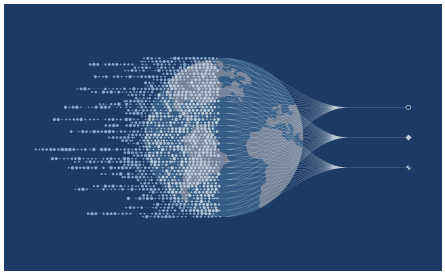

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with Station Operators for Developing the International Monitoring System Sustainment Strategy

Collaborating with station operators and representatives from National Data Centres has been an important part in developing a sustainment strategy for the International Monitoring System (IMS), operated by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). A questionnaire was distributed to all station operators and representatives from National Data Centres. The questionnaire included 40 questions grouped in seven categories: 1) station information and characteristics; 2) lifecycle; 3) infrastructure; 4) environment; 5) climate change; 6) vandalism; and 7) station operator. It aimed to obtain information that could contribute towards the development of the IMS sustainment strategy, especially in areas where little is known. The results show that most of the systems have been in operation for more than 16 years; the main reasons for major changes in the systems are deterioration owing to changes in the station environment and end of life replacement. About 60% of stations might require some level of work on their infrastructure, mainly related to the power system or housing. The participants identified that the main risk the stations face is related to the environment, and an increased frequency of extreme weather events, highlighting a further upgrade to the station infrastructure to mitigate against climate change.

E-mail

MICHELLE.GROBBELAAR@CTBTO.ORG

In-person or online preference

Primary authors: Ms GROBBELAAR, Michelle (CTBTO Preparatory Commission); Ms PÉREZ CAMPOS, Xyoli (CTBTO Preparatory Commission); Mr ROCCO, Guillermo (CTBTO Preparatory Commission); Ms PAUTET, Lucie (CTBTO Preparatory Commission)

Presenter: Ms GROBBELAAR, Michelle (CTBTO Preparatory Commission)

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