

International Conference on Nuclear Decommissioning

Addressing the Past and Ensuring the Future



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

15 – 19 May 2023, Vienna, Austria

BACKGROUND

Decommissioning is the final stage in the lifecycle of any nuclear and radiological facility. Sustainability and circular economy principles demand that it be implemented safely, in a cost effective and environmentally sensitive manner and taking into account the future uses of the site.

There are valuable lessons to be learned from completed and ongoing decommissioning projects, covering a wide variety of facilities (educational and research facilities, fuel cycle facilities, research reactors and nuclear power plants), including decommissioning of facilities which experienced nuclear or radiological incidents and accidents.

The growing decommissioning demand worldwide will benefit from already completed and ongoing projects, but the increasing number of facilities to be decommissioned

concurrently in the coming decades raises new challenges in terms of the infrastructure, resources and expertise needed to support their decommissioning.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the event is to discuss achievements, challenges and lessons learned in the decommissioning of nuclear facilities, highlighting current priority needs and sharing information on strategies and approaches that enhance safe, secure and cost-effective implementation of programmes. The event will aim to raise awareness of the importance of addressing decommissioning as part of a sustainable future, supporting optimal use of the resources needed for implementation, enabling further development of sites, and providing relevant knowledge and inputs for new facilities under design or construction.

AUDIENCE

The conference will be of interest to those involved in establishing national frameworks, planning, implementation and oversight of decommissioning projects, including both small and major radiological and nuclear facilities. Participants are expected to include policy makers, regulators, implementers, technical support organizations, waste management organizations, organizations which represent local community interests, industry representatives, research and academic institutions and international organizations with an interest in decommissioning. The IAEA encourages women and representatives from developing countries to participate. The IAEA also welcomes the participation of young professionals.

MAIN TOPICS

Papers are invited on a wide range of topics relevant to the decommissioning of nuclear and radiological facilities:

- **Infrastructure and frameworks for effective and efficient decommissioning**

Topics addressed may include national policies and strategies, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks (including decision making processes), financing mechanisms, integrated waste management and transportation systems and specific education and training infrastructure that needs to be in place to enable and support the implementation of decommissioning programmes.

- **Planning and preparing for decommissioning**

Topics addressed may include organizational approaches to conducting decommissioning as well as emerging contracting models, cost estimation, human resource planning, procurement processes, assessment of facility conditions and safety assessment of proposed decommissioning actions, radioactive waste and materials management needs, available technologies for decommissioning implementation and associated research and development needs, licensing procedures and communication plans.

- **Implementing decommissioning projects**

Topics addressed may include current good practice in the implementation of decommissioning projects, providing opportunities for sharing experiences in discussing technical, regulatory or other challenges, including those gained from dealing with unexpected situations during decommissioning.

- **Completing decommissioning projects**

Topics addressed may include the process of defining the decommissioning end state and the subsequent demonstration of its achievement, including determination of the physical, radiological, and other relevant conditions of the site and remaining structures at the end of decommissioning.

- **Perspectives on enhancing decommissioning effectiveness and efficiency**

Topics addressed may include innovations, including ongoing and planned research and development programmes and application of good practices and technologies from other industries, which would enable future and ongoing decommissioning projects to be implemented in a more sustainable manner.

KEY DEADLINES

29 March 2022 Opening of synopsis submission through IAEA-INDICO

31 October 2022 Submission of abstracts and grant applications (including submission of Forms A, B and C through InTouch+Platform)

20 December 2022 Notification of acceptance of abstracts for oral or poster presentation

31 January 2023 Electronic submission of full papers through IAEA-INDICO

Registration only (i.e. submission of Form A through the competent national authority using the InTouch+ Platform) is not subject to a deadline.

EXHIBITION

A limited amount of space will be available during the conference for displays/exhibits by organizations working in the field of decommissioning. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by **31 October 2022**.

REGISTRATION

No registration fee is charged.

LANGUAGE

The working language of the conference will be English.

IAEA CONTACTS

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CONFERENCE WEBPAGE

Please visit the IAEA conference web page regularly for new information regarding this conference.

<https://www.iaea.org/events/decom2023>

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