

Nurture of Human Resources for Geological Repository Program

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The siting process for a HLW repository in Japan consists of three steps as outlined in the "Specified Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Act" of 2000: selection of the preliminary investigation areas, selection of the detailed investigation areas and selection of a site for repository construction.

On 19 December 2002, an implementing organization (NUMO) announced an open solicitation for volunteers for the preliminary investigation areas for a repository..

This means that geological repository program in Japan entered implementing stage from research and development stage. In this stage, the program will possibly face non-technical issues as well as technical issues. Nurture of human resources is one of non-technical issues.

This paper is suggesting a framework of a nurture of human resources for Japanese geological program with consideration of its characters below;

- Geological repository program needs very long-term, even several decades for fulfillment. Alternation of generations of human resources is inevitable. Knowledge and technology need to be pass down from present generation to next generation. Even within one generation, new knowledge and technology need to be given to people in commission to improve their ability.
- Geological repository program involves multiple realms. It needs human resources who can cover multi areas.
- The program will possibly not advance on the schedule. A framework of the nurture need to be adaptable to this uncertainty.