

Abstract of the Presentation: International Co-operation in OHS – Impacts, Sustainability and Challenges

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GVG comprises the key actors of the German Social Security System. In its national and international work, GVG covers all the five branches of social insurance.

In its international project work, GVG works closely with and largely relies on the DGUV and the BG system at large, as well as on the state authorities for occupational health and safety.

Projects in OHS funded by the EU, World Bank or other Donors, as well as Study Projects (e.g. funded by DG EMPL) on a variety of Health and Safety related topics are to a large extent donor-driven. The designing phase of such projects is highly important as it defines the objectives and mandatory results based on an outline of the project activities.

The example of Turkey, at least at a first glance, may highlight how international co-operation may support the long-term process of establishing a national safety culture. But is continuity between the different development stages ensured both in the national process and in Technical Assistance?

Further examples will be provided to critically discuss the impact of international co-operation, its shortcomings and challenges.

Resuming, it can be stated that international co-operation in Technical Assistance projects and beyond does not only provide an arena for various forms of exchange and a strong impetus for the harmonisation of social security in the world of labour, but it is an important tool to support the safeguarding of the workforce from any threats to their health and safety.