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The SESAME Project and the Impact of Synchrotron Radiation on Science and Society in Developing Countries

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At present there are more than 60 synchrotron radiation light sources in operation in 20 countries around the world, with more in construction and design (see: www.lightsources.org). Although most facilities are in technologically advanced countries, there is significant activity in the developing world. Light source projects in Brazil, Korea, and Taiwan have been in operation for more than 15 years. The value of these project has resulted in the funding of newer, higher performance facilities in each of these countries. SESAME, a UNESCO sponsored project, modeled on CERN, is constructing a light source in Jordan as a collaboration involving nine Middle East countries (www.sesame.org.jo). It has been called a "model project for other regions.

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