REPROLAM

Red de Optimización de la Protección Radiológica Ocupacional en LatinoAmérica y el Caribe

NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 1, FEBRUARY 2025

Dear members and colleagues,

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear colleague and coordinator of REPROLAM, Helen Jamil Khoury.

Her dedication, commitment, and human warmth left an indelible mark on our community. Helen was an tireless leader in occupational radiation protection in Latin America and the Caribbean, always promoting integration and knowledge exchange. Her legacy will continue to inspire us in our work.

We send our sincerest condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time.

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SAFETY FIRST

A space dedicated to shared understanding and promoting the Safety Culture through information, analysis, sharing experiences, and related news.

Dear Readers of the "Safety First" Section,

Greetings from the editorial team as we welcome the new year 2025! We hope you had a joyous holiday season and wish you a year filled with new projects and personal achievements.

We begin another year of publications and updates aimed at spreading and promoting the Culture of Radiological Safety in the use of ionizing radiation sources across all applications. This year, we have some new ideas for this section that we'll be sharing along the way. We're also eager to hear your suggestions on any aspects you consider particularly important in this field.

As always, we thank all our readers for following this section, and we're especially grateful to those who have reached out to express interest in specific topics or suggest new ones. Remember, you can contact us at **laseguridadprimero2023@gmail.com** for any questions, suggestions, or simply to share experiences and best practices related to the Culture of Radiological Safety. Your contributions may be featured in this section to inspire and inform other readers.

Once again, best wishes to all for a happy and successful year!

Rubén Ferro - Renan Ramirez

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WEBINAR:
"PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF RADIATION AND SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION"

PROF. M.SC. PAOLA DA COSTA ROSA

📅 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025,

⏰ 11 A.M. (BRAZIL TIME)

The objective of this webinar is to explore the general public's perception of nuclear technology and its applications, as well as effective scientific communication tools in this context.

About the Speaker:

Paola holds a degree in Radiology Technology, a specialization in Radiological Protection, and a Master's in Science (Medical Physics) from the Federal Technological University of Paraná (UTFPR).

She is a university professor at UNINTER Brazil and the Latin American Institute for Dental Research (ILAPEO).

With over 10 years of experience in radiological protection (2015-2023 at Núcleo Protección Radiológica and since 2023 at Navix Gestión y Calidad), Paola brings a wealth of knowledge to the field.

Register here: https://forms.gle/RR5tve7KQwPdvBWS7

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EURADOS ANNUAL MEETING 2025

📅 FEBRUARY 24–27, 2025
📍 BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
🌍 LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

KEY TOPICS

- EURADOS School: "Metrology in Radiation Dosimetry Measurements"
- New Opening Session: Presentation of EURADOS Working Groups
- Meetings: EURADOS Working Groups and IC2024ext participants
- GT2 Learning Network
- Early Career Event
- SAMIRA Action Plan Meeting
- Open Debate: Potential impact of proposed new operational quantities
- EURADOS General Assembly and Council Meeting
- Training Course: "Refresher Course on Deploying the Bonner Sphere" (Separate registration and payment required)

KEY DATES

- Whova Conference App Launch: Late January 2025
- Registration Deadline: February 10, 2025
- Training Course: February 24, 2025
- Early Career Event: February 25, 2025
- EURADOS General Assembly: February 26, 2025
- 18th EURADOS School: February 27, 2025

For more information:
https://eurados.sckcen.be/en/events-overview/eurados-annual-meeting-2025-bucharest-romania

Please register online: www.eurados-registration.org

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IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

WEBINAR:
TRENDS IN THE APPLICATION OF OPTIMIZATION AND THE GRADED APPROACH IN INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES INVOLVING NORM

📅 FEBRUARY 26, 2025
⏰ 13:00 (VIENNA, AUSTRIA TIME)
MODERATOR: BURÇIN OKYAR (IAEA)
SPEAKERS: MARTA GARCÍA-TALAVERA SAN MIGUEL (CSN, SPAIN), ANALIA CANOBA (ARN, ARGENTINA), DAVID OKOH KPEGLO (GAEC, GHANA)

The application of an optimization and graded approach to industrial processes involving naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM) is crucial to ensuring radiological safety, efficiency, and regulatory compliance. There are common steps and considerations for its proper implementation in accordance with IAEA safety standards and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Optimization requires unique approaches and strategies aimed at improving assessment and monitoring, work processes, technology and equipment availability, and worker and professional training. It may involve efficient manufacturing, process automation, and energy optimization, and it must support relevant safety and risk management techniques.

