

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS 2012-13

- **Understanding emerging and existing issues:**
 - mental health and wellbeing – three projects:
 - Personality and Total Health (PATH) through Life with ANU
 - People @ Work – workplace based study of psychosocial hazards with Qld and Vic, ARC funded
 - Australian Workplace Barometer – population based study of psychosocial hazards with University of SA, all states and territories except Qld and Victoria
 - Work Ability - impact of an ageing workforce on workplace health and safety, workers' compensation claims and work ability
 - Occupational disease: burden of disease type and prevalence – three projects:
 - cardiovascular disease – physical and mental causal factors
 - occupational contact dermatitis
 - occupational asthma – awaiting NHMRC application results
 - Hazard surveillance – five projects:
 - manufacturing industry study
 - musculoskeletal study – productivity loss due to musculoskeletal pain in young adults – Curtin University and WA regulators
 - chemical exposure to fumigants - methyl bromide in shipping containers
 - exposure to multiple hazards: analysis of the NHEWS 2008 data
 - development of a hazard surveillance research program
- **Evaluating harmonised work health and safety – four projects:**
 - uniformity of implementation – survey of businesses
 - regulatory burden for businesses – survey of businesses
 - efficiencies for governments – survey of regulators
 - health and safety performance in workplaces – surveys of businesses, HSRs, workers; and, focus groups with industry partners
- **Understanding what influences workplace cultures and implementing effective programs in workplaces – three projects:**
 - MAPS Stage 2: work health and safety motivations, attitudes, perceptions and skills + compliance and safety outcomes - interviews and surveys of businesses and regulators in Qld and SA to 2014
 - MAPS Stage 2: learning, skills and translation to work health and safety behaviour – interviews with workers in construction in ACT, nursing and physiotherapy in SA
 - intervention effectiveness – literature review of regulator interventions and their impact
- **Development of a five-year research, evaluation and data plan:** This will take into account strategies included in the new Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012-2022.
- **Workers' compensation:** identifying and assessing opportunities for greater harmonisation in workers' compensation arrangements.