



**International Radiation Protection
Association Young Generation
Network (IRPA YGN)**

Strategic Agenda for 2018 through 2020



Introduction

What is the IRPA YGN?

The IRPA Young Generation Network is an international network of “Young Professionals” across the field of Radiation Protection. Its primary function is to promote communication, collaboration and professional development of Students and Young Professionals in the area of Radiation Protection and its allied fields.

Membership of the IRPA YGN is open to all members of national radiation protection YGN’s, and where a national YGN is not in place, students or professionals working within the first 10 years of the career in the field of radiation protection or its allied fields.

Our vision

“To be recognised as the leading international network and voice for young professionals and students in the field of Radiation Protection”

Our mission

“To encourage, inspire and develop the next generation of radiation protection professionals across the world and promote the communication and collaboration of our members”

Our objectives

Underpinning our mission are the following core objectives:

1. Attracting individuals into the field of Radiation Protection, by engaging and inspiring them early in their career journeys.
2. Enable the development of students and young professionals studying / working in the field of Radiation Protection by providing valuable personal and professional development and growth opportunities.
3. Providing a supportive and growing community, promoting communication and collaboration to help retain young professionals working in the field of Radiation Protection.
4. Improve the understanding of Radiation Protection and its allied fields across the world by being ambassadors for the field.



Why a strategic agenda?

The year 2018 represents a major milestone with the official launch and presence of the IRPA YGN at IRPA regional congresses (La Habana, Melbourne, The Hague and Tunis). The events were the opportunity for several national IRPA YGNs to meet and compare their experiences: these were first-of-its-kind events and it showed good attendance and feedback. As such, the participation and the **representation of the young generation** within IRPA organisation and IRPA events should be supported and re-iterated in the future.

One key outcome of the events is that the national YGNs share common goals and have invested in addressing similar topics, notably the dissemination and promotion of the Radiation Protection sector – notably employment opportunities, and the development and support of students and young professionals studying or working in Radiation Protection. Because the national YGNs have worked separately so far, we would like to encourage knowledge and **experience transfer** between the national YGNs. A particular focus is given to key and overriding themes like **professional development** and how to attract the younger generation in the fields of Radiation Protection, and more generally, developing and encouraging **communication** to generate interest, emulation and enthusiasm between national YGNs. It will also aid and support young professionals to set a national YGN where one is not in place and there is opportunity to do so.

But to ensure the sustainable organisational growth of the IRPA YGN, the IRPA YGN cannot work alone. It should establish **relationships**, collaborate and build support with the national YGNs, the Executive Members of IRPA and IRPA Associate Societies, and also other organisations with an interest in the young radiation protection generation.

This document has been developed to lay out how the IRPA YGN intends to address these 5 key themes for the following years and to ensure that these activities are aligned with the vision and objectives. The Strategic Agenda will be revised in 2020 in conjunction with the IRPA Strategic Agenda. Young Professionals and also more experienced members of IRPA are encouraged to provide comments on this document for the future versions.

Because many little streams make a big river, every piece of enthusiasm is very welcome!

On behalf of the IRPA YGN Leadership Committee,
Sylvain Andresz, French Society for Radiation Protection (SFRP),
Chair of the IRPA YGN Leadership Committee



The Strategic Agenda

REPRESENTATION OF THE YOUNG GENERATION

- RYG-1 Support the participation and the representation of the YGNs and younger generation in IRPA regional congresses.
- RYG-2 Plan a specific event for the next IRPA International Congress (Seoul, May 2020).
- RYG-3 Identify other events that can be utilized to put YGN forward.
- RYG-4 Favour the participation of YGN members in IRPA Task Groups and Committees.
- RYG-5 International collaboration between IRPA Associate Societies is growing:
- Ensure the integration of the Young Generation in this trend (via invitation, exchange etc.);
 - Allow and favour attendance of the Young Generation at joint Associate Societies event.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PD-1 Put in visibility the early career of YGN members via career profiles.

PD-2 IRPA refresher course programme: Connect with organisers of IRPA congresses to help in the design of refresher course fit for young professional and scientists. Advertise the refresher course.

PD-3 Make contact and collaborate with EUTERP-Foundation¹.

PD-4 Identify opportunity and partner with other organisations dealing with education and training of the young generation.

¹ e.g. to help put forward job opportunities in Radiation Protection via EUTERP website, to help compile a list of training courses in Radiation Protection available for every country via EUTERP database etc. This collaboration will have to be associated with a more general collaboration between IRPA and EUTERP.

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EXPERIENCE TRANSFER

ET-1 Maintain a list of initiatives implemented by national YGNs and the IRPA YGN and put it into visibility (e.g. via national YGN Identity Card).

ET-2 Collect feedback and experience from the implementation of these initiatives. Focus on the most innovative.

ET-3 Gather and collate relevant materials (e.g. ppt) and make them available for others.

ET-4 For not-yet-set-up & very new YGN:

- Identify and kick-off new YGN where there is opportunity;
- Provide support and assistance to help the set-up of YGN.

Gather best practices and experience from the YGNs on this theme and share their insight (e.g. drafting a document '*How to start a national YGN and benefits*').

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RELATIONSHIP

RE-1 Receive advice on the Strategic Agenda from the national YGNs and from the IRPA Executive Council.

RE-2 Welcome young people to the IRPA Leadership Committee to represent his/her country or region.

