



Mid-Term Coordination Meeting

Hosted by

The Government of Türkiye

through the

Ege University; Institute of Nuclear Sciences

Kusadasi, Türkiye

22 to 24 October 2026

Ref. No.: ME-RER7016-2400856

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to review the progress achieved under the project, assess the implementation status of planned activities, and make the necessary arrangement for the implementation of the future project activities.

Working Language(s)

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

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after 11 September 2024 will not be considered.

Project Background

A survey analysis was conducted under project RER7015 on plastic pollution monitoring within the framework of Nuclear Technology for Controlling Plastic Pollution (NUTEC Plastics), IAEA's flagship initiative to address the global challenge of plastic pollution. The survey revealed that Member States (MSs) are not sufficiently aware of the comparative advantage of nuclear technology applications in monitoring microplastic pollution and clearly showed that MSs needed support in terms of education and training to strengthen their human resources and physical infrastructure for microplastic monitoring. Besides supporting MSs in developing competencies in microplastic monitoring, the project will strengthen participating MSs capabilities in the use of nuclear technologies for monitoring sediment pollution. The project anticipates hands-on training on advanced nuclear techniques for the analysis of contaminants, especially microplastics, in different environmental matrices, data evaluation, joint field training courses, proficiency tests, workshops, participation at international conferences, outreach activities, and online data management. One of the project objectives is to compare and assess environmental responses to pollution and climate change processes in different geographical locations and different environmental compartments (rivers, lakes, seas, soil, water, groundwater, and biota) to obtain a more complete understanding of ecosystems' adaptation and to propose mitigation measures. The project will strengthen and scale up the development of reliable and cost-effective techniques to assess the spatial and temporal abundance, and type of microplastics to better understand their origin, transport mechanisms, fate, and impact. This includes the establishment of harmonized, standardized protocols to identify microplastics in environmental samples, analytical techniques in line with best practices, and state-of-the-art science, and training for scientists and technicians in their use. The capacity building for the implementation of innovative nuclear techniques for microplastics monitoring will be supported. The project further aims to address freshwater environment in addition to marine environments and will be more comprehensive than RER7015.

Scope and Nature

The meeting will bring together project counterparts and relevant technical experts from participating Member States involved in the implementation of the project Enhancing Coastal Management in Freshwater and Marine Environments through Nuclear Analytical Techniques, Including Microplastics Monitoring. It will serve as a regional coordination platform to review progress made since the start of the project and to evaluate achievements against the approved work plan and expected outputs.

The scope of the meeting will include presentations by participating countries on national progress, technical discussions on ongoing and planned activities, review of project performance indicators, identification of implementation challenges and resource needs, and exchange of good practices and lessons learned. Particular attention will be given to activities related to the application of nuclear and isotopic techniques for coastal management and the monitoring of microplastics in freshwater and marine environments.

The meeting will be conducted through plenary sessions, technical presentations, group discussions, and consultations with the aim of reaching agreement on priorities, coordination mechanisms, and the work plan for the 2026–2027 period.

Participation

The meeting is being organized for the Europe region and is intended for countries participating in project RER7016. Each Member State participating in project RER7016 will nominate the project's Lead National Counterpart to attend the meeting.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Participants should be the officially designated National Counterparts of project RER7016, or senior representatives directly involved in the coordination and implementation of project activities at the national level. Participants are expected to be familiar with the objectives, work plan, and progress of project RER7016, and to be able to report on national achievements, challenges, and priorities. They should also have the authority or institutional mandate to contribute to technical discussions, decision-making processes, and the adoption of the work plan for the 2026–2027 period.

As the meeting will be conducted in English, participants should have sufficient proficiency in English to actively engage in discussions and technical exchanges.

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 (EVT2400856) 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 event, 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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