IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

Training Course on Field Measurements for Isotope Hydrology Studies

Hosted by

Government of the Republic of Moldova

through the

Moldova State University

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

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Information Sheet

Purpose

This training offers participants practical and theoretical parts, allowing them to apply their knowledge and develop skills in sampling lakes, rivers, springs, and wells for both stable and radioactive isotopes over the course of a week. When conducting field measurements for isotope hydrology studies, several critical factors must be considered to ensure accurate data processing and interpretation. Recognizing the uncertainties and potential errors from sampling, sample handling, and laboratory analysis is important for drawing technically reliable conclusions about hydrological systems. Field campaigns are typically designed based on existing data and sampling locations. The area of interest is then to evaluate potential sampling sites, such as representative locations along a river, types and locations of wells, and site accessibility. This assessment informs the planning of the field campaign, the selection of sampling sites and parameters (e.g., specific isotopes), and the equipment to be used for the measurements.

Working Language(s)

The working language(s) of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **September 10, 2025,** will not be considered.

Project Background

The project builds on the achievements of RER7013, "Evaluating Groundwater Resources and Groundwater-Surface-Water Interactions in the Context of Adapting to Climate Change", which provided a first overview of groundwater and surface water resources, including transboundary water resources, in 27 participating Member States and sought to improve the capacity and self-reliance of participating Member States to introduce isotope hydrology in water resources planning, management, and development at national and transboundary levels. The phase two project seeks to increase coverage and capacity of the regional network in the European TC (TCEU) region, which was consolidated during RER7013, for the monitoring and evaluation of water resource quality and quantity using isotope techniques. In order to promote greater regional cooperation, the project continues to encourage participating countries to work together to improve the characterization of shared aquifers, address identified data gaps and facilitate the use of isotope hydrology for the formulation of water-related policies. This third aspect is outlined as a new component of the project, given the need and interest of several participating countries. Ultimately, the project aims to enhance evidence-based decision-making for integrated water management to improve water security in Member States of Europe and Central Asia.

Scope and Nature

The aim of the training course is to apply the theoretical knowledge in isotope hydrology to a concrete project. Participants will be enabled during the course to use the tools that can be used in the field measurements to support the diversity of the isotope hydrology studies. The objectives are as follows:

a. Re-fresh and expand on the use of naturally occurring isotopes in understanding river and groundwater dynamics (origin of water, groundwater dating, etc.).

b. Design a field study based on existing hydrological and hydrochemical data and geological and topographical maps.

c. Select the parameters that need to be measured and sampled to achieve the set goal (i.e. water balance of the lake catchment, groundwater recharge).

d. To plan and coordinate a field study in each time (estimate time for taking samples, planning equipment etc.) including the installation of the basic equipment.

e. To interpret and present the results of the study (basics).

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Participants should have a university diploma with a technical/scientific profile that attests to substantive experience with the use of hydrological, hydrogeological or hydrochemical techniques, and/or their involvement in water resources monitoring, assessment and/or management. They should preferably have a good understanding of water-related/hydrogeological issues.

As the course will be conducted in English language, participants should have sufficient English language proficiency to follow the training and express themselves without difficulty.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this training should follow the steps below:

1. Access the IAEA TALEO page (https://iaea.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobsearch.ftl) and complete the Candidate Profile.

2. Be registered on the Nucleus page of the IAEA (https://nucleus.iaea.org/).

3. Through Nucleus, access the InTouch+ platform where the Profile is completed (My Profile tab) (https://nucleus.iaea.org/Pages/InTouchPlus.aspx).
   NOTE: The email used for TALEO and Nucleus must be the same. If not, the candidate's profile will not appear complete.

4. On the InTouch + platform, under the 'My InTouch +' tab, the candidate needs to:

a. select the institute / organization that he/she works at / represents ('My Institute' section);

b. click on the link called **'Refresh Personal History Form'** to update the system, ***otherwise the nominations submitted will have these fields empty and it will not be possible to evaluate them during the selection of candidates*** ('IAEA Recruitment Platform' section).

NOTE: Once the above steps are finalized, the candidate's profile will appear as completed and he/she can apply for Technical Cooperation events.

5. In the InTouch+ platform (https://intouchplus.iaea.org), in the 'Applications' tab, search by the event number provided in the invitation.

   Help for each step is located at the top of the page. For additional help on how to register, create a profile and apply for an event, please refer to the online guide and training videos available under the following links: how-to guide and training videos. Any issues or queries related to the new system can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org or TC-AIPS-PL4.Contact-point@iaea.org.

Alternately, applicants may download the Nomination Form for the TN from the IAEA website https://www.iaea.org/services/technical-cooperation-programme/how-to-participate.

Applications must contain sufficient information to establish that the nominees have the required qualifications. Please note that the information regarding LANGUAGE SKILLS, EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE is exported from TALEO. If an applicant's profile in TALEO is not updated, the information in INTOUCH+ for these sections appears as empty and the candidates cannot be evaluated. Completed applications need to be endorsed by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office and submitted through the established official channels.

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be duly informed of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed regarding administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA to cover their costs of travel, lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency American Express, or a travel grant, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

IAEA Contacts

Programme Management Officers (responsible for substantive matters):

Ms Sibel UNLU
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA
Email : s.unlu@iaea.org
Tel.: (+43 1) 2600-25981

Technical Officer (responsible for technical matters):

Ms Yuliya VYSTAVNA
Isotope Hydrology Section
Department of Nuclear Applications
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre,
PO Box 100,
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA
Email: y.vystavna@iaea.org
Tel.: (+43 1) 2600-21739

Administrative Contact (responsible for administrative matters):

Ms Angie MIESES
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA
Tel.: +43 1 2600 24467
Fax: +43 1 26007
Email: a.mieses-concepcion@iaea.org