

International High Level Forum on NUTEC Plastics

Manila, Philippines

25–26 November 2025

Organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency

Hosted by The Government of the Philippines

Announcement

A. Background

In 2020, the IAEA launched the initiative NUclear TEChnology for Controlling Plastic Pollution (NUTEC Plastics) affirming the vital role of nuclear science in addressing one of the most urgent environmental crises of our time.

NUTEC Plastics employs a comprehensive, evidence-based approach that focuses on providing technology-driven solutions to plastic pollution. The initiative is structured around two main approaches: First, through pioneering advancements in recycling technologies and the development of bio-based plastics utilizing radiation technologies, NUTEC Plastics aims to drastically reduce plastic waste and foster environmentally friendly alternatives to traditional petrol-based plastics.

Second, the initiative emphasizes the importance of understanding the extent and impact of marine plastic pollution by providing comprehensive data on its sources and effects, thereby empowering policymakers and raising public awareness.

By partnering with governments, research institutions, and industry leaders worldwide, NUTEC Plastics strives to accelerate the global adoption of these transformative solutions, paving the way for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

B. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the Forum is to provide a platform for presenting and evaluating the progress achieved to date, addressing current challenges, and charting a proactive course to strengthen regional and international cooperation in the sustainable management of plastic waste through innovative nuclear technologies.

Specifically, the Forum seeks to:

- Showcase relevant achievements of NUTEC Plastics Initiative participating Member States and advancements in radiation-based technologies.
- Facilitate the exchange of knowledge and good practices, focusing on practical case studies and lessons learned from similar socio-economic and environmental contexts, emphasizing how nuclear technology can accelerate progress.
- Identify challenges in scaling radiation technologies for upcycling of plastic waste and propose global and regional strategies to overcome them.
- Address challenges and advances in marine monitoring to enhance the understanding and management of marine plastic pollution.
- Enhance the role played by governments, private sectors, IGOs, NGOs, IFIs and regional partners by identifying and developing avenues for cooperation leveraging nuclear science and technology.
- Foster strategic partnerships and mobilize resources to accelerate the deployment of nuclearbased solutions for plastic pollution, ensuring greater impact through coordinated multistakeholder action.

• Promote the adoption of globally applicable guidelines and protocols that incorporate nuclear techniques to harmonize methodologies and strengthen plastic upcycling strategies and assessments in marine environments.

C. Themes and Topics

The scope of the Forum will cover, but is not limited to, the following topical areas:

- global challenges of plastic pollution and targeted actions necessary to tackle the issue;
- advancements in radiation technology for recycling and the development of bio-based plastic materials;
- marine microplastics, tools for monitoring and assessing the impact on seafood potential;
- global, regional and national partnerships to support best practices, resource mobilization, private sector partnership and policy alignment and effectiveness;
- successful pilot projects to enhance regional and international capacity;
- cooperation and exchange of knowledge.

D. Structure

The two-day Forum will feature a high level opening session, Ministerial segment, thematic multistakeholder panels, technical sessions, business networking segment and a panel discussion involving representatives from youth organizations.

Details, including information on how to participate, eligibility, terms and conditions, and exhibition opportunities will be posted on the conference webpage in due time.

E. Expected Outcomes

The NUTEC Plastics High Level Forum is poised to catalyse global action by fostering strategic partnerships, accelerating the deployment of radiation-assisted recycling and sustainable plastic solutions, and strengthening international coordination. Participants will emerge with a shared commitment to integrating cutting-edge nuclear technologies into national and regional strategies for plastic waste management. The forum aims to develop a comprehensive, science-based roadmap that promotes innovative interventions to substantially reduce plastic pollution, safeguard marine ecosystems, and advance a circular economy. Ultimately, it will empower policymakers, industry leaders, and researchers to collaborate effectively, driving tangible progress toward a cleaner, healthier planet.

Furthermore, the forum is expected to significantly enhance global awareness and understanding of the widespread impacts of marine plastic pollution. Through the sharing of data, research findings, and best practices, the event will strengthen the evidence base that informs policymaking and engages the public.

Participants will be better equipped to advocate for policy reforms, promote environmentally responsible business practices, and stimulate community actions at local, regional, and international levels in the fight against plastic pollution.

Finally, the conference aims to foster long term partnerships and cross-sector collaborations. By facilitating networking and dialogue, new initiatives, joint research projects, and funding mechanisms are anticipated to emerge, sustaining momentum well beyond the event. This spirit of collaboration is crucial for mobilizing the resources, expertise, and innovative technologies necessary to implement scalable and sustainable solutions to plastic pollution. In summary, the Forum will lay the foundation for a global movement driven by advanced nuclear science — delivering tangible benefits for environmental conservation, public health, and sustainable development.

F. Target Audience

The High Level Forum will bring together government officials, researchers, technologists, national project team members, policy makers, multilateral organizations, international financial institution, private sector and key stakeholders from around the globe.

G. Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be either designated as part of a delegation (registration process outlined in para H.1) or as an individual participant (as outlined in para H.2) of a Member State or an invited organization.

H.1 Registration of Delegations

Designated focal points for online registration shall register their delegation through the InTouch+ online portal, accessible through the following link https://intouchplus.iaea.org/

Registration should be completed by 17 November 2025 under EVT2502938.

H.2 Individual Registration of participants

Registration through the InTouch+ platform:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<u>https://intouchplus.iaea.org</u>):

- Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can <u>sign in here</u> with their username and password;
- Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register here.

2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:

- Complete or update their personal details under 'Basic Profile' (if no financial support is requested) or under 'Complete Profile' (if financial support is requested) and upload the relevant supporting documents;
- Search for the relevant event (EVT2500884) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab;

- Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled 'Designating authority' (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
- Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate Participation Form (Form A);
- Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application together with the auto-generated form(s) will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application together with the form(s) will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the <u>InTouch+ Help</u> page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to <u>InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>.

If it is not possible to submit the application through the InTouch+ platform, prospective participants are requested to contact the IAEA's Conference Services Section via email: <u>Conference.Contact-Point@iaea.org</u>.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the <u>Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy</u> and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. Further information can be found in the <u>Data Processing Notice</u> concerning IAEA InTouch+ platform.

H. Exhibitions

A limited amount of space will be available for commercial vendors' displays/exhibits during the Forum. Interested parties should contact the Scientific Secretariat by email at Nutec-Plastics-Forum-2025@iaea.org by 1 September 2025.

I. Working Language

The working language of the High Level Forum will be English. All communications must be sent to the IAEA in English.

J. Venue and Accommodation

The High Level Forum will be held in Manila, the Philippines. Detailed information on accommodation and other relevant matters will be sent to all designated participants approximately three months before the conference. This information will also be made available on the conference web page.

Designated participants who require a visa to enter the Philippines should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of the Philippines as soon as possible. Further advice and instructions will be made available on the conference web page approximately three months prior to the start of the event.

L. High Level Forum Secretariat

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M. High Level Forum web page

Visit the <u>International High Level Forum on NUTEC Plastics</u> web page regularly for new information and be part of the conversation using **#NUTECplastics** on social media!