





Introduction to the Roundtable discussion

How can OSH-related activities contribute to the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth of the EU?





Points of departure

Europe 2020: A European Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth

Key priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy:

- Smart growth: fostering knowledge, innovation, education and digital society
- Sustainable growth: making EU production greener and more resource efficient while boosting competitiveness
- Inclusive growth: enhancing labour market participation, skills acquisition, and the fight against poverty





Five headline targets identified for the whole EU

- 75% of the population aged 20-64 should be employed
- 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D
- 20%/20%/20% targets in terms of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy production, and energy efficiency
- The share of school dropouts should be under 10% and at least 40% of the population aged 30-34 should have a degree or diploma
- 20 million fewer people should be living below the poverty line





Seven flagship inititives to meet the targets:

Smart growth

- Innovation Union
- Digital agenda for Europe
- Youth on the move

Sustainable growth

- Resource efficient Europe
- An industrial policy for the globalisation era

Inclusive growth

- An agenda for new skills and jobs
- European platform against poverty





Potential synergies between EU Strategy and OSH

Innovation Union

- Promoting social and workplace innovations
- Innovations for active and healthy ageing
- Including OSH topics in future EU research and innovation programmes

Digital agenda for Europe

- High-speed broadband internet to facilitate dissemination and application of OSH knowledge
- ICT-based support for disabled and ageing workers
- Applying social media for OSH knowledge sharing

Youth on the move

- Better quality of higher education (incl. OSH)
- Removing mobility barriers by common standards in OSH education and training
- Using EU funding programmes for OSH training

Resource-efficient Europe

- Low-emission and resource-efficient technologies
- More green jobs involving new technologies a need to cope with new hazards and risks for workers

New industrial policy

- A need for European standards supporting innovation and new technologies
- Implementing key enabling technologies (such as biotechnology, nanotechnology, advanced materials, photonics, microrobotics, IMS) etc.
- OSH in Public-Private Partnership initiatives (e.g. Factories of the Future, Energy-Efficient Buildings)
- Promoting OSH through CSR concept
- R&D and innovations in EU textile industry leading to new materials and advanced PPE

Agenda for new skills and jobs

- OSH issues in European flexicurity model
- Innovative and work-based training methods
- Adapting EU acquis on OSH to new work patterns
- Soft instruments in OSH (good practices, guidelines)

Platform against poverty and exclusion

- Adapting workplaces to disabled & ageing workers
- Preventing work-related mental health problems
- Research projects to promote social innovations





Leading questions:

- May OSH-related research and innovations contribute to fostering competitiveness of the EU economy?
- What could be the role of OSH in new industrial policy of the EU?
- How can education, training and development of new skills lead to improvement of working conditions and increase in employment?
- How can we promote OSH legislation and standards to contribute to a sustainable growth of the EU?
- What are the priorities of actions in OSH area from the point of view of different interest groups (governments, employers, workers)?