Deliverable 13.11

Overview of webinars organised in the first three years of EURAD

Work Package 13

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Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of all webinars organised by WP13 under the umbrella of the School of Radioactive Waste Management (RWM). This includes data on the number of live attendees, the number of watched recordings and data on the feedback and mailing campaign accompanying each webinar. Thirteen L&L sessions were organised between the start of EURAD and month 36 (i.e. end of May 2022). These L&L sessions cover a wide variety of topics, such as knowledge management, site selection procedures, and deep borehole repositories, to name a few. Since the beginning, audience feedback on the L&L sessions have been very positive. The main challenges are increasing and retaining the number of watchers and to find 'voluntary' speakers (i.e. speakers that were not directly asked to present a topic, but who volunteer to present a topic). Despite these challenges, the L&L sessions are a success, as indicated by the attendance rate.

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Glossary

EURAD	European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management
L&L	Lunch & Learn
PMO	Project Management Office
RWM	Radioactive Waste Management
WP	Work Package

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1. Introduction

The main goal of European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management (EURAD) Work Package (WP) 13 – Training & Mobility – is to establish and maintain the 'School of Radioactive Waste Management (RWM)'. The School of RWM acts as the executive body for all EURAD-related training and mobility actions. All information concerning the School of RWM and its activities is centralised on a dedicated website: https://euradschool.eu/. This website contains information on all the School's activities, namely: (i) the organisation of training courses, (ii) hosting the EURAD Mobility Programme, (iii) support for the EURAD PhD community, and (iv) hosting of webinars and other online activities. In addition, the website also contains information on WP13 activities and publications, a link to and information about the EURAD Roadmap, and a discussion forum.

This report provides an overview of all webinars organised by WP13 under the umbrella of the School of RWM. This includes data on the number of live attendees, the number of watched recordings and data on the feedback and mailing campaign accompanying each webinar. The latter provides useful information to continue to approve the webinars and our contact with the end-users (i.e. the attendees).

2. Lunch & Learn sessions

2.1 Background

The EURAD Lunch & Learn (L&L) sessions started in October 2020 as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. They were set up to be short, informal, one-hour, online sessions aimed at all EURAD participants, but also all interested parties outside of EURAD. They serve as an approachable way to stay informed on work being done in EURAD, to share good practices, and to provide updates on latest developments in the field of RWM. Therefore, presenters can be EURAD partners, but also invited speakers from the Nuclear Energy Agency or the International Atomic Energy Agency, for example.

Practically, the L&L sessions are organised regularly by the Project Management Office (PMO) and WP13. Generally, they are organised on the last Wednesday of the month at 13:00 p.m. (Brussel's time). Exceptions can be made based on presenter preferences, or practical considerations.

2.2 Practical organisation

The L&L sessions are hosted via the online webinar platform Bigmarker (www.bigmarker.com). WP13 owns a license for this platform. The platform allows WP13 to:

- Send automated mails (invitations, reminders, post-webinar survey)
- Manage registrations
- Manage webinar and its recordings
- Report on registrations and attendance
- Share handouts (documents, video and presentations)

In practice, WP13 will create a specific webinar room for each L&L session. The registration link is distributed by the EURAD coordinator and is published on the School of RWM's website. Additionally, WP13 has created a webinar series in Bigmarker, which includes all L&L sessions [1]. The advantage of registering for the series is that interested attendees are automatically registered for all L&L sessions, including sessions that are added to the series at a later date. All registrants receive an automated reminder one day before the start of the L&L session.

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Next step is that WP13 plans a test with the presenter in the week before the L&L to ensure that the presenter is familiar with the Bigmarker platform. This helps avoid technical issues during the actual L&L session.

During the L&L session itself, a representative of WP13 or the PMO serve as a moderator. All attendees can ask questions via the chat window. These questions are forwarded to the speaker by the moderator, during the session to be answered directly or after the session to be addressed by e-mail.

After the L&L session is closed, WP13 downloads and edits the recording. Then it is uploaded to both the Bigmarker platform and the WP13 YouTube channel [2]. The former triggers an automated mail to all registrants and attendees that the recording has become available. The latter is used to distribute the link via the School of RWM's website and EURAD's socials, i.e. Twitter [3] and LinkedIn [4].

3. Lunch & Learn sessions organised between M1 and M36

This section provides an overview of the thirteen L&L sessions organised between the start of EURAD and month 36 (i.e. end of May 2022) (summarised in Table 1).

- Title
- Name of presenter
- Presenter affiliation
- Date
- Number of attendees
- Number of recording views in Bigmarker
- Number of recording views in YouTube
- Total number of views

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Table 1. Overview of all Lunch & Learn sessions organised between M1 and M36 of the European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management, as of the end of July 2022.

