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This issue of Il Nuovo Cimento is dedicated to the talks delivered during the international workshop "Research Plans for the Technology Park Annexed to the Italian National Near-surface Repository for Radioactive Waste", organized by Sogin. On 20 and 21 January 2023 over 50 experts from the major national and international institutions and scientific organizations came to Rome to discuss the current state of radiation protection and radioactive waste management research. The event was crucial for the exchange of experiences in a sector that requires innovative tools and solutions from both a scientific and technological point of view in a complex and constantly evolving context, such as the one in which Sogin operates.