

# Labour inspectorates' strategic planning on safety and health at work

Results of a questionnaire survey to EU-OSHA's focal points



Labour Inspectorates' strategic planning on safety and health at work: results of a questionnaire survey to EU-OSH's Focal Points

Edited by:

William Cockburn – European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)

This report is based on text prepared by: EU-OSHA's Focal Point Network

**Europe Direct is a service to help you find answers  
to your questions about the European Union**

**Freephone number (\*):  
00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11**

(\*). Certain mobile telephone operators do not allow access to 00 800 numbers, or these calls may be billed.

More information on the European Union is available on the Internet (<http://europa.eu>).

Cataloguing data can be found on the cover of this publication.

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2009

ISBN 978-92-9191-257-5

© European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, 2009

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

# **LABOUR INSPECTORATES' STRATEGIC PLANNING ON SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK**

## **RESULTS OF A QUESTIONNAIRE SURVEY TO EU-OSHA'S FOCAL POINTS**



## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	5
1. Research.....	7
Q1.1 Is the national labour inspectorate responsible for research related to OSH? .....	8
Q1.2 What size is the inspectorate's budget dedicated annually to research on OSH? .....	12
Q1.3 Who is responsible for drawing up the priorities for the inspectorate's OSH research? .....	15
Q1.4 Is there a separate programme of research related to OSH at national level?.....	18
Q1.5 Research set? What information is used in setting them? .....	22
Q1.6 How far ahead are priorities established? Which are the main priorities identified in the last three years?.....	26
Q1.7 How much are labour inspectors involved in specific information gathering exercises to add to the Inspectorate's knowledge base and so inform the deliberations on priorities in future annual programmes of work? .....	31
Q1.8 Is the labour inspectorate involved in the collection, analysis and production of statistical information in the fields of health and safety? .....	35
2 Inspection.....	41
Q2.1 Who is responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives for inspection? .....	44
Q2.2 How are priorities and targets set and what information is used in setting them?.....	51
Q2.3 What consultation is there with inspectors in the field when national objectives are being set? .....	56
Q2.4 What flexibility is given to regions/districts to include local priorities in their plans of work? .....	60
Q2.5 How far ahead are priorities set? Which are the main priorities identified in the last three years?.....	64
3 Awareness-raising/campaigns.....	73
Q3.1 Does the national labour inspectorate carry out awareness-raising activities related to OSH, e.g. campaigns? .....	73
Q3.2 Who is responsible for deciding the OSH-related topics to be promoted? .....	78
Q3.3 How is the decision taken? What information is used to identify the topics?.....	81
Q3.4 How far ahead are topics identified? Which are the main topics selected over the last three years?.....	85
4 Glossary.....	91
5 Further information .....	93
AUSTRIA.....	93
BELGIUM .....	93
CYPRUS .....	94
CZECH REPUBLIC.....	94
DENMARK .....	94
ESTONIA .....	95
FINLAND.....	95
GERMANY .....	95

GREECE .....	95
HUNGARY .....	95
IRELAND.....	96
LITHUANIA .....	96
LUXEMBOURG.....	96
NETHERLANDS .....	96
POLAND .....	97
PORTUGAL .....	97
ROMANIA .....	97
SLOVAK REPUBLIC.....	97
SLOVENIA .....	97
SPAIN .....	97
SWEDEN .....	98
SWITZERLAND .....	98
UK .....	98

## Introduction

Labour inspectorates play a central role in promoting safety and health at work and are increasingly focusing their attention on the anticipation, definition and prevention of emerging risks. Through the work of labour inspectors, the inspectorates have access to a unique source of data that helps inform their strategic planning in three main areas: research, inspection and awareness-raising.

This report presents an overview of the principal OSH-related priorities established by national labour inspectorates and provides information on how these priorities are set. The information contained in this report was provided by EU-OSHA's network of national Focal Points during 2008 in response to a questionnaire survey. Focal points are nominated by each government as the Agency's official representative in that country, and they are normally the national authority for safety and health at work<sup>1</sup>. As such, the information provided by the Focal Points has been edited only where necessary to ensure readability.

Relevant information is also contained in the SLIC report: "*Labour Inspection (Health and Safety) in the EU (25 Member States) - A short Guide*"<sup>2</sup> (updated 2005).

---

<sup>1</sup> Further information on Focal Points is available at [http://osha.europa.eu/en/about/partners/focal\\_points](http://osha.europa.eu/en/about/partners/focal_points)

<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/health\\_safety/slic\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/health_safety/slic_en.htm)



# 1. Research

**Table 1 – Labour inspectorates' responsibility for OSH research, budget, and periodicity of priority setting**

	Fully responsible	Some limited responsibility	Not responsible	Budget (€ x 1000)	Separate national programme	Priorities timescale (years)
AUSTRIA		X		-		
BELGIUM		X		200	X	4 <sup>3</sup>
CYPRUS		X		17		2
CZECH REPUBLIC			X	-	X	2
DENMARK		X		1,000 <sup>4</sup>	X	2
ESTONIA			X	-		
FINLAND		X		200	X	4
FRANCE		X		-	X	5
GERMANY					X	4 <sup>5</sup>
GREECE			X	-	X	
HUNGARY	X			345	X*	
ICELAND	X			-		1
IRELAND		X		150		1
ITALY						
LATVIA						
LITHUANIA			X	-		3
LUXEMBOURG			X	-		
MALTA						
NETHERLANDS		X		500	X	
POLAND			X	-		
PORTUGAL			X	-	X	
ROMANIA			X	-		
SLOVAK REPUBLIC			X	-	X <sup>6</sup>	
SLOVENIA		X		-	X <sup>7</sup>	5
SPAIN			X	-	X	
SWEDEN			X	-		
SWITZERLAND			X	62		5
UNITED KINGDOM	X			26,000		4

<sup>3</sup> For federal research programme; for the Federal Hygiene Laboratory, the programme is annual.

<sup>4</sup> In addition to the budget of WEA (Labour Inspection), the national WE Research Fund (chaired by the WEA) runs a larger budget and NFA (National Research Centre for the Working Environment) runs its own budget.

<sup>5</sup> OSH objectives of the federal government, federal states and accident insurance institutions

<sup>6</sup> Due to be implemented shortly – at time of survey

<sup>7</sup> OSH research fields identified as part of national action plan

In about half of the Member States, the NLI has at least some limited responsibility for research related to OSH. Of these, three have full responsibility for OSH research in their country. Where there is a limited responsibility for research, this is focused on, for example, specific OSH issues, investigation of serious accidents, testing or lab work, or analysis of inspection data. Given that these research areas are not the same from one year to the next, annual budgets can vary significantly, according to the need.

As is to be expected, a separate national research programme on OSH exists in most countries where the NLI has no, or only limited, responsibility for research. However, in a substantial number of Member States, no OSH research programme exists at national level and such activities are carried out without a formal coordination of this type.

The information most widely used to set research priorities is data from inspection activities, from registers of occupational accidents or diseases and from surveys. In setting priorities, input is sought from social partners, from scientific experts and academics, as well as from other inspectorates. EU-OSHA, SLIC, Eurostat, the European Commission and national political priorities are also cited as important influences.

Priorities for research are commonly set four or five years ahead, but for a number of countries the planning is on a one or two year horizon. In some cases, the OSH research agenda falls under a broader OSH strategy, which may have a ten year perspective. The most frequently mentioned main priorities over the last three years are musculoskeletal disorders and psychosocial issues, followed by dangerous substances (including chemical and biological), OSH management, and risk assessment. Also mentioned a number of times are occupational accidents and diseases, economic aspects, monitoring, and SMEs.

Labour inspectors in nearly all countries contribute significantly to the information that the inspectorate uses to set priorities, formulate work programmes or monitor enterprises' OSH performance. In most cases, data from inspections – such as measures taken, sanctions imposed, high-risk situations – are held electronically in an inspection register. Typically, this information is used together with the NLI's registers of occupational accidents and of occupational diseases. In some instances, labour inspectors also participate in expert discussions or are involved in specific studies, such as questionnaire surveys.

### ***Q1.1 Is the national labour inspectorate responsible for research related to OSH?***

#### **AUSTRIA**

Though the Labour Inspection is not responsible for carrying out research, they sometimes outsource studies or surveys concerning specific and important OSH issues.

#### **BELGIUM**

The FPS (Ministry for Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue) is allocated a limited budget for OSH research. It is based on the federal scientific policy and the European social fund. Within the FPS those projects are managed by the department of "Humanisation of work" (HUW).

Within the department "Surveillance of well being at work" (SWW), some research is carried out within the Laboratory for Industrial Hygiene drawing on the budget of SWW.

The Seveso Inspection Division includes a small research unit to develop specific inspection tools for Seveso-companies and guidelines on how to comply with statutory requirements related to the control of major chemical hazards.

#### **CYPRUS**

The Department of Labour Inspection is not responsible for research; however, it does outsource studies on specific OSH issues of interest. In recent years, for example, studies were undertaken on

the costs of occupational accidents; assessment of occupational noise and stress; integration of OSH issues into the public education system; and assessment of the situation regarding physical and mental diseases of workers.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The national labour inspectorate is not responsible for research related to OSH. Research in this area is carried out by the Occupational Safety Research Institute (VÚBP, v.v.i.) of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The State Labour Inspection Office participates only by proposing topics for research projects on OSH and well-being at work. The State Labour Inspection Office initiates research and development projects, comments and evaluates their outcome and gives final approval.

## **DENMARK**

The Danish Working Environment Authority (national labour inspectorate) manages a limited grant for research and evaluation related to OSH. All the research activity is commissioned externally.

## **ESTONIA**

The inspectorate is not responsible for OSH research and it is not considered an appropriate function for it.

## **FINLAND**

The inspectorate does not have any research function, but it can initiate or order investigations for specific local or national OSH problems from external research organisations by using the money included in the annual budget of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

## **FRANCE**

The Labour inspection is not directly responsible for carrying out research, although it does outsource studies on specific OSH issues of interest. The ministry of labour is responsible for research related to OSH in the framework of the health at work plan.

## **GERMANY**

The Constitution contains fundamental stipulations regarding the division of tasks between the federal government and the 16 federal states (or "Länder") within the Federal Republic of Germany. In the area of workers' safety and health, the federal government is responsible for national OSH policy, its incorporation into international strategies and for legislation. Through the Länder Chamber (the "Bundesrat"), the federal states are involved both in drafting legislation and monitoring compliance with/enforcing the OSH regulations in the enterprises and organisations. In addition to the federal government and the states, the accident insurance institutions are required by law to employ all suitable means to prevent occupational accidents and commuting accidents, occupational disease and work-related health risks. On this basis and on the basis of specific statutory provisions, the accident insurance institutions have the task of conducting research on prevention, occupational illnesses and rehabilitation.

This division of tasks means that the federal government, federal states and accident insurance institutions are jointly responsible for guaranteeing safe and healthy working conditions. In 2005, they agreed on a "Common German OSH Strategy", the aim being to better fulfil this responsibility in the future and to be able to take joint national action towards implementing international strategies (e.g. EU Community strategy 2007-2012). The German strategy includes the definition of common national OSH objectives and joint action areas, optimisation of the dual OSH system (which consists of the federal states' OSH authorities and the accident insurance institutions' inspection services ("Aufsichtsdienste")) and the drawing-up of a user-friendly body of rules and regulations. As part of

this process, there will also be more consultation concerning the research requirements in the joint action areas and the research tasks will be divided between the three parties in the strategy.

In terms of research institutions, the federal government has the “Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin” (Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, abbreviated to “BAuA” in German) and the federal states have test laboratories and research institutes. The umbrella organisation of the accident insurance institutions, the “Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung” (German Statutory Accident Insurance or “DGUV”), operates the following three institutes: “Institut für Arbeitsschutz” (Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, “BGIA”), “Institut Arbeit und Gesundheit” (Institute Work and Health, “BGAG”) and “Forschungsinstitut für Arbeitsmedizin” (Research Institute for Occupational Medicine, “BGFA”). Some accident insurance institutions also have their own sector-specific or hazard-specific research capacities.

The research projects mainly involve applied research and, in the field of occupational medicine, sometimes basic research too. In addition, the accident insurance institutions finance research by third parties. In the majority of cases, the federal government and the federal states commission external research, with projects being put out to tender.

## **GREECE**

The Corps of Labour Inspectors (SEPE) is not responsible for research. The national agency responsible for OSH research programmes is the Centre of Occupational Health and Safety (KYAE) in the General Directorate of Working Conditions and Health of the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection.

## **HUNGARY**

Pursuant to the Hungarian Labour Safety Act, the financial resources for OSH-related research – significant from the point of view of the national economy – are covered by the government as part of the national control of safety and health at work. In spite of this, however, OSH-related research belonged to the Public Foundation for Research on Occupational Safety until 12th October, 2007. On this date the Foundation ceased to exist and the public duties of the Foundation, including the OSH related research, were taken over by the Hungarian Labour Inspectorate (OMMF) and by its partly independent organ, the National Institute of Occupational Health (OMFI). Hence OMMF is the responsible organ for OSH related research.

## **ICELAND**

The national labour inspectorate in Iceland, Vinnuettirlit ríkisins (VER) (Administration of Occupational Safety and Health), is responsible for research related to OSH and it is carried out “in-house” by the Department of Research and Occupational Health within VER. Research work has not been assigned to external commissioners per se, but VER has been involved in cooperation with commissioners and also shares ownership of the Research Centre for Occupational Health & Working Life with the University of Iceland.

## **IRELAND**

The Health and Safety Authority is allocated a limited budget for OSH research. All research projects are commissioned externally, usually through a formal tender process.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

The national labour inspectorate has no responsibility for OSH research.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

The national labour inspectorate has no responsibility for OSH research.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

Primary responsibility for the research programme on OSH rests with the policy directorate on OSH of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. The national labour inspectorate has a small research unit called "monitoring and policy information", which monitors wage development, compliance with minimum wage legislation and compliance with OSH legislation and regulations and does some operational research related to the supervision and enforcement tasks of the inspectorate.

The most important research on OSH in the Netherlands is:

1. The OSH Monitor (Arbo monitor); since 2004 called "Arbo in bedrijf" = OSH in company. This periodic monitor is made on request of the OSH policy directorate. It describes the state of affairs regarding compliance with occupational health and safety regulations. The results are used in a periodic presentation of the Ministry about the state of OSH in the Netherlands called "the balance sheet on occupational health and safety".
2. An administrative risk analysis on OSH. This administrative risk analyses forms the basis for directing inspection capacity and developing sector approaches.
3. Further our research unit helps analyse data and assists in evaluating findings as part of inspection projects. An example is analysing accident reports on lethal work accidents

Commissioned research:

1. The inspectorate only occasionally commissions research externally. For instance in 2007 a small study on under-reporting of labour accidents was outsourced.
2. The Labour Inspectorate however does regularly commission measurements and investigations as part of its supervisory and enforcement activities. In that case it is not research about developments in society or new risk, but laboratory reports, strength measurements or investigations into a possible cause of major accidents. Nevertheless, in some cases like major court cases the Labour Inspectorate hires external expertise judgement.

## **POLAND**

The national labour inspectorate has no responsibility for OSH research.

## **PORTUGAL**

The Labour Inspectorate is not responsible for research. Nonetheless, the Authority for Working Conditions in which it is integrated has a role in financing research.

## **ROMANIA**

The Romanian Labour Inspection is not responsible for research related to occupational safety and health.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

The National Labour Inspectorate is not responsible for research related to OSH. The research is carried out by the Institute for Labour and Family Research.

## **SLOVENIA**

The Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia does not have any official responsibility related to OSH research. However, the Inspectorate collects and analyses data obtained during regular activities and campaigns. The most recent analyses (based on a representative sample of Slovenian employers) were related to noise at work; alcohol abuse at the workplace; young workers and ageing of the workforce; manual handling of loads; and correlation between risk assessments and ageing of work population. The Inspectorate also collects statistical data on accidents at work. All these activities are carried out "in-house".

## **SPAIN**

The labour inspectorate does not have direct responsibility for research related to OSH. However, it participates in the steering bodies for the National Institute for Safety and Health at Work (INSHT), which does have this responsibility and in the Foundation for the Prevention of Occupational Risks.

## **SWEDEN**

The national labour inspectorate is not responsible for research related to OSH.

## **SWITZERLAND**

The national labour inspectorate is not responsible for research, but the Department of Labour, which coordinates the labour inspectorate system, has a budget for research purposes. It gathers information related to OSH, examines specific questions in the field of OSH and conducts some surveys.

Small research projects are carried out in-house whereas larger ones are commissioned externally.

A major player in the system is also the Swiss Accident Insurance Agency. They also conduct some research and employ labour inspectors for specific fields. At the cantonal level there is some research but not on a regular basis and in only one or two cantons.

## **UK**

HSE has regulatory responsibility to undertake both policy and inspection functions for health and safety at work in Great Britain.

HSE has an integrated science and research programme which addresses both generic and specific OSH issues across the complete spectrum of its regulatory responsibilities. The majority of HSE's research work is undertaken by its preferred research provider, the Health and Safety Laboratory. When necessary, research is commissioned externally with other Institutes.

### ***Q1.2 What size is the inspectorate's budget dedicated annually to research on OSH?***

## **AUSTRIA**

N/A

## **BELGIUM**

The budget allocated by the laboratory is about €100,000

The budget of the Seveso research unit is about €100,000

## **CYPRUS**

In 2007 the budget allocated to experts' fees for the preparation of OSH studies was £10,000 (€17,086).

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

N/A

## **DENMARK**

For 2007 the budget figure is DKK 7.8 million (approximately €1million)

## **ESTONIA**

N/A

## **FINLAND**

Direct financing is around €200,000 annually. Research tasks can also be mandated in the annual budget of the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH), which belongs to the concern of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

## **FRANCE**

N/A

## **GERMANY**

At the federal government level, the Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA) had a budget totalling €47.3 million in 2006. Of that sum, €4.5 million (9.5%) was spent on research and €1 million (2.1%) on the pilot programme aimed at tackling work-related illnesses. Having said that, the subjects dealt with in this research and work are not necessarily the same as those covered by the OSH inspectorate.

At the federal state level, there is no fixed budget for financing research activity. It is therefore not possible to say how much money is spent annually on research projects in the field of safety and health. Projects are usually financed through external programmes.

The three institutes of the Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung have a combined budget of roughly €43 million. Around 27% of that is spent on research. Added to the money from the fund for external research, that makes an annual amount of €15 million. Individual accident insurance institutions also spend money on research (see also question 1.9 and Annex 1).

## **GREECE**

N/A

## **HUNGARY**

In 2008 the respective budget estimates amount to HUF 80,000,000 (approximately €345,000) being as much as 1.2 percent of the yearly budget of OMMF.

## **ICELAND**

There is no special budget assigned for research work within the Research and Health Department of VER as the overall budget for the department includes research work. For some research projects the department obtains funds from other government institutions as well as from Nordic and European funds. Labour cost regarding research projects is almost solely covered by the Research and Health Department of VER.

## **IRELAND**

The budget allocated to the Health and Safety Authority for OSH research is generally in the region of €150,000.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

No specific budget for research related to OSH is included in the inspectorate's annual budget. Occasionally, the Ministry of Social Security and Labour gives an objective task for specific research, financed from the state accidents at work and occupational diseases insurance fund for preventive OSH means. In these cases, the SLI engages external experts and coordinates the research.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

There is no specific budget for procurement of research by the Dutch Labour Inspectorate.

The total costs of our own research / monitoring unit are around € 1.5 million. Roughly 1/3 will be used for OSH = € 0.5 million. There is sometimes some outsourcing of research by the labour Inspectorate, but that fluctuates from € 0 to € 100,000 a year at the maximum.

The above mentioned research does not include specific research by external parties and ordered by the Labour Inspectorate in the course of specific inspections. The inspectorate, as part of its supervisory work, sometimes orders independent investigations into possible causes of major accidents; external judgement of a construction, strength measurements, or quantity of asbestos fibres in the air, or the physical strain of certain jobs. The budget spend varies considerably annually. The budget for most years less than €100,000, but in some years like 2006, beyond € 1.5 million because of a major accident (collapsed scaffold in an energy plant with many deaths).

The OSH directorate of the Ministry in 2007 has a budget for research of € 1.5 million. The research they commission is more often geared to anticipation, definition and prevention of emerging risks, whereas the research of the Labour Inspectorate aims at describing the state of compliance with OSH regulations, directing inspection capacity or as part of our supervisory and enforcement tasks. (See section 1.4)

## **POLAND**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

N/A

## **ROMANIA**

N/A

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

N/A

## **SLOVENIA**

N/A

## **SPAIN**

N/A

## **SWEDEN**

N/A

## **SWITZERLAND**

The Federal Government has a budget of approximately CHF 100,000 (approximately € 61,500) per year for externally commissioned research projects.

## **UK**

Funding comes from HSE's grant in aid from government, and normally plans to spend annually about £20.5 million (approximately €26 million) on research, in addition to research funded through HSE by industry.

### ***Q1.3 Who is responsible for drawing up the priorities for the inspectorate's OSH research?***

## **AUSTRIA**

The Director General of the Labour Inspection bears the responsibility in close cooperation with the head of units of the Labour Inspection.

## **BELGIUM**

The federal scientific policy is responsible for the federal priorities

The head of the laboratory is responsible for the priorities within the laboratory

The head of the Seveso Inspection Division is responsible for the priorities related to the Seveso II-Directive

## **CYPRUS**

The Director of the Department of Labour Inspection, in close coordination with the Senior Labour Inspection Officers, decides on the priorities for research. Towards this end, the Director takes also into consideration the findings of the European Risk Observatory on new and emerging risks, as well as other statistical figures from OSH inspection visits and on the number of occupational accidents in Cyprus.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

N/A

## **DENMARK**

The funds are earmarked by the parliament to specific research and development projects aiming at improving the working environment.

