Priorities of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work

William Cockburn
Head of the Prevention and Research Unit

Research Priorities Seminar, May 2018

Safety and health at work is everyone’s concern. It’s good for you. It’s good for business.
Background

- Multi-Annual Strategic Programme 2014-2020
- EU Strategic Framework and EC Communication from January 2017
- The Pillar of Social Rights
EU-OSHA - Mission and vision

MISSION

- We develop, gather and provide **reliable and relevant information, analysis and tools**.

- We **raise awareness** and **exchange** occupational safety and health (OSH) **information** and **good practice**.

- Our vision is to be a recognised leader in **promoting healthy and safe workplaces**.

- We contribute to the development of an **OSH risk prevention culture**, to ensure a smart, sustainable, productive and inclusive economy.

VISION

To be a recognised leader promoting healthy and safe workplaces in Europe based on tripartism, participation and the development of an OSH risk prevention culture, to ensure a smart, sustainable, productive and inclusive economy.
EU-OSHA Structure

**EU-OSHA Structure**

- **EU-OSHA contractors**
- **Governing Board**
  - Advisory groups (Board appointed)
    - Communication and promotion
    - Prevention and research
  - Expert groups (Focal point appointed)
    - European Commission
    - Other EU Agencies
  - Campaign partners
    - Pan-European organisations
    - Media partners
- **Bilbao**
- **Focal point network**
  - Focal points in EU Member States and candidate countries
  - Appointed by governments
  - Manage national tripartite network
Some health and safety challenges

- 28 different OSH systems
- Changes in the policy and regulatory context
- Economic and demographic change
- Micro and small enterprises
- New technologies, new forms of employment, new ways of working
- New and emerging risks
- Work related diseases (psychosocial risks, MSDs, cancer, etc.)
Health: The big challenge

• More than 150,000 work-associated deaths annually (accidents + ill-health)
• 90% of those deaths are from disease rather than accidents

Source: ILO

http://osha.europa.eu
What is the problem and why is it a problem?

Deaths attributed to work:

- Cancers, 53.0%
- Circulatory diseases, 28.0%
- Respiratory diseases, 6.0%
- Mental disorders, 5.7%
- Communicable diseases, 2.5%
- Other, 4.2%
Priority areas and activities

EU-Osha Priority areas and activities
Multi-annual Strategic Programme 2014-2020

Anticipating change
Raising awareness
Networking knowledge
OSHwiki

Facts and figures
Tools for OSH management
Networking and corporate communications

http://osha.europa.eu

Corporate video
Priority: Anticipating change
Large-scale foresight

What does the future hold for Europe’s workers and employers? We help to prevent tomorrow’s safety and health risks by identifying them today.

- **Foresight 2 ‘Foresight on new and emerging occupational safety and health risks associated with ICT by 2025’**
  - Final report phase 1 ‘Key trends and drivers of change in information and communication technologies and work location’
  - Final report, brochure, summary and dissemination workshops 2018
  - The online platform economy – [Report](#) and [Summary](#)

- **Discussion papers on new and emerging issues:**
  - ‘3D printing: a new industrial revolution’
  - ‘Monitoring technology in the workplace’
  - ‘Performance enhancing drugs (follow-up)’ and ‘e-retail sector’
Priority: Facts and figures

Our activities result in high-quality research and information that can help set priorities and plan prevention.

