



Regional Meeting on Enhancement of Utilization of Research Reactors

Hosted by

The Government of Hungary

through the

HUN-REN Institute for Nuclear Research

Budapest, Hungary

11 to 15 May 2026

Ref. No.: ME-RER1025-2600906

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to discuss how to enhance the utilization of research reactors by supporting management in identifying the capabilities of their research reactors, aligning them with stakeholder/user needs, and establishing a long-term plan that would promote sustainability and socio-economic impact.

Working Language(s)

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

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **13 March 2026** will not be considered.

Project Background

The research reactor community worldwide faces challenges in securing the long-term sustainability of these facilities. Even though there is a growing need to develop self-sustainability models for research reactors and to justify their continued funding, a strategy for their utilization is often lacking. To ensure a high impact of these research reactor facilities, a strategy for optimized utilization is essential. Irrespective of the research reactor mission, its complexity, power or size, ownership or regulatory model, a well-considered strategy requires a thorough assessment of the reactor utilization. This assessment can provide additional insight regarding the need for a long-term investment for facility refurbishment and modernization, or eventual shutdown. Such assessment process requires diverse expertise that many operating organisations may not possess internally.

To support Member States in assessing the status of their national nuclear infrastructure and development of research reactor programme the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in 2017, published Strategic Planning for Research Reactors (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-T-3.16). The publication together with the Feasibility Study for a New Research Reactor Project (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No NG-T-3.18, 2018) and Specific Considerations in the Assessment of the Status of the National Nuclear Infrastructure for a New Research Reactor Programme (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NR-T-5.9, 2021), and other IAEA publications referenced therein provides comprehensive framework for safe, efficient and sustainable operation of research reactors. The Integrated Research Reactor Utilization Review (IRRUR) is an IAEA review service available to Member States to assist them in performing a thorough assessment of the utilization of their research reactors, including their existing and potential capabilities and constraints.

Scope and Nature

The event is intended to contribute to the enhancement of the utilization of RRs and enable management to identify the capabilities of their RRs and match these to stakeholder/user needs. Management could then also establish a long-term vision that would also promote the sustainability and socio-economic impact.

The event also aims to provide a forum at which participants can share and discuss experiences, challenges and lessons learned in the development and implementation of research reactor strategic plans.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

The event is intended for individuals who are members of research reactor teams involved in planning/building a new research reactor or expanding utilisation of an existing research reactor based on the analysis of the national/regional/international needs. In their application, candidates are requested to indicate their role and responsibilities in the above context by providing a brief summary statement on how their participation will contribute to the project(s) they are involved.

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://webss0.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 (**EVT2600906**) 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.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting 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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