



The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network

Annual Report 2015



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Summary

The IAEA's Nuclear Safety and Security Programme (Major Programme 3), covers one of IAEA's essential statutory functions - to establish standards of nuclear 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 people, society and the environment.

The IAEA assists Member States in building national capacities and competencies. Through dedicated knowledge networks, it promotes the transfer of knowledge from countries with mature nuclear energy programmes to countries which only just started embarking on such safety programmes.

The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network (GNSSN) fosters strong and sustainable safety and security worldwide, representing a cornerstone of the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Framework (GNSSF). The GNSSN strategic¹ approach is in line with the IAEA Medium Term Strategy². It provides for its implementation and the achievement of its objectives. In this respect, sharing knowledge, expertise and results at the national, regional and global level, is the key in enhancing global nuclear safety and security.

Since September 2015, resolution GC(59)/9, adopted during the 59th session of the IAEA's General Conference on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety³, encouraged Member States to actively participate in the GNSSN and requested the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its efforts in maintaining and developing the GNSSN, including the development of the knowledge platforms.

As defined in the GNSSN Terms of Reference, the Secretariat is requested to prepare an annual report on the development and usage of GNSSN. This annual report describes the GNSSN activities, the progress made in 2015 and drafts out the accomplishment of the Secretariat in relation to the planned activities.

The report is comprised of five parts i) Introduction ii) Governance and Strategic Management iii) Accomplishment and iv) Progress Overview. The fifth chapter of the report provides an overview of the lessons learned in 2015 and lists actions that need to be taken in 2016 in order to improve the overall knowledge, efficiency and effectiveness of GNSSN.

¹ https://gnssn.iaea.org/sites/auth/GNSSN/SC/Meetings/Meeting_04_2014-06-30/Results%20of%204th%20SC/Revised_GNSSN_Strategic-Approach_Rev-SC.docx

² https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/mts2012_2017.pdf

³ https://www.iaea.org/About/Policy/GC/GC59/GC59Resolutions/English/gc59res-9_en.pdf

I. Introduction

As per the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), one of the main functions of the IAEA, hereafter referred to as the Agency, is “To foster the exchange of scientific and technical information on peaceful uses of atomic energy” (Article III.A.3). Article VIII.C also states that the Agency “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”. Therefore, the IAEA is committed to facilitate the exchange of information, experience and knowledge among its Member States. With the same objective the Management System for Facilities and Activities (IAEA Safety Standard Series No. GS-R-3, Vienna, 2006) requires that information and knowledge are managed as a resource.

The launching 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, the 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 initial development of the GNSSN was carried out jointly by the IAEA and the G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group in 2007. Since then, the GNSSN has evolved into a strong human and digital networking platform which combines global nuclear safety forums and networks, regional safety networks and national safety portals. In recent times, there has been more focus on nuclear security through the linkage between the GNSSN and the Nuclear Security Information Portal (NUSEC) with the addition of nuclear security as a thematic area in two of the regulators’ networks.

Since September 2015, resolution GC(59)/9, adopted during the 59th session of the IAEA’s General Conference on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety⁴, encouraged Member States to actively participate in the GNSSN and requested the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its effort in maintaining and developing the GNSSN, including the development of the knowledge platforms. Over the last 8 years, GNSSN continuously supported the IAEA’s Nuclear Safety and Security Programme (Major Programme 3) and as a knowledge network, is part of an integrated IAEA methodology for capacity building and contributes to enhancing international cooperation and dialogue in the field of nuclear safety and security.

Within the last 2 years, the number of networks and forums under the GNSSN increased (see the current status in Table 1), as have the activities they develop and the relevant content hosted on the GNSSN website.

⁴ https://www.iaea.org/About/Policy/GC/GC59/GC59Resolutions/English/gc59res-9_en.pdf

Global Networks and Forums
International Regulatory Network (RegNet)
Forum for Embarking Countries
Regulatory Cooperation Forum (RCF)
WWER Regulators' Forum
Forum for Senior Regulators of CANDU Reactors
Global Safety Assessment Network (GSAN)
Control of Sources Network (CSN)
Education and Training Network in Nuclear Waste and Radiation Safety
Nuclear Security Information Portal (NUSEC)
Technical and Scientific Support Organization Forum (TSOF)
Emergency Preparedness and Response Network (EPnet)
Forum for Safety and Security of Small Medium Reactors
Occupational Radiation Protection Network (ORPNET)
Global Nuclear Safety and Security Communication Network (GNSSCOM)
Regional Safety Networks
Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators (ANNuR)
Asian Nuclear Safety Network (ANSN)
Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa (FNRBA)
Ibero-American Forum of Radiological and Nuclear Regulatory Agencies (FORO)
Ibero-American Platform for Operators in the Area of Nuclear Safety (PIANOS)
[Liaison with regional networks external to the IAEA (e.g. the European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG), Western European Nuclear Regulators Association (WENRA)]
Member States Area
Member States have its own National Nuclear Safety Knowledge Platform

serving as an interface to the national web-based knowledge platforms.

