



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace and Development

Workshop on Methods for Radiological and Environmental Impact Assessment (MEREIA)

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria
and virtual participation via Cisco Webex

18–22 September 2023

Ref. No.: EVT2300153

Information Sheet

Introduction

The IAEA's programme on Methods for Radiological and Environmental Impact Assessment (MEREIA) is the latest in a series of international initiatives, such as MODARIA and EMRAS, designed to enhance competence in IAEA Member States to develop and apply models and methodologies used in radiological environmental impact assessments (REIA)¹. The MEREIA programme will run until 2025 and has been providing a platform for the exchange of information and experience in radiological assessments and affords the opportunity to raise challenges faced by IAEA Member States.

During the Second MEREIA Technical Meeting, held from 28 November to 2 December 2022, five working groups were established around case study scenarios, covering a range of assessment contexts and environmental conditions, i.e.:

- a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility in operation;
- a clean-up situation in an urban area following the breach of a Cs-137 source;
- the historical marine dumping of low and intermediate level radioactive waste;

¹ REIA is the assessment of the expected radiological impacts of facilities and activities on the environment for the purposes of protection of the public and protection of the environment against radiation risks.

- a former uranium mining and milling in a tropical climate and a fjord receiving radioactive; and
- chemical discharges from hospitals and other industries (including NORM industry).

Each group established a work plan defining the activities to be undertaken around the scenarios during the programme, following a common framework for conducting radiological environmental impact assessments based on the IAEA Safety Standards². Young professionals and those developing experience on topics within the MEREIA programme also had the opportunity to engage in the working groups and identify activities where they can contribute, as well as benefiting from interacting with senior more experienced professionals.

Considering that the programmes for the working groups were already defined in 2022 and related activities are ongoing, the IAEA Secretariat decided to organize this Workshop (hereinafter referred to “event”) with the characteristic of an international workshop for all the participants.

Objectives

The objective of this event is to present and exchange experiences on the progress of the activities being carried out under the IAEA’s MEREIA programme and to plan the activities for the ensuing year. The event will comprise working group discussions within each case study and provide opportunities to discuss the findings and challenges faced by the working groups in connection with the application of the common framework for conducting REIAs as well as presenting cross-cutting technical topics of interest. Opportunities will be also offered to discuss further case studies for inclusion in the programme in the future.

The event will be organized to facilitate knowledge transfer from more experienced individuals and more developed national programmes to less experienced professionals and Member States with less experience in REIAs. For that purpose, the event will include hands-on activities, such as training and mentoring activities related to the tasks being conducted within the working groups. The event will also provide a forum in which IAEA Member States can raise the challenges they are facing with undertaking REIA for assessment contexts and exposure situations in their respective countries and in turn benefit from the breadth of expertise within the MEREIA community.

Target Audience

The event is intended for officials from regulatory bodies, operating organizations, technical support organizations, scientists, researchers, decision makers and others with responsibilities in such areas as environmental impact assessment; the development and application of environmental models; characterization and monitoring; the interpretation and communication of model predictions; and monitoring data in relation to the significance of impacts for planned, existing or emergency exposure situations. Participants from Member States developing expertise in the technical areas included in the MEREIA programme, young professionals and women are encouraged to attend.

² All presentations, documentation, outcomes, and session recordings for the First and Second MEREIA Technical Meetings are available via the SharePoint based website: <https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/MEREIA/Pages/default.aspx>

Working Language(s)

English.

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **7 August 2023**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made using the **Grant Application Form (Form C)** which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** by **7 August 2023**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page: www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

Additional Information

This Workshop will be held during normal working hours of 09:00–17:30 (CEST) at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna. However, virtual attendance will be available for those unable to attend in person. The event will consist of Plenary Sessions and Working Group Sessions. The Plenary Sessions will be live-streamed. The Working Group Sessions will allow for virtual attendance; separate Webex invitations will be sent for each working group. Participants attending virtually can then choose to participate in the Working Group Sessions which are of most interest to them, bearing in mind that they will be held simultaneously.

A Provisional Agenda will be circulated to all designated participants approximately one month before the event convenes.

Moreover, the exact details regarding the daily sessions and how to join them virtually will be communicated to designated participants closer to the event.

IAEA Contacts

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary/Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

Participation Form

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To be completed by the participant and sent to the competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA, or National Atomic Energy Authority) of his/her country for subsequent transmission to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) either by email to: Official.Mail@iaea.org or by fax to: +43 1 26007 (no hard copies needed). Please also send a copy by email to the Scientific Secretary, Ms Joanne Brown, Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security (Email: J.Brown@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary, Ms Claire Halsall, (Email: C.Halsall@iaea.org).

Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 7 August 2023

Family name(s): (same as in passport)	First name(s): (same as in passport)	Mr/Ms
Institution:		
Full address:		
Tel. (Fax):		
Email:		
Nationality:	Representing following Member State/non-Member State/entity or invited organization:	
I plan to attend virtually: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

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Family name(s): (same as in passport)	First name(s): (same as in passport)	Mr/Ms:
Mailing address:	Tel.:	
	Fax:	
	Email:	
Date of birth (yy/mm/dd):	Nationality:	
I plan to attend virtually:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

1. Education (post-secondary):

Name and place of institution	Field of study	Diploma or Degree	Years attended from	to

2. Recent employment record (starting with your present post):

Name and place of employer/ organization	Title of your position	Type of work	Years worked from	to

3. Description of work performed over the last three years:

4. Institute's/Member State's programme in field of event:

Date: _____

Signature of applicant: _____

Date: _____

**Name, signature and stamp of Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy
Authority**
