

OSH Authorities — Denmark

Description scheme for country overviews

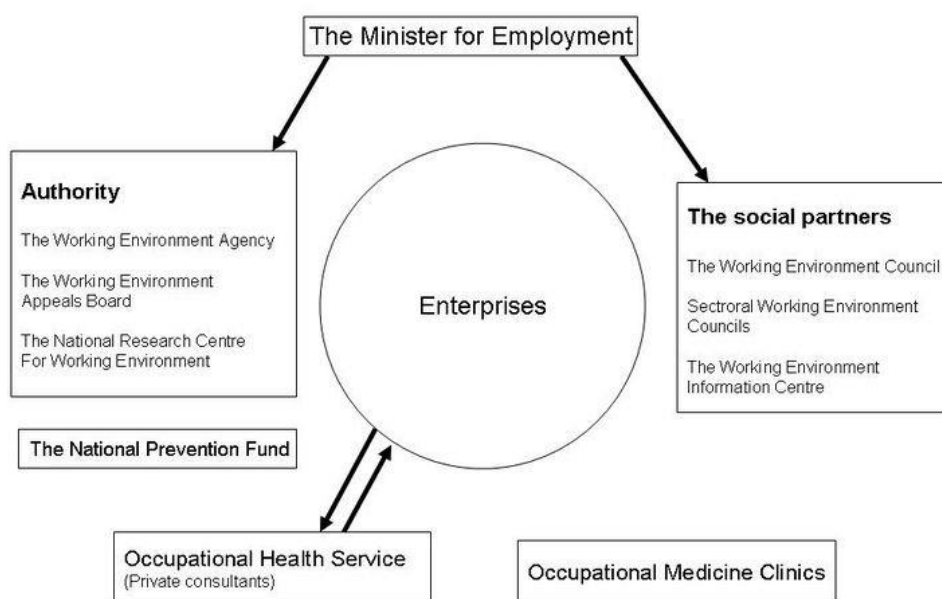
DENMARK

Source: https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/OSH_system_at_national_level_-_Denmark

▪ OSH infrastructure

Scheme:

Framework for occupational health and safety in Denmark



OSH authorities

Name of authority	Danish Working Environment Authority (DWEA) (<i>Arbejdstilsynet</i>)
Link	http://engelsk.arbejdstilsynet.dk/en
Short abstract	<p>The DWEA is an agency that works under the auspices of the Ministry of Employment at national and regional levels, contributing to the creation of safe working conditions. It has supervision and enforcement rights, which are commonly assigned to labour inspectorates in other countries. Its three main activities are carrying out inspections in companies, drawing up occupational safety and health (OSH) rules and providing OSH information.</p> <p>The DWEA has the authority to penalise companies that do not comply with the working environment rules. It can also issue administrative fines for clear violations of the Working Environment Act, and, in cases involving extreme danger, it may also order companies to suspend work.</p> <p>The DWEA is managed by an administrative board made up of the Director-General, two deputy directors and three inspection directors. Its headquarters and two of its four centres are located in Copenhagen. The regional inspection centres have approximately 100 employees each.</p> <p>The Working Environment Authority is responsible for the inspection of OSH conditions in companies. This includes verifying that a written evaluation, specific to that particular workplace, has been carried out. This is equivalent to a risk assessment, which is outlined in the terminology of the EU OSH directives.</p> <p>If a company's working environment and the health and safety policies are in order, there is no reason for a new inspection in the near future. However, if problems are found, the company will be visited within a period of 12 to 18 months.</p>
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Compensation and insurance bodies

Name of body	Labour Market Insurance (AES — <i>Arbejdsmarkedets Erhvervssikring</i>)
Link	https://www.aes.dk/
Short abstract	<p>AES is an independent institution administrated by the Danish Labour Market Supplementary Pension Scheme (<i>Arbejdsmarkedets Tillægspension</i> — ATP).</p> <p>It follows the applicable regulations in determining whether or not an injury or illness can be classified as an industrial injury. When an injury or illness is recognised as an industrial injury, AES then decides the amount of compensation to be paid.</p> <p>AES funds and pays compensation for recognised occupational diseases. It is mandatory for all private and public sector employers in Denmark to contribute to AES.</p>
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■ Research institutes

