Equipment purchasing procedure improvement

Best Practice Description:

Equipment purchasing procedure improvement - This BP refers to the advantages and expediencies of including the installation and operation training course on site by the provider in the purchasing procedure for relevant equipment. Two cases which were implemented during the TC projects on ISL Uranium Mining in Argentina can be mentioned:

1. Equipment: Stratagem IV
   Main application: Magneto – telluric geophysical surveys in U sedimentary basins
   Provider: Geometrics
   Trainer: Francisco Torres (México)
   Trainees: 12 professionals from CNEA
   Venue: Ezeiza Atomic Center, Buenos Aires province, Argentina
   Dates: 16 – 18 March 2011
   Equipment cost: USD 63,272 (92.7 %)
   Consultancy and training services: USD 5,000 (7.3 %)

2. Equipment: Matrix Logging System
   Main application: Borehole logging (SP, Resistivity, Caliper, Total Gamma, K, eU, eTh)
   Provider: Mount Sopris
   Trainer: John Stowell (USA)
   Trainees: 10 professionals from CNEA
   Venue: Ezeiza Atomic Center, Buenos Aires province, Argentina
   Dates: 4 -7 October 2011
   Equipment cost: USD 64,567 (93.1 %)
   Consultancy and training services: USD 4,790 (6.9 %)

TC projects: ARG/3/012, ARG/3/014

Submitted by:
Mr Luis López
Jefe de Departamento Innovación Tecnológica
Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica
Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Category:
C.3: Logical Framework Methodology
C.7: Project Results
Both of the listed activities included the following general items: lectures on fundamentals, device installation and start up, field work and data collection, data processing and interpretation, final discussions and recommendations.

It was clear that all of the participants were not going to operate the devices in the future, but it was very important that they had the opportunity of a direct experience in order to better evaluate the applications of innovative technologies in a particular uranium project. This was reinforced by the fact that the participants, who came from different offices that belong to the Uranium Exploration Branch (Buenos Aires, Ezeiza, Córdoba, Chubut, Mendoza, Salta), are actually the end users of the data obtained during the surveys.

Regarding economic issues, the consulting and training extra charges accounted for approximately 7% of the total cost, resulting in a very significant cost-benefit ratio.