The ITER project in Provence benefits from unparalleled support on all levels. On an international level, China, South Korea, Europe, the United States, India, Japan and Russia are all on board to rise to this remarkable scientific feat. On a regional level, all the parties offer a structured welcome package, showcasing new talent, supporting companies in their strategy to build industrial partnerships, while generating jobs and strengthening the industrial fabric.

The Welcome around ITER (W@I) network launched in 2013 plays a key role in welcoming and supporting companies having signed ITER contracts and required to operate on the ITER construction site at Cadarache in Saint-Paul-lez-Durance. Propelled by the impetus generated around the project, W@I also supports companies looking to set up business in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur (PACA) region or to build bridges with local firms.

The W@I network comprises Agence ITER France, Pôle emploi (job centre) and the Welcome Office for International Companies (WOIC), C2I (ITER industrial committee) and the French regional chambers of commerce & industry (CCI). This network offers a broad range of services to meet all corporate needs.

**ACCOMMODATION & TRANSPORT**

Agence ITER France (AIF) works hand in hand with the local representatives and authorities to provide a solid portfolio of accommodation and transport solutions for employees working on the ITER construction site in Saint-Paul-lez-Durance. AIF has signed partnership agreements with several relocation companies and operators offering accommodation. The AIF team coordinates the implementation of operational solutions (transport systems, park-and-ride) to optimise the commuting of staff (engineers, technicians, administrative staff, construction workers, etc.).

**REGULATIONS**

Agence ITER France also brings its expertise in labour regulations to the table, the fundamental principles of which are detailed in guidelines for companies not based in France but who are required to second their staff to the ITER project in France. These guidelines describe the rules for entry, residing and working in France, as well as social security, labour and tax regulations and laws.

For legal queries or advice, write to: AIF-WAI-regulation@cea.fr

**INDUSTRY AND PARTNERS**

The hosting ground of the ITER project lends itself well to the development of industrial partnerships and collaborations. A driving force in the regional economy, the industry represents 11% of the job market; all industrial sectors are present in the region, e.g. energy, maritime, aeronautics, etc. About thirty regional economic development & innovation centres represent a pool of 3,000 SMEs and micro-businesses, along with 600 laboratories, research centres and specialist associations. Being the hub that it is, W@I represents a vast network of players based in the region ready to assist companies in their demands:

- **C2I (ITER industrial committee)** has structured a dense yet diverse framework of industrial partnerships in numerous business sectors. Having been heavily involved in welcoming the project since 2006, C2I has facilitated a slew of partnerships between French, European and international industry players by organising forums, seminars and conferences, such as the ITER Business Forum (IBF).
  - https://mioga.finances.gouv.fr/ITER/public/SITE

- **CCI (Network of French Chambers of Commerce & Industry)** provides support to local companies interfacing with the ITER project by fostering local economic growth. This network is currently assisting around thirty local and regional companies vying for complex industrial contracts. Several information sessions are co-organised with C2I, such as civil nuclear meetings and contractor forums that enable SMEs to showcase their know-how for consortia having signed contracts with the ITER project.
  - www.paca.cci.fr

- **WOIC (Welcome Office for International Companies)** helps French and international companies to set up and develop their business in the region hosting the ITER project. This core entity is focused on helping companies specialised in new energies to set up their business in the region, e.g. finding offices or land, rounding up funds, and putting innovative organisations in contact with them. It has supported more than fifteen companies representing over 350 employees.
  - AIF-WAI@cea.fr
Pôle emploi (job centre) meet the job recruitment and training needs of companies. Pôle emploi has formed a regional team of five advisors who operate in the ITER area. Personalised services are provided to better plan for and satisfy the future requirements of companies.

An online data bank of corporate profiles has been compiled so it is easy to find the right candidate for the job each time. A recruitment space has been set up so the process can be tracked step by step.

Information regarding jobs & employment are available on the Pôle emploi Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region’s website, in ITER section.

**A REGION WITH GREAT APPEAL**

 Ranked 3rd in France for its research potential, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur region is home to forty different training centres and higher education institutions, with a pool of more than 150,000 students.

Located about an hour from Marseille in the south of France, the appeal of this region is marked by the high capacity for innovation of its SMEs in the fields of technology services, metallurgy and computer, electronic and optical components.

The region hosting the ITER project is ranked as one of the most attractive areas in France, boasting a great quality of life with good economic drive.

The ITER project is one of the most ambitious scientific and technological feats of this decade. Now well into its construction phase, ITER provides a wealth of opportunities for industrial activities, jobs and technological innovation. It is also an entire region that is ready, hands on deck, to make sure ITER is a success. Companies are setting up shop in the region. More and more actions are being deployed to foster training and employment.

Partnerships are being signed between French and foreign companies. The region’s welcome services are at your disposal.

**Contact**

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