TASK FORCE 13: NATIONAL AND LOCAL PROFILES AND INDICATORS

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Indicators are pointers that simplify phenomena and help to understand and monitor complex realities. Profiles are concise subject descriptions that usually also include quantitative indicators. A profile is more than a set of indicators because it provides an understanding and context that cannot be communicated by numbers only. Profiles and indicators of occupational health and safety (OH&S) are used to describe states of affairs, provide early signals for problems in the work life, monitor trends, assess the effectiveness of programmes, and present a baseline against which progress is measured. Data on OH&S indicators, such as work injuries and occupational diseases, are collected in some form in nearly every country, but comparisons across countries are difficult because of differences in legislation, criteria, and reporting systems. Sub-national profiles (province, district, etc.) enable comparisons between different geographical areas or population segments. Strength of a sub-national approach is that contextual parameters (culture, language, legislation, administrative procedures) usually are similar, unlike when comparing different countries. Profiles increase transparency and visibility of OH&S and provide insights into the complexity of OH&S affairs, priorities, and needs of countries.

In 2001, a WHO CC meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand, established a Task Force to encourage development of OH&S profiles and indicators. In 2003, a WHO CC meeting in Iguassu, Brazil, updated the strategy of the Task Force. At present, some 35 institutions in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas are involved in building OH&S profiles.

Publishing of data on country profiles on OH&S collected by the pilot countries

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi); Gerry Eijkemans, WHO (eijkemanse@who.int)

Twenty-two European countries (Austria, Bulgaria, The Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, The Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The United Kingdom, and Serbia and Montenegro) have provided country profiles based on a WHO/EURO model.

The indicators were divided into three main categories: a) Indicators of prerequisites of OH&S, b) indicators of working conditions, and c) indicators of OH&S outcomes. The results of the project showed: the availability of data greatly varies between countries; the inter-country comparability of the data is low; quantitative data needs to be complemented with qualitative information; a multi-parameter profile is more informative than the aggregation of several parameters to one single indicator score.

The European country profiles have been published as a document, and will also be made available through Internet from the TF13 Web site. Countries in other continents can consider the findings and experiences gained by the European project.


WHO, ILO, and the Finnish Institute (FIOH) have provided funding for selected African (Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania) and Asian (Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam) countries to prepare country summaries on OH&S. The results were presented at an international seminar in Helsinki in October 2001, and have been printed in a publication.


Sectoral and subject-oriented profiles and indicators

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi); Magdalene Chan, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore (magdalene.chan@mom.gov.sg)
Keywords: indicator, profile, national

Target group: decision makers, planners, managers, occupational health and safety professionals.

The objective of this project is to develop a model profile that gives an overview of the OH&S situation in the chemical sector and use this as a tool for benchmarking with other economic sectors within a country and, perhaps, between similar sectors in other countries.

The profiling of the chemical industry in Singapore covers the following activities: Manufacturing of Refined Petroleum Products, Manufacturing of Chemicals and Chemical Products, and Manufacturing of Rubber and Plastic Products. In the selection of the items and indicators for the profile, reference has been made to the approach taken in the compilation of country profiles published in the FIOH People and Work Research Reports 52 (Work and Health Country Profiles of 22 European Countries) and 55 (Proceedings of the Workshop on National and Local OH&S Profiles and Indicators), as well as the Survey on ILO Standards-Related Activities in the Area of OSH in 2002.

Data is collated from the various databases maintained by national authorities, including the Manpower Ministry, economic and statistical agencies and professional bodies, as well as published or available local research material.

The profile will comprise the following:
- Economic and manpower statistics
- OHS legislation and standards
- Human resources in OHS
- Worker exposure and biological monitoring data
- Occupational disease and accident statistics

A CD-ROM sectoral profile is available on the internet.

Contribution for generating and publishing of country profiles - Italy

Alessandra Pera, ISPESL, Italy (alessandraperanetwork.it)

Keywords: occupational health, prevention, epidemiological surveillance

Target group: The definition of the Italian Country profile will lead to a better definition of the “standards” in occupational health. This will develop into a body of useful information for decision-makers in the area of safety and prevention.

The study is aimed at defining the Country Profile of our Country as regards the topics of occupational safety and health. The objectives of the activity will be achieved through the study of WHO models for the definition of Country Profiles and national and international criteria and guidelines; comparison with the various European Countries as well as with WHO Collaborating Centres; The setting up of inter-sectoral collaboration at a national and international level; the setting of key indicators of the status of the country in terms of occupational health and safety and the development of studies in the country. A country profile of Italy has been prepared.


Comparison of occupational illness and injury reporting systems across countries

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Keywords: reporting systems, international comparability

Target group: Developed and developing countries.

The purpose of the project is to review and compare existing reporting systems for work-related injury and illness across countries, and to provide recommendations for enhancing the degree of comparability of such systems, as a step towards a more global analysis of work-related injury and illness.

This work is being done in collaboration with another WHO Collaborating Centre in Occupational Health (Southwest Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health at The University of Texas School of Public Health). Initially, the comparability of workplace fatality reporting systems between the U.S. (CFROI) and European Union (ESAW) has been studied. Although comparisons are initially being made between existing
reporting systems in developed countries, the outcomes of this research should be useful and applicable to developing countries as well. Funds from various grants support this activity on an ongoing basis. For its commitment, WHO is being asked to share relevant information on similar work-related injury and illness reporting systems from national-level Collaborating Centres, and to provide reviews of the work done by the Occupational Health Research Unit on this topic.

The manuscript on work-related deaths between the U.S. and European Union has been submitted for publication.


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**Contribution for generating and publishing of country profile - Singapore**

Magdalene Chan, Occupational Health Department, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore, (magdalene-chan@mom.gov.sg)

**Keywords:** indicator, profile, national

**Target group:** decision makers, planners, managers, occupational health and safety professionals

The objective of this project is to compile a country profile of Singapore with regard to occupational health and safety to facilitate information sharing, comparisons between countries and surveillance across time.

The occupational health and safety profiles and indicators being compiled are broadly classified into three main categories, viz., prerequisites of OH&S, working conditions and OH&S outcomes. In the selection of the items and indicators for the profile, reference has been made to the approach taken in the compilation of country profiles published in the FIOH People and Work Research Reports 52 (Work and Health Country Profiles of 22 European Countries) and 55 (Proceedings of the Workshop on National and Local OH&S Profiles and Indicators).

Data is collated from various databases maintained by national authorities, including Manpower and Health Ministries, economic and statistical agencies and professional bodies, as well as published or available local research material.

The profile will include the following items:

- Economic, health and manpower statistics
- OHS infrastructure and system
- OHS Legislation
- Human resources in OHS
- Worker exposure and biological monitoring data
- Occupational disease and accident statistics
- Work related health problems, such as stress and musculoskeletal problems

A CD-ROM country profile is available on the internet. The project is expected to be completed in December 2003.


**Project end date:** March 2004 (Completed)

**Project start date:** March 2003

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**Contribution for generating and publishing of country profiles - Viet Nam**

Nguyen Thi Hong Tu, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam (hongtu@netnam.vn)

**Key words:** country profile, indicators, occupational health, prevention

**Target group:** decision-makers at Ministries, politicians, workers' organizations, employers' organizations, academic institutions

The objective is to describe the national structures and functions of the Vietnamese system for the management of OH&S. The Vietnamese Network on Occupational Health and Safety will contribute to the accomplishment of the task.

