LUXEMBOURG
Cooperative Activities under the SPS Programme

Since NATO began offering science cooperation to partners in 1992, scientists and experts from Luxembourg have had leading roles in 3 activities, and more have attended various cooperative activities as participants and key speakers.

Today, NATO science activities enable close collaboration on the two key priorities of **defence against terrorism** and **countering other threats to security** and are managed under the Science for Peace and Security (SPS)

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Programme. SPS activities contribute to NATO's strategic objective of partnership, helping to connect scientists and experts from NATO countries with their counterparts from Partner and Mediterranean Dialogue countries through workshops, training courses, team collaborations and multi-year projects.

All activities supported by the SPS Programme are approved by NATO nations on the basis of consensus.

Compared to their counterparts of many other NATO nations, Luxembourg has not been very active in NATO science activities. This flier is an effort to encourage scientists and experts from Luxembourg to take-up more leading roles in the SPS Programme.

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Examples of Activities

Representatives from the Commissariat à la Protection Nationale of Luxembourg participated at an Advanced Research Workshop entitled **"Threats to Food and Water Chain Infrastructure"** that took place in December 2008. Deliberate contamination of food and water with chemical, biological or radiological agents can occur at any point of the food chain—from farm to table—and in any country. The two-day event brought together more

than 100 experts from NATO and Partner countries, who shared and discussed the results of a detailed analysis about the real threat and presented a comprehensive view of the characteristics of agents that could be used by terrorists. Prevention, surveillance and detection systems were also presented.[ref 983420]

Luxembourg provided a key speaker on innovation policy monitoring at the

Advanced Training Course on **"Science and Technology (S&T) Policy to Enhance Security"** that took place in Georgia in June/July 2008. This 5-day course introduced 45 participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to international S&T best practice with the aim of enhancing the resolution of internal conflicts and to reduce the tension between the countries of this region. It is believed that, in the long run, the countries will benefit from the integration into the political, economical and scientific structures of the Euro-Atlantic security environment.[ref 983212]

Cyber security is proving to be a growing concern for Luxembourg and many other countries.

An expert from the Computer Science and Communications Research Unit of the University of Luxembourg participated at the Advanced Study Institute on

"Software System Reliability and Security". This 11-day, high-level tutorial course took place in December 2006 and included sessions on logics, automata and algorithms for software verification with the aim to protect the user from malicious attacks. [ref 981842]

In addition to NATO-funded activities, the SPS Programme facilitates the development of nationally funded activities. Luxembourg provided an experts for the study on **"Disaster Preparedness Plans Responding to Chemical Accidents"** which had two main objectives: first, to develop a matrix analysis to determine the existence and status of specific plans to address disasters involving chemical accidents; and second, to develop a comprehensive model depicting all the components needed to achieve medical coverage of a given population involved in a chemical accident disaster, including manpower and training, communications, medical supplies and equipment, transport facilities and consideration of the environmental impact. The challenge is to manage an emergency so that it does not become a disaster. The group's final report gave specific recommendations for nations to implement appropriate measures for handing chemical emergencies. [ref 931178]