



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

*Atoms for Peace and Development*

# **Training Workshop on the Use of Decision Support Tools in Research Reactor Spent Fuel Management**

**IAEA Headquarters  
Vienna, Austria**

**19–23 August 2019**

**Ref. No.: EVT1803989**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Introduction**

Many Member States with research reactors do not have comprehensive spent fuel management plans; in some cases, existing spent fuel storage environments are not suitable for long term storage. When reviewing the various options for the back end of the research reactor nuclear fuel cycle, it is necessary to consider national policy, economics and environmental concerns, as well as technical issues.

Most spent nuclear fuel from research reactors is aluminium-clad and in wet storage, which means that it is particularly vulnerable to corrosion. Dry storage is used at several research reactor facilities; however, the transition from wet to dry storage also presents challenges for the research reactor owner. Additionally, many countries with one or more research reactors but no nuclear power programme face the problem of final disposition for relatively small amounts of spent fuel.

To help provide Member States with information about research reactor spent fuel management options, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has initiated a coordinated research project (CRP) aimed at identifying and collecting information about the currently available spent fuel technologies for research reactors. Additionally, two Excel-based decision support tools have been developed to assist Member States in selecting a single option best suited to their situation: Back-end Research Reactor Integrated Decision-making Evaluation (BRIDE) and Fuel Cycle Cost Estimation for Research Reactors in Excel (FERREX).

## **Objectives**

The purpose of the event is to introduce Member State research reactor organizations to the results of the CRP on currently available spent fuel technologies for research reactors, and to provide Member States with training on the decision support tools developed for spent fuel management. A substantial portion of the event will be dedicated to using these tools, enabling participants to become familiar with the tools and to transfer the knowledge to their organizational counterparts and assist their governments in developing a strategy for research reactor spent fuel management.

## **Target Audience**

Participation in the event is subject to designation by governmental or national organizations that are involved in, or have responsibility for, decisions regarding the management of spent fuel from research reactors. To ensure maximum effectiveness in the exchange of information, participants should be persons responsible for strategic planning for spent fuel management at research reactors, or they should occupy decision-making positions related to policy and funding for which they need to understand the technical and practical details of such spent fuel management. Specialists from regulatory bodies who are responsible for the regulatory supervision of research reactors are also invited to participate in the event.

## **Topics**

The following topics will be addressed and discussed during the event:

- Overview of current spent fuel management technologies available for research reactor spent fuel management;
- Introduction of case studies of research reactor spent fuel management strategies currently used by Member States;
- Considerations for decision making — cost and non-cost related; and
- Practical use of BRIDE and FERREX tools.

## **Working Language**

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 **25 June 2019**. 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.

Please note that the IAEA is in a transition phase to manage the entire registration process for all regular programme events electronically through the new InTouch+ (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) facility, which is the improved and expanded successor to the InTouch platform that has been used in recent years for the IAEA's technical cooperation events. Through InTouch+, prospective participants will be able to apply for events and submit all required documents online. National authorities will be able to use InTouch+ to review and approve these applications. Interested parties that would like to use this new facility should write to: [InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org](mailto:InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org).

## Papers and Presentations

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that falls under the topics listed above.

Participants who wish to give presentations are requested to submit an abstract of their work. The abstract will be reviewed as part of the selection process for presentations. The abstract should be in A4 page format, should extend to no more than 1 page (including figures and tables) and should not exceed 400 words. It should be sent electronically to Ms Frances Marshall and Mr Stefan Mayer, the Scientific Secretaries of the event (see contact details below), not later than **25 June 2019**. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by **10 July 2019**.

In addition, participants have to submit the abstract together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** and the attached **Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or their organization for onward transmission to the IAEA not later than **25 June 2019**.

## 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 **25 June 2019**.

The countries eligible for technical cooperation (TC) assistance and which participate in national or regional TC projects may submit the request for TC support through their respective National Liaison Officer.

## Venue

The event will be held in Room C0343, C Building, of 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:  
<http://www-pub.iaea.org/iaeaevents/GeneralInfo/Guide/VIC>.

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.

## IAEA Contacts

### Scientific Secretaries:

#### Ms Frances Marshall

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