



# **Regional Training Course on Gamma-Ray Spectrometry, including Sampling Preparation and Quality Assurance and Quality Control**

**Hosted by**

The Government of Greece

**through the**

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

Athens, Greece

**16 to 20 October 2023**

**Ref. No.: TN-RER7014-2302901**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this event is to train the participants on the application of high-resolution gamma-ray spectrometry including sampling, sample preparation and QA/QC.

### **Working Language(s)**

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

## **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after 9 July 2023 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 TC project RER7014 “Improving Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for Radiation Protection in the Region” is aimed at contributing towards the enhancement of regional cooperation in the application of environmental monitoring programmes to improve radiological safety of public and the environment, by efficiently demonstrating radiological protection in the region for different exposure situations. The current project includes a set of activities for enhancing the capacities for planning, implementation and harmonization of monitoring programmes for different exposure situations, both from the perspective of regulation and application of technology.

## **Scope and Nature**

In accordance to workplan for 2023-2024 under the TC project, the purpose of the event is to address Member States technology specific needs for the strengthening of environmental monitoring programmes in the region, by enhancement and harmonization of gamma spectrometry expertise between laboratories contributing to regional environmental monitoring by gamma spectrometry.

## **Participation**

The Regional Training Course on gamma-ray spectrometry is open to the relevant stakeholders (gamma spectrometry users) from Member States participating in the TC project RER7014.

Due to practical limitations, the number of participants will be limited to a maximum of twenty (20) participants in total.

In collaboration with other interested national stakeholders, participants of the training course are expected to:

(i) Have completed and submitted to the IAEA the reduced TSA4 questionnaire (template attached). Hence, those countries which have not yet sent the questionnaire to the IAEA, should submit them together with the nomination form. This is a pre-requisite to be considered for the event.

## Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Nominated candidates should be officially designated by counterparts of the TC project RER7014, representing governmental laboratories/support organisations performing high resolution gamma spectrometry measurement and analysis of radionuclides in environmental samples to support environmental monitoring in the country.

Nominated candidates are required to hold at least one year work experience in measurements and analysis of radionuclides by high resolution gamma spectrometry within a gamma spectrometry laboratory. Furthermore, experience of HPGe detector calibrations, including basic knowledge of calculation and use relevant correction factors, as well as experience in the use of gamma spectrometry analysis software is required. Candidates are strongly encouraged to use own laptop and owned gamma spectrometry software (with valid licence) during the course.

The Regional Training Course on gamma-ray spectrometry will be conducted in English language. Thus, candidates should have sufficient English-language proficiency to be able to actively participate in all planned activities.

## 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 [Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form](#), 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 (EVT2302901) 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 [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to [InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org](mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org).

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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