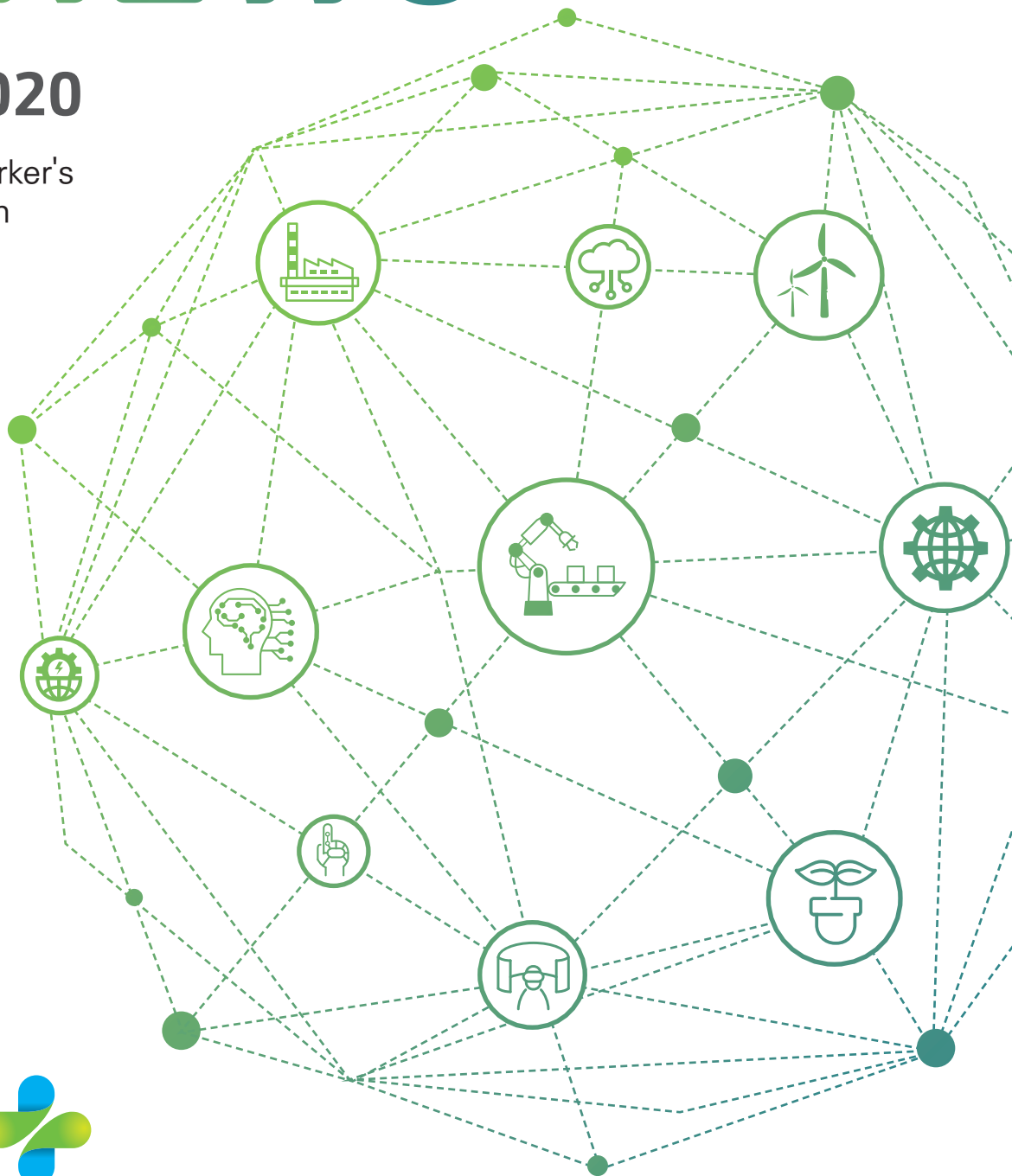


vol.  
105

# KOSHA NEWS

**June 2020**

Protecting Worker's  
Life and Health





# Contents

---

<b>News</b>	03 Advanced countries requesting information on ‘K-Quarantine’ best practices from the workplaces
	05 Design plan for Yeosu Safety Empirical Training Center, open in 2022
	07 KOSHA ensures safety for new recruits against COVID-19
	09 Management and labor union of KOSHA donates masks to migrant workers
	10 KOSHA & Seoul City to expand call center support
	12 Safety installation support for construction sites under 4.1 million USD

