



Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz
und Arbeitsmedizin

Implications of climate change on OSH and the need for international cooperation

Dir. & Prof. Dr. Thomas Alexander
FB2: Products and Work Systems

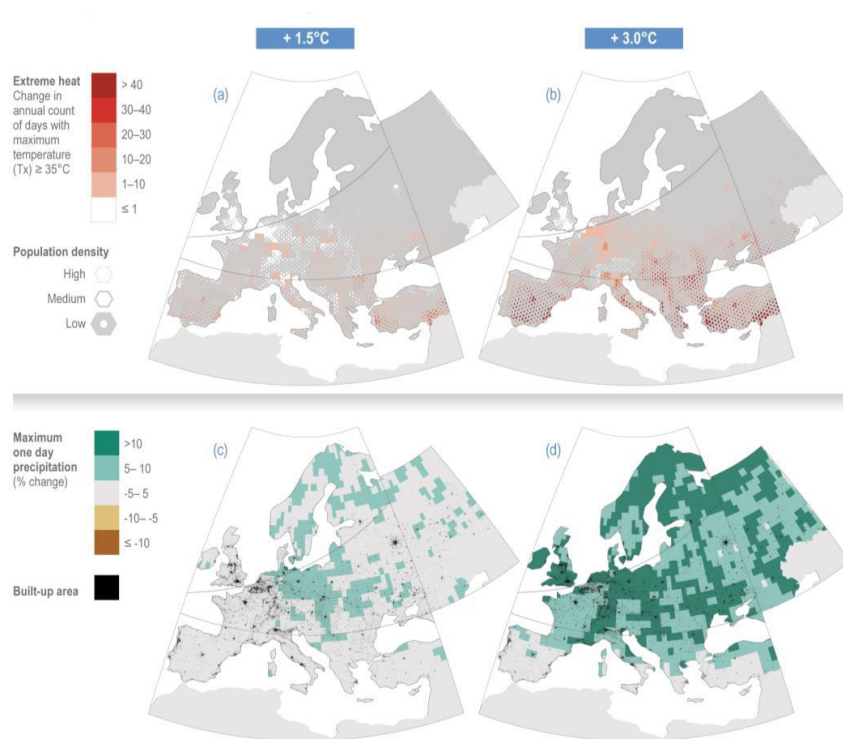
Structure

- **Background**
 - **Motivation**
and relevance of climate change for OSH
- **Challenges for safe and healthy work**
 - **General effects and protective measures**
- **Activities**
- **Lessons-learned**

Climate change and OSH

The scientific evidence is clear:
Climate change is a threat to human well-being and the overall health of the planet.

*Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),
<https://www.de-ipcc.de/>*



Climate change and its effects

Risks for workers and employees:

- Higher temperatures: Heat waves, tropical nights, mild winters
- Longer periods of sunshine and UV-exposure
- More frequent extreme weather events: Drought, intense rain and floods
- Settlement of non-native insects and plants (also due to globalization)
- ...
- economic changes in the context of decarbonization and the circular economy



[pixabay.com]

Challenges: Existing OSH-regulation

- Heat
- UV-exposition
- Biological substances
- Hazard. subst.



Gesundes Klima und Wohlbefinden am Arbeitsplatz



Technische Regeln für Arbeitsstätten	Raumtemperatur	ASR A3.5
<p>Die Technischen Regeln für Arbeitsstätten (ASR) geben den Stand der Technik, Arbeitsmedizin und Hygiene sowie sonstige gesetzmäßige arbeitswissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse für das Einrichten und Betreiben von Arbeitsstätten wieder.</p> <p>Sie werden vom Ausschuss für Arbeitsstätten (ASTA) erstellt bzw. angepasst und vom Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales nach § 7 der Arbeitsstättenverordnung im Gemeinsamen Ministerialrat bekräftigt genehmigt.</p> <p>Diese ASR A3.5 konkretisiert im Rahmen des Anwendungsbereichs die Anforderungen der Verordnung über Arbeitsstätten. Bei Einführung der Technischen Regeln kann der Arbeitgeber darauf bestehen, dass die entsprechenden Vorschriften erfüllt sind. Wäre der Arbeitgeber eine andere Form mindestens die gleiche Sicherheit und den gleichen Schutz besitzender erzieher.</p>		



[BAuA, DGUV, BGHM]

International activities: G7 Network-event (2022)

Germany's G7 presidency 2022: Towards Safe and Healthy Work in a Green Economy (Annex B)

- Research and networking of OSH-institutions
- Support for companies and employees in implementing preventive measures
- Support of social partners and identification sector-specific solutions
- Review and adaptation of the legal framework



