



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

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International EPR framework: roles of the Competent Authorities and regulatory authority in EPR

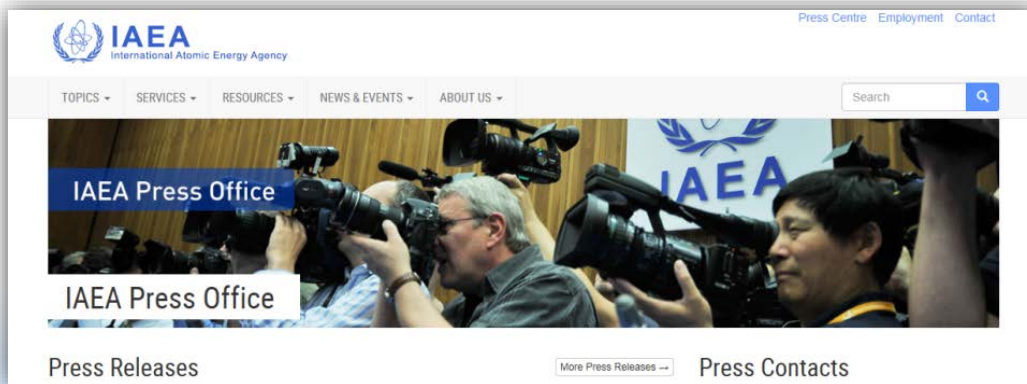
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IAEA's Roles and Responsibilities in Response



- Notification and official information exchange: USIE
- Provision of public information
- Assessment of potential emergency consequences and prognosis of possible emergency progression
- Provision of assistance on request: RANET
- Coordination of inter-agency response: IACRNE



International EPR: Operational arrangements



- Operational arrangements for the implementation of Early Notification Convention and Assistance Convention
- Designated contact points in MSs and IOs – 475
 - 24/7 NWP – National Warning Point
 - CA(D) Competent Authority (Domestic)
 - CA(A) Competent Authority (Abroad)
- Often the CA(D) is a regulatory body (80% of designations)
- USIE – 24/7 secured web portal for notification, reporting and information exchange
 - ~ 1200 registered USIE users
 - Encryption of sensitive information during transfer and storage
- Competent Authority to other Conventions
 - possibility for 24/7 secure reporting

International EPR: Roles of Competent Authorities



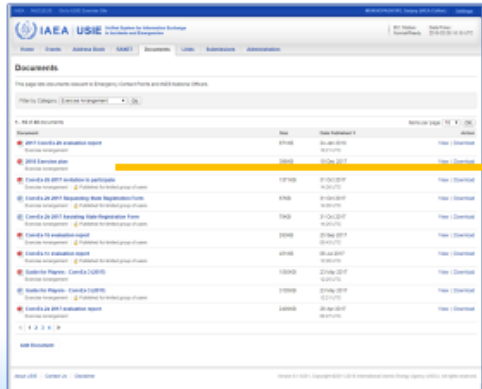
- Nomination of contact point – MS' decision
 - Different national authorities are designated
- Functions of contact point do not depend on the type of organization (i.e. whether it is a regulatory authority or not)
- Functions are explained in the IAEA's "Operations Manual for Incident and Emergency Communication"
- Functions to be performed:
 - Notification, reporting and information exchange for all types of emergencies irrespective of the cause
 - Prompt input and liaison for matter related to
 - Requests for information
 - Media enquiries and IAEA press statements
 - Participation in the assessment and prognosis process
 - Requests of assistance, if decided by a country
 - Prompt offers of assistance, if requested

International EPR: Training and exercises

- IAEA provides training on international operational arrangements
 - all MS' contact points are invited annually
- Exercise regime:
 - ConvEx
 - Test key response objectives of operational arrangements
 - Evaluate adequacy of established operational arrangements
 - Identify shortcomings and best practices
 - National exercises

