



## SURVEY TO FOLLOW UP ON RIAL COOPERATION FUND ACTIVITIES

INTER-AMERICAN NETWORK FOR LABOR ADMINISTRATION (RIAL)

### Survey objectives:

- To gain awareness of actions taken by Ministries of Labor following their participation in RIAL Cooperation Fund activities.
- To facilitate the evaluation of the impact of these activities on the institutional strengthening of the Ministries of Labor.

### Instructions:

- Please complete this Survey electronically, bearing in mind that the 'text boxes' expand in keeping with the size of each response.
- The survey should be completed individually or jointly by the requesting Ministry officials involved in each activity.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR TIME!**

### General information on the cooperation activity:

Type of activity: (on-site or experts visit)	Expert visit
Requesting institution: (completing this survey)	Occupational Safety and Health Agency, Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development Trinidad and Tobago
Providing institution:	US Department of Labor
Area and general objective of cooperation:	Radiation protection To provide hands on training and guidance to the Occupational Safety and Health Agency inspectors in the inspection and regulatory methods employed by the US DOL for radiation protection.
Date and city or cities where carried out:	Port of Spain, Trinidad March 14-18, 2011
Names and titles of the participating officials of the requesting institution: (please indicate if the officials are jointly completing this survey)	The following organizations participated in the activity; however, this survey was completed by the requesting institution (OSHA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 Occupational Safety and Health Agency Inspectors</li> <li>• 1 Technical Assistant</li> <li>• representatives from academia and industry were also included in the training:</li> <li>• Included were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two representatives from the Chemistry Food &amp; Drugs Division of the Ministry of Health.</li> <li>• the Laboratory Quality Manager, the Health &amp; Safety Manager, the Manager of Radiological Services and two Occupational Physicians from national Regional Health Authorities.</li> <li>• one Medical Physicist attached to the Brian Lara Cancer Research Center.</li> <li>• the Specialist Medical Officer for Occupational Health from the Ministry of Health.</li> <li>• two representatives from the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two senior university lecturers – Health &amp; Safety, and Chemistry.</li> <li>• one representative from an Industrial Hygiene Service provider.</li> <li>• six representatives from industry from the following organizations – Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (PETROTRIN), Yara Trinidad Limited, Trinidad Inspection Services, Non-Destructive Testers Limited.</li> <li>• two Public Health Inspectors.</li> </ul>
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**Section I - General follow-up**

1. Following the cooperation activity, was the information received disseminated in your Ministry or outside it?

Yes  No

*If yes, please indicate below how the information was disseminated, to whom, and whether training activities were carried out.*

Trained inspectors were able to competently inspect facilities that use, handle, store and transport radioactive sources and emitting devices and make recommendations to dutyholders in keeping with information received during the cooperation activity.

2. Is communication ongoing with the providing institution?

Yes  No

3. Have you received additional technical assistance from the providing institution specifically in follow-up to the cooperation activity?

Yes  No

*If yes, please specify what and how this technical assistance was given.*

NA

4. Have new cooperation actions been carried out with the providing institution?

Yes  No

*If yes, please indicate what these actions are.*

NA

**Section II - Follow-up to "Next Steps"**

*In answering the following questions, please consult the Final Report prepared by your institution on the activity.*

1. Which of the "Next Steps" specified in the report were taken and how was this done? Please indicate how much progress has been made and how these actions were implemented.

1. Ensure that based on their risk profiles, that industries in which ionizing radiation sources exist are targeted for scheduled inspection visits.
  - Approximately 95% of industrial radiographic operators were selected for targeted inspections/reinspections. Some progress has been made, albeit limited, with respect to medical radiographic operators
2. Amplify the activities of the Radiation Protection Working Group as to ensure that the draft regulations are enacted post haste.
  - It is to be noted that Trinidad and Tobago joined the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 2012. The OSH Agency has since participated in consultations with the Ministry of Health, other stakeholders and representatives of the IAEA.

2. In connection with the preceding question, what conditions or circumstances made it possible to take the "Next Steps"?

OSHA has a regulatory mandate to ensure that organizations comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act Chapter 88:08 and therefore, all organizations, including radiographic testing and treatment practices are subject to this legislative control.

3. Which of the "Next Steps" specified in the report were not taken? What reasons or circumstances prevented them from being taken?

Budgetary constraints in the most part has hindered progress in the following:

1. Source ionizing radiation monitoring equipment.
2. Hire a Radiation Protection expert in keeping with the TTOSHA's approved organizational structure – technical unit.
3. Seek out further training opportunities.

4. Have actions resulting directly or indirectly from the cooperation activity been taken that were not included in the "Next Steps"?

NO

Section III - Results

9. What were the main benefits to your Ministry of this cooperation activity?

Due to the impending regulations for occupational and medical exposure to radiation, the Ministry and by extensión, OSHA, was given an opportunity to get hands on training on best appropriate practices for managing radiation hazards, as well as developing programmes for legally regulating radiation risks in the workplace.

10. Please indicate what specific results arose in your Ministry from this cooperation activity:

*Please place an 'X' next to all applicable results:*

- Development of new products, services, or activities
- Creation of new areas, offices, or units
- Reform of internal procedures or redefinition of functions
- Definition of new internal procedures
- Design or modification of training activities
- Proposed amendments to regulatory or legislative framework
- Definition or reformulation of public policies
- Other (please specify below)

Please provide additional information on the results selected, including specific areas and procedures, specific actions carried out to achieve these results, and degree of progress. We would be grateful for an exhaustive list to enable us to gain an in-depth awareness of results achieved:

11. At the personal and professional level, what are the main benefits or results of this cooperation activity? Were new capacities or skills acquired?

- i. Technical training about radiation, its hazards, radiation sources and effective methods for minimization of exposure.
- ii. Exposure to the US DOL's manual of inspection guidance, enforcement management strategy and risk rating system.
- iii. Training in the use of appropriate ionizing radiation exposure measuring devices.
- iv. Assistance in identifying and applying appropriate standards for the radiation shielding design of facilities used to house radiation producing equipment.
- v. Assistance in identifying means for ensuring that adequate arrangements are made for managing the retrieval and disposal of abandoned (orphan) sources.
- vi. Assistance in identifying adequate means for regulating the disposal of legitimately held sources.
- vii. Assistance in identifying means for ensuring that appropriate means are employed for the use, maintenance and quality assurance of hospital equipment and for radiation surveys of newly installed equipment and regular

surveys of existing equipment.

viii. Identification of means to improve record-keeping and communication in the medical sector to minimize repeat radiographs, since these give rise to unnecessary additional radiation dose for patients and staff.

Assistance in identifying means for regulation of transport including ensuring that adequate provisions are made for accident situations.

**Section IV - General evaluation**

12. To what extent did the cooperation activity meet your expectations? (Choose one)

Exceeded    Largely    Somewhat    Little    Did not meet

13. How satisfied were you with OAS facilitation efforts. (Choose one)

Very highly    Highly    Moderately    Little    Not satisfied

14. Please provide below comments and suggestions regarding OAS efforts in connection with the clarity of Fund procedures, logistical arrangements, speed of response, and any other aspect you deem relevant.

15. Suggestions to improve planning and implementation of the RIAL Cooperation Fund:

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION!**

Please send responses to: Maria Claudia Camacho, RIAL Coordinator, by e-mail (mcamacho@oas.org) before the deadline indicated.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail or phone: (1202) 458-3207.