



IAEA

Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century

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Upgrading technical capacities in non-destructive testing in Cameroon

The challenge...

In the late 1990s, the IAEA supported the Government of Cameroon to establish the country's first specialized facility for non-destructive testing (NDT), anticipating the services that would be required for the quality control and inspection of the 1070-km Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline. A second project beginning in 2003 aimed to enhance the availability of NDT expertise, expand training at Level III, and set up a national certification capability in industrial NDT.

The project...

The project aimed to upgrade the government company HYDRAC's technical capability in non-destructive testing (NDT) and to qualify the company as a national centre for NDT training and certification. National capability for advanced NDT had already been established at HYDRAC for quality control and inspection of pipes, welds, fittings, pumps, valves and other joints in the petrochemical industry, railways and civil constructions. HYDRAC provided the major facilities required under the project, including laboratory space and local radiation protection infrastructure.



The impact...

HYDRAC's commercial capability in non-destructive testing has been upgraded. This has expanded the scope and magnitude of income-generating activities, and enhanced the sustainability and self-reliance of the company. Training of Cameroonians in NDT methods has also begun. HYDRAC continues to carry out NDT services of pipes, welds, fittings, pumps, valves, and other joints in the petrochemical industry, railways, and civil constructions.