Annual exercise schedule

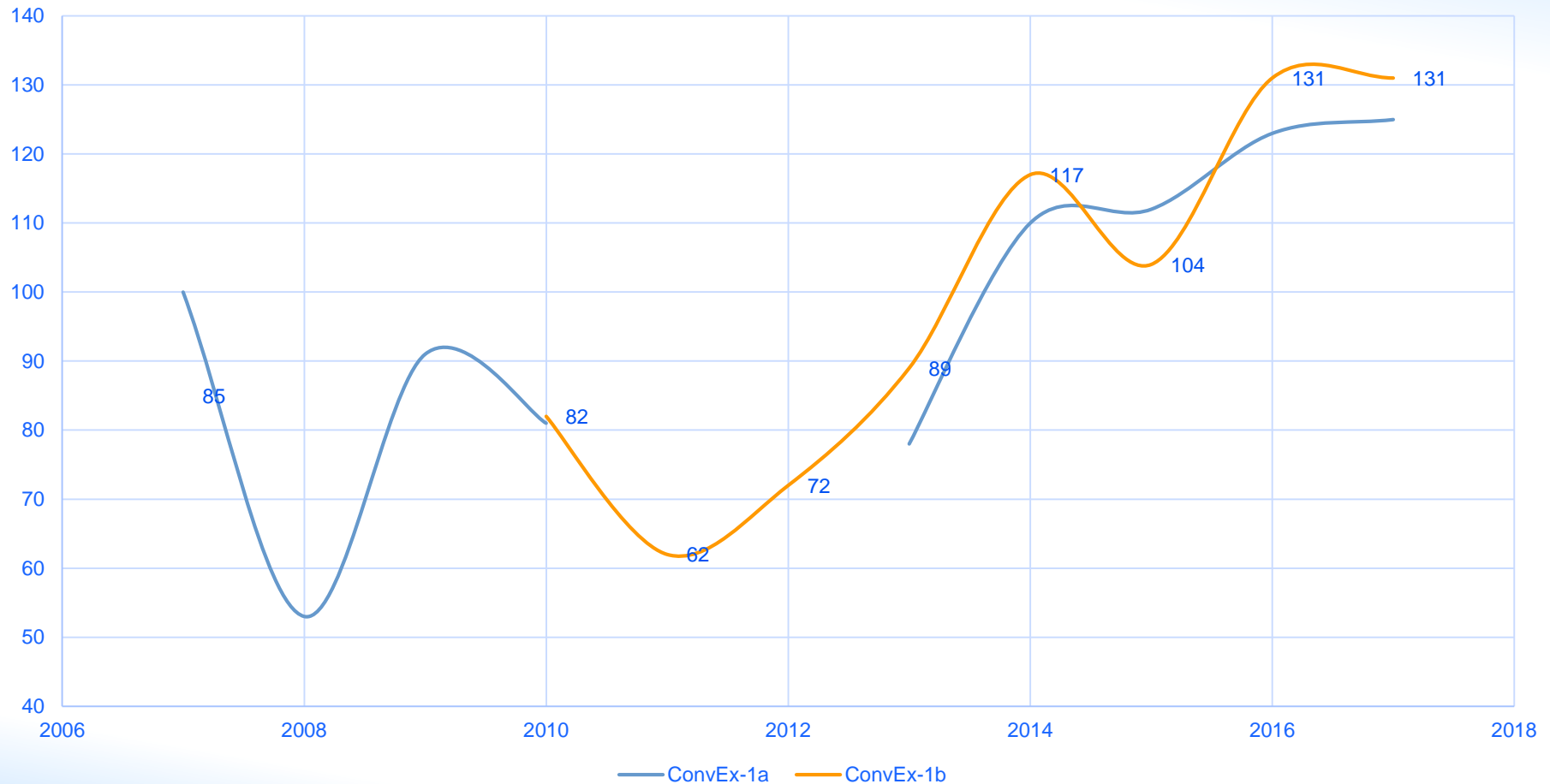
Annual exercise schedule for the following year are available at the end of the year on the USIE website.



Exercises for 2018	
January 2018:	
Exercise:	Telecommunications test with WMO RTH Offenbach
Date:	16 January 2018
Participation:	WMO Regional Telecommunication Hub at the German Weather Service; No participation of the Emergency Contact Points in Member States.
Expected Action:	A test message will be sent from the IAEA to RTH Offenbach, which will confirm back to the IAEA.
February 2018:	
Exercise:	Telecommunications test with WMO RTH Offenbach
Date:	20 February 2018
Participation:	WMO Regional Telecommunication Hub at the German Weather Service; No participation of the Emergency Contact Points in Member States.
Expected Action:	A test message will be sent from the IAEA to RTH Offenbach, which will confirm back to the IAEA.
Exercise:	WMO exercise with RSMC Melbourne
Date:	20 February 2018
Participation:	WMO Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres and the Regional Telecommunication Hub at the German Weather Service; No participation of the Emergency Contact Points in Member States.
Expected Action:	The IAEA will request atmospheric transport and dispersion products from the RSMCs, who will provide them to the IAEA. The IAEA will ask one Member State in the South-West Pacific through its National Competent Authority to give their consent on using one of their NPP sites in their country as the simulated starting point for the atmospheric and dispersion products.
Exercise:	IAEA Internal Full Response Exercise
Date:	28 February 2018
Participation:	No participation of the Emergency Contact Points in Member States. The IAEA will ask one Member State through its National Competent Authority to give their consent on utilizing one of their sites or a location in their country as the location for the simulated scenario.
Expected Action:	The IAEA will conduct an internal exercise for the purpose of training of the IAEA Secretariat staff within IAEA's Incident and Emergency System. No communication with Emergency Contact Points in Member States will take place.

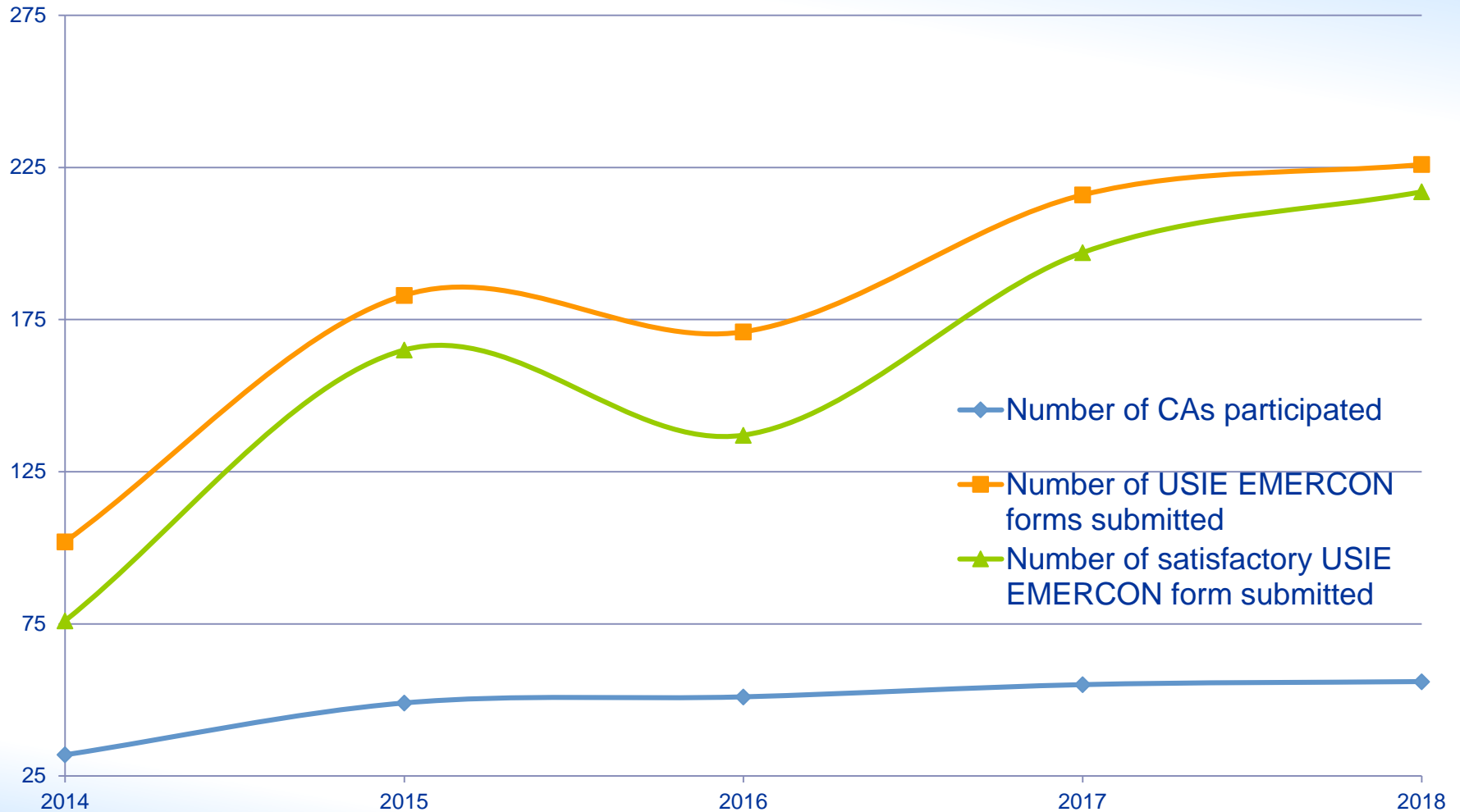
Trends in participation in ConvEx-1

N of CPs participating in ConvEx-1



To test NWP's availability 24/7 and NCAs' response to received notifications

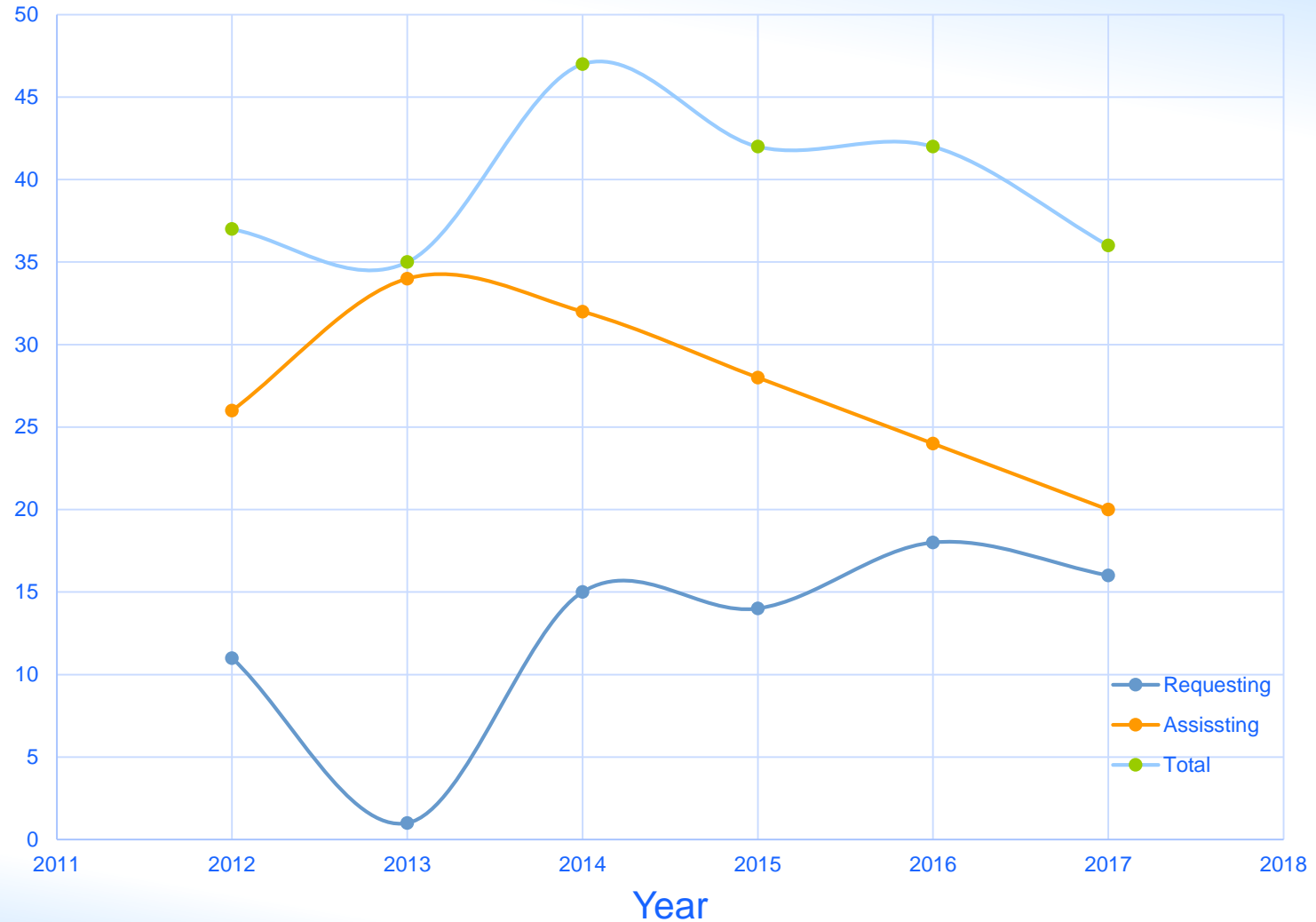
Trends in participation in ConvEx-2a



To test NCAs' actions to complete reporting forms

Trends in participation in ConvEx-2b

N of participating MSs



To test arrangements for requesting and receiving assistance

ConvEx-3: severe nuclear or radiological emergency



- Objective: to test national and international emergency response arrangements for severe nuclear or radiological emergency
- Exercise:
 - Based on national exercise being conducted in MS, coordinated with exercise plans of other international organizations through IACRNE (Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies)
 - Conducted once every 3-5 years
 - ConvEx-3 (2017) was largest ever

IEC participation in national exercises



- By request of a country or international organisation conducting exercise
- Example of participation:
 - acknowledging exercise messages
 - authenticating, verifying, publishing the received messages on the USIE Exercise website as indicated by counterpart
 - practicing most or all of Agency's response roles

Lessons identified

- Official contact points are designated to share information from a country (not from organization)
- In emergency, direct communication with regulator body is very useful channel for IAEA to efficiently receive latest information
 - From regulatory body
 - From other national and local organizations
 - From licensee responding to event
- In emergency, given explicit permission from official contact point, IAEA can interact with other organizations and use information from other national sources, including:
 - Operators website
 - Local authority website
 - Websites of other government organizations with response role

Conclusions

- MS's responsibility to designate contact points
- Need for national arrangements which allow prompt gathering and sharing of information within country
 - Unique position of regulatory bodies as contact point
 - If regulatory body is not contact point, relevant national arrangements need to be in place for prompt provision of information from regulatory body to IAEA through contact point
 - includes information relevant to assessment and prognosis, press and media statements and requests/offer for assistance
- IAEA provides annual training to all MS on arrangements for notification, reporting and assistance to assist them fulfil their operational roles under international EPR framework



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Thank you!