



International
Labour
Organization

SAFETY
+
HEALTH
FOR ALL

- 
- A worker in a white lab coat, hairnet, and safety glasses is working on a production line. The worker is wearing a white lab coat with 'A. Giffle' embroidered on it. They are wearing a white hairnet, safety glasses, and a white face mask. They are working on a production line with many small, colorful packages. The background shows a factory setting with shelves and equipment.
- ▶ Partnering
with the private sector
for safer, healthier workplaces

The International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Safety + Health for All is a global programme that promotes the fundamental right to a safe and healthy working environment. It provides technical assistance to ILO members States to support governments to strengthen national occupational safety and health (OSH) frameworks and improve OSH management in workplaces, with a particular focus on those sectors and workers most at need.

The programme works across:

- ▶ High-risk sectors like construction, agriculture and shipbreaking
- ▶ Groups of workers in vulnerable conditions, such as women, youth, and migrant workers
- ▶ Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- ▶ Supply chains

Since its launch in 2016, the programme has improved working conditions for over **212 million workers in 33 countries**, helping to prevent work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths, and promoting sustainable development through safe and healthy jobs.

An integrated approach to business partnership

The ILO's Safety + Health for All programme recognizes that today's global safety and health challenges require systemic, collaborative solutions. The programme thus:

- ▶ Collaborates with multinational enterprises (MNEs) and local suppliers
- ▶ Builds public-private partnerships (PPPs) that combine funding, expertise, and innovation
- ▶ Strengthens social dialogue between employers and workers
- ▶ Leverages the ILO's tripartite structure, connecting businesses and their representatives with governments and trade unions

The Programme's Vision Zero Fund initiative has actively contributed to this effort by developing a private sector engagement guidance note, outlining its value proposition, partnership modalities, and the steps companies should follow to formalize collaboration.

"It is important to have social dialogue that looks at OSH and also at issues linked to productivity and competitiveness"

– **Matthias Thorns, Deputy Secretary General, International Employers' Organization (IOE)**

Safety and health is smart, responsible business, not just compliance

While the upfront costs such as training, equipment upgrades, and workplace redesign can be immediate and visible, the long-term returns often far outweigh them. Improved safety and health measures lead to fewer workplace accidents and illnesses, directly reducing costs linked to absenteeism, medical care, legal liabilities, insurance, and production disruptions. It also minimizes indirect losses, such as downtime, reputational damage, staff turnover, and missed contract deadlines.

Beyond cost savings, strong OSH systems enhance business performance. Safer, healthier workplaces boost productivity, morale, and employee retention while reinforcing the company's image as a responsible employer. This can be a powerful draw for both top talent and ethically minded customers. Furthermore, OSH management often overlaps with environmental and consumer safety measures generating broader value across the business. In short, investing in OSH is not just about avoiding risks, it's about building a stronger, more sustainable, and competitive enterprise.

About the ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the United Nations agency for the world of work. It was founded on the conviction that universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based on social justice. The ILO brings together governments, employers and workers from its 187 member states in a human-centred approach to the future of work based on decent employment creation, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue.

The ILO's tripartite membership drafts, adopts and monitors the implementation of international labour standards on key world of work issues. The ILO manages a wide range of development cooperation projects in all regions of the world. Realized in partnership with donor countries and organizations, these projects aim to create the conditions for delivery of the ILO decent work agenda.

Business in action – safer and healthier workers worldwide

Safety and Health for All partners include Eni S.p.A., Nestlé, Nike, Siemens, and The Walt Disney Company, who help to drive transformation at the workplace level and within their supply chains.

► Eni S.p.A. – Strengthening safety and health at work for small farmers in Africa

In Kenya and Côte d'Ivoire, the ILO and Eni have launched a [pioneering initiative](#) to strengthen safety and health protection in agri-industrial value chains. Initially targeting castor and rubber farmers, the partnership aims to improve working conditions, reduce risks, and extend social protection to vulnerable rural workers. This successful collaboration is about to be extended to more countries in Africa, expanding its impact across the continent.

The initiative focuses on assessments and improvements across the supply chain, training for government institutions, social partners, farm owners, workers, and cooperatives, risk prevention and mitigation measures, and health protection coverage through awareness and policy dialogue.

“We are glad to partner with ILO on these key projects in Kenya and Côte d'Ivoire, which are generating a positive impact on the entire value chain, promoting socio-economic and environmental sustainability.”

– Luigi Ciarrocchi, CCUS, Forestry and Agri-Feedstock Director, Eni S.p.A.



Assessment Consultations – Côte d'Ivoire, 2025 © ILO

► Nestlé – Promoting safety and health at work in coffee farming

In partnership with Nestlé, the ILO helps farmers in Vietnam and Indonesia to adopt safer, more productive practices through targeted training and practical tools.

“This programme reflects our care for the well-being of coffee farmers and our commitment to human rights.”

– **Sufintri Rahayu**, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability Director, PT Nestlé Indonesia

In Viet Nam’s coffee-growing highlands, smallholder farmers like Van Thi My Dung and her husband, Do Ngoc Anh, are seeing tangible changes. For years, the couple cultivated their 10-hectare farm through long hours of strenuous labour, carrying heavy loads on steep terrain and working without modern safety equipment. But since participating in safety and health training through the ILO-Nestlé partnership, their farming methods have improved dramatically.

