

GNSSN STRATEGIC PLAN

Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network
July 2021

A. Introduction

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'s Nuclear Safety and Security Programme (Major Programme 3), covers one of IAEA's essential statutory functions: to establish standards of safety. It provides for the application of such standards and for guidance on nuclear security with the aim of achieving high levels of nuclear safety and security, to protect the people, the society, and the environment.

The IAEA assists Member States in building national capacities and competencies. As per its Statute, one of the main functions of the IAEA is "to foster the exchange of scientific and technical information on peaceful uses of atomic energy" (Article III.A.3). In addition, according to Article VIII.C, the IAEA "shall take positive steps to encourage the exchange among its members of information relating to the nature and peaceful uses of atomic energy and shall serve as an intermediary among its members for this purpose". Through dedicated knowledge networks, the IAEA promotes the transfer of knowledge from countries that have mature radiation and nuclear programmes to countries which have only just started embarking on such programmes.

The launch of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) was formally announced at the International Conference on Effective Nuclear Regulatory Systems: Facing Safety and Security Challenges, held in Moscow, Russian Federation, in 2006. It was a step which took into consideration the recommendations contained in the International Nuclear Safety Group (INSAG) report *Strengthening the Global Nuclear Safety Regime* (INSAG Series No. 21, IAEA, Vienna, 2006). The GNSSN supports the IAEA's Nuclear Safety and Security Programme (Major Programme 3) by enhancing international cooperation and dialogue in the field of nuclear safety¹ and security with key stakeholders. The stakeholder community includes government agencies and ministries; regulatory authorities; private users of materials and technologies; and international organizations. In addition, GNSSN as a knowledge network, is part of the comprehensive IAEA methodology for capacity building and demonstrates the potential value of networking and sharing experience towards enhancing nuclear safety and security globally.

The initial development of the GNSSN was carried out jointly by IAEA and the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group in 2007 and since then it has evolved into a strong human and information technology (IT) platform supporting the establishment and continued efforts of global, regional, and thematic nuclear safety and security associations, forums and networks. Recognizing the continued importance of networking and international cooperation, sharing experiences, and preserving knowledge, Member States have routinely called upon the IAEA to continue maintaining and developing the GNSSN, most recently in GC Resolution GC(64)/RES/9. Considering this mandate, the IAEA Secretariat has supported the GNSSN since its inception and continues to provide technical and secretariat support for a wide range of activities.

¹ For the purposes of this document, the phrase "nuclear safety" should be interpreted to include nuclear, radiation, waste, and transport safety, as well as emergency and preparedness response.

B. GNSSN vision

A connected and vibrant global community of nuclear safety and security professionals and organizations utilizing modern technology to share experience and preserve knowledge to facilitate capacity building.

C. GNSSN mission

To achieve this vision, the GNSSN's mission in the scope of nuclear safety and security is to:

- Share relevant knowledge, experience, and lessons learned, in an organized and targeted manner.
- Identify and promote the use of knowledge, experience, and best practices across organizations and networks.
- Facilitate and support collaboration and networking between organizations at the national, subregional, regional, and international levels.
- Promote and disseminate information on the Agency's activities related to nuclear safety and security and how they benefit Member States.

D. GNSSN objectives

To help fulfil the mission of the GNSSN, the following objectives have been identified:

- Enhance the coordination of regional and inter-regional efforts for the sharing of knowledge, experience, and lessons learned on safety and security;
- Publish and share key findings and best practices resulting from network activities;
- Enhance the identification and utilization of best practices and experiences between organizations and networks;
- Identify and facilitate capacity building opportunities in Member States;
- Implement, maintain, and improve the GNSSN IT platform for efficient collaboration among stakeholders;
- Build strategic partnerships between stakeholders to support the identification of financial and in-kind support for Member State and Agency activities at the regional and global level.
- Encourage Member States to benefit from the Agency's technical support, services, standards, and guidance related to nuclear safety and security.

E. GNSSN Action Plan

This action plan is maintained by the GNSSN Secretariat and is updated periodically to reflect the status and timeline for each action item. Action items can be added by the IAEA Secretariat or the GNSSN Steering Committee Chair and Vice Chair after appropriate consultation with key stakeholders. In general, action items should serve one or more of the following purposes:

- Fulfil a condition or responsibility described in the GNSSN Terms of Reference.
- Support one or more of the GNSSN objectives noted in Section D above.
- Respond to a decision by, or request to, the GNSSN Steering Committee.

This action plan was last updated by Eric Freeman (IAEA/NSOC) on 2 July 2021.