This webinar will also provide insights into the 11th NORM Symposium (NORM XI), which builds on the relevant theme of “Expanding Optimization in Industrial Processes Involving NORM: A Focus on Sustainability in Extractive Industries.”

The event is intended for industrial process operators working with NORM, technical service providers, radiation protection professionals—including researchers and regulators.

Learning Objectives

- Enhance understanding of industrial processes involving NORM and the application of optimization and the graded approach specific to these processes.
- Gain insights into regional perspectives on effective radiation protection, based on the latest scientific evidence and social considerations, with a focus on NORM.
- Understand the challenges in implementing optimization and a graded approach in industrial processes involving NORM.
- Stay informed about the 11th International Symposium on Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM XI), taking place October 13–17, 2025, in Accra, Ghana.

More Information & Registration:
https://www.iaea.org/resources/webinar/trends-in-the-application-of-optimization-and-graded-approach-in-industrial-processes-involving-norm

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ALFIM 2025 X LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS OF MEDICAL PHYSICS
II IBERO-LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CONGRESS OF MEDICAL PHYSICS

📍 HOTEL CASA SANTO DOMINGO, LA ANTIGUA GUATEMALA

📅 MARCH 9–12, 2025

From March 9 to 12, 2025, a dedicated gathering will take place to explore the latest advances in Medical Physics, share innovative research, and analyze the challenges and opportunities facing the profession.

This congress will serve as a platform for the dissemination of scientific work, continuous learning, and professional development. Additionally, it will provide an opportunity to strengthen connections among colleagues, foster new collaborations, and define future directions in the field.

This event aims to offer an enriching experience for all participants, promoting both professional growth and knowledge exchange.

More Information: **https://eventlink5.com/alfim2025/**

IV INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RADIATION PROTECTION IN MEDICINE
📍 AS PART OF ALFIM 2025

The Symposium will take place on Sunday, March 9, at Salón La Fuente, in the Obras Sociales Santo Hermano Pedro Hospital, located near the Congress venue.

- Congress registrants have free access to the Symposium.
- Attendance certificates will be issued.
- The Symposium is 100% in-person.

8:00 – 10:00	Análisis de la situación actual sobre protección radiológica en América Latina y el Caribe		
8:00 – 8:10	Presentación Simposio	Kirk Douglas Nájera	Guatemala
8:10 – 8:30	Radiodiagnóstico Médico y Radiología Dental	Juan Miguel Olalla	Ecuador
8:30 – 8:50	Radiología Intervencionista	Omar Arias	Venezuela
8:50 – 9:10	Medicina Nuclear	Erick Mora	Costa Rica
9:10 – 9:30	Radioterapia	José Luis Rodríguez	Chile

9:30 – 10:00 CAFÉ

10:00 – 13:00	Propuestas a corto y mediano plazo para fortalecer la protección radiológica en medicina en América Latina y el Caribe	
10:00 – 10:30	Virginia Tsapaki - Ola Holmerg – OIEA	Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica
10:30 – 11:00	Alfredo de los Reyes – FORO	Foro Iberoamericano de Organismos Reguladores Radiologicos y Nucleares
11:00 – 11:30	Pablo Jiménez – OPS	Organizacion Panamericana de la Salud
11:30 – 12:00	Eduardo Medina Gironzini	Red LAPRAM - FRALC
12:00 – 12:30	Patricia Mora – ALFIM	Asociación Latinoamericana de Física Médica

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RADONORM 2025: CHARACTERIZATION, INVENTORY OF RELATED EXPOSURE SITUATIONS AND MONITORING PRINCIPLES

KATOWICE - POLAND

MARCH 31TH – APRIL 12TH 2025

The main goal of this training course is to maintain and develop competences in the field of radiation protection related to NORM. During the training course the complete set of concepts, terms and activities that make up a scientific domain covering all NORM aspects (NORM body of knowledge) is consequently developed.

The lectures given and active participation in exercises let trainees gather systematically all information about NORM (including radon), starting with general aspects and coherent definitions applicable, the methodology of NORM involving exposure situations identification, related hazard characterisation, details concerning monitoring methods planning and execution as well as appropriate measurement results interpretation. Recent outcomes of RadoNorm project on NORM and radon exposure situations inventory, characterisation, monitoring principles, management strategies developed and existing/possible mitigation options are introduced into the training course programme.

Finally, trainees will acquire knowledge enabling consciously, effectively, and efficiently assess NORM hazard, manage situations when such hazard occurs, as well as develop of sustainable treatment of NORM residues/waste.

Important information!

