

Status and Perspectives

What is NEST?

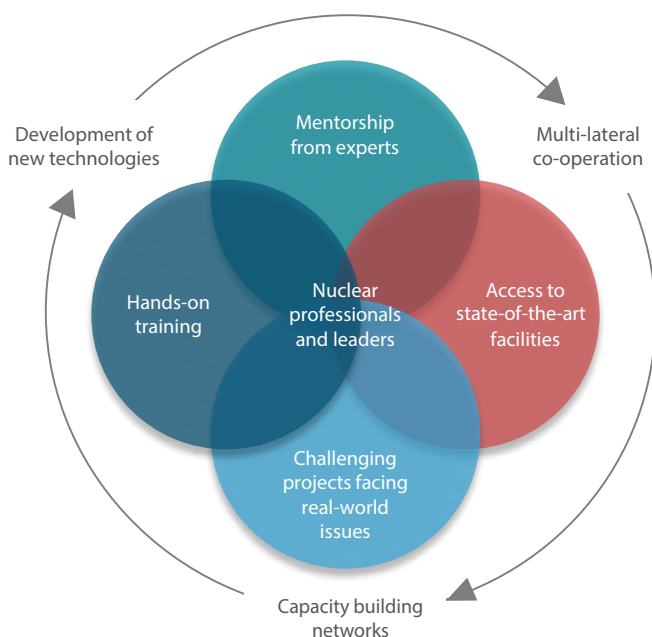
The NEA Nuclear Education, Skills, Technology (NEST) Framework is a multinational framework to maintain and build both **technical and non-technical skills** and competences through the conduct of multinational research and training projects for promising students and young professionals from around the world.

Aims and benefits

NEST aims to nurture the next generation of nuclear subject matter experts and leaders through the transfer of practical experience and knowledge.

NEST will achieve its aims through the following components:

- Fostering multi-disciplinary skills and competences through hands-on training;
- Facilitating access to state-of-the-art facilities;
- Participating in challenging and innovative activities;
- Mentorship from experts to transfer knowledge to the next generation of professionals.



Opportunities to develop capacity-building networks through multinational co-operation will favour transfer of knowledge which in turn will generate new knowledge and therefore new technologies and innovation necessary to address global challenges.

How NEST works

The NEST Framework is governed by a Management Board made up of representatives from the countries participating in NEST.

NEST is implemented via projects targeting specific areas of nuclear where skills need to be developed.

NEST Projects are multi-disciplinary and need to involve at least three NEST countries.

Each project brings together a variety of organisations (from universities to industries) wishing to co-operate to develop the skills of their workforce.

NEST Fellows and Fellowships

NEST Fellows are MSc, PhD students and young professionals belonging to one of the organisations participating in NEST Projects.

Fellows will:

- Gain theoretical knowledge through workshops and summer schools, where they will also learn non-technical skills.
- Acquire technical skills and knowledge through hands-on training activities carried out as part of the specific project.
- Apply the knowledge acquired to address real-world issues and global challenges.

Fellowships are carried out for a period between one and six months in another organisation and country other than their own.

Upon completion of their Fellowship, Fellows receive a "NEST Skills Passport".

Current NEST Projects

There are six projects running in the period 2022-2024:

- Hydrogen containment experiments for reactor safety (HYMERES);
- Small modular reactors (SMRs);
- Advanced remote technology and robotics for decommissioning (ARTERD);
- Radioactive waste management of i graphite (i-graphite);
- Medical applications, nuclear technologies, radioprotection and safety (MANTRAS);
- Building competence, expert knowledge, applied techniques, safe decommissioning, train fellows (BEAST).

Other projects are currently being developed on the topics of research reactors and fast reactors.

NEST in numbers to date



10 countries



6 projects



Over 50 organisations



Over 200 Fellows, 25% women

How to join NEST

The NEA supports participation in the NEST Framework and is keen to engage further with member and non-member countries who wish to train the next generation of professionals, and who value long-term and sustainable international co-operation in the area of nuclear education, skills and technology.

Countries and organisations that wish to join the NEST Framework can do so by contacting the NEA Secretariat.

For further information, please contact the NEA Secretariat:

Nuclear Energy Agency

46, quai Alphonse Le Gallo
92100 Boulogne-Billancourt
E-mail: nest@oecd-nea.org
www.oecd-nea.org/nea

NEST Framework Agreement's signatories



The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is an intergovernmental agency under the framework of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) headquartered in Paris, France. Its main objective is to promote international co-operation assisting member countries in maintaining and further developing the scientific, technological and legal bases required for a safe, environmentally friendly and economical use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.