

## The ITER Project: moving forward

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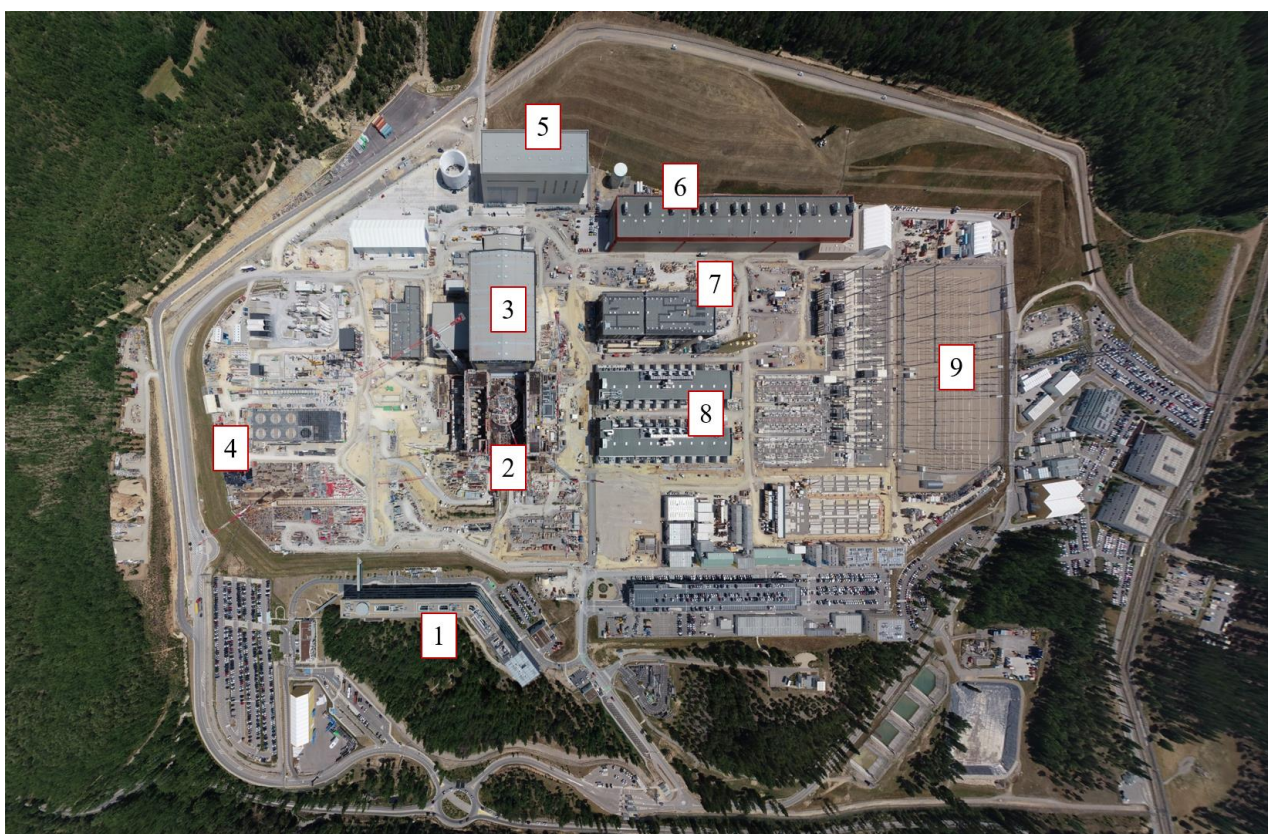
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The manufacturing of ITER components is advancing in factories and laboratories around the world, and the facility is now taking shape at St Paul-lez-Durance in southern France, with construction at a fast pace and new components regularly arriving onsite. This progress is strongly supported and has been made possible by substantial achievements in fusion technology research, development and innovation. As of mid-2019, the project had completed more than 65% of total construction work through First Plasma—based on ITER metrics that include design, construction, fabrication, assembly, installation, and system commissioning. Massive, precisely engineered first-of-a-kind ITER components have begun to arrive onsite, as the project transitions to Assembly and Installation Phase.

ITER Management is continuing efforts to strengthen project integration, streamline decision making, improve risk management and system engineering practices, and ensure the efficient use of project resources, all while accelerating construction activities. The ‘staged approach’ strategy endorsed by the ITER Council in November 2016 has established a target for First Plasma of December 2025 as the earliest technically achievable date, with the transition to DT operation scheduled for December 2035.

The project remains on schedule and on budget, a testament to the sustained One-ITER spirit shown by all seven Members. All Members remain committed to delivering the ITER machine to demonstrate the feasibility of fusion power at industrial scale.



**Figure 1:** The ITER worksite, July 2019. Key structures shown include: (1) ITER Headquarters; (2) Tokamak building; (3) Assembly Hall; (4) Tokamak cooling water building; (5) Cryostat workshop; (6) Poloidal Field Coil building; (7) Cryogenics plant; (8) Magnet conversion buildings; (9) Electrical switchyard.