- Participation fee: free of charge
- The organizers do not reimburse travel and accommodation costs
- The training course venue: laboratories of Silesian Centre for Environmental Radioactivity, GIG
- Language: English
- Registration deadline: February 14th 2025. Notification of acceptance/rejection will be sent by February 21st 2025
- A certificate of attendance will be issued at the end of the course.

More details and registration at: https://szkolenia.gig.eu/radonorm2025-2/

RadoNorm
Managing risks from radon and NORM

GIG National Research Institute

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RADONORM 2025: LIQUID SCINTILLATION COUNTING (LSC) AND ALPHA SPECTROMETRY FOR NORM CHARACTERISATION

KATOWICE - POLAND

MAY 12TH – 23TH 2025

The main goal of this training course is to maintain and develop competences in radiochemistry. The aim is to train young researchers and professionals in measurement of specific natural radionuclides activity concentration.

Theoretical knowledge about natural radionuclides behaviour in environment determining necessity their monitoring as well as advanced features of LSC and alpha-particle spectrometry will be provided. However, the most attention will be paid on development of practical competences in laboratory works.

The participants will have an opportunity to gain manual skills and gather practical experience exercising rapid yet accurate and validated analytical techniques following the entire analytical chain starting with laboratory sample preservation, through dissolution, radionuclides of interest pre-concentration, chemical separation of interfering radionuclides and matrix components, ending with test specimen preparation.

The relevant measurement, measuring instruments setting, necessary calibration rules and final interpretation of results obtained will crown each evaluation procedure.

Important information

- Course participation is free of charge for participants
- The organizers do not reimburse travel and accommodation costs, but suggest applying for a travel grant in frame of either RadoNorm or PIANOFORTE project:
  - https://www.radonorm.eu/calls/call-for-travel-grant/ (for PhD students)
  - https://pianoforte-partnership.eu/calls/travel-grants-for-researchers (MSc students also can apply)
  - https://pianoforte-partnership.eu/calls/travel-grants-for-early-career-radiation-protection-professionals (especially for young professionals)
- The training course is conducted in English.
- The deadline for the submission of applications is: 12th March 2025. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent by March 19th, 2025
- A certificate of attendance will be issued at the end of the course

RadoNorm Managing risks from radon and NORM

GIG National Research Institute

More details and registration at: https://szkolenia.gig.eu/radonorm2025-1/

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LISE MEITNER PROGRAMME

CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR MORE WOMEN IN NUCLEAR

The application period is now open. The deadline for applications is 7 February 2025.

The IAEA Lise Meitner Programme (LMP) provides early- and mid-career women professionals with opportunities to participate in a multiweek visiting professional programme and advance their technical and soft skills.

The LMP includes onsite lectures and discussions with interactive training, which may include project development and implementation, laboratory analysis, testing and measurements, as well as modelling and simulations using advanced computer codes or software simulators. Technical assignments and discussions on topics beneficial and relevant to the host organisations, and LMP visiting professionals and their employers are also part of the programme. Finally, the programme envisages enhancing visiting professionals' soft skills through management and leadership training, mentoring, networking and coaching, and competency management.

The professional visits may focus in various areas and typically lasts between two to four weeks - and possibly longer in some host countries-, gathering 10 to 15 visiting professionals per cohort. The visiting professionals are not expected to bear any financial cost for participation in the programme.

The programme is funded by extra-budgetary and in-kind contributions from IAEA Member States and other donors.

For eligibility and application requirements, **please click here**.

