



NIGERIA: Report of the National Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre (CIS)

Geneva, Switzerland

14th – 15th September, 2006

Presentation outline

- National OSH Strategy in Nigeria
- Implementation
- Challenges
- The future: The Need for OSH Information
- Conclusion

National OSH Strategy in Nigeria



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Nigeria, with a population of more than 132 million is the largest country in Africa.

National OSH Strategy Contd.

- The Factories Act Cap 126, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 1990 is the legislation for the enforcement of safety and health standards in Nigerian workplaces
- It provides minimum standards of safety and health in Nigerian Factories
- It provides for the enforcement of the Act by occupational safety and health officers in the Inspectorate Department of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity.

National OSH Strategy Contd.

However, in spite of efforts made by the Ministry to enforce these provisions, workplace accidents still occur.

Crane accident in a proposed High Court Building Site at Abuja on 30th May 2006 led to the loss of six lives





National OSH Strategy in Nigeria

- ❑ What is of major concern in most of the accidents, is the apparent disregard of safety and health standards by the employers and workers.
- ❑ More importantly these accidents were preventable and the deaths avoidable.
- ❑ The Ministry has the following activities in place to enforce OSH standards:

National OSH Strategy in Nigeria

Contd.

- Routine inspection of workplaces
- Safety and health trainings/workshops
- Awareness creation e.g. celebration of World Day for Safety and Health at work,
- Capacity building of staff of the Ministry on safety and health
- Provision of Information , Education and Communication (IEC) materials on safety and health issue

Excerpts from World Safety Day Celebrations

Honourable Minister of Labour and Productivity, Dr. Muhammad Hassan Lawal and Mr. Oshinowo, Director – General of the Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association at the World Safety Day Celebrations.



National OSH Strategy in Nigeria

Contd.

- Provision of enough sanctions in the labour legislations to serve as deterrent to non-compliant factory occupiers
- Provision of an occupational safety and health policy that will provide the enabling environment for safety and health delivery.
- Provision of inspection vehicles for effective coverage of workplaces
- Evaluation of workplace statistics for effective planning

National OSH Strategy in Nigeria

Contd.

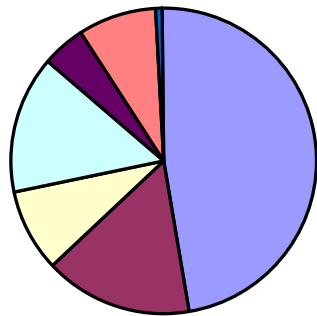
- Prosecution
- Payment of workmen's compensation
- Prohibition of hazardous processes
- Closure of workplaces where an occupier is non-compliant
- Investigation and analysis of industrial accidents

Implementation

- Review of the OSH legislation
- A new Employee Compensation Act
- Overhauling of the inspection system and equipping the Inspection Department to make it more effective
- Local and international training of inspection officers
- Organized Competency Improvement Workshops for specialised inspectors

