



# *Advancing Women in Nuclear Fields Through Regional Engagements*

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INMM/ESARDA Annual Meeting

May 2023

Release number



**INS** International  
Nuclear Security  
*Reducing Risk of Nuclear Terrorism*

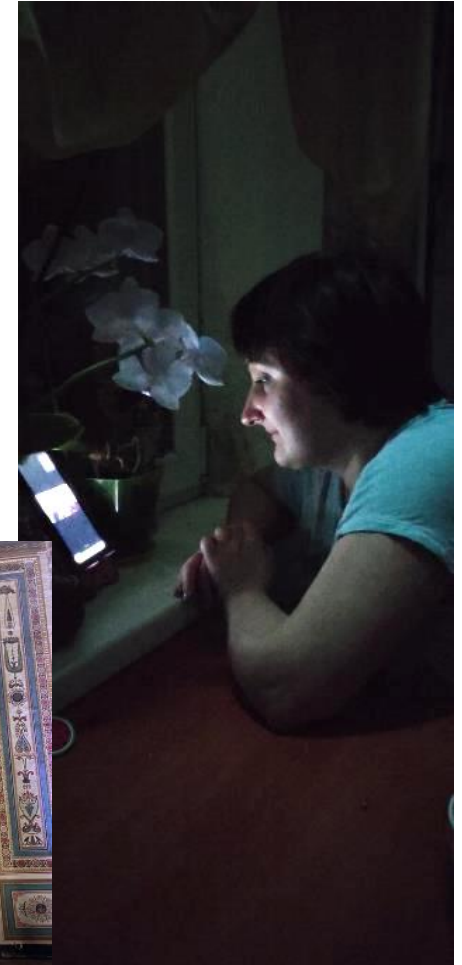
# Professional Networks supporting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA)



Grassroots efforts (informal networks and communities of professionals) are recognized as significant drivers in achieving DEIA goals



Provide opportunities (typically not available through regular channels) for underrepresented groups



# Advancing Women Professionals in Nuclear Fields

- Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network (BSWN) illustrates the role and impact of DEIA regional networks and communities on women professionals in nuclear fields
- BSWN is a hub for professional development and information sharing, presenting opportunities for experts of all genders in the Black Sea region and beyond
- Engages various stakeholders, providing a platform for women in nuclear security and in other relevant fields to highlight their expertise and experience, promote their leadership, amplify their voices



## Regional Networks as an Information Sharing Channel

- Regional networks enable sharing of credible information about significant regional developments that may affect nuclear safety and security
- BSWN has proven to be an important platform for its members, especially in times of heightened geopolitical tensions
- It also provides a safe and nurturing environment for its community to share stories and perspectives in members' personal capacities
- Such platforms are very impactful during crisis – they bolster nuclear security culture and boost morale, including in geopolitically challenging regions



# Regional Networks as a Professional Development Tool

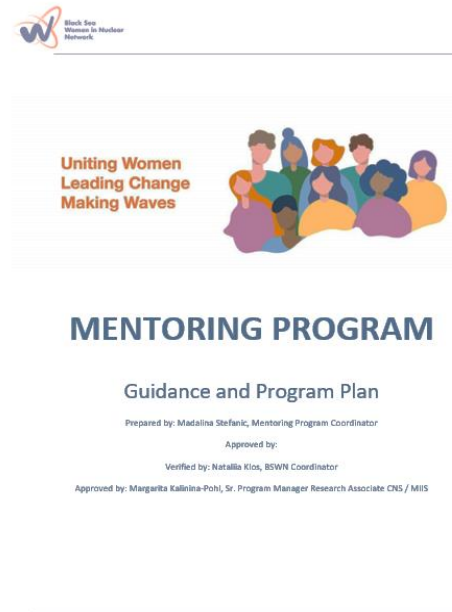
- Unite experts from a variety of age groups and professional and educational backgrounds
- Serve as a professional development tool by providing members with practical learning and leadership opportunities:
  - public speaking during network meetings
  - organizing and hosting webinars
  - preparing and delivering presentations
  - website content development
  - networking with diverse groups of regional and international peers



Uniting Women, Leading Change, Making Waves

# Ensuring Sustainability Through Outreach and Partnerships

- BSWN outreach activities include:
  - active social media presence
  - public events
  - side events/booths at international conferences
  - webinars and other speakers' series
  - mentoring and consulting
- BSWN has been active in outreach to other already well-established professional communities (WiN Global, WISE, etc.)



# BSWN as a Model for Other Regional Networks

- BSWN successes serve as a model for women professionals in other regions
- Women experts in Central Asia countries are interested in building a similar network in their region, to support women in nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological security fields



# Summary

Regional networks serve as an effective tool in promoting DEIA in nuclear fields



BSWN supports DEIA by developing and implementing innovative approaches to address current and emerging challenges for women in nuclear security and nonproliferation



BSWN and other similar initiatives that support women nuclear professionals worldwide complement ongoing national and international efforts to increase diversity and inclusion in nuclear fields



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# Questions

