Atoms for peace and development

Widely known as the world’s ‘Atoms for Peace and Development’ organization within the United Nations family, the IAEA is the international centre for cooperation in the nuclear field. The Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technologies.

The IAEA’s technical cooperation (TC) programme helps countries to use nuclear science and technology to address key development priorities in areas including health, agriculture, water, the environment and industry. The programme also helps countries to identify and meet future energy needs. It supports greater radiation safety and nuclear security, and provides legislative assistance.

In 2019, the IAEA established the Sub-regional Approach for the Pacific Islands (SAPI), which includes Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, in order to promote cooperation in the field of nuclear science and technology for the attainment of national development priorities, and to provide focused IAEA technical cooperation support to the Pacific Island Member States.

Recent project successes

**Radiation safety**

Since 2016, the IAEA has assisted Papua New Guinea in developing an effective national regulatory infrastructure for the control of radiation sources in accordance with international standards. Support was also provided for research, medical and industrial applications.

In 2019, the Radiation Safety Control Act, developed with IAEA support, was passed by the Parliament of Papua New Guinea. This helped strengthen legislative frameworks and raised awareness of radiation safety with senior Government officials. Papua New Guinea has further developed a comprehensive set of regulations to implement the Act.

Scientists from Fiji, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu participated in a two week regional training course at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and IAEA Plant Breeding and Genetics Laboratory in Seibersdorf, Austria, to strengthen their skills in using a nuclear technique to develop new, more resilient plant varieties.

(Photo: M. Matijevic/IAEA)
Active national projects

- Establishing a National Radiological Monitoring Programme (PAP9003)
- Genetically Characterising and Improving Productivity of Cattle by Enhanced Reproduction and Better Feeding (PAP5002)
- Enhancing Genetic Characterization and Improving Productivity of Cattle by Enhanced Reproduction and Better Feeding - PHASE-II (PAP5003)
- Enhancing Cancer Services (PAP6002)
- Establishing a Regulatory Framework for the Control of Radiation Sources - PHASE II (PAP9002)

Papua New Guinea also participates in 8 regional and 3 interregional projects, mostly in the area of health and nutrition, and food and agriculture.

Other IAEA support to Papua New Guinea

The IAEA supported the establishment of basic national capacities for utilizing nuclear science and technology. As no legal and regulatory safety infrastructure had previously existed, assistance included creating a national radiation safety infrastructure to provide oversight for the production, possession, use, storage, import and export of radiation sources and nuclear material for industrial, research and medical purposes. The IAEA also helped build, improve and enhance human capacities in radiotherapy, pest control and management, and productivity of livestock.

The IAEA supported the Professor John Kola Chemistry Laboratory, part of the National Agricultural Research Institute, through the provision of a Charm II system which enables comprehensive food safety testing for multiple food matrices. (Photo: G. Otto/National Agricultural Research Institute)

IAEA support to Papua New Guinea, 2012–2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trained</th>
<th>International experts</th>
<th>Attended specialist meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(including 17 women)</td>
<td>provided</td>
<td>(including 7 women)</td>
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</tbody>
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Priority areas of support

- Improving human health and nutrition
- Improving the food and agriculture sector
- Protecting water and the environment
- Strengthening radiation safety and security

Papua New Guinea's contribution to South-South and triangular cooperation, 2012–2019

9 expert and lecturer assignments provided by Papua New Guinea

Based on data available as of April 2020

Cancer control imPACT Review conducted: November 2013

Strategic documents supported

- Country Programme Framework 2016–2021, signed in December 2015

www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation

The IAEA collaborates with National Liaison Officers and Permanent Missions to deliver its TC programme.