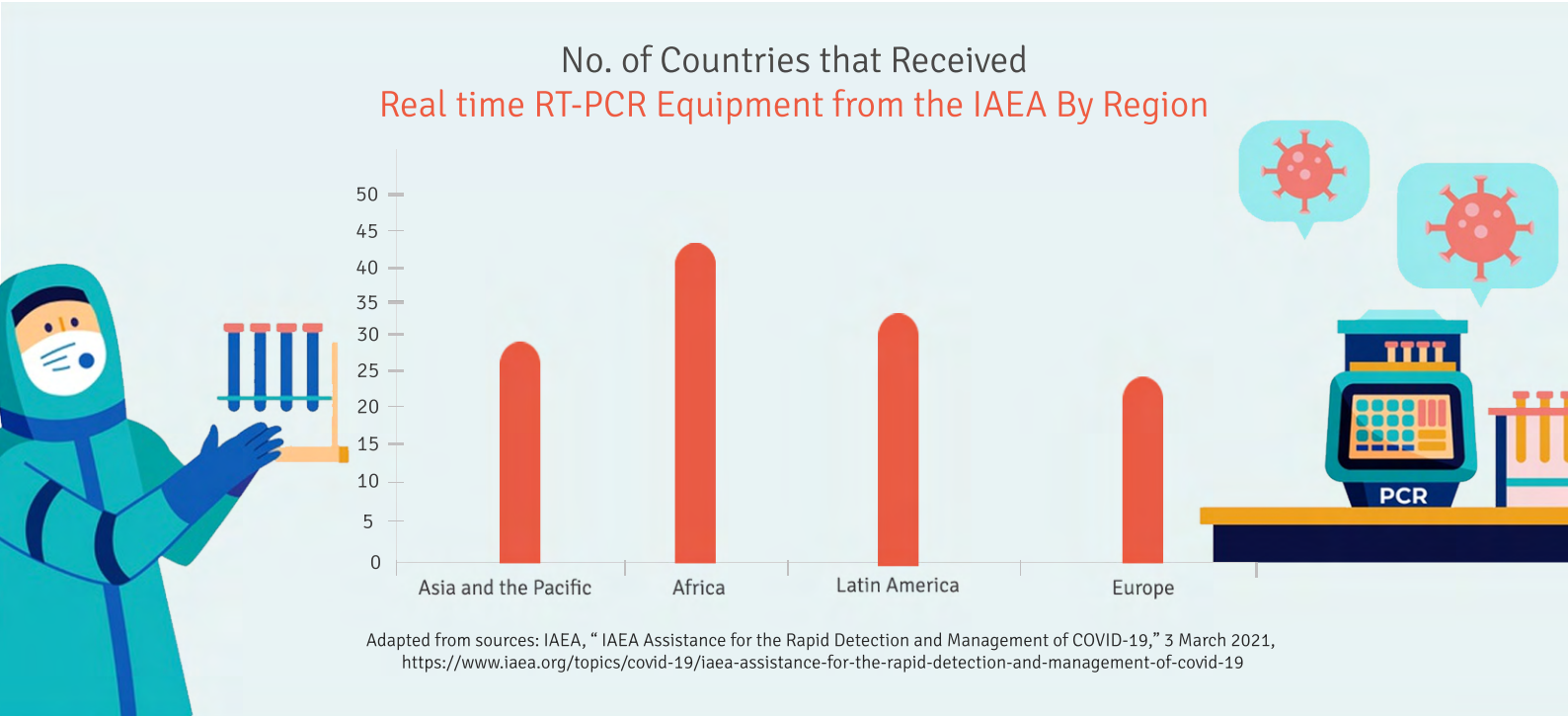


ROLE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY IN FIGHTING
COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Compiled by Julius Cesar Trajano

Real time RT-PCR, or reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, is a nuclear-derived method for specific detection of viruses and pathogens that are present in humans and animals. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has stepped up and provided COVID-19 testing capability assistance to requesting countries. This highlights the other non-power peaceful applications of nuclear energy, especially in health security.



Key Figures

128

countries have received COVID-19 testing equipment from the IAEA

286

national health laboratories/ institutions have benefitted from IAEA technical cooperation support

1,957

RT-PCR and diagnostic kits and related items were provided to requesting countries

16

RT-PCR webinars were conducted to train over 2,000 participants

US\$31.4 Million

amount of extrabudgetary contributions from countries to support IAEA COVID-19 Assistance

Adapted from sources: IAEA, “IAEA Assistance for the Rapid Detection and Management of COVID-19,” 3 March 2021, <https://www.iaea.org/topics/covid-19/iaea-assistance-for-the-rapid-detection-and-management-of-covid-19>