

## National strategies mapping

### Country Overview

## CYPRUS

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<b>1. Basic information</b>	<p>Cyprian document:  <b>ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΙΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΓΕΙΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ 2013 – 2020</b><sup>1</sup></p> <p>(Cyprian strategy for Safety and Health at Work 2013 to 2020)</p> <p>English document: Strategy of Cyprus for Safety and Health at Work during the period 2013-2020<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Former strategy:  Cyprian strategy for Safety and Health at Work 2007 to 2012</p>
<b>2. Background and the perceived problem</b>	<p>Defining the perceived problem:</p> <p>The strategy contains in chapter 2 an analysis of the current situation and the progress achieved during the former strategy</p> <p>See Ch B, p2, of the Strategy document:</p> <p>Assessment of the strategy 2007 – 2012  (ΑΞΙΟΛΟΓΗΣΗ ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΙΚΗΣ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ 2007 – 2012)</p>
<b>3. Main characteristics and objectives of the OSH-strategy (activity plan)</b>	<p>Continuous and constant improvement of safety levels and health in the workplace (Strategy doc, p 3, Ch. Γ)</p>
<b>4. Details of the strategy and activity plan</b>	
<b>Axis description</b>	
<b>Main activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Optimisation of the institutional frame</li> <li>▪ Suitable, adequate and functional legislative framework fully harmonized with the Acquis Communautaire</li> <li>▪ Appropriate and adequate systems of Labour Inspection.</li> <li>▪ Supporting Institutions</li> <li>▪ Introduction and implementation of an adequate system of surveillance of the health of employees</li> <li>▪ Promoting of a health and safety prevention culture</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Cyprus Department of Labour Inspection. Available at:  
[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/index\\_en/index\\_en?OpenDocument](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument)

<sup>2</sup> Cyprus Department of Labour Inspection (2017), Strategy of Cyprus for Safety and Health at Work 2013 – 2020. Available at:  
[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/All/B208115A0B53109FC22580B3002FB4D9/\\$file/HEALTH\\_AND\\_SAFETY\\_Strategy\\_2013\\_2020\\_EN\\_1.pdf](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/All/B208115A0B53109FC22580B3002FB4D9/$file/HEALTH_AND_SAFETY_Strategy_2013_2020_EN_1.pdf) or OSHwiki, Strategy of Cyprus for Safety and Health at Work during the period 2013-2020. Available at: [https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/Strategy\\_of\\_Cyprus\\_for\\_safety\\_and\\_health\\_at\\_work\\_during\\_the\\_period\\_2013-2020](https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/Strategy_of_Cyprus_for_safety_and_health_at_work_during_the_period_2013-2020)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Integration of OSH issues into other policy areas.</li> <li>▪ Exploitation of scientific progress and research</li> <li>▪ Close cooperation with the Social Partners and other stakeholders</li> <li>▪ Active participation in bodies and activities of the European Union</li> </ul>
<b>Detailed description of activities</b>	<p><b>1. Optimisation of the institutional frame</b></p> <p>Optimisation of the institutional frame.</p> <p>The framework is based on:</p> <p>Activities of the Labour Advisory Body, which advises the Minister of Labour, Welfare and Social Security on all labour issues and present recommendations and suggestions on the working legislation.</p> <p>Activities of the Pan Cyprian Council of Safety and Health, which advises the Minister of Labour Welfare and Social Insurance.</p>
	<p><b>2. Suitable, adequate and functional legislative frame-work fully harmonized with the Acquis Communautaire</b></p> <p>The legislative framework is fully harmonized to the corresponding European Acquis. However, it will be supplemented due to particular requirements of Cyprus due to activities like offshore, search, extraction and transportation of hydrocarbons.</p> <p>In addition, the strategy will promote the simplification of the national legislative framework without deterioration of the level of safety and health.</p>
	<p><b>3. Appropriate and adequate systems of Labour Inspection.</b></p> <p>The implementation of appropriate inspections is based on accurate and factual evidence from inspections, from accidents and other indicators. This includes activities as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementation of an inspection programme based on accurate and true data from inspections, accidents, as well as other indicators arising from relevant surveys.</li> <li>▪ Establishment of proper structures within the Department of Labour Inspection for (a) the enforcement of legislation on health and safety of the workers at offshore hydrocarbon drilling activities and the safety of these installations and (b) the control of installations that could cause major accidents including natural gas installations.</li> <li>▪ Arrangements for the provision of suitable and systematic training of the Inspectors covering issues on offshore activities.</li> <li>▪ Exchange visits of Inspectors from Cyprus with Inspectors from other Member States of the European Union aiming at acquiring knowledge and experience.</li> <li>▪ Further promotion of the cooperation with other Services, such as the Police, the Cyprus Fire Service, the Department of Labour, etc.</li> <li>▪ Provision to the Inspectors of suitable technological equipment and supporting them with computerised systems.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improvement of the structure and staffing of the Department of Labour Inspection.</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Supporting institutions</b></p> <p>Providing targeted support and information to the Safety Officers as well as to the Approved Persons who provide Services for the Protection and prevention on safety and health at work issues. Encouraging the setup and well-functioning of Safety Committees in order to enhance the participation of workers' representatives on safety and health issues</p> <p><b>5. Introduction and implementation of an adequate system of surveillance of the health of employees</b></p> <p>The Health Surveillance Institutions will work on the implementation of an Action Plan, which was prepared after completing a background study and by introduction of new legislation.</p> <p>There is a need to concentrate efforts on the recording, monitoring and prevention of occupational diseases. In particular, there should be efforts to tackle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ musculoskeletal disorders,</li> <li>▪ work-related stress and</li> <li>▪ Diseases caused by the use hazardous chemicals.</li> </ul> <p><b>6. Promoting of a health and safety prevention culture</b></p> <p>Promoting prevention of occupational accidents and diseases and development of a health and safety culture:</p> <p>Through regular and specialized inspections at workplaces.</p> <p>Through campaigns organized in collaboration with the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work and the Senior Labour Inspectors Commission of the European Union.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Through effective functioning of the Security Committees</li> <li>▪ Publications and articles in media of social partners and other organisations with particular interest in issues of Safety and Health at Work.</li> <li>▪ The preparation and distribution of simple, understandable material prepared by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work.</li> <li>▪ Publication of guidance and supporting information on the websites of the Labour Inspection Department and other institutions</li> <li>▪ Seminars, workshops and other awareness and information activities</li> <li>▪ Through other forms of cooperation with organizations that have special interest in Safety and Health at Work.</li> <li>▪ Through education programs and training.</li> <li>▪ By using economic incentives and disincentives</li> <li>▪ By using voluntary tools, such as competitions, etc.</li> <li>▪ By implementing plans and programs for promoting health in the workplace and cooperation with the medical staff.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ By developing partnerships with Agencies representing scholars, designers and constructors.</li> <li>▪ In collaboration with the mass media</li> <li>▪ By encouraging employees and the public to communicate with the Labour Inspection.</li> <li>▪ By integrating management at Work Safety and Health at all business operating levels.</li> <li>▪ Support of SMEs through the use simple and operational tools (e.g. interactive risk assessment tool)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>7. Integration of OSH issues into other policy areas.</b></p> <p>Mainstreaming of safety and health at work issues into other policy sectors and in particular the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Education:</b> integration of safety and health issues in the curriculum, so that today's pupils and students, but tomorrow's employers and employees, gain knowledge over time in Safety and Health issues as well as developing a safety culture.</li> <li>▪ <b>Employment:</b> training of new workers concerning OSH issues; inspection of companies in order to improve OSH in the context of the examination procedure of granting alien employment permit.</li> <li>▪ <b>Development:</b> Integration of OSH issues in the public procurement process.</li> <li>▪ <b>Certification of professional qualifications:</b> inclusion of OSH issues to the subjects under examination in the context of certification of professional qualifications.</li> <li>▪ <b>Provision of subsidies:</b> inspection of premises, to apply the minimum levels for Safety and Health, in cases financing is provided through upgrade programs for equipment, facilities, reallocation of companies, etc.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>8. Exploitation of scientific progress and research</b></p> <p>Better collaboration and utilization of scientific research, particularly mentioned are:</p> <p>New technologies such as waste management and nanotechnology.</p> <p>It covers also demographic change, changes in employment</p>
	<p><b>9. Close cooperation with the Social Partners and other stakeholders</b></p> <p>Strengthening of the already well-functioning cooperation</p>
	<p><b>10. Active participation in bodies and activities of the European Union</b></p> <p>Active participation in the ACSH and its working groups, in the SLIC, the governing body of EU-OSHA, Eurostat and the ILO</p>
<b>5. Actors and stakeholders</b>	Labour inspection and other public institutions, social partners and professional associations

