THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY: PROMOTING THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

THE NPT’S PEACEFUL USES PILLAR

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) rests on three interrelated and mutually reinforcing pillars: nonproliferation, peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and disarmament.

Parties to the NPT are successfully making the benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, science, and technology (“peaceful uses”) accessible to all. The NPT came into force more than 50 years ago, and, since then, cooperation on peaceful uses has grown tremendously. Today, thanks to the confidence provided by the NPT, nuclear applications are greatly improving the lives of people all around the world.

PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY ADDRESS MANY GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Peaceful uses help address some of today’s most pressing challenges, including climate change, human health, and sustainable development. Their benefits are clear, and all NPT parties must work to ensure continued access to them in a safe and secure manner, and without increasing the risk of nuclear proliferation.

THE PEACEFUL USES INITIATIVE - MAKING A GLOBAL IMPACT

- **The Peaceful Uses Initiative** (PUI) provides a flexible funding mechanism to support International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) peaceful uses programs. IAEA projects supported with PUI funding can be found in nearly every region of the world.

- **Ensuring food security:** In Africa, the PUI has helped fund laboratories to improve the detection of livestock diseases. In Latin America, projects have helped ensure food quality and reduced the fruit fly threat to agriculture.

- **Advancing human health:** Throughout the world, the PUI has strengthened national capacities to detect and treat cancer, supported education and training in nuclear medicine to improve the treatment of cardiac patients, and enhanced early detection capabilities for infectious animal and zoonotic diseases, including COVID-19.

- **Protecting the environment:** PUI contributions have funded projects to better understand the effects of climate change, trace pollution and harmful algal blooms in marine waters, and promote global actions against ocean acidification.
THE UNITED STATES FIRMLY SUPPORTS PEACEFUL USES

- **Promoting peaceful nuclear applications:** Since 2015, the United States has provided more than $242 million to help the IAEA promote peaceful nuclear applications, including more than $165 million to the IAEA’s Technical Cooperation Fund, $50 million to the IAEA PUI, and more than $27 million in additional support for IAEA technical cooperation. These contributions have enhanced, and will continue to enhance, the capabilities of more than 170 IAEA Member States to promote human health, water resource management, food security, sustainable development, and clean energy.

- **Making additional commitments:** In November 2020, the United States announced an additional commitment of $50 million to the PUI over the next five years, cementing our status as the largest donor to the IAEA.

- **Advancing nuclear security:** Since 2015, the United States has also provided nearly $125 million in support to the IAEA’s Nuclear Security Fund to help ensure the physical protection of nuclear material, and nearly $5 million to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capabilities of IAEA Member States.

- **Bilateral cooperation:** As of December 2021, the United States has in place 24 bilateral agreements pursuant to Section 123 of the U.S. Atomic Energy Act that establish the legal framework for significant civil nuclear cooperation with 50 partners. To support the safe and secure use of peaceful nuclear applications, the United States has over 70 bilateral arrangements for the exchange of technical information and cooperation.

- **Improving accessibility:** Additionally, the United States has completed more than 400 licensing and authorization actions since 2015 to support exports of nuclear material, equipment, technology, and transfers of assistance to more than 60 countries.

- **Promoting safe, reliable access:** The United States is advancing international efforts to guarantee safe, secure, and reliable access to nuclear fuel, including through the IAEA’s low-enriched uranium bank, to which we pledged nearly $50 million in 2007. We have also made available 230 metric tons of low-enriched uranium, down-blended from surplus highly enriched uranium, via our American Assured Fuel Supply bank, which is now the largest fuel bank in the world.

For more information, visit [www.state.gov/tenth-npt-review-conference](http://www.state.gov/tenth-npt-review-conference). Connect with us on Twitter (@StateISN, @USNPT) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).