Three cities. Three activities. One Compendium.

SURABAYA, INDONESIA

Science teacher Chandra V. smiled in anticipation as he worked out the final details of tomorrow’s lesson plan. Chandra had just come back from a 3-day workshop on experiment-based learning for science and technology lecture, which he attended along with 50 other fellow teachers. The visiting experts from Japan had shown them some novel ideas and hands-on experiments to make teaching science more interesting, and he was looking forward to trying them out with his own students.

PENANG, MALAYSIA

15-year-old Hana closed her laptop with a sigh of relief and some degree of eagerness. She had just submitted a 500-word entry to a national essay competition on the benefits of science to society. She had spent weeks researching her topic — Radiation in Everyday Life — using tips and resources she recently learned at a workshop on radiation. Her entry was one of 200 essays that were submitted nationwide, but somehow she felt good about her chances.

QUEZON, PHILIPPINES

Saturday in the Philippines is normally a weekend break for most students but, on this day, Joselito, a third-year student in the Quezon City Science High School, was headed for the nearby offices of the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) and was looking forward to it. Like most of his 35 other classmates, Joselito was taking part in a school activity called Science on Saturday. The programme included games, quizzes and a painting competition, which all sounded like lots of fun.

Three different activities in three countries, each one resulting from one Compendium, and all with a common goal: to promote the appreciation and study of science and technology among secondary school teachers and students with support from the IAEA.

An IAEA brochure, June 2016. For more information visit www.iaea.org.
MALAYSIA: BRINGING MORE VARIATION

Activities carried out from the Compendium

- Radiation Workshop for Science Teachers
- Radiation Education Programme for Secondary Students
- National Essay Competition

"Through the Compendium, Malaysia had the opportunity to sample the programmes developed by other countries." — Habibah Adnan, Nuclear Malaysia

Under the Malaysian pilot project implementation, one hundred teachers from the states of Sabah and Selangor received training through the radiation workshop for teachers.

At the same time, 183 students from the three selected pilot schools — the Persekutuan Kajang Boarding School, SMK Bandar Baru Bangi and SMK Khr Johari Beranang — attended the radiation education for secondary schools programme.

The National Essay Competition attracted some 200 entries from secondary students all over Malaysia.

Malaysia already had been running several nuclear education outreach activities even before we joined the pilot project," said Habibah Adnan, Director of the Information Management Division at Nuclear Malaysia.

"The invitation of the IAEA to participate in the pilot project was highly welcome because it brought more variation to the nuclear education outreach in our country."

A key aspect of the Malaysian pilot was choosing modules that were compatible with the syllabus developed by the Ministry of Education. Adnan noted the overwhelming positive response from teachers and students to the chosen modules — the radiation workshop for teachers and radiation education programme for secondary students.

"They [the students] liked the module on radiation because it made learning science more fun with its variation of approaches. The students also appreciated the chance to visit a nuclear facility as this further enhanced the knowledge that they received from the programme," Adnan said.

As follow-up, Malaysia will continue to conduct radiation workshops for science teachers and will introduce this activity to other states in Malaysia. It will also continue the national nuclear science and technology essay competition with the aim of receiving more entries from students.

The radiation education for secondary school programme will be integrated within the country’s existing icon scientist tour programme, which also aims to motivate students and cultivate their interest in STEM subjects.