



Deliverable 13.4:
Priority list and schedule for training/mobility
Work Package 13

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Executive Summary

In March 2020, Work Package (WP) 13 launched a ‘Survey on training initiatives’ in order to get an overview of the training needs as well as the existing training courses in the field of Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) within the EURAD community. The results of this survey were summarized in D13.1 - List of training needs from Research, Development and Demonstration and Strategic Studies Work Packages [1].

Additionally, WP13 performed a mapping of currently existing available course courses in the field of RWM. To do so, several sources have been searched, including previous EURATOM Framework Programmes (FP) and other initiatives developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD-NEA). Courses found have been identified, analyzed and summarized in deliverable D13.2 - Mapping of available course materials [2].

In this report, the results of D13.1 and D13.2 are combined to form a priority list and schedule for upcoming training initiatives within EURAD. This list contains, but is not limited to, the following topics: Safety case production, Treatment of uncertainty, Waste acceptance criteria, and Spent Nuclear Fuel. Additionally, this list can also serve to prioritize mobility actions within the EURAD Mobility Programme. Furthermore, the Mobility Programme can be used by end-users to attend the new courses that will be organized based on the training priority list. These results will help fill training gaps in the Goal Breakdown Structure (GBS) of the EURAD Roadmap.

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Glossary

EURAD	European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management
ECTS	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
GBS	Goal Breakdown Structure
RD&D	Research, Development and Demonstration
RE	Research Entities
RWM	Radioactive Waste Management
TSO	Technical Support Organization
WAC	Waste Acceptance Criteria
WMO	Waste Management Organization
WP	Work Package
LO	Lead organizer
OP	Organizing partner
A	Attendee
NI	Not indicated
FTF	Face-to-face
EBS	Engineer barrier system

1. Introduction

The main goal of European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management (EURAD) Work Package (WP) 13 is to establish the ‘School of Radioactive Waste Management (RWM)’. The School of RWM acts as the executive body for all training and mobility actions that are organized within EURAD. For training courses, a diverse portfolio of tailored basic and specialized courses will be established. This portfolio will contain a list of existing initiatives (e.g. IAEA and NEA courses), but will also contain new training courses to bridge identified gaps.

In order to establish this portfolio an overview of training needs that exist in the EURAD community and a list of already existing training courses and materials to avoid duplicating previous work are needed. This information was summarized in deliverables D13.1 and D13.2, respectively [1,2]. By combining the existing training needs and gaps in the currently existing training courses, a priority list can be drafted for the new training initiatives to be developed by WP13. This report provides an overview of this priority list. It will be used to prioritize the newly developed training courses by WP13 and can help prioritize mobility actions within the EURAD Mobility Programme. For example, if a choice needs to be made between equally good applications, than this list will help decide by choosing the application which addresses one on the items on the priority list.

2. Training needs from the EURAD RD&D and Strategic Studies Work Packages

In March 2020, WP13 launched a ‘Survey on training initiatives’ in order to get a clear overview of the training needs as well as the existing training courses in the field of RWM within the EURAD community [1].

In summary, based on the feedback of all EURAD partners, WP13 identified the five most urgent and highest priority topics, are (in descending order of urgency and priority):

1. Safety strategy
2. Safety case production
3. Treatment of uncertainty
4. Waste acceptance criteria
5. Confirm waste form compositions, properties and behaviour under storage and disposal conditions, including impact on the disposal environment (waste form)

These are followed by ‘Waste generation’ (Inventory), ‘Processing’, ‘Storage’, ‘Transport’, ‘Engineered Barrier Systems’ and ‘Spent Nuclear Fuel’.

In order to draft a priority list, this list was compared with training gaps in the list of available training materials, which will be discussed in the next section.

3. Gaps in existing training offer

The mapping of available course materials, summarized in deliverable D13.2 - Mapping of available course materials [2], contain 152 courses related to RWM organized between 2012 and 2021. The mapping exercise was finalized in June 2021.

Most of the courses are provided by organizations with research and technological activities, and mainly as part of an international project (62% of the courses). Most of them have a duration of around 1 week, but they can range from as short as 4 hours up to as long as 3 years and they are targeted to both, professionals and graduate students with similar background (BSc in Sciences/Engineering).

Several sources have been searched including a meticulous analyses of EURATOM Framework Programmes (FP) and other current initiatives like the ones delivered by IAEA and OECD-NEA.

The identified training courses were tagged according to the seven EURAD themes. Most of the identified courses cover some subjects of these themes not necessarily being specific of one them, and in most of the cases, they touch upon several themes.