ESENER – European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks
One of the main tools contributing to our evidence base.
www.esener.eu
**ESENER**

### ESENER-2:
- Worker participation in the management of OSH: qualitative evidence from ESENER-2 Report, Summary (in EL | EN | ES | ET | FR | NL | SV) and country reports for EL, ES, BE, NL, ET, SE, UK
- ‘Health and safety risks at the workplace: a joint analysis of three major surveys’ (ESENER-2, LFS2013 ad-hoc module and 6th EWCS): Report and Summary
  - OSH management – Report and Summary
  - Psychosocial risk management – Report and Summary
  - Technical assessment of the expansion of the survey universe
  - Evaluation completed
  - Dissemination workshops

### ESENER-3
- Fieldwork in 2019
Improving OSH in Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) in Europe

- Qualitative interviews to determine OSH attitudes and behaviours
  - Comparative report and summary on enterprise interviews; nine national reports

- Investigation of OSH policies, strategies, programmes and tools facilitating OSH management in MSE
  - Comparative report and summary on the existing support and the role of intermediaries – qualitative research; nine national reports
  - Strategies, interventions and tools Report, Summary – in-depth descriptions of good examples

- Final analysis and wrap-up conference
  - Seminar with Governing Board and Commissioner Thyssen, Bilbao 25/Jan/18
  - Final analysis of the findings – report and summary and final conference Brussels 19/Jun/18
1. Rehabilitation and back-to-work after cancer (instruments and practices)
   - ‘Rehabilitation and return to work after cancer: Literature review’ and Summary
   - Final Report and summary

2. Work-related diseases linked to exposure to biological agents (reviews on specific diseases)
   - Literature review, five articles, Final Report and Summary

3. Review on alert and sentinel systems in OSH (methodologies to identify work-related diseases)
   - Literature review ‘Methodologies to identify work-related diseases: Review of sentinel and alert approaches’
   - Five articles, Final Report and Summary
Work-related diseases (WRDs) and disabilities (2)

Feasibility study - development of EU worker exposure survey (occupational cancer risks)
- Feasibility study on development of an EU system to assess exposure to occupational cancer risks Report and Summary [Based on Australian Work Exposures Study – AWES]
- Expert workshop 17/Apr/18

Fumigation in cargo - health risks in ports
- Report health risks arising from exposure to fumigants in cargo-related activities and presentation at Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee Ports

Roadmap on carcinogens
- Co-organisers of annual event (with SLIC Chemex and LASI – German network of regional labour inspections) A+A 2017 Düsseldorf 2017
- Co-organisers of session at ICOH2018 29/Apr-04/May/18 – Dublin
Cost and benefits of OSH

- Collaboration with ILO, presentation at World Congress 2017
  - Symposium ‘Estimating the benefit of OSH to society’
  - Data visualisation tool ‘The economics of OSH – the value of OSH to society’

- Estimation of the costs of work-related injuries, illnesses and deaths at European level: the availability and quality of national and international data sources for a European level cost calculation
  - ‘Estimating the cost of work-related accidents and ill-health: An analysis of European data sources’ Report, Annexes and Summary
  - Development of comprehensive estimates methodology
Work-related musculo-skeletal disorders (MSD)

EU-OSHA aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the prevalence, causes and costs of MSD. It will foster a positive preventive culture by identifying the most effective instruments, interventions, guidance and tools and sharing and raising awareness about them

Project definition (consultation with stakeholders and experts finalised in 2017; Research will start in 2018)

- Actions areas and related issues:
  - Actions that would impact at: policy level; workplace level, including for small and micro-enterprises, and “atypical” workers, for example temporary workers
  - The interface between OSH and public health, for example, rehabilitation or return to work and chronic pain
  - Areas warranting further investigation: emerging areas of risk and prevention, innovative areas in relation to prevention (e.g. risk assessment approaches)
  - Diversity issues in relation to the above points, including age and gender
OiRA – Online interactive Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is at the heart of good workplace safety and health. https://oiraproject.eu/en

Easy-to-use online tools guide micro and small enterprises through the risk assessment process.

- **OiRA Partners**
  - In 16 EU countries (Ministries/Labour Inspectorates)
  - Collaborating with other countries/institutions who developed their own online RA tool (IE, ES, NL, EE, NO)

- **EU sectoral social partners**
  - Partners from 11 different sectors at EU level

- **Common platform / software available in 18 languages**

- **OiRA tools (average 20-25 per year)**
  - 137 published
  - 28 under development
  - 65 sectors covered so far

- **OiRA user accounts created:** 46,059
- **Number of RA created:** 67,471
- **Guests accounts since Mar/16:** 89,904

Updated 31 January 2018
Priority: Raising awareness

Our campaigning and promotion activities take our messages into workplaces across Europe and beyond.