Generation and publishing of regional and local profiles - Bulgaria

Emilia Ivanovich, National Centres of Hygiene, Medical Ecology and Nutrition, Bulgaria (e.ivanovich@nchmen.government.bg)

Keywords: work, working condition, outcomes, profile

Target group: decision-makers, planners and managers, and occupational health staff in Departments of Health, Departments of Labour, and Trade Unions, company management, local authorities.

The aim is to raise awareness of OH among decision-makers in Departments of Health, Departments of Labour, Trade Unions local authorities, companies and enterprises. Profiles and indicators on occupational health and safety can be used for describing the activities, prioritising activities at the regional level, providing early signals for problems emerging in the work life, and giving evidence of achievements. The methodology has been adopted. Funds are needed. FIOH is collaborating on the project. Active period: 2004-2005.


Organizing small seed funding for countries to collect the survey information

Gerry Eijkemans, WHO (eijkemansg@who.int)

WHO and Finnish Institute (FIOH) have provided funding to assist selected African (Kenya, Tanzania) and Asian (Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam) countries to carry out subnational profiles. The results were presented at an international meeting sponsored by FIOH and WHO in November 2002, and will be published by the end of 2003.

Extension of the profiles to subnational levels (province, region, municipality) - Estonia

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Keywords: local, profile, provincial, indicator, occupational health

Target group: local decision-makers, local politicians, local stakeholders

The county of Tartu, population 150,000, is located in southern Estonia. A county OH&S profile is being collated with the assistance of the Tartu County OH&S Network by using qualitative rapid assessment techniques. The profile will include information about the trends in population and labour force demography, employment and unemployment, economic activities in the county, health and social issues, occupational health capacities, perceptions about working conditions, occupational, work-induced and work-related diseases, workplace injuries, coverage of occupational health services, results from a SWOT analysis about priorities by local stakeholders.

Anticipated product: Occupational Health and Safety Profile of County of Tartu

Project start date: 2003

Project end date: June 2004
Publishing of data on country profiles on OH&S collected by the pilot countries
Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi); Gregory Goldstein, WHO Gerry Eijkmans, WHO (eijkmansg@who.int)

Twenty-two European countries (Austria, Bulgaria, The Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, The Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The United Kingdom, and Serbia and Montenegro) have provided country profiles based on a WHO/EURO model.

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The European country profiles have been published as a document, and are also available through Internet from the TF13 Web site. Countries in other continents can consider the findings and experiences gained by the European project.


WHO, ILO, and the Finnish Institute (FIHO) have provided funding for selected African (Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania) and Asian (Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam) countries to prepare country summaries on OH&S. The results were presented at an international seminar in Helsinki in October 2001, and have been printed in a publication.


Contribution for generating and publishing of country profiles - Estonia
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Keywords: profile, indicators, occupational health, Estonia

Target groups: politicians, decision-makers, occupational health professionals, universities, employers' organizations, trade unions

The objective of this project was to compile a country profile of Estonia with regard to occupational health and safety to facilitate information sharing, and raise awareness about OH&S in general. A country profile of Estonia has been accomplished.


**National Indicators of Occupational Health - Viet Nam**

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*Key words:* country profile, indicators, occupational health, Vietnam

*Target group:* national authorities and decision makers, planners and administrators responsible for OH&S form relevant ministries and agencies, occupational health professionals, employers’ organizations, trade unions

The objective was to compile a country profile of Viet Nam with an indicator framework to facilitate policy making, operational management, information sharing, and awareness raising about occupational health. A country profile of Viet Nam describes indicators of labour force and employment, risk factors in working environment, work-related diseases: musculo-skeletal disorders-backpain, occupational health and safety outcomes, occupational health personnel, and occupational health services. The appendices include General information, Health resources, Occupational health services, Working environment, and Recommended core indicators.


*Project start date: September 2002*

*Project end date: May 2004*

**Sectoral profile of the chemical industry in Singapore**

Magdalene Chan, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore (magdalene_chan@mom.gov.sg)

*Key words:* chemical industry, indicator, profile, sectoral

*Target group:* administrators, decision makers, labour inspectors, employers’ organizations, trade unions, OH&S professionals

The profiling of the chemical industry in Singapore covers the following activities: Manufacturing of Refined Petroleum Products, Manufacturing of Chemicals and Chemical Products, and Manufacturing of Rubber and Plastic Products. In the selection of the items and indicators for the profile, reference has been made to the approach taken in the compilation of country profiles published in the FIOH People and Work Research Reports 52 (Work and Health Country Profiles of 22 European Countries) and 55 (Proceedings of the Workshop on National and Local OH&S Profiles and Indicators), as well as the Survey on ILO Standards-Related Activities in the Area of OSH in 2002.

Data was collated from the various databases maintained by national authorities, including the Manpower Ministry, economic and statistical agencies and professional bodies, as well as published or available local research material.

The profile comprises the following:

- Economic and manpower statistics
- OHS legislation and standards
- Human resources in OHS
- Worker exposure and biological monitoring data
- Occupational disease and accident statistics

A CD-ROM sectoral profile is available on the internet.


*Project start date: March 2003*

*Project end date: March 2004 (Completed)*

**Extension of the profiles to community level in the countries - Estonia**

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Key words: local, profile, municipality, indicator, occupational health
Target group: local administrators, local stakeholders

The municipality of Ülenurme, population 4,500, is bordering the town of Tartu in Southern Estonia. There are 247 small enterprises and 400 workplaces. Types of industries include food-processing, metal shops, furniture manufacturing. Other work consists of construction, transport, commerce, communal services, small farms and entrepreneurs. A municipality OH&S profile was collated by using rapid assessment techniques: desk review of administrative documents, discussions with municipality officials, local labour inspectorate, and OH specialist of an occupational health centre, and walk-through observations.

Product: Community OH&S Profile of Ülenurme Municipality
http://www.balticseaoash.net/estonia/ulenurme-profile.DOC

Project start date: June 2002
Project end date: August 2003

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ILO/SRO Country Profiles on Working Conditions and Environment June 2004 Update

Shengli Niu, ILO (niu@ilo.org)

The national programmes and activities in member States in 2004 have been mainly focused on the implementation of the ILC Resolution on OSH of 2003 through a number of strategic considerations. The promotion of the key ILO Conventions on OSH has taken centre stage given its importance to influence positive adoption of the principles and practices of Occupational Safety and Health regarding the application of recognised standards to improve working conditions. The promotion of the proactive approach has been the top priority to ensure that national and enterprise level OSH operational programmes are designed to adopt the preventive orientation. The country profiles covered therefore reflect on these key foregoing issues and concerns of programming.

Botswana

Only C 176 Safety and Health in Mines has been ratified by the state. Conventions 155 Safety and Health as well as C161 Occupational Health Services still need to be promoted to motivate for the formulation of a comprehensive national policy and legal reform on OSH.

The establishment of a national tripartite advisory council on OSH is essential to motivate and enhance social dialogue in the implementation of operational programmes based on national consensus on agreed agenda and priorities.