## **ESTONIA**

N/A

## **FINLAND**

In general, the responsibility lies with the direction of the Department for Occupational Safety and Health while the actual themes are developed and managed by the Policy Unit of the Department in collaboration with the local inspectorates.

## **FRANCE**

N/A

## **GERMANY**

As part of the national OSH strategy, the federal government, federal states, accident insurance institutions and social partners consult on and agree the joint national OSH objectives and action areas. The OSH objectives are derived from empirical scientific data and the experiences and knowledge of those involved. If it becomes clear during this process that there is a need for research, the parties determine which body could meet that need. Possible options are to assign the work to the above-mentioned federal government or federal state institutions or those run by the accident insurance institutions or to award research funding to third parties (third-party research).

The accident insurance institutions' research priorities are based on their specific needs. The institutes or the special committees responsible for assigning research projects to third parties are advised of the priorities directly by the inspection services or the social partners in the self-administration bodies of the accident insurance institutions and the DGUV.

## **GREECE**

N/A

## **HUNGARY**

On account of the interim period ensuing from the termination of the Public Foundation for Research on Occupational Safety, the matter is still pending. It is proposed that a board consisting of OMMF executive officers and highly respected leading professionals should draw up the priorities.

## **ICELAND**

The Department director along with scientists and specialists within the Research and Health Department of VER are mostly responsible for drawing up the priorities for research work.

## **IRELAND**

The Research Committee of the Health and Safety Authority draw up priorities for the annual Research Programme. The Committee has the following members:

- Assistant Chief Executive, Corporate Services
- Assistant Chief Executive, Preventive Services
- Assistant Chief Executive, Chemical Policy and Services
- Programme Manager, Compliance Services
- Research and Statistics Officer

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

The Law on Safety and Health at Work provides for the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and the Ministry of Health to implement state occupational safety and health policy in the Republic of Lithuania.

The main national OSH priorities, including research priorities, are set after analysis of an SLI annual report on the OSH situation in the republic and after consultation with the Republican Tripartite OSH Commission.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The general director of the labour Inspectorate

## **POLAND**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

N/A

## **ROMANIA**

N/A

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

N/A

## **SLOVENIA**

The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Health are responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives in the field of the OSH research.

## **SPAIN**

N/A

## **SWEDEN**

N/A

## **SWITZERLAND**

Responsibility for setting research priorities lies with the Division "Working Conditions" within the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Department of Labour, which oversees the labour inspectorate system.

Generally labour inspection is done at the state (cantonal) level or by a national workers compensation insurer (Suva). The priorities of the insurance industry are determined by this organisation.

## **UK**

Due to HSE's role in carrying out both policy and inspection functions, there is no separate research policy for the inspectorate.

HSE's Chief Scientist Unit supports HSE's Chief Scientist in ensuring that HSE continues to respond appropriately to the development and implementation of government policy on science and research.

The Unit has lead responsibility for the development of HSE's Science and Research Strategy for the commissioning and evaluation of research and support work.

### ***Q1.4 Is there a separate programme of research related to OSH at national level?***

## **AUSTRIA**

N/A

## **BELGIUM**

The research via the federal scientific policy is national. SWW doesn't have a representative in the board but HUW does.

The programme set up by the laboratory is also national.

## **CYPRUS**

There is no separate programme of research related to OSH at national level. Nevertheless, research may be undertaken by the students of the University of Cyprus as a part of their final year project, dissertation or thesis. Such activities are encouraged and supported by the Department of Labour Inspection.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

There is a national OSH research programme set by the Government and it is stipulated in the adopted National OSH Policy and bi-annual National OSH Action Programme.

## **DENMARK**

A separate national OSH research programme is publicly funded: The Danish Working Environment Research Fund with the members of the board appointed for two years. The chairman of the board is from the Danish Working Environment Authorities and on the board are representatives from the parties on the labour market.

The objective of the Working Environment Research Fund is to strengthen working environment research in Denmark.

The Fund supports working environment research and development aiming at improving the working environment with a grant budget of DKK 50-60 million (approximately €7-8 million) per year.

The Working Environment Research Fund website: <http://www.at.dk/sw12408.asp>

## **ESTONIA**

There is no separate OSH research programme in Estonia.

## **FINLAND**

The Department for Occupational Safety and Health has established a general national policy of occupational safety and health and a strategy for its implementation. Furthermore the Department has published the policy document indicating the national focal areas of OSH research. The annual action measures are prioritised according to these documents taking into account both national and regional/inspectorate level needs.

## **FRANCE**

There is a national OSH research programme set by the Government in the framework of the health at work plan 2005-2009. The health at work plan provides for an interdisciplinary approach to prevention focusing on the following four objectives:

- raising awareness of the dangers, risks and exposure in the work environment;
- strengthening the inspection system;
- reforming the bodies responsible for co-ordinating the supervision of health at work;
- encouraging companies to play an active part in ensuring health at work.

These four overall objectives are broken down into 23 actions

## GERMANY

At the federal government level, the objectives and matter to be covered in OSH research are specified in the strategy (which runs for 10 years) and the Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA) work programme for 2007 - 2010. The research is done either by the BAuA itself or by third parties. Other OSH players (e.g. the federal states and the accident insurance institutions) have their own research programmes.

Through the research fund, the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) provides financing in the prevention programme on a project-by-project basis for third-party research projects which cannot be conducted by the institutions of the DGUV ([see answer to Q1.1](#)). Only projects of a cross-sector nature are funded. Sector- and hazard-specific research is frequently conducted and financed by the accident insurance institutions for their sectors themselves. In addition, the BGs for the industrial sector fund appropriate research activities conducted by third parties by the DGUV research funding. The research funding budget for the prevention programme is distributed to basic/fundamental research (36 %) and applied research (64 %). The funding sources are completely covered by the accident insurance system in Germany; there are several institutions benefiting from the DGUV research funding programme: 62% of the total budget is destined for universities, 23% for public and 14% for private research institutes and just 1% for larger industrial companies.

## GREECE

The research activity of KYAE during the last three years has been restricted – due to limited financial resources – to the collection and dissemination of information on asbestos issue, as it has been set as a priority among other OSH issues at national level.

- Furthermore, a research project called “Assessment of occupational exposure of furniture workers, in Attica region, to wood dust and vapours of solvents” has been recently carried out. Personal sampling was conducted and the 8-hour time-weighted average concentration was calculated.
- A similar project for the assessment of occupational exposure of metal workers to metal fumes is also under progress (in succession to a previous study conducted by KYAE in cooperation with National Technical University of Athens).
- A few years ago, a survey on occupational problems and risks related to indoor condition in hospitals operating rooms conducted by KYAE and the National Observatory of Athens under the financial support by European Commission.

The Labour Inspectorate has been involved in all research projects conducted by KYAE the last three years, as the scientific personnel of the agency was escorted in the occupational sites, by inspectors of similar specialty.

## HUNGARY

Currently no separate OSH related research programme exists at national level in Hungary. According to its draft strategy the standpoint of OMMF is as follows:

“Based on the national OSH characteristics, a proposal should be elaborated for the OSH activities and priorities for research focussing on solutions that do not endanger health and improve safety at work. Before starting the research however, the above proposals should be included in the renewed National OSH Programme (MOP). When drawing up the priorities, account should be taken of the recommendations proposed by EU-OSHA at the request of the European Commission<sup>8</sup>, such as psycho-social disorders, musculoskeletal problems, dangerous substances, concurrent manifestation of dangers (e.g. organisation of work, planning of workplaces, ergonomics, exposure to physical and chemical substances), as well as risks related to nanotechnology.”

---

<sup>8</sup> [http://osha.europa.eu/en/sub/riskobservatory/teaser/news\\_article.2006-09-19.4476525729](http://osha.europa.eu/en/sub/riskobservatory/teaser/news_article.2006-09-19.4476525729)

## **ICELAND**

Apart from VER there are a few bodies carrying out research work in the working field, such as Research Centre for Occupational Health & Working Life (partnership of VER and University of Iceland), Institution of Public Health (Government institution), Universities and a few privately owned companies.

## **IRELAND**

Many organisations conduct research related to OSH, including the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, National Centre for Partnership and Performance, FAS (national training agency), Institute of Occupational Safety and Health etc. The Health and Safety Authority seeks to collaborate with these organisations to conduct joint research projects.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

There is no separate programme of research related to OSH at national level.

Usually, at the beginning of every year there is some survey- questioning of all available research institutions on possible research related to OSH and then, according the approved common national OSH priorities, there is special open tendering for research.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The OSH directorate of the Ministry in 2007 has a budget for research of € 1.5 million. This research is more often geared to anticipation, definition and prevention of emerging risks.

In addition the Dutch Government subsidises research institutes like TNO Kwaliteit van Leven and the RIVM in order to guarantee the existence of fundamental research capacity. Part of this is also used for research in the area of OSH. The Ministry has influence on the programmes proposed by these research organisations.

Furthermore, the subsidy schemes of the Ministry aimed at reducing the number of accidents at work and the exposure to chemicals promotes research in these fields by companies, social partners and expert organisations.

The Labour Inspectorate has no role in priority setting in these three types.

## **POLAND**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

[See answer to Q1.1](#)

## **ROMANIA**

N/A

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Based on the contract between the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family and the Institute for Labour and Family Research, a proposal for an effective OSH research system is currently being prepared.

## **SLOVENIA**

There is no national programme on OSH research. However, the draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Programme for Safety and Health at Work – prepared by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs – lists the crucial research fields up to 2012. The Inspectorate has been consulted on the issue.

## **SPAIN**

The National Institute for Safety and Health at Work (INSHT) carries out a wide research programme. Through participation in its governing bodies, the national labour inspectorate is involved in the setting of research priorities.

## **SWEDEN**

There is no separate research programme on OSH.

## **SWITZERLAND**

No separate research programme exists. The research projects of the different organisations in the field of occupational health are initiated individually.

## **UK**

Question is not applicable due to HSE's role in carrying out both policy and inspection functions.

### ***Q1.5 Research set? What information is used in setting them?***

## **AUSTRIA**

In principle, surveys or studies concerning important OSH issues are used as a helpful tool to support the planning and realisation of specific inspection projects and campaigns. Results of inspection campaigns and projects, as well as data from the activity report, facilitate the planning process.

## **BELGIUM**

For federal research, the priorities are set by the federal scientific policy, based on the assessment by a panel of international experts

For the laboratory, it is based on the professional literature, participation in workgroups, normalisation etc

For Seveso-related research, priorities are selected based on inspection experiences and discussion with the other Competent Inspection Authorities

## **CYPRUS**

The priorities for the Department of Labour Inspection programme of OSH research are based on the accident records of some economic activity sectors in Cyprus, the observations of the European Risk Observatory on new and emerging risks and the topics of the foreseeable European Safety Weeks.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The State Labour Inspection Office can express its opinion on priorities for research at the national level, e.g. by means of the Government Council for Occupational Safety and Health.

## **DENMARK**

See Q1.3

## **ESTONIA**

N/A

## **FINLAND**

Evidence-based setting of goals is the rule. Evidence is obtained from official national and local statistics and needs, inspection's experiences in the field, from other national OSH development programmes and action policies and government and from the EU organs. Because of limited funds, there is a special system of prioritisation, which takes into account the background policies mentioned in 1.4.

## **FRANCE**

The State Labour inspection office can express its opinion on priorities for research at the national level.

## **GERMANY**

National OSH objectives are specified on the basis of a ranking procedure, developed jointly by accident insurance institutions and health insurers. It can be used whenever data on past accidents, illnesses or impaired well-being or health is available. Objective criteria, such as the number of cases of damage and days of incapacity for work, costs incurred, latency periods, etc, are taken into account when identifying objectives, making it possible to set priorities on a scientific basis. In addition, surveys and studies which can be used to forecast future problems and trends in OSH are also taken into consideration.

The final OSH objectives cannot be specified exclusively on the basis of objective criteria. Other criteria, for which there is no comprehensive data, must also be applied. They include ability to be influenced by prevention, practicability and connection to work. In order to cover these criteria, OSH experts, social partners and political decision-makers are asked to give their opinion in expert meetings.

## **GREECE**

N/A

## **HUNGARY**

[See answer to Q1.4.](#)

## **ICELAND**

In some instances, VER applies for collaboration with institutions in foreign countries (especially Nordic or European countries) and vice versa; special interests of the departments scientists sometimes ignite the research work; and in some cases it is by request from workers unions or similar bodies e.g. from doctors union and flight attendants.

## **IRELAND**

The Research Committee uses a range of information to set the priorities for the Research Programme:

- Statistical results based on the Authority's database of accidents, inspections, enforcement actions
- Statistical results from other national agencies including Central Statistics Office, Teagasc, Department of Social and Family Affairs
- Input from policy / inspectorate (staff may draft proposals for consideration or indicate their support for external proposals)
- European and national level strategy documents
- EU-OSHA campaign theme

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

Mainly all information in setting the priorities for the inspectorate's programme of OSH research is taken from the SLI annual report and analysis of national OSH situation and taking into account the opinion of the Republican Tripartite OSH Commission, also the set OSH national and EU strategy.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The OSH monitor is made at the request of the policy section on OSH of the ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

Other surveys on OSH support the administrative risk analysis made to target the inspection capacity or to support the sector approach or specific inspection projects or to gather and analyse information for specific inspection projects.

## **POLAND**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

N/A

## **ROMANIA**

N/A

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

See also answer to Q1.4.

The labour inspection framework is involved in its preparation and is asked for proposals and incentives. The priorities for OSH research are set on the basis of current specification of social needs.

## **SLOVENIA**

The draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Programme for Safety and Health at Work ([see answer to Q1.4.](#)) has been prepared on the basis of the Analysis of Implementation of the National Programme for Safety and Health at Work that provides an overall picture of the development since 2003 and an insight into the current situation.

The following sources of information have been used:

1. Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia (Annual Work Reports),
2. Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia (Statistical Yearbooks on Health),
3. Institute for Macroeconomic Analysis and Development (Development Reports, Spring and Autumn Forecasts of Economic Trends, and Social Overview),
4. Eurostat (international comparisons).

## **SPAIN**

N/A

## **SWEDEN**

N/A

## **SWITZERLAND**

Setting of the priorities: There is a formalised system (QM System) for identifying new risks and knowledge needs. Once per year a report is written to summarise the situation and make recommendations for priorities. This is discussed and agreed by the heads of the Division of Working Conditions.

The information used for setting the priorities of research is:

- Politically important issues (→ legislation, programmes)
- Audit reports of the labour inspection activities, information and requests from the labour inspectors, reports on scientific meetings and publications, information from occupational health professionals and social partners, questions from the media and needs identified within the Department of Labour

## **UK**

Priorities are structured around three themes; namely:

- Supporting delivery of the HSC's strategy and Public Service Agreement targets;

- Supporting front line regulatory functions (e.g. incident investigation); and
- Looking ahead to identify and meet future challenges.

### **Q1.6 How far ahead are priorities established? Which are the main priorities identified in the last three years?**

#### **AUSTRIA**

No long term priority list for research currently exists.

#### **BELGIUM**

For federal research, the priorities are set for four years. In the last three years, the priorities were: nanotechnologies; musculoskeletal disorders; carcinogenicity tests for substances

For the laboratory the priorities are established annually. For the last three years, the main priorities were: Nanoparticles; sampling within respiratory protective equipment and subsequent thermal desorption.

For Seveso-related research, priorities are identified on an annual basis. Main topics selected during the past three years include: control of major risks in storage facilities of petroleum products and other flammable liquids, inspection of warehouse storages, inspection of mechanical pressure relief systems and instrumental safety systems

#### **CYPRUS**

Priorities are established at least one or two years ahead, and in certain cases, in line with the future topics of the European Safety Week.

For example, the Department of Labour Inspection, having in mind EU-OSHA's 2007 campaign on musculoskeletal disorders, launched in 2006 a study titled «Assessment of the situation regarding physical and mental diseases of the working labour».

The study was carried out by a contractor on behalf of the Department of Labour Inspection. The main objective of the study was to assess and detect health problems faced by employees, which are caused by the nature of their profession.

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The priorities for the national OSH research programme, as set in the bi-annual National OSH Action Programme 2008 – 2010 are as follows:

1. Sources and methods of socio-economic aspects of safety at work.
2. Nanotechnology and dangerous chemical substances.
3. Stress at work.
4. Selected occupational illnesses and their diagnostic criteria.
5. Education in OSH.
6. OSH management.

#### **DENMARK**

The Working Environment Research Fund has prepared a “Strategy for Working Environment Research and Development 2007-2008”. The following seven themes are included in the strategy:

1. Knowledge and action – Measures to have a better working environment
2. New ways of management, organising and technology

3. Noise
4. Psychosocial working environment
5. Musculoskeletal disorders
6. Occupational accidents
7. Chemical substances

The priorities are established in the two-year strategy for the national programme.

## **ESTONIA**

N/A

## **FINLAND**

Strategies for four years and action priorities are established annually. Current general focal areas are prevention of occupational accidents and diseases, prevention of musculoskeletal diseases, and prevention of harmful job strain (mental and physical).

## **FRANCE**

The priorities are set for five years in the framework of the Health at work plan 2005-2009.

## **GERMANY**

The main research priorities in Germany in the past few years can be seen in the answer to Q1.9 and Annexes 2 and 3.

The federal government's research priorities are derived from the strategy (covering a period of ten years) and the work programme (for 2007 - 2010) of the Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA). The framework objectives set out in the BAuA strategy cover the following areas: "Health and capacity for work", "Safe and healthy working conditions", "Safe workplace materials, equipment and methods" and "Advice, education and information". These four areas are in turn divided into the following ten objectives: maintenance and promotion of capacity for work and employability; improvement in the prevention of work-related health disorders and diseases; development and implementation of effective and cost-efficient prevention strategies for small and medium-sized enterprises and key sectors; promotion of work systems of safe and healthy design; improved safeguards against health risks in activities involving hazardous substances and biological agents; increase in the proportion of safe chemical agents; increase in the proportion of products of safe and healthy design; reduction of the proportion of selected product groups with dangerous characteristics; expansion of the range of advisory, information and training services on the topic of health and safety at work; and propagation of a positive image of health and safety at work.

The federal government, federal states and accident insurance institutions, in close consultation with the social partners, have identified the following national OSH objectives for the period 2008 to 2012:

- a) "Reduction in the frequency and severity of occupational accidents, including the reduction of psychological stress and promotion of systematic OSH implementation in enterprises" with the following joint action areas: construction and assembly work, logistics, transport and traffic and newcomers in enterprises (i.e. people starting in the job, people changing job, temporary workers and people from other companies)
- b) "Reduction of musculoskeletal strain and illnesses, including the reduction of psychological stress and promotion of systematic OSH implementation in enterprises" with the following joint action areas: healthcare and activities causing strain to one body part or involving hardly any movement
- c) "Reduction in the frequency and severity of skin disease" with the following joint action areas: work with/in damp surroundings and contact with substances which are harmful to the skin (e.g. cooling lubricants, motor oils, organic solvents or cleaning agents).

There is a particular need for research into the influence of psychological stress on the incidence of occupational accidents and musculoskeletal illnesses and the influence of activities causing strain to one body part (e.g. repetitive movements, working in a standing position or overhead work) or involving hardly any movement (e.g. working at a computer) on the incidence of musculoskeletal complaints and illnesses.

## **GREECE**

See Q1.5

## **HUNGARY**

The priorities for research and their perspective will be drawn up – as indicated under Q1.3 – by a board consisting of executive officers of OMMF and highly respected leading OSH professionals.

The main priorities between 2005 and 2007 were:

- Investigation and elaboration of professional suggestions in certain fields connected with the National OSH Programme (e.g. relations of accident insurance, uniform methodology of risk assessment with OSH, assessment and preparation of extracurricular training);
- Identification of the role of the occupational health service/physicians and OSH professionals in the management of risks at work (assessment and evaluation) with special regard to the biological pathogens;
- In 2006 – as part of the OSH action programme of the European Union – research focussed on the high-risk group of young workers. Since the age of workers is an uncommon risk factor it was considered very important to investigate, analyse and also widely publicise the age-related risks;
- Practical demonstration of the proper application of personal protective equipment to minimise risks ensuing from work processes and technology. Development of facilities for the practical training of PPE equipment especially of fall-arrest articles and of devices for the reduction risks of gas/fumes and vapours.

## **ICELAND**

Priorities are mainly established one year in advance but the research work itself always takes longer; normally a few years.

1. Lifestyle, harassment at work and self-assessed health of female flight attendants, nurses and teachers.
2. New technology and its impact on well being
3. Mortality among female industrial workers in Iceland

## **IRELAND**

The Research Committee decides the Research Programme on a year-by-year basis. Priorities in the past three years have included:

- Manual handling
- Non-Irish national workers in the construction sector
- Cost of accidents

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

There is a strategic (five-year) state plan including a national OSH strategy. SLI plans its activities by preparing strategic (three-year) and annual work plans.

In the last three years the main goals were:

- Prevention of accidents at work in the construction and transport sectors;
- Risk assessment;
- Undeclared work;
- OSH in SMEs;
- OSH training.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

There is no long term priority list of the Dutch Labour Inspectorate for research.

Our own research is mainly periodically repeated research like the OSH monitor, and the OSH risk analysis. Specific elements are added around a stable core of questions and analysed data.

## **POLAND**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

N/A

## **ROMANIA**

N/A

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

N/A

## **SLOVENIA**

The draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Programme for Safety and Health at Work – prepared by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs – lists the crucial research fields till 2012.

The main research priorities 2005 – 2007 were / still are:

1. Occupational diseases

2. Analysis of economic effects of safety and health at work (cost-benefit analysis on the national level, level of certain activities and on the company level)

## **SPAIN**

N/A

## **SWEDEN**

N/A

## **SWITZERLAND**

The priorities are established for periods of up to five years ahead.

