

# International Atomic Energy Agency

## Regional Workshop on Review of Radon Programmes in Europe Member States

### PROSPECTUS

<b>Project Number &amp; Title:</b>	RER/9/127 Establishing Enhanced Approaches to the Control of Public Exposure to Radon
<b>Place (City, Country):</b>	Vienna, Austria
<b>Dates:</b>	22-25 April 2014
<b>Deadline for Nominations:</b>	7 February 2014
<b>Organizers:</b>	The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
<b>Host Country Organizer:</b>	IAEA Department of Technical Cooperation (TC) Division for Europe
<b>Language:</b>	The workshop will be conducted in English (no translation will be provided).
<b>Purpose:</b>	<p>The purpose of the workshop is to review radon activities in Europe, to initiate the preparation of a report on the current status of radon programmes in the participating Member States, and to discuss the implementation of the work plan for the next two years of the project.</p> <p>The workshop is the first general meeting of the new regional TC project which aim is to assist the Member States in establishing and further developing approaches to the control of public exposure to radon.</p> <p>The IAEA Safety Standard on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards contains specific requirements in relation to public exposure due to radon. The TC project will be based specifically on these requirements and on the associated guidance that has been prepared.</p>
<b>Expected Output(s):</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Identification of gaps and needs for each country to start development of a national radon action plan.</li><li>(b) Written reports from all participants to the Report on current situation in the project Member States for controlling public exposure to radon.</li></ol>
<b>Scope and</b>	The workshop will address the following topics:

**Nature:**

- a) Status of radon programme in each country;
- b) Preparation of report on the current status of national radon programmes in countries in the project;
- c) Legal framework for protection of public against radon;
- d) National radon action plan;
- e) Measurement techniques, measurement protocols for radon;
- f) Radon in civil engineering (preventive, corrective measures);
- g) Radon awareness, radon public relation, national radon surveys;

The workshop will be held as plenary meeting.

During the workshop participants will be required to make a presentation on the current status of the radon programme in their respective countries for protection of public against the exposure to radon.

The presentation would cover the following topics: legal framework, measurement techniques, building codes, radon surveys, radon awareness studies, and national action plan. A copy of the presentation is to be provided to the Technical Officer in advance of the workshop. Based on this, the experts will identify parts of their national strategy which need improvement or which need to be established.

The participant in the workshop will also be required to provide a written report on the current status of radon programme in their country. The report should include information on the radon levels in their country, the provision of information to interested parties, the establishment of reference level, and the development and implementation of a radon action plan.

**Background Information:**

The project focuses on the development of policies and strategies in order to implement new requirements of the IAEA Safety Standard on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards (GSR Part 3) as they apply to exposure due to radon in dwellings.

GSR Part 3 includes requirements aimed at identifying situations where action is required to reduce public exposure to indoor radon. Member States are required to provide information on indoor radon levels and the associated risks and, when considered necessary, implement an action plan for controlling public exposure. For the majority of people, radon is the primary source of radiation exposure. At average worldwide levels, exposure to radon results in an annual per capita dose on the order of 1.2 mSv, representing 40% of the total annual per capita dose. Indoor radon concentrations can vary widely from country to country, from region to region and within regions so that, in individual cases, doses of several tens or even hundreds of mSv can be received. In Europe, exposure to radon is responsible for about 10-15% of all lung cancer deaths. Reducing exposure to radon is a key public health and radiation protection priority. However, many European countries do not have a strategy in place that allows identification of the extent of the problem and of areas that are most seriously affected, information for decision-makers, technical experts and

the public does not exist, and there is little or no experience or expertise in measures to reduce radon concentrations in existing buildings and limit its accumulation in future buildings.

**Participation:** The workshop is open to up to 25 participants from the Member States participating in the regional technical cooperation project RER/ 9/127, in particular: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

**Participants' Qualifications:** The participants should be senior experts in the government organization that has responsibility for developing and implementing the national radon programme, national radon action plan or national radon strategy. Participants should have a background in radiation protection and/or public health.

As the training course will be conducted in English, participants should have sufficient proficiency to follow lectures and express themselves in this language without difficulty.

**Nomination Procedure:** Nominations for the Workshop should be submitted to the IAEA online through the Technical Cooperation Department's InTouch system (<http://intouch.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, nominations may be submitted on the standard IAEA Nomination Form for Workshop/Workshop and National Consultant (available on the IAEA website: <http://www.iaea.org>). Completed forms should be endorsed by relevant national authorities and returned to the Agency through the official channels, i.e. the designated National Liaison Office for IAEA Matters.

The completed nomination forms should be sent to the Programme Management Officer for this project, Mr Mykola Kurylchuk, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail ([Official.Mail@iaea.org](mailto:Official.Mail@iaea.org)), not later than **7 February 2014**. Nominations received after this date or which have not been routed through the established official channels cannot be considered.

**Administrative and Financial Arrangements:** Nominating Governments will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will, at that time, be given full details of the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants from countries eligible to receive technical assistance will be provided with a round trip economy class air ticket from their home countries to Vienna, Austria, and a Daily Subsistence Allowance at the prevailing UN Rate. Shipment of accumulated workshop materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the workshop 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 workshop, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in nominating participants, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.