---

<b>OSHRI</b>	14 OSHRI publishes “Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report” providing an at-a-glance view of latest occupational safety and health issues
--------------	--

---

## Prevention measure for COVID-19

# Advanced countries requesting information on 'K-Quarantine' best practices from the workplaces

Data requests from 17 international accident prevention organizations including France



As Korea's sophisticated quarantine system against COVID-19 pandemic is increasingly recognized as best practice across the world, occupational safety and health organizations around the world are continuously making data requests on Korea's COVID-19 response at industrial sites.

++ Recently, 17 organizations from 13 countries have made their data requests, including the International Social Security Association (ISSA) under the International Labor Organization, as well as four organizations\* from Germany and France.

\* Four organizations which made data requests recently: △International Social Security Association (ISSA) △ German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), △ Social Security Prevention Institution in France (EUROGIP), △Ministry of Labor Vocational Training (MoLVT) in Cambodia

In the face of the spread of COVID-19, KOSHA has shared how Korean industrial sites responded to COVID-19 with relevant overseas organizations.

The provided data includes △ workplace Dos and Don'ts and checklist for infectious disease prevention △ prevention guidelines for workers △ types of masks and how to wear them △ booklets on COVID-19 response best practices by the Korean government and KOSHA, and △ social distancing recommendation video

++ Korea's quarantine best practices include information on how workplace should respond to a confirmed case, workplace quarantine checklist, and correct mask-wearing guidelines, etc.

- In addition, innovative-technologies-backed "3T Response (Test (Diagnosis), Trace (Epidemiology research), Treatment (Patient management))" as well as mask sales information disclosure using public data are also included.

---

KOSHA has made COVID-19 materials available at its English website (<http://kosha.or.kr/english>) to serve various other countries.

✚ ✚ In an effort to make the material more useful, KOSHA plans to produce it as card-type news clips and videos in the future and share them on its YouTube channel ([youtube.com/user/koshamovie](https://youtube.com/user/koshamovie)).

---

Doo-yong Park, President of KOSHA, said “the increasing number of data requests for Korea’s systematic quarantine system made by many countries reminds us that Korea is truly leading the quarantine front.” “We will try and further elevate Korea’s position in the international society on the safety and health area by continuing to discover and provide data in the field of occupational safety and health” President Park added.



# Design plan for Yeosu Safety Empirical Training Center, open in 2022

15,000 employees in petrochemical industries expected to attend the training annually



KOSHA completed a blueprint for its 7<sup>th</sup> Safety Empirical Training Center.

KOSHA finalized the design plan for Yeosu Safety Empirical Training Center to be established at the Samdong District, Jeollanam-do National Industrial Complex, and began engaging in preparatory works in earnest.

After hosting a public contest for the design of training facility in May of this year, KOSHA made a final decision with the design plan submitted by SUN Architects & Engineering out of six design plans submitted.

✚✚ The design plan selected was highly evaluated in terms of its harmony with the neighboring environment, including Yeosu Petrochemical Industrial Complex, and usability and spatial efficiency as a training center.

Yeosu Safety Empirical Training Center, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2022, is to offer training programs specialized in petrochemical industries and provide safety training for workers of the industrial complex.

✚✚ The Empirical Training Center is comprised of △ a petrochemical experience hall, △ a preventive culture experience hall and △ a virtual reality (VR) safety experience room, which will be in a structure of three stories above ground and one underground level at the 6,034㎡ land within the Samdong District of National Industrial Complex.

✚✚ The lobby at the first floor will offer an open space to serve as a rest area for workers of the industrial complex.

Currently, KOSHA operates its training centers at six different regions (Incheon, Honam region, Gyeongsangnam-do, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Chungcheong and Jecheon) across the country, where a total of 35,946 workers have taken the training for the past two years.

- ✚ ✚ Empirical training, consisting of safety facility experience training course and VR safety experience training course, will be provided for maximum four hours, targeting workers and general public.
  - The center will be open for free of charge with its business hours between 9 am and 6 pm on weekdays, and prior reservations are required through the safety & health training portal ([www.koshats.or.kr](http://www.koshats.or.kr)).
  - Business owners will be allowed to calculate the hours of annual regular training by recognizing the training hours of their employees who complete this training program as twice as long.
  - The training program has been temporarily suspended since February 4<sup>th</sup> due to the prolonged pandemic, and all matters related to future operation will be notified through the safety & health training portal.

A staff of KOSHA said, “We have high expectation that Yeosu Safety Experience Training Center will make immense contributions to meeting the demands for safety experience training as well as preventing occupational fatal accidents in the petrochemical businesses.”



Winner from Design Contest for Yeosu Safety Experience Training Center (elevation drawing)

# KOSHA ensures safety for new recruits against COVID-19

“COVID-19 Safety Kit” given to all applicants



With group infections of COVID-19 that is increasingly spreading again in recent days, KOSHA implemented all necessary measures during its recruiting process of new employees.

As the written test was held on May 16<sup>th</sup>, KOSHA devoted all its strength to take countermeasures for preventing the infectious disease against proliferation.

++ KOSHA expanded the test sites to four locations in order to ensure “distancing among applicants,” and make all applicants maintain at least two meters between one and another.

++ Moreover, all 1,216 applicants were given a “COVID-19 Safety Kit” consisting of a quarantine mask, a hand sanitizer and a wet wipe.

“COVID-19 Management System” was also developed according to the situation of the test.

++ This management system was prepared based on the “Guidance on Test Quarantine Management for Prevention of COVID-19” implemented by the Central Disease Control Headquarters/Central Disaster Management Headquarters.

++ KOSHA appointed an “infection manager” at each test site according to the management system and assured for the “infection manager (medical doctor or nurse)” to engage in prompt management in the event where an applicant displays respiratory symptoms such as fever or cough.

– KOSHA also built an emergency contact network (hotline)\* with nearby medical institutions to respond immediately in cases where emergency situations ever arise.

\* Test sites at the KOSHA, City Halls, public health centers, fire stations and medical institutions (hospitals to transfer)



- ++ All applicants were required to access the test sites only after completing individual examinations and wearing a mask.

Meanwhile, the KOSHA planed to hold the written test in Seoul and Ulsan and subsequently select a total of 130 people, following the interview test.



“COVID-19 Safety Kit”  
provided by KOSHA





# Management and labor union of KOSHA donates masks to migrant workers

5,680 units of masks presented to Metropolitan Support Center for Foreign Workers



The management and labor union of KOSHA (President: Park Doo-yong, Chairman of Union: Lee Tae-hyeong), on May 5<sup>th</sup>, donated 5,680 units of masks for the purpose of protecting foreign workers, the vulnerable group against COVID-19.

- ✚ ✚ KOSHA collected a monetary donation of over 8,300 USD<sup>1)</sup> from voluntary participations made by the entire employees and purchased and presented health masks to the Support Center for Foreign Workers in Seoul metropolitan area.
- ✚ ✚ The masks donated will be distributed to foreign workers of the metropolitan area, including Seoul, Incheon and Uijeongbu, vulnerable to region-wide proliferation of COVID-19.

The management and labor union of KOSHA has also brought the Daegu region emergency supports with a monetary donation of 16,600 USD, 240 sets of personal protective devices (Level D Kit) and 3,400 units of impermeable protective clothing last March.

- ✚ ✚ KOSHA actively takes part in efforts in overcoming the crisis by offering the fund to improve the working environment aiming at preventing infections at the call centers in company with Seoul Metropolitan Government.

