

Update on Social & Economic Impact Assessment of RCA Programme

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

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Background:

The RCA was established in 1972 and has enjoyed the benefit of the IAEA TC programme since.

It is reasonable to question:

What is the social and economic impact of the RCA programme since its establishment and how to assess its impact?

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OECD/DAC Evaluative Framework and Outcome Harvesting Methodology were proposed.

However, on further investigation, it was concluded that they were too difficult to apply quickly, due to a lack of ready access to sufficient published material to support the evaluation.

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The 41st NR Meeting in Sri Lanka, 26-29 March 2019 decided to hold an RCA Exhibition in 2022 to showcase the socio-economic impact of the RCA programme on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the RCA establishment.

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To this end, an expert meeting was held in Vienna, Austria from 1-4 July 2019 to discuss, identify and agree on a suitable methodology for case studies of social and economic impact of the RCA programme.

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A systematic methodology was developed, which consists of eight steps:

1) Understanding the theory of change for the programme or project;

2) Developing performance criteria;

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3) Developing performance standards for each performance criterion;

4) Identifying and selecting the evidence needed;

5) Gathering evidence;

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6) Analysing the evidence;

7) Synthesising and judging the evidence; and

8) Reporting.

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This methodology is first piloted to assess social and economic impact of RCA mutation breeding projects, then will be developed for other fields of activities in the future.

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After that, the second meeting was held in Vienna, Austria from 18-22 November 2019 to develop:

1) Performance criteria,

*2) Standards under each performance criterion,
and*

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3) Data collection tool

for RCA mutation breeding projects.

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The meeting also identified a list of follow-up tasks and timeframe for each task, basically including:

1) Finalization of the online data collection tool (Feb. 2020) - Completed

2) Conducting survey and raw data (Feb. – early April 2020) - Completed

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*3) Survey analysis and integration of internal data
(April 2020) – Ongoing!*

4) Economic analysis (May 2020)

*5) Case examples of mutation breeding success
(May 2020)*

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6) Preparation of draft report (by 30 May 2020)

*7) Workshop to develop final evaluative judgements
(Vienna, 8-12 June 2020) – **Postponed!***

8) Completion of final report (by 30 July 2020)!

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