

## **IGD-TP starts its European-wide joint deployment of research, development, and demonstration activities for deep geological disposal of high-level and other long-lived radioactive wastes.**

**The deployment, on a large scale, of European and international collaborative research, development, and demonstration for deep geological disposal follows from the IGD-TP initiative, a dedicated technology platform launched in 2009. IGD-TPs draft Deployment Plan is now available for public consultation at the website [www.igdtp.eu](http://www.igdtp.eu) until 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012.**

IGD-TP (*Implementing Geological Disposal of Radioactive Waste Technology Platform*) is a technology platform on research, demonstration, and development activities in the area of deep geological disposal of high level and other long-lived radioactive wastes. Today IGD-TP has over 80 participants from organisations from all over Europe including waste management organisations, a governmental body, industrial organisations, universities and research organisations. The work of the IGD-TP is based on a shared vision: "*by 2025, the first geological disposal facilities for spent fuel, high-level waste, and other long-lived radioactive waste will be operating safely in Europe*". Geological disposal is nowadays acknowledged as a safe, feasible and sustainable solution for the long-term management of high-level waste and other long-lived radioactive waste.

In the last two years of its operations, the IGD-TP has published a common Vision Report, a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) and a draft Deployment Plan (DP) for public consultation. The SRA provides an informed list of remaining common RD&D priorities for fostering disposal implementation. The Deployment Plan highlights the IGD-TP's Joint Activities including collaborative projects and their timing during 2011-2016. The public consultation of the Deployment Plan is now open and closes on 13 February 2012. The draft DP document is available at the open website [www.igdtp.eu](http://www.igdtp.eu).

A first step towards the deployment of the IGD-TP's SRA was organising the IGD-TP's second public Exchange Forum in November 2011 in Helsinki, Finland. Already now, the IGD-TP has initiated several technical projects and the majority of these are co-funded by the European Atomic Energy Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2011).

IGD-TP was launched in November 2009 to identify and to implement the remaining RD&D activities in the area of deep geological disposal of high-level and other long-lived radioactive wastes. The work focuses on the safety and on demonstration of the technologies needed for implementing repositories, and in underpinning the development of a common European view on the main issues related to the safe management and disposal of radioactive wastes. The IGD-TP's "Vision 2025" is "*that by 2025, the first geological disposal facilities for spent fuel, high-level waste, and other long-lived radioactive waste will be operating safely in Europe.*" IGD-TP also fosters cooperation and transfer of technologies, both being beneficial to an increase in efficiency and cost-effectiveness of RD&D. The IGD-TP, its Secretariat and the production of its documentation has received funding from the European Atomic Energy Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2011) under grant agreement no 249396 in the two year SecIGD project (2010-2011).