.

To support Member States in this effort, the IAEA has created the Safety Culture Continuous Improvement Process — SCCIP — a service that provides the basis for sustainable safety culture improvement. SCCIP is designed for both newcomers and established nuclear power programmes as well as regulatory bodies.

### What do I need to know?

SCCIP consists of four steps which help build organizational competencies to effectively self-assess and improve safety culture.

- **Step 1:** Workshop for Senior Management : This provides an understanding of safety culture and how it is linked to safety performance.
- **Step 2:** Safety culture self-assessment training: A Safety Culture Ambassador Team is selected and learns how to collect “cultural” data through interviews, surveys, focus groups, document reviews and observations. They are then taught how to analyse the data and extract cultural themes from each data set.
- **Step 3:** Conduct self-assessment: The Safety Culture Ambassador Team performs the safety culture self-assessment and communicates the results. The IAEA can provide tailored support based on the organization's needs.
- **Step 4:** Safety culture improvement plan: The Safety Culture Ambassador Team develops an improvement plan with the support of the IAEA as required.

## What actions are recommended?



Member States desiring capacity building services should send a request to the IAEA Division of Nuclear Installation Safety



Senior management commitment and support is essential for the success safety culture improvement programmes.



IAEA will assist Member States upon request to build capacity to continuously improve safety culture.



For a list of IAEA Site Selection and Site evaluation training and workshops scheduled, check the current online IAEA Meeting Schedule.

SCCIP services are based on implementing the IAEA safety standards and promoting practical application through workshops, training and exercises according to this four-stage competence development plan:



### Who should request this service?

This programme is intended for organizations with an interest in developing and strengthening their safety culture to include regulatory bodies and operating organizations.

### Who conducts this service?

The capacity building team comprises senior international experts together with IAEA senior safety officers. Training is based upon IAEA safety requirements and guides as well as good practices and lessons learned; especially incorporating lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident.

### What is the duration of the average safety culture capacity building workshop or training exercise?

Workshops and training are normally conducted within 3-5 day sessions.

## Resources

*The Management System for Facilities and Activities (IAEA Safety Requirements No. GS-R-3)*  
[http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1252\\_web.pdf](http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1252_web.pdf)

**Email:** [Operational-Safety.Contact-Point@iaea.org](mailto:Operational-Safety.Contact-Point@iaea.org)

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