In the last three years the main priorities were

- Enlargement of the OSH database on working conditions (participation in Working conditions survey of the Dublin Foundation)
- Ageing workers (working conditions, health, work ability)
- Sexual harassment (distribution and frequency)
- Health effects of permanent night work and work-life balance issues
- Electromagnetic radiation
- Musculoskeletal disorders

Studies have been done on Stress and Mobbing. These will be extended within the next five years.

## **UK**

HSC has published its Science and Research Strategy 2005-2008 detailing the key science and research issues being considered by HSE.

HSE has a number of key programmes for delivering priority business outcomes. The work to achieve the health and safety performance targets will involve:

Taking action where significant improvements in health and safety are needed now. Current priority areas are:

- Musculoskeletal disorders
- Stress
- Falls from heights
- Slips/trips/falls
- Workplace transport
- Construction
- Agriculture
- Health services

Ensuring that an effective regulatory regime exists in the major hazard sectors

Ensuring compliance with the health and safety legislation

Meeting the requirement to modernise and simplify the regulatory framework, provide information and advice, promote risk assessment and technical knowledge and operate statutory schemes.

Nuclear safety research (Nuclear Research Programme), which is 80% funded by the nuclear licensees is managed within the Nuclear Safety Directorate (NSD) and is devoted to nuclear industry specific issues.

Nuclear safety research (the HSC Co-ordinated Programme), which is 80% funded by the nuclear licensees is managed within the Nuclear Safety Directorate (NSD) and is devoted to nuclear industry specific nuclear safety issues . The programme forms part of HSE's research work in the major hazard industries.

***Q1.7 How much are labour inspectors involved in specific information gathering exercises to add to the Inspectorate's knowledge base and so inform the deliberations on priorities in future annual programmes of work?***

**AUSTRIA**

In carrying out specific focus, campaigns data and important information is collected. This gathered information provides a basis for further actions in the future.

**BELGIUM**

For the federal scientific policy the input of the inspectors is almost zero.

SWW has a recording system for the type of problems and the way the inspector has to react (information, warning, delays, Pro Justicia, stopping work). The inspectors have to systematically introduce their data for each inspection. We participate also in the SLIC campaigns. This recording system can be questioned by the management of the inspectorate. We can also rely on the databases of the "Fonds des maladies professionnelles" or "the "Fonds des accidents du travail"

Laboratory: via the Community of Practice Hygiene of SWW, with the participation of inspectors and also via exposure measurements in the workplaces

For Seveso-related research: All inspectors of the Seveso Inspection Division are part of their time involved in research and development activities. The ongoing projects and inspection-related issues are discussed with all these inspectors during a monthly staff meeting.

**CYPRUS**

Labour Inspectors are involved in specific information-gathering exercises to add to the Department's knowledge base in cases where such exercises require their knowledge and experience. Examples are the active participation of all Labour Inspectors in completing the Danish Working Environment Authority's questionnaires concerning various economic activity sectors by visiting various undertakings belonging to each economic activity sector.

**CZECH REPUBLIC**

All results of inspections are recorded in the information system and serve as background material for reports, studies, analysis and planning inspections including selection of companies to be inspected. The information system was developed to support the activities of both inspectors and senior managers.

**DENMARK**

Danish labour inspectors add to the knowledge base by registering inspections, improvement notices, and other "reactions" etc. to working environment problems recognised at the site of inspection.

Statistics and analyses are drawn from these registrations (see 1.8)

## **ESTONIA**

Inspectors are extensively involved in information, including for the relevant policy maker Ministry of Social Affairs

## **FINLAND**

The role of individual inspector is sporadic. The bases are the national statistics and the both national and local state-of-art analysis by experts (FIOH).

## **FRANCE**

N/A

## **GERMANY**

Both the federal states' OSH authorities and the accident insurance institutions' inspection services produce reports and publish examples of good or bad practice, announce the findings of investigations into accidents and occupational illnesses and make use of various forms of publicity work. Priorities for the annual work programme are specified, taking into account inspectors' cz.osha.europa experiences and available statistics on accident and illness incidence and using the method described in Q1.5.

## **GREECE**

When carrying out research, scientific personnel of the KYAE are escorted in the occupational sites by labour inspectors of similar specialty.

## **HUNGARY**

Information gathering is performed especially by the local inspectorates of OMMF<sup>9</sup>. The headquarters consolidates and evaluates information received mainly from the local inspectorates and then it forwards the processed information data to the local inspectorates. In certain cases (e.g. inspections performed upon local initiation and action inspections responsibility), the data are also evaluated by the local inspectorates in question and the data are forwarded to the headquarters following consolidation and evaluation only.

Based on its legal power, OMMF posts part of the data on its homepage.

The directors and inspectors of the local inspectorates are involved in the elaboration of the yearly inspection programmes of OMMF.

## **ICELAND**

Inspectors are involved very little.

## **IRELAND**

Inspectors periodically complete ad-hoc surveys on special topics in the course of their inspection – data on topics such as manual handling or occupational health has been captured in this way.

---

<sup>9</sup> At the time of the answers given to the SLIC report, two authorities were responsible for the administrative OSH inspection: OMMF was competent concerning the OSH inspection whereas the National Public Health and Medical Officer's Service (ÁNTSZ) kept control over occupational health. In the above SLIC report the two authorities provided their respective answers separately. After the official merging of the two bodies in 2007, OMMF has become the competent OSH authority and so further on it supplies the answers in both topics.

Inspectors gather information on key topics (those ones which cause accidents) during inspections. This information is recorded on our IT system. The Policy and Technical Services inspectors along with our Statistician review these results and decide on future priorities in our programme of work.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

After each proactive or reactive inspection of an enterprise, labour inspectors prepare a report on a standard form. All reports by labour inspectors from the regional divisions are transferred to the administration, where the data are compiled and analysed. The SLI thus keeps a database on inspected enterprises and the occupational safety and health situation in these enterprises

Mainly all information for planning activities is taken from the analysis of the inspectors' reports and accidents at work or occupational diseases investigation acts.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The inspectors gather the actual information for the annual survey on OSH and other surveys.

The administrative risk analysis system of the Labour Inspectorate on occupational safety and health (AIRA) contains expert judgements from the expertise centre of the Labour Inspectorate and others to determine the number of persons exposed to certain risks.

Inspectors may be involved in gathering extra information for our sector approach.

## **POLAND**

Labour inspectors hold inspections in facilities selected as per the annual Work Plan. This goes both for central and local part, to be developed by regional labour inspectorates. Inspectors of the National Labour Inspectorate (NLI) monitor the issues of occupational health and safety, legal protection of the employment relationship, working time, remuneration and legality of employment in all lines of business. Inspection relate to both employees and individuals performing work based on a non-employment relationship.

As part of inspections (routine and topic-based inspections under the Programme of Activity), NLI inspectors use checklists, which are forms specifying the purpose and scope of inspection. They also allow gathering comparable figures to determine the scale of non-compliance with regulations regarding a given labour protection area.

An inspector, before starting the inspection, may use data regarding inspections previously held in a given facility, including the irregularities found (if any) and methods to eliminate them through the application of specific legal instruments.

Having completed the inspection activities, labour inspectors draw up an inspection report and issue legal instruments (recommendations). The inspection report is signed both by the inspector and by

the employer whose facility has been inspected. The reports and related post-inspection documents are stored in a hard copy in the archive. Legal instruments (recommendations) issued after the inspection are encoded and recorded in the electronic system (database). Moreover, after each inspection, labour inspectors fill in statistical sheets detailing the number and type of legal instruments (recommendations in the form of administrative decisions or improvement notices, penalties imposed – fines or complaints lodged with courts, as well as educational and disciplinary measures). These are entered in an electronic database storing inspection results information.

Information collected during the inspection is used when planning future inspection activities and when developing the Programme of Activity in the following years.

## **PORTUGAL**

Data collected by inspectors is, among others, an indicator to draw each annual plan for inspection activities. This is not related to research.

## **ROMANIA**

[See answer to 2.1](#)

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Information gathering is performed especially by the local labour inspectors. Their findings are fed into the OSH Information System /ISOP/. General reports on the status of occupational safety and health are sent by the local inspectorates to the headquarters twice a year and specialised assessment reports are sent by the local inspectorates to the headquarters after a period when a national task is over. All this information is used later on by the National Labour Inspectorate when setting priorities in the future annual programmes of work.

## **SLOVENIA**

The involvement of the regional inspectors is based on their monthly and annual reports of work and also on joint staff meetings which are held regularly and at different levels.

## **SPAIN**

The labour inspectorate records all results of its activities in databases which are available to those who are involved in setting priorities for research programmes in safety and health at work. Annual activity reports of the labour inspection are available at:

[http://info.mtas.es/itss/web/Que\\_hacemos/Estadisticas/index.html](http://info.mtas.es/itss/web/Que_hacemos/Estadisticas/index.html)

## **SWEDEN**

The inspectors are involved to a small degree.

## **SWITZERLAND**

A system for promoting the flow of information is currently under development. Historically the labour inspectors have not been involved in gathering information.

## **UK**

[See answer to Q2.1](#)

### **Q1.8 *Is the labour inspectorate involved in the collection, analysis and production of statistical information in the fields of health and safety?***

#### **AUSTRIA**

Yes, partly. The main statistic data is collected by AUVA (Austrian Social insurance) and Statistik Austria.

The labour inspectors collect information during their inspections. This information collected during routine (proactive) inspections is held both manually and electronically. Information on matters such as the number of employees, production processes, special equipment or substances in use, involvement of safety engineers and occupational physicians, and irregularities noted during the inspection, is entered in the database. This information is helpful for deciding on future priorities and ensures continuity in the event of a change in inspectorate staff. Reports containing more detailed information on particular aspects of the inspection are held manually.

#### **BELGIUM**

[See answer to Q1.7](#)

#### **CYPRUS**

The labour inspectorate collects information on, for example, the number of accidents per economic activity sector, whether the accident was fatal or non fatal, the age and gender of the person involved, the accident causation, etc. This information is entered into the Factory Inspectorate computerised Information System of the Department, which is an information gathering and processing tool. Statistical information can be obtained, as well as tailor made reports can be made.

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Occupational Safety Research Institute (VÚBP, v.v.i.) receives occupational accident records from individual inspectorates. These records are subsequently used to process occupational accident statistics.

#### **DENMARK**

The Danish Working Environment Authority houses three registers:

- Statistics and analysis of accidents, diseases and disorders (Registry of occupational injuries)
- Registry on the occupational use of chemical substances and products (The Product Register)
- Register of inspections to the enterprises (improvement notices, working environment problem etc.)

Yearly Surveillance Report (in Danish, Overvågning) <http://www.at.dk/sw11045.asp>

Year book on Occupational Injuries <http://www.at.dk/sw12185.asp#afs2> (in English until 2003)

Year book on Occupational Injuries <http://www.at.dk/sw5681.asp> (in Danish until 2006)

Statistics on the use of chemicals, <http://www.at.dk/sw11037.asp> (in Danish)

#### **ESTONIA**

Yes, mainly in the field of occupational accidents and diseases, also (on the basis of visits) on circumstance of special OSH criteria

## FINLAND

All the site visits are reported and the results collated in a national register. This constitutes the database for the department's planning.

Collection, analysis and production of OSH statistical information are the duty of expert organisations like FIOH in general and the Accident Insurance Association in the case of occupational accidents and diseases. The labour inspectorate collects data from workplace inspections using specially developed tools and evaluation meters. All this data is collected into national database for national and local situation reporting.

## FRANCE

Labour inspectorate's departments are not directly involved in the collection of statistical information. Nevertheless, insofar as agents account for their control activity on enterprises and building sites, the CAP SITERE information system gathers a great amount of information on these enterprises in breach of the labour law, especially as regards the occupational safety and health field.

In other respects, some control campaigns (national or European) focussed on a tight field of control, allow the labour inspectorate to make a kind of overview on a precise topic. This has been the case in 2007 for the national campaign of cranes control.

In the regional level, regional directions of labour, employment and vocational training have at their disposal departments in charge of surveys, prospecting and statistic which collect – especially in the field of labour – useful statistical elements to make a local diagnosis on the basis of which a regional actions plan can be built.

## GERMANY

Yes, the state OSH authorities and the accident insurance institutions' inspection services are required by different statutory provisions to investigate accidents, occupational illnesses and possible health hazards and to produce reports on them. The inspectors' activities are also documented and presented in annual reports.

## GREECE

The Labour Inspectorate has been involved in all research projects conducted by KYAE over the last three years.

## HUNGARY

OMMF<sup>10</sup> possesses extensive statistics database to which the information data are gathered by the local inspectorates whereas their consolidation and evaluation are performed by the headquarters. The local inspectorates are authorised to evaluate their own data only, the national data and evaluations are provided to them by the headquarters.

Databases:

- Inspected employers,
  - Measures and sanctions of inspections,
  - Accidents at work, occupational diseases, cases of extraordinary exposures

---

<sup>10</sup> When the answers were given to the SLIC report two authorities were competent in the administrative OSH inspection: OMMF was responsible for the OSH inspection whereas the National Public Health and Medical Officer's Service (ÁNTSZ) kept control over occupational health. In the above SLIC report the two authorities gave their answers separately. Since the official merging of the two bodies in 2007, OMMF has become the competent OSH authority and further on it supplies the answers in both topics.

## **ICELAND**

The labour inspectorate VER is responsible for collection, analysis and production of statistical information related to frequency of occupational accidents.

## **IRELAND**

Inspectors log details of all inspections and enforcement actions on the Authority's SAFE database – these data are analysed to inform the Authority's Programme of Work and the data is also published in the Authority's corporate publications.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

After each proactive or reactive inspection of an enterprise, labour inspectors prepare a report on a standard form. All reports by labour inspectors from the regional divisions are transferred to the administration, where the data are compiled and analysed. The SLI thus keeps a database on inspected enterprises and the occupational safety and health situation in these enterprises

## **LUXEMBOURG**

N/A

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The Central Bureau for Statistics, the National Institute on Occupational Diseases and the Social Security Institute UWV and others compile the major national statistics.

The Labour Inspectorate only adds the data from our OSH monitor en the findings of inspections.

See the answer to Q 1.1

## **POLAND**

The National Labour Inspectorate collects, processes, and analyses information on work conditions, including national and international statistical data.

Results of each completed inspection are entered in the computer database. This provides National Labour Inspectorate organs with immediate access to current data on:

- the degree of legal compliance in the enterprises under inspection,
- their conduct in the context of occupational health and safety,
- issues related to employee relations and their compliance with legal requirements.

Moreover, each post-inspection document is stored in the archives of a competent district labour inspectorate and may be accessed by each labour inspector.

NLI also gathers information on irregularities reported by employees, employers and institutions working with NLI. This is also used when setting priorities for the National Labour Inspectorate's future activities or is used in the current activities of labour inspectors.

Based on the inspections conducted, a District Labour Inspector draws up an annual report on the inspectorate's activity, containing an assessment of labour law compliance, in particular the state of occupational health and safety, as well as that of regulations regarding legality of employment. Next, the Chief Labour Inspector draws up a Report on the National Labour Inspectorate's activity, which is then presented to the Sejm, to the Council of Ministers and to the Labour Protection Council (regulatory body supervising the activities of the National Labour Inspectorate).

## **PORTUGAL**

Yes. It is collected the number of inspections carried out in establishments, occupational hygiene and safety reports, inquiries into occupational accidents, coercive and non-coercive procedures.

## **ROMANIA**

The main data on health and safety is collected at the local level by the territorial labour inspectorates and the Labour Inspection manages the existing national information system.

During their inspection visits, the labour inspectors collect information on matters such as the number of controlled employers, the number of employees of the controlled enterprises, the number of sanctions and measures disposed for the violations identified during inspections. This information is entered into the local database which is then integrated into the national database.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Yes. These activities form an inseparable part of labour inspectors' work. Inspectors encode their data into the OSH Information System. These records are used to process occupational accident statistics and other relevant OSH statistics.

## **SLOVENIA**

In Slovenia, employers must immediately report to the Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia any fatal injuries or any injuries at work which result in an absence of more than three consecutive calendar days. The Inspectorate investigates all reported accidents which meet these criteria. Special inspection campaigns are organised for particular sectors not only in industry but also in the health sector, education sector etc. The investigation of occupational diseases is still an area which has not been defined because verification fees have not been defined. Occupational diseases must also be reported to the Inspectorate. Because of the lack of verification methodology, the Inspectorate currently does not have reliable statistical data on occupational diseases. Only a few cases are notified annually. Victims are themselves required to report their diagnostic proceedings at primary and secondary levels, which poses an obstacle to the reporting system for occupational diseases.

Data on accidents at work are classified in accordance with the ESAW methodology. The Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia is responsible for submitting data to EUROSTAT. The Inspectorate has developed a new notification form in line with the ESAW methodology. This form can be downloaded directly from the Internet and completed by employers.

## **SPAIN**

Yes. All the activity of each labour inspector, visits made, issues dealt with in each visit, outcome of each inspection, is recorded electronically. This information is widely used by the labour inspection for monitoring, analysis and activity planning and by other actors in the OSH field.

## **SWEDEN**

To some extent; the reported occupational accidents are classified and put into the national system, ISA, by the Labour Inspectorate, while the occupational diseases are classified by the head office.

## **SWITZERLAND**

Yes. There is also collaboration with the Department of Statistics who conduct large scale surveys on work related issues.

## **UK**

This work is carried out by HSE Statistics Branch (please see <http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/units.htm>)

The inspectorate feeds into this work.



## 2 Inspection

**Table 2 – Existence of regional flexibility and periodicity in setting inspection priorities**

	Regional flexibility	Priorities set ahead (years) <sup>11</sup>		Regional flexibility	Priorities set ahead (years) <sup>12</sup>
AUSTRIA	X	1	LATVIA		
BELGIUM	X	3+1	LITHUANIA	X	3+1
CYPRUS	X	2	LUXEMBOURG	-	5+1
CZECH REPUBLIC	X	1	MALTA		
DENMARK	-	5	NETHERLANDS	-	4
ESTONIA	X	5	POLAND	X	3+1
FINLAND	X	4	PORTUGAL	X	3
FRANCE	X	N/A	ROMANIA	X	5
GERMANY	X	-	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	X	1
GREECE	X	-	SLOVENIA	X	1
HUNGARY	X	-	SPAIN	X	0.5
ICELAND	-	3+1	SWEDEN	X	3+1
IRELAND	-	3+1	SWITZERLAND	X	1
ITALY			UNITED KINGDOM	-	7+1

Setting priorities for inspection involves making the best use of resources, which are limited not only by the number of workplaces that can be visited, but also because inspection is only one of several duties that labour inspectorates have to carry out. NLI variously have responsibility for awareness-raising, research, provision of advice, issuing of licences, publication of statistics, etc.

In nearly all Member States, it is the competent government ministry – or local government where labour inspection is devolved regionally – that takes the formal decision on priorities for inspection, but exceptionally, it is the head of the NLI that is responsible. In all cases, however, the decision is based on a wider consultation, typically with senior labour inspectors, social partners and in some cases the social or occupational insurers. As in the case of research priorities, reference is also made to national strategies and in some cases to external sources such as SLIC, ILO or the European Commission

<sup>11</sup> “+1” indicates strategy plus annual work plan

<sup>12</sup> “+1” indicates strategy plus annual work plan

Several NLI use a system of risk classification or analysis to target enterprises for inspection. This system is based on factors such as the existence of particular hazards (relying principally on information from previous inspections held in a register), their sector or size, or the existence or incidence of complaints or accidents.

As well as focusing on employers' risk profile, priorities for inspection also focus on risk types, for example, work transport, bullying and stress, or exposure to chemicals. The introduction of new OSH legislation affecting certain types of enterprise is also mentioned as a factor in setting inspection priorities.

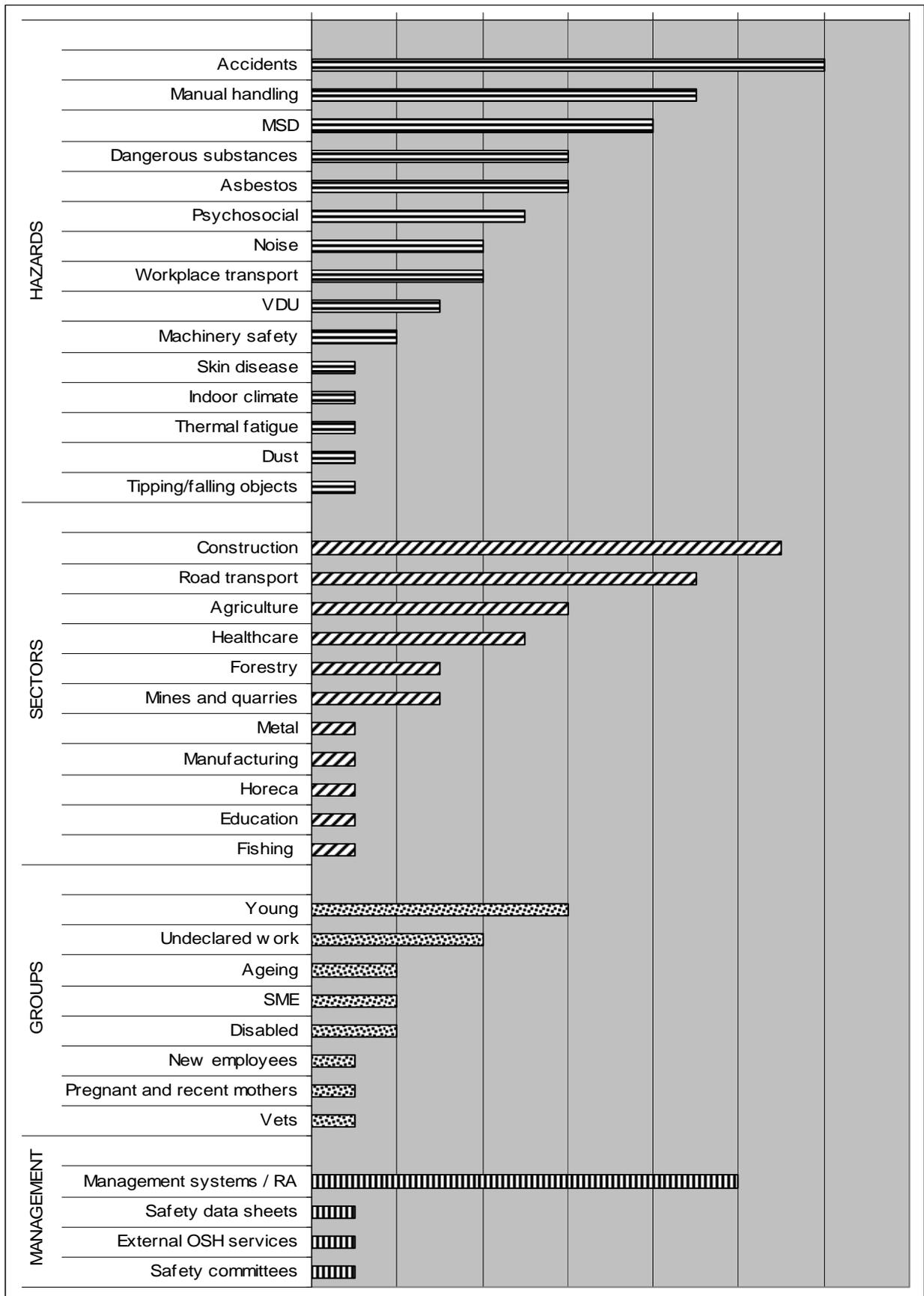
Labour inspectors are in a unique position when it comes to monitoring OSH at the workplace and nearly all countries draw on their experience in some way when setting priorities. The principal methods are analysis of the information that inspectors place in the inspection register and the direct feeding of information through the hierarchy by consultation with heads of department, sector, or local inspection offices. Frequently, inspectors are consulted on the priorities or strategy for inspection as part of the drafting process.