Table 1: Networks, Forums and Portals included in the GNSSN.

II. Governance and Strategic Management

Effective GNSSN governance⁵ is needed to achieve the GNSSN mission and the commitment for effective and efficient resource management. GNSSN is governed by two bodies: the GNSSN Steering Committee and the GNSSN Governance Board, each with distinct responsibilities.

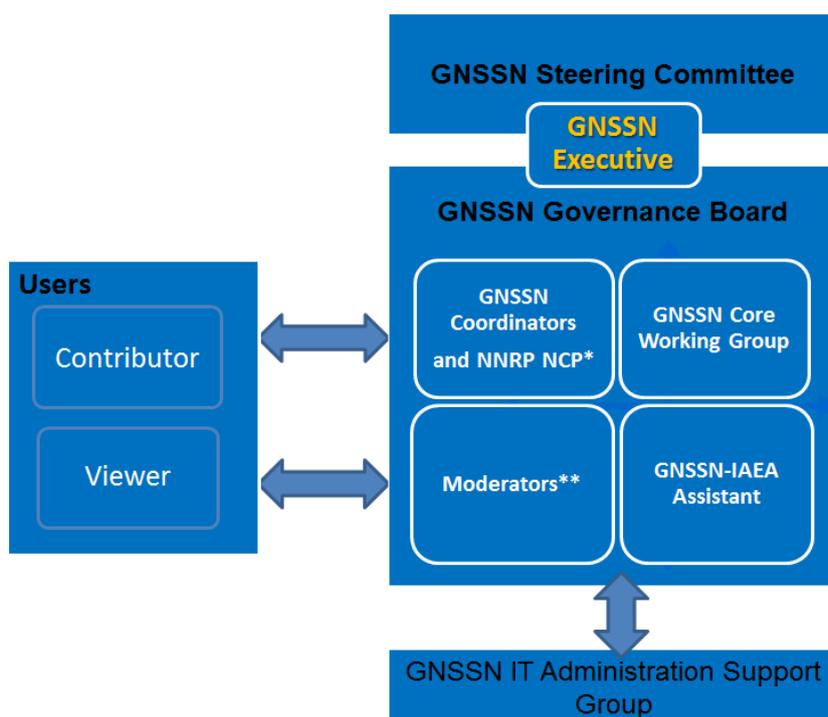


Figure 2: Roles and Responsibilities for GNSSN Governance

GNSSN Vision

The GNSSN is the gateway to sharing knowledge and services in order to achieve worldwide implementation of a high level of nuclear safety and security.

GNSSN mission

To attain this vision, the GNSSN's mission is threefold:

- 1) Sharing information and knowledge – Ensuring that relevant knowledge, experience and lessons learned related to nuclear safety and security, are managed and shared for the benefit of Member States.

⁵<https://gnsn.iaea.org/Shared%20Documents/GNSSN%20Documents/The%20Global%20Nuclear%20Safety%20and%20Security%20Network%20Governance%20Plan.pdf>

- 2) Facilitating multilateral cooperation and coordination – Enabling and supporting collaboration and interaction between organizations and subject matter experts.
- 3) Capacity building – Establishing a capacity building framework to support the national nuclear safety and security infrastructure in the Member States.

GNSSN Operating Principles

The six operating GNSSN principles underpin the way in which GNSSN operates:

Global: The GNSSN plays an essential role by ensuring that the world’s nuclear safety and security related knowledge resources are visible and available to those who need them, in a format they can access and use.

Flexible: The GNSSN accommodates the diversity and complexity of national nuclear infrastructures, as well as the factors determining their effectiveness.

Inclusive: Participation in the planning and implementation is open to all IAEA Member States.

Results-based: The GNSSN is a practical and results based network. Lessons learned are documented in order to ensure continuous improvement.

Self-initiating: Effective planning and implementation of cooperative activities, especially those in the area of capacity building, are made on the basis of initiatives taken by participating Member States and other stakeholders.

Transparent: The GNSSN promotes trust among members, and enables information and knowledge to be shared in an open and transparent manner.

Management processes and goals

GNSSN management relies on strong internal and external processes for ensuring that the strategic goals result in tangible results. It consists of five primary activities:

- Assess the needs
- Plan for results
- Implement
- Evaluate for results
- Report on results

The needs assessment phase is a continuous, iterative process of assessment and adjustment of the GNSSN objectives at both the strategic level and the programme management level. During this phase, inputs from GNSSN stakeholders and national authorities form the foundation for the short-term planning.

The planning phase enables the alignment between the IAEA Medium Term Strategy and GNSSN plans. During this decision making process, IAEA human, technical and financial resource allocation is proposed. This phase ensures alignment with the IAEA internal processes, policies and guidelines and establishes detailed schedules and resources for a successful implementation.



Figure 3: GNSSN Strategic management processes

GNSSN delivers its services through the IAEA programmes and projects during the implementation phase. These processes, which are a series of activities that convert inputs into outputs, are the means by which GNSSN creates outputs and sustains the results for its Member States.

