Priorities for Occupational safety and health research in Europe: 2013-2020

Christa Sedlatschek
Director EU-OSHA
Defining priorities for occupational safety and health research in Europe

EU-OSHA and European Risk Observatory objectives

• to seek a consensus on research priorities in OSH, and to encourage national OSH research institutes to set joint priorities
• to promote Member State cooperation in research
• to encourage the inclusion of OSH requirements in research programmes
Background

- 2000 - Future occupational safety and health research needs and priorities in the Member States of the European Union
- 2005 - Priorities for occupational safety and health research in the EU-25
  - The priorities identified are reflected in the Community Strategy 2007-12
- Priorities for Occupational safety and health (OSH) research in Europe: 2013-20
  - Prepared in 2012, published in June 2013
Priorities for Occupational safety and health (OSH) research in Europe: 2013-20

Objectives:

- To update the report from 2005 and to define OSH research priorities for the upcoming years
- To provide input into the 8th Research Framework Programme – Horizon 2020, and a possible new EU strategy

Broad consultation involving:

- all the major OSH research institutions and in particular PEROSH, former NEW OSH ERA members
- EU-OSHA Focal Points
- social partners and other networks
- ILO, WHO
- Seminar in May 2012 to provide input
Priorities for Occupational safety and health (OSH) research in Europe: 2013-20

- Structured around four main areas to emphasise the link to EU2020 Strategy
  - Demographic change – Sustainable work for healthier and longer working lives
  - Globalisation and changing world of work
  - OSH research for safe new technologies as a prerequisite for sustainable growth
  - Research into new or increasing occupational exposures
Examples of priorities

- Ageing and increasing diversity of the workforce: Older workers, women at work and the gender dimension, migrant workers
- Disability prevention and return to work research
- Health in restructuring
- New employment and working patterns and psychosocial risk factors
- OSH in SMEs
- Economic dimension of OSH
- Green technologies and green jobs, nanotechnology
- Endocrine disruptors, mixed exposures
Transversal issues

• Mainstreaming OSH research in other research and policy areas
• Translational research – transfer of research results to the workplace
• Intervention research
• OSH communication / risk communication
• Prevention through design
Follow-up to the report
Receive feedback and discuss and validate the priorities identified
Discuss the ways in which to foster OSH research coordination and funding
Promote mainstreaming OSH research in other policy areas
Synergies with Horizon 2020
Publication
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!