



Technical Meeting on Safety Aspects of the Construction and Commissioning of Research Reactors

Virtual Event via Microsoft Teams

4 - 8 May 2026

Ref. No.: EVT2503569

Information Sheet

Introduction

Research reactors are used for variety of purposes, such as education and training, research and development in nuclear science and engineering, development of technologies including in nuclear energy industry, and irradiation and analytical services. Research reactors are also utilized for the production of radioisotopes for medical, industrial and agricultural applications.

Ensuring the safety of a research reactor begins long before the first approach to criticality. It is essential that the construction and commissioning phases of the research reactor are carried out with the same culture for safety as its operation and utilization. The IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSR-3, Safety of Research Reactors, contains requirements for construction and commissioning of research reactors which help to ensure safety throughout the research reactor lifetime.

To supplement the requirements of SSR-3, the IAEA Safety Standards Series Nos. SSG-38, Construction for Nuclear Installations, and SSG-80, Commissioning of Research Reactors, provide detailed guidance on how to implement the requirements and to ensure safety throughout these phases of the research reactor lifetime. Important aspects of construction and commissioning such as: regulatory oversight; management systems and their application to construction and commissioning activities; management of construction activities; documentation of the commissioning programme; commissioning organizations; commissioning stages, procedures, and reports; documentation and records; and commissioning of new experiments and modifications are all discussed in these important safety standards.

Understanding and effective implementation of the requirements and recommendations contained in the IAEA Safety Standards is essential to ensure the safety of any research reactor in the planning, construction, and commissioning phases.

Feedback from IAEA activities has shown that a need to enhance the understanding of these requirements and recommendations so that they can be more effectively implemented in current and future research reactor projects. Improper or incomplete implementation of the requirements and recommendations can result in significant delays, increased costs, or inadequate safety of a new research reactor. With this in mind, the IAEA is organizing the Technical Meeting on Safety Aspects of the Construction and Commissioning of Research Reactors, to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams from 4 to 8 May 2026.

Objectives

The objective of the event is to provide participants with practical safety information, based on the IAEA Safety Standards, for the construction and commissioning of research reactors, including experience and lessons learned from past or current research reactor projects which have recently undergone or are undergoing construction and commissioning.

The workshop is also aimed at providing the participants with a forum to share experience on the construction and commissioning of research reactors and in application of the IAEA Safety Standards in this area.

Target Audience

The workshop is intended for managers and individuals responsible for activities related to the construction and commissioning of research reactors. Individuals from organizations planning new research reactor projects can also participate, as can specialists from regulatory bodies who are responsible for the regulatory supervision of the relevant activities.

Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

Working Language(s)

English.

Topics

The event will consist of presentations given by the IAEA representatives and invited lecturers on the basis of the IAEA Safety Standards, and presentations given by the participants on their national practices and experiences in the construction and commissioning of research reactors.

The topics that are expected to be covered include:

- regulatory oversight of construction and commissioning;
- management systems and their application to construction and commissioning activities;
- management of construction activities;
- documentation of the commissioning programme;
- commissioning organizations;
- commissioning stages, procedures, and reports;
- documentation and records; and
- commissioning of new experiments and modifications.

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 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);
 - If applicable, indicate whether a paper is being submitted and complete the relevant information;
 - 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.

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 technical 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.

Additional Information

The virtual meeting will be organized through Microsoft Teams and all accepted participants will receive further details via email. The timing of the event will be selected to accommodate as many participants as possible, however optimal timing for each time zone cannot be guaranteed.

Organization

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