

Introducing the ITER Project

A star will soon be born, a star unlike any other ... a star fashioned by human hands. ITER—the Latin word for "The Way"—is more than 70 per cent complete as the first hydrogen fusion device at industrial scale.

From a scientific and technological point of view, it will be one of humankind's historic achievements. The creation of an artificial star and the tapping of the tremendous amounts of hydrogen fusion energy produced could forever alter the course of civilization.

An unprecedented international collaboration that brings together China, the European Union, India, Japan, Korea, Russia and the United States, the ITER Project marks the culmination of decades of fusion research and years of diplomatic negotiation. What was the aspiration of three generations of physicists is now the reality of thousands of scientists, engineers, and labourers involved in ITER in France and throughout the world.

The seven ITER Members, representing half the world's population, share the responsibility for building the ITER machine and facilities. Every Member, essentially, is involved in every system and benefits from the intellectual property generated.

As buildings on the construction platform are nearing completion and component manufacturing for First Plasma has passed 84%, ITER has now fully entered the machine assembly phase. In the exceptional context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ITER Organization and the seven Domestic Agencies are adjusting and finding ways of maintaining critical activities while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of their staff and collaborators.

From the rolling hills of Provence to factories on three continents, thousands of men and women from 35 nations are bent on realizing one of humankind's most enduring dreams: capturing the fire of the stars and making it available for generations to come.



Overview of the ITER worksite

Installation ongoing in the ITER Tokamak Pit