In continuation of the numerous partnerships established between ITER and the Marseille University (AMU), Agence ITER France has created close links with the JCO (Journalism and Communication of Organizations) masters. This course, which specifically targets the risks associated with filing operations, noise, fall and traffic risks and workers in secondment situations. These topics are clearly mobilized by the local information committee, which organizes a public meeting every year.

This synergy mission is an original idea put into practice by Agence ITER France.

It is our goal to increase participation in the “ITER Robots” challenge and to develop specific professional practices that will enable us to form professional practice and implement actions to develop their visibility, especially via social networks, to behave. They are high school students who are developing a communication plan, finding partners, briefing Facebook and Twitter accounts, drafting the rules, creating flyers... The professionalization of Clara and Morgane has demonstrated the need of all must be a solid synergy with Agency’s communication department.

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For more than 50 years, several generations of engineers and scientists have been involved in this project. The ITER device consists of 11,000 components, 24,000 superconducting magnets weighing 20,000 tonnes, transported operation means, ITER national assembly tools... Their expertise is appreciated by the Korean company Toshiba Heavy Industries which is currently in charge of the installation of a powerful tool that will handle and foresee a part gross weight of 3,000 tonnes.

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THE MISSION OF THE WELCOME OFFICE, CREATED WITHIN AGENCIE ITER FRANCE, IS TO HELP STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES SETTLE IN FRANCE: AN ADMINISTRATIVE, LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL CHALLENGE.

ITER has a capital is I for an international, because even when starting to take the subject of fusion, it is necessary to be on the same wavelength. That is done by sharing and collaboration across more than 35 nations, including the countries that make up Europe and the United States, Russia, China, India, Korea and Japan. And of course, there is the site itself: Cadarache, located in the town of Saint-Paul-lez-Durance in the Bouches-du-Rhône, at the confluence of the Alpes-de-Haute Provence, the Var and the Vaucluse. And of course, there is the site itself: Cadarache, located in the town of Saint-Paul-lez-Durance in the Bouches-du-Rhône, at the confluence of the Alpes-de-Haute Provence, the Var and the Vaucluse.

WHERE TO LIVE?

This sentence is the result of the Welcome Office’s very close relationship with each newcomer. And work even starts before their arrival in France since major decisions have to be taken earlier, starting with the decision of where to live. In such cases, the Welcome Office is not just about arrival. Chosen very early according to the age of the expatriates, the presence or absence of their family and, therefore, the possibilities of schooling their children. Being near the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur international airport is often a major requirement for young couples who decide to settle in Marseille and nearby towns. On the other hand, the bigger the children, the more attractive the town of Aix becomes. Other decisive elements include the ease of integration in local life and their spouse’s job, which is often important in professional careers. "The Welcome Office's primary role is to provide the personal or specific support meeting the commitments made by France.

THE WELCOME OFFICE

In concrete terms, this support ranges from obtaining visas and special residence permits to finding accommodation and includes all customs procedures and the registration of vehicles. More than 2,700 people, including family members, have been welcomed since the arrival of the first teams in 2006. During its first decade the Welcome Office has acquired solid expertise whilst working with constantly evolving criteria. The first ones were marked by the arrival of fusion experts from the United States, Japan, China and the United Kingdom. These experts carried out research laboratories around the world. Their needs were centered on information about life in Provence and various possible places where they could live as well as the culture on offer. Afterwards things changed with an increase in engineering studies and work on the site and especially due to the recruitment of younger experts who were often more informed thanks to social networks and the experience of their relatives, explain the team led by Fabrice Carle within Agençie ITER France.

THE WELCOME OFFICE works on the commitment of stakeholders (Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Finance...) to provide intersessional support meeting the commitments made by France.

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INTERCULTURAL LEARNING

The Welcome Office also has an interest in intercultural learning with several possibilities for ITER Organization’s employees and their families. The research program is only entitled to 2,000 hours of weekly classes given in place of work. Their purpose can be to take their lessons either within the Ab-Marseille University, Aix-Marseille University of the ‘University with the Gate’, a national education structure of the region. This ‘French as a Foreign Language’ teaching program is entitled “Intercultural learning of French” and focuses on the adaptation of culture and daily needs of expatriates, especially in the period of language acquisition. ITER employees are currently entitled in the program box (in bold, which means the French-speaking European language) in January 2009 for its innovative approach. Finally, the Welcome Office has also set up a program to help ITER employees leave the site at the end of their mission, at which point it is important to help them find alternative accommodation in their homeland. This service is held at the same time, during which some people managed to take on part-time or part-time jobs in France. Those who had been working in France often regret not having its benefit from the capital + it which is the very origin of all.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE LESSONS YOU GIVE?

"Yes, the participants also want to know about how we live in France. For example, one of the first lessons deals with polite expressions, how to say hello and introduce oneself, to greet others or to invite him to dinner... Inviting, or being invited, to eat together is something that we all respect. We also teach the cultural-specific expressions, like placing the napkin on the table or not having taken the time to learn French. In a way, they learn how to understand people and to respect them."

DO YOUR LESSONS ALSO GIVE AN INSIGHT INTO FRANCE CULTURE?

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"It is also the opportunity to learn through direct contact with others."