

Pia Oedewald is a senior scientist and she leads a research team called “Organisational psychology” at VTT in Finland. Her educational background is in psychology. She has 13 years of experience of research and consultancy work in various safety critical domains such as nuclear power industry, health care, railways and chemical industry.

The main focus of her work has been to give insights into questions such as : “How to evaluate and anticipate safety of an organisation?” and “What is safety culture and how to assess it?”.

Definition of safety culture:

As a complex and multidimensional construct safety culture can be best described as potential - safety culture is organisation’s potential for safety. It is characterised by organisation’s **willingness and ability to understand** the nature of safety and the risks related to its core task as well as **its willingness and ability to manage the activities** so that safety is constantly taken into account.