International Conference on
The Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, Decommissioning, Environmental Protection and Remediation

Ensuring Safety and Enabling Sustainability

#IAEASnS2023

**IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria
6-10 November 2023**

IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency

Background

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is an autonomous international organization within the United Nations system and a global forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear technologies. The IAEA develops, adopts and provides for the application of safety standards, which serve as a global reference for protecting people and the environment from the harmful effects of ionising radiation and contributes to a harmonized high level of safety worldwide.

In line with its 'Atoms for Peace and Development' mandate, the IAEA also supports Member States in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted by all 193 countries of the UN General Assembly in September 2015. The UN SDGs represent a blueprint for sustainable development and a call for urgent action on the major issues humanity is facing. Many countries use nuclear science and technology to contribute to and meet their development objectives in areas including energy, human health, food production, water management and environmental protection. The use of nuclear technologies contributes directly to nine of the 17 SDGs identified by the UN. Sustainable development in all its forms takes us towards the long-term

goal of sustainability in all three dimensions: economic, social and environmental sustainability.

For the use of nuclear science and technology to be sustainable, it is necessary that its use is safe throughout its lifetime. This includes the safe management of radioactive waste (including spent nuclear fuel), environmental protection (including control of radioactive releases), the safe decommissioning of nuclear facilities and the remediation of contaminated areas. The latter may also contribute to SDGs in their own right, protecting life on land, life below water and contributing to recycling and reuse of materials, objects and sites.

Purpose and objectives

The event will be focused on safety and on the existing interrelationships between safety and sustainability, it will consider how these can be addressed in an integrated way and will identify pragmatic approaches for managing such interrelationships in practice.

While the conference will focus on presenting the progress made towards more sustainable approaches in the safe management of radioactive waste, decommissioning, environmental protection and remediation and their common aspects of safety, it will ultimately seek to:

- **Initiate and assist** the necessary dialogue between the safety and sustainable development communities to assess and benefit from a holistic understanding of safety and sustainable development.
- **Consider how to address** the relevant interrelationships in an integrated way.
- **Identify practical approaches** to managing the interrelationships in decision-making, from policymaking to implementation.

Audience

The conference aims to bring together the safety and sustainable development communities, with a focus on those involved in radioactive waste management (including spent fuel management), decommissioning, environmental protection and remediation.

The conference objective is to also engage with a broad representation of government officials, regulators, industry, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and academic institutions.

Main topics

- Introducing the overarching concepts of ensuring safety and enabling sustainability
- Managing the interrelationships in policy, strategy, legislation and regulation
- Managing the interrelationships between safety and sustainability in decision-making
- Integrating the views of society into decision-making considering technical, environmental, social and economic factors
- Practical experiences in integrating safety and sustainable development
- Building capacity for ensuring safety and enabling sustainability
- Regional and international cooperation for ensuring safety and enabling sustainability

Key deadlines

30 April 2023	Submission of abstract *(including Forms A and B)* through the InTouch+ platform
30 April 2023	Submission of grant applications *(Form C)* through the InTouch+ platform
26 August 2023	Submission of full papers
No deadline	Registration only (no paper submission, no grant request) using Form A through the InTouch+ Platform

Registration

No registration fee is charged.

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.

Language

The working language of the conference will be English.

Exhibition

Space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the conference. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by **30 April 2023.**

Email: ICWEDR2023@iaea.org

IAEA contacts

Scientific matters

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Administration and organization

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Conference webpage

Detailed information on administrative matters including registration, paper submission and grants is provided on:

www.iaea.org/events/icwedr2023

Please include reference number IAEA-CN-318 in all communications.