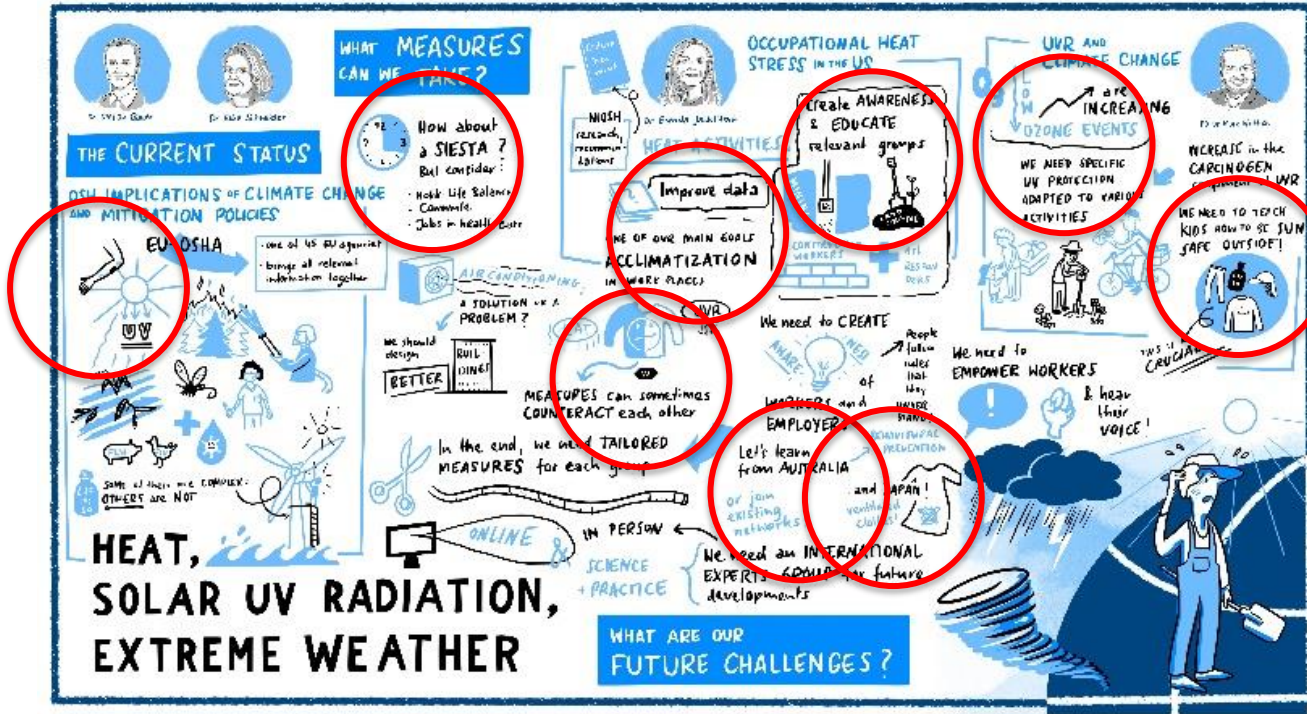
Actions: International networking

- Heat, solar UV radiation, extreme weather
- Spread of infectious and allergic diseases
- Decarbonization, circular economy, alternative energy
- Psychological effects of cc: Impact and strategies



(1) DGUV/Baldauf&Baldauf (2) graphic recording

Physical agents: Heat and solar UV-radiation



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Examples: Selection of worldwide actions

Land	Examples for measures and OSH research
Ruanda	- Heat protection coatings for workplaces
Singapur (construction)	- Adjustment of working hours - Cooled containers for breaks - Shade structures
Australia (delivery)	- <i>Cultural changes in society</i> - Basic measures delivery services
South Africa	- <i>Culture</i> : Sun as danger (sensibilization)
Spain	- Conflict „Siesta“ vs. work/life-balance
Mexiko	- Work organization in greenhouses
Japan	- Cooling vests
... all...	- Special importance for outdoor work



[pixabay.com]

Preliminary lessons learned

- **Structures, processes, and (measures) are largely established, but should be reviewed and, if necessary, adapted / expanded**
- **Isolated silo approaches are not effective; holistic thinking is required:**
 - Interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary (use of synergies),
 - Cross-domain, cross-sector and cross-industry,
 - (for Products) through the entire product lifecycle.
- **Cross-cutting exchange with occupational safety and health stakeholders, social partners, academia, professional associations, standardization bodies, etc.**
- **Global exchange between institutions on the current status and experiences about effectiveness, practicability, and acceptance.**