Training of a national tripartite advisory council in OSH will enhance the implementation of the ILC Resolution on OSH Global Strategy through national consensus on issues of concern.

Lesotho

Only C155 Safety and Health has been ratified by Lesotho. Even though the national laws on OSH exist they are hosted within the Labour Code hence diluting the prominence of the issues of concern. There is a need for legal reform to ensure that the national laws properly take into account the concerns of the Conventions 155 and 161 Occupational Health Services. The last mission motivated for the ratification of C161 and formulation of a comprehensive national policy on OSH to provide comprehensive guidelines and direction for the implementation of national programmes and activities.

The Global Strategy on OSH from the ILC Resolution of 2003 was introduced to the national advisory council on OSH. The required follow up is to provide technical cooperation in the development and implementation of specific national programmes based on the global strategy.

Lesotho requested for assistance to embark on national profiling of hazards in workplaces to enhance the national registration system of workplaces. Progress has yet to be realised in this regard.

Malawi

Malawi has not ratified any Conventions in OSH. The state has requested for technical cooperation and assistance from ILO to establish a comprehensive national OSH system through the active collaboration of the social partners.
The current legal provisions have posed serious challenges to the enforcing government department because the OSH inspectorate needs to be trained on the implementation of national laws in workplaces through a comprehensive system.

The national tripartite body needs to be trained on the ILO Conventions on OSH and implementation of proactive programmes.

The promotion of the ILC Resolution on of 2003 Global Strategy on OSH needs to consider the prior training and orientation of the national tripartite body on the pertinent International Labour Standards.

Mozambique

Mozambique has not ratified any ILO Conventions on OSH due to a number of important factors pertaining to their historical background. In SADC Mozambique currently is the fastest growing economy and inherently the challenges for OSH are equally growing. There is a need to match the demands of the growing economy through comprehensive national programmes.

A national tripartite advisory body on OSH needs to be established to spearhead the formulation of a national policy that will provide guidance on the implementation of comprehensive programmes in workplaces.

Capacity building is a very key issue to ensure that the country has professional ability among the tripartite constituents to articulate the implementation of effective proactive OSH programmes. All branches of the economy pose challenges that need to be addressed systematically with ILO providing the essential technical cooperation in the collaborative activities.

Currently there are initiatives to motivate for the establishment of a national CIS to access information in Portuguese on OSH through collaboration with speaking countries and ILO/SRO Harare is spearheading this initiative.

Namibia

Namibia has not ratified any OSH ILO Conventions. The ILO/SRO Harare has provided technical cooperation in the training and promotion of the ILO Conventions on Safety and Health in Agriculture C184, C170 Chemicals and C174 Prevention of Major Industrial Disasters. During the training C155 Safety and Health as well as C161 Occupational Health Services were also covered since they were highlighted as fundamental in the establishment of any OSH programme and system.

The country need to develop a national policy on OSH complemented by legal reform that will lead to the development of comprehensive national strategies and programmes.

OSH inspectors need training on the enforcement of OSH legislation to improve compliance and a request to that effect was made during the training of the Labour Advisory Council.

It was acknowledged that a mission was necessary to initiate the implementation of the ILC Resolution on OSH Global Strategy.

South Africa

South Africa has ratified C 42 Workmen’s Compensation Occupational Diseases, C155 Safety and Health, C176 Safety and Health in Mines. Convention 161 Occupational Health Services needs to be promoted given the national programmes and activities currently undertaken by the member State.

The national policy on OSH is still to be finalised and consultations are still in progress.

The Global Programme on Elimination of Silicosis will be launched in the near future as a national Chapter as an initiative to promote the implementation of the ILC 2003 Resolution on OSH.

The country would like to commemorate the World Safety and Health Day.

Swaziland

Swaziland has requested for technical assistance to launch their National SAFEWORK programme as part of the national initiative to implement the ILC 2003 Resolution on OSH Global Strategy.

The country needs to establish a national tripartite body to coordinate and promote social dialogue in the implementation of comprehensive programmes in the world of work.
OSH inspectors need training on the enforcement of the national legislation to improve compliance. ILO/SRO Harare has been requested to provide technical cooperation in the development of regulations to support the principal Act on OSH.

Zambia
Zambia has ratified Convention 176 Safety and Health in Mines. ILO/SRO Harare has prioritized the promotion of the key OSH Conventions 155 Safety and Health, C161 Occupational Health Services. The country needs to formulate a national policy on OSH and a request to that effect is outstanding. The newly established department of Occupational Safety and Health will need technical cooperation in the design and implementation of national and enterprise level programmes through training of OSH personnel. The country has a long standing request to develop national training curricula on OSH with the technical assistance from ILO/SRO Harare.

Zimbabwe
Zimbabwe has ratified the highest number of the ILO Conventions on OSH that includes C155 Safety and Health, C161 Occupational Health Services, C162 Asbestos, C170 Chemicals, C174 Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents and C176 Safety and Health in the Mines. Even the country is implementing a number of national programmes it has already indicated to ILO/SRO Harare that technical cooperation is expected in the implementation of the obligations of the Conventions. Zimbabwe will be launching the National SAFEWORK programme in October 2004 following a national conference and a series of provincial seminars and workshops on OSH. ILO/SRO Harare is collaborating in the preparatory arrangements.
The World Safety and Health Day was successfully celebrated as a national tripartite event on April 28, 2004.

Contribution for generating and publishing of country profile - Hungary
György Ungváry, National Institute of Occupational Health, Hungary (ungvary@fjokk.hu)

Keywords: indicators, data, occupational health, Hungary

Target group: decision-makers in Departments of Health, Department of Labour and Trade Unions, occupational health staff and directors, managers associated with occupational health.
The objective of this project is to present the most important results of Hungarian occupational health in a form comparable to those of other countries as far as possible. The project contains the key information on the organisation, professional links, coverage of the Hungarian occupational health, as well as statistical data characterizing the activity of the service.

Within this work NCPH-NIOH has collected Hungarian OH&S data, using the method recommended by FIOH. These data are being processed according to EUROSTAT requirements.
The Finnish Collaborating Centre is participating in this project.

Sectoral profile on OH&S in Estonian agriculture
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Keywords: indicator, profile, sectoral, branch of economy

Target group: administrators, decision makers, labour inspectors, employers' organizations, trade unions, OH&S professionals

A Sectoral profile on OH&S in Estonian agriculture, some 120 pages, is being compiled by the EST-FIN twinning project on occupational health services by using rapid assessment techniques, with the assistance of the Estonian Sectoral OH&S Network in Agriculture.
A draft has the following headings: Overview of production, Labour force demography, Legislation, OH hazards and risks, OH services, Work injuries, Occupational and work-related diseases, Sectoral OH&S Network in Agriculture, Information strategy, Inventory of educational and training materials (OH&S),
Further development of a strategy for collecting national and local profile data in OH&S

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**Keywords:** indicator, profile, strategy, Internet, national, subnational

**Target group:** WHO collaborating centres, others

The purpose of the Task Force 13 (TF13) is to increase the awareness about occupational health and safety (OH&S) situation of national and local decision makers by promoting the compilation of profiles and indicators at national and subnational levels.

