

making simple water safety devices that could be acquired in the community such as empty plastic 1-gallon containers, empty plastic water bottles, long sticks, and ropes, and the other without any water safety signboards or devices. Data were collected using a questionnaire and an interview form, and then analysed to determine percentages and standard deviations; and ANOVA was also performed.

Results The residents in the communities with the water safety measures for high-risk natural water settings by installing warning signboards had a higher average score on knowledge, understanding, and perception about drowning risks than that in the communities without such measures. However, the difference was not statistically significant. In the communities with such measures, 68.75% of the people realised that warning signboards were useful for child drowning prevention, while 87.07% regarded the water safety devices as useful for reducing drowning risk – the difference being significant, compared with that in the communities without such devices.

Conclusion and discussion The management of high-risk natural water settings undertaken by the community by installing warning or advice signboards and making available water safety devices made of locally available materials is regarded by community members as useful and effective in reducing child drowning risk.

Thematic Conference “From Occupational Safety and Health Strategies to Practice”

Cost of Lost Labour Input

273 UNDERREPORTING OF WORK INJURIES – ESTIMATING REALISTIC STATISTICS IN THE BALTIC SEA COUNTRIES

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Background The Baltic Sea Network on Occupational Health and Safety (BSN) (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Northwest Russia, Norway, Poland, Sweden) has paid attention to a problem related to national monitoring systems that provide statistical indicators of work injuries.

In Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and the Russian Federation, the rates of fatal work injuries have been much higher than the EU-15 average. Yet, the incidence rates of non-fatal work injuries have been very low at the same time. A high rate of fatal work injuries in combination with a low rate of non-fatal work injuries suggests that much of the non-fatal work injuries remain unregistered.

Underreporting of work injuries is known to be widespread in many countries. However, the actual size of underreporting has largely remained unquantified. The present study made an effort to estimate the order of magnitude and the level of reporting of non-fatal work injuries (>3 days absence from work) in the BSN countries.

Methods Semi-quantitative analyses were conducted based on official statistical indicators that the national authorities had

submitted to the International Labour Organisation between 2003 and 2007. Statistical indicators from Finland, Germany, and the EU-15 average were used as benchmarks against which the indicator data of work injuries of other countries were compared. The analyses used two separate schemes of semi-quantitative estimation and three different benchmark countries or regions.

Results The results indicated that in several BSN countries the reporting of non-fatal work injuries was less than 10 to 20% of the estimated true level.

Conclusions The decision makers of several countries may have at their disposal very deceptive statistical information when setting policy objectives, estimating economical loss, or defining priorities on the national agenda.

Parallel Sessions Tuesday 20.9.2016 14:30–16:00

Safe Communities, ESCON

Parallel Tue 2.1

274 POSITIVE EVIDENCES FOR BUILDING SAFE AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES

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Background Närpes is a small Swedish-speaking town in Finland that became well-known for its multiculturalism, successful integration of immigrants and very low levels of violence. This paper explores evidences of different components existing within Närpes municipality that contribute to successful integration, life satisfaction of people and nonviolence. The aim of this paper is to exhibit violence prevention efforts within Närpes example and to discuss this small community's accomplishments, actions and applicability in similar settings elsewhere.

Methods The research method consists of ethnographic participant observations, purposive sampling and analysis of archives. Ongoing participant observations have been conducted since 2013. For the sampling, six key informants were chosen that participated in the semi structured interviewing. Archival research includes collection of records, newspapers and various governmental and academic publications that are related to Närpes local culture, migration and crime statistics.

Results The Närpes example comprehends five main components: imbedded tradition of emigration and immigration, socio-economic equality and stability, pragmatic openness and tolerance to different cultures and religions, personality, values and multi-social identities of Närpes inhabitants and a tight cooperation between the municipality organisations, CSOs, employers and people themselves that create a positive circle of successful actions.

Conclusions Närpes has been able to create an environment where people can successfully integrate and manage their social lives nonviolently. By looking at this example, economic security,