



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MOMBASA

OSH CONFERENCE
23RD - 24TH NOV 2018

ROYAL COURT HOTEL,
MOMBASA KENYA

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MOMBASA



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INTRODUCTION

- Thank you ladies and gentlemen, my fellow chief officers, speakers both local and international .
- We are all gathered here today to discuss and share our professional views and experiences on Occupational health and safety.
- As we all know, for any industry/ sector to perform optimally, the worker is the most important resource in the process of rendering services therefore, it's prudent to provide a safe and healthy working environment as far as reasonably practicable, for all staff in line with respective laws and Occupational Safety and health Acts.



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OSH TARGETS FOUR BASIC ASPECTS:

- (1) The protection and promotion of workers' health by preventing and controlling occupational diseases and accidents;
- (2) The development and promotion of healthy and safe work, work environments and work organizations;
- (3) Enhancement of physical, mental and social well-being of workers;
- (4) Enabling workers to conduct socially and economically productive lives and to contribute positively to sustainable development (WHO 2010).



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The WHO Global Plan of Action on Workers' Health, 2008-2017 has aided to:

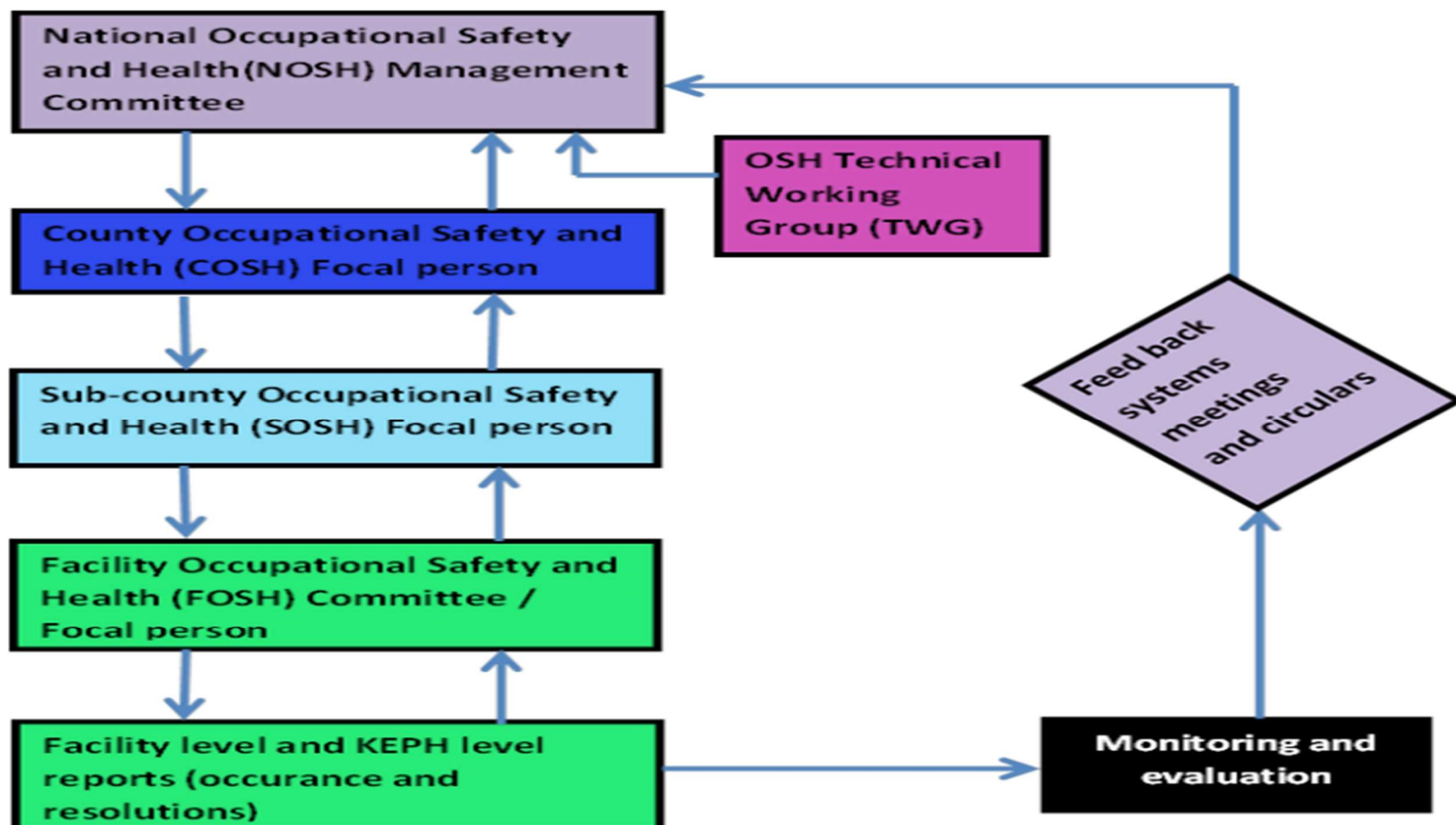
- provide a framework for concerted action by all relevant stakeholders for protecting and promoting the health of workers
- establish a new political momentum for primary prevention and management of risks for occupational and work-related diseases and injuries and strengthen political will for action at workplace, country and international level,
- ensure coherence in planning, delivery and evaluation of essential health interventions at the workplace, and stimulate the development of occupational health services for all workers,
- empower the health sector to advocate for addressing workers' health problems through policies on employment, social and economic development, trade and environmental protection.



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OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ISSUES IN KENYA

- In Kenya, Occupational safety and health issues can be traced back to 1951's Factories' Ordinance Act, which later became the Factories Act Cap 514 laws of Kenya.
- However, since then, due to several shortfalls with reports that more than half of the work related accidents and injuries went unreported or unattended, it necessitated to the birth of Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 2007.
- It intended to give a more elaborate approach to OSH issues. This Act requires all government sectors to develop policies and guidelines that domesticate the Act.
- Other guiding documents on occupational safety and health include: WIBA (Workplace Injury and Benefits Act) 2007, &
- Occupational Safety and Health Policy Guidelines (MOH) 2014- it outlines, roles and responsibilities of National, County, Sub County and even facility level safety committee as well as the legal and regulatory framework.





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HOSPITALS MEASURES TAKEN IN RELATION TO OSH INCLUDE :

- Infection prevention measures: use of protective gears, disinfection methods to ensure clean and safe environments,
- Incorporation of ergonomics at various working stations to avoid physical stress e.g. secretarial chairs, computer desks & chairs (MSI)
- Regulation of working hours



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MANGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP ROLES

- Management and leadership commitment in ensuring implementation of good OSH practices in organizations is key. We need to ensure that there is implementation of policies on OSH for example workplace safety policies.
- Furthermore, creation of platforms for stakeholder engagement would ensure successful implementation of these policies.
- There is a need to PROACTIVELY conduct operational research on occupational health/hazards in the respective work environments. We need to link our organizations with national health schemes to provide employee with occupational safety and health funds.



MANGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP ROLES

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- Managers must encourage employees to comply with regulations and support them by continuously educating the employees on health and advocating for wellness forums within organizations.
- Having workable, cost-effect strategies that empower workers to make contributions in own work environment.
- Establishing of proper surveillance mechanisms to follow-up the implementation.
- Lastly, I encourage all employers' organizations, workers' unions and enforcement authorities to work together through committees / partnerships toward developing multi-annual work programs covering health & county workers.
- I would go further to recommend merging OSH and Quality unit in the health department as a synergized team.



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- SPECIAL THANKS TO
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SHUKRAN