

# Side Event

## Leadership for Safety and Nuclear Safeguards: Innovative Training Programmes and Education Opportunities for Member States

Co-organised by Université Côte d’Azur and SKEMA, in collaboration with DG INTPA,  
under the auspices of the French Permanent Mission and the EU Delegation to the IAEA

16 September 2024

17h00 - 18h00

68th IAEA General Conference

Conference Room M4, M Building, Ground Floor

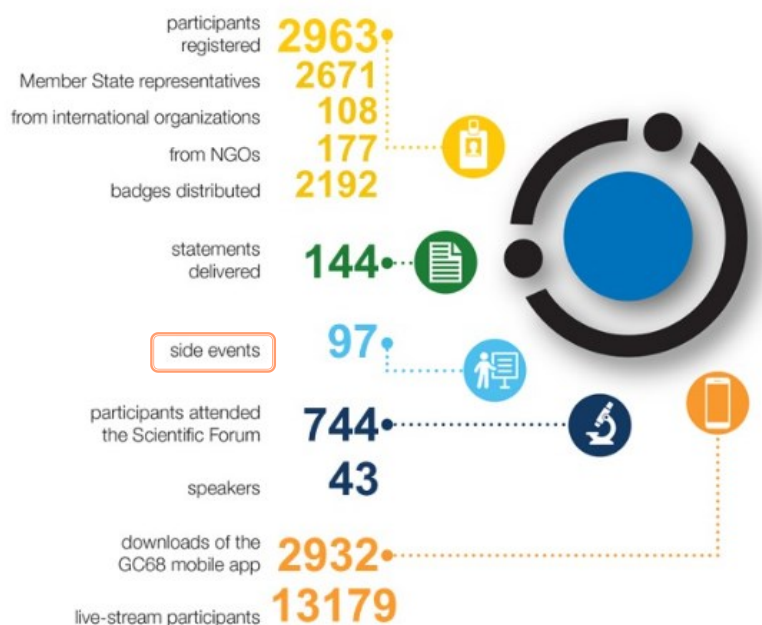
## General Conference at a glance

The General Conference, composed of representatives from the IAEA Member States, meets annually to assess and approve the organisation's budget, as well as to address issues put forward by the Board of Governors, the Director General, and Member States.

- The **68th** Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference was held from **16 to 20 September 2024** in Vienna, Austria.



This year, nearly **3000** participants registered for the conference, including **2671** Member State representatives. Additionally, **285** delegates from international and non-governmental organisations attended, marking **the highest participation ever recorded for a General Conference**.



## What is a Side Event?

A side event refers to an event organised in parallel with a larger conference or meeting, but it is not part of the official conference agenda. A side event is smaller in scale, more informal, and **focused on specialised topics** related to the main conference theme.

- A side event is held by a **range of stakeholders** including government bodies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), businesses, academic institutions, and other expert groups.



These events provide an opportunity for organisers to **promote their work, gain feedback, and foster partnerships** with individuals or organisations who share similar goals.

For further details, see Annex 1.

## Event Overview

On the sidelines of the 68th General Conference, **97 side events** were organised by the IAEA and its Member States. Among the 64 side events hosted by Member States, **France held six**, making it **the largest organiser of this edition**.

The side event entitled "*Leadership for Safety and Nuclear Safeguards: Innovative Training Programmes and Education Opportunities for Member States*", was co-organised by Université Côte d'Azur and SKEMA, in cooperation with EC's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), under the auspices of the French Permanent Mission to the IAEA and the European Union's Delegation to the IAEA. It was the **only event proposed by France to focus on managerial skills** to enhance nuclear safety and safeguards.

Through the European Union's **Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC)**, three Master's-level programmes, delivering university diplomas, are now available to managers in safety organisations and the nuclear industry:

- European Leadership for Safety Education (**ELSE**),
- Decommissioning Management and Leadership for Safety Education (**DMaLSE**),
- Safeguards Training and Education (**SaTE**).

In 2024, the *Strengthening European Nuclear Safety and Safeguards Education, training, and tutoring (SENSSEtt)* project was launched to ensure the long-term sustainability of these three diploma programmes, developed in continuous consultation with the IAEA. SENSSEtt addresses key capacity-building needs and priorities in nuclear facility operations and regulation. As part of the project, Université Côte d'Azur regularly hosts the **IAEA School on Nuclear and Radiological Leadership Safety on its campus**.