The evaluation measures whether GNSSN achieved intended results/outcomes as stated in the GNSSN Strategic Approach⁶ as well as the level of effectiveness and efficiency in delivering the programmes.

The reporting process connects evaluation to the assessment needs. It provides important information and data that will be used by managers to make informed decisions and identify opportunities of improvement in the programme delivery, and programme implementation.

⁶ https://gnssn.iaea.org/sites/auth/GNSSN/SC/Meetings/Meeting_04_2014-06-30/Results%20of%204th%20SC/Revised_GNSSN_Strategic-Approach_Rev-SC.docx

In July 2014 the GNSSN Steering Committee adopted a Strategic Plan that establishes strategic goals and objectives. With this regard, the GNSSN relies on a set of specific and measurable outcomes through key performance indicators. They include important expected outcomes to enable tracking of the GNSSN performance.

- Strategic Goal 1 (SG1): Enhanced networking and cooperation within and among Member States and networks.
- Strategic Goal 2 (SG2): Strong platform for the exchange of technical knowledge.
- Strategic Goal 3 (SG3): Enhanced competence in nuclear safety and security.
- Strategic Goal 4 (SG4): Achieve the highest level of nuclear safety and security through a harmonized [holistic] approach to capacity building.

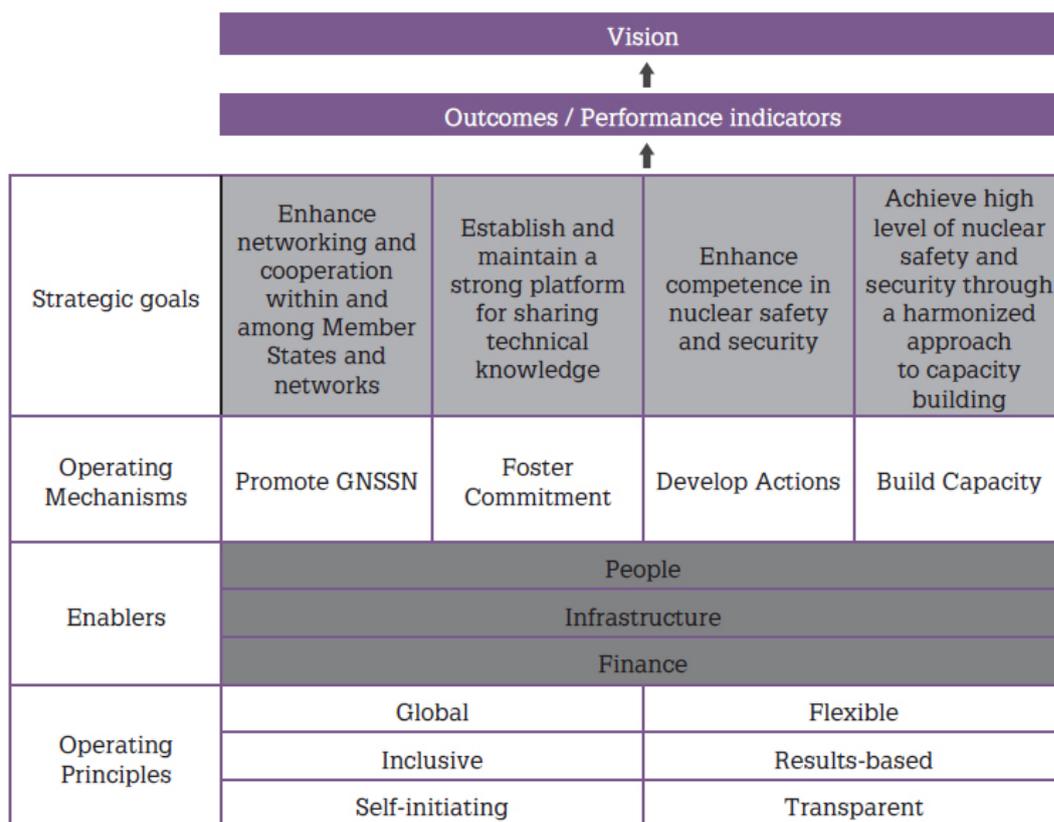


Figure 4: GNSSN Strategic Plan

GNSSN Partnership:

IAEA and its Member States are the main actors of the GNSSN. The network is open to other members and users.

Organizations

- International, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations interested in participating in GNSSN activities are welcome, they are asked to submit a letter of interest to the GNSSN Steering Committee indicating their interest in participating.

Networks

- Networks interested in becoming part of the GNSSN are to submit their request to the GNSSN Steering Committee.

Individuals

- Individuals interested in being GNSSN users need to submit their request to the Coordinator of each respective network.

Current Partners:

In 2015 several partner organizations actively support the global networking. Among them are:

Arab Atomic Energy Agency

AREVA

Argonne Laboratories

Autorite de Surete Nucleaire, France

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) (Canada)

Consejo de Seguridad Nuclear (CSN)

Department of Energy /NNSA (U.S.)

