

RCA Programme Advisory Committee (PAC)**Prioritization of RCA Project Concepts for the 2022/2023 TC Cycle**

As described in the Background Paper titled “Report on the Evaluation of RCA Project Concepts for the 2022/2023 TC Cycle” the 15 Second Round Project Concepts submitted were reviewed by the PAC. Following this review all GPs were requested to indicate their priorities according to a prescribed format. The GPs were also requested to indicate the number of projects they consider as projects in high priority areas, and to indicate the Project Concepts aligned with their national programmes.

PAC is of the opinion a high weightage should be given to the ranking of the projects by the individual GPs, especially the rankings assigned to projects in their high priority areas, in deciding on the overall priority order. Even though the existence of a national programme in the project area is a necessary condition for all TC projects that alone would not be sufficient to justify an RCA project, since some needs could be better met through national TC projects.¹ Therefore PAC is of the opinion the existence of national programmes should be used only to confirm the overall ranking based on the rankings of individual GPs. The overall priority order, which is the ascending order of the average of the rankings assigned by individual GPs is given in Annex 1. Annex 2 contains the prioritizations of the individual GPs.

According to the information provided by the RCA FP, 2,075,800 Euros will be available for new RCA projects in 2022/23. Assuming an average annual budget of 150,000 Euros a project, this would be sufficient for 7 projects. PAC recommends one additional project that could be implemented if Extra Budgetary funds become available.

Based on the above, the PAC recommends the following projects for further development.

No	Title	Lead Country	Thematic Area
1	Improving the Safety and Quality of Radiotherapy in Asia Pacific Region through Auditing and Medical Physicist Training	CPR	Human Health

¹ Only 54% of the projects in areas of national programmes were considered by GPs as projects of high priority, while 94% of the projects of high priority were in areas of national programmes.

No	Title	Lead Country	Thematic Area
2	Improving the quality management practices in radiation processing facilities for better performances and applications	MAL	Industry
3	Standardization of radiotherapy in palliative care in the RCA Region.	JPN	Human Health
4	Strengthening Clinical Application of Hypofractionated Radiotherapy in the RCA Region	ROK	Human Health
5	Assessing and Mitigating Agro-Contaminants to Improve Water Quality and Soil Productivity in Catchments Using Integrated Isotopic Approaches	AUL	Agriculture (May also be considered as a project in the Environmental Sector)
6	Enhancing the Regional Collaboration in Water and Environmental Isotope Analysis for Improvement of Water Management Practices, an Effort to Alleviate Climate Change Impacts in Asia Pacific Region	VIE	Environment
7	Enhancing regional capabilities in advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques and applications for improved safety and inspection performance in industries.	MAL	Industry
8*	Increase of Crop Productivity under Drought Conditions by Using Isotope Techniques to Optimize Water Usage	SRL	Agriculture

*To be implemented with Extra Budgetary funds if they become available.

RCA PAC also reviewed a project proposal on academic and clinical training of Medical Physicists submitted to the PAC by the IAEA Secretariat (TCAP) and recommends looking into the possibility of incorporating the elements of this project in designing the project on “Improving the Safety and Quality of Radiotherapy in Asia Pacific Region through Auditing and Medical Physicist Training”. The PAC also recommends that all RCA projects should continue to be developed according to the procedures approved by the NRs and stated in the RCA Guidelines and Operating Rules.

Proposed Action

A decision of the NRM regarding the number and the titles of the projects to be further developed.

RCA Programme for 2022/2023**Prioritization of Second Round Concept Papers****(Projects Recommended for Further Development)**

Project no	Title	Rank 1*	Avg.	Rank 2**	Avg.	Nat Prgs
8	Improving the Safety and Quality of Radiotherapy in Asia Pacific Region through Auditing and Medical Physicist Training	1	3.95	1	3.36	20
13	Improving the quality management practices in radiation processing facilities for better performances and applications	2	7.27	5	6.14	16
10	Standardization of radiotherapy in palliative care in the RCA Region.	3	7.41	2	5.09	18
9	Strengthening Clinical Application of Hypofractionated Radiotherapy in the RCA Region	4	7.82	3	5.82	14
1	Assessing and Mitigating Agro-Contaminants to Improve Water Quality and Soil Productivity in Catchments Using Integrated Isotopic Approaches	5	8.32	4	6.00	17
7	Enhancing the Regional Collaboration in Water and Environmental Isotope Analysis for Improvement of Water Management Practices, an Effort to Alleviate Climate Change Impacts in Asia Pacific Region	6	9.91	7	7.09	16
12	Enhancing regional capabilities in advanced non-destructive testing	7	10.23	8	7.91	14

