**Mission:** AIHA’s international engagement is aimed at increasing principles of occupational health and safety awareness in countries where it is needed, while also furthering the Association’s business interests in these locations, to achieve worker health protection.

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| **Strategic Framework Goals** |
| **Advance AIHA Business Interests Abroad** | **Increase Occupational Health and Safety Awareness** |
| **Develop Professionals** | **Foster Community** |  |
| **Strategic Objectives** |
| 1. Enhance from existing base or create IH practitioners (technicians), entry/mid-/senior IH professionals | 1. Build and grow new Virtual Section to serve global communities not served by established AIHA local sections | 1. Enhance knowledge of work-related disease and subsequent economic impact among policymakers and industry leaders (quantified by touch points) |
| 2. Increase numbers of CIH or other credential professionals through educational offerings | 2. Increase number registered as AIHA International members | 2. Raise awareness among AIHA members globally of the importance of a global standard of care (addressing issues such as child labor, informal work force, lack of regulatory enforcement) and facilitate integration of basic prevention strategies into workplaces |
| 3. Increase global access to existing and future educational products | 3. Facilitate networking activities in-person and virtually | 3. Support development of new and improved global standards and regulations in developing economies |
| 4. Support non-profits dedicated to training professionals in developing economies by awarding micro-grants and facilitating contacts through local businesses, academia, and others.  |  |  |
| **Metrics of Success** |
| **Advance AIHA Business Interests Abroad** | **Increase Occupational Health & Safety Awareness** |
| **Develop Professionals** | **Foster Community** |  |
| 1. Identify and create translated editions of AIHA assets; through our sister organizations realize increase in purchases. | 1. Increase number of Virtual Section international membership by 5% year over year.  | 1. Secure opportunities in developing economies to help plan conference sessions, led by AIHA member experts and/or aligned with CPAG content priorities. |
| 2.By country basis, identify and track increasing numbers of CIH (or other) credentialed professionals. | 2. Increase number of international members by 3% year over year. | 2. Secure AIHA member participation as thought leaders in global occupational health and safety seminars, virtually or in-person. |
| 3.By country basis, establish and achieve incrementally increased sales of AIHA educational products (i.e., courses, publications, e-subscriptions). | 3. Maintain and increase opportunities for facilitated networking at AIHce, online in Virtual Section, and at AIHA sponsored events at international events. | 3. Support and increase AIHA member participation in global standards committees. |
| 4.Maintain/grow micro-grant program and show ROI measure attained per each supported project |  |  |

In 2019, an International Advisory Group (IAG) was created to review AIHA’s historical and current international activities and prioritize future activities. The group recommends the following criteria and geographic focus. The AIHA Board supports this approach. It is anticipated that the AIHA International Affairs Committee will assume responsibility for helping to execute to successful completion approved projects, with communications conduit via a dedicated AIHA Ambassador.

**Criteria for Approaching Countries**

The group discussed criteria that would be used to prioritize in-country support, reflecting AIHA’s two top-level objectives for international engagement, namely:

1. Altruistic (i.e., as reflected by new micro grants process, positive working relationship with Intl Affairs Cmte)
2. Business development (i.e., building awareness of IH/OH profession, assisting in training professionals in fundamentals and other areas as needed)

Primary criteria for in-country engagement are defined as:

1. Country is developing/emerging economy (as defined by World Bank standards)
2. An in-country IH/OH organization exists that AIHA could collaborate with to identify unmet technical educational needs (can also work with established university programs)
3. In-country AIHA members exist (working through companies to help us identify unmet educational needs)
4. Ability to ‘relatively easily” deploy AIHA sponsored education (note: different countries may have different needs for level of education)

Secondary criterion is:

1. Ability to increase number of professionals earning their CIH over next 3 to 5 years (group agreed this should be more of a BGC/ABIH driven mission)

**The group then identified the following regions, which satisfy the above criteria for AIHA to focus its efforts. Each region will be approached uniquely and specific projects that best address the region’s current interests and needs will be evaluated by CPAG prior to being reviewed/approved by the AIHA Board.**

1. India (Main project: Supporting annual CIHA event)
2. Mexico (Main project: AMHI funding Spanish translation of AIHA 2019 virtual conference on exposure assessment strategies – future Mex PDC)
3. Brazil (Main project: AIHA funding Portuguese translation of AIHA Strategies book)
4. Colombia (Main project: TBD)
5. Puerto Rico (Main project: TBD)
6. China (Main project: Mandarin 3rd print edition of AIHA Strategies book – QC issues exist/ongoing discussions about new 4th print edition)
7. SIDENOTE: Larry Sloan met with Guatemalan association in Dec 2019; they have basic educational and technical resource needs which could be extended to other Latin American countries / in discussions now as to how to structure an MOU that might serve as template