European Commission European Nuclear Safety Training Tutoring Institute

Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada

Gesellschaft für Anlagen- und Reaktorsicherheit (GRS) GmbH (Germany)

Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)

Institut de Radioprotection et de Surete Nucleaire

Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS)

Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority (NRPA)

Nuclear Regulatory Authority, Japan

Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (Korea)

ROSTECHNADZOR

SOGIN

U.S. Department of State

USNRC

III. Accomplishments in 2015

The following activities were accomplished in 2015:

- **Support to the implementation of the GNSSN activities**

- Implementation of the GNSSN work plan: 15 activities were carried out with the objective to strengthen collaboration and cooperation in the area of nuclear safety and security on the global scale, and among national authorities, specialists, international organizations, forums and working groups.
- The GNSSN Plenary Meeting: took place during the IAEA General Conference on 16 September 2015 with the objective to promote the IAEA capacity building services, tools and methodologies and to promote the establishment of a sustainable national capacity building framework. The Plenary was attended by over 100 participants.
- The Integrated Nuclear Safety Capacity Building Plan: was developed in order to monitor, in an integrated manner, the activities being carried out by the Agency departments in Member States. Information on around 400 support activities, implemented and planned since 2012 for regulatory organizations of the nuclear power embarking countries of Viet Nam, Jordan, Belarus, Poland and Tunisia have been entered into the database.
- Partnership for Nuclear Safety: the Secretariat is exploring partnership opportunities in order to engage partners and increase the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of the IAEA Major Programme 3 delivery. Partnership mission could be defined as a global high-level multi-stakeholder partnership intended to act as a forum for catalyzing, mobilizing and mainstreaming action on nuclear safety around the world. It could provide a framework for bringing together industry, governmental and business leaders to secure concrete commitments and mobilize action in support of Nuclear Safety. With this purpose, The Secretariat organized the first consultancy meeting 7-9 September 2015.
- The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Framework (GNSSF): It is proposed to define the GNSSF as: the institutional, legal and technical structure for ensuring safety and security of nuclear and radiation facilities (installations) and activities throughout the world. The objective of this framework is to provide guidance for a world where all the nuclear and radiation facilities are operating safely and securely. The outcomes of the consultancy meeting (9-11 September 2015), were thoroughly discussed during the GNSSN Steering Committee and the Advisory committee on nuclear security (ADSEC) chairman requested the Secretariat to liaise with INSAG to discuss a possible joint publication.

- Nuclear Safety Knowledge Management: within the GNSSN framework, the Secretariat is assisting Member States in developing a national nuclear safety knowledge platform. The draft guidance document was endorsed by the 7th GNSSN Steering Committee meeting. 10 Member States have completed their national platforms and 18 platforms are currently under development.
- GNSSN Highlights: Twice a year, the GNSSN Secretariat started publishing the “GNSSN Highlights” newsletter, gathering information on recent events within the GNSSN networks, updates on the regional networks activities and articles or interviews on key concepts related to nuclear safety and security networking. The first editions, in January and September 2015, were shared with over 2000 readers.
- **Support to the implementation of the ANSN activities**
 - Implementation of ANSN work plan for 2015 : 43 activities on regional and national level involving over 600 participants were implemented to support the Member States’ capacity building in the area of nuclear safety. The work plan consisted of the prioritized and selected activities taking into account the individual status and phase of each member state.
 - Establishment of ANSN work plan for 2016: ANSN work plan for 2016 contains 56 regional and national activities establishing continuous support to the Member States.
 - Development of the ANSN Guidelines for Self-Assessment: To effectively support the Member States, self-assessment for the gap analysis is of the utmost necessity. ANSN management group developed a new guideline for self-assessment against SSG-16 which will be used for the ANSN member states. ANSN member states will conduct self-assessment according to the guidelines from April 2016.
 - Optimization of ANSN structure: To strengthen the importance of the self-assessment, the ANSN Steering Committee restructured the former Capacity Building Management Group (CBMG) into the Self-assessment Coordination Group (SACG). The committee integrated the Governmental and Regulatory Infrastructure Topical Group (GRITG) and Leadership and Management for Safety Topical Group (LMSTG) into the new Regulatory Infrastructure Topical Group (RITG). The committee also combined the Safety Analysis Topical Group (SATG) and the Operational Safety Topical Group (OSTG) into the Safety Assessment Topical Group (SATG) to improve the effectiveness of the activities. The terms of reference (ToR) of each group was developed and approved at the 22nd steering committee meeting in October 2015.

- **Support to the strengthening of Technical Scientific Support Organization capabilities (TSO Forum)**
 - Administrative, project management and technical support of the TSO forum
 - The TECDOC: Three consultancy meetings have been implemented for the drafting of a TECDOC on “Technical and Scientific Support Organizations (TSOs) and their Services provided in support to Regulatory Functions”. The TECDOC is about to be finalised by the end of 2016.
 - Next TSO conference: The Steering Committee has approved to prepare the 4th TSO conference to be held in Belgium in 2018 with the support of the Secretariat.
 - R&D needs: The Steering Committee has decided to launch an action on research needs to support the TSO expertise. This action will be developed in 2016.

