

# Thailand National OSH Policy, Issues and Future Directions

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#### **Overview of Presentation**

**Thailand National OSH Policy** 

**OSH Supervision and Enforcement** 

Issues and Challenges of OSH in Thailand



#### Thailand National OSH Policy

- Government Policy
- National Economic and Social Development Plan
- OSH Master Plan



#### **Government Policy**

- On December 11, 2007, Thai government cabinet has adopted the resolution to announce the policy "Safe and Healthy Workforce" as a National Agenda with 7 objectives
  - Work stability of workers assured under OSH master plan
  - Workers in all sectors work under working environment with safety standards
  - Workers possess OSH awareness and knowledge
  - Work-related injuries and illnesses must be declined
  - Workers able to access OSH information
  - Workers under systemic OSH surveillance
  - Workers obtain OSH culture



# National Economic and Social Development Plan

- 11<sup>th</sup> Plan (2012 2016)
  - Stipulates development direction to emphasize on the promotion of basic labour rights in establishment including OSH





# OSH Master Plan 3rd OSH Master Plan (2012 – 2016)

#### 4 Missions

- Determine and develop OSH standards
- Control and supervise
   OSH
- Promote and develop OSH
- Develop OSHMS

#### 5 Strategies

- Promotion of labour protection in compliance with OSH standards
- Promotion and development of OSH networks
- OSH knowledge management
- OSH information system development
- Development of OSHMS machanism

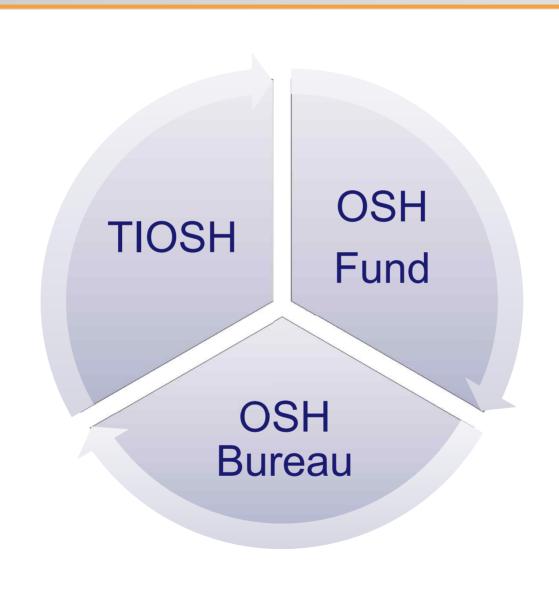


#### **OSH** Regulations

- OSH Act, 2011
  - Cover all sectors
    - Public sector must comply with no penalty chapter
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> Paragraph of Article 3
  - Safety Inspectors and their qualifications
    - 632 Safety Inspectors
  - Increased maximum penalty
    - 1 year in prison to 2 years
    - 400,000 baths to 800,000 baths
  - Establishment of TIOSH
    - OSH Promotion and Research Agency
  - Establishment of OSH Fund
    - Monetary measure



# OSH Organizations under MOL









#### **OSH Bureau Responsibilities**

- Set up and develop OSH standards;
- Monitor employers, workers, and relevant parties to comply with OSH laws;
- Issue permission, registration, and supervision standards of OSH services;
- Conduct OSH study, research, promotion and development;
- Develop and maintain OSH information system;
- Promote and develop OSH networks.



#### **TIOSH** Responsibilities

- To promote and solve problems concerning with OSH
- To develop and support the preparation of standards to promote OSH
- To operate, promote, support and jointly operate with agencies concerning OSH
- To arrange a research, study on promotion of OSH
- Any other powers and duties as prescribed in OSH Act



#### **OSH Fund Responsibilities**

- Campaigns and activities related to promotion, development, improvements and management of OSH with the approval from OSH Fund Committee;
- Assist and subsidize all sectors with a project or a plan that promotes or supports OSH research, study and development
- Expenses for OSH Fund management and under Article 30;
- Support operations of TIOSH on annual basis
- Loan for the Employer to correct or improve unsafe and unhealthy working conditions
- Advance payment for operations under Article 37.



#### **OSH Enforcement**

OSH inspectors have authority under OSH Act, 2011 to enter establishments

- To inspect working conditions and environment and collect evidence (taking photo, sampling, investigating, and interviewing, etc.)
  - OSH Act, 2011 (4 indicators)
  - 13 Ministerial Regulations (approx. 30 indicators)
  - Varies depending on hazards and risk at workplace



#### The OSH Inspection System

- 3 criteria of OSH inspection system
  - To ensure legal compliances by the employer
  - To enhance understanding of objectives prescribed by the OSH laws
  - To collect information on OSH problems







### 5 Types of Safety Inspection

- The regular inspection
  - To ensure the workplace compliance with OSH laws
- The requested inspection
  - Non-compliance or violation against OSH laws
- The follow-up inspection
- The accidental inspection
- The special inspection
  - Required for certain cases or projects

