



# Options for G20 Activities to Promote Safe and Healthy Workplaces for All

**International Labour Organization**

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## Introduction

In September 2014, the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers declared, “Improving workplace safety and health is an urgent priority that protects workers and contributes to increased productivity and growth. We agree to take further steps to reduce the substantial human and economic costs associated with unsafe workplaces and work-related illnesses. We endorse the attached G20 Statement on Safe and Healthy Workplaces (Annex C), and we commit, as appropriate, to implement its recommendations in collaboration with governments, international organisations and social partners.” Then in Brisbane in November the G20 Leaders declared that “Improving workplace safety and health is a priority.” They asked their Labour and Employment Ministers, supported by the new Employment Working Group (EWG), to report to them on this and other labour and employment commitments in 2015.

It is now the job of the EWG to translate the Leaders’ and Ministers’ commitments and request into practical actions. This effort can be guided by the detailed G20 Statement on Safer and Healthier Workplaces that was referenced above as Annex C and is attached as Annex 1 to this paper. It lists ten areas for action that cover a broad range of approaches that can improve occupational safety and health conditions (OSH) in workplaces in G20 countries and can also contribute to global improvements in OSH.

As requested by the Turkish Presidency, this paper sets out a range of options for concrete actions by the G20 to carry out the commitments of the Leaders and Ministers.

## Options for Action

### **A. Setting a collective or individual targets for G20 action**

An ambitious approach would be to agree on a collective G20 target for improvement of workplace occupational safety and health. This could take a number of forms. One possibility would be to agree to reduce workplace injuries and illnesses by a certain percent by a certain date. This would be similar to the Leaders’ commitment to reduce the gap in female labour force participation by 25% by 2025. In the case of OSH, such a commitment poses certain difficulties, although it would not be impossible. The difficulties are practical and theoretical. On a practical level, there is significant under-reporting of workplace injuries and illnesses in most countries and so the reference point and subsequent measures would involve some uncertainty. Nonetheless, trends and orders of magnitude could be identified. On a theoretical level, the goal would surely be to achieve full workplace health and safety, with no injuries or illnesses, the “zero” target. However in any endeavor, progress is gradual, not absolute and so the ultimate goal of zero injuries and illnesses would still be served by a commitment to reduce them from current levels. For example, a commitment to reduce workplace

injuries and illnesses by 25% by 2025 would save 3.8 million lives in G20 countries and prevent 49 million non-fatal accidents.<sup>1</sup>

Alternatively, the G20 could decide to set measurable targets for actions that are strongly connected to reductions in occupational fatalities, injuries and illnesses. G-20 countries' commitment to targets related to those actions would in essence be "proxies" for such reductions. Those actions could be drawn from the commitments already made by the G20 Labour and Employment Ministers in Annex C to their Declaration or could reflect additional actions as appropriate. For example, countries could commit to expand advisory services on prevention by X% by a certain date, or increase resources for compliance and enforcement efforts by X% a year for a certain number of years. These commitments could be common across the G20 or each country could set its own targets for actions which it identifies as priorities for attention and resources. This would allow for a differentiated approach which could be tailored to the existing challenges or deficiencies in each country context.

If agreement were reached by the G20 to set targets for common or country-specific actions, then a survey would be a logical first step to establish baselines from which such targets could be established. Following the baseline survey, the G20 EWG or individual countries would set the targets for future monitoring.

## **B. Monitoring OSH commitments**

G20 countries could agree to undertake annual or biennial monitoring and reporting about actions they have taken. The monitoring could cover:

- commitments related to OSH that countries have made in their Employment Plans
- actions they have taken under one or more of the ten country level or collective measures set out in Annex C of the Ministerial Declaration
- other actions that the G20 might agree to take after discussions in the EWG this year.

If there is an agreement to undertake monitoring, the ILO could be asked to develop a reporting template for consideration by the EWG.

The G20 EWG could also consider establishing a "scoreboard" of progress, in which countries would be asked to complete a checklist, which over time would indicate progress at the country level and for the G20 overall.

A sample template that illustrates the type of questions or issues that could be used for monitoring of OSH progress is presented in Annex 2.

