



# FORO

Ibero-American Forum of Radiological  
and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency  
*Atoms for Peace and Development*

# About FORO

The Ibero-American Forum of Radiation and Nuclear Safety Regulatory Agencies (FORO) was established in 1997 to promote a high level of radiation and nuclear safety, and nuclear security in all practices using radioactive materials in the countries of the Ibero-American region. The association's official working language is Spanish.

## FORO

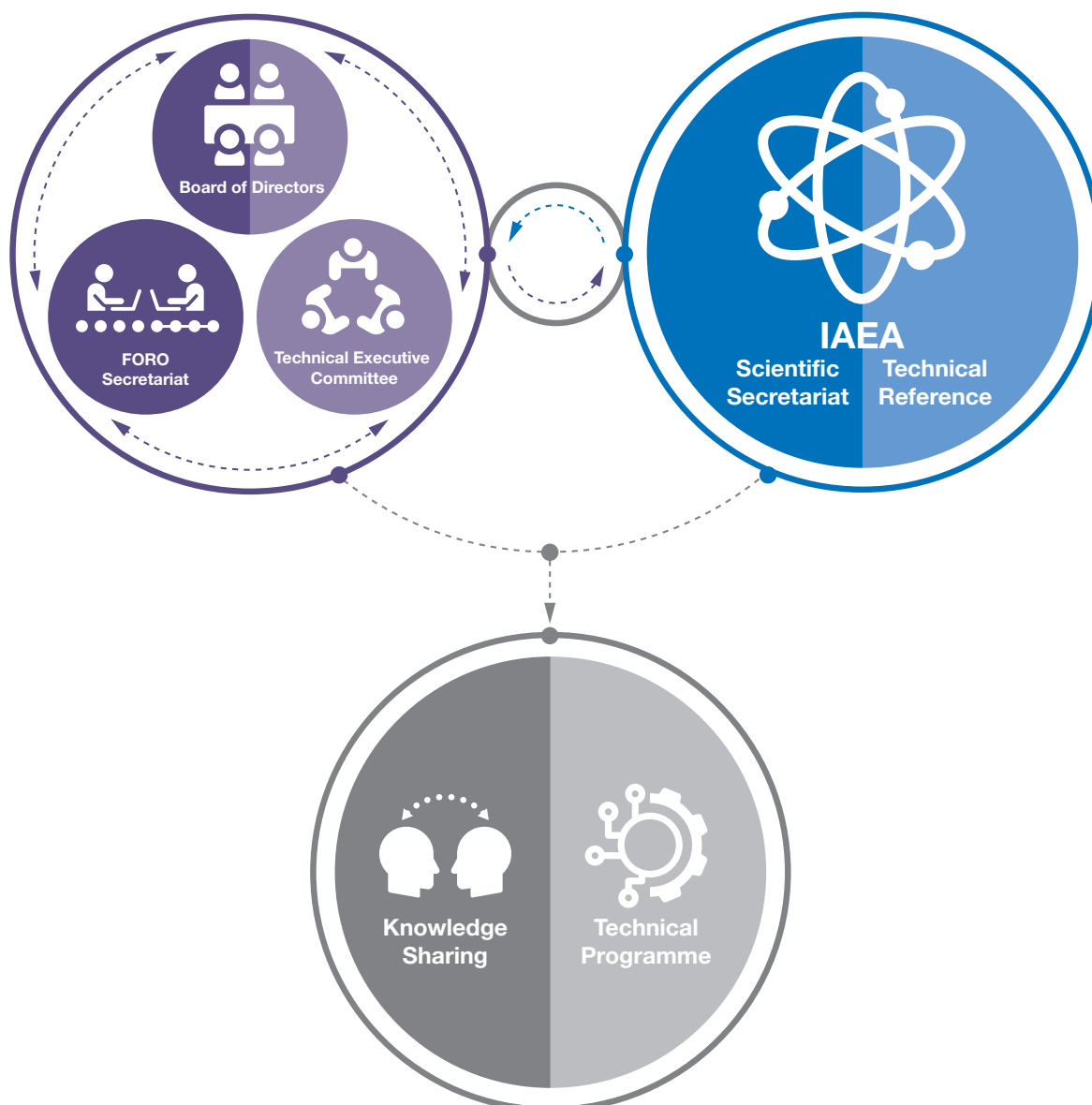
- Promotes radiation and nuclear safety and security in all practices that use nuclear or other radioactive material in the Ibero-American region;
- Provides a platform for its members to share information, experiences and good practices related to radiation and nuclear safety and security;
- Monitors developments and practices to identify, collect, analyse and document new and existing knowledge to share with members;
- Develops and implements innovative activities and tools to improve nuclear safety and security in key areas to strengthen regulatory bodies;
- Adopts common positions and harmonizes its members' regulatory practices;
- Establishes relationships with relevant national, regional and international organizations.

## FORO members

- ▣ Argentina – Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ARN)
- ▣ Brazil – National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN)
- ▣ Chile – Chilean Nuclear Energy Commission (CCHEN)
- ▣ Colombia – Ministry of Mines and Energy (MINMINAS)
- ▣ Cuba – Nuclear Safety Directorate (DSN)
- ▣ Mexico – National Commission for Nuclear Safety and Safeguards (CNSNS)
- ▣ Paraguay – Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Authority (ARRN)
- ▣ Peru – Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy (IPEN)
- ▣ Portugal – Portuguese Environment Agency –(APA)
- ▣ Spain – Nuclear Safety Council (CSN)
- ▣ Uruguay – National Regulatory Authority for Radiation Protection (ARNR)



## How FORO works



The **Board of Directors** (known as Plenary) is the governing body of FORO. It is composed of the heads of the member regulatory agencies.

The **Technical Executive Committee** prepares the budget and evaluates and submits project proposals to the Plenary for approval. It also monitors and evaluates projects' implementation progress, results and impact. The Committee's Chair liaises with the IAEA Scientific Secretary on technical matters.

The **FORO Secretariat** prepares and oversees the budget, provides administrative and institutional support to FORO and contributes to the dissemination of the outcomes of the association's activities. The FORO Secretariat liaises with the IAEA Scientific Secretariat on administrative matters.

The **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)** serves as FORO's Scientific Secretariat and a technical reference for all FORO projects and activities.

The technical programme and knowledge sharing are FORO's two basic pillars.

# FORO's thematic areas

FORO focuses on 14 thematic areas. All are related to one of FORO's two basic pillars: knowledge sharing and the technical programme including issues related to radiation protection, nuclear safety and nuclear security from the regulator's perspective.



Radiation protection of workers



Radiation protection of patients



Radiation protection of the public and the environment



Emergency preparedness and response



Control of radiation sources



Decommissioning



Radioactive waste management



Nuclear safety



Transport of radioactive material



Legal issues



Accident and incident investigation



Nuclear security



Human and organizational factors



Knowledge sharing and synergy

## Cooperation with the IAEA

FORO and the IAEA are cooperating based on their complementary objective to strengthen nuclear and radiation safety. Practical Arrangements signed by FORO and the IAEA in 2010, 2011 and 2017 formalize this cooperation. These Practical Arrangements have been extended in 2020.

FORO ensures the sustainability of its activities by identifying national and regional needs and developing and financing solutions. Since 2003, FORO's technical programme has been implemented and administered through an IAEA extra-budgetary programme that is financed by voluntary contributions from FORO's members.

Joint FORO and IAEA projects have focused on safety culture, emergency preparedness and response, licensing criteria and inspection programmes, ageing management and long term operation of nuclear installations, inspection and licencing practices of research reactors, control and transport of radioactive material, and radiation protection in medicine.

FORO and the IAEA have jointly developed a risk evaluation tool called SEVRRRA that can support the safe use of radiotherapy and industrial applications that use ionizing radiation. This tool can be used

independently and in combination with the IAEA's Safety in Radiation Oncology (SAFRON) system to provide a quick method for evaluating the safety impact of events reported in SAFRON.

The IAEA also supported FORO in the development of practical Guidelines on Devising a Programme for Competence Acquisition and Development among Nuclear Regulators in line with the IAEA safety standards for training purposes in the Ibero-American region.

Results of a joint FORO-IAEA project on safety culture in organizations, facilities and activities that use radioactive sources have been widely disseminated through the IAEA technical cooperation programme and used to train end-users in the Latin American and the Caribbean region.

The joint projects benefit from FORO national experts' know-how and IAEA staff's international expertise and experience. The IAEA safety standards and other publications provide reference for FORO's activities, which in turn support the implementation of these publications.

Project results are shared with all FORO members and disseminated worldwide through joint publications, the IAEA technical cooperation programme, workshops, conferences and technical meetings.



## Joint FORO-IAEA publications

- *Application of the Risk Matrix Method to Radiotherapy* (IAEA-TECDOC-1685) (in Spanish and English);
- *Análisis Probabilista de Seguridad de Tratamientos de Radioterapia con Acelerador Lineal* (IAEA-TECDOC-1670/S) (in Spanish);
- *Programa Nacional de Protección Radiológica en las Exposiciones Médicas* (IAEA-TECDOC-1710/S) (in Spanish);
- *Cultura de la seguridad en las organizaciones, instalaciones y actividades vinculadas al uso de fuentes de radiación ionizante* (IAEA-TECDOC-1995) (in Spanish)
- *Regulatory Practices on Ageing Management and Long Term Operation of Nuclear Power Plants in the Ibero-American Region: Results of the FORO/IAEA Programme on Nuclear and Radiation Safety in Ibero-America* (FORO/IAEA-2010) (in English); and
- *Guidelines on Devising a Programme for Competence Acquisition and Development among Nuclear Regulators* (IAEA-TECDOC-1794) (in Spanish and English).

## The RED network

To support and promote knowledge sharing, FORO maintains a network known as RED, which enables collaboration among its members, regulatory body staff and experts, and communication with the public.

The RED network allows users to share ideas, experiences, good practices and lessons related to nuclear and radiation safety, and nuclear security issues of regulatory interest. The network aims to contribute to the development of national systems of regulation, authorisation and control of activities involving the use of ionising radiation.

The RED platform optimises communications and interactions through the use of social network technologies and tools — such as social media, shared calendars, work-flows, news and reporting systems. It also provides access to working groups and offers a wide repository of technical documents in Spanish and other languages.

The RED is available on <http://www.foroiberam.org>. No registration is needed.

FORO also publishes a periodical newsletter to communicate new developments in nuclear and radiation safety, and nuclear security. The newsletter is available in English, Portuguese and Spanish.

## Information resources

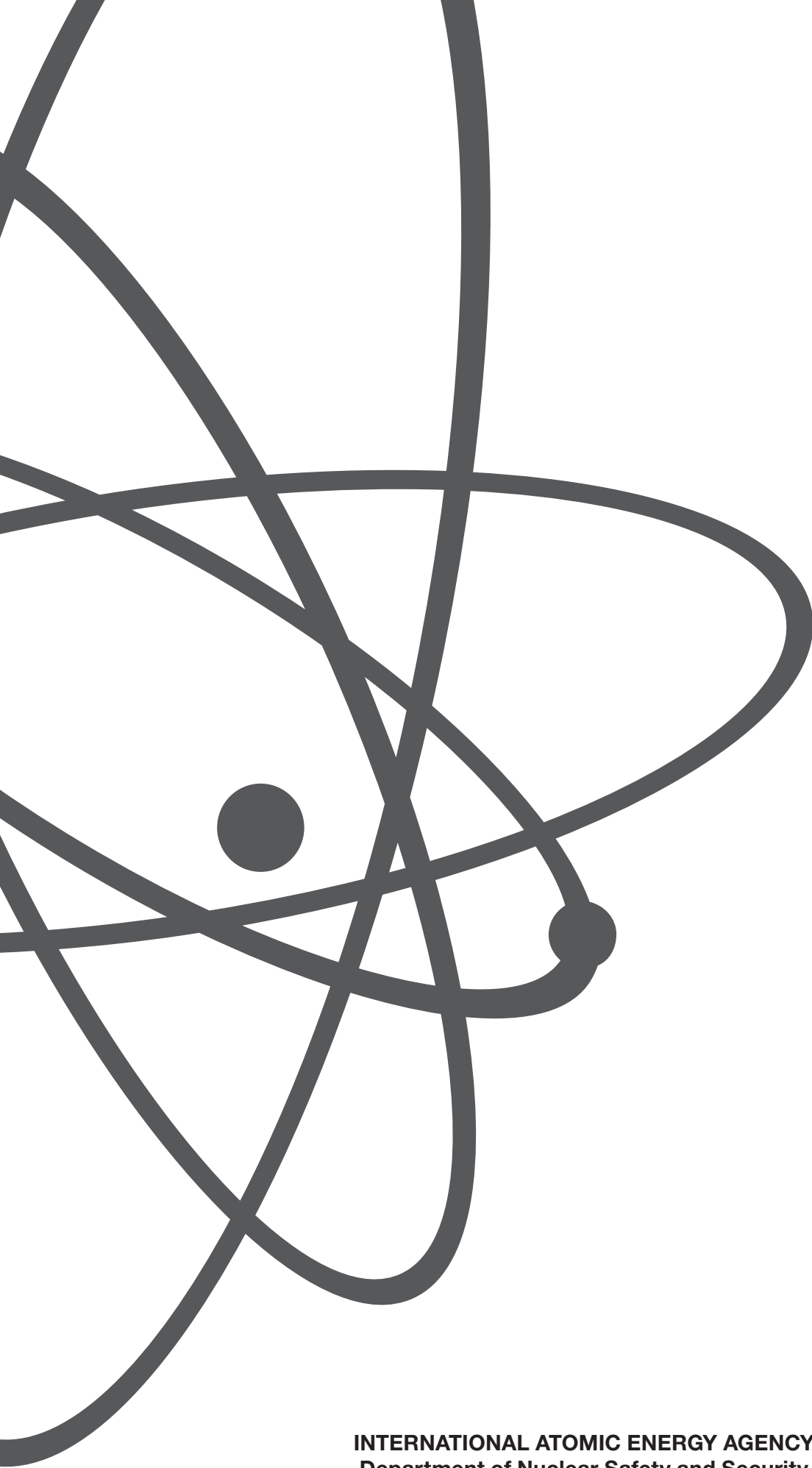
For more information, please visit:

**[www.foroiberam.org](http://www.foroiberam.org)**

Contact: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org)

Scan this code for more information:





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**Department of Nuclear Safety and Security**  
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