Country Report



Improvement of Policy on Occupational Safety and Health

-From Policy Development to Implementation Measures

Occupational Safety & Health in Iraqi Kurdistan Region

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Overview of presentation

Introduction

Organization Chart

Occurrence status of industrial/occupational accidents and occupational diseases

Data collection methods

Activities/ training / Laws & regulations

Strategies to improvement OSH

Challenges/lessons learned



Flag Of Kurdistan - IRAQ





Flag of IRAQ







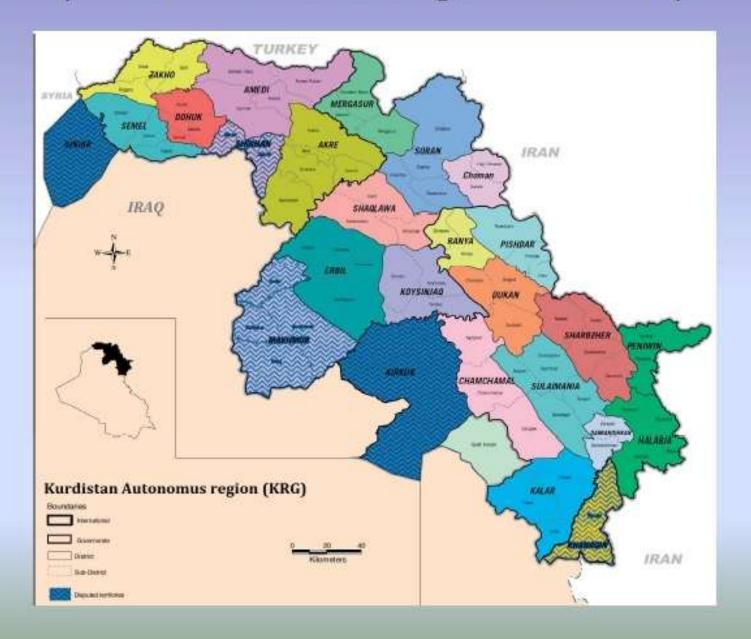


Map OF IRAQ





The map of Kurdistan region of Iraq





The Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Iraqi Kurdistan region, officially called the Kurdistan Region of Iraq by the Iraqi constitution, is an autonomous region located in northern Iraq. It is also referred to as Southern Kurdistan, as Kurds generally consider it to be one of the four parts of Greater Kurdistan, which also includes parts of southeastern Turkey (Northern Kurdistan), northern Syria (Western Kurdistan), and northwestern Iran (Eastern Kurdistan).

The region is officially governed by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), with the capital being Erbil. Kurdistan is a parliamentary democracy with its own regional Parliament that consists of 111 seats.

The new Constitution of Iraq defines the Kurdistan Region as a federal entity of Iraq, and establishes Kurdish and Arabic as Iraq's joint official languages. The four governorates of Duhok, Erbil, Silemani, and Halabja comprise around 46,861 square kilometers (18,093 sq mi) and have a population of 5.8 million (2017 estimate). In 2014, during the 2014 Iraq Crisis, Iraqi Kurdistan's forces also took over much of the disputed territories of Northern Iraq; the total area under the control of the Kurdistan Regional Government contains some 8 million inhabitants (counting the IDPs in addition to the locals).