- **Support to the implementation of FNRBA activities**
 - Strategic Action Plan 2016-2021: The FNRBA Plenary members have approved a Strategic Action Plan for 2016-2021 structuring the activities into five priorities. They intend to get the endorsement of the Member States. The FNRBA members requested the support of IAEA as a Secretariat.
 - Implementation of FNRBA work plan: About nine workshops/trainings have been implemented in 2015 with the support of the Secretariat, for some of them with the support of external donors and/or in combination with other networks.

- **Support to the implementation of ANNuR activities**
 - Implementation of ANNuR work plan: In order to support the capacity building efforts of the ANNuR Member States (22 Member States), eight activities involving more than 100 participants from 15 participating countries were organized. The participants were introduced to a number of IAEA methodologies of self-assessment and shared their experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of national activities.
 - ANNuR Strategic Action Plan 2016-2021: Identifies five priority areas for further strengthening nuclear safety and security in the Member States by supporting capacity building activities. Taking into account the complexity and the diversity of national nuclear safety in the member countries, the Plan identifies specific tasks, activities, deliverables and performance indicators targeted to align national strategies for capacity building.

- **Global Nuclear Safety and Security Communication Network (GNSSCOM):** After two preparatory meetings, GNSSCOM was established, in 2015, with the mission to serve as a global network to support IAEA Member States to effectively communicate, to secure the safety and security of information, and consult with, as appropriate, interested parties. It is a global network for achieving excellence in the field of nuclear safety and security communication through sharing knowledge, expertise, lessons learned and best practices. The network's steering committee adopted GNSSCOM's Terms of Reference and a work plan. The Steering Committee and the Secretariat are preparing the opening of the GNSSCOM website through which the members will be recruited.

- **European and Central Asian Safety Network (EuCAS):** Two consultancy meetings have been conducted in February and May 2015 in Vienna to enable regulatory experts from Europe and Central Asia to have an open discussion on the interest in, and a need for, a regional safety network in the European region similar to other regional networks for which the IAEA acts as the Secretariat. 12 experts participated from 11 Member States and from the European Commission. Other Member States and the Chairman of WENRA also expressed support to this initiative. It was agreed that EuCAS would help safety professionals share experience, gain an overview of existing initiatives in the region, help identify additional needs and facilitate coordination of activities.

- **IT Development**
 - **Migration of centralized ANSN website to SharePoint 2013 platform:** Implementation of the IT platform for ANSN, leveraging SharePoint 2013 technological features is underway. This would further streamline knowledge sharing among the other regional networks in a consistent manner as well as provide enhanced collaboration, robust search and comprehensive content management features to the ANSN IT platform. Additionally, ANSN member states also agreed to migrate respective ANSN national centre websites within IAEA's SharePoint infrastructure. IAEA would co-ordinate to provide all necessary technical support to accomplish this. A few of the ANSN member states have also expressed their intent to implement the GNSSN National Nuclear Safety Knowledge Platforms; necessary consultation and coordination would be extended by the IAEA for this initiative as well.

 - **Enhancements to the GNSSN IT platform:** GNSSN IT platform was further re-structured to provide a better usability experience. This will be made available to the general public soon.

 - **Linking of ORPNET within the GNSSN IT Platform:** Occupational Radiation Protection Network was incorporated within the GNSSN IT platform as a global network, via linking.

- **MEDNeT:** Mediterranean Region Transport Network’s IT platform was also implemented within the GNSSN website. Public interface to relevant information is made available via this IT platform, to facilitate a sustainable system of mutual support, cooperation and coordination in normal and emergency transport of radioactive material.
- **ARTEMIS:** An IT platform for the ARTEMIS IAEA review service (integrated review service for radioactive waste and spent fuel management, decommissioning and remediation programmes) was implemented within the GNSSN platform. This will soon be made available to the general public via a public interface. Users from member states and respective organizations and facilities (involved in ARTEMIS activities) can also collaborate via a restricted space within this IT platform.
- **GNSSCOM:** An IT platform for the Global Nuclear Safety and Security Communication Network has been implemented within the GNSSN website. This will be launched and made available to the general public soon. Collaboration space for key GNSSCOM stakeholders (registered members) to exchange and provide information is also planned within this IT platform.

IV. Progress overview

1) Baseline Study

The 2014 GNSSN Survey Report⁷ is part of GNSSN initial assessment, needed for the implementation of GNSSN Strategic Plan. Its main aim was to provide baseline information about general issues, as well as to gather concrete recommendations and feedback. 75 Member States provided feedback on the synergy among GNSSN stakeholders and the dynamics of the network.

In general, 2/3 of the members believe that GNSSN meets their needs from “adequate” to “very well”; furthermore, around 70% of the members think that GNSSN delivers a quick response to their needs or requests. Concerning the efficient technical information resource 2/3 of the participants believe that the network fulfils their expectations. Overall, around 75% of the members agree that their participation in the GNSSN activities impacted their organization’s work from “Significant” to “Very significant”.