Strategic Objectives and Strategies

Develop Professionals

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| **Strategy 1: Enhance from existing base or create IH technician professionals, entry/mid-/senior IH professionals** |
| 1. Maintain General Access Program (GAP 2.0) to AIOH (Australian) and BOHS (British) associations that entitles their members access to a suite of AIHA e-services at no cost – STATUS: Ongoing promotion: 16 BOHS/AIOH members participating. Unknown how many AIHA members are participating from our side.
 |
| 1. Collaborate with sister organizations in targeted regions to develop programming that appeals to both core IH professionals and allied professions, including occupational physicians, EHS generalists, safety professionals. Historical/current focus has been with CIHA in India; however, we are looking into expanding into selected Latin American markets. – STATUS: AMHI (Mexico) is assuming costs to translate into Spanish the 1st module of AIHA 2019 virtual conference on exposure assessment strategies—this will become a new PDC to be offered at their conference. A Pan American IH conference is planned for Sept 2020 in Lima, Peru. In addition, AMHI is hosting its 25th anniversary at its annual meeting in Oct 2020 and would like to present recognition to AIHA for its support. Colombia (ACHO and SCHO) has expressed interest in having OHTA 500 level courses taught by qualified CIHs in-country (need to recruit volunteers). CIHA (India) has invited Kathy Murphy to keynote and deliver technical talk (Feb 2020). Through Univ Puerto Rico (Sergio), exploring idea of them hosting 2020 conference that would include AIHA National speakers.
 |
| **Strategy 2: Increase numbers of CIH or other credential professionals through educational offerings** |
| 1. Have created and are now promoting new e-learning course based on OHTA W201 fundamentals course – STATUS: Have begun broad promotion through our sister organizations and IOHA. No significant activity yet.
 |
| 1. In discussions with Mexican, Brazilian and Colombian associations specific translation projects – STATUS: AMHI to self-fund translation 1st part of AIHA virtual conference on exposure assessment into Spanish; AIHA to fund translation of AIHA Strategies book into Portuguese for ABHO (2020 project); in discussions with Chinese to enter into new royalty agreement for 4th edition of AIHA Strategies book in Mandarin (project pending)
 |
| 1. Hosted IOHA 2018 – STATUS: Event was well received and AIHA staff have provided 2020 event organizers (Korea) with best practices document.
 |
| 1. Provide new CIH awareness training – STATUS: Planning to launch at CIHA (India) 2020 meeting a new “You Deserve to be a CIH” presentation, which would include discussion on ABIH rubrics, ethics, mentor-mentee opportunities with CIHs, educational resources available through AIHA. Kathy Murphy plans to present. If ABIH/AIHA decide to record, it could be broadcast at other events around the world.
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| 1. Explore development of new modules in collaboration with OHTA – STATUS: No activity to report. AIHA needs to refine existing W201 online course.
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| **Strategy 3: Increase global sales of existing and future educational products** |
| * 1. Offer discounted price points for AIHA education and publications – STATUS: Currently offering 80% discounted price on PDF versions of most popular AIHA publications. In 2019 we reduced price point for Spanish edition of AIHA Strategies book for members and non-members alike.
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| * 1. In discussions with our sister organizations regarding their interest in discounted access to new AIHA e-subscription library – STATUS: Have begun promoting platform; too soon to assess interest.
 |
| **Strategy 4: Support non-profits dedicated to training professionals in developing economies by awarding micro-grants and facilitating contacts through local businesses, academia, and others.** |
| * 1. Have launched new micro-grants program, managed by IAC sub-committee – STATUS: $20k in grants awarded to 5 recipients during its first year 2019; $25k budgeted for 2020. The 2020 program has been promoted via Quick Takes, Catalyst online community, and an Open Call process via the aiha.org website. One proposal has been received as of 12/10, with the expectation of receiving more closer to the deadline of 12/31.
 |
| * 1. Leveraging IAC and others to expand network of stakeholders who can identify training opportunities in developing economies – STATUS: This effort should be led by IAC to identify opportunities, which we can then promote to broader membership.
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Foster Community