1. Draft and publish 2021 annual report on GNSSN activities and key findings.		
Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
The Steering Committee agreed to a timeline and new structure for the annual report.	<p>The Secretariat will distribute a template to relevant associated networks in September 2021. Responses are due by 29 October 2021.</p> <p>The GNSSN Chair and Vice Chair will provide a draft opening for the report by 29 October 2021.</p> <p>A first compiled draft of the annual report will be distributed by the Secretariat by 30 November for review and comment.</p> <p>The final report will be issued no later than 31 January 2022.</p>	<p>The GNSSN Chair and Vice-Chair will draft an opening to be included in the report.</p> <p>Associated networks will contribute relevant information using the provided template.</p> <p>The GNSSN Secretariat will compile and edit the first draft for review and comment by the Steering Committee.</p> <p>The final draft will be endorsed by the GNSSN Steering Committee.</p>
2. Update and enhance the GNSSN IT platform.		
Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
The Secretariat shared a project plan with the GNSSN Steering Committee	Phase 1 will be initiated in June 2021 and will be completed in March 2022.	The GNSSN Secretariat is responsible for identifying and making changes to the

<p>during the 16th meeting held in June 2021. No edits were received during the meeting.</p> <p>Work will commence in a phased approach identified in the plan.</p> <p>The Secretariat will coordinate with GRS (Germany) to exchange ideas and best practices based on a similar effort being undertaken by German authorities.</p>	<p>Phase 2 will be initiated in July 2021 and will be completed in May 2022.</p> <p>Phase 3 will be initiated in March 2022 and will be completed in June 2023.</p>	<p>GNSSN IT infrastructure. This will be performed in consultation with internal and external stakeholders.</p>
--	---	---

3. Draft and publish end of term (2020-2023) report to IAEA DDG NS.

Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
<p>Work has not started on this action item.</p>	<p>To be issued no later than 30 September 2023.</p>	<p>The GNSSN Chair and Vice Chair will author the first draft for review and comment by the GNSSN Steering Committee members and GNSSN Secretariat.</p> <p>The final draft will be issued by the GNSSN Chair on behalf of the Steering Committee.</p>

4. Review and update the GNSSN Strategic Plan and Terms of Reference.

Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
<p>The TOR is under silence procedure with the Steering Committee. Absent further edits/comments, the document will be put through internal IAEA clearance during July and August, ideally obtaining</p>	<p>The Terms of Reference will be finalized no later than September 2021 (prior to the GC).</p>	<p>The Steering Committee members, Chair and Vice Chair, and the IAEA Secretariat are responsible for contributing ideas and edits to the current documents.</p> <p>The GNSSN Secretariat is responsible for facilitating</p>

<p>final approval before the GC in September 2021.</p> <p>The Strategic Plan was finalized and agreed upon in July 2021.</p>		<p>the final approval and clearance of all documents.</p>
<p>5. Draft and publish GNSSN IT Governance Plan.</p>		
<p>Status</p>	<p>Timeline</p>	<p>Responsible Party</p>
<p>Work has not started on this action item.</p>	<p>The GNSSN IT Governance Plan will be finalized no later than May 2022.</p>	<p>The GNSSN Secretariat is responsible for drafting, reviewing, and publishing this document.</p> <p>Review and approval by external stakeholders (e.g., associated networks) will be sought if deemed necessary based on the contents of the document.</p>
<p>6. Identify and implement cross-network events and activities.</p>		
<p>Status</p>	<p>Timeline</p>	<p>Responsible Party</p>
<p>The GNSSN Steering Committee Chair, on behalf of the Secretariat and Vice-Chair, will distribute a short survey requesting information from the Associated Networks.</p> <p>The GNSSN Secretariat will compile and assess this information to provide recommendations to the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Additionally, the GNSSN Secretariat will review the results of previous surveys to identify any relevant recommendations that have not yet been addressed.</p>	<p>This action is ongoing and periodic updates are expected during each Steering Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Leadership (i.e., Chair or Vice Chair) for the associated networks are responsible for identifying ideas for potential cross-network collaboration. The ideas should be shared with the Steering Committee for broader consideration.</p>
<p>7. Publish, translate, and advertise network activities and publications.</p>		

Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
<p>The GNSSN Steering Committee Chair, on behalf of the Secretariat and Vice-Chair, will distribute a short survey requesting information from the Associated Networks.</p> <p>The GNSSN Secretariat will compile and assess this information to provide recommendations to the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Additionally, the GNSSN Secretariat will review the results of previous surveys to identify any relevant recommendations that have not yet been addressed.</p>	<p>This action is ongoing and periodic updates are expected during each Steering Committee meeting.</p>	<p>All members of the GNSSN Steering Committee are responsible for identifying ideas for publishing, translation, and promotion of relevant activities or documents. The ideas should be shared with the Steering Committee for broader consideration.</p>
<p>8. Review the Terms of Reference for potential changes.</p>		
Status	Timeline	Responsible Party
<p>Work has not started on this action item.</p>	<p>The next review of the ToR is due to commence in 2027.</p>	<p>The GNSSN Secretariat will initiate the review and provide a recommendation to the Steering Committee for consideration.</p>