Manpower analysis of enforcement

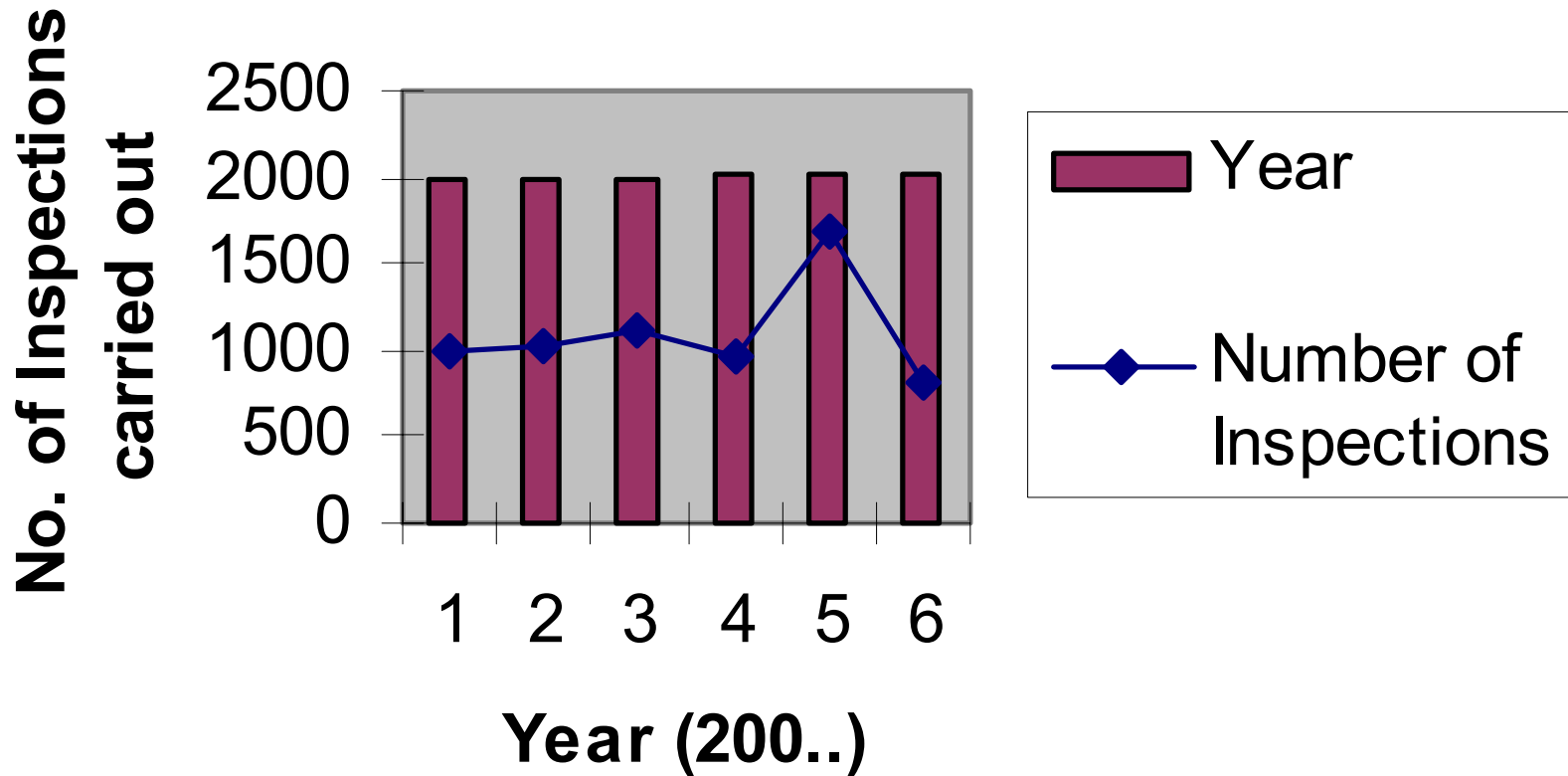
Workplaces by Geopolitical zones



- SW
- SE
- SS
- NW
- NE
- NC
- FCT

Geographical Zone	Registered Factories	Number of inspectors
SW	2,777	22
SE	922	5
SS	524	2
NW	868	5
NE	252	2
NC	509	2
FCT	36	1
Total	5,888	39

Factory Inspection activity

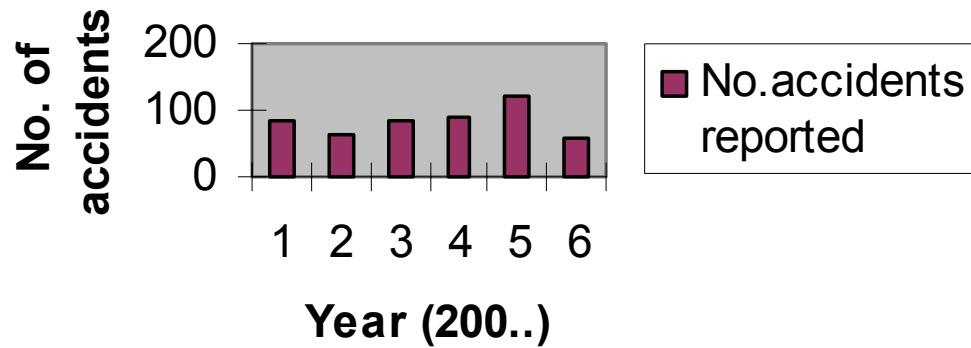


Implementation

- A Draft National Policy on Occupational Safety and Health has been finalized and is to be presented to the Federal Executive Council for approval.
- This Policy when in place will create the enabling environment for a national programme of action on OSH.
- It will also foster partnership between the Federal Ministry of Labour, the social partners and other stakeholders in maintaining safety and health standards in workplaces

