

The IAEA's technical cooperation programme: Building partnerships for progress

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Experience has taught us that partnerships are essential if we are to effectively help countries use nuclear science and technology to overcome development

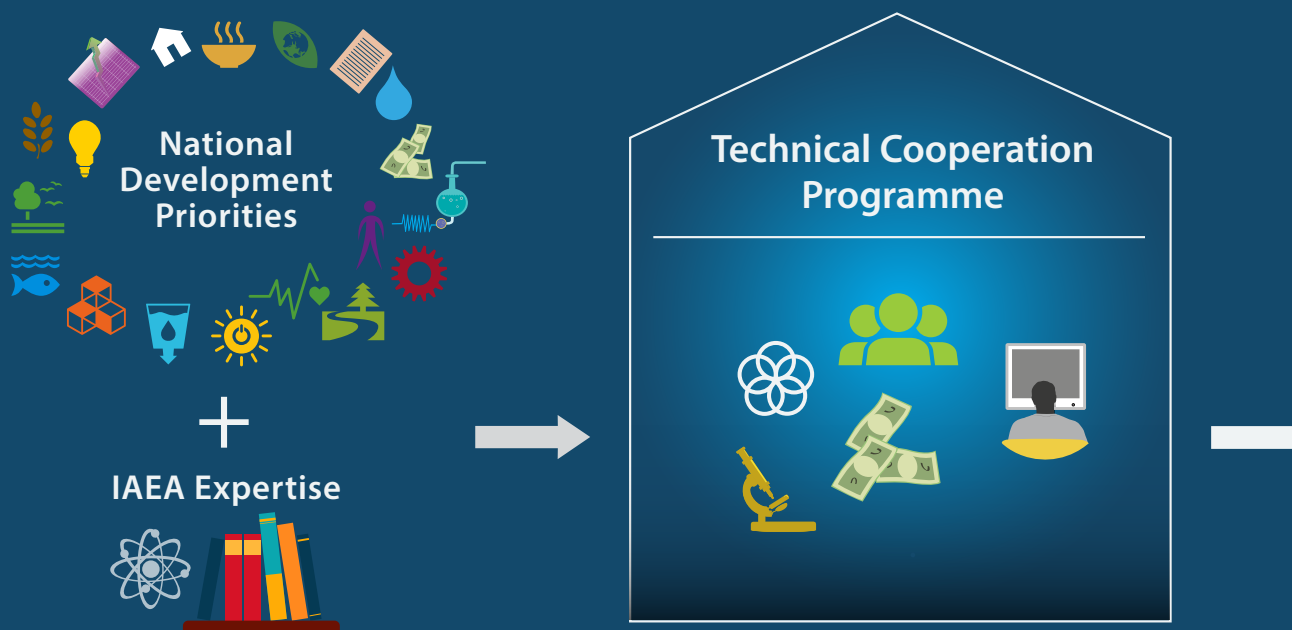
challenges and achieve a lasting impact. Two-thirds of our technical cooperation programme addresses issues where the IAEA does not have the lead mandate within the United Nations system, but where nuclear technology plays an essential role in delivering development results in the field. Partnerships with lead United Nations organizations and our continued participation in global discussions on the path forward enable our programme to fully maximize the benefits it offers to countries in diverse sectors, ranging from health to food security, from water management to industry.

Achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is not a task

that any organization can undertake in isolation. Goal 17, which emphasizes the role of cooperation in achieving sustainable development, underscores just how important partnerships are. Collaboration is needed at all levels to increase access to science, technology and innovation and to enhance knowledge sharing. The IAEA, with decades of experience in building capacity in science and technology for development, has the skills and knowledge to complement, amplify and advance the crucial work of its partners.

More than 140 countries and territories now receive support through the IAEA's technical cooperation programme. Regional and interregional IAEA technical cooperation projects offer a forum where developing and developed countries can work together and with other institutions — both private and public — to expand knowledge and access to scientific expertise. As a result, increased technological innovation will drive development impact.

Delivering Concrete Results to Member



Our long-standing partnerships with, for example, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have allowed us to join skills and resources to support countries worldwide. When these partnerships are combined with the services of the IAEA's technical cooperation programme and coordinated research activities, countries gain access to a comprehensive range of scientific and development support. Partnerships with other international organizations help put science to work, taking it out of the laboratory and into the field, ensuring that new skills and competencies are applied within broader development contexts, strengthening and reinforcing the inputs and activities of each individual organization and counterpart.

May 2017 will see the first ever international conference on the IAEA's technical cooperation programme. We are aiming to highlight the achievements of the technical cooperation programme over the past six decades — and, in particular, to show how the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology can help Member States meet their development priorities. The conference also aims to raise awareness of how the technical cooperation programme can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. Another objective of the conference is to reach out to our sister organizations in the development world, and to demonstrate to



(Photo: N. Jawerth/IAEA)

them the benefits of working in partnership with the IAEA. At the conference, we seek to strengthen partnerships with Member States, United Nations system and regional organizations, financial institutions, non-traditional donors and the private sector.

Peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology have a unique role to play in meeting countries' needs and supporting development worldwide. Through partnerships between the IAEA, other organizations and Member States, we can ensure that the benefits of applied nuclear science and technology will reach the people who need them most, and that we put our best efforts forward for human well-being, global sustainability and resilience.

States

The technical cooperation programme

The technical cooperation programme is the primary mechanism for delivering IAEA development assistance to Member States. It builds national capacity in the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology and helps countries develop the relevant infrastructure. The programme also facilitates networking and knowledge sharing and, very importantly, the fostering of suitable development partnerships at all levels. The main tool employed by the technical cooperation programme is the provision of training, expertise and procurement.

The programme's strategic aim is to create a tangible socioeconomic impact by contributing to the achievement of the major sustainable development priorities of a country. The programme is guided by requests for assistance from Member States, in accordance with national priorities, and provides guidance to Member States on the best way to address their needs using nuclear technology.



**Sustainable
Socioeconomic
Development**