



GNSSN Contributes to Strengthening Nuclear Safety and Security



The GNSSN— a worldwide network to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear safety and security.

What should I know?

The IAEA Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) works towards building competence and developing capabilities in Member States around the globe. The Network contributes to enhancing international cooperation and dialogue in the field of nuclear safety and security and increasing harmony in national approaches to knowledge management for nuclear safety and security. GNSSN is comprised of several thematic and regional networks, forums and working groups.

The GNSSN enables Member States to share nuclear safety and security knowledge, expertise, best practices, lessons learned and training experiences. The Network benefits both Member States that need

to develop new nuclear and radiation protection safety and security infrastructure, as well as Member States seeking to strengthen existing infrastructure.

What's the role of the GNSSN?

The GNSSN supports the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Framework, which aims to achieve and maintain a high level of safety and security at nuclear facilities and during activities around the world. Through GNSSN, the IAEA works to assist Member States in:

- Meeting international obligations and national responsibilities in relation to the international legal instruments;



GNSSN Contributes to Strengthening Nuclear Safety and Security

- Applying the IAEA safety standards and security guidance upon request;
- Utilizing IAEA peer review and advisory services upon request.

The origins of GNSSN

The recommendations of the 2006 report, *Strengthening the Global Nuclear Safety Regime*, by the International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG) were the catalyst for the launch of GNSSN in 2007. The INSAG is a group of international experts that provide the IAEA with recommendations and informed opinions on current and emerging nuclear safety issues.

The GNSSN was developed to address the connection, collaboration, capacity building and information needs of the global nuclear community. It has proven beneficial to Member States that need to develop new nuclear and radiation protection safety and security infrastructure, as well as to Member States seeking to strengthen and improve existing infrastructure.

Subsequently, another INSAG report in 2017, *Ensuring Robust National Nuclear Safety Systems — Institutional Strength in Depth*, further emphasized the vital importance of knowledge and information sharing and highlighted the role of industry, regulators and stakeholders in national nuclear safety systems.

What does GNSSN offer?

The GNSSN provides a web-based platform that enables international users to connect, communicate and collaborate.

GNSSN offers tools for:

- Managing nuclear safety knowledge to ensure that relevant information, best practices, experience and lessons learned related to nuclear safety and security are maintained and shared for the benefit of Member States;

- Establishing and strengthening partnerships to enable and support interaction and collaboration between organizations and experts;
- Building capacity to support national nuclear safety and security infrastructure.

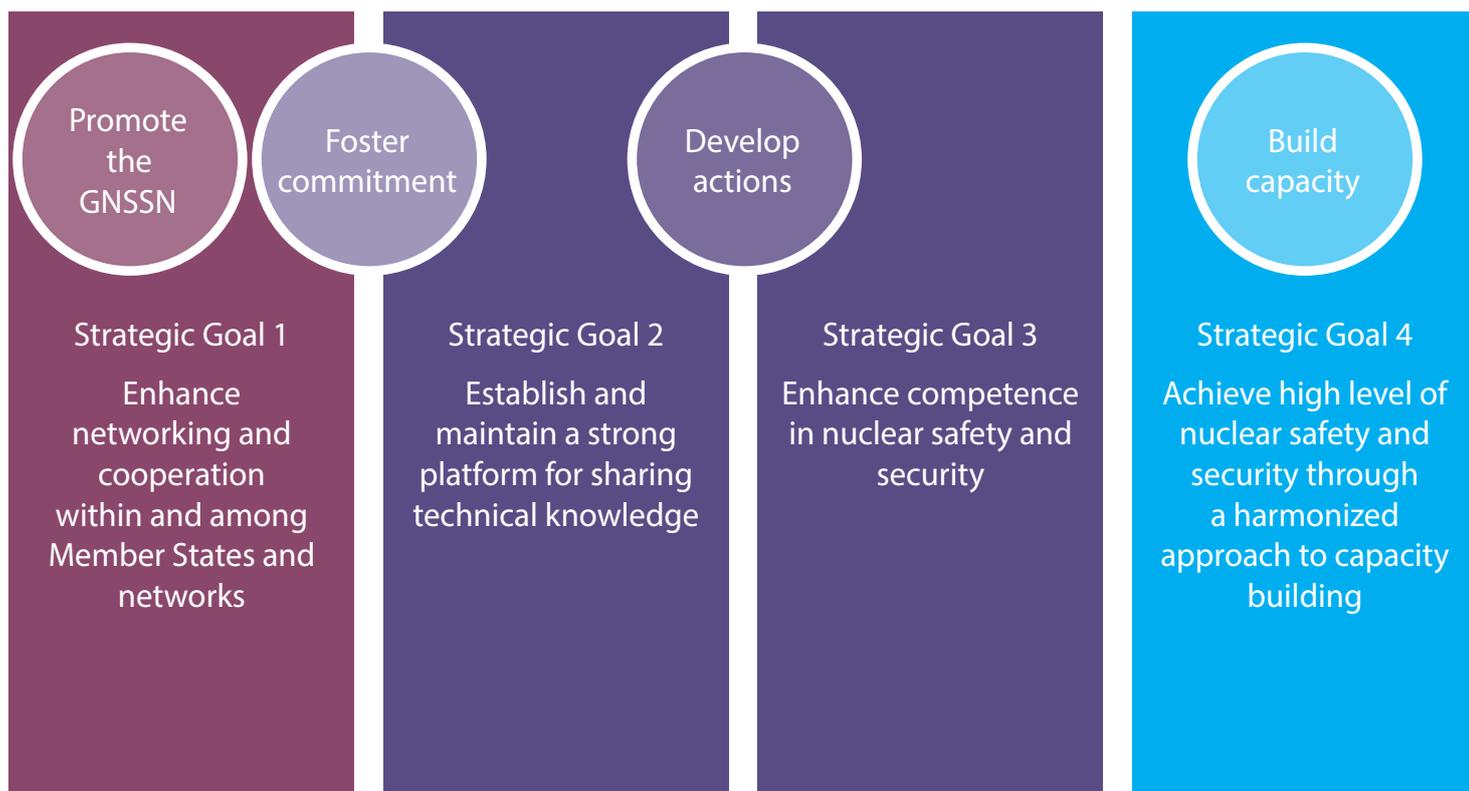
The GNSSN website has both public and non-public sections. The public section provides access to open information sources and the restricted site is used as a collaboration platform for safety and security teams, forums and user communities.

