

# ENGAGING CERN'S NON-SCIENTIFIC STAFF IN PARTICLE PHYSICS

CERN is home to a diverse professional community, with many specialists working in non-scientific roles such as administration, communication, HR, finance, logistics, and IT. While essential to the lab's daily operations, these staff members often have limited exposure to particle physics, CERN's core mission.

To bridge this gap, the **International Particle Physics Outreach Group (IPPOG)** launched a new initiative in 2022: adapting the successful **International Masterclasses (IMC)** format for non-scientific staff.

These sessions aim to foster **curiosity, inclusion** and a deeper **understanding of the organisation's scientific foundation**.

## FORMAT & METHODOLOGY

The Masterclasses were adapted and designed to be both accessible and engaging for this new audience:

- Duration: 4 hours
- Language: English

### Content:

- Introduction to particle physics
- Presentation of LHC experiments
- Hands-on data analysis from ATLAS, ALICE or CMS
- Group discussion and Q&A

**Involvement:** Sessions are conducted during working hours

The format was gradually improved based on participant feedback, while keeping the sessions concise and focused.

**Target Audience:**  
Employees in administration, communication, HR, IT, logistics, etc.

## COLLABORATIONS

The initiative has fostered connections across departments:

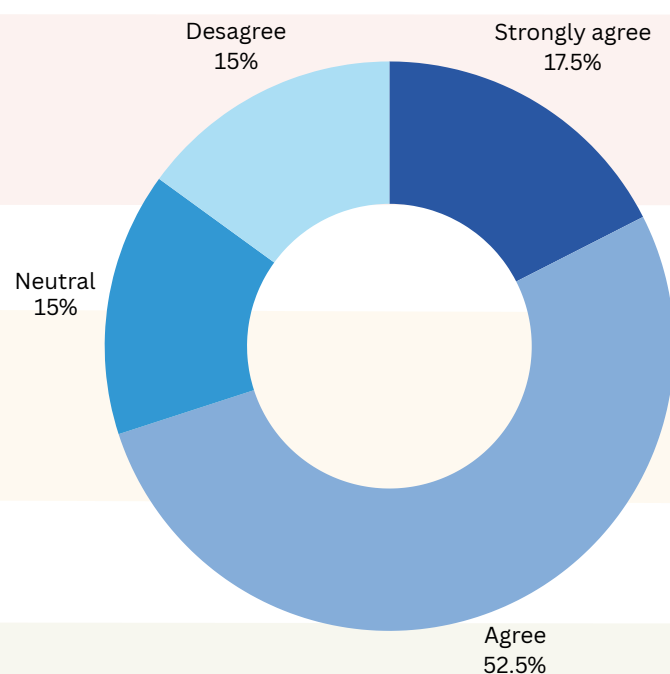
- Co-organisation with Women in Technology @CERN (WiT)
- Strategic support from CERN Learning Hub

## TIMELINE & PARTICIPATION

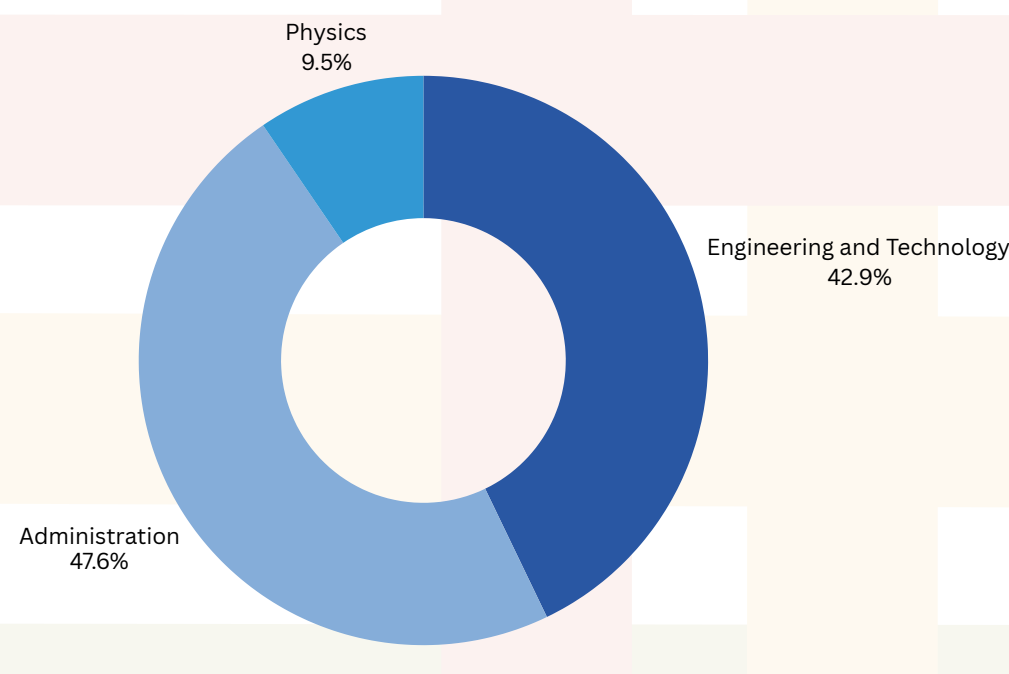
Year	Sessions	Data	Participants
2022	1	ATLAS	41
2023	2	CMS	35
2025	3	ALICE/CMS/PPT*	60

\*Particle Therapy Masterclass

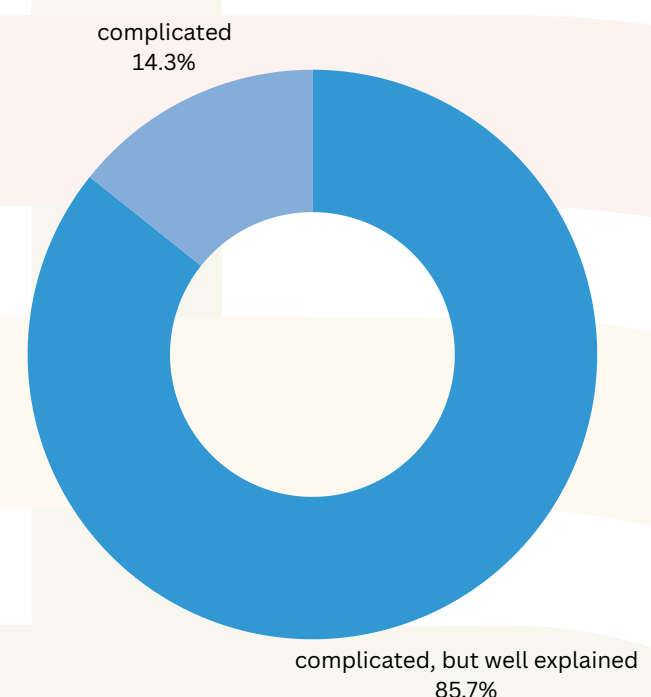
## SURVEY



**Do you think this experience can be useful for the purpose of your work?**



**What is your field of activity at CERN?**



**How complicated were the topics covered?**

## IMPACT & FEEDBACK

"Thanks a lot for the time and the effort you have offered us, it is really appreciated!!"

"I really enjoyed this half day of introduction into particle physics, in particular the practical part. Many thanks to the organisers!"

"Everything was great, the exercises' explanations were a bit complicated and I think I didn't get the point even if I managed to do them."

"How about a 101 course on particle physics?"

"It was was a very good idea. It would be very nice to have more events like this. Maybe details about experiments/accelerators."