

## International Conference on the Management of Spent Fuel from Nuclear Power Reactors: Meeting the Moment (#SFM24)

### #SFM24Young Generation Challenge

10–14 June 2024, Vienna, Austria



The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by world leaders in 2015. The SDGs are aimed at transforming the world by eradicating poverty and moving toward sustainable development.

Nuclear power is mainly directly linked to:



•Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;



•Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;



• Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

The important role of nuclear power generation in lowering greenhouse gases is being highlighted in international events such as the IAEA I International Conference on “Climate Change and the Role of Nuclear Power, Atoms4 Net Zero” being held in 2023 in Vienna. The safe, secure, and sustainable management of spent fuel arising from nuclear power reactors is key for the sustainable utilization of nuclear energy. This covers many technological aspects including the storage, transportation, recycling and disposal of the spent fuel and the high level waste generated from spent fuel reprocessing.

The scope of #SFM24 Conference covers the management of spent fuel from nuclear power reactors from past, present, and future systems, and the steps being taken to enable the safe, secure, and effective deployment of new reactor technologies.

The implementation of spent fuel management programmes is an intergeneration challenge, and the involvement of young generations is paramount. Within the #SFM24 Conference, the #SFM24 Young Generation Challenge calls on students, graduates and young professionals to submit a paper related to one of the topics under Tracks 2 to 7 listed in the [Announcement and Call for Papers](#).

Submitted papers should be innovative and original work. They could address challenges such as technological considerations, safety, security, safeguards, economics, public involvement, regulatory framework, and knowledge management on spent fuel management.

Papers relating to any other topic of interest under the #SFM24 Conference scope can also be submitted, subject to the discretion of the selection committee. This could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Shaping perceptions and public support of spent fuel and back end management.
- Technical innovations in spent fuel management.
- Current and future challenges of spent fuel management.

Among all submissions, a total of **five papers** will be selected. Winners will receive:

- An **IAEA Certificate**.
- **Financial support** to attend the conference and the chance to present their paper orally as part of #SFM24 Conference scientific programme.
- To have the opportunity to be **co-chair of a technical session**.

### **Selection procedure**

The selection committee will comprise IAEA Technical Officers and will be jointly chaired by the Director of Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology and the Director of Division of Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety. All submissions will be assessed anonymously on their innovative qualities. The general timeline of the selection process is as follows:

- Deadline to submit abstract: 29 September 2023
- Notification of acceptance: 6 December 2023
- Deadline to submit full paper: 2 February 2023
- Announcement of winners: late March/early April 2024

### **Terms and Conditions**

Applicants should be nationals of [IAEA Member States](#), below 37 years of age at the time of official submission deadline (i.e., born on or after 30th September 1986), and must be:

- Current students (ideally at a Graduate or PhD level); or
- Recent graduates (within two years); or
- Young Professionals (with less than 5 years' experience).

Submissions can also be made by groups, but only one individual per winning entry will receive financial support to attend the conference.

Applicant(s) may submit only one entry or be a part of only one group submission.

Submissions should be completed via [INDICO](#) (as for standard conference abstract submissions), with the '**Do you wish to enter the #SFM24Young Generation Challenge?**' option selected.

**In addition**, a completed:

- Participation Form (Form A)
- Form for Submission of Paper (Form B)
- Grant Application form (Form C)

must be sent as soon as possible to the relevant competent national authority (e.g., Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA) for subsequent transmission to the IAEA, before **23:59 (CET) on 29 September 2023**.

Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

### **#SFM24Young Generation Challenge**

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