MARCH 2024 ISSUE 2

Nuclear Security Women

Newsletter



Greetings from NSW!

Celebrated in countries throughout the world on March 8, International Women's Day recognizes women for their achievements. The United Nations officially recognized International Women's Day in 1977, although many countries have long celebrated March 8 as a day for honoring women and championing efforts towards gender equality. This year's theme for International Women's Day is "Invest in women: Accelerate progress." This theme has particular relevance for nuclear security: investing in women's education, career development, and growth can contribute to better outcomes for the nuclear security field, as a more diverse and inclusive nuclear security workforce can lead to greater effectiveness in meeting today's security challenges. Diverse teams not only bring greater knowledge and experience to their work, but they can also engage in more innovative thinking and better decision-making.

This International Women's Day, NSW celebrates the accomplishments of women in the nuclear security field. This edition of our newsletter aims to support investment in women by highlighting upcoming opportunities for career development, growth, and engagement with other women across the nuclear security field. If you or your organization has an engagement, opportunity, publication, or technical contribution to highlight, please share it with us! You can contact NSW at NuclearSecurityWomen@nnsa.doe.gov.

Happy International Women's Day!

NSW

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Women in Nuclear Global (WiN Global) recently launched a global mentoring program for women, men, and gender-diverse individuals, who can volunteer to serve as a mentor, mentee, or both. WiN Global's program aims to match mentors and mentees based on common areas of experience and their stated goals for the mentoring experience. Through an online platform, WiN Global also provides guidance, tools, and resources for mentors and mentees on how to establish and maintain successful mentoring relationships. Individuals interested in participating in the mentorship program must first join WiN Global. Membership is free and open to individuals of all genders and ages.

SAVE THE DATE

Institute of Nuclear Materials Management (INMM) 2024 Annual Meeting, July 21-25, 2024, Portland, Oregon, U.S.

IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security: Shaping the Future, May 20-24, 2024, Vienna, Austria

NSW Highlights

Visit NSW at ICONS!

Come visit NSW at ICONS 2024! NSW will be at the International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS) in Vienna, Austria from May 20-24, 2024. If you are attending ICONS, please come by to meet the NSW team. NSW also plans to provide resources related to gender and the nuclear sector through an online platform, which all conference attendees can access and use.



NSW Coffee Talks

NSW held a coffee talk with colleagues from Kenya and Zambia in January 2024. NSW's coffee talks are informal discussions with international partners, addressing issues facing women in nuclear security. During the coffee talk, NSW continued its discussion with colleagues from Kenya's Women in Nuclear (WiN) chapter, who highlighted measures that Kenya has taken to promote gender equality in the nuclear sector. Our Kenyan colleagues also identified challenges they face in their work and discussed possible opportunities to address those challenges.

Investing in Women: Women in Nuclear Security Central Asia

In October 2023, the Women in Nuclear Security Central Asia (WINCA) Network held its first in-person meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan. WINCA serves as a regional network for women in radiological and nuclear security, aiming to connect, support, and empower women. WINCA also aims to provide women and men in the nuclear sector with opportunities to discuss and foster gender equality, as well as provide mentoring and professional development opportunities. WINCA members heard from a representative of the Black Sea Women in Nuclear Network, a professional network for women working in the nuclear sector throughout the Black Sea region. NSW members participated in the event, providing an overview of NSW and participating in sessions discussing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the nuclear field.

Featured activities and publications

The Black Sea Women in Nuclear (BSWN) network recently launched a mentorship program to provide opportunities for growth, education, and career development for students as well as young to mid-career professionals in the nuclear sector. Current mentors participating in the program span a range of academic backgrounds, work experiences, and geographic locations. The BSWN has developed a catalogue of current areas of expertise and training offered by its mentors, topics including nuclear security, radiological security, as well as organizing international events and conducting trainings. For more information about the BSWN, its mentorship program, publications by its members, as well as other activities, visit https://bswn.org/.

Research indicates that the positive effects of mentorship can be amplified when mentees receive culturally responsive mentoring that is mindful of racial, cultural, and gender differences. One resource to help enhance the positive effects of mentorship in the fields of peace, security, and foreign policy comes from Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security, and Conflict Transformation (WCAPS), *Advancing Equity: Mentorship in Peace and Security*. WCAPS also developed companion guides to the report for both mentors and mentees.

The World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) has released its reporting framework on advancing gender equality, diversity, and inclusion, alongside the WINS self-assessment and evaluation tool. The framework helps organizations to report on outcomes related to gender equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Contact us

You received this newsletter based on your participation in one or more events with NSW or partner organizations. To be removed from our mailing list, please click here. If you have colleagues interested in joining our newsletter mailing list, please click here.

Inspirational quote

"I raise up my voice—not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard…We cannot succeed when half of us are held back." Malala Yousafzai