Project no	Title	Rank 1*	Avg.	Rank 2**	Avg.	Nat Prgs
	(NDT) techniques and applications for improved safety and inspection performance in industries.					
4	Increase of Crop Productivity under Drought Conditions by Using Isotope Techniques to Optimize Water Usage	8	10.55	6	6.86	17

***Rank 1 – Overall rankings based on the average of the individual rankings of only the projects in high priority areas of each GP (with a rank of 15 assigned to all projects not considered as projects in high priority areas)**

****Rank 2 - Overall rankings based on the average of the individual rankings of all projects**

Avg. – Average of the individual rankings

Nat Prgs – The no of GPs that indicated the project is aligned with their national programmes.

(Projects Not Recommended for Further Development)

Project no	Title	Rank 1*	Avg.	Rank 2**	Avg.	Nat Prgs
3	Enhancing food safety and international trade by implementing nuclear techniques for detection of food fraud and adulteration	9	10.86	10	9.27	14
14	Enhancing Capability for Sustainable Radiation Protection Training	10	11.36	11	9.50	16
2	Strengthening the capability in the Asia-Pacific region to undertake scientific best practice application of nuclear technologies for fruit fly area-wide management	11	11.59	9	8.55	15
6	Assessing the impacts of carbonaceous aerosol on climate radiative forcing and human health	12	12.73	12	10.00	11

Project no	Title	Rank 1*	Avg.	Rank 2**	Avg.	Nat Prgs
5	Evaluating Combined Impacts of Radioactive Releases and Climate Change on Economic Seafood and Consumers in the Asia-Pacific Region	13	12.95	14	10.55	12
11	Augmenting regional capabilities in advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques and applications for improved safety and inspection performance in industries for societal benefit	13	12.95	12	10.00	15
15	Strengthening Regional Cooperation on Treatment Method and Radiation Protection of Tritiated Waste from Nuclear Facilities in Asia Pacific Region	15	15.00	15	13.82	6

Annex 2

	Government Party	AUL	BGD	KAM	CPR	FIJ	IND	INS	JPN	KAM	ROK	LAO	MAL	MON	MYA	NEP	NZE	PAK	PLW	PHI	SIN	SRL	THA	VIE		
	No of high priority projects	8	6	4	4	6	8	8	8	4	9	6	5	8	7	8	9	6	9	6	4	4	5	6		
No.	Project Title	Rankings																							Avg.1*	Avg.2**
1	Assessing and Mitigating Agro-Contaminants to Improve Water Quality and Soil Productivity in Catchments Using Integrated Isotopic Approaches	1	3	10	3	5	2	9	13	10	9	7	15	4	3	12	3	1	8	4	5	5	3	7	8.32	6.00
2	Strengthening the capability in the Asia-Pacific region to undertake scientific best practice application of nuclear technologies for fruit fly area-wide management	3	4	12	11	1	6	6	12	12	11	10	9	14	14	11	8	8	2	8	7	11	11	9	11.59	8.55
3	Enhancing food safety and international trade by implementing nuclear techniques for detection of food fraud and adulteration	8	15	14	15	6	3	10	8	14	15	11	3	7	5	8	7	15	4	10	8	6	14	12	10.86	9.27
4	Increase of Crop Productivity under Drought Conditions by Using Isotope Techniques to Optimize	9	8	9	2	2	9	2	14	9	10	4	8	11	2	3	6	7	10	7	9	1	10	8	10.55	6.86