In 2002, at request of WHO/EURO, the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH) surveyed the availability and analysed the inter-country comparability of candidate indicators in twenty-two European countries. There were many problems in the availability of the proposed indicators in the required form. Furthermore, the comparability of indicators between European countries was generally poor. On a global scale comparisons of indicators are even more problematic because of larger heterogeneity of cultural, legislative, administrative, socio-economic and other factors.

A Session of WHO CC Meeting in Iguassu, 2003, discussed concerns on data comparability. It was noted that a country profile is valuable as such, irrespective of problems about quantitative comparability across countries. All countries require a written summary of their situation for their own needs. Comparisons between countries, not a main objective of a country profile, can be done on an overall level even if individual indicators are somewhat different.

The comparability of data within a country between different regions and over time is generally much better than the comparability across countries. Data collected within a country enable subnational comparisons and surveillance of temporal changes.

The standardization of data collection methods and harmonization of definitions and criteria of indicators in different countries would be a formidable task due to inherent differences between countries. Therefore, it is difficult to suggest one fixed standard for a set of national indicators. However, the WHO/EURO approach has provided an example for a thematic structure for national profiles. Certain themes, items, and issues are universally relevant to all countries.

A rational strategy for the TF13 is to make the existing and forthcoming profiles as widely available as possible through the Internet. Therefore the TF13 establishes a Web site that organizes the profiles and indicators developed by CCs. The Web site also provides access to contact information, background documents, and useful sources in general. An Internet-based profiling instrument will be developed in order to expedite, and to harmonize to a reasonable extent, the building of OH&S profiles. The twenty-two country profiles from the WHO/EURO project will be made available through the Web site. The Web site will also offer access to national profiles of other countries, and to the subnational, sectoral, and subject-specific profiles, when such products become obtainable.

Many developing countries may have difficulties in writing a comprehensive national profile. In such a case a stepwise strategy could be employed by first writing a ‘mini-profile’ using information that is readily at hand, and gradually expanding the factual content when more information becomes available.

**Products:**

**Project start date:** 2002

**Project end date:** continuous

Indicators of chemical exposures in Central America and the Caribbean
With UNEP; Central American Integration System; Central American and Caribbean Universities, other scientific institutions, ministries; National Institute of Working Life (Sweden); National Institute of Public Health (Sweden); University of Montréal; Finnish Institute of Occupational Health; Laboratory of Teledetection and Geographical Information Systems – Universidad Nacional (TELESIG-UNA); U.S. Geological Survey.

Keywords: Central America, profiles, indicators, exposures, surveillance

Target group: Regional, national, and local authorities; international agencies; employers; workers; trade unions; NGOs; mass media; and general public.

The objective of this project is the prioritisation and surveillance of exposures to toxic, endocrine disrupting, and carcinogenic substances for sectoral, national and regional control in Central America and the Caribbean. The project started in 1982.

Indicator systems have been and are being developed for occupational and environmental exposures and their determinants in Central America and the Caribbean. These include (i) the UNEP Global Environmental Facility project Regionally Based Assessment of Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS) for 27 PTSs in 23 countries with 136 million inhabitants; (ii) a Central American data bank of amounts, imports, and human and environmental toxicity of pesticides; (iii) a national estimation system of the extent of occupational carcinogenic and pesticide exposures; and (iv) a Costa Rican database of aquatic system exposure to pesticides.

The following progress has been made thus far:

(i) A Regional Report of the UNEP Regionally Based Assessment of Toxic Substances (2002). This has been published as both English and Spanish versions, and the main results included in the Global Report, published by UNEP in English.

(ii) Data banks are operational and updated; 3 scientific articles have been published.

(iii) The European CAREX system was modified for feasibility in Central America, with 2 final scientific reports for Costa Rica, one published in English, one submitted in Spanish. These results have also been presented in 2 international scientific conferences both held in Brazil.

(iv) Inventory of pesticide use, wells, geohydrological and climate data; mapping of the distribution of aquifers in Costa Rica and of susceptibility indicators for groundwater contamination; watershed modeling.

Products: Operational data banks; 3 UNEP PTS reports; 3 scientific articles; 15 technical reports; CAREX modification for Central America, 3 conference presentations, workshop on groundwater vulnerability.

Project start date: 1982
Project end date: Continuous

Indicadores de exposiciones químicas en América Central y el Caribe

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Centros incluidos en el proyecto: Programa Ambiental de las Naciones Unidas (PNUMA); Sistema Centroamericano de Integración (SICA); universidades centroamericanas y caribeñas; otras instituciones científicas, ministerios, Instituto Nacional para la Vida Laboral (Suecia); Instituto Nacional de la Salud Pública (Suecia); Universidad de Montréal; Instituto Finandés de Salud Ocupacional, Laboratorio de Teledetección y sistemas de Información Geográfica – Universidad Nacional (TELESIG-UNA); U.S. Geological Survey.

Palabras claves: América Central, perfiles, indicadores, exposiciones, vigilancia

Grupos meta: Autoridades regionales, nacionales y locales; agencias internacionales; empleadores; trabajadores; sindicatos; organizaciones no gubernamentales; medios de comunicación masiva; y el público en general.

Objetivo del proyecto: Priorización y seguimiento de exposiciones a sustancias tóxicas, disruptores endocrinos y carcinógenos en América Central y el Cáribe.

Año del comienzo: 1982
Se ha construido y se va a construir sistemas de indicadores de exposiciones ocupacionales y ambientales y sus determinantes en América Central y en el Cárabibe. Estas incluyen (i) el PNUMA Global Environment Facility proyecto Evaluación Regional de Sustancias Persistentes Tóxicas para 27 sustancias en 23 países con 136 millones de habitantes; (ii) un banco de datos de cantidades, registros e importaciones, y toxicidad humana y ambiental de plaguicidas; (iii) una sistema nacional del extensión de exposiciones ocupacionales a sustancias carcinogénicas y plaguicidas; y (iv) un mapa de vulnerabilidad de aguas subterráneas a la contaminación por plaguicidas.

Productos: Bancos operativos de datos; el informe PNUMA; 3 artículos científicos; 15 informes técnicos; la modificación y los resultados del sistema CAREX para América Central; taller de vulnerabilidad de aguas subterráneas.

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**Extension of the preparation of country profiles to all other Collaborating Centres**

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttf.fi); WHO Collaborating Centres in Occupational Health

The models for OH&S profiles developed by pilot countries will be made available to all WHO Collaborating Centres and other interested bodies. The access to such information will be offered through a TF13 Web site.

http://www.occupationalhealth.fi/Internet/partner/tf13

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**Further development of a strategy for collecting national profile data in OH&S: Indicator study and design for worker's compensation and occupational health systems in Colombia, Chile and Argentina**

Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán, Fundación Iberoamericana de seguridad y salud ocupacional (FISO), Colombia (jrodriguezg@fiso-web.org)

*Keywords*: occupational health, worker's compensation systems, profile

*Target group*: decision-makers, managers, occupational health professionals, governments, employers, trade unions

The purpose of this project is to built a diagnoses or profile about worker's health in Colombia, Chile and Argentina, their OHS service and healthcare capacity, as well as prevention services, after they have undergone through several policy and system reforms; to raise awareness among decision makers in these three countries.