A staff of KOSHA stated, “We sincerely hope the latest donation of masks can contribute to preventing infectious diseases of migrant workers. We will continue to make utmost efforts and offer supports to workers from vulnerable groups.”

1) To help readers understand easier, the unit KRW was converted to approximate USD

# KOSHA & Seoul City to expand call center support

Covering up to 90% of environment improvement expenses against infectious diseases



KOSHA and The Seoul Metropolitan Government (“Seoul City”) decided to draw up an emergency budget to expand the support, covering up to 90% of the expenses for infectious diseases prevention at call centers with less than 50 people.

++ This budget was allocated as an urgent measure against infectious diseases by supporting a maximum of 20.7 thousand USD in expenses for △installation of temporary partitions △purchase of air purifiers and non-contact thermometers △purchase of masks and hand sanitizers.

– KOSHA would provide 70% of the cost and Seoul City would support 20%, leaving the employer to cover only 10% of the total cost.

Ex) Total expenses incurred (100%) = KOSHA (70%) + Seoul City (20%) + Employer (10%)

The decision to expand the support is expected to dramatically reduce the burden on business owners as Seoul City would cover an additional 20% on top of what KOSHA has been supporting since March (70%).

++ Seoul City’s additional support can be retroactively applied.

The eligibility for this support is limited to mid/small-scale call centers with less than 50 full-time workers.

++ Eligible companies can make their application to KOSHA at 1544-3088 and the Seoul Labor Center at 02-376-0001 to which Seoul City consigns the task.

KOSHA has been making efforts to improve the safety and health environment of local working sites; KOSHA has worked with Seoul City to provide financial support for working environment improvement for manufacturing sites with less than 50 workers.

“We look forward to contributing to the protection of the call center workers from COVID 19 pandemic in cooperation with Seoul City. Going forward, KOSHA will continue further improving safety and health environment to prevent infectious diseases and protect the health of workers” said Doo-yong Park, President of KOSHA.



# Safety installation support for construction sites under 4.1 million USD

Up to \$ 16.5 thousand per business site, 3 sites per year for the same business owner



KOSHA will provide financial support to the rental of system scaffolding and the purchase of safety net to prevent fall accidents at small construction projects worth below 4.1 million USD.

This program is designed to prevent fall accidents at small construction projects worth below 4.1 million USD, which account for 65.8% of the total fatalities by accident in construction sites. The program is expected to provide the following:

- ✚ ✚ For installation of system scaffolding, up to 16.5 thousand USD will be provided depending on installation area.
- ✚ ✚ For purchasing of safety net, 65% of the expenses will be supported where construction project size is less than 250 thousand USD, 60% where it is from 250 thousand to less than 1.65 million USD, and 50% where it is from 1.65 million USD to less than 4.1 million USD.
- ✚ ✚ Business owners can receive up to 20 million won per construction site to install fall accident prevention facilities, and if the business owner operates multiple sites, up to three sites can receive support per year.
- ✚ ✚ Construction projects worth less than 4.1 million USD are eligible for the program and a total of 46 million USD will be supported.

For 6 years from 2013 to 2018, workplaces that received KOSHA's supports had an accident rate of 2.74%, which is 0.31 percentage points lower than that of the unsupported (3.05%). Therefore, the following decisions have been made:

- ✚ ✚ 46 million USD has been allocated for this years budget, which has increased by 19 million USD (72.3%) from 27 million USD last year.

- ✚✚ In addition, the eligibility has been expanded from only general contractors, which are original contractors, to specialized contractors, which are partners\*.

\* Partners (companies) are limited to those that have dual licenses for rebar/concrete construction and scaffolding/structural dismantling construction.

Application for the construction site safety installation support can be done by visiting a local branch of KOSHA or at Clean Project website ([clean.kosha.or.kr](http://clean.kosha.or.kr)). For more information, please contact 1544-3088 (direct line).

According to the November 2019 industrial accident statistics, 404 people died by accident in the construction industry, of which 266 took place in small-scale sites with project size worth less than 4.1 million USD, accounting for more than half (65.8%) of all construction industry related deaths.

