

RER/9/162: Strengthening Education and Training Infrastructure in Radiation Protection

# **Postgraduate Educational Course on Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radiation Sources**

#### Hosted by

The Government of Greece

#### through the

Greek Atomic Energy Commission (EEAE)

Athens, Greece

7 October 2024 to 28 March 2025

Ref. No.: TN-RER9162-2401897

# **Information Sheet**

# **Purpose**

The purpose of the event is to train the participants on basic radiation protection and safety of radiation sources.

# **Working Language(s)**

The working language of the course will be English.

#### **Deadline for Nominations**

Nominations received after 14 June 2024 will not be considered.

## **Project Background**

Building competence through education and training in radiation safety is fundamental to the establishment of a comprehensive and sustainable national infrastructure for radiation safety, which in turn is essential for protecting people from the harmful effects of radiation. Especially important to the effectiveness of such an infrastructure is the high-level education and training of regulators, future decision makers, as well as key personnel from relevant national bodies such as technical support organizations.

For that purpose, the project RER/9/162 aims to support Member States as they implement a strategy for education and training in radiation, transport and waste safety, and to maintain and expand competencies in the region facilitating the implementation of the national education and training programmes.

The Postgraduate Educational Course for radiation protection and the safety of radiation sources is one of the main competence building tools, developed for that purpose.

# **Expected Outputs**

The anticipated output of this event are radiation protection professionals, who are knowledgeable in relevant IAEA Safety Standards (including the International Basic Safety Standards) and who are able to support the establishment of national education and training programmes (even as trainers) in their home countries.

## **Scope and Nature**

The course will be delivered through a combination of lectures and practical exercises, including laboratory exercises, demonstrations and technical visits in the field. The course is based on the <u>IAEA Standard Syllabus (Training Course Series 18 (Rev 1), 2019</u> which is available online. The following topics are covered on this course: Review of fundamentals; Quantities and measurements; Biological effects of ionizing radiation; International system of radiation protection and the regulatory framework; Assessment of external and internal exposures; Planned exposure situations (general requirements; non-medical applications; medical applications,); Emergency exposure situations; Existing exposure situations; Training the trainers; Project assignment.

Participants are expected to carry out a work project aimed at solving a specific radiation protection problem in their home country and participants are expected to present their project at the end of the course. Therefore, all applicants should provide suitable ideas/topics for their work project, agreed with their local supervisor, in the application form, section 'Objectives from the government's point of view' or in an attachment to the application form.

Participants are expected to attend all lectures, practical exercises and technical visits, and are required to sit compulsory examinations to assess their knowledge and skills. On-line pre-training will be carried out prior to the start of the course, and written examinations will be held throughout the course. Participants who do not fulfil the attendance criteria may be requested to return home and may be required to reimburse any fees to the IAEA.

After the attendance at the course, the participants and their supervisors shall provide feedback on the impact of the course on the participants' professional development (individual level) and on the utilization of knowledge and skills towards strengthening radiation safety infrastructures (organizational and/or national level) through a series of on-line surveys.

# **Participation**

The training course is open for up to 20 (including local) participants from countries that participate in the project RER/9/162, subject to the availability of funds.

## Participants' Qualifications and Experience

The target audience is young professionals who need to acquire a sound basis in radiation protection and knowledge of related safety fundamentals. The participants must be fluent in English language and not more than 35 years of age. They should have a formal education to a level equivalent to a university degree in the physical, chemical or and/or biological/health sciences or engineering and should have been working or selected to work, in the future, in the field of radiation protection and safety of radiation sources in their country. The participants should be able to attend the full course from 7 October 2024 to 28 March 2025.

Participants are expected to become, over the course of time, senior regulators, senior decision makers, radiation protection experts or trainers in this important field: this should be considered by the nominating authorities when proposing candidates.

All applicants should provide 1) suitable ideas/topics for their work project, agreed with their local supervisor, in the application form, section 'Objectives from the government's point of view' or in an attachment to the application form, 2) Copy of degree certificate and 3) Language certificate if available.

## **Occupational Exposure to Radiation**

This course may involve occupational exposure to radiation. Therefore, candidates are required to duly complete and return the Occupational Exposure History (OEH) form upon applying for the event. The IAEA will provide selected participants in due course with a dosimeter to monitor their occupational exposure during this event.

# **Application Procedure**

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

- 1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<a href="https://intouchplus.iaea.org">https://intouchplus.iaea.org</a>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<a href="https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx">https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx</a>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
- 2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
  - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
  - b. Download and complete the <u>Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form</u>, and upload to InTouch+ ('Profile' tab under the personal section) specifying the document name. If already provided, kindly discard this step; and

c. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2401897) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

**NOTE:** Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

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

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the training course from the <u>IAEA website</u>.

**NOTE:** A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event duration.

## **Administrative and Financial Arrangements**

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency American Express, or a travel grant, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

# **Disclaimer of Liability**

The organizers of the course do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

## **Note for female participants**

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

#### **IAEA Contacts**

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