	Government Party	AUL	BGD	KAM	CPR	FIJ	IND	INS	JPN	KAM	ROK	LAO	MAL	MON	MYA	NEP	NZE	PAK	PLW	PHI	SIN	SRL	THA	VIE			
	No of high priority projects	8	6	4	4	6	8	8	8	4	9	6	5	8	7	8	9	6	9	6	4	4	5	6			
No.	Project Title	Rankings																						Avg.1*	Avg.2**		
	Water Usage																										
5	Evaluating Combined Impacts of Radioactive Releases and Climate Change on Economic Seafood and Consumers in the Asia-Pacific Region	12	10	13	13	8	12	11	5	13	3	12	11	15	13	15	13	12	6	14	6	13	1	14	12.95	10.55	
6	Assessing the impacts of carbonaceous aerosol on climate radiative forcing and human health	11	11	15	8	11	13	1	6	15	12	13	12	13	7	4	11	10	7	9	14	12	9	11	12.73	10.00	
7	Enhancing the Regional Collaboration in Water and Environmental Isotope Analysis for Improvement of Water Management Practices, an Effort to Alleviate Climate Change Impacts in Asia Pacific Region	7	7	7	7	7	8	5	15	7	7	9	7	8	10	13	1	6	5	3	13	2	8	1	9.91	7.09	
8	Improving the Safety and Quality of Radiotherapy in Asia Pacific Region through	4	1	1	1	4	10	3	2	1	8	3	2	3	4	2	2	5	1	5	1	7	2	3	3.95	3.36	

	Government Party	AUL	BGD	KAM	CPR	FIJ	IND	INS	JPN	KAM	ROK	LAO	MAL	MON	MYA	NEP	NZE	PAK	PLW	PHI	SIN	SRL	THA	VIE			
	No of high priority projects	8	6	4	4	6	8	8	8	4	9	6	5	8	7	8	9	6	9	6	4	4	5	6			
No.	Project Title	Rankings																						Avg.1*	Avg.2**		
	Auditing and Medical Physicist Training																										
9	Strengthening Clinical Application of Hypofractionated Radiotherapy in the RCA Region	5	5	6	10	9	4	12	3	6	1	14	4	2	1	10	4	4	9	6	2	8	7	2	7.82	5.82	
10	Standardization of radiotherapy in palliative care in the RCA Region.	10	2	2	9	10	1	7	1	2	2	5	6	1	6	9	10	2	3	2	3	9	6	6	7.41	5.09	
11	Augmenting regional capabilities in advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques and applications for improved safety and inspection performance in industries for societal benefit	15	12	4	5	12	7	8	9	4	6	7	10	9	12	5	14	11	11	12	11	15	15	10	12.95	10.00	
12	Enhancing regional capabilities in advanced non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques and applications for improved safety and inspection performance in industries.	14	9	3	6	13	11	13	10	3	4	6	5	10	11	6	5	9	12	11	4	3	4	5	10.23	7.91	

	Government Party	AUL	BGD	KAM	CPR	FIJ	IND	INS	JPN	KAM	ROK	LAO	MAL	MON	MYA	NEP	NZE	PAK	PLW	PHI	SIN	SRL	THA	VIE		
	No of high priority projects	8	6	4	4	6	8	8	8	4	9	6	5	8	7	8	9	6	9	6	4	4	5	6		
No.	Project Title	Rankings																						Avg.1*	Avg.2**	
13	Improving the quality management practices in radiation processing facilities for better performances and applications	6	6	5	4	14	5	4	7	5	5	2	1	6	8	7	12	3	14	1	12	4	5	4	7.27	6.14
14	Enhancing Capability for Sustainable Radiation Protection Training	2	13	8	14	3	14	14	4	8	14	1	14	5	9	1	9	13	13	13	10	10	12	13	11.36	9.50
15	Strengthening Regional Cooperation on Treatment Method and Radiation Protection of Tritiated Waste from Nuclear Facilities in Asia Pacific Region	13	14	11	12	15	15	15	11	11	13	15	13	12	15	14	15	14	15	15	15	14	13	15	15.00	13.82

*Avg. 1 = Average of rankings of high priority projects (with a ranking of 15 assigned for low priority projects)

**Avg.2 = Average of the rankings assigned to all projects