► 2019 fatalities caused by accident – in the construction industry by project size

Category	Total	below 4.1 million USD	4.1 million USD~ 41 million USD	41 million USD~ 124 million USD	124 million USD or above	no category found
No. of deaths by accident	404	266	77	33	22	6
%	100%	65.8%	19.1%	8.2%	5.4%	1.5%

- ✚✚ Among them, 183 deaths (68.7%) took place in small construction projects worth less than 4.1 million USD.

President Doo-yong Park of KOSHA said, “small construction projects have relatively smaller financial means, so it is difficult for them to properly manage safety” and hoped, “the financial support program could contribute to the actual prevention of fall accidents, thereby securing the safety of construction sites and saving the precious lives of the workers.”

# OSHRI publishes “Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report” providing an at-a-glance view of latest occupational safety and health issues

The report includes 6 studies on public perception on Industrial Safety & Health Act, COVID-19 workplace response, etc.



The Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute (OSHRI: Director General Jae-cheol Ko) published “Occupational safety & health issue report” to provide the latest issues related to workplace safety and workers’ health and to help develop related policies.

✚✚ The latest edition of “Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report” includes six studies on four topics including △ sentencing guidelines of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which has become an issue following the fire accident in the Icheon Logistics Warehouse, △ COVID-19 at industrial sites, △ management system for chemical substances, and △ working environment (work-life balance).

Among six studies, “the issues and implications of stronger punishment against employers violating the Occupational Safety and Health Act” is particularly notable; it presents the results of the public survey\* on 1,000 citizens regarding the sentencing standards that took effect in 2019.

\* Survey detail: Conducted on August 5–15, 2019 (10 days), online panel survey was conducted based on samples extracted proportionally by gender, region, and age. Sampling confidence level of 95% (±3.1%p)

✚✚ The survey found that regarding the recommended sentencing criteria for employers who violated safety and health obligations and thereby caused a death of a worker, 58.9% of the respondents answered that ‘6 months to 1.5 years of imprisonment’ was not appropriate enough, and 91.7% said that the sentencing standard should become stricter.

– Meanwhile, the report also includes a safety and health study on COVID-19 responses at industrial sites.

✚✚ The study titled ‘how can we protect workers from COVID-19 disease-control and disinfecting chemicals?’ summarizes the risks of mixing disinfectants and introduces how to use substance safety and health information and how important it is to wear PPEs.

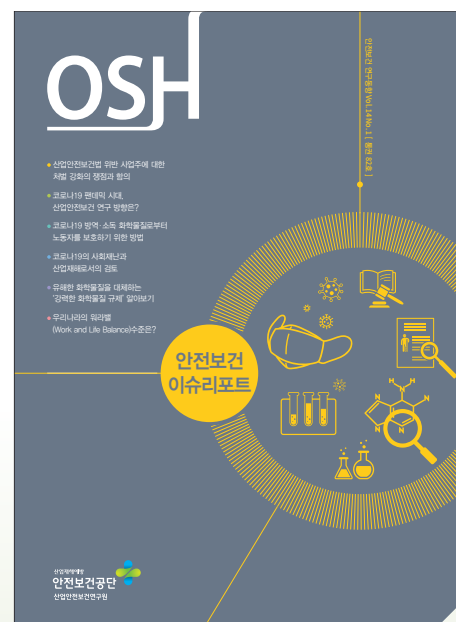
- This report also includes a study on where Korea stands in terms of work-life balance by comparing Korea's chemical substance regulations and working environment with Europe.

The Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report was first published in September 2007, and has been published on a bi-annual basis.