With the exception of a couple of countries, regions or districts are given substantial flexibility – mainly as regards allocation of inspection resources – in order to reflect local variations in hazards or sectors.

Priorities are set anything from six months to seven years ahead. In most cases, periods of three, four or five years reflect the duration of the national OSH strategy, which is usually implemented through annual work plans.

Of the main inspection priorities set during the last three years, most relate to specific workplace hazards or to particular high-risk sectors. To a lesser extent, certain vulnerable groups are identified as a priority and finally also OSH management issues. As shown in the figure below, the most frequently identified priority hazards relate to reduction in incidence and severity of accidents, manual handling, MSDs, dangerous substances – particularly asbestos – and psychosocial issues such as stress or harassment. Among the priority sectors, construction, road transport, agriculture and healthcare are identified most frequently. Young workers and undeclared workers feature as vulnerable groups and OSH management including risk assessment stands out as the most important management issue.

**Table 3 – Prevalence of topics among national priorities for inspection**



## **Q2.1 Who is responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives for inspection?**

### **AUSTRIA**

Priorities determining the main work programme of the Labour Inspectorates are identified by the Director-General. The priorities reflect the wishes of the Minister and are also influenced by the head of the Labour Inspectorates and staff of the Central Labour Inspectorate.

The main work programme must take into account the resources available to the Labour Inspectorates, which have to deal with some 19,000 licence applications every year. Advisory work with companies and institutions can take advantage of preparing procedures or implementing safety and health projects (totalling some 28,000 consultations per year) also takes up a considerable amount of time. Labour Inspectorates can incorporate local priorities into their work programmes too.

Information about activities concerning labour inspection is held electronically and updated daily. The heads of the Labour Inspectorates and the Central Inspectorate are thus able to keep track of the progress made in relation to the agreed work programmes and objectives. Since, however, the Central Labour Inspectorate believes that the quality of the work carried out is at least as important as the quantity, the electronic data are reviewed on a regular basis, while staff of the Central Inspectorate periodically visit the regional offices to monitor and assess, both qualitatively and quantitatively, the work performed.

### **BELGIUM**

The head of SWW

Laboratory: the head of the laboratory sets the priorities and targets

For Seveso-companies, falling within the scope of the Seveso II-Directive 96/82/EC, a specific Inspection Division is responsible for the organisation and carrying out of inspections in compliance with the inspection requirements of this directive. The head of this division is responsible for drawing up priorities and objectives for inspections in Seveso-companies.

### **CYPRUS**

The Department of Labour Inspection is the Competent Authority which is responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives for inspection. These are also submitted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance for final approval.

### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The State Labour Inspection Office is responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives for inspection within the scope of its activity.

### **DENMARK**

The priorities of the Danish Working Environment Authority (WEA) are set by the Danish Government. Priorities are set nationwide to ensure that the most important working-environment problems are addressed and to ensure that all working-environment professionals (e.g. inspectors, OSH consultants, and social partners) work towards a common goal.

If new legislation is needed, the National Parliament is involved.

In the period between 2005 and 2011 the WEA will pay a visit to all enterprises with employees according to the National inspection plan. The order of inspection is decided partly politically and partly set up by the Danish Working Environment Authority itself.

## **ESTONIA**

Ministry of Social Affairs (Working Life Development Department), taking account the relevant point of view of the Inspectorate

National information via [www.ti.ee](http://www.ti.ee) (in Estonian)

## **FINLAND**

It is the task of the Ministry and in practice the Director General of the Department in consultations with the directorate of the Department and the chiefs of the inspections districts (eight districts).

## **FRANCE**

This is the central administrative body for labour, created by a decree of the 22nd of 2006, which is especially in charge to define national priorities of action for the labour inspectorate. Currently, the central administrative of labour prepares, drives and co ordinates the labour policy to improve collective and individual relationships and working conditions in enterprises, as well as the quality and the effectiveness of rules which govern them.

In the field of labour relationships, it exercises its authority over decentralised departments of the labour ministry and is in charge of the implementation of the N° 81 ILO convention. It therefore carries out the central authority function for agents of labour inspectorate related to the labour ministry. It defines labour policy thrusts, coordinates, assesses and increases the value of actions, especially as regards the control of the implementation of the labour law. It contributes to the definition of territorial network principles of organisation. It watches over the respect of ethical rules for its agents. It also coordinates links with labour inspectorate departments related to other ministerial offices.

## **GERMANY**

In accordance with the division of tasks described under Q1.1, the federal states in their capacity as the authorities responsible for enforcing OSH regulations and the accident insurance institutions' inspection services are responsible for setting the priorities for inspection and enforcement. The "Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik" (Joint Committee of State Labour Inspection Services, abbreviated to "LASI" in German) coordinates the prioritisation between the 16 federal states. On the accident insurance side, an umbrella association (the "Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung e.V." or DGUV) of the sector-specific bodies (mostly "Berufsgenossenschaft" institutions for statutory accident insurance and prevention) and regional bodies (mostly "Unfallkasse" accident insurance institutions) is responsible for coordination. The priorities are agreed between the federal states and accident insurance institutions in top-level talks between the states, the institutions and the federal government.

As part of the Common German OSH Strategy, the "Nationale Arbeitsschutzkonferenz" (National OSH Conference, abbreviated to "NAK" in German) will be the forum for this priority-agreement process in the future. The NAK will include the social partners in the selection and setting of national OSH objectives and joint action areas.

## **GREECE**

The responsible authorities of the Ministry of Employment and Social Security are:

1. The Central Service of Labour Inspectorate (SEPE), Directorate for planning and coordination of technical and sanitary inspection) and
2. The General Directorate for Working Conditions and Health.

Bodies responsible for issuing opinions and promoting negotiation and social dialogue concerning the development of policies in the field of safety and health are:

- a) The Council for Social Control of Labour Inspection (SKEEE) in the Central Service of SEPE, which implements also the social control of SEPE and

- b) The Occupational Safety and Health Council (SYAE), in the General Directorate for Working Conditions and Health.

Members of SKEEE constitute representatives of the main tertiary level organisations of workers and employers and members of SYAE include not only representatives of organisations of workers and employers but also representatives of other Ministries and representatives of scientific associations.

Also each territory has a consultative body responsible for occupational safety and health matters (in prefectures and administrative regions).

## HUNGARY

Setting the long term OSH objectives constitutes the task of the Hungarian Parliament. In its decree<sup>13</sup> the Hungarian Parliament defined the "National OSH Programme" (MOP) for five years ahead. With a view to implement this programme, the government elaborates a detailed schedule of measures, specifies the tasks, the responsible parties, the necessary tools and resources with the involvement of the organs representing the employers and workers' interests.

The minister responsible for employment policy is obliged to draw up the priorities of inspection. To this end he takes into consideration the recommendations of the European Union as well as the opinion of the OSH Committee<sup>14</sup>.

With regard to the above, OMMF<sup>15</sup> also specifies its yearly work schedules and priorities.

## ICELAND

Director of VER and/or Operational Management with or without cooperation with the Institution Board and in some cases the Development and Inspection Department.

## IRELAND

The Health and Safety Authority Strategy Statement 2007-2009 (can be downloaded from our website at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)) is drawn up by the Board of the HSA with input from all parts of the organisation including the inspectors in the Workplace Compliance Division. In particular Strategic Goal 4 on 'Enforce occupational safety, health and welfare legislation through targeted and prioritised inspections and through legal actions where necessary' sets out the actions inspectors must take. The HSA work programme for any one year sets out the priorities for inspection for that year. Inspectors have an involvement in setting these priorities. Field inspectors are consulted on what these priorities should be. These priorities are presented to the HSA Board for consideration and ratification.

## ITALY

No information supplied

## LATVIA

No information supplied

---

<sup>13</sup> Government decree 20/2001 (III.30) OGY on the National OSH Programme

<sup>14</sup> OSH Committee: a body which consists of members of the Hungarian government and organisations representing the employers' and workers' interests and manages the reconciliation of interests in respect of safe work which is not dangerous to health. According to its separate order of business this body has an active role in drawing up and supervising the National OSH Programme.

<sup>15</sup> At the time of answers given to the SLIC report two authorities were competent in the administrative OSH inspection: OMMF was responsible for the OSH inspection and the National Public Health and Medical Officer's Service (ÁNTSZ) kept control over occupational health. In the above SLIC report the two authorities gave their answers separately. After the official merging of the two bodies in 2007 OMMF has become the competent OSH authority and it supplies the answers in both topics further on.

## **LITHUANIA**

The Law on Safety and Health at Work provides for the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and the Ministry of Health to implement state occupational safety and health policy in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the Labour Code, legislation, government resolutions and other legal acts.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

The Standing Committee on Labour, a tripartite advisory body chaired by the Minister of Labour, puts forward the priorities of national policy on this area.

This Committee has a consultative character, to which representatives of the social partners, the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Labour Inspectorate belong.

Its strategic planning is expressed in a "Charta" quoting the six top objectives all signatories are committed to achieve in an annual, mostly pluriannual time frame.

At the level of the competent authorities, a coordination committee of the national labour inspection system is charged with the organisation of collaborations and synergies among the qualified administrations for the world of labour, with the aim of a common policy of control, prevention and organisation.

The coordination committee of the national labour inspection system is composed by the Labour inspectorate, the Division of health at the work, the Administration of the customs and excises, the National service of safety for public officials and the Association of accident insurance (AAI).

At the level proper of the Labour Inspectorate a steering group called "Duty holders", defines, plans, performs and checks its priority objectives. The work is mainly performed in teams and based on a management by result approach.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The minister is responsible, on propositions of the General Director of the Labour Inspectorate via the Secretary General of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

The OSH policy directorate and social partners are consulted on the multi annual strategy and the annual work plans of the Labour Inspectorate.

The multi annual strategy and annual plans are presented to parliament by the Minister of Social Affairs.

## **POLAND**

The NLI's Work Plan (the Action Schedule) comprises all the central tasks, whose accomplishment is obligatory for all the NLI's units in the country. It is prepared in the NLI's head office (Chief Labour Inspectorate), following consultation between the NLI's management and the executives of the NLI's territorial units as well as representatives of labour inspectors. Moreover, during the preparatory work on the said Work Plan, consideration is given to the proposals forwarded by the authority bodies (Parliament), the Labour Protection Council, public administration offices, scientific institutes, trade unions, employers' organisations and other bodies dealing with labour protection.

The priorities and main objectives of the NLI's activities, (selected in the process described above), are included in the Work Plan, which is annually submitted to the Labour Protection Council by the Chief Labour Inspector. The Council expresses its opinion on the presented Work Plan.

Before its implementation, the NLI's head office develops guidelines for inspection purposes and runs training courses for those labour inspectors who will be held responsible for the fulfilment of specific tasks.

The annual Work Plan for a given year comprises a fixed number of inspections, which are considered indispensable for the execution of each specific task. Those inspections ought to be carried out by district labour inspectorates, which assign the tasks to individual labour inspectors.

## **PORTUGAL**

The Central Authority of the labour inspection, on the basis of references from international and national policies, defines a plan for the organisation and sets objectives for each unit and for the labour inspectors. The social partners, represented on the Economic and Social Council, are previously consulted.

Regional offices responsible for implementing the national plan do so by identifying areas of action, planning the measures to be taken, defining those responsible for their implementation, determining the need for cooperation with other regional units or with external bodies and, where necessary, identifying other additional objectives.

## **ROMANIA**

The Framework Action Plan is the planning instrument for the whole control activity of the Labour Inspection and the territorial labour inspectorates, previously analysed and discussed by the Labour Inspection Board. The Plan constitutes the basis for organising and developing the inspection activities both at the central and the local level.

This annual plan is approved by the general inspector of state following its approval by the deputy general inspector of state who is responsible for coordinating the activity of drawing up national priorities and objectives for control in the field of safety and health at work.

All the information used for the planning exercise is taken from the inspectors' reports and the investigation documents following accidents at work or occupational diseases.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

According to Article 4 of Act No 125/2006, the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family is the national authority responsible for preparing and drawing up strategic, conceptual and programme documents and for devising measures for improvements in OSH: The Ministry coordinates the activities of state administrative bodies in the field of labour protection.

## **SLOVENIA**

The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs and Ministry of Health are responsible for drawing up national priorities and objectives in the field of safety and health at work.

Priorities and targets are set out in the National Programme of Health and Safety at Work, which was adopted in 2003 by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia. The programme outlines the strategy in the field of safety and health at work. The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs monitors and evaluates the implementation of the above mentioned programme, devises solutions and measures.

The Chief Labour Inspector is responsible for drawing up the annual guidelines and directions for campaigns carried out by the Inspectorate. As explained earlier, the Inspectorate is collecting and analysing data obtained during regular activities and campaigns. Detailed guidelines and materials for campaigns are prepared by the Director of Safety and Health Inspection and specialised inspectors.

## **SPAIN**

The autonomous communities (CCAA) are responsible for applying OSH legislation and as such set the priorities and objectives for inspection. The CCAA plans are compiled in a national programme of inspection objectives which is approved by all the CCAA and the central administration of a dedicated body (Sectoral Conference). Objectives are generally expressed in terms of the number of workplace inspections carried out within a specific sector or focused on a specified OSH problem.

Furthermore, the "Dirección General" of the national labour inspection (Inspección de Trabajo y Seguridad Social) defines and organises the inspectorate's overall programmes and objectives.

## **SWEDEN**

Arbetsmiljöverket – Swedish Work Environment Authority (SWEA)

## **SWITZERLAND**

- The Department of Labour, Division of Working Conditions in matters relating to health protection. This is done in collaboration with the cantonal labour inspectorates.
- The Swiss Accident Insurance Agency in matters of accident prevention.

## **UK**

### **Preparation of national objectives**

In the HSE, inspectors' activities are determined by an annual work planning system stemming from a longer-term national plan agreed by senior management following contributions from and consultation with all Directorates and taking into account HSC's Strategy for Workplace Health and Safety in GB to 2010, HSC's Revitalising Health and Safety Strategy, available resources and current political and public concern on health and safety issues.

The link with the Strategy, and the challenging targets for reducing injuries, ill health and days lost, have resulted in a move to programme working within the broader framework of all HSE's work. This can broadly be categorised into two areas:

- 'Core' activities, i.e. those necessary to deliver HSC's functions (such as support services and infrastructure - personnel, finance, legal etc) and statutory imperatives/legal duties such as investigating incidents and complaints; and
- Strategic Programme work to deliver the targets, which are to:
  - Reduce the number of working days lost per 100,000 workers from work-related injury and ill health by 30% by 2010
  - Reduce the incidence rate of fatal and major injury accidents by 10% by 2010; and
  - Reduce the incidence rate of cases of work-related ill health by 20% by 2010:

There are five Strategic Programmes, selected to enable HSE to assign resources to areas of strategic importance, where they expect the effect on health and safety performance to be greatest:

- Health and Safety Hazards
- Sector
- Major Hazards
- Local Authorities
- Better Health at Work Partnership

Each of which will be implemented through smaller programmes.

In the Field Operations Directorate (FOD), the largest operational directorate in HSE, the Director of Field Operations formulates the FOD Plan of Work, with input and support from Headquarters staff, the Sector Programme Managers and the directors and managers of the other Strategic Programmes.

At an individual level staff time and resource to be spent on each activity are planned. Examples of the type of activity are proactive inspection, investigation, advisory work and enforcement. Key details of the work of frontline staff in FOD (which includes some administrative staff) is entered into an IT system where it can be analysed and monitored at individual inspector, local, division and national level.

Within FOD, monitoring of plans is carried out monthly by line managers, including Heads of Division, using the key information stored and additional information, analysis and comment provided by headquarters. Local authority enforcement officers' activities are also determined by an annual service plan. The strategy for the co-ordination of local authority enforcement is decided annually by HELA (Health and Safety Executive and Local Authority Enforcement Liaison Committee) after discussion with the Commission and communicated to all local authorities. Local authorities, in their individual work programmes, allocate resources for proactive inspection, the investigation of accidents and complaints and for participation in special projects and national and regional inspection initiatives.

### **Proactive inspection for enforcement purposes**

Inspectors take a risk-based approach, using programme working to target efforts; during this work key issues and matters of evident concern are addressed. Key issues to be dealt with by the projects in the Sector Strategic Programme will include a continued focus on those areas which were the HSC priority sectors (agriculture, construction and health services), the priority topics: falls from height; workplace transport (WT); slips and trips; musculoskeletal disorders (MSD); and stress and other significant topics. In addition, there will be a renewed focus on work in Manufacturing, Utilities, Services and Transport ('MUST'). Other work to be carried out by FOD includes asbestos, poor performers, multi-site organisations or local authorities. These key areas and matters of evident concern are the prime means of judging the quality of a duty holder's management of health and safety. Inspectors also deal with significant issues raised by management, employee representatives or employees.

The programmes will include time for visiting manufacturers and suppliers of articles and substances for use at work.

In addition to the risk based approach inspectors may target organisations who operate over a number of sites and/or who are considered to be poor performers. Inspectors identify target companies and create an intervention plan tailored to the site or organisation concerned which typically lasts for 1 – 3 years.

Within the programme of proactive inspection, priority is given to those premises where the risk is high and/or the management of health and safety is not to an acceptable standard. To aid in the allocation of resources to those premises most deserving of attention every workplace is given a rating. The rating is based on an inspector's assessment of the levels of risk to the health and safety of employees, the levels of risk to the health and safety of the public and the attitude and competence of management. Premises with the higher ratings are given priority attention. Local authorities have a similar priority planning system for their proactive inspection programmes. The systems used by the different authorities are based on common principles and are informed by national data on incidents and ill health in the local authority enforced sector which is collated by the LAU based on returns provided by the authorities. In this way national trends and changing risks in the service industries are taken into account in the planning process.

An important initiative in the local authority enforced sector, the Lead Authority Partnership Scheme, was launched in 1994 following successful pilot trials conducted over the preceding two years. The scheme was developed by HELA and aims to achieve greater enforcement consistency in relation to companies with multiple outlets. It involves a partnership between a selected local authority and a company with the local authority becoming the "lead authority" and the focal point for all authorities for enforcement issues which can or need to be resolved within the company centrally and on a national basis. A lead authority partnership commences with a safety management review or audit of the company's arrangements for managing health and safety, the outcome of which is communicated to all local authorities with a company outlet in their administrative areas. They are then encouraged to contact the lead authority on issues which can be resolved centrally and before taking formal enforcement action. This is a practice used by local authority officers in a number of other enforcement areas, notably food safety and consumer protection.

Following a visit an inspector prepares a report which will include comment on conditions found at the visit and the action taken. For a number of key issues (falls from a height, workplace transport, stress, slips and trips, musculoskeletal disorders, noise, vibration and occupational asthma) inspectors make a detailed assessment (a score) of the standards found. This score can be used to monitor progress with these issues over time. All information is stored electronically and updates the data held on individual employers and workplaces.

## **Q2.2 How are priorities and targets set and what information is used in setting them?**

### **AUSTRIA**

Annual work plans of the Labour Inspectorates are prepared by the head of the Labour Inspectorates together with the Central Labour Inspectorate and decided by the Director General. The Austrian OSH Committee which consists of the Social Partners and all OSH-stakeholders are consulted.

In line with the Labour Inspection's framework strategy to increase efficiency, the frequency of inspections depends on the level of risk for workers in an enterprise. The Labour Inspection has developed a system in which places of work are evaluated and classified according to the level of risk. Priorities and targets are set on the basis of this classification, indicating where the Inspectorate needs to take action. Apart from selecting enterprises according to the level of risk, which is a strategically important choice, the Inspectorate gears the inspection process itself to checking that a safety and health system has been properly established in enterprises and supporting this by intensive advisory work on the part of the inspectors, rather than merely monitoring individual provisions.

In addition, requests are made by the provincial Economic Chambers and the provincial Employees Chambers for inspections to be made of specific businesses.