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| **Strategy 1: Build and grow new Virtual Section to serve global communities not served by established AIHA local sections** |
| * 1. Offering discounted access ($10 pp) to members of sister organizations – STATUS: As of September 2019, CIHA (India) has recruited 21 members and SCHO (Colombia) 18 members. Benefits were enhanced to include digital *Synergist* family of products. International-related events posted to Announcement sections of each virtual room. Mentorship will be a key focus in 2020.
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| * 1. Created Catalyst room “En Espanol” – STATUS: This room has been re-purposed into the Virtual Section community for native Spanish-speaking professionals. A separate English-speaking room exists as well.
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| * 1. From the perspective of IH Pro Pathways program, leverage platform to better understand what IH professionals and technicians do in other countries (job tasks may differ from US) – STATUS: No activity to report. Plan is to share with sister organizations in India, Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil to gather intelligence.
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| **Strategy 2: Increase number registered as AIHA International members** |
| 1. AIHA bylaws were amended in 2018 to expand definition of International Member; actively conducting year-round marketing campaigns to promote value, attract new members – STATUS: International membership: 118 (2016), 110 (2017), 116 (2018), 169 (through Nov 2019) – up more than 31%.
2. Prioritizing regional international meetings where AIHA National presence may be warranted to promote our value – STATUS: 2020 Budget includes funding for AIHA National representative(s) to attend Pan American conference, AIHA president travel to 2020 CIHA conference. Possible representation at AMHI 2020 annual conference. Kathy Murphy/Larry Sloan to attend BOHS (UK) 2020 conference in April.
3. Through LAP (Cheryl Morton et al), capitalize on their travel to promote AIHA brand – STATUS: Cheryl’s colleague Marlene visited Colombia in Oct and met with ACHO president to discuss how AIHA can help support them. Discussions underway as to how IAC can play role and drive success.
 |
| **Strategy 3:** **Facilitate frequent networking activities** |
| 1. Regularly review and refine quality of International Reception at AIHce each year (IAC led effort) – STATUS: IAC leadership in process of assessing how event can be improved.
 |
| 1. Hosted IOHA 2018 with multiple networking activities – STATUS: Event was well received and AIHA staff have provided 2020 event organizers (Korea) with best practices document.
 |
| 1. Exploring which Local Sections are engaging in international activities; ensure such activities are being leveraged appropriately and communicated by National – STATUS: No activity to report. This idea could be addressed and led by new Local Sections Advisory Group.
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Increase OHS Awareness

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| **Strategy 1: Enhance knowledge of work-related disease and subsequent economic impact among policymakers and industry leaders (quantified by touch points)** |
| 1. Appoint AIHA reps to attend international meetings. – STATUS: Opportunities for AIHA to present at international health/safety organizations such as ILO are routinely communicated to the membership. Specifically, Tom Fuller attended ILO Shipbuilders meeting as AIHA rep in Fall 2017.
2. Update AIHA ambassador program by setting clear goals/objectives and providing talking points for them to disseminate as they travel to meetings, conferences in their respective countries (IAC led effort) – STATUS: IAC leadership completed review of the process and provided recommendation. Staff is developing a strategic marketing / communication plan slated to launch early 1Q (includes new landing page on aiha.org, recognition of current ambassadors, volunteer opportunities, etc.)
3. Leverage AIHA’s involvement in the Center for Safety and Health Sustainability (CSHS) by promoting AIHA’s mission where appropriate – STATUS: AIHA’s Leading Health Metrics task force will publish new guidance document that is designed to inform the new ASSP Z16 safety & health metrics standard. The following item remains ‘pending’ -- CSHS Board is to vote on proposed changes as to how CSHS is managed in 2020 and beyond (would involve “unwinding” the 501c3, eliminating Board, but retaining the “brand” and directing limited resources to defined projects rather than supporting board travel/meetings).
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| **Strategy 2: Raise awareness among AIHA members globally of the importance of a global standard of care (addressing issues such as child labor, informal work force, lack of regulatory enforcement) and facilitate integration of basic prevention strategies into workplaces** |
| 1. Through direct AIHA member outreach (e.g., members traveling abroad to teach), reinforce the importance of basic prevention as a means of safeguarding worker health and safety – STATUS: Ongoing. Propose IAC develop new talking points guidance document for member use.
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| 1. Strive to influence activities with WHO, ILO, UN, World Bank through our IOHA affiliation – STATUS: AIHA assumes IOHA takes lead in identifying opportunities to present health & safety message. In May 2019 AIHA Board approved statement proposed by IOHA, ICOH, and IEA (with support by the UN) to ILO: “THE RECOGNITION OF SAFETY AND HEALTH AS A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE AND RIGHT AT WORK” (Statement was not adopted by ILO per se though efforts will continue).
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| **Strategy 3:** **Support development of new and improved regulations in developing economies** |
| 1. Continue to establish and strengthen relationships with IH/OH associations in targeted regions – STATUS: AIHA has been strong supporter of CIHA (India), and is now fostering closer relations with AMHI (Mexico), ABHO (Brazil), and ACHO and SCHO (Colombia).
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| 1. Through AIHA’s involvement with ISO standards, we help reinforce the importance of worker health within the international standard arena (e.g., ISO 45001 OHSMS) – STATUS: Through AIHA’s Standards Advisory Panel, we continue to identify opportunities for AIHA official representation – currently ISO 45001; exploring ISO 45003 Psycho-Social Health).
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