The country profiles and indicators that were built on OHS and worker’s compensation systems are to be used to present proposals for prioritising activities at the national level, to provide early signals of the emerging problems in the work life, specially to the growing informal sector and giving evidence of achievements in the formal sector.

National OH Profiles have been finished and a publication is to be done. A written report will be published, and a magnetic report will be placed online on the web through FISO's homepage.

Asociación Chilena de Seguridad is collaborating on the project.

*Project start date*: 2002

*Project end date*: 2005

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**National and Local Profiles and Indicators - The Republic of Macedonia**

Prof. Dr Jovanka Karadzinska Bilisimovska, Institute of Occupational Medicine, Republic of Macedonia, (bilisimovska_j@hotmail.com)

*Keywords*: country profile, indicators, occupational health, Macedonia

*Target group*: National, local authorities and decision makers, planners and administrators responsible for OH&S form relevant Ministries and agencies, occupational health staff, employers and employees, trade union, NGOs.

The aim of this project is the development of country, local and company profile- models with specific national, local and enterprise indicators on health and safety at work. Establishing an information system in this field will facilitate integrated workplace health policy development, its implementation and evaluation.

The starting point of this project is the adoption of cross-sectoral policy requirements and key principles to facilitate good practice in workplace health, environment and social capital management in enterprises. This
is a basis to prepare an action plan on enterprise, local and national level with concrete tasks and activities for all workplace health stakeholders.

The project includes further development of a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators to be used for making integrated workplace health profiles at the national, regional/local and company level. The indicator set covers occupational, environmental, life style and social health determinants. This data should be used by companies, local authorities jointly with other provincial stakeholders and by national authorities for making annual reports, analysis of current situation and as well as for justifying plans for next period.

Preparing tools (questionnaire and methodology) for the national survey to detect high professional risks, specific occupational hazards and health promotion needs of working population are next steps in the project. They will be used by the National Co-ordination centres- Institute of Occupational Medicine - to collect information necessary to assess impact of the occupational health hazards and life style, environmental and social health determinants on health and well being of working age population. Pilot implementation of good practice in integrated workplace health management in selected enterprises will present a testing model for the project. Organization of national registry of work-related diseases in integrated workplace health monitoring will contribute to define the country status in terms of occupational health and safety.

The development of our activities in this project gave us a chance to cooperate with neighbouring WHO CC for initiating regional approach in South-east Europe in the future.

The accomplishments so far include:

- The Ministry of Health appointed the Institute of Occupational Medicine, Skopie as the National coordination centres for "Health, environment and social management in enterprises" programme in the Republic of Macedonia
- The final document on National "Health, environment and social management in enterprises" Action Plan, with basic principles, criteria and concrete activities for each stakeholder was adopted by Health Council of Ministry of Health.
- A draft document of national survey methodology (questionnaire and procedures) to detect high professional risks, specific occupational hazards and health promotion needs of working population was adopted at a National Intersectoral Workshop.
- A draft document on a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators to be used for making national, provincial and company integrated workplace health profile was adopted on National Intersectoral Workshop.

*Project start date: May 2002
Project end date: May 2007*

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**Australian OHS data accounts and country profile**

Helen Burbidge (Helen.burbidge@nohsc.gov.au), Julie Hill (Julie.hill@nohsc.gov.au), National Occupational Health & Safety Commission, Australia

*Keywords: Indicators; data; profile
*Target group: decision makers, government, OHS professionals and researchers.*

The purpose of the project is to develop a coherent framework for combining and relating various data sources on OHS in Australia that incorporates the magnitude of effect, the severity and the economic costs. An Australian country profile will then be developed using this data and information on the OHS infrastructure in Australia.

The project team will initially identify and assess data sources relating to OHS issues in Australia. Data sources assessed as being of sufficient quality and covering an aspect of the field not better covered by another source will be combined to form the best estimate of Australia’s OHS performance. Indicators are being developed for occupational injuries, fatalities and disease.

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**Collection of country profiles and national reporting system of occupational diseases**

Yuxin Zheng, National Institutes in Occupational Health and Poison Control, China (yzxzheng@163bj.com)

*Keywords: indicator, profile, country, national*
Target Group: Centres for Disease Control and Prevention at provincial, municipal, prefectural and country levels

The purpose of this project is to collect and analyze the country profiles and occupational diseases reporting data.

This is an ongoing project. The data collection was not satisfactory and needs to be improved.

Fund have been provided by the Ministry of Health.

Establishment of a website for the development of OH&S indicators and profiles

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi)

Keywords: Internet, Web, homepage, information dissemination

Target group: WHO CCs, politicians, administrators, others

The main operational strategy of the TF13 is to make the existing profiles, indicators, and related information as widely accessible as possible by using the Internet. The Finnish Institute of Occupational Health has assisted the TF13 to establish a TF13 Web-site. The Web site organizes the profiles and indicators that are developed by CCs so that they will be freely accessible to all. The Web site also provides access to contact information, background documents, and useful sources in general. The twenty-two country profiles from the WHO/EURO pilot project have been made available through a TF13 Web site. The Web site also offers access to national profiles that are developed in other countries, and to subnational and sectoral OH&S profiles, when such products become obtainable.

An Internet-based profiling instrument will be developed in order to expedite, and to harmonize, to a reasonable extent, the building of OH&S profiles.


Project start date: 2003

Project end date: December 2005

Development of an OHS Performance Measurement Tool

Magdalene Chan, Occupational Health Department, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore, (magdalene-chan@mom.gov.sg)

Keywords: occupational health and safety performance measurement tool, Universal Assessment Instrument (UAI), standardised sectorial profile

Target group: employers, employees, government agencies and OHS professionals

The objective of this project is to develop an OHS Performance Measurement Tool that is able to give a profile of the OHS situation with regards to a specific economic sector.

The tool is made up of a checklist and a questionnaire. It is designed to be a self-assessment tool. It has to be simple yet comprehensive, robust, verifiable and meaningful. The checklist is developed based on the Universal Assessment Instrument (UAI) which has been tested in selected companies in the USA. The basis of UAI has been published in peer-reviewed journals. It has to be compatible with the current audits of OSHAS 18001 and MOM SMS. The questionnaire is to be used as a verification tool for the results obtained from the checklist.

An OHS profile of the specific sector in terms of OHS performance can be obtained by aggregating the results from companies in the sector. This will be a useful item in the sectoral profile that will provide a means for comparison with other economic sectors within a country, and, perhaps, between similar sectors in other countries.

The OHS Performance Measurement Tool has been developed. The checklist comprises 21 measurement criteria, grouped under five driving factors. The five driving factors are management commitment, employee participation and training, OHS systems and practices, OHS expertise and line ownership of OHS. The questionnaire has 20 items.

A pilot study has begun in the chemical industry. Five companies participated in it. The results obtained from the study are being collated. The testing of this tool may be extended to other industries.

Other centres collaborating on the project: Steven P. Levine, (sluh@umich.edu), Ph.D., CIH, Emeritus Professor of Industrial Health, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, USA; Kim Ng (kim.kl.ng@exxonmobil.com), ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd., Singapore
Product: OHS Performance Measurement Tool. The deadline of this project is December 2005.

Indicator study and design for worker’s compensation and occupational health systems in Colombia, Chile and Argentina

Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán, FISO, Colombia (jrodriguezg@fiso-web.org)

Keywords: occupational health, worker’s compensation systems, profile

Target group: Decision makers, planners and managers, and occupational health staff the administrative institutions and insurance companies, governments, employers and trade unions in the three countries.

The purpose of the project is to build a diagnosis or profile about worker’s health in Colombia, Chile and Argentina, their OH&S service and healthcare capacity, as well as prevention services, after they have undergone through several policy and system reforms; to raise awareness among decision makers in these three countries.

The country profiles and indicators that were built on OHS and worker’s compensation systems are to be used to present proposals for prioritising activities at the national level, to provide early signals of the emerging problems in the work life, especially to the growing informal sector and giving evidence of achievements in the formal sector.

The National OH Profiles have been finished and a written report is to be published, which will also be online on the web through FISO’s homepage.

The Asociación Chilena de Seguridad is collaborating with us on this project.

National occupational health plan - Chile

Juan Carlos Llano (jllano@minproteccionsocial.gov.co), Mónica Maria Corchuelo, (mcorchuelo@minproteccionsocial.gov.co), Ministry for Social Protection, Santaté de Bogotá, Colombia

Keywords: occupational health plan

Target group: Government and workers.

The purpose of this project is to elaborate a national occupational health plan based on the diagnosis of the Professional Risk System.

The aim is to elaborate a National Occupational Health Plan and establish a diagnosis of the occupational health situation (occupational health data, Occupational Health Institutions (ARP), Ministry of Social Protection, National Net of Occupational Health Committees). At local level, a work plan will be defined, which will periodically evaluated on the basis of indicators and results.

A national network of occupational health committees has been established.

Extension of the profiles to subnational levels (province, district) in the countries

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi)

Gerry Eijkemans, WHO (eijkemansg@who.int)

Keywords: district, local, profile, province, subnational

National statistics homogenise information to the country level. Yet, subnational divisions may differ in important ways with regard to labour force demography, structure of economy, OH&S services, hazards, outcomes, etc. Health For All by the year 2000 programme has noted that information has been given mainly a central connotation, and the collection of information at the peripheral level is usually done with the needs of the central level in mind. ”One has to get away from such thinking.” Strengthening the local role in the management of OH&S requires a closer attention be paid to local information. Subnational profiles enable comparisons between different geographical areas or population segments, thus identifying disadvantaged population groups or regions.

Local administrators can compare separate subdivisions within their administrative territory for monitoring purposes, identifying deviances, and recognizing needs for action. Strength of a subnational approach is that important parameters (culture, language, climate, legislation, administrative procedures) usually are similar, unlike when comparing different countries.

Thailand is developing OH&S profiles in three provinces. China (Shanghai), Bulgaria, and the Republic of Bashkortostan (Russian Federation) are committed to ‘Generation and publishing of regional and local profiles’, pending on funding.
Some subnational OH&S profiles have been devised and others are in the pipeline. The conception still is feeling for a right form of presentation. Thailand has developed a useful community OH&S profile for a village of Sri Choom, Lumphun province, using rapid assessment methods. Thailand has also developed OH&S profiles in three provinces (Lumphun, Khon Kaen, Pitsamuloke) in Thai language. Viet Nam has prepared draft profiles for two provinces, including light outlines also at district and commune level. Estonia is presently developing a profile for the County of Tartu and for a municipality of Ülenurme. In Finland, the development of local OH&S profiles of several municipalities and regions are in an early stage and planned to be accomplished by mid-2005.

The overall object of these several activities is to develop a collection of content prototypes and compilation strategies that could be utilized as flexible examples.

Anticipated products: Examples of subnational OH&S profiles

Project start date: 2002
Project end date: December 2005

Extension of the profiles to subnational levels (province, district, commune) - Viet Nam

Nguyen Thi Hong Tu, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam (hongtu@netnam.vn)

Key words: local, profile, province, district, indicator, occupational health

Target group: local decision-makers, local politicians, local stakeholders, academic institutions

The objective is to develop practicable compilation strategies and useful models that describe the structures and functions at provincial, district and commune levels in order to strengthen local management of OH&S. The compilation of light draft profiles in Northern provinces of Viet Nam is already being experimented. The Ministry of Health has devised a draft profile for the province of Nam Dinh, and the National Institute of Labour Protection for the province of Thai Nguyen, including light outlines also at district and commune levels at these provinces. The approach will first be tested in selected provinces and extended to cover other provinces if the approach is found feasible and of practical value.

Interim products:


Project start date: 2003
Project end date: December 2005

Generation and publishing of regional and local profiles - The Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia

Akhat B. Bakirov (bakirov@anrb.ru) and Nadezhda I. Simonova (airat@anrb.ru),

Ufa Research Institute of Occupational Health and Human Ecology, Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia

Keywords: local profile, occupational health, medicine, Bashkortostan


The purpose of this project is to presentation database on the system of health protection of the population and its indicators in the republic of Bashkortostan on the basis of statistic analysis. The project aim is presentation of the information on real health status of the population, major factors of health promotion and the most effective ways of reforming the health care system to the RB Government and regional administration organs (decision-makers, managers).

The local profile of the Republic of Bashkortostan is related to the national profile of the Russian Federation.
It is a monographic issue of the results of the integrated analysis of real indicators of the population health and health care system. In the project a great deal of attention will be focused on the problems of health protection of the RB working population of the current and following generations. The aim and tasks of the project have been defined. The programme and plan of its implementation has been developed. At present, the collection and analysis of necessary information is being done. The Moscow Research Institute of Occupational Health affiliated to RAMS is collaborating on the project. Primary results are supposed to be obtained in 2003.  

Project start date: January 2003  
Project end date: December 2006

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**Report form for basic information on occupational health**  
Ministry of Public Health, Director of the Division of Occupational Health, Thailand  
The Thai government funds the project.

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**Publishing of data on profiles on OH&S in three pilot provinces of Thailand**  
Director of the Division of Occupational Health, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand  
The Thai government funds the project.

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**Development of an OHS Performance Measurement Tool**  
Magdalene Chan, Occupational Health Department, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore, (magdalene_chan@mom.gov.sg)  
*Keywords:* occupational health and safety performance measurement tool, Universal Assessment Instrument (UA1), standardised sectorial profile  
*Target group:* employers, employees, government agencies and OHS professionals  
The objective of this project is to develop an OHS Performance Measurement Tool that is able to give a profile of the OHS situation with regards to a specific economic sector.  
The tool is made up of a checklist and a questionnaire. It is designed to be a self-assessment tool. It has to be simple yet comprehensive, robust, verifiable and meaningful. The checklist is developed based on the Universal Assessment Instrument (UA1) which has been tested in selected companies in the USA. The basis of UA1 has been published in peer-reviewed journals. It has to be compatible with the current audits of OSHAS 18001 and MOM SMS. The questionnaire is to be used as a verification tool for the results obtained from the checklist.  
An OHS profile of the specific sector in terms of OHS performance can be obtained by aggregating the results from companies in the sector. This will be a useful item in the sectoral profile that will provide a means for comparison with other economic sectors within a country, and, perhaps, between similar sectors in other countries.  
The OHS Performance Measurement Tool has been developed. The checklist comprises 21 measurement criteria, grouped under five driving factors. The five driving factors are management commitment, employee participation and training, OHS systems and practices, OHS expertise and line ownership of OHS. The questionnaire has 20 items.  
A pilot study has begun in the chemical industry. Five companies participated in it. The results obtained from the study are being collated. The testing of this tool may be extended to other industries.  
Other centres collaborating on the project: Steven P. Levine, (slih@umich.edu), Ph.D., CIH, Emeritus Professor of Industrial Health, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, USA; Kim Ng (kim.kl.ng@exxonmobil.com), ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd., Singapore  
Anticipated product: OHS Performance Measurement Tool.  
Project start date: July 2003  
Project end date: December 2005

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**Indicator study and design for worker’s compensation and occupational health systems in Colombia, Chile and Argentina**
Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán, FISO, Colombia (jrodriguezg@fiso-web.org)

**Keywords:** occupational health, worker’s compensation systems, profile

**Target group:** Decision makers, planners and managers, and occupational health staff the administrative institutions and insurance companies, governments, employers and trade unions in the three countries.

