



ONLINE

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF INSPECTION SYSTEMS OF LABOUR CONDITIONS ON BOARD FISHING VESSELS

3 NOVEMBER – 5 DECEMBER 2025

🕒 5 WEEKS, 5 HRS/WEEK

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization



International Training Centre

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The fisheries sector produces one of the world's most valued sources of food, yet fishing is also one of the most challenging and hazardous occupations.

Fishers' fatality and injury rates are much higher than the national averages for workers in many countries. Globally, fishing is ranked as one of the four most dangerous occupations in which to work, in terms of loss of life, serious injuries, and occupational diseases.

Working and living conditions are also particularly challenging. Compared to those working in other sectors, many fishers are poorly protected by national labour or maritime laws and are often vulnerable to labour exploitation.

The ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), adopted by governments, fishing vessels owners and fishers' organizations, makes it clear that decent working and living conditions on board fishing vessels shall become the rule.

The challenge for competent authorities in fishing and their inspectors is how to build (or extend) inspection services. The goal is to cover working and living conditions on board fishing vessels so that fishers have similar levels of labour protection to workers in industry, commerce and services.

The International Training Centre of the ILO (ITCILO), in collaboration with the International Labour Office, seeks accordingly to support the development of efficient inspection systems based on sound planning, management and cooperation amongst the parties involved.

WHO IS THE TARGET AUDIENCE?

- Flag State and Port State officials, directors, managers and inspectors of competent authorities responsible for regulating and inspecting labour conditions on board commercial fishing vessels and enforcing international labour standards for decent work in fishing.
- Trainers of inspectors.
- Representatives of fishing vessel owners' and fishers' organizations, as well as representatives of NGOs involved in the protection of fishers' rights can also benefit from the course.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN FROM THE COURSE?

- Understanding of the international framework regulating work in fishing and, in particular, of the scope and content of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188).
- Capacity to identify the challenges of effective and coordinated inspection systems.
- Ability to prioritize target vessels (as workplaces), vulnerable groups of fishers.
- Capacity to identify the labour issues to be inspected.
- Capability to develop policies, procedures and tools for inspecting labour conditions on fishing vessels.
- Ability to organize the resources of the inspection services.

- Capability to advise fishing vessel owners, skippers, and – in particular – fishers and workers' organizations as well as other relevant stakeholders on the best way to comply with the labour regulations and promote decent working and living conditions on fishing vessels.
- Knowledge of tools to promote decent working and living conditions in fishing.

WHAT TOPICS DOES THE COURSE COVER?

- The international regulatory framework for work in fishing: inspection and enforcement challenges; the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), with focus on definitions, scope of application and competent authorities.
- Planning and managing of inspection systems: risk analysis, strategic and inspection planning, coordination among agencies, establishing complaint procedures; reporting and data, role of Port States, training of inspectors.
- What is to be inspected: roles and responsibilities, valid documents, crew list, fisher's work agreement, manning, hours of rest, medical certificates and care, occupational safety and health, food and water, accommodation, payment of fishers, minimum age, recruitment and repatriation, complaint mechanisms.
- Promoting, respecting and realizing fundamental principles and rights at work in the fishing sector.
- Tools for mapping the fishing sector.

WHAT METHODS WILL BE USED?

- Interactive self-guided sessions, combined with live sessions via Zoom.
- Weekly multiple-choice quizzes.
- A discussion forum where to engage in conversations about specific topics.
- Knowledge assessment at the start and at the end of the training.

WHO ARE THE GUEST SPEAKERS IN THE WEBINARS?

- Experts from the International Labour Office.
- Specialists from leading fishing institutions.

WHAT IS THE LANGUAGE OF THE COURSE?

The course will be offered in English. A good command of the working language is required.

HOW MUCH DOES THE COURSE COST?

The total cost of participation is 1,080 Euros.

HOW TO PAY FOR THE COURSE?

Tuition costs must be paid in advance before the beginning of the course by the participant or the sponsor through bank transfer or credit card.

Payments by bank transfer should be made to:

International Training Centre of the ILO Account No. 560002

Bank: Intesa-Sanpaolo Ag. 523

IBAN: IT96 G030 6909 2141 0000 0560 002 BIC: BCITITMM

Address: Corso Unione Sovietica 409, 10135 Turin – Italy

Note: on the bank transfer form, the participant's name and the course code should be indicated.

For payments by credit card, please e-mail to ils@itcilo.org.

For detailed information regarding payments, cancellations and refunds, please consult:

<https://www.itcilo.org/applications-payments-cancellation>

HOW TO APPLY?

The deadline for submitting applications is **26 October 2025**.

Candidates must submit the following documents:

- on-line application form duly completed, available at: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/DST/A9718025/en>;
- a letter from the sponsor indicating the financial support (or a letter from the applicant stating that participation costs are covered by him/herself), to be uploaded while filling in the on-line application.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

As an Organization dedicated to promoting social justice and rights at work, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to foster gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women are particularly encouraged to apply to ITCILO courses.

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
International Labour Standards, Rights at Work and Gender Equality (ILSGEN)
Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10 - 10127 Turin – Italy

ils@itcilo.org

COURSE CODE: A9718025