

From Science to Actions: WHO Approach

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Development so far

- 1996 World Health Assembly endorsed the Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All
- Network of WHO Collaborating Centers established (currently 64)
- First Global Work Plan 2001-2005 with 15 task forces and over 300 projects
- Second Global Work Plan 2006-2010 with 6 activity areas and over 170 projects



GEO-library

TF 12 Internet Resources and Networks Task Force

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The WHO Collaborating Centers for Occupational Health 2006-2010 Work Plan

Six Activity Areas (AA):

AA 1: Strategic global analysis

AA 2: Evidence for action, and national policies and action plans

AA 3: Practical approaches to identify and reduce occupational risks

AA 4: Education, training, and technical materials

AA 5: Development and expansion of occupational health services

AA 6: Communication and networking



Criteria for inclusion of projects in the 2006-2010 Work Plan

- Fit into one of the six activity areas
- Collaborative with CCs in other countries
- Address an occupational health issue of regional or global importance
- Clearly show benefits and beneficiaries



Number of Projects of the 2006-2010 Work Plan

- AA1: 7 Global situation analysis
- AA2: 31 Evidence for action
- AA3: 43 Practical approaches to reduce risks
- AA4: 55 Education, training and technical materials
- AA5: 14 Occupational health services
- AA6: 24 Communication and networking

Total 174

Sept, 2006



Management of the 2006-2010 Work Plan

Activity Area Managers

– 25% time commitment from Collaborating Center

AA1: Kaj Elgstrand, NIWL Sweden

AA2: Joanne Elms, HSL, UK

AA3: Stavroula Leka, Univ Nottingham, UK

AA4: Leslie Nickels, Univ Illinois Chicago, USA

AA5: Timo Leino, FIOH, Finland

AA6: Claudina Nogueira, NIOH, South Africa



Objectives of the Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health 2008-2017

- to develop and implement national policies, action plans and programmes on OH
- to protect and promote health at workplace
- to improve performance and access to OH services
- to provide and communicate evidence for preventive actions
- to address workers through non-health policies



World Health Assembly in May, 2007

- Declaration on Workers' Health endorsed by WHO Collaboration Centers in Stresa, Italy, June 2006
- Updated Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All
- Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health 2008-2017
- The WHO Collaborating Centers for Occupational Health 2006-2010 Work Plan



Health Determinants

- working and living environment
- social determinants
- individual health behaviour
- access to health services



Shift of paradigm in OH

From single exposure-effect-model to complex system models with many health determinants and long-term perspective

work → health

work ability, employability,
life quality

health → work



Research Priorities in Occupational Health and Safety

- Delphi technique → common concerns in many countries:
 - musculoskeletal disorders
 - work stress
 - work injuries
 - dermatological disorders
 - respiratory diseases
 - hearing loss
 - special vulnerable work populations



Research Agenda

- Basic science of mechanisms and effects of work exposures in humans
- Morbidity data of work-related and occupational diseases
- Evidence of effective actions and models of interventions
 - at individual, organizational, societal and international level



The Role of Research Institutions

- to define itself and set its values
- to do good quality research
- to educate new scientists
- to collaborate in research projects and education
- to train practitioners and experts
- to provide evidence based practice guidelines
- to evaluate scientific literature and practices in occupational health and safety
- to rise awareness and create solutions



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

