



International
Labour
Organization

ILO Training package on the Code of practice on

Safety and health in forestry work

Strengthening safety and health in forestry work



Decent work is fundamental to ensuring sustainable and productive forestry operations that are environmentally friendly, safe for those working in them, and benefit the millions of people, many of whom are indigenous and tribal peoples, who depend on forests for their livelihoods, food and shelter.

► Forestry sector:

● employs around
33
million people



● high job creation
and key to many
rural economies



● structural changes
driven by the
green transition



● faces persistent
decent work
deficits



Despite the sector's potential to promote growth and employment, a number of decent work deficits persist, particularly in relation to occupational safety and health (OSH). As such, it is crucial to enhance OSH prevention measures through competence, information, instruction and training.

Why is it important to promote OSH in forestry?

- Forest work has high OSH risks due to its outdoor nature, isolation, uneven terrain, and exposure to harsh climatic conditions.
- 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 forestry work is key. Protection of workers against sickness, disease and injury and promotion of their well-being support business sustainability.

This training package is based on the ILO Code of practice on safety and health in forestry work. 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 forestry.

The ILO Code of practice on safety and health in forestry work

This sectoral Code of practice aims to provide guidance to promote a safe and healthy working environment in the forestry sector. It was discussed at a tripartite sectoral meeting of experts in May 2024 and formally adopted by the ILO in November 2024. The Code builds on the fundamental Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187), as well as 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 forestry work.



It is designed for all those involved in forestry work, including, among others, employers, workers and their representatives, and labour inspectors.

What does the training package contain?

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

Each of the eight 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 forestry 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 **Safety and health management, reporting and training**
- Module 3 **Safe equipment, tools and PPE**
- Module 4 **Worker welfare, health and labour protection**
- Module 5 **Planning and organization of forestry work**
- Module 6 **Silviculture safety**
- Module 7 **Harvesting safety**
- Module 8 **Fire management**

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