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<b>6. Resources and timeframe</b>	<p>The budget of the Department of Labour inspection of Cyprus is adopted every year to provide for most of the resources required to implement the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy was approved by the Council of Ministers and was signed by all social partners and stakeholders participating in the Pancyprian Safety and Health Council indicating their commitment to implement the strategy making available all resources needed to promote and implement the strategy. The Pancyprian Council is an advisory body to the Minister of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance on OSH issues.</p>
<b>7. Evaluation/lessons learned</b>	<p>The implementation of the Strategy is evaluated at regular intervals through an Action Plan prepared for this purpose.<sup>3</sup> The evaluation is carried out on a yearly basis (usually in March) during a meeting of the Pancyprian Council on Safety and Health at Work. They provide information on actions concerning the implementation of the Strategy. The information is used to update the Action Plan and to evaluate the process of the implementation of the strategy. The most recent evaluation was carried out in March 2016.</p>
<b>Ex ante indicators for the years 2012 to 2020</b>	<p>All objectives are qualitatively defined. The indicators are described in qualitative terminology like 'improvement', 'less risks', 'more prevention', 'strengthening' etc.</p>
<b>8. Relationship to EU Strategic Framework</b>	<p>Activity 3 and 4 and 6 is related to challenge 1 of the EU-OSH Strategy (<i>Improving the implementation record of Member States, in particular by enhancing the capacity of micro and small enterprises to put in place effective and efficient risk prevention measures.</i>)</p> <p>Activity 5 has a particularly strong relation to the EU Activities and bodies mentioned on page 6 of the EU Strategic Framework.</p> <p>Activity 8 is related to challenge 3 of the EU Strategic Framework (<i>Tackling demographic change</i>) and to further EU Strategic Framework topics such as nanomaterials, and wellbeing at work.</p>

<sup>3</sup> ΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΙΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ ΠΑΝΩ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΓΕΙΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΟ 2013-2020  
ΣΧΕΔΙΟ ΔΡΑΣΗΣ. Available at:  
[http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/A2FE2C7752BCCA3CC2257DDC0021A202/\\$file/Sxedio\\_Drasis\\_2013\\_2020.pdf](http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/mlsi/dli/dliup.nsf/A2FE2C7752BCCA3CC2257DDC0021A202/$file/Sxedio_Drasis_2013_2020.pdf)