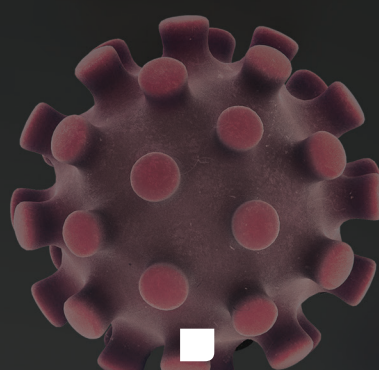
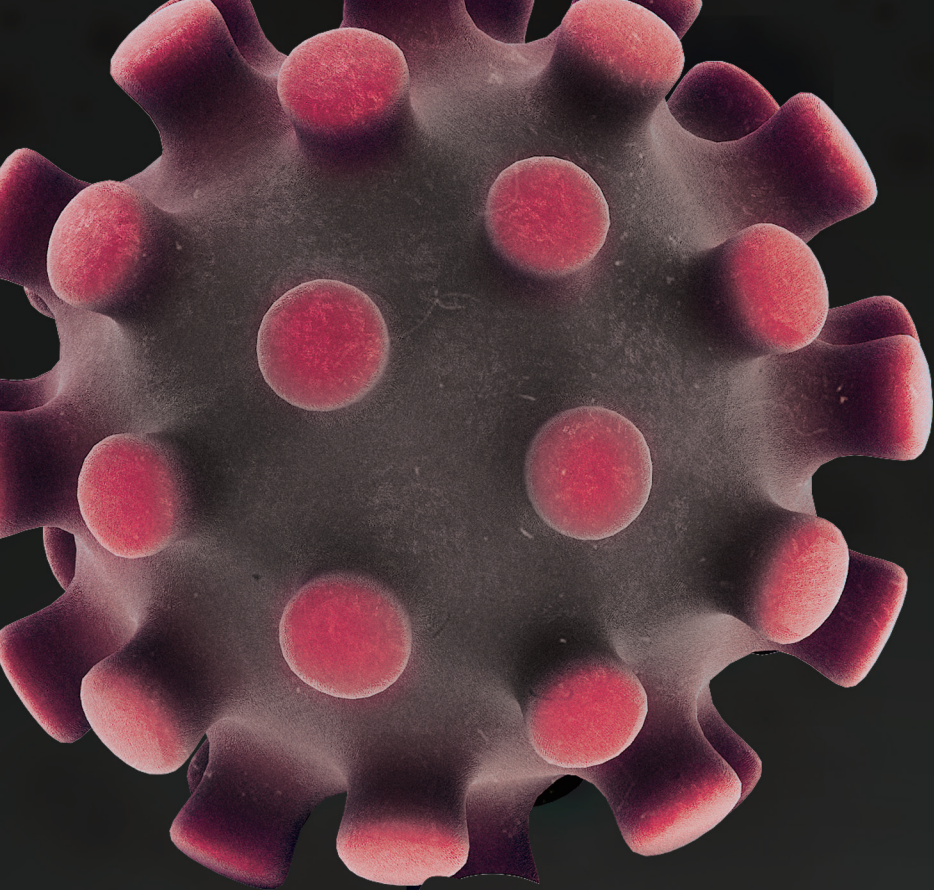
- ✚ ✚ All reports can be downloaded from OSHRI website\* for free and can be used freely for non-commercial use upon disclosing the source.

\* OSHRI website (<http://kosha.or.kr/oshri>) → Research → Occupational Safety & Health Issue Reports

"We hope that the Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report can contribute to the reduction of occupational accidents by presenting the latest issues and policy directions on occupational safety and health," said Jae-cheol Ko, Director General of OSHRI. "We are going to further commit ourselves to focusing on research for the safety and health of all workers in the future" Director General Ko added.

