

IAEA Challenge: Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation 2020

Keeping Our Planet Safe and Clean

Announcement

The IAEA is inviting young professionals to come up with an original concept or a project outline for advancing decommissioning of nuclear facilities and/or environmental remediation of contaminated sites.

Amid a growing need for decommissioning and environmental remediation activities worldwide, the Challenge aims to encourage innovation in design and operations to achieve cost-effective and efficient implementation of smart solutions. It will also highlight the attractive opportunities and career prospects available to young people in this exciting field.

Proposals can include but are not limited to the following applications:

- Physical and radiological characterization of facilities and sites;
- Decontamination and dismantling of structures;
- Knowledge management;
- Human resources development;
- Project management;
- Institutional controls and stewardship.

Submissions can be technical or non-technical proposals, they can be related to technology, equipment, software or a project management tool. Participants can benefit from the IAEA sources available on the IAEA website such as publications, e-learning modules, decommissioning Wiki etc., for ideas or scientific accuracy.

Participants

The competition is open to young professionals from the IAEA Member States below the age of 35 years.

Entries can be submitted by individuals or teams with major participation of young professionals. Gender balanced teams will be given preference.

Submissions

Participants need to submit an Abstract that describes the proposed project, including the outline of what is produced, motivation for choosing it, methods used, expected results and conclusions. Shortlisted participants will be invited to submit a video or digital media presentation that describes the implementation and outcomes of the project.

All abstracts must be in English. Videos in a language other than English must have English subtitles. Participants must send abstracts and videos by the deadlines listed in guidelines to DER.Challenge@iaea.org. Abstracts and videos will be reviewed and the finalists will be selected by an expert committee established by the IAEA.

Criteria

The selection criteria for the proposals are as follows:

- Submission should demonstrate one or more ways in which innovations and advances can be used to support planning for or implementation of decommissioning and environmental remediation;
- Submission should highlight attractiveness of topics under development;

- Submission can combine theoretical and practical content in a creative way.

Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words and videos should be no longer than 3 minutes.

Guidelines

STAGE 1 – ABSTRACTS

Submissions for the Challenge should be sent to the IAEA focal point at DER.Challenge@iaea.org.

The subject line of the e-mail should be: [DER Challenge] Project Abstract (Name, Country).

Each submission should include the following: (a) An abstract of the project (maximum 300 words), submitted as a PDF file (using the **template**) and providing the outline of what will be produced, including motivation, methods, expected results and conclusions; and (b) Contact details (name(s) and date(s) of birth, professional or educational organization, full address), specified in the email.

Abstracts must be in English.

The deadline for submission is 31 May 2020 midnight (CET). Applications submitted after this time will not be considered. Once an application has been submitted, it cannot be revised.

STAGE 2 – PROJECT SUMMARY: VIDEO OR DIGITAL MEDIA PRESENTATION

Shortlisted participants will be informed by latest 15 June 2020 and should then submit the summary of their project in a form of a video or digital media presentation to DER.Challenge@iaea.org. The subject line of the e-mail should be: [DER Challenge] Project Video (Name).

Each submission should be: (a) A video, or digital media presentation, summarizing the implementation details, outcomes and impacts of the proposal (maximum 3 minutes long) (b) Free of copyrighted materials such as music, images and video clips that may violate or infringe upon the copyright of any other person or organization. It is the responsibility of the participants and not of the IAEA to ensure that all content used in the project is free from copyright or that an appropriate copyright permission is obtained.

Videos in a language other than English must have English subtitles. Videos can be filmed with mobile phones in landscape mode.

In addition, by submitting the project summary, participants agree to assign to the IAEA the copyright to publish the video or digital media presentation on the IAEA website, social media and other platforms and certify that no other rights have been granted which could conflict with the right hereby given to the IAEA.

The deadline for submission is 30 June 2020 midnight (CET). Submissions received after this date will not be considered. Once the video or digital media presentation has been submitted, there will be no opportunity to revise it. If an infringement of copyright is notified at any stage of the competition, the proposal will be immediately disqualified.

STAGE 3 – FINALISTS' PRESENTATION

Authors of three top proposals selected by the IAEA will be informed about it by latest 15 July 2020 and given the opportunity to travel to Vienna to present their proposals at an event during the IAEA General Conference focused Side event in September 2020. The winner will be selected at this event.

Required additional documents include: (a) Participation Form (Form A); (b) Template for Submission of Project (Form B) and (c) Grant Application Form (Form C).

The deadline for submission of forms will be 24 July 2020 midnight (CET). Submissions received after this time will not be considered.

For any questions regarding the Challenge, please contact DER.Challenge@iaea.org.