

# Dominican Republic

IAEA Member State since July 1957

## Selected achievements

**2018:** The first public diagnostic imaging centre for non-communicable diseases is established at the Rosa Emilia Sánchez Pérez de Tavares National Cancer Institute in Santo Domingo.

**2017:** The Dominican Republic officially declares the Mediterranean fruit fly eradicated following the successful area-wide application of the sterile insect technique.

**2016:** A central storage facility for disused radioactive sources is established at Sierra Prieta.



The project team take the 'sleepy' flies out from their holding boxes and place them into special aerial release boxes in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic uses nuclear technology provided by the IAEA to combat fruit fly infestations. (Photo: L. Gil-Martinez/IAEA)

## National priorities

- Human health and nutrition
- Radiation safety and nuclear security
- Food and agriculture
- Water resource and environmental management
- Energy planning
- Legal framework
- Nuclear knowledge and information management

## Main areas of IAEA support

- Food safety
- Human health
- Nuclear medicine
- Safety infrastructure

## Project successes

### Human health and nutrition

In collaboration with the IAEA, the Dominican Republic has made significant strides in the areas of healthcare and nutrition.

A new oncological centre, established with financial and technical support from the IAEA, is under construction in the Barahona province, extending the benefits of nuclear related techniques for diagnosis and treatment of cancer to the southeastern region of the country.

Additionally, the IAEA supported a national study addressing nutrition, demonstrating the effectiveness of fortified foods in combating anaemia and undernutrition in children. Technical assistance was provided for fellowships, training, expert visits and for the procurement of laboratory equipment and consumables.

As a result, the Dominican Republic decided to continue supporting the supplementation programme to further address dietary deficiencies and malnutrition throughout the country.

### Food and agriculture

Leveraging support from the IAEA, the Dominican Republic has upgraded its infrastructure for the continuous monitoring of the Mediterranean fruit fly.

This collaborative effort resulted in the official eradication of the pest in 2017, reflecting the country's commitment to effective pest control.

## Radiation safety

The design and construction of the first national secondary standards dosimetry laboratory in Santo Domingo was launched with technical and financial support from the IAEA.

In combination with a strengthened training infrastructure, this significant undertaking is expected to enhance the nation's capabilities in calibration, ensuring the safe application of nuclear science and technology in the country.



Banana plantation in the Dominican Republic.  
(Photo: N. Schloegl/IAEA)

## Participation in the major initiatives

- NUTEC Plastics
- Rays of Hope
- ZODIAC

## Date of imPACT Review(s)

2008

## IAEA support received in the 21st century



## Contributions to South-South and triangular cooperation