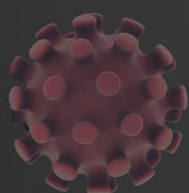




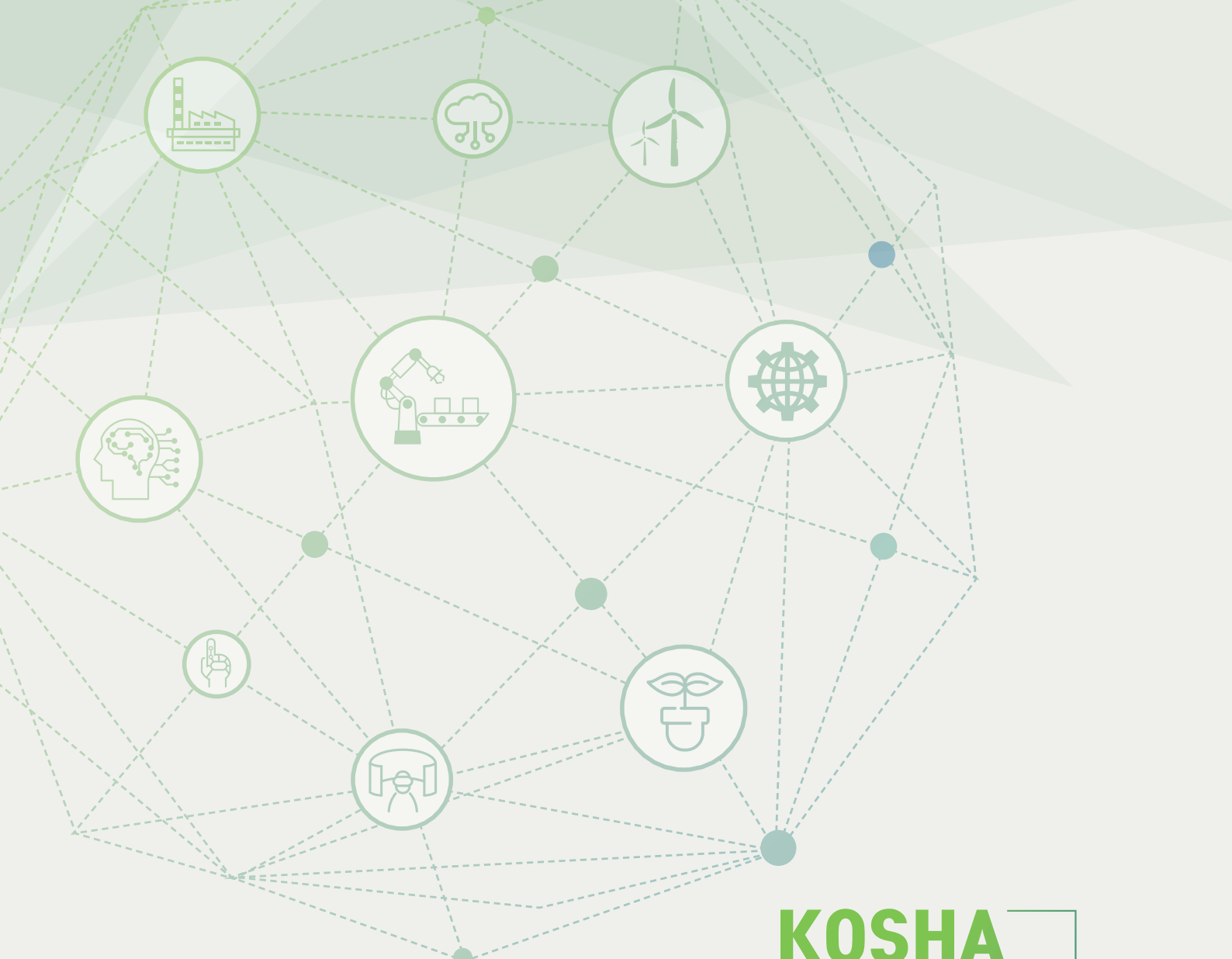


# Coronavirus Disease 2019

Prevention measures for COVID-19



Resources >



# KOSHA NEWS

Protecting Worker's Life and Health



## Published by

Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency  
400 Jongga-ro, Jung-gu, Ulsan,  
44429 Republic of Korea

**Tel.** +82 52 7030 745

**Fax.** +82 52 7030 326

**E-mail.** [overseas@kosha.or.kr](mailto:overseas@kosha.or.kr)

**Web(Kr).** [www.kosha.or.kr](http://www.kosha.or.kr)

**Web(En).** <https://www.kosha.or.kr/english/index.do>

Copyright © 2020 by KOSHA For right of reproduction or translation, application should be made to the International Cooperation Center, Korea Occupational Safety and Health Agency.