

## Technical Cooperation

### Partnerships for Progress

#### How the IAEA Collaborates with Partners for Development

##### SUMMARY

- Agenda 2030 calls for a renewed global partnership for development, in order to achieve the ambitious set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.
- Partnerships are crucial for the IAEA to help its Member States to achieve the SDGs.
- Collaboration with stakeholders and partners includes partnering with international organizations and academia, as well as other institutions and donors, including from the private sector.

##### INTRODUCTION

The IAEA works closely with Member States, United Nations agencies, research organizations and civil society to promote the practical, peaceful application of nuclear techniques worldwide. This collaboration supports Member States' efforts to achieve their development priorities, including the SDGs. Partnerships extend the reach of IAEA development services, and multiply project benefits.

More than half of the IAEA technical cooperation (TC) programme activities implemented in Member States address areas, in partnership with other United Nations organizations, such as human health, food and agriculture, and water and the environment. Effective partnerships therefore are essential for achieving tangible socioeconomic impact in Member States. Over the past 60 years, the IAEA and its TC programme has entered into partnerships with many organizations and institutions, and has established successful long term collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the



SDG 17: strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

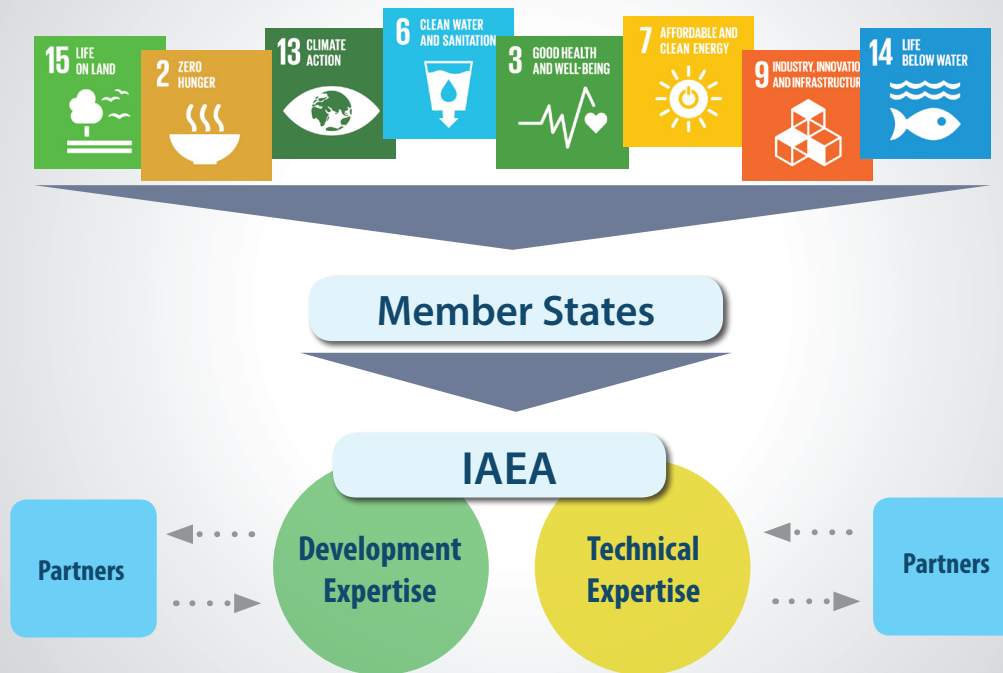
World Health Organization (WHO). Other partners include the United Nations Children's Fund the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Texas A&M University, the European Commission, and the OPEC Fund for International Development.

##### WORKING TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGS

Agenda 2030, and in particular Goal 17, recognizes the role of science, technology and innovation as essential enablers for development and places a priority on partnerships as a critical means of implementation. Achieving the SDGs requires collaboration and cannot be achieved in isolation.

The IAEA and its TC programme helps Member States apply nuclear technology to address many of the development challenges identified in the SDGs,

## Delivery Mechanism of Supporting Member States in Meeting the SDGs



including: end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture; ensure healthy lives, particularly through addressing the increasing burden of non-communicable diseases such as cancer; ensure available and sustainable management of water; facilitate energy planning and increase access to energy; build resilient industry and infrastructure; combat climate change; sustainably use marine resources and terrestrial ecosystems including combating desertification, deforestation and land degradation; and promote partnerships linking science and development.

### HOW DOES THE IAEA HELP ITS MEMBER STATES?

The IAEA TC programme is the main vehicle for the IAEA's assistance to its Member States. It combines specialized technical and development competencies. It serves as a major vehicle for the transfer of nuclear science and technology to Member States, assisting them to establish, maintain and strengthen national and regional capacities to effectively use nuclear technology for development. The programme

supports capacity building and training in the form of fellowships and scientific visits. IAEA workshops and meetings also enhance national competencies, and the TC programme supports networking, South-South cooperation, and technical cooperation among developing countries. In addition, the programme also supports the procurement of essential equipment and consumables where necessary.