This categorisation provided the criteria for the mapping. In addition, courses were classified as “general” when the training covered 4 to 7 EURAD themes or “specific” when they covered up to 3 themes. Around 1/3 of the courses fit into the general category providing an overview of RWM, having usually a duration of 1 week.

The findings listed in the previous section [1] were analysed in order to identify training gaps. This analysis resulted in the following list of gaps:

- 7.1 Safety Strategy¹
- 7.2.1 Safety case production
- 7.3.2 Treatment of uncertainty
- 3.1 Waste forms
- 7.3.1 Performance assessment and system models
- 3. Engineered Barrier Systems
- 2.2.2 Waste Acceptance Criteria
- 2.1.1 Waste Generation (Inventory)

The identified gaps, in turn, were compared to the list of mapped training courses [2]. In the next sections, the highest priority topics will be discussed based on the gap analysis of the existing training courses.

3.1 Performance assessment, safety analysis and safety case development - 7th theme

With respect to the 7th theme “Performance assessment, safety analysis and safety case development”, there were **four topics** identified as “training difficult to find” (7.1, 7.2.1, 7.3.2 and 7.3.1). From the mapping (Appendix B, D13.2 [2]), 25 specific courses have been identified to provide training related to the 7th theme and only three of them cover the gap partially:

- “Safety Case Development” organized by the IAEA as a self-study online mode with a workload of 5 hours.
- “Nuclear safety case development” organized by the nuclear technology education consortium (UK), with a workload of 15 European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) points.
- “CRISTAL - Tools for Criticality Safety Calculation” organized by ENSTII (now organized by IRSN) with a 1 week duration.

At the time of writing deliverable D13.2 [2], no specific course on tackling **uncertainties** were found. The mapping confirms this. Therefore there is a need for the development of new training courses in the “Performance assessment, safety analysis and safety case development” theme.

The EURAD School of Radioactive Waste Management jointly with EURAD UMAN WP are currently developing the course: *Training on Uncertainty Management* [3] (expected last quarter of 2022). The main aims are to address the training need “7.3.1 Treatment of uncertainty” identified as highest priority topics and also other urgent and high priority topics such as “7.1 Safety strategy”, “3.1 Confirm waste form compositions, properties and behaviour under storage and disposal conditions, including impact on the disposal environment (waste form)” or “3.1.1 Spent Nuclear Fuel”.

By this time, as the topic of the **safety case** is one of the most demanded courses, coinciding with the lack of related courses, a *Safety Case Development and Review Training Course* [4] is being developed by EURAD School jointly with SITEX.Network, IGD-TP, and OECD-NEA and will be delivered at the end of 2022.

¹ The actualized numeration of the EURAD Roadmap was used.

3.2 Engineered barrier system properties, function and long-term performance - 3rd theme

Regarding the 3rd theme “Engineered barrier system properties, function and long-term performance”; 2 topics were identified as “training difficult to find” (3.1 and 3) [1]. The mapping (Appendix B, D13.2 [2]) identified 51 “general courses” including some overview of theme 3, and 25 “specific trainings” which also cover the subject to some extent. Many of them include “Engineered Barrier Systems” and “Waste form” topics, specifically those organized within the PETRUS projects.

As it is observed, themes 3.1 and 3 are not a gap in the existing training offer. More detailed information will be required to identify the real training needs of the EURAD researches to fulfil their needs as part of WP13 task 4, as is described in D13.5 [5].

Related to urgency, topic 3.1.1 “Spent Nuclear Fuel” is also included in the list of urgent priorities indicated in section 2.

As was mentioned in the previous section, the *Training on Uncertainty Management* course [3] being organized by autumn 2022, will address also the topics 3.1 and 3.1.1 since from the point of view of uncertainties.

3.3 RW characterization, processing and storage, and source term understanding for disposal - 2nd theme

Concerning to the 2nd theme “RW characterization, processing and storage, and source term understanding for disposal”, two topics were identified as “training difficult to find” (2.2.2 and 2.1.1) [1]. From the table of available trainings (Appendix B, D13.2 [2]), 45 trainings marked as “general courses” and 40 marked as “specific training” provide some training related to theme 2. Many of them cover the characterization of RW but none of them addresses the “Waste Acceptance Criteria” specifically, so this topic should be addressed in the next courses, potentially in collaboration with the PREDIS project.

In general terms, the training needs that were identified previously [1] are confirmed during the mapping exercise [2], although several specific courses were found, they barely cover the gap itself, rather they provide an overview or introduce the subject to some extent. However, the courses that were mapped are a perfect starting point for developing new courses to fill the existing gaps.

4. Schedule for training and mobility

4.1 Training priority list and schedule.

Based on the previous sections analysis, 5 training topics have been identified as most urgent and highest priority topics, followed by 6 topics more to configure the priority and urgency list of topics, confirmed by the gap analysis (excluding themes topics 3.1 and 3).

Table 1. Priority and urgency list of training topics.

# Priority order	Topic
I	7.1 Safety strategy
II	7.2.1 Safety case production
III	7.3.2 Treatment of uncertainty
IV	2.1.2 Waste acceptance criteria

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V	3.1 Waste form
VI	2.1.1 Inventory
VII	2.2.2 Treatment & Processing,
VIII	2.2.4 Storage,
IX	2.2.5 Transport,
X	3 Engineered Barrier Systems
XI	3.1.1 Spent Nuclear Fuel.

Some courses have already been organized and are collected in *Table 2*.

Table 2. EURAD Courses already delivered.

Title and delivery mode	Objective and learning outcomes	Dates	N° hours// credits	WPs involved	EURAD Themes	Priority n°
Education & Training Event on the scientific basis and safety relevant aspects of radionuclide transport and retention. Online	Provide an overview of retention and transport processes, the implication for performance assessment, and the handling of uncertainties. Upon completion of this training course, participants should be able to discuss the scientific basis for repository safety assessment.	November 17, 2021	4 hours	FUTURE	7.3: Safety Assessment and Tools	Partially III
Introductory course on EURAD and Radioactive Waste Management. Online	The aim of this course is to give a comprehensive overview of the activities of EURAD, as well as an overview of the state-of-the-art in Radioactive Waste Management. Topics addressed: Framework for radioactive waste disposal; Introduction to EURAD; Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Radioactive Waste; Disposal Concepts; Facility design; Safety analysis and safety case	September 14, 2020	8.5 hours	WP13. All.	7 EURAD themes.	Not identify
Training on Multiphysical couplings in geomechanics. FTF.	The aim is to improve the attendees understanding of heat transfers, water and gas migration, stress and strain evolution in a repository. At the end of the training, the attendees were able to: Understand the basics of the thermo-hydro-mechanical (multi-physical) couplings in geomaterials; Perceive the experimental evidences and figure out the physical processes at the laboratory scale and from in situ tests; Capture the fundamentals on constitutive modelling of the relevant phenomena; And identify the challenges in numerical modelling of these physical processes.	January 22-24, 2020	3 days	HITEC and GAS	4.1: Site description; 3.1 Waste form; 3. EBS	Partially V and X

Some of these trainings have addressed themes listed in the priority list: **partially III, V and X**.

By the time of writing this report, some courses are already in development (Table 3), and some of them try to satisfy the most urgent and highest priority topics, that will be delivered by the end of 2022.

Table 3. EURAD courses under development.

Title and delivery mode	Objective and learning outcomes	Dates	Nº hours// credits	WPs involved	EURAD Themes	Priority nº
<i>Training on Uncertainty Management</i> [3]. Hybrid mode	The main aim of the training is to address the training need “7.3.1 Treatment of uncertainty” Upon successful completion of this training course, participants should be able to: Understand and classify the different types of uncertainties that may need to be managed in a RW disposal programme; Explain the links between uncertainty management, the safety case and the decision-making process; Use the global UMAN scheme of uncertainty management strategies; Explain the main strategies and approaches available to manage uncertainties; List the approaches available to perform uncertainty and sensitivity analyses and discuss their pros and cons; Grasp the views of Civil Society representatives involved in EURAD on uncertainty management; Understand potentially significant uncertainties related to the waste inventory (with a special focus on problematic wastes, organic-bearing wastes and the radiological characteristics of spent nuclear fuel) and discuss their significance; Understand potentially significant uncertainties related to human aspects and discuss their significance; Describe and discuss the options available to manage specific examples of uncertainties related to the waste inventory and human-related aspects	End of 2022	3 Days	UMAN, WP13, SFC, MUDATIS	7.3.2 Treatment of uncertainty, 7.1 Safety strategy; 3.1 Waste form; 3.1.1 Spent Nuclear Fuel	III and partially I, V and XI
<i>Safety Case Training Course</i> [4]. Hybrid mode.	The aim of this training course is learn about the different aspects involved in the safety case process. Learn why having a safety case for a radioactive waste management facility is crucial. Furthermore, they will learn about the different steps from development, over review to implementation based on real life examples. Upon completion of this training course, participants should be able to: Describe the importance of the safety case for a radioactive waste management facility; Discuss the different steps of the safety case development; Discuss the different steps of the safety case review; And explain how the safety case is implemented in the Posiva case	End of 2022	5 days	WP13, OECD-NEA, IGD-TP & SITEX network	7.1 Safety strategy & 7.2.1 Safety case production	II and partially I
Spent Fuel characterisation and evolution until disposal [6]	<i>Under development</i>	To be decided	To be decided	SFC	3.1 Waste form, 2.1.1 Inventory, and 3.1.1 Spent Nuclear Fuel.	V, VI and XI
SOK and Domain Insights [7]	<i>Under development</i>	To be decided	3 hours	To be decided	All	Not identified
Modelling Course [8].	<i>Under development</i>	October/November 2022	5-days (to be confirmed)	ACED, DONUT, FUTURE, GAS	7.2.1 Safety case production; 3.1 Waste form; 2.1.1 Waste generation, 2.1.3 Storage, 3 Engineered Barrier Systems 3.1.1 Spent Nuclear Fuel.	II, V, VI, VIII, X and XI