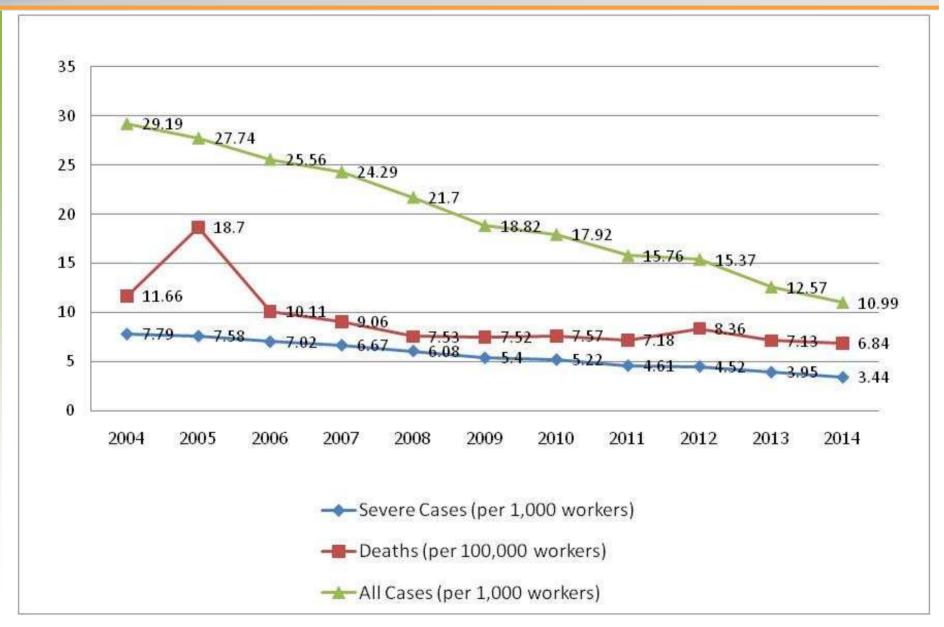


#### **Inspection Statistics**

- In 2013, conducted a total of 21,824 OSH inspections in 17,946 establishments
- 17,659 establishments complied with the OSH laws
- The actions of OSH inspections on non-compliance establishments
  - Provided advises
  - Ordered to submit document
  - Ordered to present at the OSH office
  - Ordered to comply with certain OSH laws
  - Collected evidence for legal actions



#### Occupational injuries Trend





## **OSH Policy: Emerging Challenges**

- Aging of working population
  - Different needs
- Changing structure of employment
  - Temporary workers
  - Migrant workers
- Diversity and dispersal traditional work structures
  - Outsourcing, emigrant
- Increased number of interpersonal contacts at work
  - Psychosocial problem
- Intensification and repetitive work
- Unpredictable working hours
  - Restructuring of production and service organization
  - Change in working life
- Violence and harassment at workplace



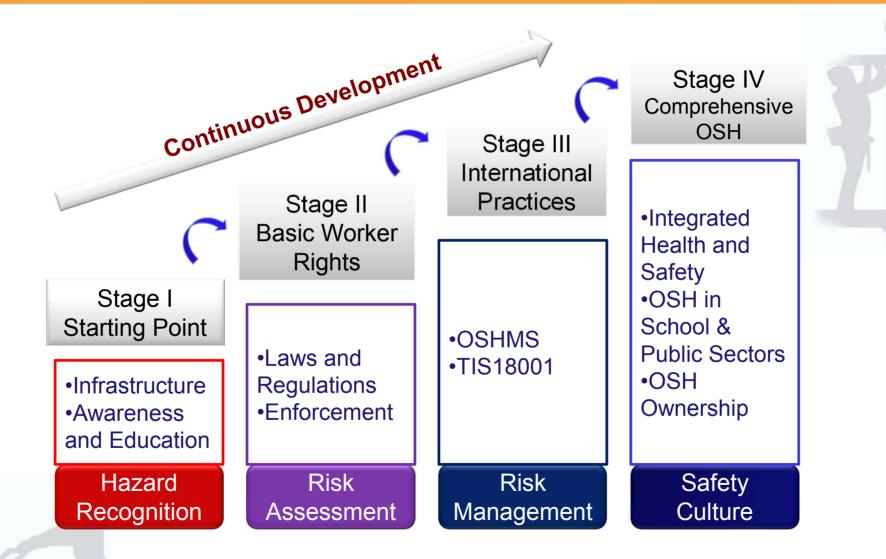


#### **OSH Policy: Emerging Challenges**

- Solved by using traditional methods
  - Reduction of physical, chemical or biological hazards at work
  - "Prevention of occupational injuries and illneses"
- Holistic approach to management of health, environmental and safety
  - "Overall protection and promotion of worker's health"
  - Total workplace health and safety
  - Safety Culture



### Stepwise OSH Development in Thailand



Reference: Keson Theppeang



#### **OSH** Information

- OSH Bureau website (<u>www.oshthai.org</u>)
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