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The Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites (CGULS) Central Asian Perspectives

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Background

- The environmental consequences of historic uranium production exists around the world, resulting from decades of exploitation, principally from 1940 - 1970. Production often ceased without remediation.
- Sites remain in an uncontrolled state, presenting continued risks (physical, chemical, radiological) to the environment and the public.



Background

- The legacies are the source of concern for national / international populations and their governments.
- Transboundary issues are related to water access.
- Many countries in Central Asia have limited resources and have requested international assistance.



Background

- The UN has been concerned with uranium **legacy** conditions in Central Asia (CA) for some time.
- The IAEA has been active in helping it's CA Member States identify, characterize, assess and plan remediation actives for many years.



Background

Resolution 218 of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (December 20, 2013) calls upon the international community to:

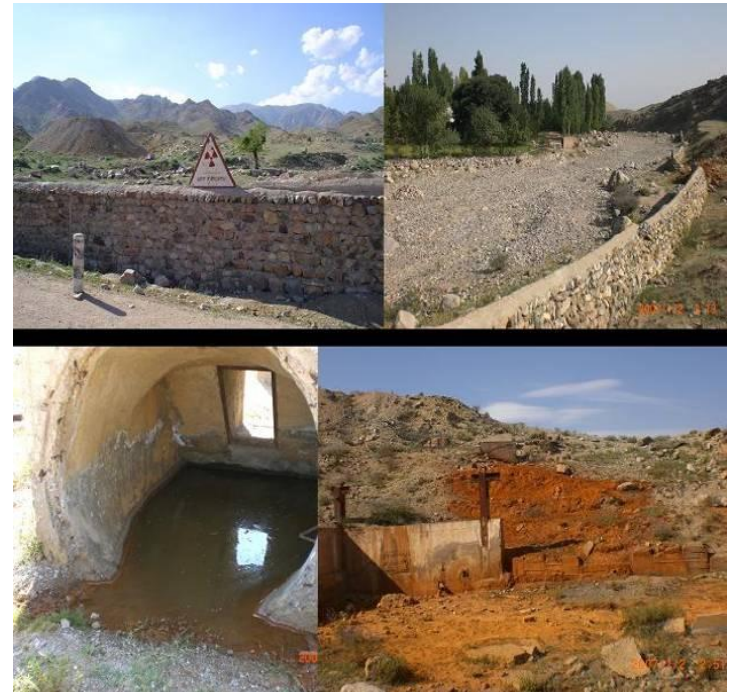


- ✓ *assist the States of Central Asia in resolving the problems of uranium tailings ponds, and emphasizes the importance of regional cooperation... and,*
- ✓ *continue the active sharing of experience and knowledge...*

Background

A number of **IAEA General Conference (GC) Resolutions** recognized the problems that CA is experiencing with Uranium Production Legacy Sites. Beginning in 2010, the GC called for the IAEA to provide a coordinating role in ongoing multilateral initiatives in Central Asia.

- ✓ 2008 - GC(52)/RES/9 Section 56
- ✓ 2009 - GC(53)/RES/10 Sections 55 & 56
- ✓ 2010 - GC(54)/RES/7 Section 54
- ✓ 2011 - GC(55)/RES/9 Section 66
- ✓ 2012 - GC(56)/RES/9 Section 64
- ✓ 2013 - GC(57)/RES/9 Section 86
- ✓ 2014 - GC(58)/RES/10 Section 90



Background

In response to requests from Member States and the EC, the IAEA compiled and drafted a **Technical Baseline Document (2010)**:

Overview and Recommendations for Uranium Production Legacy Sites in Central Asia: An International Approach

