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## Radiation Processing in Ghana: Achievements, Prospects and Challenges.

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Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) commenced research and development activities in the area of radiation processing in 1970 with a laboratory scale irradiator through the assistance of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The programme was facilitated by training of the relevant scientific and technical expertise at the national level. In 1994, a semi-commercial irradiator (Gamma Irradiation Facility, GIF) was installed by the Government of Ghana with the assistance of the IAEA. The GIF was further upgraded in 2010 with funds from the Export Development and Agricultural Investment Fund (EDAIF) to enable full-scale commercial operation. The Ghana Standards Authority has developed two standards to regulate radiation processing in the country. Currently the GIF provides irradiation services to the agricultural, medical and export sectors of the economy notwithstanding further emerging prospects in the agro-processing sector. The School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences has developed a postgraduate programme in radiation processing to ensure a sustainable requisite human resource base. Realistic mechanisms for public-private partnerships need to be identified and implemented to assist with transfer of the technology of radiation processing in the country. Continued support of the government, regional collaboration, and strategic cooperation with the IAEA will be vital in the successful commercialization of radiation processing technology.

### Country/Organization invited to participate

Ghana

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