### **BELGIUM**

The priorities are set using the priorities set by the Minister and SLIC campaigns and the European strategy. Each year there is an operational plan set up by the head of SWW with national objectives based on priorities and results of the past year.

For Seveso-companies: the inspection programmes are based on a systematic assessment of the major chemical hazards, in order to focus the inspections on the most hazardous installations and establishments.

Laboratory: priorities are based on professional literature and discussions within the Community of Practice Hygiene of SWW

### **CYPRUS**

Priorities and targets are decided and prepared, after discussions, at the Headquarters of the Department of Labour Inspection. They are set mainly on the basis of:

- a) Accidents and ill-health records
- b) Distribution of economic activities and control of serious occupational safety and health risks
- c) National and European Strategy on Safety and Health at Work
- d) Enforcement of new OSH legislation.

### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The first priority is to reduce occupational accident incident rate. The incident rate is reduced so that employers continue to monitor and assess risks at work and high attention is given to the questions of the occupational health and safety system. The inseparable part of it forms also questions regarding labour relations that have an effect on welfare of employees (e.g. drinking regime, there is no overloading at work, only persons with relevant qualification are assigned to the particular jobs, employers provide their employees with PPEs). The Regional Labour Inspectorates inspect all of these areas during their inspection activities. For their inspection activity they use information gathered in an IT information system – IS Dozor.

## DENMARK

Priorities and targets are set by the government – with recommendations from the Working Environment Council and hearing of the stakeholders. For the period 2006-2010 the report “Working Environment of the Future” is the foundation for decisions on which working-environment problems and issues should be in focus. The documentation report was prepared by the Working Environment Authority, the National Institute of Occupational Health, and the National Board of Industrial Injuries.

Link: <http://www.at.dk/graphics/at/Engelsk-pdf/Andre-informationsmateriale/Future-working-environment.pdf> (in English)

## ESTONIA

The priorities and targets are set in co-operation with the Ministry and Inspectorate. Draft of the priorities and targets of the relevant plans will be evaluated after the spoken or written consultations with the Inspectorate.

Used information:

- The relevant priorities and targets of the Ministry as the policy maker;
- Situation concerning occupational accidents and diseases;
- Situation concerning main hazards and risk factors;
- Proposals of social partners and other players.

National information via [www.ti.ee](http://www.ti.ee) (in Estonian)

## FINLAND

Priorities and targets are set both on annual and on four years bases. They are agreed in annual negotiations between the Department and local inspectorates. Used information is both national and local ([see answer to Q1.5](#)).

## FRANCE

This issue of fixing and programming national priorities, yearly laid down to labour inspectorate departments, has strongly evolved since 2006. In actual fact, the year 2006 has been marked by the implementation of the new law on financial laws which got rid of the national directive of orientation from the programming process. Labour policy priorities and, among them, those related to working conditions (occupational health and safety) manifested itself in budgetary and accounting documents which structures the annual activity of labour inspectorate departments.

The 111 programme named «improvement of employment quality and labour relationships» defines four outlines of the labour policy among which appears occupational health and safety. The responsible of this programme is the general director of labour, who leans on the network of decentralised departments, which form operational units of the programme.

There is obviously coherence as a whole between the different national levels and operational budgets of programme. However, these are dedicated to the activity of territorial departments and comprise relatively precise objectives of activity, by giving at the same time some significant latitude to regional levels according to the treble equilibrium principle developed in response to the above point.

## GERMANY

From 2008 to 2012, inspection activities will focus on implementing the national OSH objectives listed under Q1.6. These objectives were set on the basis of data collected by the inspection services on past accidents, illnesses and impaired well-being or health. Additional objective criteria, such as the number of cases of injury and days of incapacity for work, costs, and possibilities for prevention, latency periods, etc., were taken into account when identifying the objectives. The final OSH objectives and joint action areas were specified on the basis of experience gained in inspection work

and additional criteria such as ability to be influenced by prevention, practicability and connection to work.

## GREECE

SEPE sets the national targets and priorities after negotiations with the social partners (SKEEE).

Priorities for inspection are set based on:

- Industries or other enterprises which are identified from previous inspections for serious hazards or where a great number of labour accidents have occurred.
- Industries or other enterprises which are identified for special occupational health and safety problems
- Industries where there are large numbers of complaints from employees or bodies, committees and working groups for occupational health and safety conditions
- Sectors where new legislation is introduced or is going to set
- National planned campaigns or European campaigns

## HUNGARY

The managing director of OMMF approves the yearly plan of inspection on the basis of suggestions of the local inspectorates<sup>16</sup> and of experts at the headquarters and also takes into consideration the following:

- Statistics of the preceding years concerning accidents at work, occupational diseases, cases of extra exposure;
- Proposals, information of the local inspectorates;
- Initiatives of the OSH Committee;
- Recommendations of the EU.

## ICELAND

Sometimes in accordance with new laws, rules and regulations, changes in society, working fields and working environment. Information can be obtained from statistics such as frequency of accidents, increase in number of foreign employees, etc.

## IRELAND

For the 2008 work programme the priority sectors for inspection are the high risk sectors of agriculture and forestry, mines and quarries, construction and health care. Key hazards and issues required to be dealt with include work transport and manual handling in construction, bullying and stress in the financial sectors and ensuring directors and senior managers are aware of their health and safety responsibilities. Chemical usage and REACH enforcement are also covered. Inspector experience and accident statistics are used for informing decision making when setting priorities.

Targets are agreed among the field inspectors and these are used by the regional inspector managers to set national targets.

## ITALY

No information supplied

---

<sup>16</sup> The organisational structure of OMMF follows the administrative division of the country by the region: There are seven regions in Hungary out of which six cover three counties each and one region includes the capital and the county Pest.

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

Where the selection of inspection priorities is concerned, general inspection priorities are set in the SLI's annual work plan based on the occupational safety and health situation and the level of incidents in national industrial sectors and enterprises. Every regional division prepares its annual work plan taking into account concrete local circumstances and may establish a different order of priorities

## **LUXEMBOURG**

The information used is mainly:

- the register of work accidents and diseases
- the risk inventory in enterprises
- the complains introduced by employees and workers
- the psycho-social risks to be prevented through proper integrated management systems
- the composition and capacity of the work force; part time and interim women, elder etc

The priorities and targets are set by consensus and according to the staff and money available.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

A. The state of OSH (OSH balance sheet); actual compliance; is determined by inspectorate and the OSH policy directorate of the Ministry and published

B. Policy priorities are prepared by the OSH policy directorate of the Ministry

They propose compliance levels that are to be achieved

They propose a policy mix in which supervision plays a role: Reference is made to "the table of eleven" that gives a priority in policy instruments: 1. improve knowledge about the rules, 2. increase costs of infringement 3. Increase the acceptance of rules, 4. Increase the loyalty of users of rules, 5. Promote informal control among subjects 6. Promote or allow for telling upon one 7. Determine a control chance by inspectorate 8. Determine a detection chance 9. Attention for selectivity of projects 10. Determine a sanction chance. 11. Determine sanction-severity

C. For supervision and enforcement, plans are proposed by the Labour Inspectorate

The Labour Inspectorate presents a multi annual strategy that sets priorities in supervision for the coming years. The labour Inspectorate makes annual plans.

An important basis for the strategy as well as the annual plan is our risk analysis model of safety and health called AIRA

The outcome is a ranking of risks nationally sector wise and branch wise.

The Risk model is based on Risk = Chance X Effect

Chance is determined by the number of workers exposed

Effect by the duration of absence in the case of occurrence of an incident

Data are gathered from many sources to determine or estimate the number of workers at risk,

Professional judgement from experts in the Labour Inspectorate is included.

## **POLAND**

The selection of priorities and objectives of National Labour Inspectorate's activities on the national scale is based on - among other things – the following factors:

- focusing activities on economic sectors marked by the highest rate of occupational hazards and accidents;
- examination of unfavourable phenomena related to the employers' non-compliance with legal obligations under an employment relationship (remuneration, working time, leaves);
- analysis of the results of the hitherto conducted inspection-supervision activities;
- accidents at work analysed by labour inspectors
- proposals of Parliamentary Committees, the Labour Protection Council, self-government bodies, public administration, trade unions, employers' organisations, and scientific institutes;
- standards adopted by the labour inspections in EU member states and recommendations issued by the International Labour Organisation;

## **PORTUGAL**

Priorities are based on several references: ILO's guidelines on labour inspection, EU priorities (for instance on health and safety and on undeclared work) and national guidance set on framework policies regarding employment, working conditions, labour law and health and safety at work provisions.

Social partners contribute to define the phenomena that are most in need of intervention.

When setting the targets, a network is frequently developed with social actors to analyse problems and study better ways of action

## **ROMANIA**

At the national level, the activity in the field of safety and health is planned taking into account the existing situation. For this purpose the main aspects of safety and health at work are identified based on the results of the controls and campaigns carried out in the previous years, as well as the dynamic of the accidents at work and occupational diseases. Further on, these aspects are analysed and correlated with the objectives of the policy and of the national strategy in this field and thus, the priorities of action and the national objectives are established.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Priorities and targets are set in accordance with the findings of the Status Report on Occupational Safety and Health and the Report on the Activities of State Administrative Authorities in the Field of Labour Inspection. EU priorities are also taken into account.

Proposed priorities are submitted by the National Labour Inspectorate. The Coordination Committee for Occupational Safety and Health was set up with a view to coordinating the activities of state authorities in the field of labour inspection (preparation of essential documentation, OSH policy evaluation).

The Slovak Government approved the State Occupational Safety and Health Policy by means of Resolution No 838/2002, as amended. This document was drawn up under the guidance of the National Labour Inspectorate in collaboration with relevant national administrative authorities, trade unions, employers' associations and universities.

## **SLOVENIA**

The priorities and targets are set on the basis of:

- 2.1.1. Statistical data on accidents at work,
- 2.1.2. Data collected during inspections,

- 2.1.3. Various suggestions and requests that are addressed to the Inspectorate.
- 2.1.4. Reports of the regional inspectors.

## **SPAIN**

With respect to OSH, the Central Authority plans, directs, monitors, and makes conclusions only from those campaigns or plans carried out at national level, agreed by the Sectoral Conference, or at European level, such as the SLIC campaigns.

Nonetheless, the Central Authority of the labour inspectorate is responsible for defining the common technical and operational criteria for the development of all inspection, which guarantees homogeneity in the levels of compliance required and common standards of inspection.

A variety of information is used to establish priorities: statistics on accidents at work, European campaigns, social partner opinions, data from inspection actions, etc.

## **SWEDEN**

Statistics on occupational accidents and diseases, on national, branch and site level.

Notification from employers about near-accidents or serious accidents according to obligations in the Swedish Work Environment Act.

Scientific reports.

Information and analysis from labour inspectors.

Information from safety representatives.

## **SWITZERLAND**

For health protection the priorities are set considering the recommendations of the reports on current risks, the audit process of the cantons, their requests and political pressure.

For accident prevention the priorities are set according to the insurance risk.

## **UK**

[See answer to Q2.1](#)

### ***Q2.3 What consultation is there with inspectors in the field when national objectives are being set?***

## **AUSTRIA**

Labour Inspectors bring in their knowledge and experiences into the Labour Inspectorates. The heads of the Labour Inspectorates influence the decision of the Director General. In various projects Labour Inspectors provide important input. A project TQM (total quality management) has been carried out where labour inspectors had the possibility to improve the system and the organisation of their Labour Inspectorates and the cooperation with the Central Labour Inspectorate.

## **BELGIUM**

The operational targets are discussed directly with the heads of the regional directions of the inspectorate (and so indirectly with the inspectors).

Seveso: a meeting is organised on an annual basis with inspectors of all the Competent Inspection Authorities to evaluate the inspection programmes and to discuss objectives for the next years.

Laboratory: the inspectors are consulted via discussions within the Community of Practice Hygiene of SWW

## **CYPRUS**

The draft of the annual programme of national priorities and objectives is sent for consultation to all Labour Inspectors. Their comments are collected and analysed at each District Office and then are transmitted to the Headquarters. As mentioned above, the final priorities and targets are decided after discussions held at the Headquarters. In these discussions, the participation and involvement of the Head of the Inspection Sector and the Heads of the District Labour Inspection Offices, is considered essential.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

In order to carry out the particular inspection activity, working teams develop an inspection list, based on determined conditions, to check observance of occupational health and safety principles and questions regarding labour relations. Further, individual professional guarantees of the State Labour Inspection Office, responsible for the relevant inspection task, carry out training of inspectors concerned with the inspection activity. In connection with above mentioned requirements, the labour inspectors also provide targeted lectures and advice in the framework of meeting the required tasks, including particular requirements related to, for example, protection against falls, transport, manual handling of material, work with young workers etc. The State Labour Inspection Office cooperates in this activity with Regional Employment Offices.

## **DENMARK**

Heads of regional Inspection Centres are represented in the top management of the inspectorate. In this way experience from the Inspection Centres is incorporated into setting objectives for the National inspection plan.

## **ESTONIA**

The appropriate consultation with the inspectors will take place before setting these objectives. After that these consultations mainly will take place in advisory, sometimes in consultative forms (written consultations).

National information via [www.ti.ee](http://www.ti.ee) (in Estonian)

## **FINLAND**

Discussions with the district heads (who represent their inspectors) are carried out and consensus is always sought. Expert consultations are completed with expert organisations like FIOH.

## **FRANCE**

National orientations are laid down by the minister, on the proposal of the central administrative body of labour, which leans, in its preliminary analysis, on national plans as a whole and also the advice of the high council for the prevention of occupational risks, by assessing at the same time transmission of information from the decentralised departments touching on labour relationships condition within enterprises.

The realisation of national orientations at the regional and local levels, manifest itself in action plans drawn up in a collegial way at the region level and within the regional and interdepartmental technical committee, each prefectorial subdivision having then to implement the regional plan by possibly adding priorities taking in account local specificities. The implementation, since 2007 of regional

committees for occupational risks prevention enriches the consultation between the different actors on each action plan as regards occupational health and safety.

## **GERMANY**

The federal states' OSH authorities and the accident insurance institutions' inspection services can propose OSH objectives and action areas on the basis of the knowledge they obtain through their inspection work. The NAK takes these proposals into account in the objective-setting process.

## **GREECE**

The Regional Occupational Hazard Prevention Centres (KEPEK) of SEPE submit suggestions to the Directorate for planning and coordination for technical and sanitary inspection of Central Service of SEPE, for the priorities of occupational health and safety matters, according to the findings of the inspections at regional level.

## **HUNGARY**

Since the long-term national objectives are set by the Hungarian Parliament, the local inspectors are not direct participants of this task. The objectives of OMMF are drawn up by the general director of the body. Planning and preparation of campaigns (nationwide target- and action-inspections) constitute team work of the headquarters and local inspectorates. The final program is set as a result of discussions, collations.

## **ICELAND**

Often the national objectives are formed at District Directors Meetings on regular basis and introduced and implemented at meetings of inspectors from all eight geographic areas.

## **IRELAND**

As set out earlier, inspectors at all levels of the organisation are involved in setting priorities and targets.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

All inspectors can suggest some amendments when the draft of annual work is prepared. National objectives are being set on the basis of analysis of inspectors' inspection reports.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

### **Regular workplace inspections**

Referring to the ILO standard, Luxembourg should employ 35 inspectors for 356000 employees.

In fact, in 2008, there were 21, so that 14 were lacking. Workplace inspections are performed on sector or branch level, as coaching (plan, do, check, act) PDCA approach for high risks enterprises in the construction sector at large, including interim and posted workers, or specialised campaigns in various industrial sectors. The drafting of formal operation permits granted in the name of the Labour

Minister for classified establishments is another important preventive procedure for OSH and working conditions.

Finally, the inventory or cadastre of work-related risks remains a key activity.

### **National priorities**

The national priorities defined in the Standing tripartite Committee are focused upon coaching in the construction sector mainly. The Ministry launched a coaching project based upon the European Social Fund to offer this service to high risk establishments. It is estimated that 2% of high risk SMEs account 10% of the work-related accidents and entail 20% of the costs for the accident insurance association. To accompany this coaching activity, the Labour inspectorate has set up a team of inspectors especially trained to put the necessary pressure to ensure compliance of those high risk areas.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

Establishing the situation; expert judgement (important role for expertise centre of the labour Inspectorate)

Manager's strategy

## **POLAND**

Labour inspectors based on their inspection findings propose inspection topics for the NLI's Programme of Activity. The District Labour Inspector analyses these proposals and takes them into account in the local Programme of Activity or forwards them as proposed inspection topics for the central Plan.

## **PORTUGAL**

The objectives are set after consultation of local directors, who are called to receive the opinion of labour inspectors in each local unit. Also the national association of labour inspectors is consulted on the national plan.

## **ROMANIA**

Labour inspectors are consulted to establish the priorities of action and the annual national objectives. After analysing the results of the activity carried out in their specific area, inspectors can identify and make proposals for their control activity to be included in the national objectives that constitute the basis on which the Annual Framework Action Plan of the Labour Inspection is being set.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

In this connection, the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family and the National Labour Inspectorate make use of the findings and information on the state of OSH in the separate regions, and data on occupational accidents, incapacity for work in various sectors of industry, compliance with OSH legislation, etc. Labour inspectorates are consulted and their comments analysed during the process of setting the annual programme of national objectives and priorities. Labour inspectors can express their views on these issues via the regional labour inspectorates, or at regular or ad-hoc meetings organised by the National Labour Inspectorate to enable staff to meet with management of the regional inspectorates or the National Labour Inspectorate.

## **SLOVENIA**

The regional inspectors monitor the implementation of the objectives of the National Programme of Health and Safety at Work on an annual basis. The objectives and the results of inspections are thoroughly discussed at the regular joint meetings of all inspectors. Furthermore, expert meetings for inspectors are organised if necessary.

The Chief Labour Inspector and the Directors of the Inspectorate visit regional units each year in order to gain an insight into the current regional situation.

## **SPAIN**

There is no formal procedure for consultation of inspectors in the field when setting objectives. However, the setting of objectives does follow a long process of consultation with all levels of inspectorate: teams, units, provincial inspectorates, in which the opinions of field inspectors are very much taken into account.

## **SWEDEN**

The Head of SWEA's Inspection Department, who is part of the Management, consults with the field organisation.

## **SWITZERLAND**

There is an association of cantonal labour inspectorates which is consulted during the decision making process for both health protection and accident prevention.

## **UK**

[See answer to Q2.1](#)

### ***Q2.4 What flexibility is given to regions/districts to include local priorities in their plans of work?***

## **AUSTRIA**

Labour Inspectorates can also incorporate local priorities into their work programmes.

## **BELGIUM**

The priorities are national. The amount of work and allocation of resources to the various priorities can be variable from regional direction to regional direction according to the types of enterprises they have to inspect.

## **CYPRUS**

District Labour Inspection Offices are always given the flexibility to include local priorities in their monthly/annual plans of work. However, they always have to act within the general plan of activities and priorities as set in the final Annual Programme of the Department of Labour Inspection.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

On the basis of their own analysis from the inspection activity and occupational accident incident rate at regional level, the Regional Labour Inspectorates set out themselves local priorities when they

select subjects to be inspected (e.g. according to the number of employees, according to the kind of economic activity, subjects operating selected technical equipment – e.g. lifts, gas boiler rooms).

## DENMARK

The regional Inspection centres (IC), as part of the National Working Environment Authority ([see answer to Q2.3](#)), have to follow the priorities on topics and targets given by the Government ([see answer to Q2.2](#)) in their work.

Furthermore, the Inspection centres must follow the National inspection plan. This plan describes the order in which the Danish Working Environment Authority (WEA) will carry out inspections – screening of enterprises in different sectors.

## ESTONIA

There are lot of possibilities to include local priorities in the plans. Especially following the introduction of the Inspectorate' new (from 1.01.08) model of regional structure (formerly the structure based on the counties, i.e. every county has its local Inspectorate structure).

The national plans are flexible enough to include something important for the special area.

National information via [www.ti.ee](http://www.ti.ee) (in Estonian)

## FINLAND

Local inspectorates include always their regional needs and priorities into their plans in addition to the national needs. The local priorities are agreed in annual negotiations with the Department.

## FRANCE

Interventions in enterprises are in keeping with either a reactive or a proactive process on the agent's initiative (further to accidents claims, complaints, or according to knowledge of the territory).

Four outlines structure the labour inspectorate action, providing coherence between the general feature of its intervention, the labour policy, furthered by the ministry since the beginning of 2000 decade, and the national priority actions programme:

- Individual labour relationships
- Collective relationships and representation of employees
- Occupational health and safety
- Employment

Regarding each of these outlines, the central administration defines each year some actions throughout the country, with a full set of indicators. At the regional and departmental levels, national actions are clarified and completed.

The development and modernisation plan of labour inspectorate, operational since 2006 and until 2010, plans to respect three equilibriums regarding action of the labour inspectorate:

- Balance between controls and other activities contributing to the implementation of laws,
- Balance between programmed controls (proactive) in response to hazards and agent's initiatives according to his perception and the implementation of laws in his area of capabilities (reactive)
- Balance, in the programming, between national and local initiatives.

## GERMANY

The OSH objectives specified as part of the Common German OSH Strategy are regularly implemented in the joint action areas at the federal-state level. To this end, the highest OSH authority

(ministry) in each federal state and an office run by the accident insurance institutions at the federal-state level conclude agreements on the implementation of work programmes. To ensure that the results can be evaluated, the NAK and the social partners jointly specify work programmes with milestones for the implementation of the OSH objectives. This makes it possible both to evaluate the results on the basis of common rules using selected indicators and also to take into account region-specific aspects when setting the work programmes.

## **GREECE**

National plans of work set a frame, which gives the Regional Occupational Hazard Prevention Centres the flexibility to set their own priorities, according to their conclusions from previous inspections or complaints from working committees. The main target at national or local level is the effective inspection of enterprises for protecting occupational safety and health and for improvement of working conditions.