Dung and Ngoc Anh are not only applying what they’ve learned on their own farm, modifying tools for better ergonomics, labelling storage areas, and implementing low-cost safety measures, but also sharing their knowledge with neighbours. Using ILO’s training materials, they’ve hosted mini sessions to promote a culture of safety and dignity in coffee farming.

“After joining the training programme by the ILO and Nestlé, I’ve become much more aware of the risks in our daily work. By making simple changes like putting guards on machines or using reflective stickers we’ve made our farm safer. And we’re helping others do the same.”

– **Do Ngoc Anh**, Coffee farmer, Buon Ma Thuot, Viet Nam

In Viet Nam, Nestlé-supported interventions have trained 15,819 farmers, 37% of them women, through 902 training sessions. These trainings contributed to **1,627 OSH** improvement measures across 451 coffee farms.



► Nike – Safer commutes for garment workers

Nike and the ILO are addressing an often-overlooked safety and health risk: commuting accidents. Many garment and footwear workers suffer injuries during long and dangerous commutes.

The [partnership](#) developed tools to support factory workers and employers in jointly assessing and addressing commuting safety risks. To facilitate effective implementation, training was provided to over 1,300 participants, primarily Cambodia, Egypt, and Viet Nam.

“This collaboration helps our suppliers become leaders in health and safety across the extended supply chain and beyond.”

– **Sittichoke Huckuntod**,
Director for Health and Safety, Nike



Worker commuting on his motorbike in Cambodia © ILO

► Siemens – Advancing safety and health at work in Egypt’s construction sector

In Egypt, Siemens is supporting the ILO to improve safety and health at work in the fast-growing construction sector, a high-risk industry employing large numbers of young and migrant workers. This [collaboration](#) supports the development of safer, more inclusive job sites through a multi-level approach.

Key actions include capacity building for safety professionals, site managers, and workers, integration of safety standards into large-scale infrastructure projects, awareness campaigns on rights, responsibilities, and risk prevention, and strengthening national safety systems in alignment with international labour standards.

“In many countries it is challenging to create a safe work environment not only for its own employees but also for all our partners, like thousands of contractors. These challenges are shared with other MNEs. Instead of companies working in isolation to improve OSH, it makes sense to team up.”

– **Ralf Franke**, Global Head of
environment, health and safety, Siemens



Workers on a construction site in Egypt, 2008 © ILO

▶ Walt Disney & USCIB foundation – Empowering youth for safer workplaces in South-East Asia

Funded by The Walt Disney Company through the USCIB Foundation, this [initiative](#) developed and pilot-tested tools and strategies to raise awareness and generate public demand for stronger national OSH systems in Southeast Asia. A key outcome was the [Youth4OSH web](#)

[portal](#), established as a regional platform for sharing OSH-related resources and promoting youth engagement. The portal also hosts an e-learning tool, which remains active five years after the project's conclusion, continuing to support OSH education in the region.



Worker in a lighting shop in the Philippines, 20215 © Maxime Fossat/ILO

“The [Portal] is an excellent complement to our OSH programmes because it can facilitate the learning and involvement of youth in the OSH advocacy. [Its] resources will help us connect with each other in ways that can enable them to develop new strategies and content in sharing knowledge and experiences on OSH.”

– **Honourable Secretary
Silvestre
Bello III** of the Department
of Labor and Employment
(DOLE)

Why partner with Safety + Health for All?

▶ Align with International Labour Standards

In 2022, a safe and healthy working environment was recognized by the ILO as a Fundamental Principle and Right at Work (FPRW), requiring all companies to respect the principles elaborated in the fundamental conventions. Partnering with the Safety + Health for All Programme can contribute to the promotion and realization of this human right.

This also includes embedding OSH into due diligence processes, integrating it into internal grievance mechanisms, and reporting on how OSH-related risks are identified, mitigated, and addressed.

▶ Prepare for a new generation of trade expectations

Safety and health at work is increasingly embedded in the labour provisions of trade agreements and preferential trade schemes. Partnership with the ILO enables businesses to stay ahead of these expectations and strengthen supply chain resilience.

▶ Leverage global expertise

Tap into ILO's deep technical knowledge in occupational safety and health. Benefit from state-of-the-art training, global knowledge-sharing, country-level implementation tools, and public policy insights.

“Safety and health at work is not just a compliance issue, it is a recognized human right, a business imperative, and a foundation for sustainable development. Through Safety + Health for All, companies have a chance to lead where it matters most.”

Joaquim Pintado Nunes, Chief, Occupational Safety and Health and Working Environment Branch, ILO

▶ Boost environmental, social, and governance performance and productivity

Safer and healthier workplaces reduce absenteeism, increase productivity, improve morale, and lower turnover contributing directly to supply chain continuity and sustainable business growth.

▶ Promote a human-centred approach

Place workers' health, rights, and well-being at the heart of business operations contributing to more inclusive, and sustainable workplaces in line with global expectations for responsible business.

The way forward

Whether through funding, research, innovation, or campaign partnerships, your business can contribute to transformational change in workplace safety and health, with visible, measurable results.



Cambodian garment worker during her break @ Cesar Abraham Lopez Balan/ILO



Get involved

Let's build a world where every worker is safe and healthy.

Contact: oshe@ilo.org

Learn more: Safety + Health for All
International Labour Organization

Cover page: Worker in a food processing facility in the Philippines, 2015 © Maxime Fossat/ILO



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