

19 Training programme

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The training of scientists, engineers, and technicians must be treated as a priority from the beginning of the project, and great effort should be made to involve as many staff from the member countries of the project as possible. An international training committee made up of experts in the accelerator field could be established to help with the design and organization of the training programme. As different areas of expertise and different skills are needed to design, construct, and operate such a facility, the knowledge and connection of the members of the training committee with international facilities will be key to the success of the training programme. At the beginning, the most urgent need would be to gather experts who could help to design and construct the accelerator complex composed of a linac, a booster, and a storage ring. Although there is always a risk that some of the trainees sent abroad will stay there, the scheme implemented in the SESAME project was rather successful and could be emulated in this case. A large number of candidates (around 100) from the SEE region could be invited to participate in a school (approximately two weeks long) dedicated to particle accelerators and associated technology, and a group of them (20–25) could be selected to receive specialized long-term training in one of the European laboratories (for about 18 months).

It should be noted that the accelerator community is generally characterized by strong, supportive collaboration and honest competition between different laboratories in Europe and worldwide. All the institutions support each other to improve the specification of each light source and meet regularly in several networks, international conferences, and workshops.

During their training, the selected candidates can also deepen their knowledge by participating in well-known accelerator schools such as CAS (CERN accelerator school). The budget of this training programme is not negligible and should be planned for from the beginning.

If the proposal is selected for follow-up, then formal participation in the newly created LEAPS association will be sought.