Workplace Accidents Reported

Accidents Statistics



Year

No. accidents reported

2001

82

2002

63

2003

85

2004

90

2005

120

2006

57

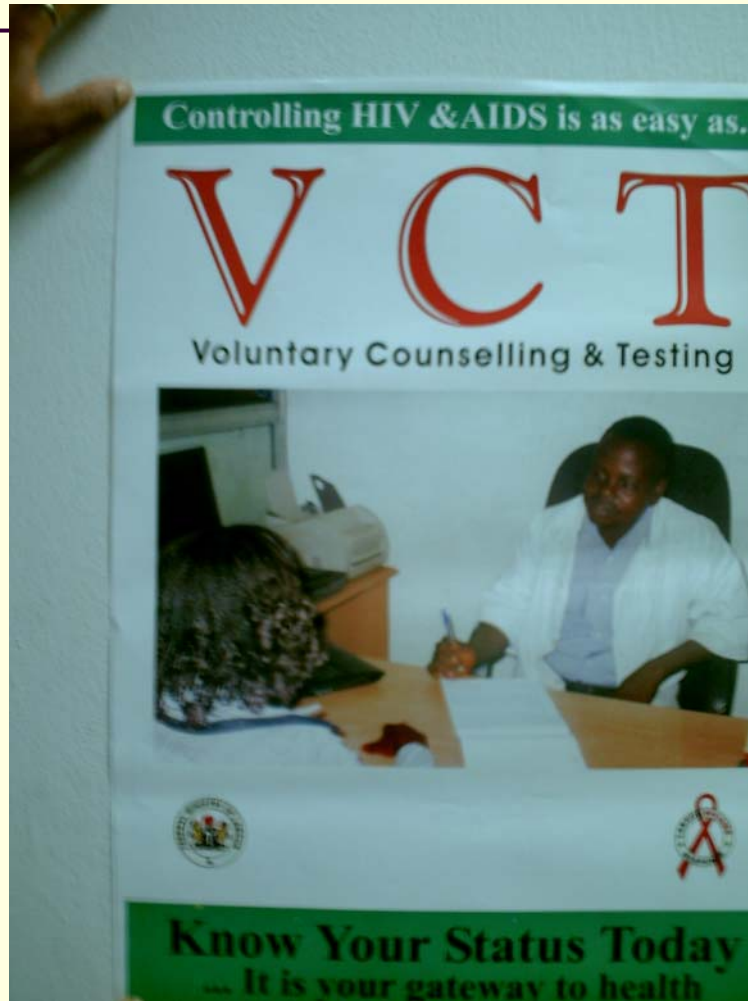
Implementation Contd.

- Under the National Strategic Framework of the Nigerian national response to HIV/AIDS the FML&P focuses on providing the enabling environment for workplace intervention to HIV/AIDS in collaboration with the social partners and other stakeholders
- There is a National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS which is being implemented in Nigeria

