Introduction

The IAEA envisions that all of its Member States will have the proper infrastructure and technologies in place for managing their own disused sealed radioactive sources (DSRS). Aligned with this vision, the DSRSNet showcases a variety of products, projects and services aimed at facilitating and increasing the exchange of information and experiences among its participants. The Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources Network (DSRSNet) was launched at the 63rd regular session of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 2019, as one of a series of measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and radioactive waste management. Its objectives include to support and enhance the sharing of international knowledge and experience in the safe and secure management of DSRS. Within the IAEA, the DSRSNet’s work is organized as a joint effort between the Department of Nuclear Energy, the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, and the Department of Technical Cooperation.

Objectives

The main objective of this event is to allow participants to review the DSRSNet mission, structure, content and work programme and to provide recommendations on future activities in the short and medium term. The event provides opportunities for participants to update one another and the IAEA on ongoing and planned activities in their respective countries, and for IAEA staff to bring participants up to date on relevant activities under the IAEA’s own programme in this area.
Expected Outputs

The meeting will facilitate the sharing of national and international experiences and lessons learned provided by participants on the current status and expected future evolution of programmes for managing DSRS, including major factors impacting on the choice of strategies, and important successes and implementation challenges. In particular, the following topical sessions will be organized:

- Reports from international collaborative projects on DSRS management;
- Current DSRS management challenges and lessons learned post-Covid;
- Young professionals in DSRS management;
- Recent technical innovations that may support management of DSRS; and
- Enhancing knowledge sharing on DSRS management.

Target Audience

This meeting is of interest to Member States having an active involvement in the planning and/or implementation of DSRS management, including national operators of DSRS facilities, regulatory bodies, sealed sources manufacturers, suppliers, distributors and recyclers, governmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with DSRS.

Working Language(s)

English.

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the Participation Form (Form A) to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by 15 June 2023. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the Participation Form (Form A) through their organization to the IAEA by above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA’s scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA’s mandate.
Papers and Presentations

The IAEA encourages participants to give presentations on the work of their respective institutions that falls under the topics listed above.

Participants who wish to give presentations are requested to submit an abstract of their work. The abstract will be reviewed as part of the selection process for presentations. The abstract should be in A4 page format, should extend to no more than 2 pages (including figures and tables) and should not exceed 500 words. It should be sent electronically to the Scientific Secretary of the event (see contact details below), not later than 15 June 2023. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their proposed presentations by 30 July 2023.

In addition, participants have to submit the abstract together with the Participation Form (Form A) and the attached Form for Submission of a Paper (Form B) to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or their organization for onward transmission to the IAEA not later than 15 June 2023.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA’s view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made using the Grant Application Form (Form C) which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the Participation Form (Form A) by 15 June 2023.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) where the IAEA’s Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page: www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest
diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.
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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

Event Web Page

Please visit the following IAEA web page regularly for new information regarding this event:  
www.iaea.org/events/ EVT2205304