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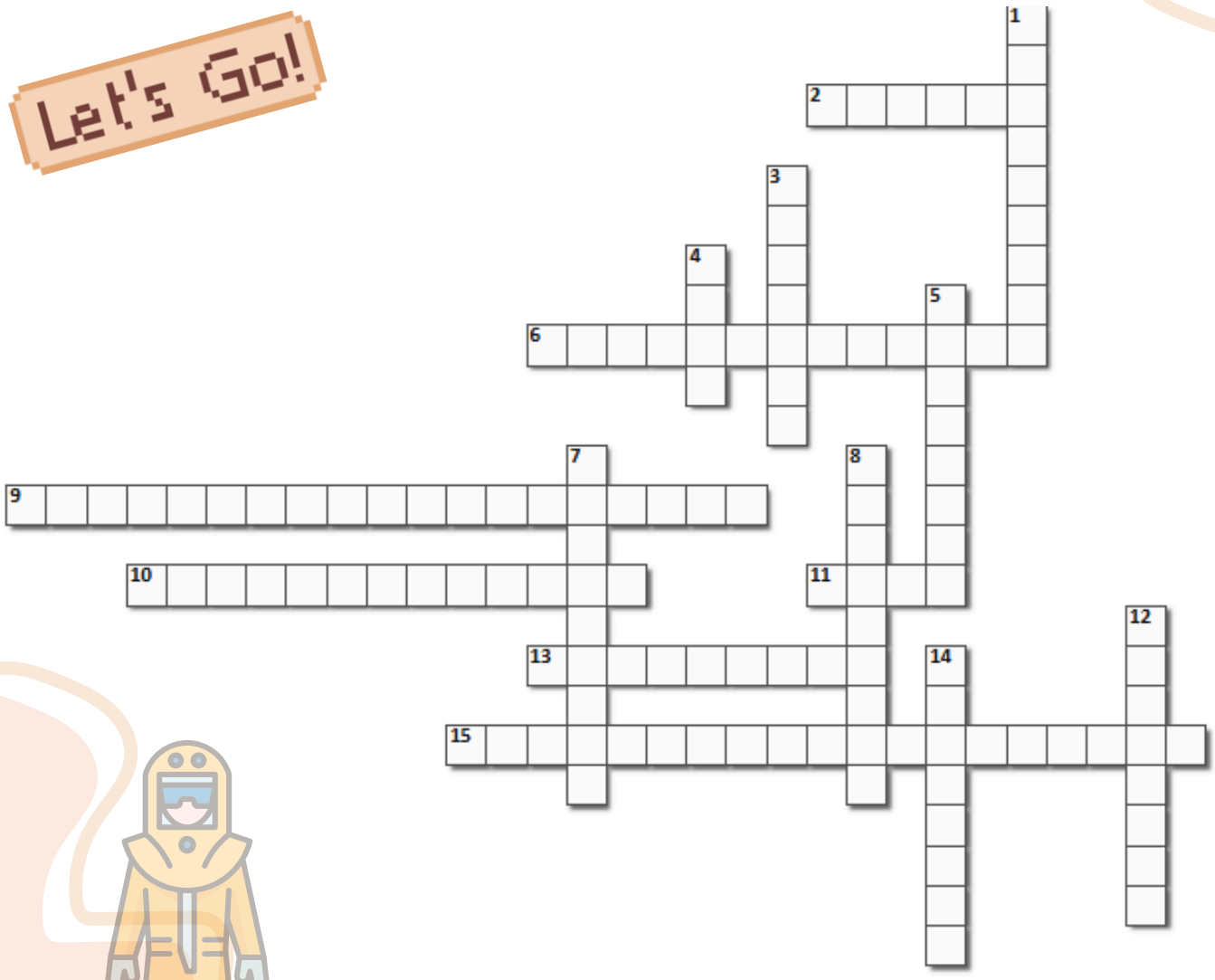
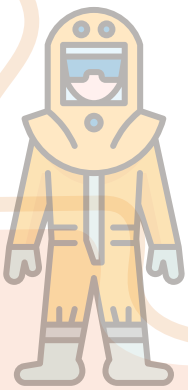
Atomic Challenges

Read the definitions: Review the clues provided for each horizontal and vertical word.
Write the answers: Complete the crossword by writing the correct words in the corresponding boxes.
No spaces: The answers must be written without leaving spaces between the letters.
Numbered clues: Each number in the crossword corresponds to a definition, indicating whether the word goes horizontally or vertically.

Tip: Think in terms of key concepts of occupational radiation protection and enjoy the challenge!





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NÚMERO 1, FEBRERO 2025

Atomic Challenges

HORIZONTAL

2. Barrier that reduces radiation exposure by absorbing or deflecting it

6. Undesirable presence of radioactive material on surfaces, substances, or people

9. Continuous process for measuring radiation levels in an area or individuals

10. Portable instrument used to detect radiation

11. Key factor to minimize radiation dose: reduce exposure time

13. Dosimetric device that uses a film to record the radiation dose.

15. Set of measures to avoid or reduce radiation exposure

VERTICAL

1. Energy that propagates through space or material in the form of waves or particles

3. Science that studies the properties of matter and energy, including radiation

4. Material commonly used in shielding to protect against ionizing radiation

5. Protection method that involves distancing from the radiation source to reduce exposure

7. Maximum allowable radiation exposure value in an occupational environment.

8. Measurement and evaluation of the radiation dose received by a person

12. Condition in which a person is subjected to radiation

14. Device used to identify and measure radiation

NUCLEAR SAFETY AND PROTECTION VIRTUAL TOURS

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

This virtual tour showcases the IAEA Radiological Safety Technical Services Laboratory, which provides monitoring services to 3,000 occupationally exposed workers each year to detect external and internal radiation exposure. These services are essential to the IAEA's activities worldwide. Support services also include training, consulting, and loaning monitoring equipment.

Access it here: IAEA Virtual Tours