

The background image shows two men at a construction site. On the left, a man with a beard and mustache wears a white hard hat, a dark suit, and a light-colored striped tie. He is looking upwards and to the right. On the right, a man wears a red hard hat, a dark blue long-sleeved shirt, and a high-visibility yellow and orange safety vest. He is also looking upwards and to the right, with his right hand raised, pointing his index finger towards the sky. He is wearing white work gloves. The background is a blurred view of a city skyline with tall buildings and a large white pillar in the foreground.

bsi.

The new world of construction

Creating a culture of opportunity
for health, safety and wellbeing

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Section 1

Introduction

We are in the midst of unprecedented change.

Now more than ever, the impact of the construction industry's aging workforce, intensifying material costs, sustainability pressures and slow digitalization is being felt by organizations. With international emergencies and pandemics like Covid-19 and global warming reshaping the way the industry operates, it's never been more important to strengthen organizational resilience and support workers' health, safety and wellbeing.

In the race to protect their workers from today's evolving risks and hazards, and to enhance their operational agility, organizations across the globe are taking steps to create a safer, more people-centric construction industry. Leading organizations have begun to do this by connecting their health, safety and wellbeing (HSW) initiatives with wider business strategies. Not only are these strategies helping them safeguard and prioritize their workers, but it is unlocking new commercial opportunities – and this is just the beginning.

To secure your place in the future of construction, this report will help you create an HSW culture that **drives business resilience, brand authority, competitiveness and ultimately, commercial impact.**

Backed by expertise from global pioneers, this report explores the three core principles professionals need to transform their organization's HSW programme, no matter where you are in the world.

BSI panel of health, safety and wellbeing pioneers



Kate Field

Global Head of Health, Safety and Wellbeing at BSI



Jon Brownstein

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Kathy A. Seabrook

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David Solomon

Executive Officer Safety & Risk at Master Builders Association New South Wales

We will explore:

PRINCIPLE 1

Culture of change

How a mindset of prevention and proactiveness paired with a standards-based approach to HSW can boost organizational resilience and competitiveness.

PRINCIPLE 2

Prioritizing people

How prioritizing the wellbeing and equality of workers can improve workforce productivity, agility and brand trust.

PRINCIPLE 3

Strategic digitalization

How investing in the right technology will not only protect workers, but will deliver long-term commercial success.

Take our HSW quiz on page 31 to see how your organization's HSW strategy will fare in the new world of construction.



Section 2

Global landscape of construction

The world of health, safety and wellbeing today

“Globally, there are around 340 million occupational accidents and 160 million victims of work-related diseases each year. This accounts for almost 4% of the world’s GDP, or \$3.2 trillion.”

- ILO

Today, the global construction industry is under increasing demand to improve the daily health, safety and wellbeing of its workers. To help ease these pressures, international bodies such as the United Nations, BSI and the ILO have taken proactive measures to create universal guidelines and standards that countries and organizations can follow to strengthen and mature their HSW policies. **Alongside these efforts, individual organizations are increasingly modernizing and digitizing processes to create safer, healthier workspaces for their employees and protect their workers.**



**United Nations
Sustainable
Development Goals**

Established in 2015, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were designed to help end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 through 17 interconnected guidelines¹. However, in 2019 the United Nations announced that **“urgent attention and more rapid progress”** is needed by member states to realize the Agenda’s vision,² which is why it’s crucial for organizations to prioritize their HSW strategies today.