Healthy Workplaces Campaigns
The campaigns promote the idea that good health and safety is good for business and are the largest of their kind in the world.
www.healthy-workplaces.eu

Napo – Safety with a smile
Napo is the hero in a series of animated films to introduce workplace safety and health topics.
www.napofilm.net
HWC 2016-17 – Healthy Workplaces for All Ages

- **Objectives**
  - Sustainable work and healthy ageing from the beginning of working life
  - Highlight the importance of prevention throughout working life
  - Providing information and tools for managing OSH in the context of an ageing workforce
  - Facilitate information exchange and good practice

- **Campaign**
  - Launched April 2016; multilingual website and campaign material
  - Closing Summit held 21-22/Nov 2017
  - [Visualisation tool](#) (older workers EP project)
  - [E-guide](#) – 32 national versions
  - European Campaign Assistance Package to support national focal points – 181 events + 78 media and PR activities in 2016-17 (over 11,000 active participants)
  - 1 million information products distributed, more than 210,000 web visits,
This campaign aims to raise awareness of the risks posed by dangerous substances in the workplace and to promote a culture of risk prevention to eliminate and, where that is not possible, effectively manage these risks.

All information related to the outgoing ‘Healthy Workplaces for All Ages’ Campaign 2016-17 can be accessed here.
Objectives:

1. Raising awareness of the importance and relevance of managing DS in many European workplaces by providing facts and figures on the exposure to and impact of dangerous substances.

2. Promoting risk assessment, elimination and substitution and the hierarchy of prevention measures by providing practical tools and good practice examples.

3. Raising awareness of risks linked to exposure to carcinogens at work by supporting the exchange of good practices as a signatory to the covenant committing to the Carcinogens Roadmap.

4. Targeting groups of workers with specific needs and higher levels of risk, due to limited knowledge in relation to dangerous substances by providing facts and figures and good practice information.

5. Improving awareness of policy developments and legislative framework by providing an overview of the existing framework and existing guidance.

.... And next:

HWC 2020-21 – Musculoskeletal Disorders
Networking knowledge

- **OSHwiki – connecting the OSH community**
  - Providing a comprehensive, sustainable information resource

- **e-tools**
  - Seminar on e-tools on dangerous substances

- **OSH information systems and support to the European Commission**
  - Data visualisation tool on OSH Information systems
  - Guide on psychosocial and musculoskeletal disorders
  - VESAFE promotion 2017

- **National strategies**
  - Mapping of national strategies completed; articles on OSH national systems available in [OSHwiki](http://osha.europa.eu)
  - Final Report presented at meeting of national contact points and EC and published

- **OSH research priorities**
  - Seminar ‘Consolidation of stakeholder views on research priorities’ held with PEROSH members, Bilbao 21/Nov/17
Strategic and operational networking

- **Global OSH coalition**
  - EU-OSHA
  - ILO – International Labour Organisation
  - STM – Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
  - WHO – Work Health Organisation
  - WSHI – Workplace Safety and Health Council - Singapore

- **Continued work in Western Balkans and Turkey under European Commission IPA Programme**
  - Signing of Grant Contract in November 2017 to continue work for further 2 years.
New proposals

- **OSH Overviews**
  - Digitalisation 2019-2021
  - Supporting compliance 2020-2022
  - Psychosocial risks 2021-2022

- **Workers exposure survey on carcinogens**

- **EU OSH Information System**

- **HWC campaign cycle**

- **HazChem@Work**

- **Support to the Commission**
Thank you

Find out more:

- Multilingual website: https://osha.europa.eu
- Social media: