

Papua New Guinea

IAEA Member State since April 2012

Selected achievements

2023: Papua New Guinea hosts an IAEA led imPACT Review of its cancer care capacity and needs.

2022: Papua New Guinea improves its capacity to apply nuclear derived techniques for reporting the incidence and prevalence of animal diseases.

2019: A national legal framework for radiation safety is established, followed by regulations and establishment of the first regulatory body in the Pacific.



The IAEA has been helping Papua New Guinea expand access to nuclear technology to improve early diagnosis of cancer. (Photo: V. Tsapaki/IAEA)

National priorities

- Radiation safety and security
- Food and agriculture
- Human health and nutrition
- Water and the environment

Main areas of IAEA support

- Radiation safety
- Oversight for production, possession, use, storage, import, and export of radiation sources and nuclear material
- Human capacities in radiotherapy, pest control and productivity of livestock
- Food safety

Project successes

Radiation safety

Since 2016, the IAEA has assisted Papua New Guinea in the establishment of a robust national regulatory infrastructure for the control of radiation sources in accordance with international standards.

The IAEA's technical cooperation programme also helped the country to strengthen research, medical, and industrial applications.

In 2019, the Parliament passed the Radiation Safety Control Act, which was developed with IAEA support. This contributed to enhancing legislative frameworks and raised awareness of radiation safety with senior Government officials. The Act provides the basis for the development of a comprehensive set of regulations that support its implementation and the strengthening of the first regulatory body in the Pacific Islands.

Cancer treatment

The 2023 imPACT Review emphasised the need for a sustainable approach to radiotherapy services, including long term planning of workforce development and equipment maintenance. With a focus on paediatric cancers, the review recommended further strengthening the referral system to improve early diagnosis, ensure the availability of essential medicines and build capacity at national referral centres. Based on the imPACT Review, the Ministry of Health now aims to develop a new cancer control programme, with support from the IAEA's technical cooperation programme and the Rays of Hope initiative.

Since 2016, the technical cooperation programme has also provided equipment and supported capacity building in the health sector, particularly for Port Moresby General Hospital.

Nuclear science and technology

The Sub-regional Approach for the Pacific Islands (SAPI), launched in 2022, fosters nuclear science and technology collaboration among Pacific Island nations, including Papua New Guinea.

The objective of this initiative is to promote cooperation in the field of nuclear science and technology to address national development priorities, and to provide focused IAEA technical cooperation support to Pacific Island Member States.



The team of experts who carried out the 2023 imPACT Review in Papua New Guinea to assess cancer control capacity and needs in the country. (Photo: J. Romero Bastante/IAEA)

Participation in the major initiatives

- Rays of Hope

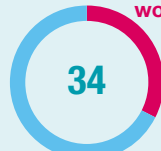
Date of imPACT Review(s)

2023, 2013

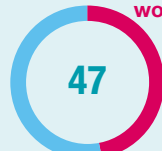
IAEA support received in the 21st century

10

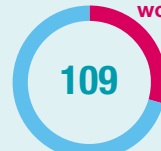
national
TC projects
implemented



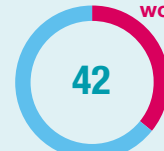
fellows and
scientific visits



training
participants

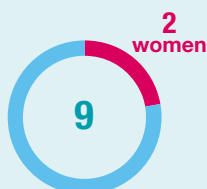


meeting
participants



expert missions
received

Contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation



expert missions
supported