## **HUNGARY**

The local inspectorates of OMMF – apart from the centrally stipulated inspection objectives of OMMF -make proposals for their own inspection plans in consideration of the local specialities which are then to be approved by the general director of the organisation. These plans include target inspections initiated and executed locally, action inspections as well as inspections declared in advance. The daily routine work is based on weekly schedules.

## **ICELAND**

Local priorities are very rare but priorities are always for the whole country at a time (population in Iceland was December 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 approximately 310,000).

## **IRELAND**

As Ireland is a small country there are not many variations between the regions and priorities are set at a national level. However where there is a concentration of a particular industry in an area, that area tends to concentrate more on that sector e.g. Financial services in Dublin City centre, farming in the south of the country. There is some discretion in regional manager's allocation of inspections from the national target, to allow concentration on local hazards/sectors.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

Every region has the flexibility to do its own plan of work according the general OSH strategy. The activities of the regional divisions are coordinated and controlled by the divisions of the administration within their respective fields of competence.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

The Labour inspectorate has regional offices concerned with the regional complains. No other specificities are considered regionally, all actions are national (total workforce 345000 workers)

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

None; the Dutch Labour Inspectorate has no regional structure, only local facilities

## **POLAND**

While drawing up the annual work plan with regard to their tasks (beside the central ones), the NLI's territorial units – district labour inspectorates – embark on local priorities. It involves the identification of labour protection characteristics and local problems resulting from high incidence of unfavourable phenomena (e.g. the rate of accidents at work, typical hazards in the main branch of the region's industry).

## **PORTUGAL**

Regions are called to adapt the national plan to local characteristics (for instance, economic sectors in which to intervene). Usually, each local director meets with local social partners to receive inputs to the plan. It is up to the regional directors to establish the objectives for local directors and these determine the objectives for inspectors.

## **ROMANIA**

The territorial labour inspectorates tailor the Framework Action Plan of the Labour Inspection to the conditions existent at the local level. Thus, the territorial labour inspectorates draw up their own action programmes, taking into account the economic sectors specific to the county where they are located and the OSH priorities identified at the local level.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Labour inspectorates identify, collect and transmit relevant information to the OSH Information System, which enables a selective classification of information relating to occupational accidents and the work of inspectors, and also makes it possible to browse through information in the register of Slovak employers' organisations. Output from the information system, incentives from employers and employees, and particularly specifications geared to the nature of economic activity in a given region, serve as a basis for defining priorities.

Labour inspectorates plan their own sector-specific activities a year in advance with a view to more effective prevention and greater protection of employees in the workplace. In addition, they carry out specific inspections in line with requirements or at the instigation of labour inspectors.

## **SLOVENIA**

The regional inspectors have to follow guidelines and perform campaigns prepared by the headquarters of the Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia. However, they can select subjects of inspection for themselves in accordance to the local priorities. Only in some specific cases / campaigns are they given the list of subjects for inspection.

As far as regular inspection is concerned, the regional inspectors decide for themselves who will be the subject of inspection and what will be its scope. Furthermore, they have the right to decide on the basis of the local priorities. The inspectors prepare weekly plan of work, part of which are also other obligatory tasks, i.e. inspection of the night work of women, investigations of accidents at work. Inspectors report to the headquarters on monthly basis.

## SPAIN

As mentioned earlier, the setting of priorities is principally the responsibility of the autonomous communities (CCAA).

## SWEDEN

40% of the planned activities.

## SWITZERLAND

The cantons are free to include local priorities.

## UK

[See answer to Q2.1](#)

### ***Q2.5 How far ahead are priorities set? Which are the main priorities identified in the last three years?***

## AUSTRIA

One year in advance priorities are set.

Main priorities: e.g.

### **Project "Systemic Inspection":**

Systemic inspection aims at checking the OSH -organisation of an enterprise. Starting from a single deviance it is possible to find out fundamental deficits in an OSH organisation.

### **Project: Working conditions adapted to age and aging" - (alternsgerechtes Arbeiten):**

Aim of this project is to improve the working conditions of elderly workers. Enterprises will get advice and they will be made aware of their obligation to include aspects of age and aging in their risk assessment. Employer will be motivated and sensitised to intensify the employment of elderly workers and to adapt their working conditions to their abilities and potentialities. Cooperation with regional Social Partners and sharing of good practice examples will take place.

### **Project: "Supervision of young workers involved in dangerous work:**

A counselling initiative launched in companies was devoted to the "supervision of young workers involved in dangerous work" such as work at dangerous machines. The aim was to collect information concerning the actual state and to sensitise employers to take their special responsibility for young workers.

## BELGIUM

Priorities are set in the management plan of SWW. This plan can be revised after 3 years but also in case the Minister changes. This plan is completed by annual plans.

The main priorities identified in the last three years are: serious work accidents; safety on construction sites (especially work on roofs and work on roads). Besides that SWW decided to use a more sectoral approach for some topics rather than a sole action on the enterprise level (construction and metal sectors). Furthermore, it was decided to obtain an ISO 9001 certificate for the Regional Inspection Division in order to increase the harmonisation of the working of the inspectorate over the 8 regional directions.

The inspection programmes for the Seveso-companies include planned and systematic inspections during the next 5 to 10 years. Inspection priorities during the past years were focussing on the Safety Management Systems and the Risk Analysis Process for identifying and controlling major chemical hazards.

Laboratory: priorities are set annually. The last 3 years the main priorities were: asbestos exposures in special situations (container parks; work on roofs); check of health and safety data sheets, both on an "administrative" level and on an analytical level.

## **CYPRUS**

For the first time, a two-year programme with priorities was set for the years 2008 and 2009. In the past, priorities were mostly set one year ahead. In the last three years, the following priorities have been identified:

- Management of Safety and Health issues within the undertakings
- Risk Assessment
- External OSH Services
- Employees participation in Health and Safety matters within the undertakings - Safety Committees
- Manual handling issues

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Labour Inspection, in line with "National policy" and "National activity programme (programme of tasks)", set tasks based on the following documents:

- Occupational Health and Safety Community Strategy 2007-2012;
- Convention No. 187 of the International Labour Organisation and its Recommendation No. 197 of the ILO on supporting framework in the area of safety and health at work;

And on the basis of its own analysis, the Labour Inspection submits proposals of inspection tasks for the relevant year to the Government Council for Occupational Safety and Health (tripartite structure) and to the Ministry of Labour at the beginning of the fourth quarter of the previous year.

The proposal of the inspection tasks includes:

- Explanation
- Aim
- Object of the inspection and the scope of the inspection
- Detailed list of that which is going to be inspected

The programme of the inspection tasks is published on the website of the State Labour Inspection Office after discussing the inspection tasks for the following year.

Priorities in the last 3 years:

- Building industry – to ensure health and safety at heights and above free depth
- Transport industry – working time – shifts regime of drivers
- Warehousing and materials manual handling
- To ensure safe operation of working equipment with increased risks the following equipments has been selected
  - Personal lifts
  - Boiler rooms and pressure tanks
  - Cooling equipment with cooling carrier of ammonia – winter stadiums
- Inspection of adherence of defined working conditions on the basis of complaints by employees and their representatives.

## DENMARK

From 1995 to 2005 (10 years period) the national priorities included seven areas within the working environment: Fatal and other serious accidents, carcinogenic and CNS-damaging chemicals, children and young people, heavy lifting and monotonous repetitive work, hearing damaging noise, psychosocial factors and indoor climate (<http://www.at.dk/sw12419.asp>). These priorities were further focused in the period from 2002-2005, where a special focus was put on the following four areas: psychosocial factors, accidents, heavy lifting and monotonous repetitive work.

From 2006 to 2011 (5 years period) the national priorities include four areas within the working environment: occupational accidents, psychological working environment, noise and musculoskeletal disorders.

## ESTONIA

Unfortunately, there is not yet the OSH strategy 2008-2012 (the strategy 2002-2007 was for occupational health only; there is the Inspectorate's staff strategy for 2008-2013) which has to set these priorities. Practically it means that there are the national priorities for 2008 only (from the relevant plans of the Ministry and Inspectorate).

The main priorities are:

- lowering of the level of occupational accidents and diseases, improvement of the level of registration of accidents and diseases
- Improvement of the quality of inspection activities and risk assessments
- Contribution of labour inspection to the improvement of labour law (OSH)
- Improvement of methods of inspection visits and of enforcement activities.

## FINLAND

The strategy period is four years, with an annual review of actions. Inspectorates carry out work related to the national themes (accident prevention – prevention of musculoskeletal diseases – harmful job strain (mental and physical) management.

## FRANCE

As mentioned above, current modes of programming of priorities are still, because of the implementation of the new law on financial laws, in an experimental and temporary phase, featured by a failed evolvement of programming modes and an incomplete appropriation of concepts by agents.

For all that, it must be reminded that some of action priorities, because of their significance in view of a general diagnosis on occupational safety and health issue in France, have a multi annual character, even continuous. This is notably the case concerning safety issues as regards building and civil engineering occupational risks prevention linked to asbestos.

On the field of occupational safety and health, priorities of the three last years have concerned risks assessment process, risks linked to CMR products, cranes, manual handling and risks related to wooden dust, some of these actions taking place on several years.

## GERMANY

[See answer to Q1.6](#)

## GREECE

The main priorities for occupational health and safety set the last three years were:

- Prevention of accidents in the construction sector,
- Employees' thermal fatigue,

- Inspections concerning workplaces involving use of chemical agents,
- Inspections at hospitals,
- Protection from noise at work,
- Protection of employees exposed to asbestos,
- Protection of young people at work and
- Protection in manual handling of loads at transport and sanitary sector.

## **HUNGARY**

Besides the topics of the European Weeks, the priorities of the last 3 years comprise the following:

- Prevention and elimination of high dangers,
- Increased level of inspection in the high-risk sectors i.e. in the construction, agriculture and manufacture industries.

In respect of occupational health the priorities include the examination of risk analyses and the occupational environment of workers exposed to dust, working with visual display unit, exposed to carcinogenic, mutagenic and other substances being dangerous to health. (On account of the official merging in 2007 detailed above, the occupational health inspections constitute a new task for OMMF.)

## **ICELAND**

Strategic programme is usually set for three years each time but individual priorities for shorter range, e.g. one or two years.

## **IRELAND**

Normally in a three year cycle. The Strategy Statement 2007-2009 is one such cycle. The 2008 work programme sets out current priorities, which are also set out in the answer to Q2.2 above.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

The SLI's planning system covers:

- Strategic work planning (three-year);
- Annual work planning;
- Annual work planning for divisions and services;
- Annual (quarterly) plans for labour inspectors;
- Operational planning for the implementation of certain measures

In the last three years the main priorities were:

- Prevention of accidents at work in the construction and transport sectors;
- Risk assessment;
- Undeclared work;
- OSH in SMEs;
- OSH training of new employees

## LUXEMBOURG

Priorities are set on a yearly basis in the frame of a 5-years programme (2007-2012)

The Labour Inspectorate carried out short series of inspections in different economic sectors, the purpose of which is to ensure compliance with the regulations and gather information on the health and safety standards in the various economic sectors and on any problems there might be. Inspections of this kind were carried out most recently in the construction industry and in vehicle workshops or related to dangerous substances.

The Labour Inspectorate also publishes information leaflets on the relevant regulations, although they relate more to general working conditions and not to health and safety issues. The AAI is usually responsible for giving advice on technical matters. The different activities of the Labour Inspectorate are described in detail in an annual report. The report also contains statistics on the number of reported accidents and their causes and on the inspections carried out by the inspectors.

## MALTA

No information supplied

## NETHERLANDS

Multi annual strategy of the Dutch Labour Inspectorate 2008-2011

Top 5

- Dangerous substances
- Physical strain and work posture
- Dangerous Machinery
- Tipping and falling objects
- Socio-psychological pressures

## POLAND

Lines and forms of the National Labour Inspectorate's activities are defined in long-term programmes of activity and annual plans.

The NLI's long-term programme of activity for 2007-2009 and the detailed plan for 2008 are the result of in-depth analyses conducted in NLI organisational units and at the central level. In the area of occupational safety, sectors of economy with the most serious occupational hazards and with high rate of accidents at work are given priority. The Programme also takes account of the topics proposed by ministries and central administration offices, and by authorities set up to supervise and inspect labour conditions, trade unions, employers' organisations and scientific institutes.

While drawing up the Programme, the following are taken into special consideration:

- results of the inspection, supervisory and prevention activities so far;
- public statistics for accidents at work, labour conditions and occupational illnesses;
- notes and recommendations drawn up by the Labour Protection Council and parliamentary committees including the Committee for Supervision of the National Labour Inspectorate;
- action plans of the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC) and of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work based in Bilbao.

Tasks having a priority significance for labour protection performed by NLI as part of 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of the long-term inspection programme (2007-2009), taking account of the educational role of advisory and preventive measures:

- I. Compliance with legal regulations as regards payment of remuneration and other employee benefits;
- II. Compliance with working time regulations;

- III. Compliance with the minimum requirements for machines and technical equipment in plants operating construction machines;
- IV. Occupational safety in plants characterised by the highest incidence of occupational hazards – plants in various lines of business as selected by respective district labour inspectorates are subject to heightened supervision by NLI, manifested, among others, by increased frequency of inspections.

Inspections envisaged as part of the annual plan for 2008 are held, most of all, in areas characterised by large scale non-compliance or incidence of problems that require coordinated nationwide actions by the inspectorate. As regards occupational health and safety, the intensive inspection activities intended to eliminate (limit) the hazards comprise the following issues:

- Occupational safety at construction sites
- Chemical hazards (risk of a severe industrial failure, exposure to chemical agents, mainly those having a carcinogenic or mutagenic effect or affecting reproduction capacity, in plants manufacturing construction chemicals – REACH).
- Musculoskeletal system exposure (ergonomic risk factors in the manufacture of automotive products and home appliances, musculoskeletal system exposure in manual transport tasks).
- Compliance with OSH rules and regulations: in logging and other forestry tasks, in archives and libraries, in non-ferrous metal production and processing plants.
- Noise and mechanical vibration at a work place (we continue inspections aimed to limit this kind of exposure).

Apart from the planned inspections, the necessary emergency actions are also taken, in relation to reports and motions forwarded by state authorities and social partners.

## PORTUGAL

Priorities have been established until 2008 on an annual basis. Towards 2008 we have a plan for three years. The Main priorities in the last three years were:

- Health and safety conditions in workplaces, especially on construction sites, agriculture and quarries;
- Undeclared work;
- Irregular fixed term contracts;
- Temporary work agencies;
- Working time arrangements, especially on the transportation sector;
- Social dialogue and collective representation.

## ROMANIA

For the period 2008-2012, the Labour Inspection identified as main priorities where activities will be carried out:

- SME's – support for SME's to achieve compliance with the national legislation which transposed the European legislation.
- Sectors of activity considered to be dangerous (mining, constructions, transports, public health, agriculture and forestry – specific activities to inform and raise awareness of all actors involved in the work process.
- Sensitive risk groups (pregnant workers, women workers who have recently given birth, women who are breastfeeding, young workers, old workers and disabled persons) – campaigns to raise awareness of employers on specific risks to which their workers are exposed and on the necessity to implement measures ensuring safety and health at work.
- Labour inspectors – continuous training for labour inspectors in order to help them cope with the new challenges in the field of safety and health at work and to increase their performance and the quality of inspections.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Main priorities are set mostly a year ahead.

The Slovak Government approved the State Occupational Safety and Health Policy by means of Resolution No 838/2002, as amended. This document was drawn up under the guidance of the National Labour Inspectorate in collaboration with relevant national administrative authorities, trade unions, employers' associations and universities for the period 2002 - 2006.

Besides the topics of the European Week and SLIC inspection campaigns the priorities of the last 3 years were:

- Undeclared work and undeclared employment;
- Noise;
- Check of health and safety protection at work and working conditions of employees in road transport;
- Major industrial accidents prevention;
- Construction;
- Gender equality at work;
- Asbestos;
- Young workers;
- Manual handling;
- Musculoskeletal disorders;
- HORECA (hotels, restaurants, catering);
- Work with visual display unit, etc.

## **SLOVENIA**

Priorities are set for one year ahead.

The main priorities in the period 2005 - 2007 were as follows:

- Safety and health requirements at work at temporary and mobile construction sites (2 x 3 weeks a year; 2005, 2006 and 2007),
- Supervision of the obligation to report to the Inspectorate accidents at work (2005, 2006 and 2007),
- Inspection based on representative sample of 1,200 randomly selected employers (2005, 2006 and 2007),
- Agriculture and forestry (2005, 2006 and 2007),
- Inspection of those employers who hold a license to perform special expert tasks (2005 and 2007),
- Risks related to exposure to noise at work (2005 and 2006),
- Horizontal and vertical transport (2005),
- Risk related to exposure to carcinogenic and mutagenic substances (2006),
- Employment of disabled workers (2006),
- Safety and health at work in education (2006),
- Safety and health of young workers (2006),
- Protection of workers from the risks related to the exposure to asbestos at work (2006 and 2007),
- Safety and health at veterinary medicine (2006),
- Risk of dust explosions (2006 and 2007),
- Manual handling of loads (2007),
- Safety and health requirements for work with visual display units (2007),
- Safety and health requirements for dentists (2007).

Some of these campaigns were combined with inspection of employment relationships.

## **SPAIN**

Generally, six months ahead.

Priorities over the last three years have focused on construction, manual handling, asbestos, and OSH management.

Special campaigns have been launched at national level:

- high-risk sectors in line with incidence rates and seriousness
- Plan Prevea (voluntary accident prevention plan)
- Plan for transport or road-haulage firms
- SEGUMAR plan for the fishing sector

## **SWEDEN**

On a 3 and 1 year basis. Systematic Work Environment Management.

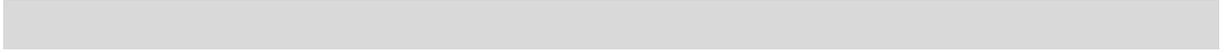
## **SWITZERLAND**

The current system for setting health protection priorities is only three years old. Priorities are set one year ahead. The main current priority is musculoskeletal disorders.

The accident prevention measures of the Suva will concentrate on prevention of fatal accidents particularly in the building industry.

## **UK**

[See answer to Q2.1](#)



### 3 Awareness-raising/campaigns

All national labour inspectorates have some awareness-raising responsibilities and for most it is a very important part of their work. Activities vary from printing publications to use of television, radio and press, to organisation of events such as conferences, meetings and seminars. Many NLI also run targeted inspection campaigns which commonly include an element of training, audit or advice. Other less widely used methods include action days (including the world day for health and safety at work), mobile exhibitions and mainstreaming OSH into education. Involvement of the social partners and a focus on particular sectors are also common features.

As for inspection priorities, the formal decision on campaign topics is commonly taken by the relevant ministry, following broader consultation that draws on inspection data. Involvement of social partners can be seen to be particularly important in the case of campaigns – reflecting their important role in communication of OSH at the workplace. Furthermore, EU-OSHA's European Weeks and SLIC's information and inspection campaigns are an important influence in nearly all countries.

In general, campaign topics are decided on a similar timescale to inspection priorities with a slightly greater tendency to decide annually. As regards the main topics covered in the last three years, there is a strong focus on the campaigns of EU-OSHA and SLIC:

- European week 2007: Lighten the Load, Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
- SLIC 2007 campaign on manual handling
- European week 2006: Young people
- SLIC 2006 campaign on asbestos
- European week 2005: Stop that noise
- SLIC 2005 campaign in the construction industry in the new member states
- European week 2004: Building in safety
- SLIC 2004 inspection campaign in the construction industry
- European week 2003: Dangerous substances, handle with care
- SLIC 2003 campaign on construction

Other NLI campaigns have targeted SMEs; slips, trips and falling objects; alcohol and drug abuse at work; dangerous substances; falls from height and workplace transport; among other issues.

#### ***Q3.1 Does the national labour inspectorate carry out awareness-raising activities related to OSH, e.g. campaigns?***

##### **AUSTRIA**

Yes, campaigns with a special focus are carried out dealing with, for example, explosion protection, aging workforce, young workers and work in nursing homes. The Labour Inspectorates cooperate also in SLIC Campaigns and they play an important part in European Week activities (e.g. safe start, stop that noise, lighten the load).

##### **BELGIUM**

SWW participate in the SLIC or EU-OSHA campaigns and regularly carry out proactive thorough inspections (in fact more audits) on the organisational capacity of an enterprise to manage on their own and in an effective way the OSH topics (SYDYGRI inspection)

The "Seveso" Division carries most of their "inspections" in that way. They also organise an annual symposium for the enterprises on these topics.

Laboratory: there is no specific activity related to those topics

## **CYPRUS**

Yes. The National Labour Inspectorate (i.e. the Department of Labour Inspection) carries out OSH awareness-raising activities, e.g. European Week campaigns, SLIC Campaigns.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

Besides the campaigns launched by EU and SLIC, the State Labour Inspection Office drafts a "Programme of Activity" the integral part of which is "Programme of Awareness-raising Campaigns". This Programme is built on the basis of analysis of the occupational health and safety state and progress. The Programme is discussed with both social partners and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Proposal of the "Programme Awareness-raising Campaigns" for the relevant year is worked out by the Inspection department of the State Labour Inspection Office and is subject to the approval of the State Labour Inspection Office management. The State Labour Inspection Office will discuss this proposal with social partners and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Each task included must have a planning list which covers:

- Name of the task;
- Explanation why the task is proposed;
- Aim of the task;
- Specification of the task where extent of the task is determined (number of inspections which are supposed to be carried out and what the subject of inspections is).

Each task needs to be reported in writing.

## **DENMARK**

Within the framework of the national priorities WEA promote different awareness-raising activities/campaigns, for example, meetings/conferences directed at enterprises about different working environment themes and thematic website information (e.g. concerning asbestos, passive smoking and musculoskeletal disorders).

