



Technical Meeting on Landmark Experiments at Underground Research Facilities

30 October–3 November 2023

Ref. No.: EVT2207113

Information Sheet

Introduction

Underground research facilities (URFs) play an important role in establishing the technical basis for the safety of geological disposal and enable many activities to be carried out and tested under realistic geological conditions in the subsurface.

An important role of the IAEA URF Network is to preserve the global and historical record of research and development results (R&D) obtained from URFs around the world. To that end, members of the URF Network have prepared a URF compendium report which provides a collection of structured information sheets of every URF that implemented R&D to support geological repository developments.

In 2019, the IAEA held a Consultancy Meeting (CM) entitled, “Elicit Milestone Experiments from Underground Research Facility (URF) Information Form” to further build upon this IAEA database of URF experiments. The outcome of that meeting was the preliminary selection of some landmark/ key experiments that had a major and wide impact or significance in terms of URF and DGR development. It was generally agreed that a companion report to the URF compendium could provide a platform to share more detailed information on the history, development, and results of these landmark experiments.

The main purpose of this event is to review the history of R&D activities conducted at underground research facilities worldwide and to begin drafting a historical review of landmark experiments, illustrating important contributions that have advanced the global scientific and technical basis for implementing deep geological disposal. This meeting will build upon the work accomplished during the 2019 CM and the main activities to be undertaken by participants includes: defining the categories and criteria by which landmark experiments are identified, reviewing, and amending the current list of proposed landmark experiments and defining the medium to best capture and report results for sharing with Member States. Moreover, potential application of the results to electronic media will be discussed. To meet this goal, most

of this meeting will take place in the form of a workshop whereby the audience will be divided into groups for several sessions to focus on specific topics related to the project (e.g., identifying landmark experiments for certain host rock types; weighing the contribution of the experiments etc.).

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to review the history of research and development activities conducted at underground research facilities worldwide; and to begin drafting a historical review of landmark experiments, illustrating important contributions that have advanced the global scientific and technical basis for implementing deep geological disposal.

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Target Audience

Members of the URF Network are invited to attend the meeting.

In general, the meeting is targeted to representatives of organizations with specific responsibilities related to establishing, developing, providing the scientific and technical basis for, and implementing deep geological disposal projects for radioactive waste.

Working Language(s)

The working language of the event will be English with no interpretation provided. All communications and papers must be submitted in this language.

Expected Outputs

A draft of criteria and categories of how to identify landmark experiments and a list of potential landmark experiments for each host rock category.

A list of action items of further interest to Network members.

Structure

This meeting will take place in Vienna, Austria for 5 working days from the period of 30 October to 3 November 2023.

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 **30 June 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 above deadline.

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

Additional Information

The meeting will take place at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) in Vienna, Austria. If you have any barriers to participate with this program, please kindly reach out to us.

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

Technical Meeting on Landmark Experiments at Underground Research Facilities

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

30 October–3 November 2023

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 (K.Lange@iaea.org) and to the Administrative Secretary S.T.Elamkunnam@iaea.org.

Deadline for receipt by IAEA through official channels: 31 July 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:	
If/as applicable:		
Do you intend to submit a paper?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Would you prefer to present your paper as a poster?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Title:		
I plan to attend virtually:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

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Grant Application Form

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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 _____