

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Gran Sasso National Laboratory (LNGS) of the National Institute of Nuclear Physics, is playing a fundamental role in the elementary particle and astro-particle physics. Underground location, a necessary condition in order to conduct research in a low cosmic ray background, dimensions and technology make it almost unique.

Due to **the LNGS geographical location** (inside a National Park of Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga) **and its peculiar operating conditions** (underground experimental halls, near a highway tunnel in close proximity with hydric basin), safety and environmental aspects of all activities in LNGS require special attention.

To develop knowledge of nature in its more intimate structure while respecting nature itself: this is therefore one of the primary mission of LNGS.

LNGS main purpose is to ensure the conformity to current laws as well as to allow the continuous improvement of the environmental performances, a necessary condition for a “sustainable development”.

Specific plans are established and maintained both for **environmental impacts reduction** and for **a better employment of resources**, connected to the main aspects, such as water, energy and waste management as well as experimental activities.

LNGS is concerned in preventing pollution, reducing the environmental risks of its activities: it arranges suitable safety, protection and monitoring systems. LNGS is also involved in the organization and management of safety trainings for scientific and technical personnel working on the apparatus.

To assure compatibility between research activities and safeguard of environment and territory, LNGS involves national and international collaborations since the stage formulation and arrangement of experimental equipments; this environmental commitment is further transmitted to the contractors that contribute to the realization and maintenance of the structures and facilities.

It is also ensured the complete availability of the collaboration and participation with the territorial institutions and all the interested parties, in order to arrange the most suitable prevention and protection measures to preserve environment.

All the staff, collaborators of International Research Institutions, contractors, suppliers and the other involved parties must cooperate, as much as possible, to improve the Environmental Management System.

The commitment we are going to honour is everybody's commitment:

TO STUDY NATURE WHILE RESPECTING IT