Monitoring and Regulatory Structure, Remediation, Legacy Sites Risk Assessment

Overview and Recommendations for Uranium
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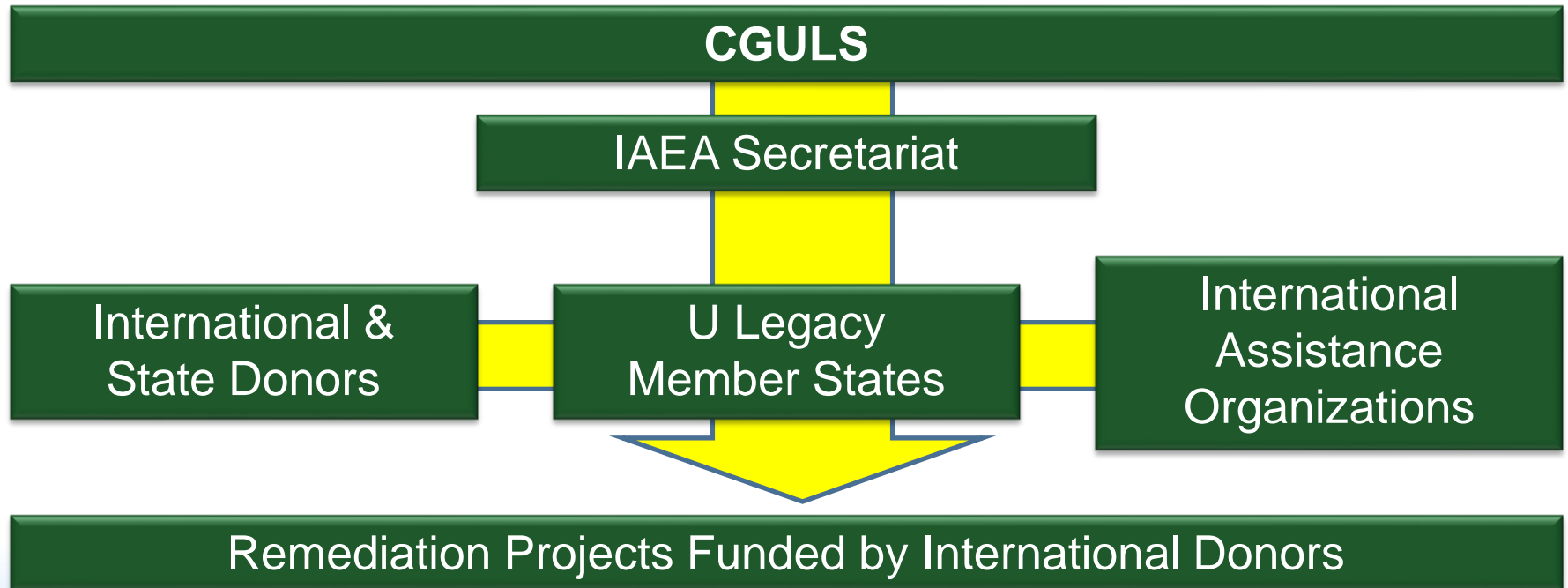
The Technical Baseline Document



- The document compiled available information on four Central Asian Member States Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- The document prioritized the uranium legacy risks and identified the major gaps in knowledge and capacity to address the risks.
- The document has acted as a **road map** for identifying what and where things should be done to improve regional safety.

CGULS – structure

Calls for coordination of national and international efforts related to remediation of the Central Asian uranium legacy resulted in the creation of the **Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites (CGULS)** in 2012.

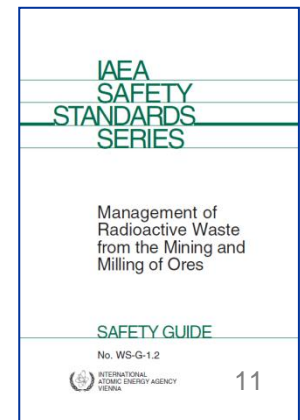
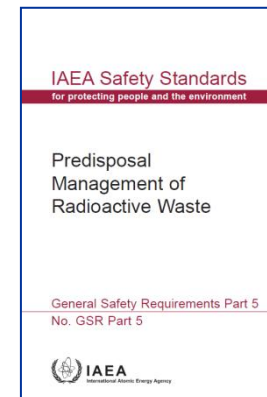
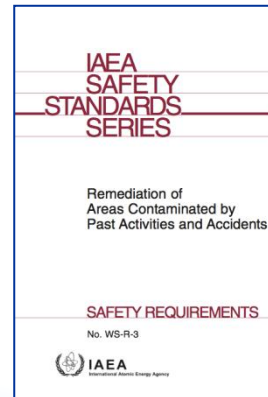
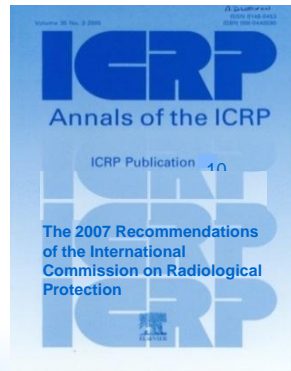
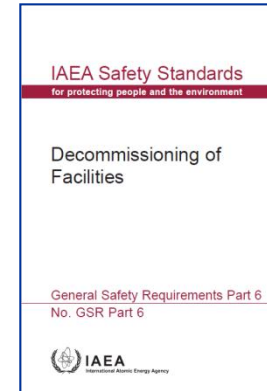
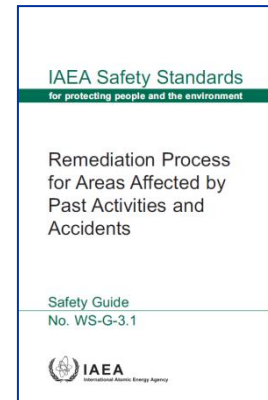
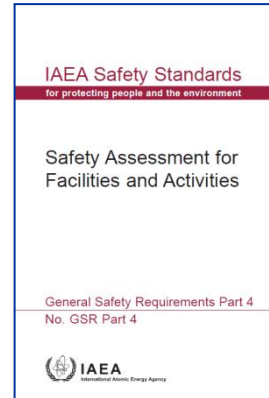
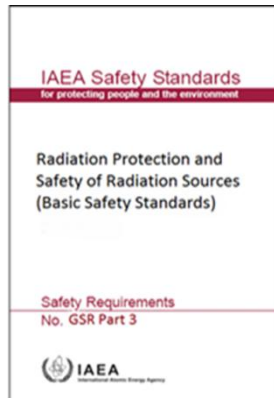
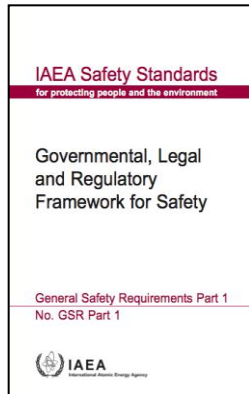