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Title and delivery mode	Objective and learning outcomes	Dates	N° hours// credits	WPs involved	EURAD Themes	Priority n°
2nd edition. Training on Multiphysical couplings in geomechanics [9].	The aim is to improve the attendees understanding of heat transfers, water and gas migration, stress and strain evolution in a repository.	2023		HITEC and GAS	4.1: Site description; 3.1 Waste form; 3. EBS	Partially V and X

Focusing on the priority list, some topics are been addressed: **partially I, II, III, V, VI, VII, X and XI.**

Another list is also available [1] with training topics that were proposed by EURAD partners. They indicated if they want to participate as “attendee”, “organizing partner” and/or “lead organizer”. For this analysis we have split it up in two tables, one for trainings that are offered to be organized (as lead and as partner) and other for the trainings that are required. There were two entries, where the involvement is not indicated, so it is assumed that are required as attendee. In Table 4, a cataloguing of these training proposals was done according to the EURAD Roadmap themes and the corresponding priority order (Table 4).

Table 4. Trainings offered to be organized (as lead and as partner). OP = organizing partners; LO = lead organizer

id	Training	Proponent	Degree involvement	EURAD Theme	Priority
1	Fuel characterization after irradiation	CIEMAT	LO	2.2.1 Characterisation and 3.1.1 SNF	XI
2	Spent fuel characterization	EC-JRC Geel	OP	2.2.1 Characterisation and 3.1.1 SNF	XI
3	Modeling of fuel thermo-mechanical behaviour	CIEMAT	LO	2.2.1 Characterisation, 3.1 Waste form and 3.1.1 SNF	V and XI
4	Characterization and clearance of radioactive materials from regulatory control	SSTC NRS	OP	2.2.1. Characterisation.	Not identified
5	Packages for safe transport of radioactive waste and Spent Nuclear Fuel	SSTC NRS	OP	2.2.4 Storage & 2.2.5 Transport	VIII and IX
6	Multi-barrier system for long-term storage and disposal of radioactive waste in near-surface disposal facilities	SSTC NRS	OP	3. EBS, 3.1 Waste form and 3.4 EBS system	V
7	Research in repository chemical interactions	UAM	OP	3.1 Waste form	V
8	Fuel thermo-mechanical behaviour in dry storage	CIEMAT	LO	3.1 Waste form and 3.1.1 SNF	V and XI
9	Dry storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel	SSTC NRS	OP	3.2 Waste packages for disposal, 3.2.1 HLW&SF containers	X
10	Physi-Chemi-Geochemistry characterization of the barrier and RN migration, adsorption within barrier, colloids performance, Modeling structures through DFT calculations	CIEMAT	LO	4.1.2 Aqueous transport and retention, 4.2 and 4.2.1 Perturbations (Characterization of geological barriers) and 3. EBS	X
11	Radionuclide migration, Thermodynamic modelling, thermodynamic databases and Organics and colloids	CIEMAT	LO	4.1.2 Aqueous transport and retention, 4.2 and 4.2.1 Perturbations (Characterization of geological barriers) and 3. EBS	X
12	Shielding modeling, re-criticality	CIEMAT	LO	5.4 Operational safety and 5.4.4 Criticality safety	Not identified
13	Safety issues of management of disused sealed radiation sources	SSTC NRS	OP	5.4 Operational safety.	Not identified

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14	<i>Safety case and performance analysis</i>	VTT	LO	<i>7.1 Safety strategy and 7.2.1 Safety case production</i>	<i>I and II.</i>
15	<i>Development of safety case and safety analyses reports for processing, storage and disposal of radioactive waste in near-surface disposal facilities</i>	SSTC NRS	OP	<i>7.1 Safety strategy and 7.2.1 Safety case production</i>	<i>I and II.</i>
16	<i>Treatment of uncertainties during management of "legacy" radioactive waste</i>	SSTC NRS	OP	<i>7.3.1 Treatment of uncertainty</i>	<i>III</i>

Upon analysing Table 4, we observed that items 14, 15 and 16 (in italics) are marked with the higher priority order and are being addressed at the time of writing this report. There are some entries that are referred to different aspects of the same themes and could be addressed together, for example items 1 and 2.