Global, regional and national objectives

Globally, the GNSSN aims to create a comprehensive framework that facilitates the sharing of ideas, perspectives and national approaches by building partnerships between governmental entities and other nuclear safety and security related organizations. Collaborating at a global level allows Member States and organizations to learn from the best the nuclear community has to offer and to build a long-lasting, world-wide commitment to nuclear safety and security.

Regionally, the GNSSN aims to establish and maintain strong forums and regional networks in the training of qualified, competent and committed professionals. Leveraging regional cooperation builds upon existing relationships and local resources and helps foster sustainable long-term partnerships.

Nationally, the GNSSN aims to establish a framework for capacity building at the governmental and organizational level to develop and/or enhance strong national safety and security infrastructures. Focusing on national approaches helps leverage existing IAEA resources to provide focused and timely assistance where it is most needed by the Member States and organizations.



Who is part of the GNSSN?

The GNSSN supports over 20 networks of various types, including global networks, regional networks and thematic networks that were established based on identified needs. Examples include well known networks such as the International Regulatory Network, the Asian Nuclear Safety Network, the Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies of Africa, the Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators, the Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies and the European and Central Asian Safety Network.

Additionally, GNSSN provides information about and links to other safety networks that share common goals but are not directly supported by the IAEA such as the Western European Nuclear Regulators Association, the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group, and the European Technical Safety Organisations Network.

Partnerships are strengthened through the use of various mechanisms such as practical arrangements, memorandums of understanding and regional cooperation agreements. These vehicles can assist the IAEA in establishing or

supporting the establishment of technical, strategic or financial partnerships. The GNSSN can assist Member States in the establishment of these mechanisms upon request. One example of previous success is the Memorandum of Understanding on Nuclear Safety between the European Atomic Energy Community and the IAEA. This agreement established a framework for cooperation to aid in strengthening nuclear safety globally, in particular through the European Union's Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation and the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace.

Top 10 reasons for IAEA Member States and other key stakeholders in the field of nuclear safety and security to join:

1. Strengthen the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Framework
2. Improve knowledge of nuclear safety and security
3. Share best practices for national safety and security infrastructure
4. Share knowledge, experience and expertise
5. Help other GNSSN members build capacity and competence



Panellists at the Sixth Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network Plenary Meeting in Vienna in September 2019.

(Photo: D. Calma/IAEA)

6. Benefit from workshops and training
7. Develop partnerships
8. Collaborate with other experts
9. Join communities of practice
10. Access information on peer review and advisory services

How To Register?

Much of the GNSSN is publicly accessible, however parts of the GNSSN can only be accessed by registered users. To register, go to:
<https://gnssn.iaea.org/Pages/UserRegistration.aspx>

In general, registered users should be involved in one or more GNSSN activities or represent their country or organization professionally in the fields of nuclear safety or nuclear security.

Learn More

Learn more about GNSSN:

www.iaea.org/services/networks/global-nuclear-safety-and-security-network

www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/optimizing-iaea-assistance-consolidated-plan-for-safety-presented-at-iaea-general-conference

IAEA Factsheets are produced by the Office of Public Information and Communication

Editor: Aabha Dixit • Design and layout: Ritu Kenn

For more information on the IAEA and its work, visit www.iaea.org or follow us on    

or read the IAEA's flagship publication, the *IAEA Bulletin*, at www.iaea.org/bulletin

IAEA, Vienna International Centre, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria

Email: info@iaea.org • Telephone: +43 (1) 2600-0 • Facsimile +43 (1) 2600-7