

RER7014 "Improving Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for Radiation Protection in the Region

Regional Training Course Regional Training Course on Environmental Radiation Monitoring

Hosted by

Jozef Stefan Institute, Department of Low and Medium Energy Physics

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Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to train the participants on key aspects of environmental radiation monitoring in emergency exposure situations including Sampling, laboratory Preparedness and measurements of radionuclides.

Working Language(s)

The working language(s) of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after 25 March 2025 will not be considered.

Project Background

Public and Environmental Radiation Protection and Environment Monitoring are high priority areas identified in the Europe Regional Profile 2022-2027. The risks for exposure to ionizing radiation in the region depend on several potential radiation hazards: e.g., the presence of nuclear power plants or envisaged construction of new ones, uranium legacy sites, historical nuclear test sites, nuclear waste storage facilities, NORM industry and/or NORM legacy sites, sites with important nuclear contamination and various research, industrial and medical applications involving the use of radionuclides. Many of these potential sources of exposure to ionizing radiation are currently insufficiently characterized and/or monitored for protection of the public and the environment as required by international recommendations and safety standards.

The project RER7014 "Improving Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for Radiation Protection in the Region" is aimed at contributing towards radiological protection of public and the environment in different exposure situations. This project includes a set of activities to enhance the capacities for planning and implementation of monitoring strategies and programmes for different exposure situations, both from the perspective of regulation and application of technology.

Scope and Nature

The regional workshop will include:

- a) Presentations by the IAEA and local lecturers on relevant safety standards and technical guidance related to radiation monitoring in emergency conditions, such as: introduction on emergency preparedness and response; characteristics of emergency exposure situations, phases of a nuclear or radiological emergency; monitoring during a nuclear or radiological emergency including sampling and measuring techniques; the use of Operational Intervention Levels (OILs) for protecting the public during a nuclear or radiological emergency; response and assistance products.
- b) Practical sessions to address and share experiences on: the use of personal protective equipment by emergency workers including radiological assessors working in the field or in laboratory; demonstration of sampling techniques and preparation of samples for in-situ and laboratory measurements; demonstration of in-situ and laboratory techniques for measurement of radioactivity content of environmental and food samples; interpretation of results obtained from radiation monitoring.
- c) Discussion sessions amongst participants from Member States on current status of national environmental radiation monitoring networks and systems, and ways and means for future collaboration at regional level.

Expected Outputs

- a) Increased understanding of the application of international safety standards and technical guidance in the field of environmental radiation monitoring for emergency exposure situations;
- b) Increased understanding in planning and implementation of radiation monitoring techniques to ensure protection of the public and the environment in case of a nuclear or radiological emergency;
- c) Updated information on the current status of national radiation monitoring networks and systems;
- d) Increased understanding on ways and means for future collaboration on radiation monitoring at regional level.

Participation

Each country is invited to nominate up to two participants indicating the order of priority.

The Regional Training Course is open to relevant stakeholders from Member States participating in the TC project RER7014. The nominated candidates should be officially designated by the counterparts of the project. Due to practical limitations, the number of international participants will be limited to a maximum of (33) in total.

The event will involve radiation exposure in relation to the following practice: In-laboratory and in-field demonstrations of radiation monitoring techniques with small activity radioactive sources.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Nominated candidates should be officially designated by counterparts of the TC project RER7014 from governmental laboratories and/or designated emergency response organizations and should have clearly assigned roles and responsibilities for environmental radiation monitoring in routine and emergency conditions.

Nominated candidates are required to hold at least one year work experience in environmental sampling, measurements (alpha, beta, gamma) and analysis of radionuclides in environmental samples by laboratory and/or in-situ techniques. Furthermore, experience in instruments calibrations, as well as experience in the use of radiation monitoring instruments for source search and recovery, radiological investigations, and/or for recommending public protective actions in incidents or accidents based on measurements' results is desirable.

The Regional Training Course will be conducted in English language. Thus, candidates should have sufficient English-language proficiency to be able to actively participate in the planned activities. Participants are expected to be able to deliver the knowledge acquired during the RTC to their fellow colleagues after returning to their countries.

Occupational Exposure to Radiation

This event may involve occupational exposure to radiation. Therefore, candidates are required to duly complete and return the Occupational Exposure History (OEH) form upon applying for the event. The IAEA will provide selected participants in due course with a dosimeter to monitor their occupational exposure during this event.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

- 1. Access the InTouch+ home page (https://intouchplus.iaea.org) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx) before proceeding with the event application process below.
- 2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
 - b. Download and complete the <u>Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form</u>, and upload to InTouch+ ('Profile' tab under the personal section) specifying the document name. If already provided, kindly discard this step; and
 - c. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (**EVT2500396**) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the <u>InTouch+ Help page</u>. Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to <u>InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the training course from the IAEA website.

NOTE: A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency AX Travel Management, or a travel allowance, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

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