

Atoms for Peace and Development

Technical Meeting on Strengthening Stakeholders Engagement and Partnership Among Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria and virtual participation via Microsoft Teams

10-12 December 2025

Ref. No: EVT2404416

Information Sheet

Introduction

Effective stakeholder engagement, including public communication, is an important element of nuclear programmes in general and for radioactive waste management programmes. Engaging stakeholders provides a basis for mutual understanding and collaboration between stakeholders and organizations responsible to establishing and operating a nuclear facility, including radioactive waste management facility.

Local stakeholders often have strong interests and possible concerns regarding a radioactive waste management facility sited in their communities, and more generally with any type of nuclear facility. Thus, they play an essential role in decision-making processes. To establish an effective stakeholder engagement, it is necessary to understand the perspectives, needs, expectations, and experiences of local stakeholders.

The IAEA, as the intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical cooperation in the nuclear field, is well-positioned to capture information from communities hosting radioactive waste management and other nuclear facilities as well as those considering becoming hosts and share this information with its Member States.

The Global Partnership of Nuclear Communities, hereinafter referred to as 'the GP,' established itself on the margins of an IAEA Technical Meeting in 2022. After several additional meetings, it further established itself as a legal entity on 17 June 2025. The GP provides for an international collaboration

of its members, representing associations and municipalities that host or are interested in hosting nuclear facilities. It aims to provide a platform for these communities to share experiences, advocate for their interests, and work with industry, governments, and international organizations like the IAEA.

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to provide a platform for engagement among the members of the GP and to foster dialogue among representatives of municipalities with nuclear facilities. This will also provide a forum for the GP to engage with their peers from other parts of the world, in order to broaden the dialogue to all regions of the world.

Furthermore, this forum will explore how the GP operates as a global partnership and contributes to local municipalities by transferring experiences.

Target Audience

The event is open to representatives of communities, including municipal authorities (mayors and councillors), hosting nuclear facilities, particularly those with potential interest to join the GP in the future. The meeting is also open to representatives of facility operators, safety authorities, government officials involved in stakeholder engagement activities.

Working Language

The working language of the event will be English. All communications and papers must be submitted in this language.

Topics

The event will be conducted as a workshop including guided discussions and Q&A sessions. The prospective themes for contributions and discussions will be structured under the following sequence of topics:

- How to provide a sustainable forum for engagement among representatives of nuclear municipalities;
- Scope, motivation, benefits and commitments by communities and association of communities with nuclear facilities to joining the GP;
- How to establish the fundamental basis for long term partnership between governments, host communities and nuclear operators - the communities perspective and the nuclear operators perspective.

In addition to these topics, the event will also explore further options for IAEA support to local stakeholder engagement, including capacity building activities.

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 **31 October 2025**, 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 <u>here.</u>
- 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.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by 31 October 2025.

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

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.

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.

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.

IAEA Contacts

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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.

Event Web Page

Please visit the following IAEA web page regularly for new information regarding this event:

<u>Technical Meeting on Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement and Partnership Among Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities | IAEA</u>