Training occupational safety and health in Latin America – an example

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CIH\textsuperscript{LMU}

BMZ Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

DAAD

ex\textsuperscript{ceed} Excellence Centers for Exchange and Development
Background (1)

- Many Latin American countries currently undergo an economic growth
- Workplaces include production of raw materials, manufacturing, construction
Background (2)

- OSH frequently not yet a priority
- Occupational accidents common

Fatal occupational accidents in Latin America and Established Market Economies (EME) per 100,000 workers and year (Hämäläinen et al. 2006)
Background (3)

• PAHO Plan of Action on Workers’ Health 2015-2025:
  – Increase access to and coverage of health services for workers
  – Strengthen diagnostic capacity, ..., epidemiologic surveillance and research in OSH

• Well-trained OSH professionals necessary to reach these targets

• No of countries in America implementing training programs in 2014: 14 (of 47)
Aim

To train OSH professionals who might act as regional leaders in OSH training and research (train the trainer model)
Methods (1)

- 2-year blended learning Master program
- 60 ECTS
- Teaching formats:
  - Onsite courses
  - Project work
  - Interactive online modules
- Language:
  Spanish (1st year), English (2nd year)
- 15,000 €, scholarships available
Methods (2)

• Content:
Theoretical and practical training, **closely supervised** students learn to
  – evaluate working conditions,
  – assess risks and hazards,
  – plan, conduct, analyze, present and publish applied research,
  – plan and carry out workplace interventions,
  – cooperate on an international level, improve their language skills, time and project management.

• Evaluation:
By students and lecturers after each course and at the end of the program.
Results (1)

• Since 2012,
  – 66 OSH experts from 11 Latin American countries were accepted to the program
  – By now, 18 of them graduated

• Overall, graduates evaluate the master program with a mean of 8.9 (1=poor to 10=high)

• Students enjoyed most
  – Applied occupational epidemiology (project planning, management and analysis)
  – Onsite courses
Results (2)

- The majority of graduates is involved in OSH teaching at local universities.
- Many report holding a higher position than at the beginning of their studies.
- Students’ research projects result in papers and interventions at the workplaces.
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Teaching Intervention Firemen in Guatemala
(C. Meneses)

Field work in Chile
(M. Reyes)
Results (3)

- Students and alumni form an international expert network.
- Staff and other resources required to guarantee individual supervision and good outcome are higher than originally expected.
K12  evtl Foto von ICOH in Seoul hier einfügen?
Katja; 09/10/2015
Global Harmony for Occupational Health: Bridge the World
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<td>1</td>
<td>Precarious and Informal Work - The Need for new Approaches in Health &amp; Safety</td>
<td>Norbert Wagner, Singapore</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Precarious employment in Latin America: trends in National Surveys and in Case-Studies</td>
<td>Manuel Parra, Chile</td>
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<td>Working conditions, workplace violence and psychological distress in Andean miners: A cross-sectional study across three countries.</td>
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<td>Prevalence of and risk factors for attention deficits in Chilean shellfish divers</td>
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<td>Employment conditions and work related strain among Peruvian nannies - a cross sectional study in rural day nurseries</td>
<td>Juan Renato Urizar, Peru</td>
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Related CIH activities

• First annual CIH conference July 30th / 31st 2015 in Munich “Health in vulnerable populations“

• Next summer course “Teaching Interventions“ August 15th – 19th 2016

• CIH PhD Program „Medical Research - International Health“
  – Sandwich program
  – 2 x 3 months courses in Munich
  – Research in home country
  – Application deadline 2016: Early March

• Further information: www.cih.lmu.de
Conclusion

• The first results of the master program suggest that the train the trainer concept might contribute to face OSH challenges in Latin America
IntMOSH – future plans?

• Apparently high demand of an English version of IntMOSH
  – Challenge: A high quality program is labour intensive
    - no matter if it is online or onsite
⇒
• Global partnerships for training and research enterprises – universities – NGOs – governmental agencies
  - improvement of OSH in all countries and sectors
International Master in Occupational Safety and Health

www.osh-munich.de