⁷

https://gnssn.iaea.org/Shared%20Documents/GNSSN%20Documents/GNSSNSurvey260515_globe.pdf

2) Assessment Rating Scales

The GNSSN Strategic Plan defines performance indicators for each strategic goal. In the GNSSN 2015 Annual Report, a direct link between the activities carried out and the performance indicators is not established due to the lack of indicative targets. Due to the actions taken to correct this weakness, we are expecting to include quantitative indicators in the upcoming GNSSN work plan 2016-2017, and therefore we anticipate a remarkable improvement for the coming years.

GNSSN evaluates its progress towards achieving its performance on a traffic light rating system. Figure 5 provides an example of criteria used to determine the performance measure ratings.

Rating	Status	Examples of Success Criteria
Green	On track or completed	GNSSN achieved or expects to achieve the planned activities, the majority of the activities, deliverables or results
Yellow	Below Target and/or Behind Schedule	GNSSN expects to achieve the planned activities, the majority of the activities, deliverables or results; however there is a programmatic, cost or schedule risk
Red	Significantly Below Target and/or Behind Schedule	GNSSN does not expect to achieve the activities in the planned timeframe or does not expect to achieve the intended results
Grey	Cancelled or Postponed	GNSSN management has cancelled these activities and is no longer planning the implementation of these activities during the reporting period

Figure 5: GNSSN rating system

3) Summary of the Progress

✓ The Global Nuclear Safety and Security Network

The total number of activities by Strategic Goal (SG)

- SG1: 14 activities
- SG2: 7 activities
- SG3: 17 activities
- SG4: 8 activities

GNSSN Strategic Goals			
SG1	SG2	SG3	SG4
57%	100%	76%	75%
15%		13%	
7%			
21%		11%	25%

Outputs related to establishing a nuclear safety and security interface are not expected to be achieved on time; the related activities were postponed from 2014 to 2015. These activities are subject to an internal discussion within the IAEA. Output delays are related to the establishment of new regional and thematic networks.

✓ The Asian Nuclear Safety Network

The total number of activities by Strategic Goal (SG)

- SG1:** 2 activities
- SG2:** 6 activities
- SG3:** 43 activities⁸
- SG4:** 8 activities

GNSSN Strategic Goals			
SG1	SG2	SG3	SG4
100%	16%	90%	100%
	84%		
		10%	

The migration of ANSN to SharePoint is slightly behind the schedule, due to the delay of upgrading the GNSSN platform to SharePoint 2013. 10% of the outputs related to enhancing Member State’s capabilities were cancelled in 2015, due to the limited resources in the hosting countries to accommodate all planned capacity building activities.

✓ **The Arab Network of Nuclear Regulators**

The total number of activities by Strategic Goal (SG)

- SG1:** 2 activities
- SG2:** 1 activity
- SG3:** 8 activities
- SG4:** 6 activities

GNSSN Strategic Goals			
SG1	SG2	SG3	SG4
100%	100%	50%	50%
		50%	50%

50% of the ANNuR outputs related to the SG3 and 4 have been cancelled, due to a shift of priorities within the region. The new ANNuR strategic action plan 2016-2020 is fostering the ANNuR programme within the framework “The Arab Strategy for Peaceful use of Atomic Energy up to 2020”. The Action Plan provides ANNuR Member States with clear and sound capacity building programmes.

✓ **The Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa**

The total number of activities by Strategic Goal (SG)

- SG1:** 1 activity
- SG2:** 2 activities
- SG3:** 6 activities
- SG4:** 6 activities

GNSSN Strategic Goals			
SG1	SG2	SG3	SG4
100%	50%	34%	
	50%		
		66%	100%

In September 2015, FNRBA member countries elected a new Steering Committee and adopted a new Action Plan. These priorities were conflicting with the FNRBA implementation schedule. The new Action Plan is promoting sustainable regional cooperation, creating awareness of political and policy makers and coordinating activities

⁸ National and regional activities

with other regional forums and organizations to strengthen regulatory infrastructure and regional networking.

✓ **The GNSSN IT platform**

With costs exceeding 70 000 USD, GNSSN was upgraded to SharePoint 2013. While GNSSN websites were on Read-Only mode, IAEA and Member States users spent 4 weeks remediating the webpages and updating the content. 6 months were needed to complete the upgrade and the launch of the new GNSSN webpages. Nevertheless, GNSSN website hit a record in the number of page views. Figure 6 shows that over 300 000 pages were viewed during the first 8 months in 2015. 2015 marks also a turning point for GNSSN with 25% of new visitors.

