

Empowering young professional women from Latin America and the Caribbean in nuclear-related fields

Background:

One of the guiding principles of the Gender Equality Policy of the Technical Cooperation Programme of the IAEA is to promote the participation of women both as agents and beneficiaries of change in economic, social and political processes, as an essential step to gender mainstreaming¹. Achieving equality requires specific targeted measures designed to eliminate gender inequalities. As such, the Division for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Department of Technical Cooperation promotes the education, training and professional development for women as future leaders in nuclear-related fields.

The objective of this event will be to train young women with leadership potential in nuclear-related fields about nuclear applications for peaceful purposes and the work being done by the IAEA in the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Candidate Profile:

1. Candidates should be women with maximum 35 years of age.
2. Candidates must have already finalized their university studies (bachelor degree) and either:
 - a. Possess or be enrolled in an advanced university programme (Master or PhD), or
 - b. Hold a position in a public institution, and have at least 1 year of relevant work experience.
3. National Liaison Officers (NLOs) must identify candidates with leadership skills and with an exceptional performance in their areas of activity.
4. Fluency in English is a requirement.

Candidates should study or work in an area directly related to the peaceful application of nuclear technologies, such as:

- Human health
 - o Prevention and control of cancer
 - o Dosimetry and medical physics
 - o Nutrition for improved health
- Environment
 - o Water resource management
 - o Marine, terrestrial and coastal environments
 - o Climate change
- Agriculture
 - o Crop production
 - o Animal health and livestock production
 - o Water and soil management
 - o Insect pest control
 - o Food safety
- Energy
 - o Energy planning
 - o Nuclear power
- Radiation safety and security
- International Relations
 - o Non-proliferation
 - o Capacity building, human resource development and knowledge management

¹ <https://www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/documents/Gender/TCInterimGenPolicy.pdf>

Nomination procedure and requirements:

Countries are invited to nominate 5 candidates each for participating in this training. Nominations should include the following documents:

1. Nomination TC form submitted by NLO with:
 - a. Candidate motivation letter;
 - b. One recommendation letter from supervisor/professor.

NLOs should preferably select one candidate per field of activity listed above.

Countries should indicate the order of priority of candidates. The IAEA will select the number of candidates per country based on the total number of nominations received (maximum selected candidates per country: 5).

Training plan:

Candidates will participate in a training that will demonstrate the work being done by the IAEA in their specific fields.

The first part of the training course will provide an overview of all fields of activities in the IAEA, comprised by presentations from IAEA staff across all levels. Visits to laboratories in Vienna and Seibersdorf will be organized. During this first week participants will particularly emerge in the work being done by the Department of Technical Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, and how projects have impacted countries of their region in achieving the sustainable development goals.

The second part of the training course will be tailored and focus on each participant's field of activity. Each one of them will have the chance to shadow IAEA professionals working in areas directly related to their work or studies. IAEA staff will serve as hosts to candidates, demonstrating their daily work either in the office or in laboratories. The duration of the second part of the training will depend on the programme devised by each technical department.

Training Certificate:

Trained candidates will be given the certificate of "Young IAEA Ambassadors²," and should serve as a catalyst after they are back in their home countries, sharing the knowledge with other young women who would like to work in nuclear related areas. In order to receive the certificate of "Young IAEA Ambassador," trained participants are required to produce awareness material regarding the work being done by the IAEA in their fields to be distributed to their home institutions max 4 weeks after arrival in their home countries. This could include lectures, brochures, videos, or articles.

An online platform will be created for "Young IAEA Ambassadors" so that participants can keep in touch after the training and so the Secretariat can monitor the career paths of the participants and possibly create a network of future experts.

² To be confirmed