



# IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

*Atoms for Peace*

September 2009

## ***Enhancing nuclear security in Africa***

### ***The challenge...***

A number of Member States in Africa have identified inadequate prevention, detection and response to malicious acts involving nuclear or other radioactive materials as priority areas for development. These States requested IAEA assistance in the development of an adequate corps of trainers with nuclear security competencies.

### ***The project...***

The project aimed to support the implementation of the IAEA's Nuclear Security Plan by increasing national awareness and capacities in the participating countries for the prevention, detection and response to malicious acts involving nuclear and other radioactive materials or facilities. The project also aimed to build capacities to address illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials. Support was provided through regional training courses on methods to combat illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials, the foundations of physical protection, the security of radioactive material during transport and on advanced detection equipment.

Human resources were developed through the project, emphasizing knowledge management and preservation. Equipment to search, locate, identify and secure stray sources efficiently was also provided.

### ***The impact...***

Through appropriate equipment and training, participating Member States were provided with methods for radioactive source management and the means to combat nuclear terrorism. Appropriate detection and monitoring equipment meant that regional security was greatly improved and law enforcement agencies, customs, civil protection and regulatory authorities were trained on the pertinent methods needed to secure nuclear facilities and radioactive materials.



*Searching for radiation sources at an abandoned storage facility.*