CGULS – aims and objectives

- *Promote co-operation* amongst IAEA Member States with uranium legacy sites and national / international organizations involved in the management, remediation or regulatory oversight of these sites
- *Assist Member States in developing national regulatory infrastructure* for efficient preparedness and implementation of the remediation programs and long-term sustainable and safe management of the legacy sites

CGULS – aims and objectives

- Dissemination, Promoting, Application of the Basic Safety standards and Guidelines for Remediation



Some of the work completed under CGULS to date includes:

- ✓ Expert Missions to help characterize sites
- ✓ Proficiency testing of laboratories
- ✓ Support for planning site specific monitoring
- ✓ Assistance in Safety Assessment Methodology
- ✓ Reviews of each country's regulatory documents
- ✓ Development of generic guidance documents
- ✓ Verification of remediation work
- ✓ Assistance in developing Remediation Strategies
- ✓ Review of National and International Remediation Projects
- ✓ Organization of regional cooperation meetings



CGULS: Moving towards remediation

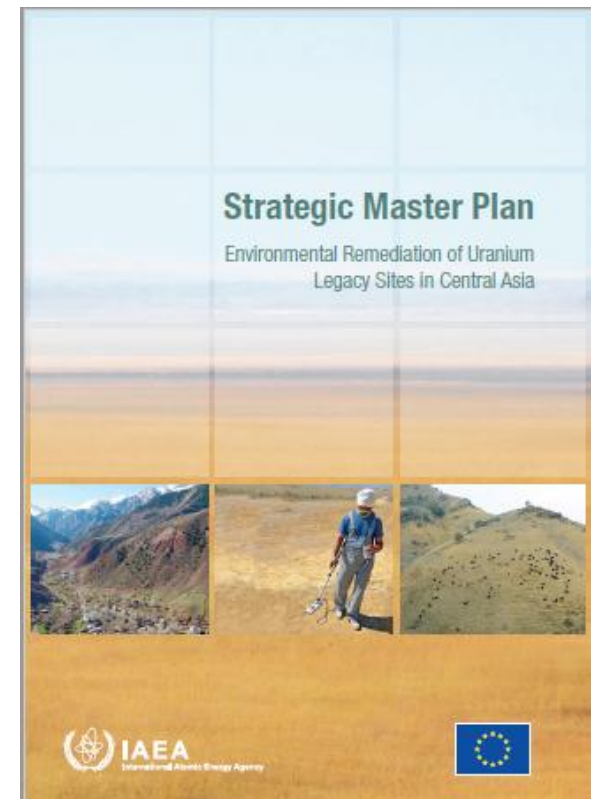
Strategic Master Plan (SMP) for environmental remediation of uranium legacy sites in Central Asia

What?

- The strategy to be adopted and followed in remediating the uranium legacy sites in Central Asia; and
- A plan for implementing the strategy

Who?

- Collaborative effort developed primarily by IAEA, EC, EBRD, CIS (through Rosatom),
- Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan



Recent CGULS events

IAEA 61st General Conference, Vienna 18 September 2017

Signing ceremony for signatories to the SMP



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Recent CGULS events

IAEA 61st General Conference, Vienna 18 September 2017

Signing of Practical Arrangements between IAEA and ROSATOM for cooperation in rehabilitation of uranium legacy facilities in Central Asia



© Rosatom

Recent CGULS events

United Nations 72nd General Assembly, New York City, 20 September 2017

People and Planet: Central Asia calls for International Solidarity



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Moving Forward

Following the Strategic Master Plan, guided by Fundamental Safety Principles, International Safety Standards and best practices

- Continue to promote co-operation amongst Central Asia Member States with uranium legacy sites, and national / international organizations involved in the management, remediation or regulatory oversight of these sites
- Assist MSs in developing national regulatory and associated infrastructure and capabilities for efficient preparedness and implementation of the remediation programmes and long-term sustainable and safe management of the sites





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Thank you!