

Forsmark International Forum

The Forsmark International Forum (FIF) is a long-term knowledge-sharing and dialogue platform that enables organisations involved in radioactive waste management programmes to follow and learn from repository implementation in real time throughout multiple phases of repository development and construction.

Through access to implementation experience from the Spent Fuel Repository and the SFR Extension projects at Forsmark, participants gain practical insight into licensing, engineering, procurement, construction and organisational development.

FIF combines digital knowledge sharing with expert interaction, webinars and site visits to support programme development, organisational readiness and informed decision-making.

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SKB International AB

Why join FIF?

FIF provides participating organisations with direct access to implementation experience from two large-scale repository projects currently under construction at Forsmark, Sweden.

The greatest value is achieved through continued participation over multiple years, allowing organisations to follow project development, key decisions, implementation challenges and lessons learned as they emerge.

Members gain insight into:

- Licensing and regulatory implementation
- Engineering and construction
- Procurement and contract management
- Organisational development
- Lessons learned from real repository projects

Participation is available through two membership categories:

- **Strategic Member**: knowledge access, webinars, site visits and strategic dialogue.
- **Core Member**: knowledge access through the digital platform, recorded presentations and expert Q&A.

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1. Learn from repository implementation in practice

The Forsmark International Forum (FIF) provides a unique opportunity to follow, learn from and engage with SKB during the implementation of two major radioactive waste repository projects currently under construction at Forsmark, Sweden.

FIF is a long-term knowledge-sharing and dialogue platform designed for organisations involved in radioactive waste management programmes, including implementers, waste management organisations, regulatory authorities, technical support organisations and research institutions.

While many national programmes are currently planning, licensing or preparing future repositories, few have reached the implementation and construction phase. FIF offers participants a rare opportunity to gain direct insight into how key strategic, technical, organisational and regulatory challenges are addressed in practice.

Through continuous access to implementation experience, expert interaction, webinars and site visits, participants can strengthen their own programme development by:

- Reducing implementation and project risks
- Supporting licensing and regulatory preparations
- Improving planning, procurement and project execution strategies
- Strengthening organisational competence and readiness
- Learning from real-world challenges, solutions and lessons learned
- Benchmarking their own programme against an active repository implementation programme

FIF helps organisations bridge the gap between repository development and repository implementation by providing direct access to lessons learned, implementation experience and expert insight from an active repository programme.



2. How FIF supports your programme



Participation in FIF enables organisations to incorporate practical implementation experience from the Forsmark projects into their own programme development.

Because repository implementation is a multi-year undertaking, FIF is designed to provide continuous learning over time, allowing participants to follow project developments, key decisions, emerging challenges and lessons learned throughout successive phases of implementation.

Lessons learned from licensing, engineering, procurement, construction and organisational development can provide valuable input for planning, decision-making and future programme milestones.

3. Unique repository implementation portfolio

SKB is currently implementing two major repository projects at Forsmark:

Spent fuel repository

- Project duration: approximately 10 years
- Total budget: approximately €1.6 billion
- Scope includes construction, surface and underground infrastructure, systems development and operational readiness



Extension of the final repository for short-lived radioactive waste (SFR)

- Project duration: approximately 6 years
- Total budget: approximately €350 million
- Focus on expansion of the existing repository, integration with ongoing operations, and phased construction



Together, these projects constitute one of the world's most comprehensive repository implementation programmes, providing valuable insight into both strategic decision-making and day-to-day implementation challenges. At present, very few radioactive waste management organisations worldwide have entered comparable repository construction phases.

The Forsmark projects therefore provide a unique opportunity to observe repository implementation as it happens and to learn from decisions, challenges and lessons that may otherwise not become visible until much later in a national programme.

4. What FIF covers

FIF covers the full spectrum of repository implementation activities, from programme management to construction and operational readiness.

Programme and project management
- Programme governance and organisational development
- Roles, responsibilities and interfaces
- Knowledge management and competence development
- Planning, milestones and schedule management
- Risk management and occupational safety
- Procurement strategies and client-supplier partnerships

Construction and engineering
- Construction of surface and underground infrastructure
- Shaft, tunnel and cavern excavation
- Repository logistics and operational planning
- Machinery and automation development
- Canister, buffer and backfill development
- Borehole sealing

Site investigations and data management
- Investigations conducted during construction
- Data acquisition, handling and management
- Monitoring and site descriptive modelling
- Application of digital tools and AI

Regulatory, stakeholder and quality management
- Licensing processes and regulatory requirements
- Stakeholder engagement and public communication
- Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC)

5. FIF knowledge sharing and engagement channels

The delivery channels described below represent the full range of services available within FIF. Access to individual services depends on membership level. Details of what is included in Strategic Membership and Core Membership are provided in Sections 7 and 8.

The FIF platform consists of:

5.1 Web-based knowledge portal (primary delivery channel)
5.2 Live interactive webinars
5.3 Annual Forsmark site visit

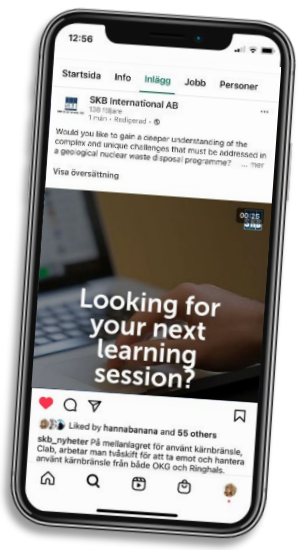
5.1 Web-based knowledge portal

The digital portal serves as the primary delivery channel for FIF content. Participating organisations receive access through personal user accounts, providing secure and traceable access for authorised representatives. While access is managed through individual user accounts, participation in FIF is organisational, enabling knowledge transfer and internal dissemination within the participating organisation.

Portal content includes:
- Regular progress updates (approximately monthly)
- Forsmark site overview
- Project overview and R&D activities
- Written Q&A forum with SKB experts
- FIF Recorded presentation series

All material is intended to support internal knowledge sharing and programme development within participating organisations.

Available for: Strategic Members and Core Members



➢ Regular progress updates

The portal provides regular updates on developments within the Forsmark area and the ongoing construction projects. This section includes project news, noteworthy events and updates related to SKB's repository implementation activities, research and development programmes, and new content made available through the FIF platform.

➢ Forsmark site overview

Members receive access to structured information describing the Forsmark area with the existing and planned repository facilities. The material provides an overview of the site, planned infrastructure, and the repository layouts of the Spent Fuel Repository and SFR Extension. The material provides context for understanding how the repository projects are integrated within the overall Forsmark site.

➢ Project overview and R&D activities

This section provides more detailed information about the Spent Fuel Repository and SFR Extension projects, including project objectives, scope, key milestones and implementation progress. It also includes selected information from SKB's R&D programmes related to canister technology, buffer and backfill development, sealing technologies and repository logistics.

➢ Written Q&A forum with SKB experts

Members may submit questions related to information presented within the FIF platform. Questions are addressed by relevant SKB experts, and all questions and responses remain available within the portal, creating a growing knowledge resource for participating organisations.

➢ FIF recorded presentation series

The FIF Recorded Presentation Series constitutes one of the primary knowledge-sharing components of the platform and is delivered through the web-based knowledge portal.

Recorded presentations are uploaded quarterly and provide in-depth insight into selected implementation topics, lessons learned and practical experience from ongoing repository implementation activities at Forsmark.

Typical duration: 30 to 60 minutes

Typical topics include:

- Repository construction activities
- Engineering solutions
- Project management practices
- Research and development programmes
- Operational readiness activities
- Licensing and regulatory topics

5.2 Live interactive webinars

Two live webinars are conducted annually.
Typical duration: Approximately two hours

Purpose:
- Direct dialogue with SKB experts
- Discussion of recent developments and information updates
- Clarification of strategic, technical and organisational issues

These sessions create opportunities for participants to discuss challenges and compare experiences with an active repository programme.

Available for: Strategic Members only

5.3 Annual Forsmark site visit

An annual site visit to Forsmark provides participants with first-hand insight into repository implementation.

Format
- 1.5 days visit
- Observation of ongoing construction activities
- Presentations by SKB experts and project representatives
- Technical discussions and Q&A sessions
- Strategic Member Meeting



Included
- Guided site observations
- Presentations and Q&A sessions
- Two lunches and one dinner

The site visit complements the digital content by providing direct exposure to implementation activities and opportunities for professional exchange.

Available for: Strategic Members only

6. Who should participate?

FIF is designed for organisations involved in developing, implementing, regulating or supporting radioactive waste management programmes.

