

OHS Awareness Raising Studies

The importance of the safety culture to ensure effective improvement and progress on occupational health and safety is in disputable. Hence, the General Directorate organize many events. Some of these are listed as:

- ▶ XIX. World Congress on Safety and Health at Work (September 11-15, 2011)
- ▶ The OHS Week celebrated each year on 4-10 May
- ▶ International Occupational Health and Safety Conference (biennially)
- ▶ Seminars on Safety Culture
- ▶ Symposiums on OHS
- ▶ Workshops on OHS
- ▶ Sectoral Campaigns
- ▶ Trainings on OHS
- ▶ Publications

Publication and Documentation Studies

In order to promote policy and legislation on occupational health and safety, various promotional and informative materials such as technical documents, brochures, books, booklets, posters, CDs, spot films are prepared and distributed to all social partners freely.



Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute (İSGÜM)

İSGÜM was established in 1969 as Occupational Health and Safety Institute and restructured as Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute in 2015. İSGÜM, which is organized as a center in Ankara with 6 regional laboratories is the only official institution carrying out work place airborne measurement together with biological analysis among the employees and evaluating its results in terms of OHS, providing consultation on OHS subjects and training services.

İSGÜM laboratories have become accredited according to TSE 17025 standard by Turkish Accreditation Institution (TÜRKAK) at October 3, 2013.

By means of mobile occupational health units; preventive and protective occupational health services especially to SMEs, early diagnosis of occupational diseases and research on occupational health are provided.

İSGÜM also provides certificated training programs on Pneumoconiosis Radiography Readers training and Asbestos Removal Expertise training.

In 2012, a test laboratory for Personal Protective Equipment for compliance tests was established at İSGÜM. The tests carried out are eye protectors, head protectors, protectors for fall from height, foot protectors, hand-arm protectors and protective clothing.



Safe and
Healthy
Growth



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Directorate General of
Occupational
Health and Safety



BACKGROUND

Directorate General of Occupational Health and Safety (DGOSH) that was established as one of the first main service units of Ministry of Labor in 1945, has been assigned to prepare occupational health and safety (OHS) legislation and develop national policies in the field of OHS in Turkey.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Departments of the Directorate:

- ▶ Strategy, Promotion and Organization Department
- ▶ Legislation Department
- ▶ Authorization Department
- ▶ Market Surveillance (PPE) Department
- ▶ Sectoral Risk Management and Statistics Department
- ▶ Management Services Department
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety Research and Development Institute (İSGÜM)

NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL

The council is made up of social partners, universities, non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions and organizations for the purpose of establishing a platform that provides related parties the opportunity of explaining their opinions and thoughts about needs, priorities, determination of policies and strategies in the field of occupational health and safety (OHS).

First policy document covering the period 2006-2008, second policy document covering the period 2009-2013 and third policy document covering the period 2014-2018 were published by the Council. The third policy document for the period 2014-2018 contains information about the final destination to be reached in the field of occupational safety and health by the end of the year 2018 in Turkey.

ACTIVITIES

Legislative Studies

Occupational Health and Safety Law No. 6331 was enacted on June 30, 2012. DGOSH prepared the Law, in close consultation with social partners, taking in to consideration the ILO provisions and EU norms. This law is based on three pillars: encouraging active participation of workers in OSH, adopting a preventive approach, and ensuring occupational health and safety for all workers. Further more, as part of secondary legislation, a total of 36 regulations and 7 communiqués were issued in order to implement the provisions of the Law.

Authorization and Certification Services

The certification and authorization process of the occupational physicians and occupational safety experts, external joint health and safety units, Community Health Centers and institutions and organizations which train the occupational physicians and occupational safety experts is carried out by the Directorate General.

Market Surveillance of Personal Protective Equipment

The Ministry is in charge of market surveillance of personal protective equipment. This activity which is carried out by Directorate General comprises inspections to assess whether the products have been produced in compliance with the technical regulation, the process of providing safer products in case the products have found to be unsafe and the enforcement of sanctions when necessary while the products are in the market or presented and distributed to the market.

National and International Studies

At national level, General Directorate places great importance on cooperation with universities, public institutions and organizations, workers' and employers' organizations, trade bodies and nongovernmental organizations to support field research and scientific studies to improve research capacity in occupational health and safety. Likewise, at international level collaboration and projects are continued with international institutions and organizations to follow-up of modern and international standards and to ensure the integration of country implementations.

National and International Collaborations

- ▶ Cooperation with German Social Accident Insurance Institution (DGUV) regarding Personal Protective Equipment
- ▶ Cooperation with Anadolu University regarding the training and examination for employers or employer's representatives who will implement occupational health and safety services in enterprises in less hazardous class with less than ten workers.
- ▶ Cooperation with Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock – Ankara University – Çukurova University – Harran University regarding Occupational Health and Safety in Agriculture
- ▶ Cooperation with Ministry of Health regarding occupational health and safety
- ▶ Cooperation with International Social Security Association (ISSA) Mining Section regarding improving occupational safety in Turkish mine sector between 2013-2016
- ▶ Cooperation with Turkish Standards Institution
- ▶ Cooperation with Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIK)

National and International Projects

- ▶ Integration of Occupational Health and Safety Into Education System Project
- ▶ Improving Service Standards of JHSU (OSGB HİSİP) Project
- ▶ Research and Analysis of Occupational Health and Safety Conditions in 6 Different Sectors
- ▶ The Project of Improvement of Health and Safety Conditions at Work places in Turkey
- ▶ The Project of Technical Assistance on Establishment of a Market Surveillance Support Laboratory for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in Turkey
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety in Foundries Project
- ▶ Determination of Electromagnetic Field Exposure and Protection of Workers Project
- ▶ Research and support project regarding promotion for usage of safe and proper personal protective equipment (PPE) in workplaces.
- ▶ Safe Scaffolding Project

