



Workshop on Methods for Radiological and Environmental Impact Assessment (MEREIA)

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria
and virtual participation via Cisco Webex

13-17 October 2025

Ref. No.: EVT2404077

Information Sheet

Introduction

The IAEA's programme on Methods for Radiological and Environmental Impact Assessment (MEREIA) is the latest in a series of international initiatives, such as MODARIA and EMRAS, designed to enhance competence in IAEA Member States to develop and apply models and methodologies for radiological environmental impact assessments (REIA)¹. MEREIA serves as a platform for the exchange of information and experience in radiological assessments, providing an opportunity to address challenges faced by IAEA Member States.

As part of the MEREIA programme, six working groups were established around case study scenarios, that cover a range of assessment contexts and environmental conditions, i.e.:

- a low-level radioactive waste disposal facility in operation;
- a clean-up situation in an urban area following the breach of a Cs-137 source;
- the historical marine dumping of low and intermediate level radioactive waste;
- a former uranium mining and milling in a tropical climate;
- a fjord receiving radioactive and chemical discharges from hospitals and other industries (including NORM industry); and
- the system conceptualization of river catchments in the Fukushima area.

¹ REIA is the assessment of the expected radiological impacts of facilities and activities on the environment for the purposes of protection of the public and protection of the environment against radiation risks.

Each working group has established a work plan defining activities to be undertaken throughout the programme, following a common framework for conducting radiological environmental impact assessments in line with the IAEA Safety Standards². Additionally, the programme has provided opportunities for young professionals and those developing experience to engage in the working groups, contribute to the activities, and benefit from interactions with experienced professionals.

Given the advanced stage of the working groups' activities, the IAEA Secretariat is organizing this Workshop (hereinafter referred to as "event") to provide an international forum for the working groups to present the outcomes of their work, and for all participants to have the opportunity to present their contributions to the results. Moreover, it should be noted that this will be the concluding event organized under the IAEA's MEREIA programme.

Objectives

The objective of this event is to present the results of activities carried out under the IAEA's MEREIA programme, as well as to consolidate and disseminate the findings in a structured manner.

The event will feature plenary round table sessions organized around pre-defined thematic areas covering key aspects of REIA and the MEREIA programme. Parallel oral sessions will be held on the same thematic areas as the round tables, providing a platform for participants to present their contributions to the working groups' activities. In these parallel sessions, special emphasis will be placed on encouraging young and early-career professionals to present their work.

Additionally, the event will provide an opportunity to reflect on the future direction of the MEREIA programme, including a discussion on its current structure and format. A dedicated session to collect feedback on the programme, offering insights and perspectives for future improvements will be organized. Participants will have the opportunity to highlight the challenges they face in conducting REIA in their respective countries within different assessment contexts and exposure scenarios and will benefit from the expertise within the MEREIA community while discussing potential solutions and best practices.

Target Audience

The event is intended for officials from regulatory bodies, operating organizations, technical support organizations, scientists, researchers, decision makers and others with responsibilities in such areas as environmental impact assessment; the development and application of environmental models; characterization and monitoring; the interpretation and communication of model predictions; and monitoring data in relation to the significance of impacts for planned, existing or emergency exposure situations. Participants from Member States developing expertise in the technical areas included in the MEREIA programme, young professionals and women are encouraged to attend.

Noting that this will be the concluding event being organized under the MEREIA programme, previous engagement with the programme is highly recommended.

² All presentations, documentation, outcomes, and session recordings for all of the events held within the MEREIA programme are available via the SharePoint based website: <https://gnssn.iaea.org/main/MEREIA/Pages/default.aspx>

Working Language(s)

English

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 latest **1 September 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 [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.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by latest **18 August 2025**, after which no further financial support applications will be possible or accepted. Fully approved cost-free applications via InTouch+ will still be accepted until **1 September 2025**.

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 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 the 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 latest **18 August 2025**, after which no further financial support applications will be possible or accepted.

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.

Additional Information

Participants who have been engaged in working group activities and are interested in presenting during the planned parallel oral sessions must submit an extended summary (following a template to be provided at a later date). Presentations can be given either in-person or virtually. A limited number of extended summaries will be selected for presentation during the parallel oral sessions and participants chosen to give presentations will be informed in advance thereof. Both presentations and extended summaries should highlight the contributions made to the output of working group activities under one of the thematic areas. Specific information on the deadline and process to submit the extended summaries and prepare the presentations will be provided by each working group coordinator in due course.

This Workshop will be held during normal working hours of 09:00–17:30 (CEST) at the IAEA's Headquarters in Vienna. However, virtual participation via Cisco Webex will be available for those unable to attend in person.

A Provisional Agenda will be circulated to all designated participants approximately one month before the event convenes.

Moreover, the exact details regarding the daily sessions and how to join them virtually via Cisco Webex will be communicated to invited virtual participants closer to the event.

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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.