

# The IAEA Peaceful Uses Initiative and the NPT



## The Initiative

During 2010, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) established the Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) to raise extra-budgetary contributions in support of Agency activities that promote the peaceful uses of nuclear technology. The objective was to provide \$100 million to these activities over five years.

The PUI supports implementation of Article IV of the NPT, which requires NPT States Parties that are “in a position to do so” to “cooperate in contributing alone or together with other States or international organizations to the further development of the applications of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.”

## Participation

Eighteen IAEA Member States and the European Commission have provided the PUI approximately \$66 million in financial contributions in addition to numerous in-kind contributions. For its part, the United States announced support of \$50 million to the PUI before the 2015 NPT Review Conference, and challenged other partners to pledge an additional \$50 million. By April 15, 2014, the United States had allocated about \$34 million in PUI funds to IAEA projects and contributed about \$7 million in additional PUI funding not yet allocated to projects.

## Impact

Since 2010, the PUI has provided the IAEA with additional flexibility and resources for high priority IAEA Member State projects, including responding to unforeseen challenges. These projects support human health, water resource management, food security, protection of the environment, and nuclear power infrastructure development. They are administered by the IAEA Departments of Nuclear Energy (NE), Nuclear Sciences and Applications (NA), and Technical Cooperation (TC).

The list of countries having benefited from PUI-supported IAEA projects has grown to more than 120 states worldwide.

Examples of PUI-supported peaceful uses activities include:

- **Advancing Human Health:** The PUI has supported the advancement of education and training in nuclear medicine, application of nuclear techniques to improve the treatment of cardiac patients, and strengthening of national capacities in states throughout the world to detect and treat cancer.

- **Supporting Water Resource Management:** PUI funding has supported the design of a large-scale water management project to respond to sustained drought and widespread starvation and malnutrition in the Sahel region of Africa.

- **Ensuring Food Security:** The PUI has helped to fund expanded laboratory capacities in Africa to improve the detection of transboundary animal diseases, and in Latin America to ensure food safety and reduce the fruit fly threat to agricultural resources. The PUI has also supported the development of a sustainable zone free of the tsetse fly in the Niayes region of Senegal to relieve the burden of trypanosomiasis and increase food and agricultural productivity.

- **Protecting the Environment:** PUI contributions have helped to fund projects to better understand the effects of climate change, determine and trace pollution in marine waters, mitigate the effects of harmful algal blooms, and promote global actions against ocean acidification.

- **Developing Nuclear Power Infrastructure:** The PUI has supported IAEA efforts to strengthen nuclear power infrastructure development in Member States, provide bilateral legislative assistance to nuclear newcomer countries, promote sustainable uranium mining practices, and enhance technical and management capacity in states considering nuclear power.

## Looking Forward

Though much has been achieved with the help of the PUI, there are always more needs to be met.

Providing funding to the PUI allows donors to address real needs in countries around the world, while simultaneously complementing their international assistance priorities and advancing the goals of the NPT. States are encouraged to explore with the IAEA Secretariat various projects to which they could contribute through the PUI, and to look for opportunities to partner with other governments on PUI-supported projects.

For more information about the PUI, please visit the IAEA’s website at: [www.iaea.org/newscenter/focus/pui/](http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/focus/pui/).