

# Technical Meeting on Leadership for a Changing Nuclear Landscape

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria and virtual participation via Microsoft Teams

August 5-8, 2024

Ref. No.: EVT2303176

# **Information Sheet**

#### Introduction

Following the publication of Leadership and Management for Safety (IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 2) in 2016, Member States have repeatedly requested practical guidance on what nuclear leadership is and how it is best developed and applied, particularly in a changing nuclear landscape.

In partnership with sound managements practices and systems, strong leadership skills and capabilities form the basis for successful and sustainable organizational performance, and paradoxically, within a quickly shifting landscape that requires leaders to also be astute, adaptive, and action oriented. These leadership and management capabilities are arguably even more critical in the nuclear industry where consistent and reliable performance is an imperative. Though many organizations have leadership and management development programmes in place, not all take into consideration the unique characteristics and context of a nuclear leader within this changing context, both within the industry (e.g., small modular reactor developments, strong and positive shifting perceptions of nuclear, etc.). Nor do most programs consider how to effectively transfer newly acquired practices and approaches into day-to-day work or effectively measure this learning and its impact on safety and organizational culture. More, in addition to developing impactful nuclear leadership development programs that offer practical hands-on support and guidance, these also require a systemic perspective - one that considers both the stringent procedural protocols that are critical to nuclear facility operations and the adaptive skills and behaviours that maintain safe operations in the face of the unexpected.

In response to this need, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) developed LeaD, a web-based tool for nuclear leadership development. The tool has been in use since the beginning of 2018 as part of the Nuclear Energy Capacity Building Hub. Staff members from the World Association of Nuclear Operators and the IAEA have collaborated with other prominent experts in the development of the tool. As part of this Technical Meeting, participants will be asked to join invited speakers and experts to identify areas where the toolkit can be bolstered and augmented to offer practices, protocols, and approaches that further embed the critical leadership and management skills that foster a resilient organization and navigate effectively through a shifting nuclear landscape. Though the IAEA released 'Leadership and Human Performance Internal Communication in Nuclear Emergencies' (IAEA Nuclear Energy Series No. NG-T-1.5) addressing leadership needs in emergency situations, no previous publication has looked at leadership needs across shifting contexts to maintain agility and stability both. To address this need, the publication initiated in 2020 titled 'Leadership in Nuclear Organizations' has now in 2023 been retitled to 'Leadership of a Changing Nuclear Landscape'. The intention of this change in title and focus is to highlight the unique leadership and management strategies and practices that can help navigate the many and frequent technical, organizational, and human evolutions that contribute to this rapidly shifting landscape. It is expected to benefit leadership development programmes across the IAEA Member States. More, the LeaD Toolkit will be a resource to the reader of the publication and stand-alone support, offering more 'hands-on' support, practice, and guidance to develop these key leadership and management capabilities.

Yet the goal of nuclear leadership development is a continuous practice, evolving with the science and circumstances. Therefore, opportunities to advance and evolve leadership development in the Nuclear Organization are ripe. With the preceding tools and resources as foundation, this event offers a unique opportunity to share, learn, and contribute to leadership for a changing nuclear landscape.

# **Objectives**

The purpose of the event is to provide guidance to leaders in the nuclear industry on how to more effectively navigate a changing nuclear landscape in pursuit of performance excellence.

Specific objectives include soliciting feedback from participants on the 'Leadership for a Changing Nuclear Landscape' publication, and ideas and recommendations on how to strengthen the LeaD Toolkit. Participants will also have the opportunity to share leadership development strategies and best practices, and co-create the most meaningful and impactful strategies, techniques, and approaches to further develop and embed leadership in their nuclear organizations.

This Technical Meeting will enable participants to learn about as well as contribute to the IAEA LeaD toolkit and other learning and development initiatives and relevant publications, share their own efforts, learn from others, and consider new and novel approaches via the event's discussions and break-out sessions. The event is also intended to create a collaborative international framework for supporting leadership and management development within and across respective organizations.

In sum, the objectives to be realized at this event include the following:

- Gather feedback on the draft publication titled, 'Leadership for a Changing Nuclear Landscape';
- Understand and recognize the shifts required in leadership capability to navigate and perform safely, securely, resiliently, and effectively in this shifting nuclear landscape;
- Identify the good practices supporting development of these necessary and critical leadership capabilities within the nuclear arena.

### **Target Audience**

The target audience for this event include senior and mid-level human resource and human factor managers and professionals who are responsible for developing, implementing, and improving leadership and management development programmes in their organizations are encouraged to attend.

Specialists from operating organizations, regulatory bodies, nuclear contractors, and specialists from international and non-governmental organizations involved in the development or promotion of leadership and management development also are encouraged to participate.

### **Working Language(s)**

English.

# **Expected Outputs**

The expected outputs are exactly those primary objectives and the goals that accomplish them, above.

#### **Structure**

The event will offer both information sharing and interactive components to engage participants. After first grounding the event in review of current considerations of leadership in the nuclear organizations, frameworks and approaches that support its development, and existing IAEA tools and publications (e.g., LeaD, PUB, etc.), invited participants will be asked to present current and best practices as well as participate in robust, innovation and creation discussions that are intended to foster follow-up, related nuclear leadership development activity.

The meeting's agenda will be sent to each participant in advance of the event along with the Microsoft Teams link and directions for entry. Participants will also be notified in advance of any special expectations or requests such as invitations to deliver short presentations, complete pre-reads, etc.

This Technical Meeting will run four days duration. Days 1 and 2 will be comprised of plenary sessions given by invited industry partners and experts, and selected paper submissions from Member State delegates. Days 3 and 4 will more actively focus on information gathering and applied working sessions to identify and capture good practices that strengthen the leadership and the resilience within operating NPPs.

Through a mix of didactic and experiential activities, participants will fulfil the goals and objectives of this event. Activities to be applied include:

- Plenary presentations;
- Breakout discussions;
- Facilitated large group discussions;
- Applied working sessions.

# **Topics**

- Research studying the shifts in leadership behaviours within the nuclear industry/organization;
- Unique ways the organization is developing leadership and management strengths within the organization, and how it is evaluated, and measured;
- Unique proposals (e.g., approaches, programmes, etc..) of what an operating NPP could do to strengthen resilience.

# **Participation and Registration**

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form** (**Form A**) to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **7 June 2024**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form** (**Form A**) through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<a href="https://intouchplus.iaea.org">https://intouchplus.iaea.org</a>) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **7 June 2024**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

- 1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<a href="https://intouchplus.iaea.org">https://intouchplus.iaea.org</a>):
  - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
  - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register here.
- 2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
  - Complete or update their personal details under 'Complete Profile' and upload the relevant supporting documents;
  - Search for the relevant event under the 'My Eligible Events' tab;
  - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled 'Designating Authority' (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
  - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
  - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
  - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **7 June 2024**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the <u>InTouch+ Help</u> page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to <u>InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

# **Papers and Presentations**

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that falls under the topics listed above.

Participants who wish to give presentations are requested to submit title along with a very brief (2-3 sentence) description of their work electronically to Ms Lisa Lande the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than **15 June 2024**.

# **Expenditures and Grants**

No registration fee is charged to participants.

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. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made using the **Grant Application Form (Form C)**, which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** by **7 June 2024.** 

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **7 June 2024.** 

#### Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located and also online via Microsoft Teams. Participants coming in person must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

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Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

#### Visas

Participants coming in person and who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

#### **IAEA Contacts**

#### **Scientific Secretary**

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

# **Event Web Page**

Please visit the following IAEA web page regularly for new information regarding this event:

www.iaea.org/events/2303176