Executive Summary (for publication in the report)

The outreach and training courses of the IAEA assist States in the conclusion and implementation of safeguards instruments, including through a wide range of capacity-building activities, complemented by online training material and specialized publications. Between 2022 and 2023, activities included, 75 interregional, regional and national training courses, technical visits, safeguards advisory service missions, virtual training events and other activities - more than 850 participants from over 100 States were trained on safeguards-related topics. Eight participants took part in the Safeguards Traineeship Programme for Young Graduates and Junior Professionals from developing Member States – four of them women.

The IAEA also has two flagship programmes, the Lise Meitner Programme (LMP) and the IAEA Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme (MSCFP), aiming at attracting and retaining more women in the nuclear field. The non-proliferation education is an important part of this initiative and thus the MSCFP supported 36 master’s students in this area in the past four years.

Full text (for publication on the ODA website)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) conducts a wide range of activities that contribute, directly or indirectly, to the field of “disarmament and non-proliferation education” that is the subject of A/RES/77/52.

To promote the conclusion of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and the amendment/rescission of small quantities protocols, the IAEA organizes outreach events and holds regular consultations with State representatives to raise their awareness about the policy, legal and technical aspects of safeguards. In order to support the effective implementation of these agreements and protocols, the IAEA offers a suite of safeguards-related assistance to help States build capacity in this regard. Between 2022 and 2023, activities included 75 interregional, regional and national training courses, technical visits, safeguards advisory service missions, virtual training events and other activities. Many of these activities took place in the context of COMPASS, the comprehensive capacity-building initiative launched in 2020 by the Director General to help States strengthen their safeguards infrastructure. In total, more than 850 participants from over 100 States were trained on safeguards-related topics during the reporting period.

The IAEA also conducts, annually, a Safeguards Traineeship Programme for Young Graduates and Junior Professionals from developing Member States. In 2023, eight participants took part in the Safeguards Traineeship Programme – four of them women. Additionally, the IAEA continued to support aspiring young safeguards professionals through junior professional officer positions and internships. The IAEA also increased the availability of safeguards training material online, addressing in-demand topics such as nuclear trade, design information, nuclear material accountancy and other relevant topics.

During the reporting period, the work IAEA Safeguards was presented at side-events held during major diplomatic gatherings, e.g. on the margins of the IAEA General Conference and of the First Preparatory Committee for the 2026 NPT Review Conference; in the context of visits by representatives of institutions
involved in disarmament and non-proliferation, such as the United Nations Disarmament Fellows; at seminars organized periodically in Vienna for newly accredited diplomats, and other briefing and technical meetings for Member States; and at a number of other nuclear safeguards and non-proliferation events sponsored by outside organizations in Vienna and elsewhere. In this regard, the IAEA contributed to the development and implementation of the Specializing Master on Nuclear Safeguards organized by the Politecnico di Milano and the European Nuclear Education Network (ENEN).

Additionally, virtual and in-person tours continued to be organized to showcase IAEA safeguards equipment and facilities. In 2023, 44 in-person tours brought 536 diplomats and members of civil society to the Safeguards Analytical Laboratories in Seibersdorf, while 42 in-person tours of the safeguards equipment workshops and Equipment Radiation Monitoring Laboratory at IAEA Headquarters were attended by over 440 diplomats and members of civil society.

In October 2022, the IAEA’s 14th Symposium on International Safeguards brought nearly 1 000 participants and observers from the global safeguards community to Vienna, including government representatives, safeguards regulatory authorities, facility operators, the research and development community, industry, and civil society. Education constituted an important part of the discussions, including the need to engage and develop the next generation of experts and leaders, and the presentation of new educational offerings in the field of safeguards.

Nuclear non-proliferation and safeguards have also continued to represent an important part of nuclear law education. In 2022, a new pilot initiative was launched by the IAEA to increase educational and professional development opportunities for students and aspiring professionals in the field of nuclear law, with postgraduate courses on nuclear law expected to begin in 2024 at six participating universities. This initiative adds to the training offered at the IAEA’s Nuclear Law Institute and the OECD/NEA International School of Nuclear Law supported by the IAEA.

As a leading publisher in the nuclear field, the IAEA’s scientific and technical publications – and its wide range of general brochures and topical booklets – also contribute to the field of “disarmament and non-proliferation education”. In 2023, the IAEA published, *inter alia*, a digital edition of its Safeguards Glossary (updated in 2022 in its English version), and launched translated versions of the Glossary, which aims to facilitate the understanding of specialized safeguards terminology within the international community. The IAEA communicates extensively with civil society through its public website and social media channels, and web content in 2023 included the launch of a new series of webinars on safeguards implementation.

The IAEA has two flagship programmes aiming at attracting and retaining more women in the nuclear field, including in the non-proliferation area. The Lise Meitner Programme (LMP) is aimed at retaining and developing female talent in the nuclear field by providing early and mid-career women in the nuclear sector with tailored professional visits to centres of nuclear excellence around the world. The objective of the IAEA Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship Programme (MSCFP) is to encourage and support young women to pursue a career in the nuclear related disciplines relevant to the IAEA’s mission to advance the safe, secure, and peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology.

The non-proliferation education is an important part of this initiative and thus the MSCFP supported 36 master’s students in this area in the past four years. Most of them have been provided with internship opportunities after graduation to gain hands-on experience and help them with their future career.
MSCFP recipients participate and contribute to various technical events and conferences organized by the IAEA or its partners. Selected MSCFP recipients also attended the IAEA Nuclear Security Schools organized specifically for the MSCFP recipients, as well as other specialised trainings and webinars. For example, several MSCFP students took part in the IAEA Safeguards Symposium in 2022.