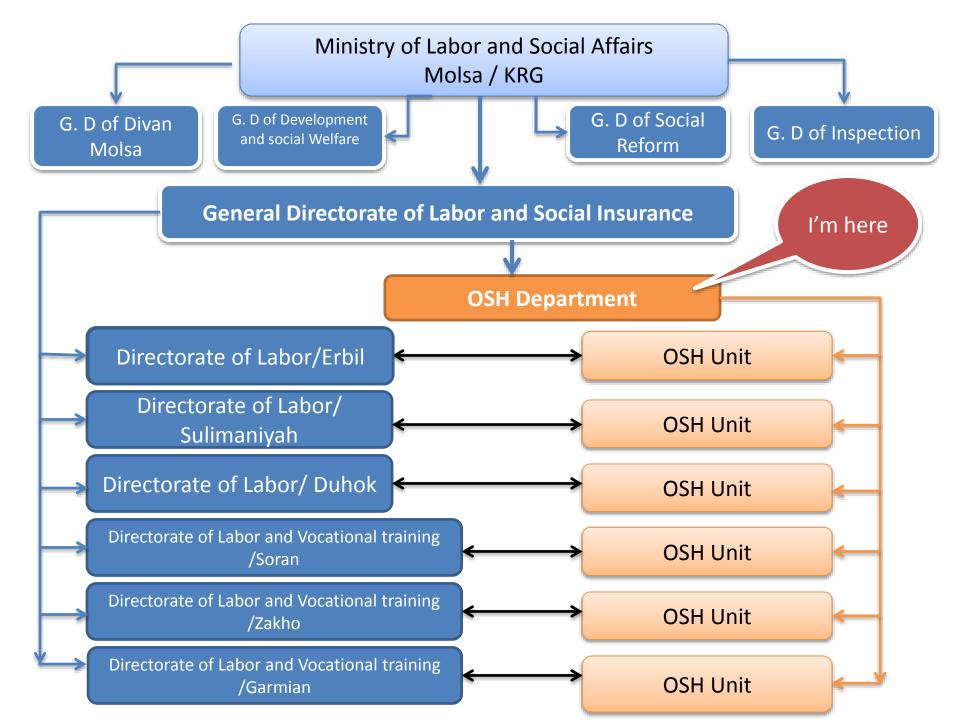


Government Organizations Responsible for OSH

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

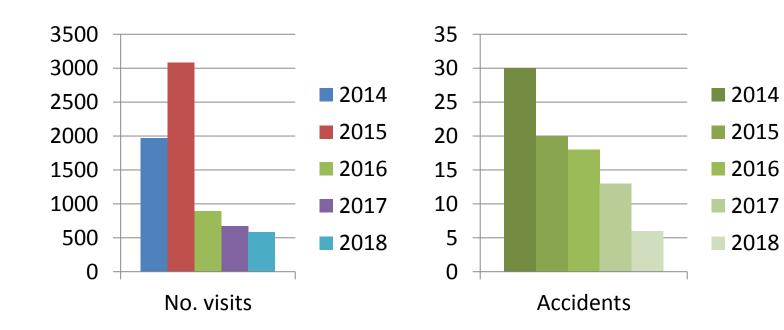
General Directorate of Labor and Social Insurance

Directorate of Labor





Occurrence status of industrial/occupational accidents



	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
NO. of Visit	1969	3081	895	679	583
Accidents	30	20	18	13	6
Death rate	69	5	6	8	3

(in)

Accidents causing Factors

- Basic causes
 - -Management
 - -Environment
 - -Equipment
 - Human Behavior
- Indirect causes
- -Unsafe Acts
- -Unsafe conditions
- Direct causes
- -Slips and Falls
- Run Over
- Chemical Exposure



Type of accidents

- Fracture other than thumb and toe
- ➤ Any injuries likely to lead to permanent eyesight loss or reduction of sight
- ➤ Any crush injuries causing damage to brain or any other internal organs
- >Serious burns which cover more than 10% of body
- Cause to significant damage of eye sight or respiratory system or vital organs
- ➤ Serious injuries to the limbs



Data Collection form

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Training

Japan International
Cooperation Agency(JICA)





European Technology and Training Centre (ETTC)





Also: TOT for the vocational training staff, the course is part of a competency-based Training project, including the application of occupational health and safety measures.



OSH Publications





Safety and Health related Laws and Regulations

Labor Law, No. 71 of 1987 with amendments

- Item 103 -104 (Workers Protections) (OSH Instructions)
- Item 107 113 (Work Precautions)

Law of Pension and social Insurance for workers, No.39 of 1971 with it's amendments and the Law No. 4 of 2012

- -Index No.4 (The table of occupation diseases)
- -Item 54 64 Work Accidents



Strategies and Improvements

Because this sector is new in our region, it needs some time for the people to get used to it in order to get our point to our audience like office worker doctors, line assemblies, construction workers and all hand working people here.

Suggestions?

- Publishing more leaflets, flyers with adequate information about the importance of health and safety and handing it to workers.
- Holding seminars, conference, broadcasting programs on TV and radio stations in order to make business owners, companies, managers, employers and employees understand the importance of health and safety at work
- Going out to workers to introduce ourselves, tell them we are here for them.
- Establish a national OSH center.

The strategy can be implemented through the following main activities:

- 1 Periodic revision of existing legislations
- 2 Development of technical guidelines and criteria for harmful substances, noise, vibration, heat...etc in the working environment and preparation of guidelines for their applications.
- 3 Preparation and dissemination of information and guidelines for unit of occupational health & safety services adapted to specific target groups and their functions.
- 4 Promoting awareness of the importance of improved working conditions on workers' health & safety and dissemination of information or new preventive and protective technologies and industrial hygiene in traditional and new industrial sectors with special emphasis on small scale industries.
- 5 Training to improve preparedness for accidents in industrial plants and emergency planning system.



Gaps & Challenges

- •Insufficiency of OSH Supervision or Inspection from Government (huge gap between Labor Inspection vs Total number of Enterprises)
- •Poor awareness of the implementation of Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) in enterprise.
- Most local Companies do not comply to existing OSH regulations
- •Many companies in Kurdistan -Iraq consider OSH as a cost burden
- Poor communication between employees, employers, and OSH offices
- Not enough trained OSH staff
- Not enough training courses for OSH staff
- There is no website to collect, save and publish accidents' data and statistics about health and safety
- There is no tough fine and punishment for those who don't apply OSH regulations.
- How to improve the implementation record in OSHMS
- How to improve prevention of work-related diseases?



The key objectives

- 1. Facilitate compliance with OSH legislation, particularly by micro and small enterprise
- 2. Better enforce OSH legislation by KRG
- 3. Simplify existing legislation
- 4. Improve statistical data collection methods and develop the information base
- 5. Better coordination between KRG and international efforts to address OSH and engage with international organizations



Lessons Learned

- 1) What was achieved Less accidents and death rates. Despite the economic crisis experienced by the Kurdistan Region (for employees), the team continued to work and doing the field visits to projects and factories and industrial area.
- 2) key elements of success

 Starting cooperation with JICA to improve, train and capacity building of our staff
- 3) lessons learned
 The more visits of our staff to industrial sites and work places lead to more awareness of the labor about OSH
- 4) monitoring methods

 Periodic visits to projects and using the manual form to record the relevant data



