



OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

THE PREVENTION OF WORK-RELATED DISEASES

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TURIN, ITALY

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization





Learn from ILO standards and global best practices to prevent occupational diseases where it matters most—at the workplace.



INTRODUCTION

According to the global estimates published by the International Labour Organization (ILO), 2.78 million workers lose their lives each year in work-related accidents and diseases, of which 2.4 million due to work-related diseases alone, a number that far exceeds the number of fatal occupational accidents. These estimates also show that more than 160 million workers become ill each year due to risks at work. In addition to this human and social tragedy, it is estimated that economic losses due to poor working conditions and occupational accidents and diseases contribute to the loss of more than 4% of the Gross Domestic Product worldwide. The enormous human suffering and the social and economic costs of occupational diseases should justify more decisive actions to ensure the health of workers. However, in many countries, the lack of consideration of the occupational origin of many of these diseases or the lack of adequate registration and notification systems for occupational diseases makes it even more difficult to show the true dimension of the problem.

Although the International Labour Standards of the ILO and the national legislation of most countries establish responsibilities regarding this problem, frequently the lack of knowledge, information resources and technical means result in very poor performance both at the company level as well as at the national level in a large part of the countries. However, the successful experience of some countries and many companies shows that it is possible to take actions that limit the magnitude of the problem.

Preventing the occurrence of occupational diseases requires knowing and anticipating the health hazards to the workers that may arise from the work processes, operations and equipment in a company, in order to eliminate these hazards or plan other appropriate interventions to control risks to the health. This means taking proactive actions to identify the presence of chemical, physical and biological agents, as well as ergonomic and psychosocial hazards that may affect the health and well-being of workers. It also means evaluating the exposure of workers to these agents and hazards, as well as the effects, they may have on health to determine how to control these health risks.

The ILO International Training Centre, in collaboration with the ILO programme that promotes Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), organizes this course in Turin to familiarize participants with the main hazards that generate work-related diseases, risk assessment methods and specific control measures, as well as guidelines, tools and methods from both the ILO and selected countries and organizations on how to prevent work-related diseases at the enterprise level.

PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

The course is aimed at:

- OSH inspectors in charge to supervise and advice enterprises on OSH;
- Representatives of workers' organizations and employers' organizations involved in OSH issues;
- Health professionals at work from companies or public or private organizations that advise companies on OSH;
- Political decision-makers, technical officials, and advisors of the government institutions in charge of planning and governing OSH at the national level.

The programme may also be of interest to other people, such as researchers, or trainers in the field of public health and workers' health.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this programme is to strengthen the capacity to identify, evaluate and prevent risk factors for occupational diseases in the enterprises. At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Describe the ILO standards, principles and guidelines to ensure the health of workers in the company.
- Describe the most important risk factors in the generation of occupational diseases as well as the most common methods for their identification and evaluation.
- Analyse the OSH management system for the prevention of occupational diseases in an enterprise and propose corrective measures for its optimization.
- Transfer knowledge about the health management of workers in the company in an orderly and systematized manner.

LANGUAGE

English

CONTENTS

- Management of workers' health.
- The ILO experience on Occupational Safety and Health.
- The ILO list of occupational diseases.
- Noise and vibrations.
- Thermal environment and lighting.
- Ionizing and non-ionizing radiation.
- Chemicals in the workplace. Identification, evaluation and prevention measures.
- Exposure to biological hazards and infectious diseases.
- Musculoskeletal risks, evaluation methods and preventive measures.
- Psychosocial risks, evaluation methods and preventive measures.
- Monitoring the health of workers.
- Recording and notification systems of occupational diseases.
- The experiences of the participating countries.
- Visit to a company.

METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

The methodology will be centred on the participants and the learning process, with the support of a coordinator. During the course, presentations given by experts on the different topics will be followed by discussion, group work and practical exercises and other active methods. This will allow participants to formulate relevant conclusions for the application of the concepts studied within the scope of their respective organizations of origin or within the scope of the exercise of their functions. There will also be a study visit to a company to learn about a practical application of risk prevention strategies for occupational diseases.

During the program, teaching materials and specific documentation will be distributed to the participants, as well as bibliographic and reference material in relation to the contents and themes of the course that allow both the monitoring of the presentations and the expansion of knowledge on the topics presented.

A permanent monitoring of the learning process will be conducted throughout the training by the coordinator. An end-of- course questionnaire course will be carried out in order to know the interest and usefulness of the different topics and activities developed during the course, as well as the presentations, materials and teaching aids used and, above all, the achievement of the proposed objectives.

PARTICIPATION COSTS AND APPLICATIONS

The cost of participation, excluding international air travel, is **4,315 Euros**, payable in advance by the participant or his or her sponsoring organization. This covers tuition fees (2,695 Euros); the use of training facilities and support services; training materials and books; accommodation and full board at the Centre's campus; and emergency medical care and insurance (1,620 Euros).

Applications to participate in the workshop should be done online on the following webpage <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/STF/A9019075/en> no later than **10 April 2026**.

The filled-in application form should be accompanied by a signed written communication of commitment from the sponsoring institution indicating how the participant will be financed. After the deadline for applications, the workshop and the selected candidates will be confirmed and the instructions for logistics, travel, visas as well as for the advanced payment, will be provided.

The payment, cancellation and refunds policy of the ITCILO can be consulted on the following website: <https://www.itcilo.org/applications-payments-cancellation>

The workshop will not take place with fewer than 12 participants.

CAMPUS LIFE

A THRIVING UNITED NATIONS CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

- **Three organizations** from the United Nations system on campus
- **More than 300 training courses** and activities in a stimulating international environment
- **Thousands of participants** from all over the world

ENVIRONMENT AND SURROUNDINGS

Grab a campus bicycle and explore the Turin Centre. Located in a leafy park on the banks of the Po River, it's a great place for study and collaboration. Experience innovative learning and training methods in modern classrooms equipped with simultaneous translation services.

HOUSING, DINING, AND MORE

Comprising more than 280 private dormitories, the **Turin Campus** provides a broad range of services for course participants and partners including a free-flow restaurant, travel agency, laundromat, post office, gym, medical services and a reception desk open 24/7.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DIVERSITY

Participants can enjoy social events organized by the **Turin Centre** as well as by their course facilitators. Whether on or off campus, people from different cultural backgrounds have the opportunity to listen to live music together, cook and share traditional foods, or team up to play games and network.

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

International Training Centre of the ILO
Programme on Social Protection,
Governance and Tripartism (SPGT)
Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10
10127 Turin – Italy

Mr. Félix Martín Daza
Tel.: +39 011 693 6576
Fax +39 011 639 1925
E-mail: OSH-SPGT@itcilo.org



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