



Key achievements in the Marshall Islands

- 2019: Capacities are established to monitor and analyse artificial radionuclides in marine, terrestrial and coastal environments.
- 2019: An interim body is established to develop a national nuclear regulatory framework.
- 2016: The Marshall Islands initiates a programme to improve its radiology services.

Atoms for peace and development

Widely known as the world’s ‘Atoms for Peace and Development’ organization within the United Nations family, the IAEA is the international centre for cooperation in the nuclear field. The Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

The IAEA’s technical cooperation (TC) programme helps countries to use nuclear science and technology to address key development priorities in areas including health, agriculture, water, the environment and industry. The programme also helps countries to identify and meet future energy needs. It supports greater radiation safety and nuclear security, and provides legislative assistance.

In 2019, the IAEA established the Sub-regional Approach for the Pacific Islands (SAPI), which

includes Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, in order to promote cooperation in the field of nuclear science and technology for the attainment of national development priorities, and to provide focused IAEA technical cooperation support to the Pacific Island Member States.

Recent project successes

Water and environmental protection

The Marshall Islands received IAEA assistance to build independent national capacity to monitor and analyse artificial radionuclides in their marine, terrestrial and coastal environments.

Staff from the Marshall Islands’ Environmental Protection Agency and Marine Resources Authority were trained in radiation protection and environmental radioactivity, and in the use of sampling and pre-treatment techniques. Data resulting from the sampling helped inform national decision-making on matters concerning radiation contamination and the management of natural resources.

Radiation safety infrastructure

With IAEA support, the Government of the Marshall Islands established an interim nuclear regulatory body to start developing a nuclear regulatory framework. This includes areas such as nuclear law, regulations, authorization, inspection and enforcement. The regulatory infrastructure will ensure effective and sustainable protection of workers, patients and the public.



IAEA experts and researchers from the Marshall Islands’ Environmental Protection Authority visit the Arno Atoll to collect water samples to help inform Government decisions concerning radiation contamination and the management of natural resources. (Photo: F Barbecot/UQAM)

Active national projects

- Building Core Capacities to Control Contaminants and Other Residues in Food — Phase I (MHL5002)
- Improving the Quality of Clinical Services in Radiology - Phase II (MHL6002)
- Establishing Technical Capabilities for Groundwater Resources Management (MHL7002)
- Developing National Radioactivity Monitoring Capacity - Phase II (MHL7003)
- Strengthening the National Infrastructure for Radiation Safety (MHL9004)

The Marshall Islands also participates in 8 regional and 2 interregional projects, mostly in the area of water and the environment.

Previous IAEA support to the Marshall Islands

In recent years, the Marshall Islands received support to establish basic nationwide capacities to verify and monitor marine and terrestrial ecosystems, ground and rainwater resources, and the presence of artificial radionuclides in sea water. The IAEA continues build national capacities to sample and analyse environmental radioactivity to provide data for Government decisions.

The IAEA has helped the Marshall Islands to use isotopic techniques to investigate the water cycle and to better understand the availability of the country's water resources. (Photo: O. Kracht/IAEA)



IAEA support to the Marshall Islands, 2009–2019



35

trained
(including 14 women)

21

international
experts
provided

21

attended specialist
meetings
(including 13 women)

Priority areas of support

- Improving human health and nutrition
- Improving the food and agriculture sector
- Protecting water and the environment
- Strengthening radiation safety and the security of radioactive sources

The Marshall Islands' contribution to South-South and triangular cooperation, 2009–2019



fellows or
scientific visitors
hosted

Based on data available as of April 2020

Strategic documents supported

- Country Programme Framework 2016–2021, signed in September 2015

www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation

The IAEA collaborates with National Liaison Officers and Permanent Missions to deliver its TC programme.