**IAEA**

International Conference on the

# Development of Preparedness for National and International Emergency Response

**11-15 October 2021**
**IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria**

#AreWeReady

## Background

Member States' and international organizations' diligent planning always includes preparations for possible radiation-related emergencies. Taking this into account, planners need to implement an efficient nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and response (EPR) system based on effective emergency preparedness, robust arrangements, and trained responders.

While the responsibility for developing, maintaining and strengthening nuclear and radiological EPR arrangements rests with Member States' national authorities, the IAEA plays the central role in fostering the international EPR framework for nuclear and radiological emergencies. The IAEA supports Member States' implemention of the latest concepts and principles, as outlined in the IAEA Safety Standards.

In 2005, the IAEA established the Incident and Emergency Centre (IEC) to serve as a global focal point for preparedness and response to any nuclear and radiological incident and emergency independent whether it arises from an accident, natural disaster, negligence, nuclear security event or any other cause. The IAEA carries out this work based on the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident (Early Notification Convention) and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency (Assistance Convention). This work is also carried out for the alignment of its EPR activities and the EPR activities in Member States with the IAEA Safety Standards.

## Objective

The EPR2021 conference is an international forum to exchange information on EPR topics and enhance global awareness of both progress made at national and international levels and the challenges encountered. During the conference, EPR experts from around the world will share experience, evaluate current trends, technologies and lessons in EPR and identify key priorities in further improving readiness for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies.

The Conference will discuss the work that Member States have accomplished and are undertaking in several areas, including:

- Maintaining preparedness to respond to emergencies as a vital priority
- Strengthening emergency operational arrangements aligned with the robust international EPR framework
- Providing a clear, easily understandable answer to a key question in emergencies: "*Am I safe?*"

## Audience

The conference is aimed at governmental officials with responsibilities in EPR, experts in EPR as well as in nuclear safety and nuclear security matters, representatives of response and operating organizations, emergency planners and emergency responders, public information officers and others involved in EPR for nuclear and radiological incidents and emergencies regardless whether these arise from an accident, natural disaster, negligence, nuclear security event or any other cause.

**iaea.org/events/epr-2021**

## Main Topics

The conference will cover the entire EPR spectrum for various types of nuclear and radiological emergencies. The topics in focus include:

- 📢 **Emergency Preparedness**: IAEA safety standards, emergency plans and procedures, peer reviews of EPR, EPR for states embarking on a nuclear power programme, EPR and new generation of reactors;

- 📢 **Emergency Management**: 'unified command and control system', 'all hazards and threats approach', information management systems and databases, nuclear security in emergency response, individual exposure assessment (including biodosimetry);

- 📢 **Protection Strategies**: emergency assessment and prognosis, emergency radiation monitoring, modelling systems, protective actions and other;

- 📢 **Communication**: notification and information exchange processes at national and international levels, public/media communication, application of the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES);

- 📢 **Public Health and Medical Response**: public health and ethical considerations of response, management of mass casualty events, diagnosis and treatment of radiation injuries, psychological impact management, medical surveillance and long-term follow-up;

- 📢 **International Cooperation and Assistance**: cooperation among states, inter-agency cooperation, international emergency assistance, international harmonization;

- 📢 **Education and Training**: training strategies, programmes, exercises and simulation tools, use of virtual reality in training, elearning; and

- 📢 **Past Experiences**: lessons, trends, impacts on EPR.

## Registration

No registration fee is charged.

All persons wishing to participate in the event must be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be a member of an organization that has been invited to attend. The list of IAEA Member States and invited organizations is available on **iaea.org/events/epr-2021**

## Language

The conference will be held in English.

CN-293

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## Conference and Web App

Detailed information on administrative matters including registration and paper submission is provided on the conference website: **iaea.org/events/epr-2021**

The IAEA Conferences and Meetings App provides a one-stop access to information on the Conference. For iPhone or iPad users, get your free download through the Apple iTunes Store; those with Android devices can visit the Google Play Store.

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