Mainstreaming OSH into education and training: Results of EU-OSHA activities

Stakeholder meeting: mainstreaming OSH into education
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Policy framework for development of OSH in education in the EU

- **European Community OSH Strategies**
  - 2002-2006
  - 2007-2012
  - Set objectives for the Member States on OSH and education – commits MS to take action
  - Recognises OSH in education as an important contributor to the development of safety cultures in enterprises

- **European cooperation agreements on education**
  - Convergence of school curricula, subjects and learning objectives across the Member States
Job/Workplace

Industry type, work hazards, workload, job tenure, etc.

Young worker

Personal background and experience, OSH knowledge, values, attitudes, behaviour, physical, cognitive & emotional characteristics, substance use, etc.

Young worker policies and regulations

OSH mainstreaming into education

Education policies and practices

training, information, supervision

Health outcomes

education policies and practices

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Health outcomes
EU-OSHA approach

Essential to look at education + workplace

- Young workers lack knowledge, skills, experience
- Young workers given unsuitable jobs, insufficient training and supervision

Essential to:

- Mainstream OSH into education
- Mainstream youth into OSH prevention

- Including young workers in accident reduction policies and OSH campaigns on specific hazards they are most exposed to
- Including young workers in rehabilitation and employability policies for injured workers
- Training inspectors about risks to young workers
Success factors in workplace training for young workers

- Part of a whole prevention approach, based on risk assessment
- Learn from results of mainstreaming OSH into education
- Use peers
  - Experiences of more senior younger workers
  - Older workers as mentors
  - Positive for new and more senior colleagues
- Get a close link to working life
  - Get youngsters to solve real work problems
  - Feed results into risk assessment/prevention process
  - Meaningful for youngsters, value for employers
- Make OSH an integral part of doing job right
  - at work and in vocational training

Apprentices teach apprentices

2nd year peers identify topics from own experience of incidents or accidents

make a presentation to 1st years followed by discussion

Results fed into risk assessment update process

Safety issues communicated to departments through new channels

Following 1st yr. of project accidents down by 40%, serious accidents by 88%

Low cost, simple approach
OSH in education curricula
Member State activities (1)

- Recognised as necessary and important
  - All MS showing significant progress – from nursery to upper secondary schools

- Many activities at 1st and 2nd level in place or planned
  - National guidance where no statutory requirements
  - Resources/guidance to support statutory requirements
  - Formal recommendations
  - Statutory curricula requirements
    - can be combined with recommendations

- Strong partnership approach – OSH Authorities, Government Education Ministries, Curriculum Authorities, others
OSH in education curricula
Member State activities (2)

- Risk education learning objectives increasingly compulsory in the science, technology and physical education core curriculum subjects

- Inclusion of relevant learning objectives also increasing seen as part of health education, environmental studies, citizenship/civic studies...
OSH in education curricula
Member State activities (3)

- Many innovative resources
- University-level least well developed
- Training needed – for existing teachers, for trainee teachers – Agency project for 2008/10
- Integrated approaches e.g. whole school approach to safety should be recommended

Example from the UK

- General teaching requirement for h&s in national education curriculum
- Coverage- science, design, technology, art, sports
  - Sets learning objectives – hazards, risks, risk control
  - Guidance to support the requirement
- Year-10 workplace hazards qualification
- Stakeholder engagement
  - National Training Organisation Network (ENTO)
  - Learning and Skills Council
  - Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency
- Partnerships
  - E.g. OSH associations / OSH NGOs
- Activities and stakeholder engagement based on prior research
- Timing - Made use of curriculum review
OSH in education curricula – Some success factors

- Objectives in the national OSH strategy
  - With commitment, resources

- Be realistic – school curricula very crowded

- Look for opportunities, such as curricula reviews

- Cooperation
  - Education authorities and curriculum-setting bodies

- Tailor activities
  - To curriculum, policy and teaching methods

- Embed risk education across the curriculum

- Learning objectives

- Resources and professional development for teachers

- School-level OSH qualification – to fit qualification system

- Partnerships and networks
  - Consistent approach and avoiding duplication

- Whole-school approach to OSH
Mainstreaming OSH into university-level education (Report to be published 2010)

- University-level least well developed...
  - Few examples of embedding OSH in courses
  - Lack of relevant materials/professors with OSH knowledge
  - Individual activities emerging, e.g. in engineering and architecture – where legal requirements exist
  - E-learning, shared online resources
  - Business studies – selling the economic aspect

- Success factors similar to other levels –
  - Partnership
  - Set clear learning objectives, suitable case studies, active learning resources and approaches
  - OSH authorities etc. supporting universities in OSH management
  - A whole-university approach
Training primary/secondary teachers to deliver risk education
draft report

- More activity in training existing teachers than in the programmes of new trainees
- Difficult to locate examples outside of vocational training
- Lack of space on the training curriculum for new teachers
- Difficult for some teachers to be away from class rooms
- Cost of providing substitute teachers

Solutions?
- Combine training teachers about health and safety in schools with training them to teach OSH/risk education
  - Training to deliver risk education not compulsory. OSH training for employees is a legal requirement
  - OSH authorities have more influence over training for schools to meet OSH legislation requirements
- Integrate training to deliver OSH/risk education into training for delivering compulsory subjects e.g. health education
2010 Work programme
whole-education establishment
approach to OSH

- Improves staff and pupil health and safety
- Develops student understanding of OSH and its importance by example
- Risk prevention in schools develops teachers’ understanding of OSH
- Improves learning environment so improves learning as a whole
- Involving pupils in hazard spotting and decisions gives them ownership and develops skills
- Gains education sector support
Källby Gård - Safe school

Participation and influence

- Kids participate in hazard spotting
- Kids participate in proposing solutions
- Pupils and parents participate in Safe school group
- Head teacher drives the process

“Work environment detectives”

2006 Good Practice Awards
Send your personal eCard!

Watch out - The Supermarket  
European Week 2006 - Safe Start!

Watch out - The Ladder

Watch out - The Lightbulb
Want more!

**Young workers**

**Campaign page:** http://ew2006.osha.europa.eu/

**EU-OSHA reports and factsheets**

**Links to good practice resources**

**Resources on mainstreaming OSH into education**

**Preventing risks in the education sector**
Thank you for your attention!