

Key achievements in Lithuania

- 2015: The Lithuanian State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (VATESI) receives an ISO 9001 accreditation in quality management systems.
- 2013: A new Biological Dosimetry Laboratory is established at Lithuania's Radiation Protection Centre to carry out cytogenetic analysis of exposure to ionizing radiation and biological dose assessment for the diagnosis of diseases.
- 2009: Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 is successfully shut down, with decommissioning and the management of radioactive waste ongoing.

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.



The IAEA conducted an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission in Lithuania in 2016, consisting of 23 experts (including 17 senior regulatory experts from 16 IAEA Member States), which helped VATESI meet the standards required to receive accreditations in ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 9001:2015. (Photo: VATESI)

Recent project successes

Regulatory infrastructure

In 2016, the Lithuanian Government requested the IAEA to conduct an Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission at the Lithuanian State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate (VATESI) and the Radiation Protection Centre (RSC) in Vilnius. The Review assessed the country's national regulatory framework for nuclear and radiation safety against IAEA Safety Standards (the international benchmark), while also reviewing all of the country's facilities and activities using radiation sources. The review team identified a number of good practices and made recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of the regulatory functions. In 2020 an IRRS follow-up mission was conducted which noted that ninety-six per cent of the recommendations and suggestions have been addressed and implemented.

Decommissioning and management of radioactive waste

Since 2009, the IAEA has supported the development of a decommissioning plan for Units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. This helped establish regulatory requirements for radioactive waste safety and management, and expert guidance was provided to assist the Radioactive Waste Management Agency's (RATA) work to develop a near surface repository, suitable for very low level and low level waste. The IAEA provided support to Lithuania through an international peer review while a suitable location for the repository was identified, as well as with training and the provision of specialised equipment to ensure the safe decommissioning of the plant.

Radiation protection

Lithuania standardised its quality assurance and control procedures in hospitals around the country, which helped significantly improve the protection of patients receiving radiotherapy and nuclear medicine. The IAEA enhanced the clinical knowledge of medical staff from the RSC, as well as medical physicists and radiotechnologists from four radiotherapy and four nuclear medicine departments in other hospitals around the country. IAEA-supported training included quality assurance programmes and appropriate quality control and optimization of exposure to ionizing radiation for patients and medical professionals.

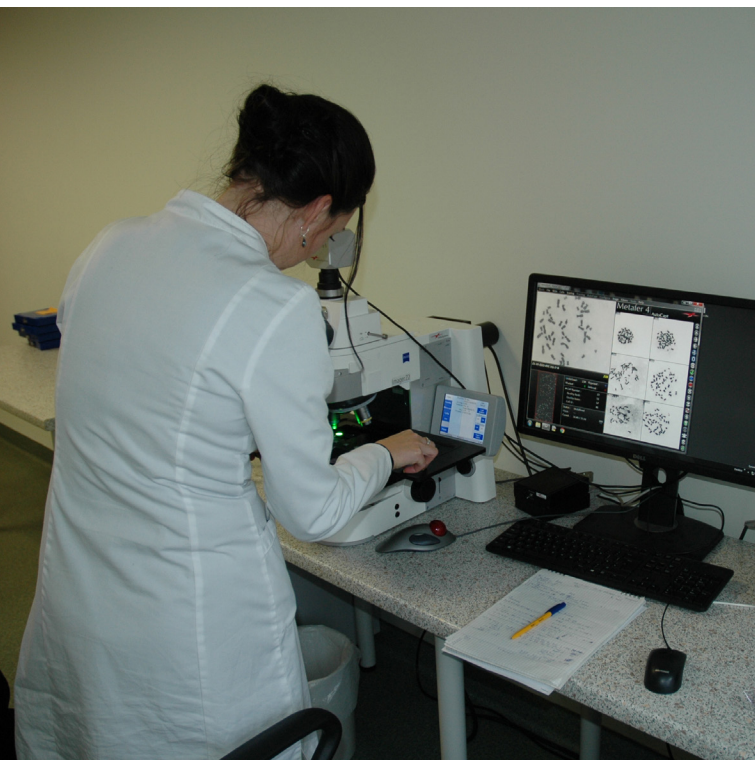
Active national projects

- Developing the National Capacity for the Establishment of the Cyclotron Facility in the Nuclear Research Center (LIT6007)
- Enhancing the Effectiveness and Transparency of the Radioactive Waste Management System (LIT9018)

Lithuania also participates in 37 regional and 3 interregional projects, mostly in the areas of radiation protection and nuclear safety.

Previous IAEA support to Lithuania

The IAEA has previously focused its support to Lithuania on enhancing institutional capabilities for nuclear waste disposal and regulatory oversight of its nuclear facilities, and on improving the national radiation protection framework in human health.



A new Biological Dosimetry Laboratory was established in 2013 at Lithuania's Radiation Protection Centre in Vilnius. The Laboratory contributes to building national capabilities in the cytogenetic analysis of ionizing radiation exposure and biological dose assessment for the diagnosis of cancers and haematologic diseases related to blood. (Photo: Radiation Protection Centre)

IAEA support to Lithuania, 2009–2019



541 trained
(including 221 women)

106 international experts provided

507 attended specialist meetings
(including 170 women)

Priority areas of support

- Supporting sustainable energy development
- Improving human health
- Strengthening governmental and nuclear regulatory frameworks

Lithuania's contribution to South-South and triangular cooperation, 2009–2019

160
expert and lecturer assignments provided by Lithuania

13
training courses hosted

99
fellows or scientific visitors hosted

Based on data available as of April 2020

Strategic documents supported

- Country Programme Framework 2019–2023, signed in December 2019

www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation

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