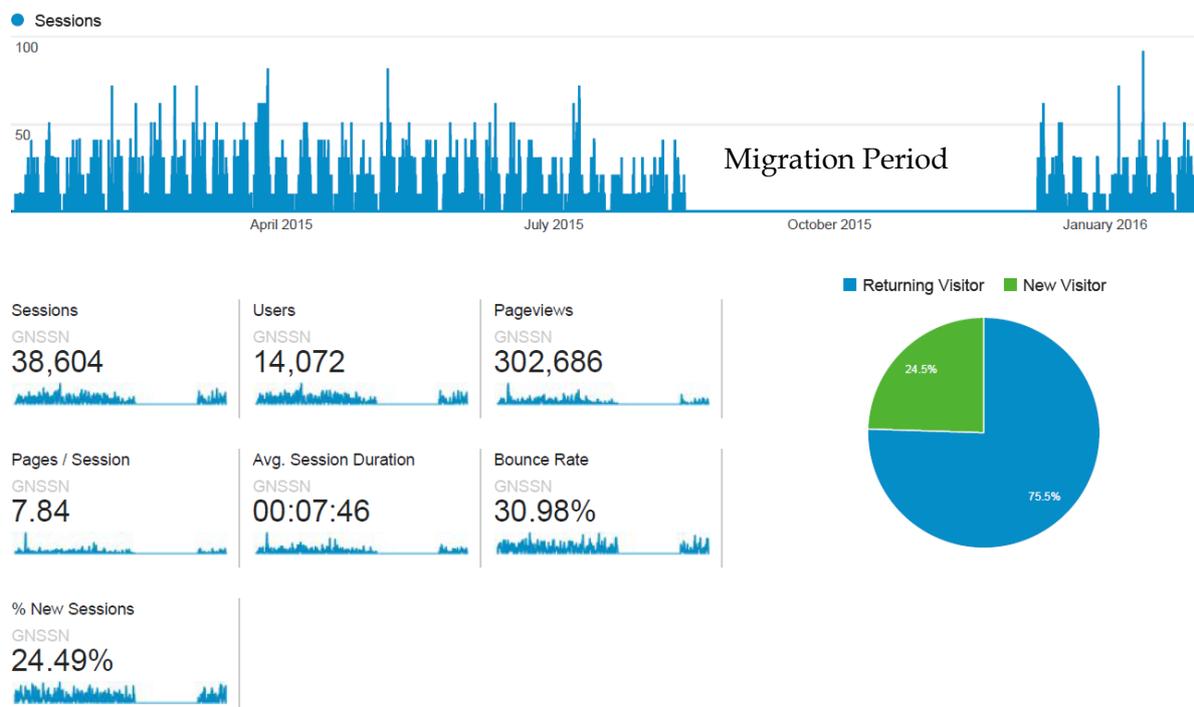


Figure 6: GNSSN Audience Overview

Even though, the top 10 countries using GNSSN are nuclear power countries (except Austria, IAEA HQ), the number of clicks didn't exceed 50 % of the GNSSN general use. Developing countries through regional and thematic networks are working closely with the IAEA Secretariat and international partners to share and manage radiation and nuclear safety knowledge.

Country	Sessions	% Sessions
1. Austria	17,480	45.29%
2. United States	1,827	4.73%
3. Japan	1,458	3.78%
4. United Kingdom	1,191	3.09%
5. India	934	2.42%
6. Canada	924	2.39%
7. Spain	801	2.08%
8. France	739	1.91%
9. Germany	719	1.86%
10. Russia	554	1.44%

Figure 6: GNSSN Audience Overview per Country

Figure 7 represents the overall performance of the networks summarized by the activities implemented in relation to the strategic objectives.

Strategic Goal 1	89%	3.75%	1.75%	5.25%
Strategic Goal 2	66.5%	33.5%		
Strategic Goal 3	62.5%	3.25%		34.25%
Strategic Goal 4	56.25%			43.75%

Figure 7: GNSSN overall performance

4) Financial Overview

Figure 8 shows that an overall budget of over two million US dollars was allocated to the GNSSN activities in 2015, with an implementation rate exceeding 95%. The IAEA regular budget contribution to the GNSSN programme represents 7%.

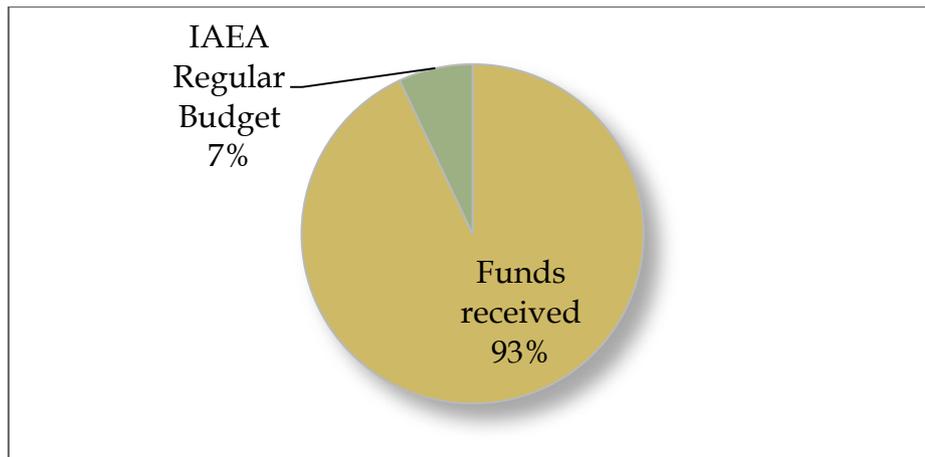


Figure 8: GNSSN 2015 budget

ANSN is a mature network and a model project for regional network, which has continuously focused on improvement of the safety infrastructure, development of the regional capacity building system, harmonization of the regulatory approaches and practices in the region.