Typical participants include:
- Waste management organisations
- Repository implementers
- Regulatory authorities
- Government agencies
- Technical support organisations (TSOs)
- Research institutes and universities

Participation is organisational rather than individual, enabling knowledge transfer and internal dissemination across project teams, technical experts and management functions.

FIF is designed as a long-term learning platform supporting:
- Better-informed decision-making
- Risk reduction
- Improved project planning
- Organisational development
- Licensing and regulatory preparedness

7. Membership options

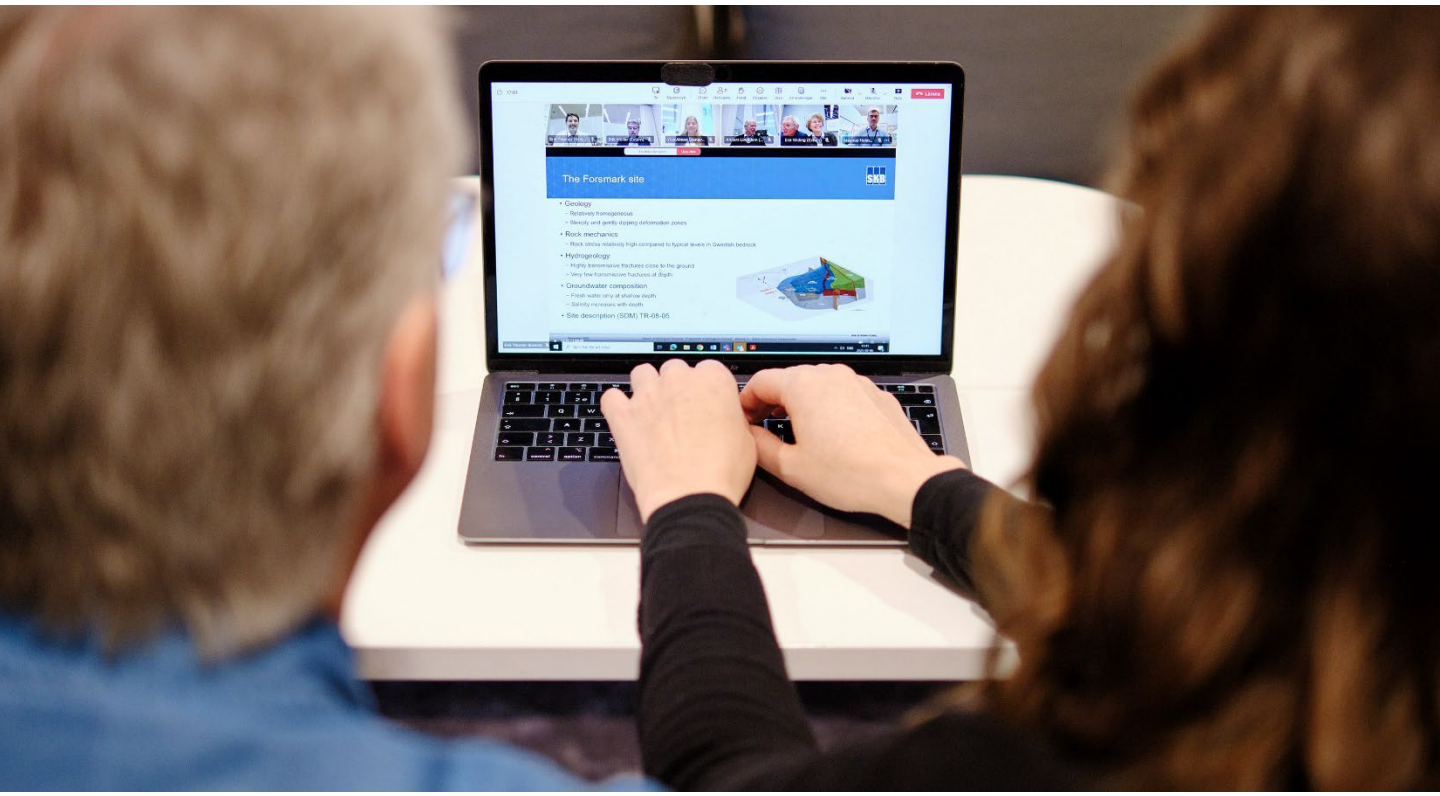
FIF offers two levels of participation, allowing organisations to select the level of engagement most appropriate for their programme needs and objectives.

