



# Third NEA Stakeholder Involvement Workshop on Optimisation in Decision Making

Optimisation has always been a fundamental concept in decision-making for all parts of society, but the way decisions are taken has changed in recent years. Societal considerations towards nuclear-related activities have evolved to promote more holistic, inclusive and sustainable decision-making perspectives. Including these perspectives addresses the need to integrate many diverse aspects and stakeholder views, notably those of civil society, to reach more balanced and “optimised” (i.e. better) decisions. As countries aim to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this need is growing and should also account for national/cultural contexts

and the complex interplay between economic, environmental, health and societal aspects.

In line with its pioneering role in encouraging these developments through various workshops, the NEA is now planning to hold its third Stakeholder Involvement Workshop in September 2023, focused on “Optimisation in Decision-Making”. Holding this workshop is the next important step in proposing a common, tangible approach to decision-making processes across the nuclear field and across NEA member countries (and beyond). The ultimate goal is to reach a sustainable, transparent and widely accepted decision-making process

that balances the different factors and risks, depending on the prevailing circumstances, to identify the optimal solution(s) for all stakeholders and society as a whole.

While optimisation is crucial in decision-making, there is currently no common understanding across nuclear sectors of what an “optimised” decision implies. Therefore, three dedicated webinars will be organised between late 2022 and early 2023 to work towards a common understanding of the term “optimisation” as the basis for the workshop in September 2023:

- 14 December 2022 webinar on “Identifying and framing the purpose of a decision”;
- 18 January 2023 webinar on “Finding and evaluating options for solutions”;
- 8 February 2023 webinar on “Selecting, executing and post-assessing a decision”;

The main workshop is currently scheduled for the week of 4-8 September 2023.

Each webinar will consist of a public part with presentations on newest policy developments, experience within the nuclear sector and Q&A sessions. This will be followed by discussion sessions to identify commonalities and differences across sectors, and, where possible, what comprises an optimal approach for being considered holistic, inclusive and sustainable. To achieve a balanced representation of different stakeholders within each discussion, participation in the latter part of the webinars will be made upon personal invitation from the Workshop Programme Committee.

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To find out more, visit  
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