



**WORLD NUCLEAR  
ASSOCIATION**

# Role of ICRP and the System of Protection as part of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

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# UN Sustainable Development Goals

- Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015.
- 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.
- Recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





  
**IAEA**  
 International Atomic Energy Agency  
*Atoms for Peace and Development*

## Technical Meeting on Nuclear Site Repurposing and Stakeholder Engagement in the Context of a Circular Economy and Sustainability

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

**26 - 30 August 2024**

Ref. No.: EVT2304174

### Information Sheet

#### Introduction

Decommissioning nuclear facilities can bring significant economic implications for local potential job losses, reduced tax revenues and other economic downturns in the short term. Public stakeholders in local communities often have a keen interest in how the decommissioning is implemented and what end state and future use of the site are made.

Recognizing the importance of stakeholder engagement throughout the life cycle of all sites, the IAEA emphasises five key principles of stakeholder engagement in 'Stakeholder Engagement in Nuclear Programmes (NG-G-5-1)', published in 2021.

It is over a decade since the publication of 'An Overview of Stakeholder Involvement in Nuclear Programmes (NW-T-2.5)' in 2009 and 'Redevelopment and Reuse of Nuclear Facilities and Sites: Case Studies (NW-T-2.2)' in 2011. There is a growing need to share the Member States' experiences in nuclear site repurposing over a decade, which are related to the stakeholder engagement principles. Furthermore, the awareness of and the experience in stakeholder engagement in the context of circular economy considerations in the decommissioning of nuclear facilities are also

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#### REVIEW

### The system of radiological protection and the UN sustainable development goals

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#### Abstract

In 2015 the United Nations issued 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressing a wide range of economic, social, and environmental challenges. The main goal of this paper is to provide an overview of the current System of Radiological Protection and its relation to these SDGs. In the first part it is proposed that Radiological Protection is implicitly linked to sustainable development. This is substantiated by the current System as set out by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). In the second part it is proposed that sustainability should be considered and more explicitly addressed in general recommendations, as part of the currently ongoing review and revision of the current System of Radiological Protection. It is proposed that this issue should be discussed and developed in an international community interested in radiological protection.

**Keywords** UN Sustainable Development Goals · SDGs · System of Radiological Protection · International Commission on Radiological Protection · ICRP

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## Perspectives of the role of ICRP and the System of Protection in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

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#### Abstract

Established in 2015 the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were agreed with the aim to balance the need to address social and ethical obligations such as ending poverty and other deprivations, while tackling climate change and the other planetary boundaries. In 2018 the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) initiated a review and revision of the System of Radiological Protection which will lay the foundation for Radiation Protection standards, regulations, guidance and practice worldwide for the next 40 years. Recognising the importance of the UN SDG's the ICRP has started to consider what the role of the revised system of protection should be in enabling delivery. On the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 the Society for Radiological Protection (SRP) and World Nuclear Association (WNA) ran a workshop exploring the intersection of the System of Radiological Protection and the SDG's. The outputs of the workshop are summarised in this paper showing the views from a variety of practitioners working across the radiation protection sectors on the key factors to be considered in the revision of the system of radiological protection to enable delivery of the UN SDG's.

**Keywords:** Sustainable Development Goals, Radiation Protection, System of Radiological Protection

#### 1. Introduction

The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) were developed over the course of many years, motivated by the pursuit of peace and prosperity in

consideration of all people and the environment across timescales. Adopted in 2015, they reflect the urgent need for global action to respond to the growing challenges to human dignity and healthy environments. [1].

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# ESG & Financial Drivers



**ESG** – short for *Environmental, Social and Governance* is a set of standards measuring a business's impact on society, the environment, and how transparent and accountable it is.

- **British Business Bank**

**Two-thirds** of investors take ESG factors into account when investing in a company meaning ESG has the potential to grow your business while benefiting the environment and community.

- **CBI**



“Net Zero Nuclear Industry Pledge, commits to a goal of at least tripling nuclear capacity by 2050” - **COP 28**



Replace **450** Reactors

Build **1000** additional reactors

# SRP / WNA & ICRP Workshop



**THE SOCIETY FOR  
RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION**

# ICRP

**WORLD NUCLEAR  
ASSOCIATION**

**Held on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Aimed to explore the following questions:**

“What is the role of ICRP and the System of Protection in:

- a) Enabling the deployment of technologies that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals?
- b) Driving Sustainable Decision Making & Outcomes from the Application of the System of Protection?”



# Summary of Findings

1. The importance of Sustainability is increasing at a Global Level.
2. There is a need for a coordinated / consistent approach to ensure that developments of standards and regulations (across not only nuclear and radiation protection but the wider sustainability remit such as ESG) align.
3. Key Focus areas identified in the context of RP were:
  - There is a need to move to Sustainable Decision Making...Not focusing purely on Dose or Safety,
  - Address challenges around Circular Economy in particular in the context of Clearance and Exemptions to ensure the sustainable use of resources.
  - Address challenges in Communication, Collaboration & Engagement including tackling misinformation to enable sustainable outcomes in the context of radiation protection.
  - Consider resource availability in different countries when applying the System of Protection.

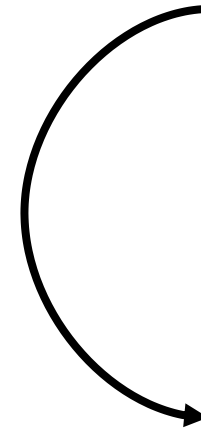
It was stressed that **any amendments need to consider useability and unintended consequences** (Radon Levels vs Modern Insulated Houses) **and be clear** (including how it is translated into Domestic Regulation & Standards).



Any

# Questions?

*Open Access Paper  
summarising workshop*





Helping the global nuclear industry  
deliver 24/7 clean energy for all

Any further questions? Contact me at:  
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