## **C. Addressing the cost of occupational injuries and disease**

Various reports and studies have estimated the cost of occupational injuries and disease and who pays that cost. Depending on the country, the sources of data, what costs are included and how

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<sup>1</sup> The ILO provides global estimates of occupational injuries and work-related diseases based on the best sources available. These include 2010 occupational injury data from selected ILO member States and 2011 data from the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the global burden of disease, including occupational disease. The estimates fill reporting gaps caused by the limitations of national data collection systems in many countries.

costs are calculated the results vary, but some common patterns emerge. Below are two examples of estimates of how costs of occupational injuries and disease are distributed:

A recent study by the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration found that the cost of workplace injuries and diseases in the United States are borne primarily by injured workers, their families and taxpayer-supported components of the United States' social safety net.<sup>2</sup> The division of costs was found to be as follows:

- 50% out of pocket costs incurred by injured workers and their families
- 21% costs covered by Workers Compensation programs (employer costs)
- 16% covered by Federal/State programs
- 13% covered by private health insurance

Singapore estimates that the total cost of work-related injuries and ill health to workers, their employers and the Singaporean community is SGD 10.45 billion, equivalent to 3.2% of the nation's GDP for 2011.<sup>3</sup> The distribution of the costs was estimated to be:

- SGD 2.31 billion (22.1%) borne by employers
- SGD 5.28 billion (50.5%) borne by workers
- SGD 2.87 billion (27.4%) borne by the community.

European research also found that most of the costs due to occupational accidents and ill-health are borne by workers, government and the society rather than employers.<sup>4</sup> The proportions depend on various factors, including the way accident insurance systems are financed and how premiums or contributions are set, but much of the burden of after care and lost productive potential is carried by individuals and government.

Other studies have also found that the party primarily responsible for preventing occupational injuries and diseases, the employer, pays a relatively small share of the actual cost. This raises the question of whether the allocation of the costs of occupational injury and disease provides adequate incentives for businesses to make prevention a priority in their workplaces and to invest sufficiently in equipment and processes that reduce the risk of injury and illness.

More studies are needed on more G20 countries and this could be an action undertaken or commissioned by the G20 EWG. The EWG could also discuss how to better align allocation of costs and better design cost incentives to motivate greater investments in prevention. The cost of insurance premiums to employee injury insurance programs is a logical focus for such efforts. Making a closer connection between investment in prevention and the reduction in business costs related to the occurrence of injuries and disease could better align incentives facing the private and public sectors.

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<sup>2</sup> *Adding Inequality to Injury: The Cost of Failing to Protect Workers on the Job*, US Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration Report, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> *Economic Cost of Work-related Injuries and Ill-health in Singapore*, Workplace Safety and Health Institute, Singapore, 2013. Available at <http://www.wshi.gov.sg/files/Economic%20Cost%20of%20Work-related%20Injuries%20and%20Ill-health%20in%20Singapore.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> *Socio-economic costs of accidents at work and work-related ill health*, European Commission, 2011.

G20 countries' existing national employee injury programs could be reinforced to interact with nation prevention policies through integrated functions with other governmental entities, economic incentives and financial supports that encourage (through grants/small business loans to SMEs, for example) or require investment by employers in prevention. Employee injury insurance programs could become part of the delivery system for awareness raising, risk-reduction incentives, compliance and advisory assistance, education and training and financial support for prevention of occupational injuries and disease. More integrated delivery systems could also provide a means for disseminating information regarding the growing body of research and data documenting the relationship between improvement in occupational safety and health and improvement in productivity at the enterprise level.

The G20 could agree to support research and information sharing related to innovative and best practices to align incentives and costs to achieve greater investment in prevention. It could also develop a tool box and sharing of expertise necessary for countries to better design and align their systems, including optimal financing strategies and cost-benefit analyses for business sectors.

#### **D. Joining, supporting and further developing a global network of regional hubs for OSH knowledge development and for sharing of OSH knowledge and best practices**

A number of national and regional networks, centers or hubs exist to create and share OSH knowledge, capacity and skills across countries or regions. Such centers exist in all G20 countries and typically include government agencies, academic institutions and other private and public institutions and organizations that are active in the area of OSH.<sup>5</sup> In the past, the ILO has supported and helped to link such centers into a network (the former ILO Network of CIS National and Collaborating Centers) although this work had not been fully funded in recent years.

The ILO is now launching a new OSH Global Action on Prevention Program that, among other activities (see below), will mobilize additional resources to support a renewed and expanded global network of regional hubs and collaborating centers. This will build upon the former ILO Network, reengaging formerly active centres in the ILO network, adding new members and creating modern networking modalities. The G20 countries could support this effort by:

- encouraging their national centers to participate in the global network;
- through direct participation of G20 government agencies in the networks and hubs; and
- by offering voluntary financial support for staff, equipment, IT services, translation of documents and material, facilities and financial resources for travel and meetings.