TC projects provide expertise in fields where nuclear techniques offer advantages over other approaches, or where nuclear techniques can usefully supplement conventional means. Although all Member States are eligible for support, technical cooperation activities give due consideration to the needs and priorities of the underdeveloped areas of the world.

### RESULT-ORIENTED PARTNERSHIPS

The IAEA seeks to foster partnerships that will promote a strategic and holistic approach to development challenges, aiming to ensure coordination and complementarity of activities, and enable an efficient and cohesive response to current development challenges.

IAEA partnership activities aim to enhance collaboration and produce synergies in programmatic activities by:

- Expanding the basis for policy dialogue and advocacy in line with the IAEA's mandate;
- Sharing information, knowledge and experience;
- Increasing stakeholder participation in developing norms and standards for the safe and secure use of nuclear technology;
- Reducing duplication and overlap of activities, building on complementarities;
- Improving project and programme identification, design, delivery, management and sustainability; and
- Sharing and mobilizing resources in support of a common goal.

## A SNAPSHOT OF SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

### *Improving agriculture and food*

The IAEA's TC programme helps Member States to improve agriculture and food security with the support of the long-running and highly effective Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture. This cooperation focuses on the integration of nuclear technologies and related biotechnologies with conventional techniques, combining the mandates, expertise and resources of both organizations to broaden cooperation between their member countries in the peaceful application of nuclear science and technology in food and agriculture.

In addition, the IAEA collaborates with HarvestPlus through the Joint FAO/IAEA Division in the area of crop production. HarvestPlus is part of the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, which helps realize the potential of agricultural development to deliver gender-equitable health and nutritional benefits to the poor. CGIAR is a global agriculture research partnership for a food-secure future.

### *Helping to preserve healthy soils*

The IAEA also supports global efforts to protect an essential resource — soils. By using isotopes, the IAEA helps countries gain vital information about the condition of soil, which can help them to improve soil management practices, and enhance soil health and productivity. Isotopic techniques can be used to determine the rates of soil loss, track the movement of water and nutrients in the soil, and estimate soil erosion. To ensure that this technology reaches its potential users and beneficiaries, the IAEA forms partnerships with organizations that pursue similar goals, leveraging the expertise and experience of each organization to optimize long-term benefits.

In April 2013, the IAEA signed Practical Arrangements with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which covers cooperation in training and capacity building initiatives to address challenges related to desertification, drought and land degradation through nuclear techniques.

Policymakers can use data gathered using capacities developed through TC projects to formulate viable soil conservation policies to protect and even recuperate soil. The IAEA is also involved in the Global Soil Partnership.

### *Improving nutrition*

Nutrition is another area in which the IAEA provides support through TC projects that build Member States' capacities in the use of stable isotopes to enhance nutrition programmes, and that support the global efforts of Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN). Bringing together 54 countries with the aim of improving nutrition, SUN provides a platform for groups of stakeholders to increase and improve resources and align action behind national efforts. Collaboration between the IAEA and SUN is through the national SUN focal points and the Ministries of Health, to ensure that global nutrition projects are aligned with national nutrition priorities.

### *Taking action to fight cancer*

The IAEA has been helping Member States to address cancer care for six decades. As cancer has



emerged as a major global health problem, the IAEA's Division of Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy enables developing countries to integrate radiotherapy and nuclear medicine into strategic comprehensive cancer control plans. The WHO-IAEA Joint Programme on Cancer Control strengthens the development and implementation of comprehensive national cancer control programmes in low and middle income countries. This includes cancer registration, prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment (including radiation medicine), and palliative care.

### **Efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions**

The IAEA collaborates with the Asia LEADS Partnership (ALP) which implements low emission development strategies (LEDS) in Asia and the Pacific. Cooperation with ALP in the energy sector includes the development of online training resources for low emission energy planning and low emission land use planning; and the provision of expert assistance to raise awareness of the role of nuclear technology in providing data and evidence that can be used to support decision-making related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Sustainable energy**

The IAEA plays a key role in supporting global efforts for sustainable energy. In its cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the IAEA supports training activities in energy planning. Collaboration between the IAEA and IRENA was formalized through Practical Arrangements signed by both organizations on 2 November 2016.

### **Management of marine resources**

The IAEA TC programme also carries out projects with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the area of coastal zone management, including integrated activities on harmful algal blooms and hypoxia, and participation in international studies. Collaboration between the IAEA and the NOAA was formalized through Practical Arrangements signed by both organizations on 29 November 2010.

Nuclear science and technology can make a real difference in helping countries to address their development needs and priorities. The IAEA's engagement with partners aims to enhance knowledge sharing, technology transfer and evidence-based decision-making.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Member States and potential partners are encouraged to learn more and share information about IAEA development activities under the IAEA's technical cooperation programme.
- Member States are encouraged to engage with all relevant stakeholders, including relevant national institutes and organizations that can benefit from and collaborate with the IAEA to achieve socioeconomic development.
- Member States are encouraged to identify partnerships for the IAEA, including with the private sector, which will ensure the sustainability of technical cooperation project results.

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