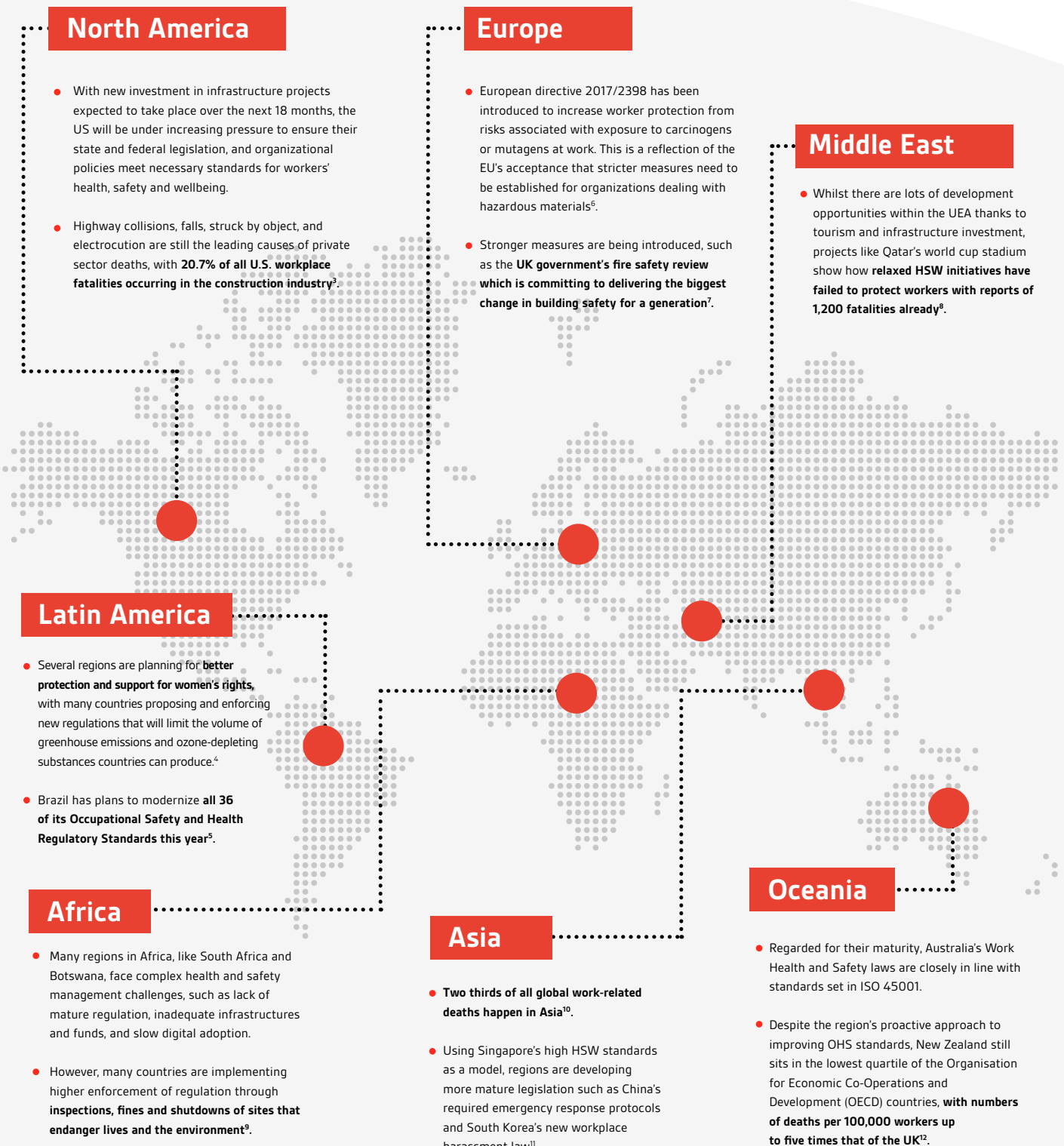
**International health,
safety and wellbeing
standards**

ISO 45001 is the world’s first international standard dedicated to health and safety management at work. It draws on the foundations of OHSAS 18001, but promotes a more holistic and decentralized approach to occupational health and safety, by advocating a preventative approach to workers’ physical, mental and cognitive health, as well as safety. To further support organizations a new standard for psychological health and safety in the workplace (ISO 45003 Occupational health and safety management - Psychological health and safety at work: managing psychosocial risks – Guidelines) which will be released in 2021.

Global landscape of construction

Despite the development of international standards and guidelines, there is a vast spectrum of how mature HSW regulations are across the world – even across high-income economies. As you can see from the map (below),

these varying degrees of safety measures have created a fractured global landscape, where the wellbeing of workers is often dependent on the region's willingness to invest in more advanced protocols and implement stricter non-compliance measures.





Section 3

Join the
movement

How to create a culture of opportunity

In today's rapidly changing landscape, construction organizations are under increasingly intense pressure to deliver projects on time and to budget. As a result, many HSW programmes are being inadvertently deprioritized. The result – organizational HSW cultures that barely meet satisfactory standards.

But it is more important than ever that the construction industry focuses its efforts to drive resilience and protect workers.

Every organization, regardless of region, must create HSW programmes that go beyond basic requirements to deliver the HSW standards that workers not only expect, but deserve.

On the horizon is a movement of change. A swell of construction, HSW and regulatory professionals who are collaborating to create a world where standardization and modernization **lead the way for safer, healthier and more ethical workspaces.**

Core principles of HSW Success

1

A culture of change

Driven by three core principles which connect HSW initiatives with wider business strategies, this movement is not only improving the health, safety and wellbeing of workers, but it is creating a culture of opportunity for organizations. A culture that has opened doors to new possibilities, new commercial results and ultimately, the new world of construction.

2

People-first initiatives

3

Strategic digitalization

Discover how you can design a HSW programme that will not only help you secure your place in the future of construction, but one that will **help you build business resilience, authority, trust and competitiveness for your organization.**

Join the movement



To find out more about how we can help you
develop your health, safety and wellbeing
programmes, visit

bsigroup.com/constructionhealthandsafety