## **ESTONIA**

Yes, in the context of SLIC and EU-OSHA campaigns.

## **FINLAND**

It does organise education events and information campaigns to carry out strategies, government policies and programmes. They are typically free of charge and involve presentations by national experts from OSH institutions. A mobile occupational health and safety exhibition is available for the districts distributing information on OSH.

A European Week campaign coordinated by European Agency for Safety and Health at Work is organised annually including both national and regional OSH events on the campaign theme. Furthermore, regional inspectorates organise local so called communal information campaigns.

## **FRANCE**

The central administrative body for labour, at a national level, has got, among its missions, the promotion of occupational safety and health. This theme was moreover the subject of two national tripartite conferences on working conditions which took place, on governmental initiative, in October 2007 and June 2008. On a more institutional level, the central administrative body for labour drives the high council for the prevention of occupational risks, which is a tripartite organ.

It is moreover proper to cite the health at work plan for 2005-2009 carried at the cabinet meeting of the 23rd of February 2005. This plan deeply reforms the national system of occupational risks prevention and is – for the five years of its duration – a particularly efficient and coherent lever for the

implementation of actions contributing in an effective way to the improvement of the working conditions and to a better prevention of occupational risks.

The central administrative body for labour also encourages regional administrative bodies of labour to promote safety and health issues: through quarterly glimpses about labour relationships, one may – for instance – observe that most of regions set up, often in partnership with other professionals of prevention, actions of communication in this field, for social partners but also for the general public.

The choice of campaign themes partake of this preoccupation of wide growing awareness to working conditions issues.

## **GERMANY**

Yes, both the federal states' OSH authorities and the accident insurance institutions (whose umbrella association is the DGUV), including their inspection services, carry out activities aimed at improving employees' awareness of safety and health issues. These activities are usually implemented as part of campaigns using publicity-work funding, information materials, websites, training courses, or action days.

In addition, the accident insurance institutions conduct campaigns, divided into generic awareness-raising campaigns with radio and TV components and supplementary campaigns geared to specific sectors or target groups (e.g. for the retail or mining sectors). These campaigns cover not only prevention but also rehabilitation topics. One example of a campaign which was divided into a generic campaign and sector-specific campaigns is the "Sicherer Auftritt" (Safe Foothold) campaign carried out in 2004 and 2005 to prevent slipping, tripping and falling accidents (Annex 4 and <http://www.at.dk/sw11037.asp>)

## **GREECE**

The Central and the Regional services (KEPEK) of Labour Inspectorate actively participate in inspections at European and National campaigns organised yearly by SLIC as well as by EU-OSHA (through the Greek FOP).

## **HUNGARY**

The National Focal Point of EU-OSHA operating within OMMF participates in the OSH awareness-raising programmes of the European Union.

## **ICELAND**

Yes

## **IRELAND**

Yes we carry out health and safety awareness and inspection campaigns every year in high risk sectors e.g. in 2007 we carried out two one-week campaigns on Construction in June and October, a one month long Agriculture campaign in May and one week long campaign on Quarries safety in September. Apart from concentrating on inspecting in these sectors during the campaign we also have press, radio and TV publicity and organise conferences and meetings on relevant safety and health matters.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

Yes. SLI, being a national focal point of EU-OSHA, every year organises thematic European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work.

Additionally SLI every year organises information and awareness-raising campaigns, e.g.

2004 – Building in Safety

2005 – Working time

2006 – Two topics - Undeclared work. Accidents at work (slogan “Even one death at work is too many”)

2007 – Alcohol and a safe work

## **LUXEMBOURG**

Traditionally every year 4 major PR-events are organised related to OSH matters:

- European week symposium during week 43;
- European week OSH award to six outstanding enterprises receiving a trophy created by the Labour inspection and handed over by the Ministry of Labour during week 43;
- A workplace health promotion award organised in March by the Ministry of Public Health and selecting some outstanding enterprises in WHP field;
- A social-partner organised event the 28 April every year during the ILO day of work place accident victims.

The Labour Inspection has a PR-relation concept comprising:

- Code of integrity of LI
- Corporate identity
- Internet site
- Brochures, CD-Rom's and press releases

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

For the Dutch Labour Inspectorate, awareness-raising is only a minor part of the work.

The emphasis in the work of the Dutch Labour Inspectorate is on supervision.

Research or awareness-raising are first of all related to this main task.

The OSH policy directorate of the Ministry promoted communication on OSH and awareness-raising mainly through OSH covenants with social partners. The projects under OSH covenants are now ready but social partners continue awareness rising projects and pick up new topics.

For the Labour inspectorate the main focus in communication is on enhancing transparency regarding the explanation of legislation and regulations and its enforcement. The focus is on the major risks in sectors or branches. The main communication tool is a series of sector brochures addressing these major risks. Where relevant, the labour Inspectorate builds on so called OSH catalogues of social partners to determine what an acceptable state of the art is and by what means employers can reach the standards to be met according to OSH legislation and regulations. 20 sector brochures are planned to be ready in mid 2008.

In the European inspection and information campaigns of SLIC; Construction 2003, 2004, 2005 on asbestos 2006 and on manual handling of loads 2007 the communication campaign and inspections were combined.

Major incidents and findings in inspection projects are communicated to the sector and the press in order to raise awareness. The Dutch Labour Inspectorate has a press officer of its own.

## **POLAND**

Yes.

## **PORTUGAL**

Yes, during European weeks and in accordance with the Senior Labour Inspections Committee. We also develop national campaigns – for instance, in civil construction, agriculture, textile industry.

## **ROMANIA**

For the purpose of preventing accidents at work and occupational diseases, the Labour Inspection promotes the development and consolidation of a prevention culture.

To this end, the Labour Inspection carries out activities of awareness-raising, such as information campaigns organised with the participation of mass-media, as well as seminars, round tables where information and examples of “good practices” are discussed and disseminated. At the same time, the Labour Inspection encourages and supports activities organised to celebrate the World Day for Safety and Health at Work (28<sup>th</sup> April) and the European Week for Safety and Health at Work.

Given that the prevention mindset is acquired since childhood, efforts are made to instil prevention-oriented practices in all students by means of presenting prevention topics and aspects in the subjects taught in elementary school throughout high school. Thus, the Labour Inspection carries out the education programme “Cultural aspects of safety and health at work” aimed to instil a prevention mindset in young people.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Yes, the National Labour Inspectorate carries out awareness-raising activities related to OSH: conferences, seminars, exhibitions, National OSH Network meetings, publishing in mass media, interviews on television and radio stations, professional articles in regional press and magazines and also contests for students and young people. We have also started a program Safe Enterprise which is an incentive campaign to support implementation of effective systems of occupational health and safety management in enterprises in the Slovak republic.

We also publish Good Practice Guidance – to inform employees about basic/current legislation to ensure safety at work. The guidance also contains regional labour inspectorates' contacts and has covered:

2005 – Reduce Noise!

2006 – Employment of Young People

2007 – Safe Work with Loads and Repeated Activities which Strain Musculoskeletal System - Prevention of MSD at Work with Display Systems

## **SLOVENIA**

Yes. The campaigns ([see answer to Q 2.5](#)) – carried out by the Inspectorate – have also the form of awareness-raising activities through which the transfer of knowledge to employers, employees and OSH experts is attained. The inspectorate:

- (1) Organises and participates in the OSH training (workshops, seminars, conferences) of different target groups (i.e. employers, employees, trade union representatives, OSH experts etc.)

- (2) Provides expert help to employers and employees,
- (3) Provides useful information on OSH issues on its web site,
- (4) Participates in the National GPA Competition and disseminates information on good practice examples.

## **SPAIN**

Awareness-raising activities are carried out as part of the national campaigns.

## **SWEDEN**

Yes, the SLIC campaign and usually one campaign during the European Week.

## **SWITZERLAND**

Yes. There have been major campaigns particularly related to psychosocial issues in recent years. Additionally, campaigns have been conducted in accordance with the EU-Agency activities.

The Swiss Accident Insurance Agency (Suva), who also employs inspectors, conducts campaigns related to accident prevention on a regular basis.

## **UK**

Campaigns are carried out by HSE, of which the labour inspectorate is a part. The inspectorate contributes to campaigns where appropriate.

### ***Q3.2 Who is responsible for deciding the OSH-related topics to be promoted?***

## **AUSTRIA**

Priorities and OSH related topics are identified by the Director General. The topics for the regional campaigns are identified by the head of units of the Labour Inspectorates.

## **BELGIUM**

Apart from the campaigns mentioned in response to Q3.1, the promotion of OSH-related topics is most of the time carried out by HUW with brochures and seminars, and they base their decisions also on the topics of the European social fund

Within SWW, it is the head of SWW

For Seveso-companies: the head of the Seveso Inspection Division

## **CYPRUS**

The Department of Labour Inspection is responsible for deciding the OSH-related topics to be promoted. The national priorities and objectives are decided and prepared after discussions within the Department and in collaboration with the Social Partners.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

[See answer to Q 3.3](#)

## **DENMARK**

The priorities of the Danish Working Environment Authority (WEA) are set by the government with recommendations from the Working Environment Council (social partners). Within this framework it is up to the WEA to decide its awareness-raising activities/campaigns.

## **ESTONIA**

Formally the Ministry – taking account the proposals of the Inspectorate. However, there are lot of possibilities for the Inspectorate to implement their own local initiatives in campaigning.

## **FINLAND**

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health together with the Director General of the Department determine national level topics and programmes excluding European Week campaign theme, which is decided by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work. Furthermore, regional inspectorates can decide the topics of local and regional activities.

## **FRANCE**

**N/A**

## **GERMANY**

In accordance with the division of tasks described in Q1.1, the federal government, federal states and accident insurance institutions are involved to an equal extent in the implementation of prevention measures designed to improve awareness of safety and health issues. These parties in the Common German OSH Strategy usually consult with each other and with the social partners in order to support central, national and local, regional activities.

In addition, the federal states make their own, independent decisions concerning necessary regional campaigns, use of publicity-work funding, production of information materials and websites and implementation of training courses and action days.

Furthermore, the self-administration bodies of the DGUV are responsible for decisions concerning joint prevention campaign topics which are not integrated in the Common German OSH Strategy. The self-administration bodies of the individual accident insurance institutions are also responsible for making decisions concerning sector-specific or target-group-specific campaigns.

## **GREECE**

The responsible authorities of the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection are mentioned under Q2.1.

Decisions are taken after negotiations within SKEEE, SYAE and other relative regional bodies

## **HUNGARY**

The OSH related topics to be promoted are defined by OMMF in light of data on accidents at work, occupational diseases, high exposure indicators as well as suggestions and information of the local inspectorates, proposals of the OSH Committee and the recommendations of the EU. Concerning the EU recommendations the topics of the European Weeks, the SLIC campaigns and the contents of the Community Strategy are of special importance.

## **ICELAND**

**N/A**

## **IRELAND**

The Policy and Technical Services Inspectors, in consultation with field inspectors, decide on campaign topics. The Communications Unit plans and coordinates activities such as advertising campaigns, events/seminars, media relations, etc.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

The Chief State Labour Inspector decides the OSH-related topics to be promoted in the respect opinion of the Republican Tripartite OSH Commission.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

- The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
- The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
- The European Commission OSH Strategy 2007-2012
- The national standing committee (CPTE) which is tripartite and headed by the Ministry
- The LI-PR campaign working group headed by the director of ITM

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

The OSH policy directorate of the ministry is responsible.

The Labour Inspectorate is responsible for the content of its sector brochures but social partners are consulted.

## **POLAND**

National Labour Inspectorate after positive opinion of the Labour Protection Council about topics

## **PORTUGAL**

The national authority of the Labour Inspection.

## **ROMANIA**

The general inspector of state makes the final decision regarding topics for awareness-raising that are of interest both at the national and local level and need to be promoted.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

The scope of European campaigns is decided on EU OSHA and SLIC decision, the scope of national campaigns is decided by the National Labour Inspectorate as a help for employers at national and regional level when new or amended legislation is to be implemented, for example, good practice

guidance on undeclared work was issued in 2005 when an act on undeclared employment was adopted.

## **SLOVENIA**

The responsibility depends on the nature of the campaign, namely:

- (1) The scope of the international campaigns is decided by the EU-OSHA, SLIC or ILO,
- (2) The scope of the national campaigns is decided by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs and the Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia.

## **SPAIN**

The "Comisión Nacional de Seguridad y Salud en el Trabajo".

## **SWEDEN**

The Swedish Work Environment Authority.

## **SWITZERLAND**

The Division of Working Conditions, Department of Labour, for occupational health issues and the Swiss Accident Insurance Agency for accident prevention.

## **UK**

The topics to be promoted are decided by the HSE 'Fit3' strategic delivery programme, which was designed to deliver the UK government Public Service Agreement target on reducing work related ill health, injuries and days lost.

### ***Q3.3 How is the decision taken? What information is used to identify the topics?***

## **AUSTRIA**

The elected topics reflect also the wishes of the Minister and are also influenced by discussions which the Director General holds with the head of units of the Labour Inspectorates and staff of the Central Labour Inspectorate

The OSH Board (composed of e.g. Social Partner, AUVA and other important OSH organisations and institutions) provides important information and input to identify the appropriate topics.

## **BELGIUM**

For HUW, they base their decisions on the topics of the European social fund

For SWW the topics are based on the SLIC or EU-OSHA campaigns

For Seveso-companies: topics are selected based on inspection experiences, major accidents that happened in the recent past and discussion with the other Competent Inspection Authorities

## **CYPRUS**

In preparing these priorities and objectives, the views and opinions of all the stakeholders, and especially the Social Partners are taken into consideration as they are expressed in various occasions and during the continuous cooperation that exists between the stakeholders and the Department through the Pancyprian Safety and Health Council.

The latter is a multipartite body established on the basis of the Safety and Health at Work Law to advise the Minister of Labour and Social Insurance on health and safety issues.

The information that is used to identify the topics is based mainly on the EU-OSHA and the SLIC work programme.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

Decisions are made on the basis of executed analysis of the occupational health and safety state of affairs and progress, results of submitted inspections of development of occupational accident incident rate and complaints by employees' representatives and results of their investigation. Decisions are made also on the basis of national OSH policy and priorities and on a European level on the basis of agreed activities of SLIC.

The State Labour Inspection Office keeps information databases on inspections, occupational accidents and complaints. Further, proposals of regional inspectorates are taken into account.

## **DENMARK**

N/A

## **ESTONIA**

In practice, the Inspectorate is waiting for the relevant campaign signals from SLIC or EU-OSHA. The main Inspectorate's campaigns of last years were initiated by SLIC.

## **FINLAND**

The proposals may be initiated typically by the Department or regionally by the inspectorate. The social partners can also initiate them. Evidence base must be sound to act on.

## **FRANCE**

N/A

## **GERMANY**

In past years, the main sources used to identify the priorities were the objectives set in the EU strategy and the topics deal with in the European Weeks organised by EU-OSHA. Key activities have been the "Neue Qualität der Arbeit" (New Quality of Work) initiative launched by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the wide range of activities targeted at young workers and at preventing musculoskeletal illnesses by avoiding lifting and carrying heavy loads.

For over a year, the health insurers and accident insurance institutions have been running a joint, high-profile campaign, with the involvement of the Länder, aimed at preventing work-related skin diseases in response to the increase in their incidence.

In addition, the sector-specific accident insurance institutions conduct their own campaigns on the basis of the accident and illness incidence in their sectors.

## **GREECE**

The decisions taken from the authorities mentioned under Q3.2 are based on the suggestions of Regional Occupational Hazard Prevention Centres of SEPE and the suggestions of social partners taking into account also the results from the statistic evaluation of accidents and occupational diseases and the findings during inspections.

## **HUNGARY**

[See answer to Q3.2.](#)

## **ICELAND**

N/A

## **IRELAND**

Accident and ill health data inform the decision making process, as set out in response to Q3.2.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

Analysis of reports from inspectors and current information of accidents at work is used for identifying the topics. The main goals and objectives and sectors are set in the national OSH strategy.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

Decisions are taken by consensus and coordinated on the different levels along our integrated labour inspection scheme.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

In general, before decisions regarding the OSH communication from the Ministry are taken, they are discussed with social partners. Part of the OSH communication strategy of the Ministry has been to subsidise OSH communication activities carried out by social partners themselves. For example, the subsidy given for the development of an OSH campaign and website aimed at small and medium sized enterprises.

Good examples of involvement of social partners in OSH communication by the Ministry is the fact that they are consulted both on the content of (large parts of) our national OSH portal and on that of the Dutch Focal Point. The same holds true for the sector brochures the labour inspectorates produces within the context of its sector approach. In these brochures all employers in a given sector are informed about their responsibilities regarding information, training and supervision on OSH risks in their companies. In these brochures the labour inspectorate also clearly indicates on which risks it will focus during pro-active inspections, and what in its view constitutes correct behaviour with regard to those risks. The content of these brochures is based on the sector knowledge of the labour inspectorate including inspection findings.

All this of course by no means diminishes the primary OSH responsibility of the employers, or the responsibilities of other players in the Dutch OSH knowledge infrastructure such as the private occupational health and safety services, vocational training institutes and other intermediate actors in the sector for facilitating and promoting the right health and safety culture and behaviour.

Important to mention is that the findings in accident investigations carried out by the labour inspectorate are also used in a programme (communication tool) called "Story builder" aimed at helping employers and employees to become more aware of the different sources and causes of work accidents.

## **POLAND**

The process of identifying topics and problems uses post-inspection data, accident statistics, analysis of occupational illnesses, suggestions from the labour inspectorate's social partners

## **PORTUGAL**

Usually, according with SLIC decisions and, on a national level, after consultation of social partners

## **ROMANIA**

The labour inspectors make proposals on awareness-raising topics in the field of safety and health at work based on the analysis of the statistical data for accidents at work and the results of the inspections conducted.

The decisions are made upon the analysis of these proposals, bearing in mind that the topics chosen are of both national and local interest.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

The Coordination Committee for Occupational Safety and Health, the National OSH Network and regional Labour Inspectorates are asked for their view and opinion before the decision by the National Labour Inspectorate is taken. The decision is also based on the analysis of the state of occupational health and safety, the development of occupational accident incident rate, as well as complaints of employees' and results of their investigation.

## **SLOVENIA**

The Labour Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia is autonomous in accepting the decision to carry out the national campaign. However, some decisions are taken jointly by the Inspectorate, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Ministry of Health and / or other institutions.

The Inspectorate uses all data available: statistical data on accidents at work, data collected during inspection, reports of the regional inspectors etc.

## **SPAIN**

Basically, the results from working groups set up specifically for the purpose.

## **SWEDEN**

SLIC.

EU-OSHA

## **SWITZERLAND**

The decision making system is the same as the system for identifying inspection priorities ([see answer to Q2.2](#)), but it is very new.

Historically, decisions were taken according to individual motivations and interests of the responsible persons.

## UK

Decisions are taken by HSE FIT3 and Communications Board and are based on evidence, policy, days lost and injury reduction statistics.

### ***Q3.4 How far ahead are topics identified? Which are the main topics selected over the last three years?***

## AUSTRIA

Mostly one year in advance topics are identified. Main topics: e.g.

### **Work in Nursing homes:**

In the years 2004 to 2006 specific campaigns were carried out in nursing homes. During the first campaign it was examined whether the risk assessment was carried out properly (biological and chemical agents, psychological strain, lifting, carrying and moving of the inhabitants). In 2006 it was evaluated whether there had been any improvements. Additionally the work of the preventive services was assessed. Together with the persons concerned, guidelines were elaborated on residential geriatric care ("Schwere Arbeit – leicht gemacht". These guidelines were distributed and have contributed to the implementation of measures.

### **Explosion protection**

In carrying out the obligations of the European Directive on the protection of workers potentially at risk from explosive atmospheres, employers have to draw up explosion protection documents. This new task has proved to be very difficult. As a support the labour inspection carried out a campaign with the goal to

- collect data on explosion protection (existence and quality of explosion protection documents, classification of hazardous places, equipment in hazardous places, ventilation and exhaust systems)
- clarify whether the consultation by the labour inspection was effective (especially in comparison to enterprises that had neither been advised nor informed)

The campaign showed that consultation was successful and resulted in a higher rate of explosion protection documents being drawn up. As expected, it was more successful when labour inspectors came to the companies instead of just sending information material. The consultation in the companies had a success rate of about 23 to 26 percent.

### **Campaign "Safe start"**

On the occasion of the European Week 2006, the Labour Inspectorate enhanced its activities related to youth and occupational safety and health. All over Austria, cooperation with schools focused on making young people aware of a multitude of issues related to occupational safety and health. The school projects were awarded a prize by the Federal Minister of Economics and Labour, Dr Martin Bartenstein.

## BELGIUM

HUW: 4 years (musculoskeletal disorders; young workers)

SWW: 1 year (the SLIC and EU-OSHA campaigns; SYDYGRI inspections)

For Seveso-companies: topics are identified on an annual basis. Main topics selected during the past three years include: storage facilities of petroleum products and other flammable liquids, ship (un)loading facilities, working with contractors and risks related to pipelines.

## CYPRUS

Since the information used to identify the topics is mainly based on the rolling work programmes of EU-OSHA and SLIC, the topics are identified two to three years in advance.

The main topics selected over the last three years are:

- Construction
- Noise
- Asbestos
- Young workers
- Manual Handling
- Musculoskeletal Disorders

## CZECH REPUBLIC

The inspection department submits proposals for the following year to the State Labour Inspection Office management at the beginning of June. Until the end of September discussion on that matter proceeds within the system of the State Labour Inspection Office. At the end of September and at the beginning of October there is a meeting with social partners and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Selected topics:

- Safety at heights
- Working time – shifts of drivers
- Materials handling and warehousing
- Safety of operation of cooling equipment – ammonia
- Safety of operation of lifts used for transport of people
- Occupational safety in small and medium companies

## DENMARK

Topics within awareness-raising activities/campaigns are mainly defined within the framework of the national priorities (current national priorities running for a five-year period). Regarding main topics over the last three years – [see answer to Q3.1](#).

