

March 2026

Issued & Edited by the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute and FNCA Secretariat of Japan

Workshop on Radiation Safety & Radioactive Waste Management held on July 8-10, 2025, The Philippines

The FNCA Workshop on Radiation Safety and Radioactive Waste Management (RS&RWM) was successfully held from July 8 to 10, 2025, in a hybrid format hosted in Quezon City, Philippines. The event was jointly organized by the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI), the Nuclear Energy Program Inter-Agency Committee (NEP-IAC) led by the Department of Energy, and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. During the opening session, welcome remarks were delivered via video message by Dir. Patrick T. Aquino, CESO III (Department of Energy / NEP-IAC Technical Secretariat). This was followed by remarks from:

- Dr. Vallerie Ann I. Samson, Deputy Director, PNRI
- Mr. Neil Raymund D. Guillermo, FNCA Coordinator for the Philippines and Chief, Atomic Research Division, PNRI
- Mr. WADA Tomoaki, FNCA Advisor of Japan, who delivered the opening message

Representatives from twelve FNCA member countries—Australia, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam—participated. A total of 32 participants attended onsite and online. Sessions took place at PNRI and Citadines Roces Quezon City, and included an FNCA Open Seminar and a technical visit to PNRI facilities.

Participants then proceeded with self-introductions, agenda confirmation, and a discussion of workshop objectives. Mr. WADA then presented updates on FNCA projects from the recent Ministerial Level Meeting and FNCA Award. Following this, Prof. KOSAKO Toshiso (Japan) introduced the project theme for FY2024–FY2026: “Environmental Radiation and Radioactivity from Nuclear Related Facilities.” Discussions focused on sources of radiation, methods for environmental radiation monitoring, and the importance of monitoring in demonstrating safety and maintaining public confidence.

Workshop participants



Country Report

The following sessions then focused on the report of member countries on updates on:

- National radiation protection policies
- Environmental radiation monitoring programs
- Sampling and measurement practices
- Regulatory requirements and reporting systems
- Experiences in managing radioactive waste and disused sealed radioactive sources

Several countries highlighted strengthened monitoring capabilities, ongoing work on NORM management, and development of radioactive waste facilities.



Ms. Kristine Marie R. Dean presenting her country report

Technical Presentation on Environmental Radiation and Radioactivity at Radioactive Waste Facilities

Another highlight of the workshop is the technical presentations: environmental radiation at radioactive waste facilities. Four expert presentations showcased monitoring practices across the region:

1. Eng. Ronald Piquero (Philippines)
Environmental radiation monitoring at PNRI's Radioactive Waste Management Facility (RWMF), including gamma radiation surveys, airborne particulate sampling, gamma spectrometry, and radon–thoron measurements.
2. Dr. Khandoker Asaduzzaman (Bangladesh)
Environmental and occupational radiation protection

at the BAEC Central Radioactive Waste Processing and Storage Facility (CWPSF).

3. Mr. OHKURA Takehisa (Japan)
Japan's environmental monitoring strategy for nuclear facilities, emphasizing pre-established monitoring programs based on environmental impact assessments.
4. Dr. Klitsadee Yubonmhat (Thailand)
Monitoring at facilities in Nakhon Nayok, including a waste incinerator and a DSRS storage building operated by the Thailand Institute of Nuclear Technology.

Group Discussion

Participants joined group sessions to discuss elements of the FY2026 consolidated report, including: Proposed structure and table of contents, key information to be collected from all countries and harmonized descriptions of monitoring programs, regulatory frameworks, and technical methods. This collaborative session strengthened shared understanding and supported alignment across member states.



Group discussion

Poster Session

There was also a poster session where six countries showcased their current research and issues:

- **China:** Influence of anions on cemented waste forms
- **Japan:** JANUS's contributions to nuclear disaster preparedness and waste management Marine monitoring in Japan
- **Malaysia:** Managing ZnO contaminated with Cs 137
- **Mongolia:** Environmental radioactivity in radiation-related facilities
- **Philippines:**
 - Baseline radon monitoring at PNRI-RWMF and PRR 1 SATER
 - Uranium geochemical maps of the Philippines
- **Thailand:** Leaching models for Cs 137 from cemented electric arc furnace dust



Poster session



A view of Quezon City from the workshop venue

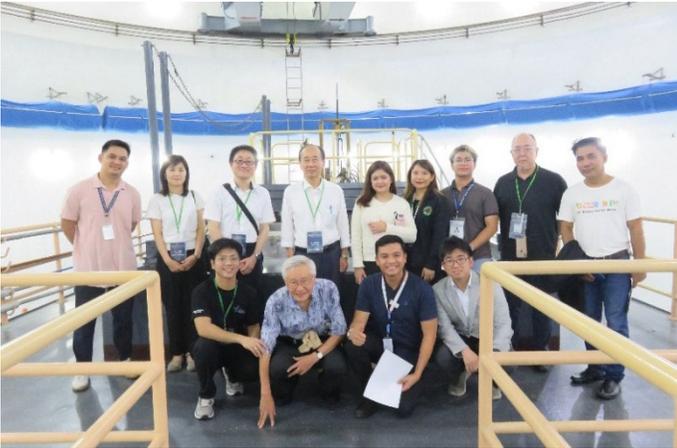
FNCA Open Seminar

On the last day of the workshop, an FNCA Open seminar was held in hybrid format. The seminar was open to all member countries and approximately 60 participants from PNRI, government agencies, and universities attended the open seminar. The following were the presentations:

1. Dr. IKEJIRI Satoshi (MEXT, Japan)
Human resource development and R&D cooperation in Asia
2. Ms. Jeana Lee Sablay (PNRI)
Regulatory strategies for managing environmental radiation near nuclear installations
3. Dr. Americus d.C. Perez (PNRI)
Radioactivity studies in mining and phosphate fertilizer sites
4. Dr. Angel Bautista VII (PNRI)
Trends of iodine 129 in the environment and their implications
5. Prof. KOSAKO Toshiso (Japan)
Radiation safety and radioactive waste management



Open Seminar



Technical Visit at SATER

Technical Visit to PNRI

A technical visit was then conducted where participants visited key PNRI facilities, including:

- Nuclear Materials Research Section laboratories particularly on NORM studies
- Subcritical Assembly for Training, Education, and Research (SATER)
- Radioactive Waste Management Facility (RWMF)
- Radiological Impact Assessment Section Emergency Preparedness Center

Closing

Finally, during the closing ceremonies, participants reviewed the draft minutes. The workshop was then concluded with closing remarks from:

- Ms. Kristine Marie Romallosa Dean, Project Leader (Philippines)
- Prof. KOSAKO Toshiso, Project Leader (Japan)

It was confirmed that the 2026 FNCA RS&RWM Workshop will be hosted by Thailand.

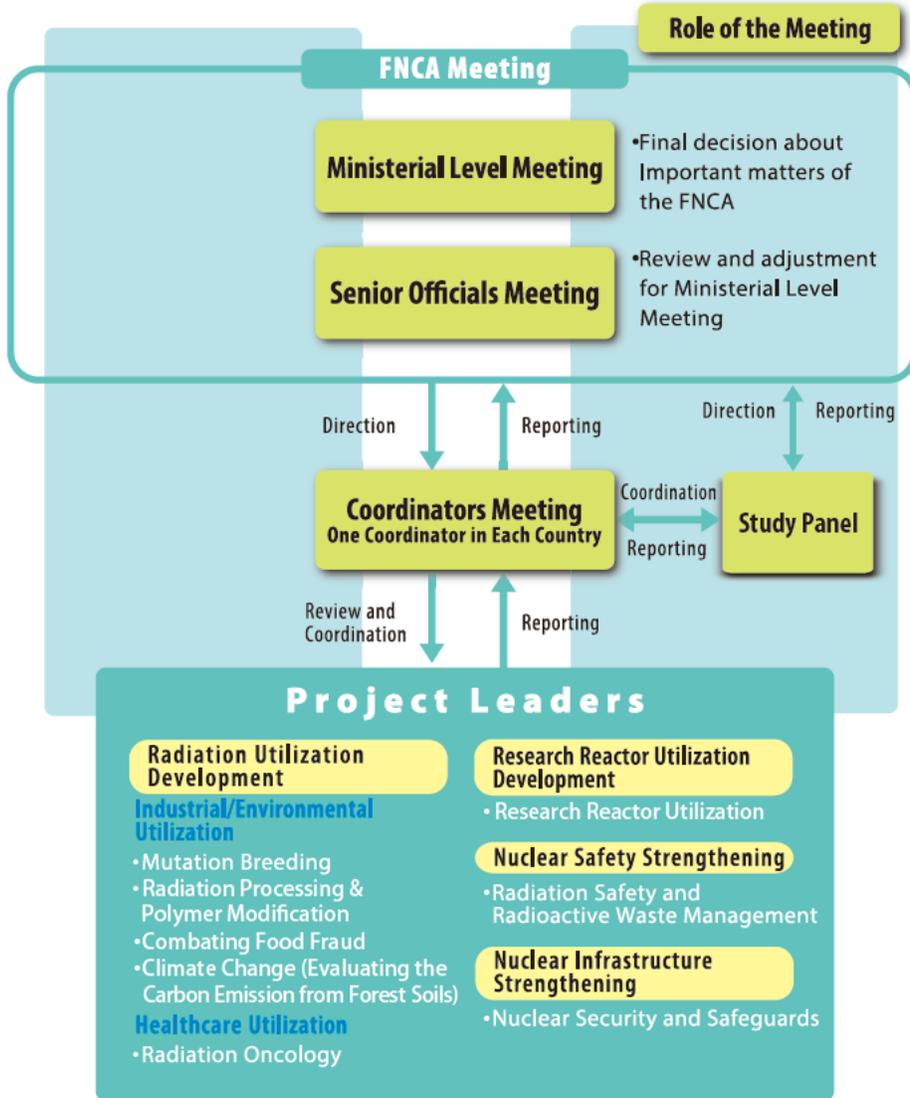


Closing ceremony

FNCA Activities in 2025

Activity	Date	Venue
The 25th Coordinators Meeting	February 26, 2025	Tokyo (Hybrid)
Workshop on Radiation Safety and Radioactive Waste Management	July 8-10, 2025	The Philippines (Hybrid)
The 26th Ministerial Level Meeting	November 27, 2025	Tokyo (Hybrid)

The FNCA Framework



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