



## Education and Training Actions

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It was recognized by the High Level Expert Group (HLEG) in their report of 2009 that education and training were a key component in the development and maintenance of expertise in the area of research into the risks from exposure to low level ionizing radiation. Accordingly when the Network of Excellence DoReMi was set up, it included a dedicated workpackage on the topic. The main concern of HLEG was that many EU member states have lost key competences and are no longer capable of independently retaining their current research activities in radiation sciences, with implications for effectively fulfilling operational and policy needs and obligations. The aim of the E&T workpackage was to integrate the resources of the existing centres of excellence in the field in order to create education opportunities that would attract new students into the area and provide experience of research in the area. This was addressed by creating an annual E&T Forum, held in conjunction with the annual MELODI (Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Research Initiative) workshop, with the aim of bringing together interested individuals to discuss the issues and formulate priorities and initiatives. One of the most successful initiatives was the sponsorship by DoReMi of an annual series of short 1-3-week courses hosted by DoReMi members, each featuring the particular expertise of their institution. These courses were offered free of charge to students and by the end of 2015 there will have been a total of 40 courses, giving hands-on experience of research topics to nearly 500 students. Another priority was to create a sustainable structure to support E&T beyond the life of DoReMi. To this end a Working Group has been set up within MELODI to analyse the continuing needs for E&T support. The result has been a recognition of the role of E&T as an integral part of on-going research, and inclusion of an element of E&T for support and dissemination in future EC-funded research programmes.