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Training and Certification in Radiotracers and Sealed Sources Industrial Applications

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The International Society of Tracer and Radiation Applications (ISTRA) has been created in 2015 with his HQ in Vienna as the federation of Tracers and Radiation Application teams in the world with about 500 members today.

IAEA activities regarding capacity building are mainly conducted within TC projects through fellowships, scientific visits and expert missions. It has been clearly seen that there is a lack of structure in these trainings. FE hosts, RTC organizers experts are doing their best providing a good work but they do what and how they wish, think and can. It is also quite difficult to synchronise the event with real field work to allow practical experience for the trainees.

We have to fix these issues and for that, in collaboration with IAEA, ISTRA has developed syllabuses, e-learning modules and Question Banks on Radiotracers applications (RTD approach –TCS 31, 38 and 49), Sealed sources applications (column scanning, NBS –TCS in publication process), Tracers and NCS applications in sediment transport (TCS 59).

The global objective is to create a training and certification system for practitioners, ISTRA acting as examination and certification body worldwide.

The system has 3 levels of qualification, similar to the NDT system, based on the recognized syllabuses and examination:

- Level 1: helper/assistant
- Level 2: autonomous practitioner
- Level 3: team leader

Beside the better structure of the courses and the associated examination, it is also helping the practitioners and teams in promotion of the technologies, by improving the visibility and recognition of the qualification of personnel.

Today approx. 50 practitioners have been trained, qualified and certified in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. Unfortunately, due to the lack of TC projects, nobody in Europe and Asia-Pacific regions.

Country/Organization invited to participate

International Atomic Energy Agency

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