With over 50 planned activities in 2015, ANSN implemented 67% of the available budget. Actuals by networks are represented in figure 9.

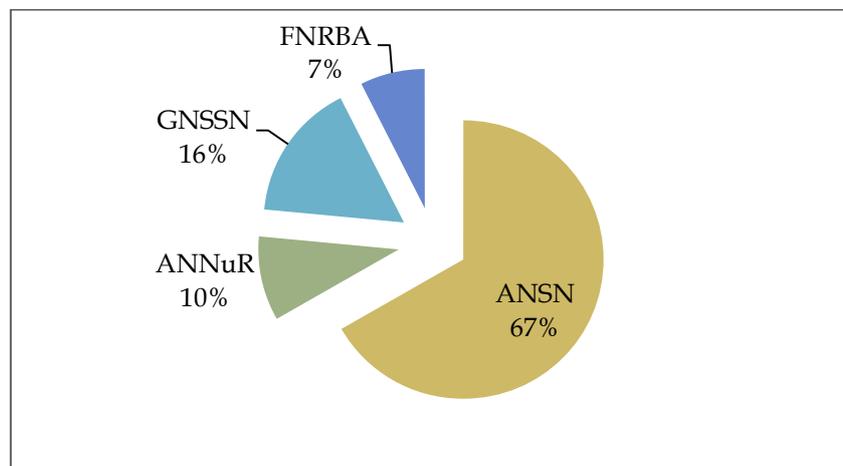


Figure 9: Actuals by network

V. Lessons learned and proposed actions

1) Lessons learned

- ✓ GNSSN is hosting over seventy thousand documents. It is imperative to implement tools to manage taxonomies and to improve the structure of GNSSN document repositories.
- ✓ GNSSN is implementing over 100 capacity building activities yearly. There is a need to develop a system that assists the Secretariat and Member States to track the

competence development of the individual's benefiting from GNSSN capacity building programme.

- ✓ The Secretariat is one of the partner organizations that provides and assists Member States with developing a strong and sustainable nuclear safety infrastructure. There is a need to ensure highest coordination and establish multi-action projects to avoid duplication and ensure consistency.
- ✓ The GNSSN, as a knowledge network, is part of an integrated IAEA methodology for capacity building. The capacity building umbrella includes:
 - Education and training;
 - Human resource development;
 - Knowledge management;
 - Knowledge networks.

GNSSN activities need to be designed with reference to the Strategic Goals, targeting each of the capacity building pillars, addressing individual, organizational, national and global levels.

- ✓ Regional capacity building activities planned in 2015 were not fully implemented, due to conflicting priorities in the hosting Member States. The Secretariat need to further promote the networks activities and work closely with new partner organizations to ensure seamless implementation of the networks activities.

2) Proposed actions

- The Secretariat will adopt a new planning tool in order to link the overall objectives of the project to the activities planned by each network;
- The Secretariat will develop a prototype learning management system and test it during 2016;
- The Secretariat will start developing a global map for nuclear safety education and training resources;
- The Secretariat will further promote its services and implement capacity building programmes through the regional networks ensuring optimal efficiency and coordination between the regions and the programmes;
- The Secretariat will foster new partners in the regions (e.g. ASEAN, AU, AAEA, AFRA, WENRA etc.) in order to ensure optimal support and policy dialogue in relation to enhancing nuclear safety nationally, regionally and globally.

3) Risks

Risk No.	Risk	Remedial Action	Risk Owner
1	Inadequate financial support	Identify alternative resources and address issues with donors and IAEA high level management	Steering Committee
2	Lack of awareness of the Governance Plan and policy enforcement among GNSSN stakeholders	Identify communication and outreach material and address the issue to the GNSSN Executive	GNSSN Governance Board
3	Lack of coordination between the GNSSN stakeholders and partners	Identify alternative communication path and address the issue to the GNSSN Executive	GNSSN Advisory Group
5	Malfunctioning of the IT infrastructures supporting the GNSSN	Troubleshoot errors and report to IAEA Division of Information Technology	GNSSN Network Coordinators
6	Data and information on the GNSSN platform becoming outdated and not being replaced or removed.	Ensure responsible commitment and accountability of relevant member of GNSSN	GNSSN Governance Board
7	Lack of quality control and effective management for the regional networks	Identify the areas that need to be further monitored and ensure accountability	Steering Committees

4) 2016 work plan overview

The 2016 activities plan is available under the GNSSN Steering Committee working space.

