

**Knowledge Management Initiatives of the Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA)
Undertaken by the Electronic Networking and Outreach (ENO) Project**

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The Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA) is one of the cooperative agreements under the aegis of the IAEA and currently consists of 17 Member States. Most of the RCA Member States belongs to the Asia Pacific region. Since the region covered by the RCA is undergoing a rapid expansion in nuclear power development many activities have been carried out under the RCA.

The Electronic Networking and Outreach (ENO) Project under the RCA was initiated in 1998 as a vehicle for the RCA programme for the dissemination of valuable information to end-users[1]. Some of the achievements of the ENO Project are to maintain and develop the RCA Members only website and the national RCA website, to develop a Regional Resource Unit (RRU) database, document repository and to introduce collaborative tools to support the planning, management and implementation of the RCA programme.

Malaysia as the Sectoral Lead Country Coordinator for the ENO Project is hosting the RCA Members only website. Previous minutes of the RCA National Representatives meeting, the RCA General Conference meeting, the RCA annual reports, the Sectoral Lead Country Coordinators meeting and reference documents on the RCA are published on this website as a central source of reference for Member states[2].

The Regional Resource Unit concept, introduced in the RCA several years ago, constitutes the backbone of the RCA [3]. The ENO project had initiated the design, development and implementation of an RRU database system. It was developed with the main aim of supporting the maintenance of information on nuclear capabilities of the RCA member states.

Activities undertaken by the ENO project, such as facilitating and conducting the RCA National Representatives meeting in a paperless and electronic environment will also be highlighted. A trial run on the utilisation of a collaborative site for the preparation of the 2005-2006 ENO project proposal and its potential use in the planning, monitoring and implementation of RCA programmes in future, will also be reported.

This paper will further describe the initiatives undertaken by the ENO Project to initially establish an information and knowledge-sharing environment, as an initiative towards a nuclear knowledge management system within the RCA community. It will also discuss the challenges and issues peculiar to the region that have been encountered during the project cycle.

It will also try to offer a conceptual framework of a knowledge management system for the RCA region.

[1] UNDP/RCA/IAEA Project (RAS/97/030/a/01/18), Better Management of the Environment, Natural Resources and Industrial Growth through Isotopes and Radiation Technology. Sub-project: Electronic Networking and Outreach Project Formulation Meeting Report, 1998.

[2] A. M. Abdul Rahman, A. Musa, C. A Krishnan et al, Electronic Networking and Outreach to Strengthen Regional and Institutional Nuclear Information Exchange within RCA Member States, Proceeding MINT R&D Seminar, 2000.

[3] A. Djalois, RCA in the 21st. Century: Enterprising, Meeting Challenges and Capturing Opportunities, Document Prepared in commemoration of the 30th. Anniversary of the Regional Cooperative Agreement (RCA), Seoul, Korea, 21st. March 2002.