The purpose of the project is to build a diagnosis or profile about worker’s health in Colombia, Chile and Argentina, their OH&S service and healthcare capacity, as well as prevention services, after they have undergone through several policy and system reforms; to raise awareness among decision makers in these three countries.

The country profiles and indicators that were built on OHS and worker’s compensation systems are to be used to present proposals for prioritising activities at the national level, to provide early signals of the emerging problems in the work life, especially to the growing informal sector and giving evidence of achievements in the formal sector.

The National OH Profiles have been finished and a written report is to be published, which will also be on-line on the web through FISO’s homepage.

The Asociación Chilena de Seguridad is collaborating with us on this project.

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**Sectoral profiles and indicators**

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi)

**Keywords:** indicator, profile, sectoral, branch of economy

**Target group:** administrators, decision makers, labour inspectors, employers’ organizations, trade unions, OH&S professionals

OH&S hazards, untoward outcomes, and coverage of services can be quite different in different branches of economy. The content and need of OH&S services may also vary substantially reflecting the differences in working conditions and patterns of exposure.

The objective of this set of activities is to develop example profiles that give overviews of the OH&S situation by branch of economy. A sectoral profile is valuable in its own right, being a contextual summary of issues of importance with specific focus. Sectoral profiles can also be used, within reason, for making comparisons with other economic sectors within a country and, with due caution, between similar sectors in other countries.

Mini-profiles, 3-8 pages each in Finnish language, of branches of economy are being compiled in Finland every three years. These profiles briefly summarize the trends in labour force demography and production, working conditions, workplace injuries and occupational diseases, and provide prospects for future.

A Sectoral profile on OH&S in Estonian agriculture is presently being compiled. A similar undertaking is about to start in Finland, to be accomplished by 2005. The Baltic Sea Network on OH&S (WHO/EURO) will discuss in October 2004 a possibility of compiling similar profiles from other Baltic Sea countries.

A profile of the chemical industry in Singapore has been completed (see Completed projects).

**Anticipated product:** A set of examples of sectoral OH&S profiles available on Internet.

**Project start date:** 2003

**Project end date:** December 2005

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**Development of an OHS Performance Measurement Tool**

Magdalene Chan, Occupational Health Department, Ministry of Manpower, Singapore, (magdalene_chan@mom.gov.sg)

**Keywords:** occupational health and safety performance measurement tool, Universal Assessment Instrument (UAI), standardised sectorial profile

**Target group:** employers, employees, government agencies and OH&S professionals

The objective of this project is to develop an OHS Performance Measurement Tool that is able to give a profile of the OHS situation with regards to a specific economic sector.

The tool is made up of a checklist and a questionnaire. It is designed to be a self-assessment tool. It has to be simple yet comprehensive, robust, verifiable and meaningful. The checklist is developed based on the Universal Assessment Instrument (UAI) which has been tested in selected companies in the USA. The basis of UAI has been published in peer-reviewed journals. It has to be compatible with the current audits of
OSHAS 18001 and MOM SMS. The questionnaire is to be used as a verification tool for the results obtained from the checklist.

An OHS profile of the specific sector in terms of OHS performance can be obtained by aggregating the results from companies in the sector. This will be a useful item in the sectoral profile that will provide a means for comparison with other economic sectors within a country, and, perhaps, between similar sectors in other countries.

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A pilot study has begun in the chemical industry. Five companies participated in it. The results obtained from the study are being collated. The testing of this tool may be extended to other industries.

Other centres collaborating on the project: Steven P. Levine, (slih@umich.edu), Ph.D., CIH, Emeritus Professor of Industrial Health, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, USA; Kim Ng (kim.kl.ng@exxonmobil.com), ExxonMobil Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd., Singapore

Anticipated product: OHS Performance Measurement Tool.

Project start date: July 2003
Project end date: December 2005

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**Indicator study and design for worker’s compensation and occupational health systems in Colombia, Chile and Argentina**

Julietta Rodríguez Guzmán, FISO, Colombia (jrodriguez@fiso-web.org)

**Keywords:** occupational health, worker’s compensation systems, profile

**Target group:** Decision makers, planners and managers, and occupational health staff the administrative institutions and insurance companies, governments, employers and trade unions in the three countries.

The purpose of the project is to build a diagnosis or profile about worker’s health in Colombia, Chile and Argentina, their OHS service and healthcare capacity, as well as prevention services, after they have undergone through several policy and system reforms; to raise awareness among decision makers in these three countries.

The country profiles and indicators that were built on OHS and worker’s compensation systems are to be used to present proposals for prioritising activities at the national level, to provide early signals of the emerging problems in the work life, especially to the growing informal sector and giving evidence of achievements in the formal sector.

The National OH Profiles have been finished and a written report is to be published, which will also be on-line on the web through FISO’s homepage.

The Asociación Chilena de Seguridad is collaborating with us on this project.

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**Extension of the profiles to community level in the countries**

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@tt.fi)

Dr Gerry Eijkemans, WHO (eijkemansg@who.int)

**Key words:** local, profile, indicators, occupational health, community, village, rapid assessment

**Target group:** local population

Traditional health indicators such as morbidity or disability may reveal little about actual community concerns. Such concerns may include poverty, work injuries, pesticide poisonings, ergonomic or other work-related problems. Community activation is a strategy to improve OHS in rural villages. Locally acceptable light methods are needed. Writing a community OHS profile is an activation process that uses flexible rapid assessment procedures (RAP). These are mixed qualitative techniques such as desk-reviews of documents, conversations, group discussions, observations, walk-throughs. Obvious hazards, such as pesticides containers lying on ground unguarded, metal chips on floor where people walk barefoot, ergonomic faults, may be corrected immediately often by simple means. The aim is to train communities to manage OHS on their own, as much as they can.
A pilot project in Sri Choom village, population 800, in Northern Thailand has been accomplished. As part of the process, several actions for improving OH&S at village work sites have been successfully undertaken, and farmers and entrepreneurs educated on controlling local hazards in agriculture and small furniture workshops.

Several community profiles are about to be compiled in Finland during the next couple of years. Viet Nam is considering the implementation of similar activities.

