



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace

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Exploring the nuclear power option in Tunisia

The challenge...

Over the past twenty years, demand for power has grown rapidly in Tunisia. This can mostly be attributed to the changes in lifestyle and industrial growth within the country. Government projections of industrial and economic growth predict that power demand in Tunisia will increase at a rate of approximately 6-7% per year from 2008 to 2020. In order to meet this demand safely and move away from dependence on fossil fuel, the systems that generate power must have a capacity to produce 4000 Megawatts of additional power over the next fifteen years.

The project...

With IAEA training, the Tunisian Electricity and Gas Company was provided with the skills to develop and implement a strategic plan to carry out a feasibility study for a nuclear power programme in Tunisia. Legislation for the nuclear option was also prepared, in line with international safety and security obligations, providing regulatory control even at this exploratory stage of nuclear power development. The draft legislation, as well as the strategic plan for a feasibility study, have been validated by local stakeholders and are undergoing IAEA review.

The impact...

The results of the feasibility study will be used to assess the economic and technical feasibility of nuclear reactor technology for power supply in Tunisia. With a solid understanding of the nuclear power option, Tunisia has a greater chance to meet the nation's increasing power demand.

