

COUNTRY REPORT
FNCA PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECT LEADER MEETING 2005

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I. Current status of public information activities

Some remarkable events on nuclear activities have been carried out in Viet Nam:

- The Draft *Strategy for nuclear energy development in Viet Nam* is completed and submitted to the MOST for consideration.

- The report of *Pre-FS on the first construction of NPP in Viet Nam* is completed and submitted to the MOI for consideration.

- The *First Draft Atomic Energy Law of Viet Nam* was completed in May 2004 and is being reviewed by concerned representatives from another Ministries and Branches.

- The *Vietnam Atomic Energy Association* has been established by the decision of Vietnam Government.

The government direction and events related to nuclear power mentioned above show a consistent consideration and interest of the Vietnamese Government on promoting application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and introducing nuclear power into the country. Therefore, public information activities must focus on either promotion of radiation application or introduction of nuclear power into Vietnam.

The VAEC is conducting a program on Public Information in nuclear energy including improving relation with press media, strengthen research cooperation with universities, providing honest and balanced information on nuclear energy by holding exhibitions, seminars on nuclear power. These activities aim to improve understanding and knowledge of the policy makers, scientists, students and the public on nuclear energy, nuclear power and its applications in Socio-economic fields.

Main public information activities include:

Taking part in Technology and Equipment Market (Techmart) held by MOST every year to show many products and services of application of nuclear technique. This is a good opportunity to introduce applications of nuclear energy in sosio-economic fields such as industry, agriculture, health-care, environmental analysis, etc.

During the first training course on nuclear technology organized by JAIF,

EVN and VAEC for EVN's engineers, a showroom on nuclear power for sustainable development had been presented for 10 weeks. With about 25 panels and two models on nuclear power technology, showroom has attracted many students, teachers and staffs from the Electricity College (EVN).

In order to attract young generation to study nuclear field, every year VAEC give scholarship to excellent students, who are studying nuclear physics in 4 universities in our country. Every year, VAEC organize the culture sport day, in which a competition on nuclear safety knowledge is conducted.

One of the important aims of PI activities on nuclear power for promoting introduction of nuclear power into the country is to provide the honest, balanced and updated documentations on nuclear power for policy-makers. VAEC has provided about 3000 pages of documentations on nuclear power in the world for National Assembly.

Next month, during Techmart Vietnam 2005 in Ho Chi Minh City, a seminar on peaceful use of atomic energy will be held for improving knowledge and understanding of the public on nuclear energy, nuclear power and its applications in socio-economic field.

VAEC publishes Information of Nuclear Science and Technology in Vietnamese every 3 months, journal of Nuclear Science and Technology in English and many leaflet introducing structure and R&D activities of the VAEC have been distributed. VAEC has set up a website in Vietnamese and a website in English to introduce the VAEC's structure, R&D activities and achievements for the personnel working in nuclear related areas and for the public.

II. FNCA activities in Vietnam

Vietnam has been participating in 8 fields with 11 projects of FNCA. The results obtained from the FNCA cooperative activities has been making significant contributions to enhancing research, development and use of nuclear science and technology in Vietnam.

Eleven Projects in 8 Fields

1. Utilization of Research Reactor

- *Radioisotope production*
- *Application of Neutron Activation Analysis*
- *Neutron beam Application and Research Reactor Operation*

2. Application of Radioisotopes and Radiation for Agriculture use

- *Mutation Breeding of drought resistant soybeans and sorghum*
- *Bio-fertilizer*

3. Application of Radioisotopes and Radiation for Medical Use

4. Public Information of Nuclear Energy
5. Radioactive Waste Management
6. Human Resources Development
7. Nuclear Safety Culture
 - *Nuclear Safety Culture for Research Reactor*
8. Industrial Application
 - *Low energy accelerator application*

Public information activities in our country aim providing understanding and knowledge on nuclear energy in generally for policy-makers and the public. With a view of introduction of nuclear power into the country in the future, our PI activities focus on some FNCA fields such as Human Recourses Development, Radioactive Waste Management and Nuclear Safety Culture.

The activities of some FNCA projects have been integrated with the IAEA Projects such as projects in the field of Utilization of Research Reactors, Application of Radioisotopes and Radiation in Agriculture, Nuclear Safety Culture.

Using Regional Speakers Bureau and Training of Nuclear Communicators are very useful measures for PI activities but in our country, these activities have not yet conducted.

III. Promotion of effective “Communication with the Mass Media Personnel”

Recognizing the important role of the public information activities, the VAEC has set up a close cooperation with mass media such as: Vietnam Television (VTV), Voice of Vietnam (VOV) and many newspapers. In almost of seminars related to nuclear energy, mass media personnels are invited to write articles for magazines and broadcasting. About one hundred of articles discussing about matters related to nuclear power were published last year. A video tape introducing main activities and achievements of the VAEC has been made by the Hanoi Television (HTV).

In 2003, VAEC organized a group of cooperators in PI activity including well-known scientists in the field of nuclear energy. Main task of this group is writing articles on nuclear energy development worldwide, new achievements of nuclear science and technology, increasing number of articles on nuclear science in central and local magazines. Members of the group usually exchange new information on nuclear energy with Mass Media Personnels, specially in cases of occurring incident on nuclear field in the world.

IV. About The Network of FNCA

VAEC usually received “FNCA Newsletter” and “Atom in Japan” (English version) and “Report on Joint Cross-National Survey on the Literacy in Science and Technology and Use of Radiation Among High-School Students”. We distribute to members of VAEC leadership, departments of science and technology of all provinces and big cities, some universities, etc.

V. Conclusion

In 2005, FNCA PI activities about nuclear energy in Vietnam has obtained a certain results. Understanding and knowledge on nuclear energy and its application has been disseminated to policy makers and the public in order to promoting nuclear energy application for peaceful purposes as well as introduction of nuclear power into the country

It is strongly believed that PI program is a necessary and important part of a long-term national nuclear program of the country.

International cooperation, and cooperation with FNCA member countries, particularly, is an important factor helping us to achieve understanding and acceptance of nuclear power of the public.