## Objectives

This unique side event illustrated the growing recognition of the **importance of soft skills in the nuclear sector** and introduced SENSSEtt's innovative approach to co-constructing knowledge by integrating the latest scientific advancements and organisational best practices.

It was also the opportunity to showcase how ELSE, DMaLSE and SaTE programmes were developed using **multinational scientific knowledge**. In their opening remarks Ms. L. Evrard, IAEA DDG NS, Mr. M. Garribba, Director-General of DG ENER at the European Commission, and Mr. S. MOULINE, Director-General of the Moroccan Nuclear and Radiological Safety and Security Agency (AMSSNuR) underscored the strategic importance of training nuclear managers—from operators to regulatory authorities and TSOs—as well as the innovative nature of these programmes available to Member States.

## Future Prospects

- In addition to offering yearly training editions, with grants available to participants from INSC-eligible and EU countries (subject to age criteria), plans are underway to publish new reference materials and establish **networks of alumni, experts, and academics** in the fields of leadership for safety and nuclear safeguards.
- Discussions with the approximately **75 participants** at this event also explored strategies for disseminating the latest advancements in safety management and addressing key research challenges in the field.

## Photo from the event



## Outcomes & Future Engagement

### Nuclear Professionals – Contact list

Following the side event, the participating team members compiled a contact list of nuclear professionals who expressed interest in the SENSSEtt project. This initiative aims to **maintain engagement, foster future collaboration**, and serve as a valuable **resource for expanding professional networks** in nuclear safety and safeguards.

The key objectives of this initiative include:

- Encouraging participation in future training workshops and events under the SENSSEtt framework.
- Promoting collaboration on research projects involving consortium members and external experts.

The event highlighted the importance of international cooperation in **capacity building** and **knowledge dissemination** for nuclear safety and safeguards. By leveraging **academic expertise, professional training, and strategic partnerships**, the SENSSEtt initiative is poised to make an innovative contribution to the global nuclear safety landscape.

### Institutional support at IAEA & European levels, and in INSC countries

The high-level introductory remarks by Ms. Evrard and by Mr. Garribba, and the participation in the meeting of several Agencies and EC's officers, clearly signalled a strong support of the innovative initiatives which led to the development of ELSE, DMaLSE and SATE Master's University degrees.

Furthermore, the intervention of the Director General of Morocco's Nuclear Safety Authority, Mr Mouline, also illustrated how these **three syllabuses**, designed with the needs of INSC countries in mind, are well **aligned with the priorities of countries currently developing their capacity-building efforts in nuclear safety and radiation protection management**. Indeed, Morocco is one of the countries that has sent the most professionals to ELSE training sessions and has also begun developing training programmes inspired by the ELSE syllabus in several of its universities.

## Annex 1 – Side Event Definition

### *What is a Side Event?*

A side event refers to an event organised in parallel with a larger conference or meeting, but it is not part of the official conference agenda. A side event is smaller in scale, more informal, and focused on specialised topics related to the main conference theme. A side event is held by a range of stakeholders including government bodies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), businesses, academic institutions, and other expert groups.

### **Types of Side Events**

Side events can take various formats, including:

- **Workshops**
- **Panel Discussions**
- **Roundtables**

### **Benefits of Side Events**

Side events offer numerous benefits to both organisers and attendees:

#### ○ **For Organisers:**

- **Increased Visibility:** Side events allow organisers to gain visibility within the larger conference community, reaching potential collaborators or other stakeholders.
- **Networking Opportunities:** These events provide an opportunity for organisers to promote their work, gain feedback, and foster partnerships with individuals or organisations who share similar goals.

#### ○ **For Participants:**

- **In-Depth Exploration of Topics:** Side events offer a chance for participants to explore niche topics in greater detail, going beyond the broad overview typically provided in the main conference programme.
- **Exposure to New Ideas and Innovations:** Participants are frequently introduced to pioneering ideas, research, and technologies presented at side events. Such exposure can inspire innovative approaches in their own work and facilitate meaningful collaborations.