RE-3

- Promote and maintain relations between the YGNs, IRPA organisation and other organisations with an interest in the young generation.
- Identify opportunity and partner with IRPA and other organisations to put the young generation forward.

RE-4 Aid YGNs to connect with each other by providing a list of “national contact persons” (e.g. Chair of the national YGN).

RE-5

- Create and maintain a list of IRPA YGN members.
- Aim to increase the number of national YGNs in the list and the number of members.

RE-6 The surveys that ran through IRPA YGN showed success:

- The results of the 2017’s survey and its outcome will be submitted for publication.
- Surveys can be re-iterated in the future. Topics to be decided with regard to opportunities.

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COMMUNICATION

CO-1 Maintain Leadership Committee's regular meetings and report to the Executive Council.

CO-2 IRPA YGN website initiatives¹:

- Update the website regularly and in line with the implementation of the Strategic Agenda²;
- Maintain the website with relevant announcement and upload material;
- Collect metrics.

CO-3 Use the IRPA YGN Facebook³.

CO-4 Provide inputs to the IRPA Bulletin, IRPA Facebook and Twitter.

CO-5 Create and update an IRPA YGN presentation (e.g. flyer, poster) that can be used for promotion of the network.

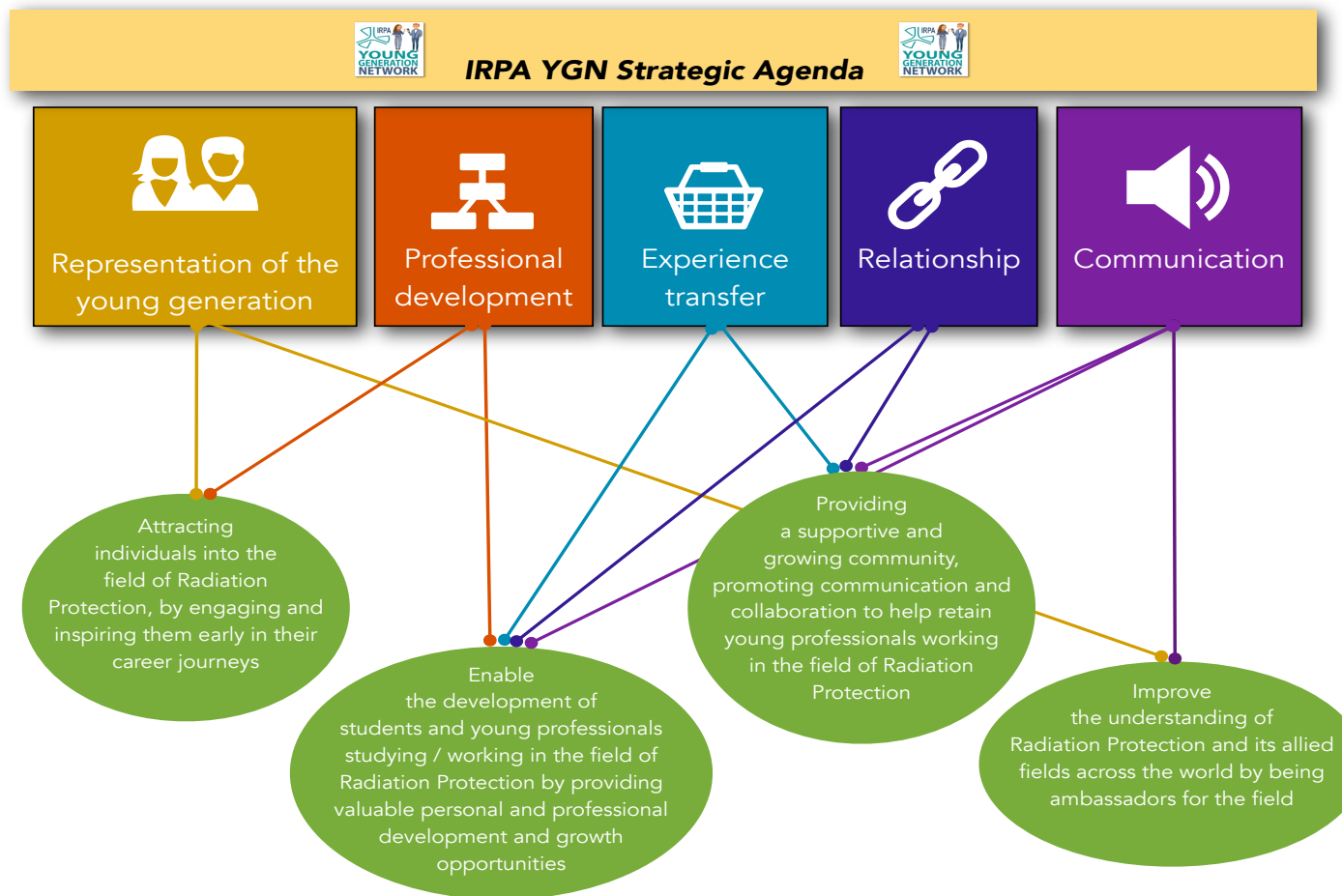
¹ http://www.irpa.net/irpa_mini.asp?site=YGN/index.asp - In collaboration with IRPA Webmaster.

² in particular upload material from PD-1, ET-1, ET-2, ET-3, RE-2, RE-3.

³ <https://www.facebook.com/IRPAYGN>

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How the themes of the Strategic Agenda are linked with the IRPA YGN Objectives? – A schematic.