

International Atomic Energy Agency

Regional workshop on Radon in Workplaces as an Element of a National Radon Action Plan

PROSPECTUS

- Project Number & Title:** RER/9/136: Reducing Public Exposure to Radon by Supporting the Implementation and Further Development of National Strategies
- Place (City, Country):** Tallinn, Estonia
- Dates:** 23-27 May 2016
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- Deadline for Nominations:** 16 March 2016
- Organizers:** The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with the Government of Estonia.
- Host Country Organizer:** Ms Reelika Runnel
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- Language:** The workshop will be conducted in English (no translation will be provided).
- Purpose:** The purpose of the workshop is to transfer the knowledge and best practices from experts to participants on the control of radon in buildings of high occupancy by members of the public e.g. schools, hospitals, as an element of a national radon action plan.
- Expected Output(s):**
- (a) Participants aware of all aspects for the successful implementation of strategies for the measurement of radon in workplaces, including schools, hospitals, etc. , as an element of a national radon action plan;
 - (b) Participants to be aware of strategies for the management of radon measurement data and the development of national radon maps;
 - (c) Participants to be aware of the requirements in the IAEA Safety Requirements GSR Part 3; Radiation Protection and Safety of Radiation Sources: International Basic Safety Standards.

Scope and Nature:

The workshop will address the following topics:

- a) Protocols for the measurement of radon in workplaces with high occupancy by members of the public;
- b) The identification of the types of workplaces with high occupancy by members of the public where measurements of radon are required;
- c) The management of measurement data and the development of national radon maps.

The participant in the workshop will be required to make a presentation on the measurement of radon in workplaces in their country, and on measures taken in relation to radon levels that exceed the national radon reference level.

The workshop will be highly interactive and will consist of presentation by experts and by participants and may also include working group sessions.

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. The WHO has also made recommendations regarding public health aspects of

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.

The workshop will discuss the types of data to include in a national database for radon measurements, e.g. data from the measurement of radon in dwellings, data from measurement of radon in workplaces. Similarly, the definition of radon prone area and the development of radon maps normally relates to the measurement of radon in dwellings. The application of the definition of radon prone area and the use of radon maps will be discussed

during the workshop.

Participation:

The workshop is open to one participant from the Member States participating in the regional technical cooperation project RER/ 9/136, in particular: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Participants' Qualifications:

The participant should be senior expert in the government organization that has responsibility for developing and implementing the national radon programme, national radon action plan or national radon strategy. This participant should have a background in radiation protection and/or public health.

As the workshop 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 Regional 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 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, Ms Carmina Jimenez De Bergant, through IAEA Official Fax (+43-1-26007) or E-Mail (Official.Mail@iaea.org), not later than **16 March 2016**. 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 Tallinn, Estonia, and a Daily Subsistence Allowance at the prevailing UN Rate. Shipment of accumulated training materials to the participants' home countries is not the responsibility of the IAEA.

The organizers of the regional 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 regional 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.