

Strategic Sector Cooperation Denmark-Bangladesh

Improving the Health and Safety of Workers in Bangladesh through the Strengthening of Labour Authorities

One week study tour to Denmark May 2018

Sunday 13 May a group of 30 officials from DIFE – mainly inspectors - and from the Ministry of Labour and Employment arrived in Denmark. The purpose of the tour was to conclude the trainings in DIFE during the last 2½ year and it was the last planned activity in the project’s Phase 1.

The first day the group attended an intensive program in the DWEA headquarter with at lot of sessions: Management, Inspection Planning, Law and lawyers in DWEA, The Product Register, Indoor Climate, Construction Safety, Noise, Psychosocial Risks and Work Accidents.

The following days the participants were placed in DWEA’s 3 inspection centres, where they were met by their 13 Danish trainers. In the inspection centres they participated in inspections of factories, workshops, construction sites etc. There was also arranged study visits to companies of major interest, and there was opportunity to visit a few sites of more touristic interest – and some passed by Sweden and/or Germany.

The management had meetings with the Danish Permanent Secretary and the Director General of DWEA and two groups visited the National Research Center for the Working Environment.

The last day the conclusions of the week were develop with participation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

Main scope of the Project Phase 2

At a meeting 28 June 2018 the Steering Committee approved the application for Phase 2. The application is now in the process to be signed by Secretary Ms. Afroza Khan and Permanent Secretary Mr. Jakob Jensen, and then it will be submitted to MFA (Denmark).

It is the hope that Phase 2 can start in September 2018. The main activities will be:

- Implementation of the DIFE training program on machinery safety, accident prevention, chemical safety and ergonomics.
- Further development of topics from Phase 1
- Development and test of at concept for targeted inspections.
- Management capacity building for DIG’s and above
- Training directed towards Danish brands’ local staff and cooperation partners
- Training directed towards the Trade Unions.

Around 9 DIFE officials will participate in a 6 week OSH training in Denmark.

The participants, who are all members of one of the technical project teams, will join the course “Understanding occupational safety and health – mechanisms, assessment and preventive actions” from 7 October 2018 together with participants from Myanmar and Vietnam. The course is funded by Danida Fellowship Center, and will have a broad focus on OSH including a weekly relevant company visit.

