Training Workshop on Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Projects and Uranium Exploration Planning, Management and Practice

Hosted by the
Government of Namibia

through the
Namibian Uranium Institute

Swakopmund, Namibia

30 October–3 November 2023

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Information Sheet

Introduction

About 92 IAEA Member States have historically or are currently exploring for uranium. In the past 30 years, 75% or more of the projects in the Uranium Production Cycle that have been supported through the IAEA Technical Cooperation programme were focussed on aspects of uranium exploration.

Experience has shown that these projects often required considerable guidance from the IAEA and international experts, not only on the technical aspects, but on the overall management and planning of these projects in the context of mineral exploration. A systematic, phased approach to exploration for uranium utilizing best practises and IAEA guidance is recommended to ensure the sustainability of uranium exploration programmes in Member States as well as to ensure these activities are undertaken in a safe and secure manner. To support this recommendation the IAEA is in the process of developing a Technical Document entitled, ‘Mineral Exploration Planning and Management of Uranium Projects’.
A first draft of this document will be the basis of the training materials on uranium exploration planning management and practice that will be used at the Training Workshop.

Stakeholder engagement is important through all stages of a uranium project from early exploration to development of mining and processing facilities and decommissioning. The Nuclear Energy (NE) series document ‘Milestones in the Development of National Infrastructure for the Uranium Production Cycle’ provides guidance on 16 aspects including stakeholder engagement. The Milestones approach to the uranium production cycle will be presented at the workshop and this will be supplemented by the sharing from local experts of the Namibian experience.

Objectives

The training workshop will cover the basic knowledge required for professionals to engage in exploration activities and stakeholder engagement for uranium projects. The training is targeted primarily to those who are newly engaged in uranium exploration or with very little previous experience. At the end of the training, each participant will be expected to have enough general knowledge to understand the basic principles needed to plan and execute an exploration programme in their home country utilizing best practices and a systematic approach. In addition, an understanding of the importance of conducting stakeholder engagement for uranium projects should be understood.

Target Audience

The training is targeted primarily to those participants who are newly engaged in uranium exploration or with very little previous experience. Applicants should have a degree in geosciences, geoengineering or a closely related field and currently be working in a role that involves uranium exploration.

Working Language

English.

Structure

The workshop will consist of expert lectures, presentations, discussion, and a field visit to a conventional uranium production facility. All of these activities will be in support of enabling participants to develop a practical approach to the development of an effective uranium exploration programme and underscore the importance of having a systematic and effective strategy. As part of the workshop, the participants are expected to be prepared to update and discuss in the workshop their national situations and needs on emerging issues associated with uranium exploration.
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 or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (https://intouchplus.iaea.org) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by 2 October 2023, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (https://intouchplus.iaea.org):
   - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
   - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register here.

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
   - Complete or update their personal details under ‘Complete Profile’ and upload the relevant supporting documents;
   - Search for the relevant event under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
   - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating Authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
   - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
   - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
   - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by 2 October 2023.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the InTouch+ Help page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

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. Further information can be found in the Data Processing Notice concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

Venue

The event will be held at the Namibian Uranium Institute, Cottage Avenue PO Box 2747, Swakopmund, Namibia. Participants must make their own travel, airport transportation and accommodation arrangements in Swakopmund. Travel arrangements for the one-day visit to the uranium production centre will be organized by the event host.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Namibia should submit the necessary application as soon as possible to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Namibia.

Additional Information

Participants are advised to bring along suitable clothes for field conditions, i.e. waterproof jacket or rainwear in case of inclement weather during the site visit. Sun protection (hats, sunglasses and protective clothing or cream) is also recommended.
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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.