G20 countries could also choose to fund expert and research positions in collaborating centers as a contribution to development of global knowledge and could participate on a planned international advisory committee for the new global network. Finally, G20 countries could support under-resourced collaborating centers in developing countries or help to create them.

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<sup>5</sup> The following link provides a map of G20 and EU countries with collaborating centres in the former ILO CIS network:

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=z9xGrH4Vmx0.k9pKa\\_L35VZw](https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=z9xGrH4Vmx0.k9pKa_L35VZw)

## **E. Support for the new ILO OSH Global Action on Prevention Program**

The enormous need to expand support for workplace health and safety to low and lower-middle income countries and to address OSH in global supply chains, the informal economy and among vulnerable workers such as migrants and agricultural labour goes far beyond what the ILO can accomplish with its current regular budget resources. As a result and as mentioned above, the ILO is creating a new technical cooperation program, the OSH Global Action for Prevention Program, to take on the global OSH challenges with the support of partner countries, donors, employers' and workers' organizations and OSH knowledge and specialist organizations.

The new ILO program will address these currently unmet needs in an integrated fashion. The ILO is uniquely positioned to provide a comprehensive and coordinated response based on its unique global expertise in OSH, its mandate and experience in the areas of labour inspection and employment injury insurance and its role in negotiating, monitoring and helping countries to implement international OSH standards and principles. Its tripartite constituency and ongoing relationships with national, regional and international OSH bodies gives it the understanding, capability and legitimacy to undertake this urgent task.

The program will provide policy and strategy advice, knowledge and capacity building interventions primarily to governments, employers and workers in low and lower-middle income countries where nascent or fragile OSH systems need to be strengthened. The program will design and deliver country-specific strategic interventions to:

- improve national regulatory frameworks on OSH and strengthen capacity to develop and implement compliance strategies and inspection practices;
- enhance national institutional capacities to acquire and use OSH knowledge and information to develop effective prevention policies, strategies, systems and programs;
- encourage and facilitate consultation, collaboration and cooperation in OSH between governments, employers and workers through effective dialogue;
- strengthen national employment injury compensation legislation and administrations to interact with OSH systems and programs through integrated functions, where appropriate, and economic incentives for investment in prevention and compliance.

The program will make use of the ILO's multidisciplinary expertise and work at the global, regional and national levels, building on existing initiatives and networks. It will bring together the key stakeholders, including employers and workers' organizations, in an inclusive approach and engage them in the design and implementation of comprehensive, practical and achievable OSH policies and programs. The full concept note for the program is attached as Annex 3.

G20 support for this work with low and lower-middle income countries would be consistent with the G20 Turkish Presidency's emphasis on inclusiveness of G20 action to address needs of low-income countries.

The G20 could endorse this initiative as one effective means of addressing the commitments made by the Leaders and Labour and Employment Ministers regarding OSH. Additionally or alternatively, individual G20 governments are invited and encouraged to consider providing financial support as donors or to contribute technical expertise through in-kind contributions of a time of

their OSH experts to support individual projects in recipient countries. South-South and regional cooperation will be a strong component of the program and G20 participation in this regard is particularly encouraged. As mentioned above, G20 countries could also join the global network described in point D above, which will form an integral element of the new OSH Global Action for Prevention Program, and encourage their national OSH knowledge centers to do so as well. They could also support the network and/or participation by underfunded centers in low and lower-middle income countries.

The G20 could also serve as host for OSH events that bring together the countries active in the new OSH Global Action for Prevention Program to share knowledge and identify additional avenues of cooperation.

Some G20 members have already allocated funds as donors (US and Republic of Korea) or are considering doing so.

#### **F. Development of a new global approach to data collection related to occupational fatalities, injuries and disease.**

The majority of workplace injuries and fatalities go unreported due to the lack or limited capacity of reporting and data collection systems in many countries. Globally, more than half of all countries do not provide official data on occupational diseases. Even in countries with well-established data collection systems there is significant under-reporting. For work-related diseases in particular, it is believed that under-reporting is significant due to long latency periods before the occurrence of symptoms and lack of detection and diagnostic capacity in many countries.

The paucity of data on occupational fatalities, injuries and diseases hampers the development of appropriately targeted strategies, regulations and policies for their prevention. It also limits public awareness of the extent and nature of occupational safety and health risks. In addition to the need for better collection of data, there is also a need for standardization of the data collected, for example through utilization of the ILO List of Occupational Diseases.