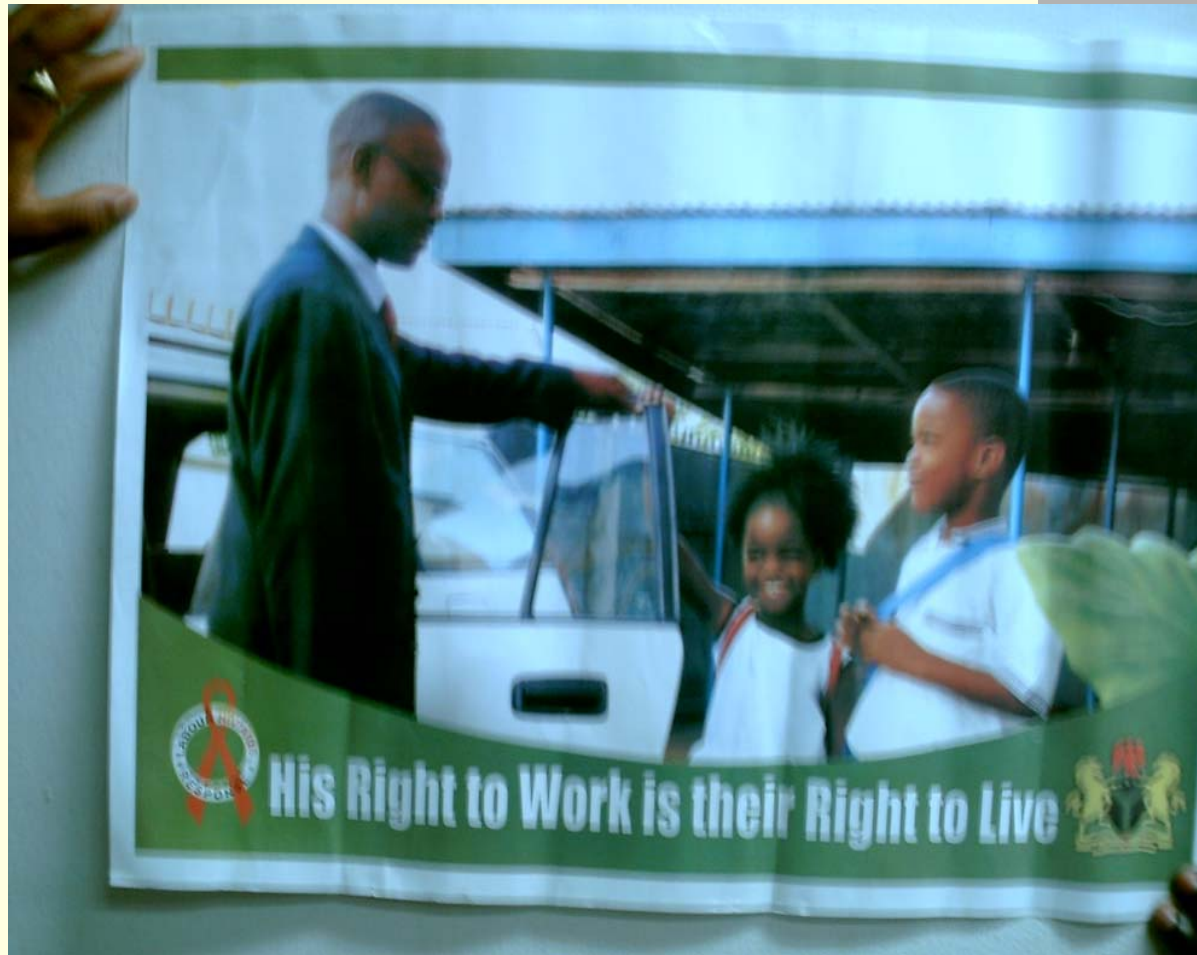
Implementation Contd.

- Capacity building of the Ministry's Labour and Factory Officers on mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in the implementation of the National Labour Administration Policy has been completed.

Example of IEC materials (Poster encouraging workers to know their HIV status)



IEC Material (Right of the HIV positive worker to work)



Challenges

- Current economic situations in the country has given rise to increasing number of workplaces in Nigeria which are yet to be covered under OSH legislation while the numbers of the previously recognised workplaces continue to decrease.
- The challenge of implementing the National OSH Policy

Challenges Contd.

- New technologies/processes, new hazards in all areas of the economy
- The attitude of employers and workers and their organisations continue to remain mostly one of virtual apathy and nonchalance on issues of OSH
- Agriculture is being given greater prominence under the present administration and is presenting more OSH challenges daily.

The Future: The Need for OSH Information (Role of CIS)

- ❖ The Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity has adopted a national preventive safety and health strategy where all the social partners and other stakeholders participate actively.
- ❖ Thus the national system for OSH delivery includes information and advisory services on OSH as a critical factor in establishing a culture of safety and health at work.

The Future: The Need for OSH Information Contd.

- ❖ The Nigeria National CIS Centre has a crucial role to play in OSH delivery in Nigeria particularly in view of the fact that OSH is a health care function that impacts directly on the national strategy for poverty reduction and sustainable development.
- ❖ What the Centre needs is capacity building and technical support to meet these challenges.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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