

Zimbabwe

IAEA Member State since August 1986

Selected achievements

2023: Zimbabwe establishes a centralized radioactive waste facility, in line with relevant international safety standards and security guidance.

2022: A national artificial insemination programme is rolled out for genetic improvement in cattle.

2017: The first MSc students graduate in the medical physics programme.



The IAEA has provided support to Zimbabwe for the development of a new cowpea mutant variety. The variety was developed using nuclear techniques. (Photo: Prince M. Matova/ Crop Breeding Institute, Zimbabwe)

National priorities

- Food and agriculture
- Human health
- Water resources management
- Radiation safety and regulatory infrastructure
- Industrial applications

Main areas of IAEA support

- Soil and water management
- Livestock disease monitoring
- Food safety
- Tsetse fly control
- Human health

Project successes

Agriculture

Zimbabwe's National Livestock Development Programme focuses on increasing livestock production and productivity, thereby contributing to the objective of achieving national food security and nutrition.

With support from the IAEA, the programme was enhanced with the establishment of an Artificial Insemination (AI) centre. This included the creation of a bull station and a semen laboratory, and enabled the production of 100 000 doses of quality-assured semen from genetically evaluated bulls in 2022. The AI roll-out programme has significantly contributed to increasing livestock production and achieving better food security.

Human health

With IAEA support for the training of physicians and procurement of equipment, Zimbabwe has successfully established nuclear medicine services in the country. Government cost-sharing enabled the installation of a dual-headed SPECT gamma camera at Mpilo Central Hospital in May 2014. This advancement contributed to a significantly strengthened health care infrastructure in Zimbabwe for improved patient care, more accurate diagnoses, and enhanced medical treatment options.

Radiation safety and nuclear safety

Following the establishment of the Radiation Protection Authority of Zimbabwe in 2009, four national projects were implemented to strengthen the regulatory infrastructure through human resource development and the provision of technical equipment. As a result, the country has reached an excellent level of progress in Thematic Safety Area 1 on regulatory infrastructure. The IAEA provides ongoing support for the establishment of a centralized radioactive waste facility, ensuring adherence to international safety standards and security guidelines for managing low and high activity sources.



MSc graduates of the first medical physics course at the National University of Science and Technology.
(Photo: G. Azangwe/National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe)

Participation in the major initiatives

- Rays of Hope
- ZODIAC

Date of imPACT Review(s)

2010

IAEA support received in the 21st century



Contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation

