

Benin

IAEA Member State since May 1999

Selected achievements

2020: The University of Abomey-Cavali builds capacity to evaluate the bioavailability of iron in schoolchildren meals.

2019: The Environment Surveillance Laboratory builds capacity to evaluate environmental pollution.

2018: Benin promulgates its Radiological Safety and Nuclear Safety law.



IAEA and WHO international experts visit the women's health outpatient department of the Abomey-Calavi Hospital and University Centre of Reference as part of the National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP) workshop in 2022. (Photo: L. Haskins/IAEA)

National priorities

- Radiation safety and nuclear security
- Cancer control, diagnosis and treatment
- Human health and nutrition
- Livestock productivity and animal health
- Water resource management
- Nuclear knowledge management

Main areas of IAEA support

- Food safety
- Livestock and legume production
- Human health and nutrition
- Energy planning
- Marine and environmental monitoring

Project successes

Food safety

Benin's pineapple farmers have been able to resume exports to the European Union, their primary market, because of the set-up of a food safety surveillance system supported by the IAEA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The farmers had suffered under a voluntary export ban in place since 2016 due to chemical residues found in Benin's pineapple exports. This initiative led to the restoration of income and employment

in a sector that has been identified as one of three key growth areas in the country's development plan. It also provides an example of the positive impact of ensuring food safety on the economic growth of the country.

Radiation safety

In 2018, Benin's commitment to radiation safety was acknowledged by an IAEA advisory mission.

The mission also helped the country to develop an action plan for the establishment of a legal and regulatory framework for radiation safety. The ratification of thirteen IAEA legal instruments in 2019 laid the foundations for the establishment of a functional regulatory body in 2020.

In 2023, an Advisory Mission on Regulatory Infrastructure for Radiation Safety and Nuclear Security (RISS mission) evaluated the progress made in radiation safety since the establishment of the regulatory body three years ago, underscoring Benin's enduring commitment to maintain a robust regulatory infrastructure for the long term.

Human health

The IAEA is actively supporting the efforts of the Government of Benin to establish the country's first radiotherapy and nuclear medicine centre in Cotonou. This initiative is part of the Rays of Hope programme to provide comprehensive cancer care and combat high cancer mortality in the country by enabling earlier diagnoses of the disease. With support

from the IAEA, ongoing efforts include human capacity building and the procurement of essential equipment to ensure a lasting impact on cancer treatment capabilities in Benin.

Participation in the major initiatives

- Rays of Hope
- ZODIAC

Date of imPACT Review(s)

2013



The 2022 NCCP workshop brought together representatives from the WHO, the Ministry of Health and the IAEA. (Photo: L. Haskins/IAEA)

IAEA support received in the 21st century



Contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation

