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**CONSTRUCTION-RELATED OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES;
 A CHALLENGE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
 (OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT)**

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE:


- ✓ Introduction
- Definitions
- Background
- ✓ Objective
- ✓ Methodology
- ✓ Results
- ✓ Discussion
- ✓ Conclusions
- ✓ References



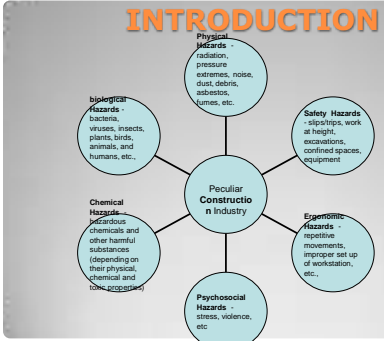
INTRODUCTION

Definitions



- **Occupational exposures** : The exposure to hazards (potentially harmful chemical, physical or biological agents) that occurs as a result of one's occupation / work.
- **Adverse Health Effect**: Any change in body function or the structures of cells that can lead to disease or health problems. E.g. bodily injury, disease, reproductive effects, change in mental condition, etc
- **Sustainable development**: Pattern of growth (development of industrial and natural resources) that meets the needs and opportunities of the present without compromising the ability or opportunities of future generations to meet their needs in a similar manner.




INTRODUCTION



Exposure effects may vary from minor to acute or chronic; and may or may not be reversible on removal of hazard.

Dimensions and Indicators of Sustainable Development





SOCIAL: Income distribution, unemployment), Equity & equality, Education, Health, quality of life, Crime, Population, Social and equal values.

ECONOMIC: Economic dependency, Production patterns, Waste management, Transportation c structure and development, Trade, Productivity


ENVIRONMENTAL: Sustainable natural resource management, pollution, Land use, food use / security

INSTITUTIONAL: decision-making, Capacity building, Science and technology, Public awareness / information & participation

OBJECTIVE

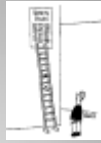
To Study the "cause and effect" relationship between Construction-related Occupational Exposures and Sustainable Development.



METHODOLOGY

Case study:

Bujjagali Hydropower Dam Construction Project

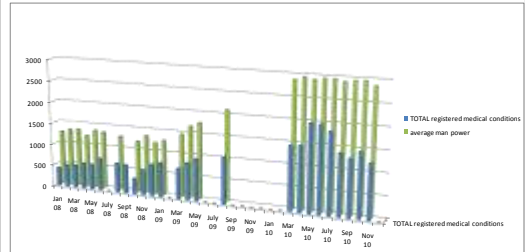


- Health Surveillance and Medical records (between January 2008 and December 2010)
- Findings collated, organised in charts / figures, and trends analysed

7

RESULTS

Total Monthly Registered Medical Conditions



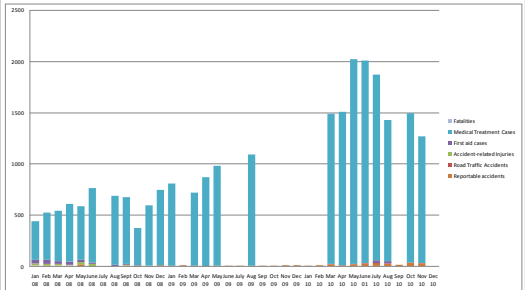
Typical Registered Medical Cases

- General Health Conditions and Occupational Diseases / Ill Health; Arthritis, Abdominal Pain, Anemia, Asthma, Brucellosis, Constipation, Diarrhoea, Diabetes Mellitus, Infections, Epilepsy, Hypertension, Intestinal Worms, Malaria, Meningitis, Orchitis, Otitis Media, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, Peptic Ulcer Disease, Fever, Conjunctivitis, Indigestion, etc
- Allergies; Allergic Conjunctivitis, Allergic Dermatitis, Allergic Rhinitis (Familial), Allergic Sinusitis
- Skin Conditions ; Abscesses, Boils, Eczema, Skin Infection, Athletes Foot - Mycosis, Local Bacterial, Viral & Fungal Infections,
- Upper and Lower Respiratory Tract Infections; Tonsillitis, Sore Throat , Cough, Flue, Common Cold, Pnuemonia, etc
- Biological attacks; Dog Bite, Animal Bite, Insect Bites, Food Poisoning, Schistosomiasis
- Psychosocial conditions; Alcohol and Drugs, Anxiety, Stress, Depression, Fatigue
- Ergonomic complaints; Backache, Chest Pain, Lumbargo, Muscle Pains, Body Ache, Sprains
- Body Injuries, Bruises, Etc Burns (Superficial), Scalds, Dislocation, Fractures
- Urinary Tract Infections (U.T.I.S)
- S.T.D.S (Syphilis, Gonorrhoea, Penile Sores, Genital Sores, Herpes Genetali, ...), HIV / AIDS, Candidiasis, Herpes (Zoster & Simplex)
- Crime & violence-related injuries; Gunshot Wounds,
- Others; Tooth Ache / Dental Problems, Carries, Bleeding Gums, Oral Sores, Body Sores, Chicken Pox, Insomnia, Foreign Body in eye, Oesophagus, etc

9

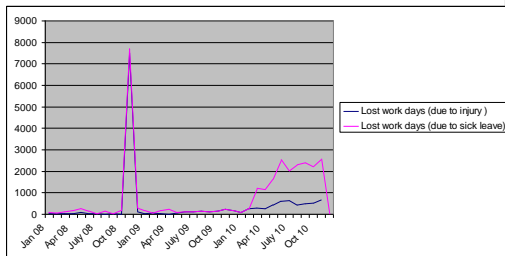
RESULTS

General Categorization of Registered Medical Conditions



RESULTS

Comparison between lost work days due to injury and due to ill health



DISCUSSION

- ❑ Over 30% of the company's workforce had registered some form of occupational exposure, requiring medical attention
- ❑ Of the lost time recorded within the firm, over 50% was due to ill health and occupational diseases compared to less than 50% due to injuries and occupational accidents.
- ❑ Cases of ill health led to more prolonged lost work days, than mere injuries.
- ❑ Risks arising from regular occupational exposure may not manifest immediately as ill health; some time must elapse before the onset of symptoms.

DISCUSSION



- Effective OSH management requires regular Risk assessment as a step towards limiting exposure; to identify hazards, evaluate associated risk and determine appropriate ways to eliminate or control the hazard.
- This would guarantee improved worker protection hence; good health (social), continued earning (economic), better worker participation (institutional) and protection of the environment (environment).
- Beyond the worker; injuries, illnesses and fatalities have financial implications, which significantly influence the economic vitality of the firm and the nation at large, and thus sustainability over the long term.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION



Sustainability calls for;

- ❖ local action (at enterprise level) for global change
- ❖ a process (of continuous improvement) rather than a target (say of zero accidents)
- ❖ Giving more than you 'take out' not expecting more than you 'put in'
- ❖ Balance between social, economic, environmental and institutional considerations.

Sustainability can not be achieved without employers taking more responsibility for people and their environment.

"Being good to people and the environment is the way to do business"

"We measure what we value, and We value what we measure."



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!!!

REFERENCES

1. Monthly Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Reports for Bujagali HydroPower Project, January 2008 – December 2010
2. Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety www.ccohs.ca
3. Indicators of Sustainable Development: Guidelines And Methodologies, publication of the United Nations, UN Commission on Sustainable Development

ANY QUESTIONS?