The Task Force 2 "Intensive Partnership in Africa includes a task for Preparation of community profiles on OH&S in Africa, pending on funding.


*Project start date:* 2002
*Project end date:* 2006

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**Extension of the profiles to community level in the countries - Finland**

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi)

**Key words:** local, profile, municipality, indicator, occupational health, work well-being

**Target group:** local decision-makers, local politicians, local stakeholders

The community of Mäntsälä, population 15,000, in Southern Finland is a rapidly growing municipality, and a home to 1,400 businesses. A community OH&S profile is about to be written as part of a project that mainstreams work well-being, incl. OH&S, into municipal development plans, and develops strategies for promoting well-being in micro-enterprises and for entrepreneurs. The profile will include suitable indicators, mostly qualitative, and narrative descriptions about issues of importance, describe the OH&S capacities and interests of members of a local network, record development goals and priorities, and link OH&S to other socioeconomic issues in local context. The project is realized by the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health in collaboration with the Mäntsälä business development centre that takes the implementation responsibility.

Writing of similar local profiles, as part of action programmes, are being planned for several other municipalities or regions in Finland, to be started in 2004.

**Anticipated product:** Community OH&S Profile of Mäntsälä Municipality

*Project start date:* June 2004
*Project end date:* December 2005

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**Extension of the preparation of country profiles to all other Collaborating Centres**

Kari Kurppa, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Finland (Kari.Kurppa@ttl.fi); WHO Collaborating Centres in Occupational Health

The examples for OH&S profiles developed by pilot countries will be made available to all WHO Collaborating Centres and other interested bodies. The access to such information will be offered through a TF13 Web site. [http://www.occuphealth.fi/internet/partner/ft13/](http://www.occuphealth.fi/internet/partner/ft13/)

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**Organizing small seed funding for countries to collect the survey information**

Gerry Eijkemans, WHO (eijkemansg@who.int)

WHO and Finnish Institute (FIOH) have provided funding to assist selected African (Kenya, Tanzania) and Asian (Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam) countries to carry out subnational profiles. The results were presented at an international meeting sponsored by FIOH and WHO in November 2002, and will be published by the end of 2004.
Collection of country profiles and national reporting system of occupational diseases

Fengsheng He, National Institutes in Occupational Health and Poison Control, China (hefs@public.bta.net.cn)

Keywords: indicator, profile, country, national

Target Group. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention at provincial, municipal, prefectural and country levels

The purpose of this project is to collect and analyze the country profiles and occupational diseases reporting data.

This is an ongoing project. The data collection was not satisfactory and needs to be improved.

Fund have been provided by the Ministry of Health.

National occupational health plan - Chile

Juan Carlos Llano (jlano@minproteccionsocial.gov.co), Mónica Maria Corchuelo, (mcorchuelo@minproteccionsocial.gov.co), Ministry for Social Protection, Santaté de Bogotá, Colombia

Keywords: occupational health plan

Target group: Government and workers.

The purpose of this project is to elaborate a national occupational health plan based on the diagnosis of the Professional Risk System.

The aim is to elaborate a National Occupational Health Plan and establish a diagnosis of the occupational health situation (occupational health data, Occupational Health Institutions (ARP), Ministry of Social Protecion, National Net of Occupational Health Committees). At local level, a work plan will be defined, which will periodically evaluated on the basis of indicators and results.

A national network of occupational health committees has been established.

Contribution for generating and publishing of country profile - Poland

Jacek Michalak (jmzooz@imp.lodz.pl) and Stanisław Tarkowski (tarko@imp.lodz.pl)

Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine, Poland

Keyword: training materials

A draft outline of the country profile has been prepared, presented at BSN meeting in Riga 2002, and provided to co-ordinators. The profile is being continuously supplemented according to changes in Polish legislation, new information and other important data.

At present, there is no identified source of financing this task yet. NIOM covers only a part-time job, which caused remarkable slow-down of the work.

Funding is needed. The completion date is yet to be determined.

Extension of the profiles to community level - Viet Nam

Nguyen Thi Hong Tu, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam (hongtu@netnam.vn)

Keywords: local profile, province, district, indicators, occupational health

Target group: villages, communities, public health system, local decision-makers, local stakeholders

The project describes the OH&S situation, problems and awareness at the local level in Viet Nam as a baseline for starting improvements by local resources. The goal is to empower primary health care and grass-root actors to manage OH&S problems by using the means that are at disposal of a community.
Report form for basic information on occupational health
Ministry of Public Health, Director of the Division of Occupational Health, Thailand
The Thai government funds the project.

Publishing of data on profiles on OH&S in three pilot provinces of Thailand
Director of the Division of Occupational Health, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
The Thai government funds the project.

Generation and publishing of regional and local profiles - Bulgaria
Emilia Ivanovich, National Centres of Hygiene, Medical Ecology and Nutrition, Bulgaria (e.ivanovich@nchmen.government.bg)
*Keywords*: work, working condition, outcomes, profile
Target group: decision-makers, planners and managers, and occupational health staff in Departments of Health, Departments of Labour, and Trade Unions, company management, local authorities.
The aim is to raise awareness of OH among decision-makers in Departments of Health, Departments of Labour, Trade Unions local authorities, companies and enterprises. Profiles and indicators on occupational health and safety can be used for describing the activities, prioritising activities at the regional level, providing early signals for problems emerging in the work life, and giving evidence of achievements. The methodology has been adopted. Funds are needed. FIOH is collaborating on the project. Active period: 2003-2005.

Generation and publishing of regional and local profiles - The Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia
Akhat B. Bakirov (bakirov@anrb.ru) and Nadezda I. Simonova (airat@anrb.ru),
Ufa Research Institute of Occupational Health and Human Ecology, Republic of Bashkortostan, Russia
*Keywords*: local profile, occupational health, medicine, Bashkortostan
The purpose of this project is to presentation database on the system of health protection of the population and its indicators in the republic of Bashkortostan on the basis of statistic analysis. The project aim is presentation of the information on real health status of the population, major factors of health promotion and the most effective ways of reforming the health care system to the RB Government and regional administration organs (decision-makers, managers).
The local profile of the Republic of Bashkortostan is related to the national profile of the Russian Federation. It is a monographic issue of the results of the integrated analysis of real indicators of the population health and health care system. In the project a great deal of attention will be focused on the problems of health protection of the RB working population of the current and following generations.
The aim and tasks of the project has been defined. The programme and plan of its implementation has been developed. At present, the collection and analysis of necessary information is being done. The Moscow Research Institute of Occupational Health affiliated to RAMS is collaborating on the project. Funds are needed. Primary results are supposed to be obtained in 2003.

Australian OHS data accounts and country profile
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*Keywords*: Indicators; data; profile
Target group: decision makers, government, OHS professionals and researchers.
The purpose of the project is to develop a coherent framework for combining and relating various data sources on OHS in Australia that incorporates the magnitude of effect, the severity and the economic costs.
An Australian country profile will then be developed using this data and information on the OHS infrastructure in Australia.

The project team will initially identify and assess data sources relating to OHS issues in Australia. Data sources assessed as being of sufficient quality and covering an aspect of the field not better covered by another source will be combined to form the best estimate of Australia’s OHS performance. Indicators are being developed for occupational injuries, fatalities and disease.