## ESTONIA

These are the topics stressed by SLIC: OSH in construction, hazardous chemicals, MSDs (manual handling).

## FINLAND

Many topics are defined on an annual basis (European Week campaign) and others follow the government policy programme period (four years). Some recent topics are musculoskeletal disorders, young people at work, noise at work and construction work.

## FRANCE

In the field of occupational safety and health, priorities of the three last years have concerned risks assessment process, risks linked to CMR products, cranes, manual handling and risks related to wood dust, some of these actions taking place on several years.

## **GERMANY**

In addition to participation in EU-OSHA's future campaigns, the OSH objectives listed in reply to Q1.6 will be used as key topics for awareness-raising campaigns in the period 2008 to 2012.

The DGUV and the accident insurance institutions also plan their own campaigns, approximately five years in advance.

## **GREECE**

The main topics on occupational health and safety awareness-raising campaigns over the last three years were:

- Construction sector (in parallel to the campaign organised by EU-OSHA),
- Thermal fatigue of employees,
- Protection from noise at work (campaign organised by SLIC and in cooperation with the campaign organised by EU-OSHA),
- Protection of employees exposed to asbestos (campaign organised by SLIC),
- Protection of young people at work (campaign organised by EU-OSHA) and
- Protection in manual handling of loads at transport and sanitary sector (campaign organised by SLIC and in cooperation with the campaign organised by EU-OSHA).

## **HUNGARY**

The topics are identified in the yearly work programmes of OMMF. Most of them are connected to the topics of the European Weeks (construction, noise, young workers, MSD)

## **ICELAND**

N/A

## **IRELAND**

Normally, the topics and campaigns are decided when preparing the next year's work programme. The 2008 campaigns will be decided before the end of 2007.

## **ITALY**

No information supplied

## **LATVIA**

No information supplied

## **LITHUANIA**

The main OSH goals and objectives are described in the national strategy, but the topics are identified every year.

The main topics of awareness-raising over the last three years were: building in safety, undeclared work, prevention of accidents at work, alcohol and safe work.

## **LUXEMBOURG**

According to the topics decided in Bilbao 2-3 years in advance. Every event has nevertheless a strong national character.

## **MALTA**

No information supplied

## **NETHERLANDS**

Top three topics in sector brochures of the Labour Inspectorate

- Dangerous substances
- Physical strain and work posture
- Tipping and falling objects

## **The Labour Inspectorate in 2008 will have 20 sector-specific brochures**

## **POLAND**

Major prevention and promotion topics addressed by the National Labour Inspectorate in years 2005-2008:

Topics:

- Occupational safety in construction industry (work at height, work in trenches, electrical power safety at a construction site);
- Educational activities addressed to young employees and senior high school students. Special focus is on improving the knowledge of labour law and OSH, accident prevention and developing the right attitude towards safe behaviours at work;
- Occupational safety in asbestos removal;
- Eliminating or limiting manual transport tasks in healthcare, transport, trade and construction sectors. Special focus is on good practices;
- Occupational safety in agriculture;
- Counteracting negative results of mental overload and stress at a work place;
- Campaigns and programmes:
- "Occupational Safety in Construction Industry" – 2005;
- "Young Employees – Safe Start" – 2006;
- "Safety Culture" Educational programmes for senior high school students 2006-2008;
- European asbestos campaign – 2006;
- SLIC campaign in healthcare and transport sectors: "Manual Handling of Loads" under the "Lift Less" slogan – 2007;
- SLIC campaign in trade and construction sectors: "Manual Handling of Loads" under the "Lift Less" slogan – 2008;
- "Occupational protection in private agriculture" Information and promotion campaign 2007-2008;
- Prevention programme for counteracting negative results of mental overload and stress at a work place – 2006-2008;
- Prevention programme "Compliance with labour law in micro enterprises (up to 9 employees) – on an annual basis;

## **PORTUGAL**

In the last three years, topics were selected on matters of safety in civil construction, MDS disorders, manual handling of loads and asbestos.

## **ROMANIA**

The topics for the national awareness-raising campaigns are identified before the Labour Inspection's annual Framework Action Plan is set up.

Given that young workers are the most frequently injured, the Labour Inspection decided to increase its effort to raise awareness of this specific category of workers. For this purpose, the Labour Inspection carries out the education programme "Cultural aspects of safety and health at work" aimed to instil a prevention mindset in young people which focuses on the following main objectives:

- Setting up and implementing a curriculum within an educational programme aimed to teach prevention-oriented practices to the young in the middle school and high school as well as to undergraduate students;
- Building on the prevention mindset instilled in young students from middle school, high school and undergraduate school through the medium of short movies and clips, printed books, caricatures and graphic representations of specific risks at work.

During the period 2005-2006, the campaign "Promoting social dialogue and improving the working conditions in the wood industry" aimed to raise awareness and inform employers, workers and social partners on OSH issues specific to this economic sector.

In 2007, the Labour Inspection carried out activities to raise awareness on the manual handling of loads under the European campaign dealing with this topic.

For the period 2007-2008 the campaign "Promoting the health and safety at work in small and medium-sized enterprises" was carried out in order to inform and raise awareness of employers and employees in the small and medium-sized enterprises on the best practices for health and safety at work.

For the past three years, national inspection campaigns have been carried out for the purpose of raising awareness on the need to observe health and safety legislation such as the campaign for the temporary or mobile construction sites, inspection campaign for schools where apprentices and students perform work under their school professional training, as well as campaigns to promote the reduced exposure of workers to asbestos.

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Every year, campaign and inspection checks are aimed at some topics (in accordance with SLIC and OSHA campaigns). In 2005 it was campaign "Reduce Noise" and campaign aimed at construction, in 2006 the campaigns were aimed at two topics - work with asbestos and young people at work and in 2007 a campaign aimed at musculoskeletal disorders at manual handling of loads.

## **SLOVENIA**

The awareness-raising activities are usually set one year ahead.

The topics of the last three conferences organised by the Inspectorate were: occupation disease, alcohol and drug abuse at workplace, ageing of workforce.

## **SPAIN**

One or two years ahead.

## **SWEDEN**

N/A

## **SWITZERLAND**

Less than one year.

- Sexual harassment at work.
- Musculoskeletal Disorders
- Workplace health promotion.

## **UK**

Topics are identified as part of HSE's overall planning processes.

The main topics over the last three years were:

- Falls from height
- Musculoskeletal disorders
- Dermatitis in the hairdressing industry
- Asbestos
- Workplace noise exposure
- Small businesses
- Workplace transport
- Slips and trips

## 4 Glossary

The following acronyms appear in this report

AIRA	Labour Inspectorate Risk Analysis Model for Working Conditions (NL)
ÁNTSZ	National Public Health and Medical Officer's Service (HU)
AUVA	Austrian Social insurance
BAuA	Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin – Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (DE)
BGAG	Institut Arbeit und Gesundheit – Institute Work and Health (DE)
BGFA	Forschungsinstitut für Arbeitsmedizin – Research Institute for Occupational Medicine (DE)
BGIA	Institute for Occupational Safety and Health – Institut für Arbeitsschutz (DE)
CCAA	Autonomous communities -Comunidades Autónomas (ES)
CMR	Cancer, mutagenicity, reproductive toxicity group
CPTÉ	National standing committee on work and employment (Comité permanent du travail et de l'emploi, LU)
DGUV	German Statutory Accident Insurance – Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung (DE)
ESAW	European Statistics on Accidents at Work (Eurostat)
FAS	Foras Áiseanna Saothair – National Training and Employment Authority (IE)
FIOH	Finnish Institute of Occupational Health
FOD	Field Operations Directorate (UK)
HELA	Health and Safety Executive and Local Authority Enforcement Liaison Committee (UK)
HORECA	Hotels, restaurants and catering (sectors of economic activity)
HSA	Health and Safety Authority (IE)
HSC	Health and Safety Commission (UK)
HSE	Health and Safety Executive (UK)
HUW	Humanisation of work (BE)
ILO	International Labour Organisation
INSHT	Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo – National Institute for Safety and Hygiene at Work (Spain)
ISOP	OSH Information System (SK)
ITM	Inspection du travail et des mines – Work and mines inspectorate (LU)
KEPEK	Regional Occupational Hazard Prevention Centres (GR)
KYAE	Centre of Occupational Health and Safety (GR)
LASI	Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik – Joint Committee of State Labour Inspection Services (DE)
MSD	Musculoskeletal disorders
MUST	Manufacturing, utilities, services and transport (UK)
NAK	Nationale Arbeitsschutzkonferenz – National OSH Conference (DE)
NFA	National Research Centre for the Working Environment (DK)
NLI	National labour inspectorate
NSD	Nuclear Safety Directorate (UK)
OMFI	National Institute of Occupational Health (HU)
OMMF	Hungarian Labour Inspectorate
OSH	Occupational safety and health
PDCA	Plan – do – check – act
PPE	Personal protective equipment
RIVM	Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu – National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (NL)

## Labour inspectorates' strategic planning on safety and health at work

SEPE	Corps of Labour Inspectors (GR)
SKEEE	Council for Social Control of Labour Inspection (GR)
SLI	State labour inspectorate
SLIC	Senior Labour Inspectors Committee
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprise(s)
SWEA	Swedish Work Environment Authority
SWW	Surveillance of well being at work (BE)
SYAE	Occupational Safety and Health Council (GR)
TQM	Total quality management
UWV	Social Security Institute (NL)
VER	Vinnueftirlit ríkisins – Administration of Occupational Safety and Health (IS)
VÚBP, v.v.i.	Occupational Safety Research Institute of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (CZ)
WHP	Workplace health promotion

## 5 Further information

### AUSTRIA

#### RESEARCH

Labour inspectorate: [www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at)

Social Insurance for Occupational Risks [www.auva.at](http://www.auva.at)

#### INSPECTION

Austrian OSH-Strategy 2007-2012:

[http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/AI/Arbeitsschutz/strategie/strategie\\_010.htm](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/AI/Arbeitsschutz/strategie/strategie_010.htm)

Folder concerning "Working conditions adapted to age and aging":

[http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/03498BE7-09C7-462D-87C6-5D0FF7AB9FAB/0/alternsgerechtes\\_Arbeiten.pdf](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/03498BE7-09C7-462D-87C6-5D0FF7AB9FAB/0/alternsgerechtes_Arbeiten.pdf)

More information concerning "Supervision of young workers involved in dangerous work":

[http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/24CF88E5-D553-472F-8E0F-4DAB81532DA3/0/2006\\_Jgdl\\_Aufsicht.pdf](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/24CF88E5-D553-472F-8E0F-4DAB81532DA3/0/2006_Jgdl_Aufsicht.pdf)

#### CAMPAIGNS

Campaign "Safe start

[http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/4B3A8D52-3653-4659-92A2-D2569B6A15E4/0/safe\\_start.pdf](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/4B3A8D52-3653-4659-92A2-D2569B6A15E4/0/safe_start.pdf)

<http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/AI/Personengruppen/Jugendliche/jugend030.htm>

<http://www.bmwa.gv.at/EN/Topics/Labourlaw/Inspection/default.htm>

Work in Nursing homes: - Guidelines "Schwere Arbeit leicht gemacht"

<http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/7F88360F-B923-4DF3-98DF-6CB4D1920EBE/0/altenpflege.pdf>

Explosion protection

[http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/36B7223E-8161-48DE-AAC3-67D95E424311/0/Abschlussbericht\\_VEXAT.pdf](http://www.arbeitsinspektion.gv.at/NR/rdonlyres/36B7223E-8161-48DE-AAC3-67D95E424311/0/Abschlussbericht_VEXAT.pdf)

### BELGIUM

#### RESEARCH

Federal science policy: <http://www.belspo.be/>

Some research results are available the site of the FPS (e.g. Sobane strategy; reports of campaigns carried out by the laboratory): <http://www.emploi.belgique.be/home.aspx>

Other sites for statistics:

Occupational sickness fund <http://www.fmp.fgov.be/> Occupational accidents fund <http://www.faofat.fgov.be/>

Wellbeing at work: <http://www.beswic.be/>

Seveso-related information: <http://www.emploi.belgique.be/acr>

## **INSPECTION**

Extracts of various reports are integrated in the annual report of SWW, available on the website of the FPS: <http://www.emploi.belgique.be/moduleTab.aspx?id=556&idM=163>

Regarding Seveso-inspections: <http://www.emploi.belgique.be/acr>

## **CYPRUS**

### **RESEARCH**

Labour inspectorate: <http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/dli>

Information on OSH studies undertaken on behalf of the Department of Labour Inspection is retained at the subfolder named «Research and Studies». This information is available in Greek and English language. [http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dli.nsf/dmlresearch\\_en/dmlresearch\\_en?OpenDocument](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dli.nsf/dmlresearch_en/dmlresearch_en?OpenDocument)

### **INSPECTION**

Further information could be drawn from the Department of Labour inspection at: [www.mlsi.gov.cy/dli](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/dli)

### **CAMPAIGNS**

Further information is available in the Annual Reports of the Department of Labour Inspection:

[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dli.nsf/dmlpublications\\_New\\_gr?openform&p=10&t=f&e=](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dli.nsf/dmlpublications_New_gr?openform&p=10&t=f&e=)

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

### **RESEARCH**

OSH research: [http://cz.osha.europa.eu/systems/files/vyzkum\\_vyvoj\\_BOZP.pdf](http://cz.osha.europa.eu/systems/files/vyzkum_vyvoj_BOZP.pdf)

### **INSPECTION**

Further information is available on the web page of the State Labour Inspection Authority: [www.suip.cz](http://www.suip.cz) and on individual addresses of Regional Labour Inspectorates that can be reached through the main web page of the labour inspection.

### **CAMPAIGNS**

The information and inspection campaign of SLIC was a part of wider framework, mainly the European Week 2007. Further information regarding the campaign "Lighten the loads" is available at [www.suip.cz](http://www.suip.cz)

## **DENMARK**

### **RESEARCH**

WEA (Labour Inspection) runs a limited budget; the national WE Research Fund (chaired by the WEA) runs a larger budget and NFA (National Research Centre for the Working Environment) runs its own budget. Priorities are drawn partly in common (from national priorities and objectives), partly according to the primary objectives of the three organisations as such.

All three organisations are part of Ministry of Employment in Denmark:

WEA: <http://www.at.dk/sw7737.asp>

WE Research Fund: <http://www.at.dk/sw12408.asp>

NFA (National Research Centre for the Working Environment):  
<http://www.arbejdsmiljoforskning.dk/?lang=en>

## **ESTONIA**

Labour inspectorate: [www.ti.ee](http://www.ti.ee)

## **FINLAND**

Finnish Institute of Occupational Health [www.ttl.fi](http://www.ttl.fi) provides information on research; inspection strategy and annual plans; and detailed reports and publications relating to campaigns.

## **GERMANY**

### **RESEARCH**

Bund: Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA): [www.baua.de](http://www.baua.de)

- BAuA strategy ([http://www.baua.de/en/About-BAuA/Strategies.html\\_\\_nnn=true](http://www.baua.de/en/About-BAuA/Strategies.html__nnn=true))
- BAuA work programme ([http://www.baua.de/en/About-BAuA/Working-Programme.html\\_\\_nnn=true](http://www.baua.de/en/About-BAuA/Working-Programme.html__nnn=true))
- “Safety and health at work” reports (<http://de.osha.europa.eu/statistics/statistiken/suga/>)

Federal states: “Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik” (Joint Committee of State Labour Inspection Services): <http://lasi.osha.de>

DGUV (German Statutory Accident Insurance): <http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/forschung/index.html>

Annexes:

“Forschungsaufwendungen der Unfallversicherung” (Research expenditure by accident insurance institutions): Meffert, K.: Die BG, 8/2006, p. 351 (Annex 1)

Comparisons of German and international research priorities:

- Meffert, K.; Reinert, D.: “Berufsgenossenschaftliche Arbeitsschutzforschung im nationalen und internationalen Kontext” (Berufsgenossenschaft OSH research in the national and international context); Die BG, 5/2005, p. 293-297 (Annex 2); [http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/forschung/jahrhundert/documents/heft\\_diebg\\_5\\_05.pdf](http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/forschung/jahrhundert/documents/heft_diebg_5_05.pdf))
- Meffert, K.; Reinert, D.: International research into occupational safety and health protection; International Journal of Occupational Safety and Ergonomics (2006), Vol.:12, No.4, 347-354 (Annex 3)

### **INSPECTION + CAMPAIGNS**

LASI: <http://lasi.osha.de>

DGUV: [http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/praevention/strat\\_praev/gemein\\_strat/index.html](http://www.dguv.de/inhalt/praevention/strat_praev/gemein_strat/index.html)

## **GREECE**

Labour inspectorate: [www.ypakp.gr](http://www.ypakp.gr)

## **HUNGARY**

Labour inspectorate: [www.ommf.gov.hu](http://www.ommf.gov.hu)

Focal Point: <http://hu.osha.europa.eu/>

## **IRELAND**

### **RESEARCH**

HSA's Research Committee and Research Programme available at:

[http://www.hsa.ie/eng/Statistics/Research\\_Programme/](http://www.hsa.ie/eng/Statistics/Research_Programme/)

### **INSPECTION**

Information on Inspector's activities is set out in HSA website at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

### **CAMPAIGNS**

Information in HSA's Annual Reports: <http://publications.hsa.ie/index.asp?locID=17&docID=-1>

## **LITHUANIA**

Labour inspectorate: [www.vdi.lt](http://www.vdi.lt)

Focal Point: <http://lt.osha.europa.eu>

## **LUXEMBOURG**

### **INSPECTION**

Further information is available on [www.itm.lu](http://www.itm.lu)

Recent publications:

- "Labour inspection and sustainable globalization" PRO-IALI – Sylvie Siffermann and Paul Weber ISBN 978-99959-602-1-6 (French, English 2008) [www.iali.aiit.org](http://www.iali.aiit.org)
- A global Code of Integrity for Labour inspection IALI 2008 (French and English) [www.iali.aiit.org](http://www.iali.aiit.org)

### **CAMPAIGNS**

[www.itm.lu](http://www.itm.lu)

[www.aaa.lu](http://www.aaa.lu)

[www.ifcc.lu](http://www.ifcc.lu)

[www.lifelong-learning.lu](http://www.lifelong-learning.lu)

[www.sti.lu](http://www.sti.lu)

## **NETHERLANDS**

### **RESEARCH**

Labour inspectorate: [www.arbeidsinspectie.nl](http://www.arbeidsinspectie.nl)

Research findings by the OSH policy directorate: [www.szw.nl](http://www.szw.nl)

### **INSPECTION + CAMPAIGNS**

Annual plans and reports of the last three years including English summaries and a Dutch version of the multi annual strategy 2008-2011 are available at [www.arbeidsinspectie.nl](http://www.arbeidsinspectie.nl)

## **POLAND**

NLI's website <http://www.pjp.gov.pl/> features:

- Major information for employers, legal acts regarding legal protection of labour and occupational health and safety, current information on NLI activities, information on work accidents etc.
- Report on the National Labour Inspectorate's activity, including results of inspections conducted based on NLI's Programme of Activity.
- Details on progress of respective inspection topics are also available in the annual "Chief Labour Inspector's Report on the National Labour Inspectorate's activity".
- Information on the current prevention measures, including campaigns, can be found in the "National Labour Inspectorate's Programme of Activity for 2008". Details on the progress of respective prevention measures are also available in the annual "Chief Labour Inspector's Report. Information on major programmes and campaigns is also published on NLI's website.

## **PORTUGAL**

Labour inspectorate: [www.act.gov.pt](http://www.act.gov.pt)

## **ROMANIA**

### **RESEARCH**

Labour inspectorate statistics: <http://www.inspectmun.ro/Statistici/statistici.html>

### **INSPECTION + CAMPAIGNS**

More information is available on Labour Inspection's website: [www.inspectiamuncii.ro](http://www.inspectiamuncii.ro)

## **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

### **RESEARCH**

Institute for Labour and Family Research: [www.sspr.gov.sk](http://www.sspr.gov.sk)

### **INSPECTION + CAMPAIGNS**

Labour inspectorate: [www.nip.sk](http://www.nip.sk)

Public Health Office: [www.uvzsr.sk](http://www.uvzsr.sk)

Focal Point: <http://sk.osha.europa.eu/>

## **SLOVENIA**

Labour inspectorate: [www.id.gov.si/](http://www.id.gov.si/)

## **SPAIN**

### **RESEARCH**

Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo: <http://www.mtas.es/INSHT/index.htm>

Estadísticas Laborales: <http://www.mtas.es/estadisticas/es/index.htm>

Instituto Sindical de Trabajo y Ambiente Social: <http://www.istas.ccoo.es/>

## **INSPECTION**

<http://www.info.mtas.es/itss/web/index.html>

## **CAMPAIGNS**

Comisión Nacional de Seguridad y Salud en el Trabajo <http://www.mtas.es/INSHT/cnsst/index.htm#>

Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo <http://www.mtas.es/INSHT/>

## **SWEDEN**

### **RESEARCH**

Labour inspectorate: [www.av.se/inenglish/statistics/](http://www.av.se/inenglish/statistics/)

### **INSPECTION**

Labour inspectorate: [www.av.se/inenglish/inspection/](http://www.av.se/inenglish/inspection/)

## **SWITZERLAND**

### **RESEARCH**

Some studies on the topics mentioned in Q1.6 are available at [www.seco.admin.ch](http://www.seco.admin.ch) (German and French only)

## **UK**

### **RESEARCH**

Labour inspectorate: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/index.htm>

### **INSPECTION**

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/strategiesandplans/index.htm>

### **CAMPAIGNS**

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/index.htm>