



# **Workshop on the Self-Assessment of Research Reactor Safety**

**IAEA Headquarters  
Vienna, Austria**

**29 June - 3 July 2026**

**Ref. No.: EVT2503560**

## **Information Sheet**

### **Introduction**

In accordance with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Code of Conduct on the Safety of Research Reactors and the IAEA safety standards for research reactors, the research reactor operating organization has the prime responsibility for safety of research reactors during all stages of its lifetime. In this regard, there is a need for the operating organization to continually assess and improve the safety of the facility and consistently with an established integrated management system.

Self-assessment is an organization's internal process to review its current status, processes and performance against predefined criteria and thereby to provide key elements for the organization's continuous development and improvement. Self-assessment helps the organization to think through what it is expected to do, how it is performing in relation to these expectations, and what it needs to do to improve performance, fulfil the expectations and achieve better compliance with the predefined criteria.

The IAEA's activities on research reactor safety have shown that research reactor operating organizations could benefit from enhanced capabilities to self-assess their safety management and to implement safety improvements based on the results of such self-assessments.

In particular, the Integrated Safety Assessment of Research Reactors (INSARR) missions conducted by the IAEA have revealed that many safety issues at a research reactor could have been identified by the operating organization if it had conducted a systematic self-assessment based on the IAEA safety standards for research reactors.

In response, the IAEA has developed guidelines for use by operating organizations to perform self-assessments of their facilities in all areas related to research reactor safety. The guidelines present the self-assessment methodology, including preparing and conducting the self-assessment, analysing the results, and developing and implementing an action plan with a view to achieving continuous improvement of safety. In this context, IAEA is organizing the workshop on the self-assessment of research reactor safety to be held at its Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, from 29 June to 3 July 2026.

## **Objective**

The objective of the event is to provide a forum for participants to share information, exchange knowledge, and discuss national approaches to conduct self-assessments and implementing results-based safety improvements.

## **Target Audience**

The workshop is intended for the persons responsible for the present and future operation of research reactors, including reactor managers, quality managers, personnel responsible for safety management, operational and maintenance managers and personnel as well as radiation protection officers. Specialists from regulatory bodies who are responsible for the regulatory supervision of research reactors are also qualified to participate in the workshop.

Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

## **Working Language (s)**

English

## **Topics**

The workshop will address, inter alia, the following topics:

- IAEA safety standards and services related to research reactors safety;
- Methods for performing self-assessments of research reactor safety, including preparing and conducting the self-assessment
- Use of a graded approach in application of safety requirements on self-assessment;
- Analysing the results of self-assessments and developing and implementing an action plan for safety improvements;
- Self-assessment as a tool to prepare for receiving an IAEA peer review service.

In addition to presentations from the IAEA representatives on the basis of the IAEA safety standards and other IAEA publications, the workshop will include presentations by the participants on the safety status of the research reactors at their organizations with a focus on the results of self-assessments performed in preparation for the workshop. All participants from research reactor operating organizations are expected to use the IAEA guidelines to perform self-assessments of three areas related to research reactor safety. The areas subject to self-assessment will be agreed by the participants and the IAEA Scientific Secretary for the workshop approximately one month prior to the workshop, but will likely include a selection of the following:

- Operational limits and conditions;
- Maintenance, Periodic testing and Inspection;
- Modifications and Utilization of experiments;

The discussions in the working groups will focus on the results of the self-assessments, feedback on the self-assessment process and action planning for implementing safety improvements.

## 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 **30 March 2026**, 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](mailto: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 **30 March 2026**.

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](mailto: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.

## 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, together with the submission of the application, by **30 March 2026**.

## 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](http://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.

## Organization

### Scientific Secretary

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary and correspondence on other matters related to the meeting to the Administrative Secretary.