



The ITER project

Governance and funding

Governance structure

The ITER project has been in force since 2006, when the People's Republic of China; Euratom (represented by the European Commission); the Republic of India; Japan; the Republic of Korea; the Russian Federation; and the United States of America signed the ITER Agreement. In doing so, they agreed to set up the ITER Organization to implement the project.

The main governing body of the ITER Organization, and therefore of ITER, is the ITER Council where the seven partners meet twice a year to guide and manage the project.



Member contributions

Each ITER member contributes to the project in two ways: “in-kind” and “in-cash”. In-cash contributions are paid directly to the ITER Organisation, and are used for running costs and for parts of the project within its responsibility. **The vast majority of each member's contribution is made in-kind** and delivered to the site in France, as high-tech components and services for the machine. The EU is the biggest contributor to ITER and is responsible for delivering 45% of the overall project in its construction phase.



Each member's contribution is managed and delivered by their domestic agency. **The European domestic agency is called Fusion for Energy**, and is headquartered in Barcelona, Spain.

Schedule and funding

The overall plan that specifies the schedule, scope and cost of the project is called its baseline. The latest ITER baseline was adopted in 2016 and set the earliest possible date for the beginning of experiments, a milestone called «First Plasma», at December 2025. The baseline is currently under review to reflect the delays caused by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and of technical challenges. In the baseline review, the expected date of First Plasma will have to be updated accordingly.



The European contribution to the project is funded through the EU's annual budget, guided by the long-term EU multiannual financial framework, which sets out the maximum budget that can be spent in each area of EU activity over its duration. Under the multiannual financial framework, spanning 2021-2027, **the EU contributes €5.6 billion to ITER.**