



# **Regional Workshop on the Management of Existing Radiation Exposure Situations**

**Hosted by**

The Government of the Czech Republic

**through the**

State Office for Nuclear Safety (SÚJB)

Prague, Czech Republic

**20 to 24 March 2023**

**Ref. No.: ME-RER9158-2300062**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the event is to discuss and share experiences on the management of existing radiation exposure situations as described in Section V of the international Basic Safety Standards, General Safety Requirements (GSR) Part 3; and to identify the main challenges, gaps and solutions to overcome them.

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

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

### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after **12 February 2023** will not be considered.

## **Project Background**

TC Project RER9158 is aimed at assisting Member States to strengthen the regulatory infrastructure for radiation safety in planned and existing exposure situations, and thus contribute to the protection of workers, the public and the environment from the harmful effects of ionising radiation. Member States participating in TC Europe programme have an operational regulatory infrastructure. However, they have yet to achieve compliance with the IAEA safety standards and still they have gaps in their regulatory programmes. The IAEA safety standards are designed to facilitate the safe use of nuclear technologies, including the use of radiation sources in medicine, industry, agriculture, education and research. The radiation risks to people and the environment that arise from the use of radiation sources have to be assessed and, if necessary, regulated.

The international Basic Safety Standards, General Safety Requirements (BSS/GSR) Part 3, introduced the concept of Existing Exposures Situation as those situations of exposure that already exists when a decision on the need for control needs to be taken. Existing exposure situations include situations of exposure to natural background radiation and also to artificial radionuclides as those due to residual radioactive material that derives from past practices that were not subject to regulatory control or that remains after an emergency exposure situation. Section 5 in GSR Part 3 sets out the requirements — in addition to those of Section 2 — for existing exposure situations, including requirements in respect of public and occupational exposure in existing exposure situations. It includes requirements in respect of remediation of sites and habitation in areas with residual radioactive material, radon in homes and in workplaces, radionuclides in commodities (food, feed, drinking water, agricultural fertilizer and soil amendments, construction materials), and exposure of aircrew and of space crew.

Many IAEA services and events, such as Integrated Regulatory Review Services, workshops or the last International Conference on Radiation Safety had put in evidence that the management of existing exposure situations is a still a challenge in many regions and in particular in the European one.

## **Scope and Nature**

The regional workshop will cover the management of ALL existing exposures situations as described in Section V of the BSS/GSR Part 3 e.g. sites contaminated by past practices or accidents, radon, NORM, food and drinking water, construction materials, non-food commodities etc addressing the protection of the public, workers and the environment.

During the regional workshop participants will share national experiences in the implementation of the requirements in GSR Part 3 related to radiation protection of the public, the workers and the environment, with a focus on the identification of main challenges in the management of existing exposure situations. The participants will then discuss how to overcome the existing challenges and what actions would be needed. The invited experts will provide examples on this regard.

## Expected Outputs

- Different national experiences in the implementation of the requirements in GSR Part 3 related to radiation protection of the public, the workers and the environment in existing exposure situations are shared and discussed.
- Expertise shared on how to bring consistency in the management of the different and varied areas under existing exposures situations and on how to apply the concepts of protection strategies and of graded approach.
- The event findings will be used as inputs for the development of the new general safety guidance DS544 on Radiation Protection and Safety in Existing Exposure Situations.

## Participation

The regional workshop is open to the participating Member States of the TC project RER9158 project “Strengthening the Regulatory Infrastructure for Radiation Safety ” and TC project RER9159 “Enhancing the Application of the Principles of Radiation Protection to Control the Exposure of the Public”.

Each country is invited to nominate a maximum of two (2) participants. Ideally, there should be one participant from the Regulatory Authority and one end-user from a relevant sector that manages exposure situations. The nominees from the same country are expected to work together and coordinate in the development of one presentation about their national experience in the management of existing exposure situations, including the main challenges and needed actions to overcome such challenges.

## Participants’ Qualifications and Experience

The event is designed for professionals from national competent authorities and/or end-users with responsibilities in the area of regulatory control and/or management of existing exposure situations, e.g. radiation protection authorities, environmental protection authorities, customs control, labour safety and public health protection, food safety authorities, operators and remediation companies.

The nominated candidates must prove relevant role in regulatory control and management of existing exposure situations.

## 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 (EVT2300062) 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 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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