

RER 1022 "Enhancing Utilization and Safety of Research Reactors"

Regional Coordination Meeting

Hosted by

The International Atomic Energy Agency IAEA Headquarters Vienna, Austria

28 to 30 April 2025

Ref. No.: ME-RER1022-2500728

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the Regional Coordination Meeting is to review the progress made under this project on the status of the research reactors and plan future activities in relation to utilization, operation, and safety. This event will also be devoted to discuss the design of the successor project on '*Enhancing Utilization*, *Operation, and Safety of Research Reactors through Regional Collaboration*'.

Working Language

The working language of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after 14 March 2025 will not be considered.

Project Background

The objective of the project is to enhance utilization of research reactors and provide support to the safe operation of the research reactors in Europe and Central Asia to Member States through compliance to the Code of Conduct on Safety of Research Reactors and the sustainability of related networks and coalitions.

Access to research reactor services is not uniform within the region. User needs for research reactors, for example, in medical isotope production, analyses to support industry and the environment, education and training in nuclear sciences, are underserved. Furthermore, many Member States operate research reactors that are underutilized and are facing significant budgetary challenges that have the potential to impact safe and secure operation of these facilities. New research reactors are proposed within the region. It is important that these reactors develop an adequate stakeholder base to avoid future underutilization and budgetary shortfalls as well as the needed technical and safety infrastructures.

Expected Outputs

The expected main outputs of this event are:

- The project participants are introduced in person;
- Current status of research reactor activities in the participating Member States;
- Professional matters with respect to education and training of staff of the research reactor facilities;
- Identified gaps and suggested actions to address them in the framework of the project;
- Finalized project workplan with indication of timelines for future activities.
- Discussion of successor project design on 'Enhancing Utilization, and Safety of Research Reactors through Regional Collaboration'.

Participation

The event is open to 35 participants from the project participation Member States. Each country is invited to nominate two participants meeting the requirements described in the corresponding paragraph.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Participant should be a National project counterpart of the project RER1022, and able to cover the following topics:

- a) research reactor safety;
- b) research reactor utilization;
- c) research reactor operation.

As the workshop will be conducted in English, participants should have sufficient proficiency to deliver and follow talks and participate in the discussions in this language without difficulty.

Applications failing to clarify compliance to the requirements listed above will be automatically rejected.

Application Procedure

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

 Access the InTouch+ home page (<u>https://intouchplus.iaea.org</u>) 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 (<u>https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx</u>) before proceeding with the event application process below.

NOTE: The email used for TALEO and Nucleus must be the same. If not, the candidate's profile will not appear complete.

- 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 (**EVT2500728**) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

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>.

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.

NOTE: Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the IAEA website <u>https://www.iaea.org/services/technical-cooperation-programme/how-to-participate</u> and submit their applications to their National Authorities. The nomination forms once fully approved can be submitted by e-mail in a PDF format through the official channels via the IAEA Official E-Mail (<u>Official.Mail@iaea.org</u>) with copy to Mr Nurken (<u>A.Nurken@iaea.org</u>) and Mr Bru (<u>Y.Bru@iaea.org</u>).

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 American Express, or a travel grant, 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.

IAEA Contacts

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