

Sri Lanka

IAEA Member State since August 1957

Selected achievements

2024: The Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board recovers 114 disused sealed radioactive sources with IAEA support, including those containing radium-226.

2021: Supported by the IAEA and FAO, the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka uses induced mutagenesis to increase the yield, quality and resilience of tea plants.

2019: The University of Peradeniya distributes the first calves raised from embryos bred using nuclear techniques to monitor the oestrous cycle.

2016: The University of Peradeniya opens the country's first state-of-the-art nuclear medicine facility.



Female farmers in Sri Lanka receive the first young cows bred for their high milk yielding potential using nuclear techniques. (Photo: HMNR Bandara/AEB)

National priorities

- Nuclear and radiation safety and security
- Food and agriculture sector
- Human health
- Management of water resources
- Energy and industry

Main areas of IAEA support

- Radiation safety and nuclear analytical capabilities
- Emergency preparedness
- Crop mutation breeding
- Isotopic analysis
- Animal health for improved crop yields
- Water management
- Food safety and security
- University nuclear medicine curriculum
- Radiotherapy services and radiation protection
- Radioimmunoassay diagnostic capabilities
- Environmental monitoring
- Marine protection capabilities

Project successes

Industrial irradiation and testing

The IAEA has been supporting Sri Lanka's efforts to increase the use of nuclear technologies in industrial applications.

Key institutes such as the Sri Lankan Gamma Centre and the National Centre for Non-Destructive Testing have been using gamma irradiation to sterilize medical products and decontaminate different kinds of foodstuffs.

The IAEA has supported these initiatives through training, expert services, and providing equipment.

Over the past two decades, Sri Lanka has built significant experience in non-destructive testing, providing inspection services to both the public and private sector to improve healthcare and food safety in the country.

Human health and nutrition

For over 40 years, the IAEA has supported Sri Lanka's nuclear medicine unit at the University of Peradeniya to expand its capacities in the use of radiopharmaceuticals.

This has resulted in improved diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of a wide range of health conditions, including various cancers and cardiovascular diseases. The

IAEA provided training on dose preparation, quality control, and radiation protection.

In 2015, the IAEA conducted a Quality Management Audit in Nuclear Medicine Practices (QUANUM) to improve the quality of nuclear medicine practices.

This long term collaboration has helped Sri Lanka to provide advanced levels of patient care using nuclear medicine.

As part of the national surveillance system for vector-borne diseases, the unit offers expertise and university-level training in medical and molecular entomology and provides low-cost diagnostic services to patients.



The radiotherapy unit in Kandy General Hospital, Sri Lanka (Photo: IAEA)

Participation in the major initiatives

- ZODIAC

Date of imPACT Review(s)

2019, 2006

IAEA support received in the 21st century



Contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation

