

MSCFP and LMP

The IAEA is implementing two programmes aimed at attracting, retaining and developing more women in the nuclear sector. Through its Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme (MSCFP) and Lise Meitner Programme (LMP) the IAEA actively contributes to the establishment of a strong and qualified workforce within the nuclear industry.

Acknowledging the vital role of education in developing a vigorous pipeline of young professionals, the MSCFP continues to support young women studying in nuclear related fields relevant to the IAEA's mission to advance the safe, secure, and peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology such as nuclear engineering, advanced reactor designs, nuclear physics and chemistry, nuclear medicine, isotopic techniques, radiation biology, nuclear safety, nuclear law, nuclear security and non-proliferation, to mention just a few.


The IAEA MSCFP provides scholarships and a limited number of internships to a growing number of female students from the IAEA Member States to enter nuclear related fields in the nuclear industry sector, thus contributing to technological and economic advancement. Internship opportunities facilitated by IAEA allow for tangible application of knowledge, and ability to effectively address and respond to technological and scientific needs in the nuclear field, following participation in MSCFP.

Since its launch in 2020, MSCFP has received 3919 applications. 860 students have been selected representing 135 Member States, studying in 79 countries worldwide. 504 students completed their master's programme and 230 have been placed to pursue internship facilitated by the IAEA.

The internships take place across the IAEA Technical Departments and at IAEA Collaborating Centres, at private sector companies and other partner organizations. A majority of graduates supported by MSCFP have obtained employment or have continued on to PhD studies.

As of March 2026, the MSCFP has received pledges amounting to € EUR 18.5 million as well as in-kind contributions sponsoring 150 students. Donors include the European Union, 24 Member States, 2 Member State Institutions, Industry (7 private sector partners) and 2 Academic Institution.

Additionally, in 2023 the IAEA launched an IAEA Lise Meitner Programme (LMP) to develop and retain women in the nuclear field. LMP provides early and mid-career women professionals with opportunities to participate in a multiweek visiting professional programme to advance their technical and soft skills. The visiting programme lasts between two to four weeks gathering 10 to 15 visiting professionals per cohort.

Since launch, the IAEA has implemented seven visiting professional programmes including in the Argentina, Australia, Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, and two in the USA. In total 101 early to midcareer women professionals from 45 nationalities, participated in LMP visits focusing on nuclear power operations, nuclear reactor modelling and simulations, advanced nuclear technology and Fukushima recovery efforts, research reactors and on nuclear medicine production, nuclear science and technology research and applications. In 2026 three more visiting professional programmes are scheduled to take place including in the Russian Federation hosted by Rosatom Technical Academy and JINR; in France and IAEA HQ  hosted by Orano and IAEA; and in France hosted by ITER and CEA.