



International
Labour
Organization

ILO Training package on the Code of practice on

Safety and health in construction

► Strengthening safety and health in construction

Construction remains one of the sectors most exposed to occupational risks. Enhancing occupational safety and health through information, instruction, and training is essential to protect workers and promote sustainable development.



The construction sector is of strategic importance to many ILO Member States, particularly due to its **job creation potential** and strong linkages with other **economic sectors**.

► Construction sector:

● employs
280+
million workers
(8% of global
employment)



● rapidly
evolving due
to technology
and climate change



● high job creation
potential, strong
intersectoral links



● key to infrastructure
and housing



● faces
persistent
decent work
deficits



At the same time, construction remains one of the sectors which experiences **high risk to occupational accidents and diseases**. As such, **it is crucial to enhance occupational safety and health (OSH)** prevention measures through competence, information, instruction and training.

Why is it important to promote OSH in construction?

- The construction sector is labour-intensive and, by its nature, physically demanding. Workers **are exposed to multiple hazards** which can cause, as short- and long-term consequences, occupational injuries, diseases and deaths.
- There is an urgent need to **promote health and safety in this sector**, especially in developing countries.

Investing in the promotion of a preventive safety and health culture in the construction sector is key. Protection of workers against sickness, disease and injury and promotion of their well-being supports business sustainability. Good practices show that managing OSH from the construction project design to its completion ensures quality and on-schedule results.

This training package is based on the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Construction. It is particularly relevant to promote the implementation of this sectoral code at the national level and to advance the right to a safe and healthy working environment in the construction sector.

The ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Construction

This sectoral code of practice aims to provide guidance to promote a safe and healthy working environment throughout the construction project life cycle. It was discussed at a tripartite sectoral meeting of experts in February 2022 and formally adopted by the ILO in October 2022. The code builds on the Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167), its Recommendation (No. 175), and other codes. It provides practical guidance for governments, employers and workers and their representatives to eliminate, reduce, and control all major hazards, advancing the right to a safe and healthy working environment, part of the ILO's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work since June 2022.



The training package provides a flexible and comprehensive resource for trainers who want to offer training programs and events aimed at promoting safety and health in the construction sector.



It is designed for all those involved in construction projects, including, among others, employers, workers and their representatives, as well as clients, design and project management teams, and labour inspectors.

What does the training package contain?

The training package consists of ten modules, structured in line with the ILO Code of Practice, enabling trainers to adapt it to different national contexts.

Each of the ten modules provides core educational content, guidance, interactive activities, and practical examples. The package also features an instructor's manual outlining how to use the material and deliver the training effectively.

This modular structure makes it suitable for a wide range of training settings and delivery methods. It can be customized to address the specific needs of ILO tripartite constituents and other stakeholders across the construction sector, ensuring both relevance and practical application tailored to diverse country contexts. Feedback from the global OSH training community is welcomed.

► Delivering the training package:

- Module 1 **Introduction and General Provisions**
- Module 2 **Training, reporting and the PPE**
- Module 3 **Worker welfare and workplace safety**
- Module 4 **Health Hazards and Emergency Preparedness**
- Module 5 **Scaffolding and ladders and lifting equipment**
- Module 6 **Machinery, Equipment, and Transport**
- Module 7 **Work at Heights, Excavations, and Confined Spaces**
- Module 8 **Structural Frames, Concrete Work, Pile-Driving, Work-Over-Water and Demolition**
- Module 9 **Electricity, Explosives, and Emergencies**
- Module 10 **Emergencies, climate change and a just transition**



How to access the training package?

The training package is made freely available in the public domain by the ILO.

Since the files are not suitable for direct download, interested users can request access by completing an application form. The completed form should then be submitted electronically to the Sectoral Policies Department, at the following email address: sector@ilo.org

