

IAEA SUPPORT TO MEMBER STATES FOR EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY OF UNDISCOVERED URANIUM RESOURCES

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ABSTRACT

The IAEA provides support to 175 Member States through several nuclear fuel cycle programmatic areas. To help ensure sustainability of uranium fuel supply for the current and future fleet of nuclear power plants, the IAEA directly engages 52 Member States that have, or wish to initiate, activities related to the uranium production cycle. Much of this direct support involves the front-end of the uranium production cycle, including the development and refinement of national uranium exploration program strategies and management, identification of promising areas for prospecting, and estimation of possible resources.

To enhance support to Member States' efforts to develop new, or refine existing national uranium exploration programmes, the IAEA provides a number of publications, databases, and technical training workshops and meetings/conferences relating to uranium deposit geology and metallogeny, deposit type classification and mineral systems models, statistical data on global deposit distribution and resources, as well as reviews and case studies of quantitative and qualitative geospatial evaluations of undiscovered uranium resources.

This presentation will provide an overview of some methodologies and case study applications for the evaluation of undiscovered uranium deposits and resources that IAEA has supported through a variety of publications, databases, and technical training workshops.

Keywords: Uranium, Exploration, Prospecting, Undiscovered Deposits, Quantitative Mineral Resource Assessment, Mineral Prospectivity Mapping, Supply, Sustainability, Nuclear Fuel, Nuclear Power