Strategic Membership provides a more comprehensive level of participation by combining access to implementation knowledge with direct expert interaction, strategic dialogue and active engagement in the development of FIF.

Core Membership provides structured access to implementation knowledge, lessons learned and repository project information through the FIF digital platform.

In simple terms:

- Strategic Members follow, learn and engage in strategic dialogue and contribute to the future development of FIF.
- Core Members follow and learn from repository implementation.



Strategic Member

For organisations seeking active engagement and strategic learning.

This membership is intended for organisations developing or advancing a repository programme and wishing to benefit from implementation experience from Forsmark. Through access to practical lessons learned, benchmarking opportunities and direct interaction with repository experts, members can strengthen programme planning, organisational readiness and preparations for future licensing and implementation activities.

Strategic Member Includes:

- Access to the **web-based knowledge portal**
- **Direct dialogue with SKB experts** through interactive live webinars (2 per year)
- **Annual Forsmark site visit** including:
  - Observation of ongoing construction activities
  - Presentations and technical discussions with SKB experts
  - Up to eight participants per organisation
  - Local transportation, lunches and one joint dinner included
  - Travel and accommodation not included
- **Structured strategic dialogue through participation in the annual Strategic Member Meeting, creating a forum to:**
  - Propose and explore priority topics and themes
  - Review progress and implementation experience
  - Provide feedback and contribute to future development and content of FIF
- **Extended organisational access**, enabling broader internal learning and alignment
  - Portal access via personal user accounts for up to eight users per organisation

Strategic Membership is designed to support better-informed decisions, reduced implementation risk and costs, and stronger organisational readiness by learning directly from an active repository programme.

Core Member

For organisations seeking efficient access to repository implementation knowledge.

It provides a cost-effective way to monitor implementation progress, access practical lessons learned and strengthen internal competence development through the FIF knowledge platform.

Core Membership is ideal for:
- Organisations in earlier programme phases
- Research organisations and universities
- Technical support organisations
- Regulatory authorities
- Organisations primarily interested in knowledge acquisition and benchmarking

Core Member Includes:
- Access to the **web-based knowledge portal**
- Written Q&A with SKB experts
- Up to three personal portal accounts
- Access to recorded presentations and progress updates

Core Membership provides access to the same implementation information and lessons learned as Strategic Membership, but without the interactive engagement components such as webinars, site visits and strategic dialogue meetings.

Core Membership helps organisations:
- Build organisational knowledge and competence
- Follow implementation developments and lessons learned
- Support strategic planning and programme development
- Benchmark decisions and approaches against an active repository programme
- Gain insight into implementation challenges and practical solutions

8. Membership Comparison

Aspect	Strategic Member	Core Member
Target group	Organisations seeking active dialogue and strategic learning	Organisations seeking structured access to implementation knowledge
Primary benefit	Direct engagement and organisational learning	Knowledge access and benchmarking
Portal access method	Personal user accounts	Personal user accounts
Number of portal users	Up to 8 per organisation	Up to 3 per organisation
Knowledge web-based portal	✓	✓
Regular Progress Updates	✓	✓
Recorded Presentation Series	✓	✓
Written Q&A via portal	✓	✓
Live interactive webinars	✓	✗
Annual on-site visit	✓	✗
Participants in site visit	Up to 8 per organisation	✗
Included services during site visit	Local transport, 2 lunches and one dinner	✗
Strategic Member Meeting	✓	✗
Level of engagement	Active strategic dialogue and continuous improvement of FIF	Core access and information sharing

9. How to join FIF

Organisations interested in participating in FIF are welcome to contact the FIF team to arrange an introductory meeting.

The meeting provides an opportunity to:

- Learn more about FIF and the available membership options
- See a demonstration of the FIF knowledge portal
- Discuss programme-specific interests and learning needs
- Review the membership agreement and onboarding process
- Ask questions regarding participation

Following the meeting, interested organisations can proceed with membership enrolment and activation of user accounts.

For further information or to arrange an introductory meeting, please contact **skb.int@skb.se**.

10. Administration Team



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For further information about the Forsmark International Forum, please contact skb.int@skb.se

Find out more about our services at our website:

skbinternational.se