

THE DIRECTORATE OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH SERVICES (DOSHS)

DOSHS is a Department in the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection that deals with matters of safety and health of workers in the country.

Vision

A healthy worker in a safe work environment

Mission

To develop and implement effective systems for the prevention of workplace diseases, ill health and accidents in order to reduce damage to property and work injury compensation claims for improved productivity.

Mandate and Policy Priority

- Enforcing the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2007 (OSHA, 2007), its rules and regulations for purposes of prevention of accidents and diseases at work.
- Developing and implementing programmes for promotion of safety and health in workplaces.
- Administering the Work Injury Benefits Act, 2007 (WIBA, 2007) which provides for compensation of workers who have been injured and/or have suffered a disease in the course of employment.
- Implementation of the National Occupational Safety and Health Policy which sets out to promote occupational safety and health culture in the Country

Physical Location;

Headquarters

Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services

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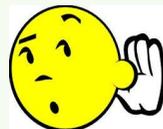
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County Offices

Nairobi, Embu, Kisumu, Nyeri, Nakuru, Siaya, Kakamega, Mombasa, Kisii, Kiambu, Kericho, Uasin Gishu, Bungoma, Kajiado, Machakos, Muranga, Meru, Nyandarua, Laikipia, Kirinyaga, Nandi, Trans Nzoia, Vihiga, Kilifi, Homabay, Taita Taveta, Kwale, Narok, Garissa and Naivasha sub- County.

The voice of young workers on OSH matters!



Listen and Act.



The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection is joining workers of all Nations in the world in celebrating the world day for safety and health at work.

This day promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. It is an awareness-raising campaign intended to focus international attention on the magnitude of the problem and on how promoting and creating a safety and health culture can help reduce the number of work-related deaths and injuries.



*“Our Youth, Our Future;
Let’s Ensure their Safety at Work”*



In Memory of those who died in the course of work

The 28 April is also the International Commemoration Day organized by the Trade Union movement for those who died or were injured in the course of work. We therefore honour the memory of victims of occupational accidents and diseases during the past year and strive to make sure that no worker is injured at work this year.



No job is ever so urgent or important that we cannot take time to do it safely. Remember, you only have one life.

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) and the Young Worker

The International Labour Organization's (ILO) definition of young workers as those within the age group of 15 to 24 years. This group also includes children who are legally defined as anyone under the age of 18 years of age and adolescents between the ages of 15 to 18 years of age who are no longer in education.

There are an estimated 504 million young workers worldwide who account for about 15 per cent of the world's labour force. Statistics show that 18- to 24-year-olds are more likely to have a serious accident at work than older adults.

OSH risks to young workers

Factors that increase vulnerability include:-

- Their physical and psychological stage of development,
- Limited awareness of work-related hazards and
- Lack of bargaining power that can lead young workers to accept dangerous tasks or jobs with poor working conditions.

They may therefore be exposed to poor working conditions leading to the development of occupational illnesses while still young or later in life.



Other factors include: -

- insufficient skills and training
- Not being aware of their rights and their employer's duties
- Not having the confidence to speak out
- Employers not recognizing the additional protection that young workers need

Creating a safety and health culture in our youth can help reduce the number of work-related deaths and injuries. To help protect themselves against injuries at the workplace, the **young workers just like all the other workers are encouraged to;**

- Report unsafe conditions to their supervisor.
- Wear any safety gear required to do the job.
- Follow the safety rules and procedures
- Ask questions when not sure
- Ask for help if needed.

The **employer on the other hand is expected to;**

- Provide a workplace free from hazards and comply with safety and health legislation and safety and health standards.
- Provide training about workplace hazards and required safety gear.*
- Provide answers to safety or health questions and concerns
- Provide accident and emergency procedures



DOSHS will continue to promote the ratification key ILO Conventions on occupational safety and health and in particular:

- Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155);
- Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184),
- Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187);