Name of institute	National Research Centre for the Working Environment (NRCWE) (<i>Det Nationale Forskningscenter for Arbejdsmiljø</i>)
Link	http://www.arbejdsmiljoforskning.dk/da
Short abstract	<p>The NRCWE is a government research institute under the auspices of the Ministry of Employment. The mission of the NRCWE is to generate new research-based knowledge about OSH to contribute to healthy and stimulating working conditions, in accordance with the demands and needs of society, enterprises and the working environment system. The NRCWE provides research-based knowledge and counselling to the Ministry of Employment, including the Danish Working Environment Authority. The NRCWE disseminates research-based knowledge to social partners, enterprises and working environment counsellors, contributes to higher education at universities, and serves as a port of call for general information about working environment issues through the Working Environment Information Centre.</p> <p>The following areas are the current strategic research areas of the NRCWE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • psychosocial working environment; • musculoskeletal disorders; • nanosafety; • work accidents and safety culture.
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Name of institute	Danish Working Environment Research Fund
Link	http://engelsk.arbejdstilsynet.dk/en/research/arbejdsmiljoforskningsfonden
Short abstract	<p>The objective of the Danish Working Environment Research Fund is to strengthen Danish working environment research through the adoption of a research strategy and allocation of funds, based on the prioritised themes laid out in the research strategy. Presently, these themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work accidents; • psychological working environment; • musculoskeletal disorders; • OSH instruments. <p>The fund supports research and development in OSH, with the purpose of preventing and reducing issues in the working environment that lead to mental and physical health problems and early retirement from the labour market. The fund also supports reviews of occupational diseases on the basis of specific calls for applications. From 2003 to 2016, the fund approved research grants for 284 projects amounting to DKK 758.7 million. The Danish Working Environment Research Fund invites applications twice a year, with deadlines around 1 March and 1 September.</p>
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■ Prevention services

Name of service	n/a
Link	
Short abstract	<p>The Danish Occupational Health Service system was modified by the government in the Working Environment Reform in 2005. The previous mandatory system, which required enterprises to seek advice from the Occupational Health Service, was replaced with a system based on a combination of market-based consultancies and authorised consultants of the Working Environment Service.</p> <p>If a company is found to have an OSH problem, the Danish Working Environment Authority can issue a consultancy notice, ordering the company to seek advice from an authorised health and safety consultant, who must help solve the problem and also reinforce preventive OSH activities.</p>
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■ Other services

Name of body	Working Environment Council (<i>Arbejdsmiljørådet</i>)
Link	https://www.amr.dk/
Short abstract	<p>The social partners are represented on the Working Environment Council, which advises the Minister for Employment on general questions regarding the prioritisation of OSH efforts. The Working Environment Council discusses the questions that it believes to be the most important for OSH and provides its comments to the Minister for Employment. The Council comments on and proposes new laws and rules. It also comments on rules before they have been established.</p>
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Name of association	Danish Association of Occupational Health and Safety Consultants
Link	http://www.arbejdsmiljoraadgiverne.dk/1-55-english-version.html
Short abstract	<p>The Danish Association of Occupational Health and Safety Consultants is the trade association for all occupational health and safety professionals, that is, authorised occupational health and safety professionals, other occupational health and safety consultants, and internal divisions engaged in occupational health and safety.</p> <p>The association, founded on 29 November 1993 in Horsens, Denmark, was originally given the name the Association of Occupational Health. In 2006, it changed its name to the Danish Association of Occupational Health and Safety Consultants, as a consequence of the phasing out of the public occupational health services.</p>
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Name of association	Association of OSH Professionals (SSID — <i>Sammenslutningen af Sikker-hedsledere i Danmark</i>)
Link	http://arbejdsmiljonet.dk
Short abstract	<p>The purpose of the SSID is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure that occupational health professionals gain high academic knowledge; • to stimulate method development; • to help exchange experiences; • to arrange meetings, conferences and courses; • to cooperate with authorities, organisations and associations.
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▪ Standardisation bodies

Name of authority	Danish Standards (<i>Dansk Standard</i>)
Link	https://www.ds.dk/en
Short abstract	Danish Standards develops and publishes standards, provides training and offers consultancy services. Certification or accreditation by a recognised body are used to ensure that national standards correspond with training.
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