

WIEGO OHS Learning Meeting, Country presentation: TANZANIA

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1. *OHS project Objectives in Tanzania*

- *To explore ways and means through which informal sector workers can be reached and benefit from OHS services at the work-place*
- *To find out new approaches and strategies through which workers in the informal sector can be supported by the government and other relevant institutions to improve health and safety conditions at their work-place*

Objectives contd.

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- *To involve informal sector workers in a dialogue aimed at identifying the SHS problems they face and establishing which institutions are overseeing health and safety issues in the informal sector*
- *To initiate and facilitate discussions and dialogue between workers associations in the informal sector and concerned institutions/authorities on OHS challenges facing informal sector workers*

Target Sectors

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- **Domestic service:** working with the Conservation, Hotels, Domestic and Allied Workers' Union (CHODAWU) - an affiliate of the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA)
- **Street work:** working with the Tanzania Union of Industrial and Commercial Workers (TUICO) -an affiliate of TUCTA
- **Agriculture:** working with the Tanzania Plantations, and Agricultural Workers' Union (TPAWU) - an affiliate of TUCTA

Country Reference Group

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Membership

- *Peter Ngowi;(Chairman) Training Officer, Association of Tanzania Employers*
- *Dr. A.mari, Specialist, Occupational Health Authority Tanzania*
- *Annmarie Nkelame, Director, Tanzania Women Lawyers Association*
- *Nyamwisa Mkama, Labour Officer, Ministry of Labour & Employment*
- *Philipina Moshu, Gender & Education Secretary, TPAWU*
- *Deograsia Vuluwa, Children and Youth Dev. Officer, CHODAWU*
- *Margaret Ndagile OHS Officer, TUICO*
- *William Mallya Sociologist/Social work specialist*

Events and Processes

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- *Introducing the project to key stakeholders & authorities.
(explaining the nature objectives and justification of the project)*
- *Identification of researchers (looking into their qualifications experience and availability and securing permission from respective employers)*
- *Orientation meetings with researchers (incl. discussions on target areas, approaches, methodology and logistics)*

Events and Processes contd.

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- Development of Research work-plan with individual researchers
- Orientation for researchers on organization and management of FGDs
- Setting up of Country Reference Group (consultations with stake-holder institutions and identification of and briefing to members to the Reference Group
- Follow-up to and participation in the FGDs

Events and Processes contd.

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- Organization of first meeting of Country Reference Group
- Technical backstopping of the research activity in terms of advice and support
- Review of draft research reports
- Preparation of the project's Mid-Term Report

Events & processes contd.

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- Review final research reports
- Convene second meeting of Country Reference Group
- Discuss research findings and build consensus on recommendations regarding the way-forward

Main Highlights

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- Introducing the project to key stakeholders: (especially significant for enlisting support and commitment)
- Identification of research target areas: (Particularly important in achieving a common definition of the problem)
- Organizing Focus Group Discussions: Relevant for gaining objective insights to the nature and extent of the problem

Main Highlights contd.

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- Setting up of Country Reference Group
(relevant for institutional commitment and country ownership)
- Technical backstopping of research activity:
(important for ensuring quality)
- Meetings of Country Reference Group
(relevant for policy guidance and legitimacy)

Main problems/challenges

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- Difficulty in accessing OHS information at work-place (due to un-organized nature of informal sector workers, along with general apathy/fear among individual workers
- Limited understanding and priority given to OHS by local government authorities (primarily due to public perceptions of the informal sector)

Obstacles to OHS reform in Tanzania

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- Limited regulation of the rapidly expanding informal sector
- Weak institutional linkages and networking around OHS
- Limited resource allocation to & technical capacity of concerned institutions
- Limited integration of OHS in urban/municipal development plans
- Limited awareness and understanding of OHS needs by the general public, employers and policy makers

Summary Future Plans

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- Dissemination of WIEGO research findings to stake-holder institutions in order to stimulate increased public discussion
- Further research to generate more information for policy advocacy and public mobilization/information campaigns involving also the media