The proposed courses, when they would be organized, could cover the following priorities: **I, II, III, VIII, IX, X and XI.**

Table 5. Trainings demanded as attendees (A).

Id	Training	Proponent	Degree involvement	EURAD Theme	Priority
1	Overview of international RWM frameworks	BGR	A	1. National Programme Management, 1. 3.3 International cooperation.	Not identified
2	Spent Fuel management	ARAO	A	1.1 Programme planning, 1.2.4 Waste management system.	Not identified
3	Spent Nuclear Fuel disposal	VUJE	A	1.1.1 National RWM planning.	Not identified
4	Difficult to measure and long-lived radionuclides	ARAO	NI	2.1.1 Inventory	VI
5	Treatment process and techniques for problematic waste streams	ARAO	NI	2.2.2 Treatment&processing	VII
6	Site evaluation and selection, criteria development	SURAO	A	4.1 Site description, 5.1 Design, 6.1 Siting and licensing	Not identified
7	Chemical processes modelling under geological disposal conditions	LEI	A	4.1.2 Aqueous transport and retention, 4.2 and 4.2.1 Perturbations (Characterization of geological barriers) and 3. EBS	X
8	Modeling of coupled THMC processes in the near field of geological repository	LEI	A	4.1.2 Aqueous transport and retention, 4.2 and 4.2.1 Perturbations (Characterization of geological barriers) and 3. EBS	X
9	Management of non-radiological properties of radioactive waste	Galson Sciences Ltd.	A	5.3 Security and safeguards, 5.4 Operational safety, 5.5 Monitoring & retrievability	Not identified
10	Safety assessment	UJV	A	7.3 Safety assessment and tools	III

In Table 5 some of the topics that are included in the priority list, for example item 10, are being addressed. Other are included among the items of Table 4, like 7 and 8. On the other side, others are included in the priority list but are not addressed by now and are not among the proposals **VI and VII.**

In summary:

- Some courses have been already organized or are being developed (*Table 2 and Table 3*). These courses cover some topics of the priority list: **partially I, II, III, V, VI, VII, X and XI.** Some courses have been proposed to be organized by EURAD partners (*Table 4*), and cover: **I, II, III, VIII, IX, X and XI.**
- Topics: **IV, VI, VII, and VIII** are not covered fully by the courses summarized in the two previous bullets and should be evaluated in order to propose courses and satisfy the EURAD community needs.

- Other topics not included in the priority list are proposed by EURAD community to be organized or to be received. These can be considered, but focus should be on the topics mentioned in the earlier bullet points.

4.2 Mobility priority list

Mobility actions within EURAD are also organized based on the learners' needs. Therefore, most applicants will propose their own mobility actions based on their current and urgent needs. However, during the evaluation process, there needs to be a way to prioritize mobility actions, should the demand outweigh the offer for a certain deadline. Therefore, mobility actions are prioritized based on:

1. The evaluation scores from the evaluators;
2. The priority topics listed in Table 1.

The first parameter are the evaluators' scores (which already include a score on relevance to the EURAD programme and the applicant's work within EURAD). Only when those are inconclusive, the mobility applications will be listed according to compliance with the priority topics. A schedule for mobility actions will not be defined in this deliverable, as the number of mobility actions and when they will take place are defined by the applicants, not by WP13.

5. Conclusion

The School of RWM aims to maintain and develop a diverse portfolio of tailored basic and specialized courses and a dedicated Mobility Programme. In order to establish such a portfolio an overview of training needs that exist in the EURAD community and a list of already existing training courses and materials to avoid duplicating previous work were established previously by WP13 [1,2]. This list of existing courses is publically available via the School's website, where all have access to it. In this report, the existing training needs and gaps in the currently existing training materials are combined to develop a priority list for the new training initiatives to be developed by WP13. This list contains, but is not limited to, the following topics: Safety case production, Treatment of uncertainty, Waste acceptance criteria, and Spent Nuclear Fuel. The priority list will be used to prioritize the newly developed training courses by WP13 and can help prioritize mobility actions within the EURAD Mobility Programme.

6. References

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