Title	Presenter	Presenter affiliation	Date	# attendees	# recording views*	# online views**	Total views***
Synergies of EURAD with the PREDIS project addressing pre-disposal waste treatment	Erika Holt	VTT, Finland	28/10/2020	30	4	76	110
News from the German Site Selection Procedure	Astrid Göbel	BGE, Germany	25/11/2020	19	5	90	114
Celebrating 20 years of the IGSC	Lucy Bailey	RWMRSO/NEA	27/01/2021	45	15	40	100
Knowledge Management in Nuclear Organisations	Dinara Abbasova	HZDR, Germany	24/02/2021	22	13	31	66
The IGD-TP: European waste management organisations coordinating international R&D activities	Irina Gaus	Nagra, Switzerland	31/03/2021	19	21	65	105
The next-generation scientific research for the safe management of radwaste - EURADSCIENCE	Christophe Bruggeman	SCK CEN, Belgium	28/04/2021	75	19	16	110
Steps for sharing	Ewoud Verhoef	COVRA, The Netherlands	26/05/2021	44	13	21	78
The SITEX.Network	Delphine Pellegrini Nadja Železnik Frederick Bernier	IRSN, France NTW, France FANC, Belgium	30/06/2021	53	17	21	91
European Commission's Joint Research Centre activities on RWM and decommissioning	Manuel Martin-Ramos	JRC, Belgium	29/09/2021	51	14	32	97
The US Nuclear Waste Management and Disposal Strategy: Status and Possible Futures	Rodney C. Ewing	Stanford University, USA	06/10/2021	107	34	41	182
News on the siting process in Italy	Angelo Paratore Riccardo Levizzari	SOGIN, Italy ENEA, Italy	27/10/2021	57	17	21	95

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Title	Presenter	Presenter affiliation	Date	# attendees	# recording views*	# online views**	Total views***
Methods for transferring information and knowledge regarding final disposal of radioactive waste	Carl-Henrik Pettersson	SSM, Sweden	23/02/2022	133	45	26	204
Deep Borehole Repository of high-level radioactive waste - State of knowledge and pros&cons	Muriel Rocher	IRSN, France	18/05/2022	99	16	11	126
Average number				58	18	38	114

* via Bigmarker; as of the end of July 2022

** via YouTube; as of the end of July 2022

*** total number of views, calculated as # attendees + # recording views + # online views

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4. Lessons learned from Month 1 to 36

The organisation of L&L sessions started in October 2020 and these were the first online activities for a large audience that were organised within EURAD. Since the organisation of the first session, some changes were made to the practical organisation based on feedback and the first experiences in organising these L&L sessions. As shown in Table 1, the number of attendees was rather low in the first five L&L sessions, but has increased since then. This is in part due to the lessons learned from the first L&L sessions.

The most important lessons learned are:

- Announce the topics and speakers as soon as they are known;
- Send reminders regularly, i.e. when the session is first planned, one month and one week before (at least), to the EURAD Community and via social media;
- Share announcement and registration information via LinkedIn, Twitter and EURAD's ProjectPlace;
- Listen to audience feedback.

Note that these lessons learned are mainly focussed on increasing and retaining the number of audience. There are no lessons learned on the format of the L&L sessions itself as all feedback from the audience on that has been positive. Examples of audience feedback include:

- 'How would you rate today's L&L session?': average score of 92%
- 'Were today's interactions during the L&L of good quality? (Yes/no)': Unanimously 'yes'

However, there is one major challenge that WP13 and the PMO have encountered: finding and attracting motivated speakers. While finding speakers in itself is not a problem, it is usually the PMO that contacts potential speakers. The number of 'voluntary' speakers from the EURAD community is rather low. This is an issue that is actively being worked on. Currently, reminders are posted in EURAD newsletters and during WP Leader meetings. An additional minor challenge is to increase the number of views of the recordings. As of now, no clear solution has been found.

5. Conclusion

Thirteen L&L sessions were organised between the start of EURAD and month 36 (i.e. end of May 2022). These L&L sessions cover a wide variety of topics, such as knowledge management, site selection procedures, and deep borehole repositories, to name a few. Since the beginning, audience feedback on the L&L sessions have been very positive. The main challenges are increasing and retaining the number of watchers and to find 'voluntary' speakers (i.e. speakers that were not directly asked to present a topic, but who volunteer to present a topic). Despite these challenges, the L&L sessions are a success, as indicated by the attendance rate. Therefore, WP13 and the PMO are committed to organise these sessions for the remainder of EURAD.

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1. EURAD L&L series in Bigmarker: https://www.bigmarker.com/series/eurad-lunch-learn-sessions/series_summit
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4. EURAD LinkedIn page: https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/ejp-eurad/

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