## Annex 2 – Official Agenda

### IAEA General Conference 2024

Side Event organised  
by FRANCE  
Jointly with the EU

**16<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
From **05:00 pm** to **06:00 pm**  
Meeting room : M4

#### Leadership for Safety & Nuclear Safeguards Management

Innovative Training Programmes and  
Education Opportunities for Member States



European Leadership for  
Safety Education



Decommissioning Management and  
Leadership for Safety Education



Safeguards Training and  
Education



skema  
BUSINESS SCHOOL

UNIVERSITÉ  
CÔTE D'AZUR

POLITECNICO  
MILANO 1863

RÉPUBLIQUE  
FRANÇAISE  
Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité

### IAEA General Conference 2024

#### Leadership for Safety & Nuclear Safeguards Management

Innovative Training Programmes and Education  
Opportunities for Member States

**Room M4, 16 September 2024, from 17h00 to 18h00,**  
followed by a cocktail reception.

#### Programme

##### 17h00: Opening messages

- European Commission: Massimo Garribba, Deputy Director General, DG ENER
- IAEA : Lydie Evrard, DDG, Head of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
- French Authorities : TBC
- Kingdom of Morocco: Saïd Mouline, AMSSNuR Director General, Chair of IAEA GNSSN

##### 17h 20: The ELSE/DMaLSE/SaTE Master Diplomas European initiative

- *Introduction to the European Master programmes*
  - o ELSE & DMaLSE: Yoann Guntzburger, SKEMA Business School - Université Côte d'Azur, France
  - o SaTE: Marco Ricotti, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- *Knowledge dissemination and expert networking development*
  - o IAEA's framework for capacity building and safety leadership initiatives: Maria Moracho Ramirez, Office of Safety and Security Coordination, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, IAEA
  - o Leadership for safety education initiative in the Kingdom of Morocco: Yahia Tayalati, University of Mohammed V, Morocco
  - o An innovative European initiative contributing to nuclear industry safety performance worldwide: Jacques Repussard, President, Institute for risk management, France

##### 17h50: Q&A & Conclusion

##### 18h00- 19h00: Cocktail & Networking - MOE



RÉPUBLIQUE  
FRANÇAISE  
Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité

**Annex 3 – SENSSEtt Flyer**



**SIDE-EVENT**

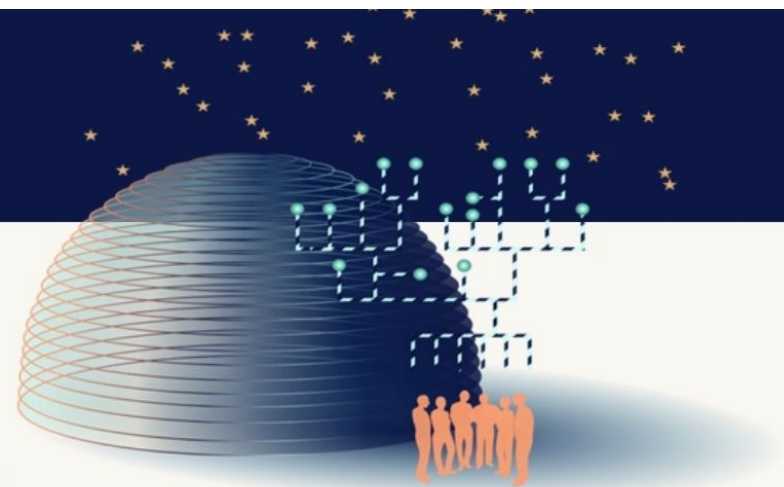
Jointly organised by France & the EU

**Leadership for Safety & Nuclear Safeguards  
Innovative Training Programmes & Education  
Opportunities for Member States**

M-building, Room M4  
5 - 6 PM

**Cocktail Reception**

M-building, MOE Glass Wall opposite to the Press Room  
6 - 8 PM



**Certified Master-Level Diplomas**



SCAN ME



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Co-funded by  
the European Union



## Annex 4 – Speakers and Participants

### SENSSEtt Consortium

Organisation	Name	Position
SKEMA	Karima Abidat	Head for Grant Office & Partnerships
	Carole Daniel	Prof. Project Management
	Pierre Daniel	Prof. Project Management
	Yoann Guntzburger	Prof. Science & Technology Studies
JRC Conseil	Jacques Repussard	Expert Nuclear Safety & Radioprotection
PoliMi	Marco Enrico Ricotti	Prof. Nuclear Engineering
KIT	José Ridao	Research Associate

### Invited Participants

The side event was open to all delegates to the IAEA General Conference. It had been publicised as such in the Conference Programme of Side events. Furthermore, the organisers had informed specifically the following persons who may have an interest to participate:

- Participants from the first edition of the ELSE Training Programme
- Experts and professionals who participated in the workshop of the first edition of the ELSE Training Programme
- Experts and professionals who participated in the DMaLSE workshop (June 2024)

As a result, the conference room where the side event was held reached full capacity, with some attendees occasionally having to stand at the back of the room.