Current efforts on improving data collection have focused on improving individual country's capacity to collect data on the occurrence of every occupational fatality, injury and disease. Achieving this has, however, proved elusive despite commitments to engage in such efforts. A significant obstacle is the cost to develop, implement, and administer data collection systems and enforce reporting requirements. For low-income countries in particular, this need must be balanced with other urgent national priorities.

Consequently it may be useful to think creatively about additional strategies and methodologies for collecting reliable data. It may be possible to make progress on developing sufficient knowledge about occupational fatalities, injuries and disease to establish global priorities, identify new trends and hazards, design interventions and promote prevention through use of methods such as sampling within countries, among groups of countries in regions or with similar economies or within high-risk sectors to inform policy and strategies on a national, regional or global level. The G20 could agree to support the development and implementation of new strategies and methodologies, fully utilizing modern technology, for data reporting and collection to target action to reduce occupational fatalities, injuries and disease.

## Annex 1. G20 Statement on Safer and Healthier Workplaces, September 2014

Safe and healthy workplaces are an essential element of strong, sustainable, and inclusive growth. Work-related accidents and diseases result in the deaths of more than 6,300 workers every day and the loss of 4 percent of global GDP in direct and indirect costs each year, according to the International Labor Organization (ILO). Not only are these accidents and illnesses a terrible human tragedy, they also contribute to lost workdays, diminished productivity, poor relations between employers and workers, and other consequences that harm individuals, families, enterprises, communities, and national economies.

G20 members are committed to improving occupational safety and health (OSH) in our own economies and across the globe. In this regard, we underscore the need for appropriate and robust legal frameworks for OSH as well as effective systems for enforcement and compliance, safety and health management, and data collection. We also note the vital role played by social partners in bringing about safe and healthy workplaces. We encourage countries to consider ratification of relevant ILO conventions and to make effective use of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, and the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises.

We commit to taking action to increase OSH through the following country-level and collective measures, taking into account each country's national context. We further commit to reviewing progress with respect to these measures during future G20 presidencies.

1. Ensure that national safety and health agencies are responsive to the needs of workers and employers through appropriate incentives and effective advisory services regarding potential hazards, remedies, risk management, and prevention measures
2. Strengthen legislation and ensure adequate resources for prevention, training, compliance, and enforcement efforts
3. Improve data collection and use empirical data to inform program design and effectively target enforcement and outreach efforts
4. Take targeted measures to improve OSH conditions for vulnerable workers and in high-risk sectors
5. Raise awareness, particular among small and medium enterprises, about the importance of OSH and the positive impact that safer and healthier workplaces have on productivity, workforce participation, economic growth, and sustainable development
6. Compile and share best practices among G20 members and interested non-G20 countries and support studies on new challenges resulting from technological advancements and demographic changes



7. Support voluntary national and international efforts to implement exchanges, share relevant technologies, and coordinate technical cooperation
8. Partner with the ILO to improve global OSH and promote synergies among national, bilateral, and collective G20 efforts
9. Continue to engage closely with social partners regarding collective and national actions to improve OSH
10. Promote responsible business practices and effective supply-chain engagement to improve OSH, with reference to UN, ILO, and OECD guidelines and standards, as appropriate.

## **Annex 2. Sample template for monitoring of OSH indicators or actions**

### (a) Legislation, regulations and standards component

- Up to date OSH national Act or Law (yes/no)
- Tripartite participation in the regulatory process (y/n)
- Public information in the regulatory process (y/n)
- OSH committees. Regulation (y/n); committees in operation (%)
- OSH management system regulation or standard (y/n)
- Internationally harmonised standards and regulations (#)

### (b) Inspection services and enforcement and component

- OSH inspectors /100.000 workers
- Sector specialised (% all inspectors)
- Geographically decentralised (% all inspectors)
- Inspection yearly coverage (% all enterprises)
- Inspection yearly coverage (% all workers)
- Fatalities investigation coverage (% all fatalities)

### (c) Training, information and awareness component

- General OSH training (# hours /100,000 workers)
- Specialised OSH training ((# hours /100,000 workers)
- OSH in curricula of technical faculties (% all faculties)
- OSH in curricula of medicine faculties (% all faculties)
- General OSH periodical publications (#)
- OSH national promotion campaigns (y/n)
- OSH information centers (#)

### (d) Research, studies and statistics component

- Notification of occupational accidents (% notified)
- Occupational accidents national statistics (yes/no)
- OSH national studies by sector (#, periodicity)

- Cost-benefit studies (#)
- National surveys on OSH working conditions (#, periodicity)
- OSH scientific periodical publications (#)
- OSH congress & conferences (# national & international)

(e) Advisory and technical assistance services and workers' compensation component

- OSH advisory services coverage (% of workers)
- Working OSH professionals (# /100.000 workers)
- Workers' compensation coverage (% workers)
- Occupational medical examinations (# /100.000 workers.)
- Analytical hygiene centers (# centers; # analysis)
- Personal Protective Equipment certification centers (yes/no)
- Machinery certification centers (yes/no)

### **Annex 3. Concept Note: OSH Global Action for Prevention, an ILO Technical Cooperation Program on Occupational Safety and Health**

Safety and health at work is a fundamental human right and a necessary condition for inclusive economic development. Estimates show that more than 2.3 million deaths occur every year as a result of occupational injuries and diseases, with overwhelming human loss, pain and suffering. In addition to this human toll, occupational injuries and work-related diseases result in an estimated annual loss to global GDP of on average 4 per cent or approximately USD \$2.8 trillion in direct and indirect economic costs. Occupational safety and health (OSH) has regained political attention in recent years, not least because of significant media attention and public grief and outrage over occupational accidents involving hundreds of fatalities. Occupational safety and health was added to the agenda of the G20 in September 2014, after G20 Labour and Employment Ministers decided at their meeting in Melbourne, Australia that this critical issue deserved attention in that global forum. More generally, political leaders recognize that vastly greater efforts are required to reduce the current high levels of workplace deaths, diseases and injuries, particularly in low and middle income countries.

Against this backdrop, the ILO is creating a Global Initiative on Occupational Safety and Health to take on this global challenge, with the support of partner countries, donors, employers' and workers' organizations and OSH knowledge and specialist organizations. This new flagship program will build on the ILO's many years of significant work on OSH, which includes:

- tripartite negotiation of almost 40 international labour standards specifically addressing OSH;
- development of the knowledge-base on the prevention of occupational diseases and injuries;
- worldwide assistance to governments, employers and workers organizations that request help with development and implementation of OSH laws, regulations, policies, programs and systems; and
- support in the development of national labour inspectorates and employment injury insurance policies and programs.

The enormous need to expand OSH support to low and lower-middle income countries and to address OSH in global supply chains, the informal economy and among vulnerable workers such as migrants and agricultural labour goes far beyond what the ILO can accomplish with its current regular budget resources. Donors and public and private partners have demonstrated increased interest in taking on this critical challenge and the ILO is launching this new global technical cooperation program to address these currently unmet needs in an integrated fashion. The effective prevention of occupational injuries and diseases necessarily requires attention across the range of legislation and regulation, labour inspection and enforcement, prevention, education and employment injury insurance schemes.

The ILO is uniquely positioned to provide this integrated, coordinated and holistic response based on its unique global expertise in OSH, but equally on its mandate and experience in the areas of labour inspection and employment injury insurance and international standards and principles. Its tripartite constituency and ongoing relationships with national, regional and international OSH bodies gives it the understanding, capability and legitimacy to undertake this urgent task. This concept note presents the framework for this new program.

## **Priority beneficiaries**

The program will provide policy and strategy advice, knowledge and capacity building interventions primarily to governments, employers and workers in low and lower-middle income countries where nascent or fragile OSH systems need to be strengthened. These countries often lack the necessary capacity to establish and apply an effective framework for prevention, compliance and compensation. Weaknesses typically include incomplete legal frameworks, inadequate data gathering on work-related injuries and diseases, weak labour inspection services and absence of employment injury compensation systems. Domestic training and advisory services in OSH are often of limited quality or unaffordable.

## **Strategy**

With these challenges in mind, this framework program will design and deliver country-specific strategic interventions to:

- improve national regulatory frameworks on OSH and strengthen capacity to develop and implement compliance strategies and inspection practices;
- enhance national institutional capacities to acquire and use OSH knowledge and information to develop effective prevention policies, strategies, systems and programs;
- encourage and facilitate consultation, collaboration and cooperation in OSH between governments, employers and workers through effective dialogue;
- strengthen national employment injury compensation legislation and administrations to interact with OSH systems and programs through integrated functions, where appropriate, and economic incentives for investment in prevention and compliance.

The program will respond to multiple challenges in a structured and integrated manner making use of the ILO's multidisciplinary expertise, working at the global, regional and national levels, building on existing initiatives and networks and bringing together the key stakeholders in an inclusive approach. Key stakeholders include national government authorities and public OSH agencies, international and regional organizations, employers' and workers' organizations, academic and training institutions and professional associations, among others. They will be engaged in the design and implementation of comprehensive, practical and achievable OSH policies and programs.

## **Objectives**

Interventions will be grouped under the following four strategic objectives corresponding to key OSH policy areas. The program will help countries develop, pilot and rollout innovative interventions to address priority risks, sectors and vulnerable categories of workers at the national, sectoral and enterprise levels and those in the informal economy and in rural areas.

### **Objective 1. Effective regulation of workplace risks**

Legislation on OSH and related technical standards (e.g. threshold exposure limits, structural strength of scaffolding) are fundamental components of national OSH systems. The program will provide significant assistance to help countries put in place or improve legislative and regulatory frameworks. It will strengthen the capacity of responsible authorities to achieve workplace compliance through tailored strategies that include assistance, education and training, prevention and enforcement action. It will strengthen OSH inspection as a key element of good labour market

governance and contribute to preventing work-related injuries and diseases through improved inspection policies, plans, management and practices. The program will offer support to national judiciary systems and other dispute resolution mechanisms to ensure participants, in particular prosecutors and judges, understand the fundamental principles of OSH allowing for the proper interpretation and application of OSH legislation and regulation.

### **Objective 2. Strengthened knowledge for prevention**

The program will strengthen the capacities of institutions to acquire and use knowledge and information for prevention and compliance strategies, systems and programs. It will help countries develop reliable statistical information on workplace injuries and health to inform policy. It will help integrate occupational injury and disease reporting with employment injury insurance schemes. The program will also help develop the institutional capacity to prepare future generations of OSH practitioners, managers and workers through education on OSH in secondary education, TVET and apprenticeship schemes and help build and network higher education capacity to train specialists.

Broad public and private access to internationally peer-reviewed training material will be improved through a free-of-charge multi-lingual media platform that will improve the quality of material and reduce OSH training costs, especially for SMEs. Practical training and learning packages will be provided across different languages, industries and topics.

The program will advise governments, employers and workers on how to build effective OSH management systems and enhance the competencies of managers, supervisors and workers about risks and effective prevention and control measures. It will enhance employers' organizations' capacities to offer training and advisory services in OSH to their members and help extend and upgrade workers' education programs on workplace risks.

### **Objective 3. Effective dialogue for improved safety and health at work**

The program will strengthen constituents' capacities to engage in development and improvement of OSH policies, systems and programs and improve tripartite dialogue at national level. Additional efforts will support bipartite or tripartite dialogue to focus on industry specific needs in OSH, e.g., mining, construction, agriculture. The program will promote joint workplace committees for safety and health and develop tools enabling their members to participate effectively.

### **Objective 4. Improved funding modalities for national OSH systems**

The program will provide evidence-based policy advice and technical assistance to governments and employment injury organizations on options for affordable and sustainable workers' compensation schemes and their extension. A particular focus will involve how social security systems and compensation schemes can support prevention. A dedicated effort will aim at proposing various intervention models based on economic incentives for private investment in prevention and compliance and promoting the inherent economic value of reducing vulnerability by properly tackling risks in micro and small enterprises in the informal economy and in rural communities.

### **Implementation and partnerships**

This global program will entail regional, sub-regional and country specific OSH technical cooperation projects developed and executed in close consultation and collaboration with OSH and other national stakeholders, such as employment injury and social security administrations. The

Office will build on its international field structure, established collaborative OSH network and its practical and normative experience to coordinate efforts across the multiple policy areas and multidisciplinary competencies. The Office will harness the broad commitment for action of its tripartite constituents and expand the on-going dialogue with an international technical advisory committee of representatives of leading national OSH agencies and partner organizations, including WHO, ISSA, ICOH, IALI and others.

Global, regional and bilateral partnerships will be sought to contribute financial resources, technical expertise, exchange of experience, South-South cooperation and combinations of these as particular projects warrant. Implementing partners will include governments, regional OSH networks, OSH knowledge institutions and agencies, social security administrations, social partners, academics, corporations and non-governmental organizations.

The ILO has demonstrated capacity to undertake large scale global technical cooperation programs that are well-adapted to specific country circumstances, based on years of experience with flagship programs such as Better Work and the International Program to Eliminate Child Labour (IPEC). It currently implements a number of technical cooperation projects in developing and emerging economy countries that are either focused solely on OSH matters or that have a significant OSH component and will build on these experiences and the knowledge gained.

The ILO OSH Global Action for Prevention initiative will be formally launched on April 28, 2015.