

# ► Heat Health at Work

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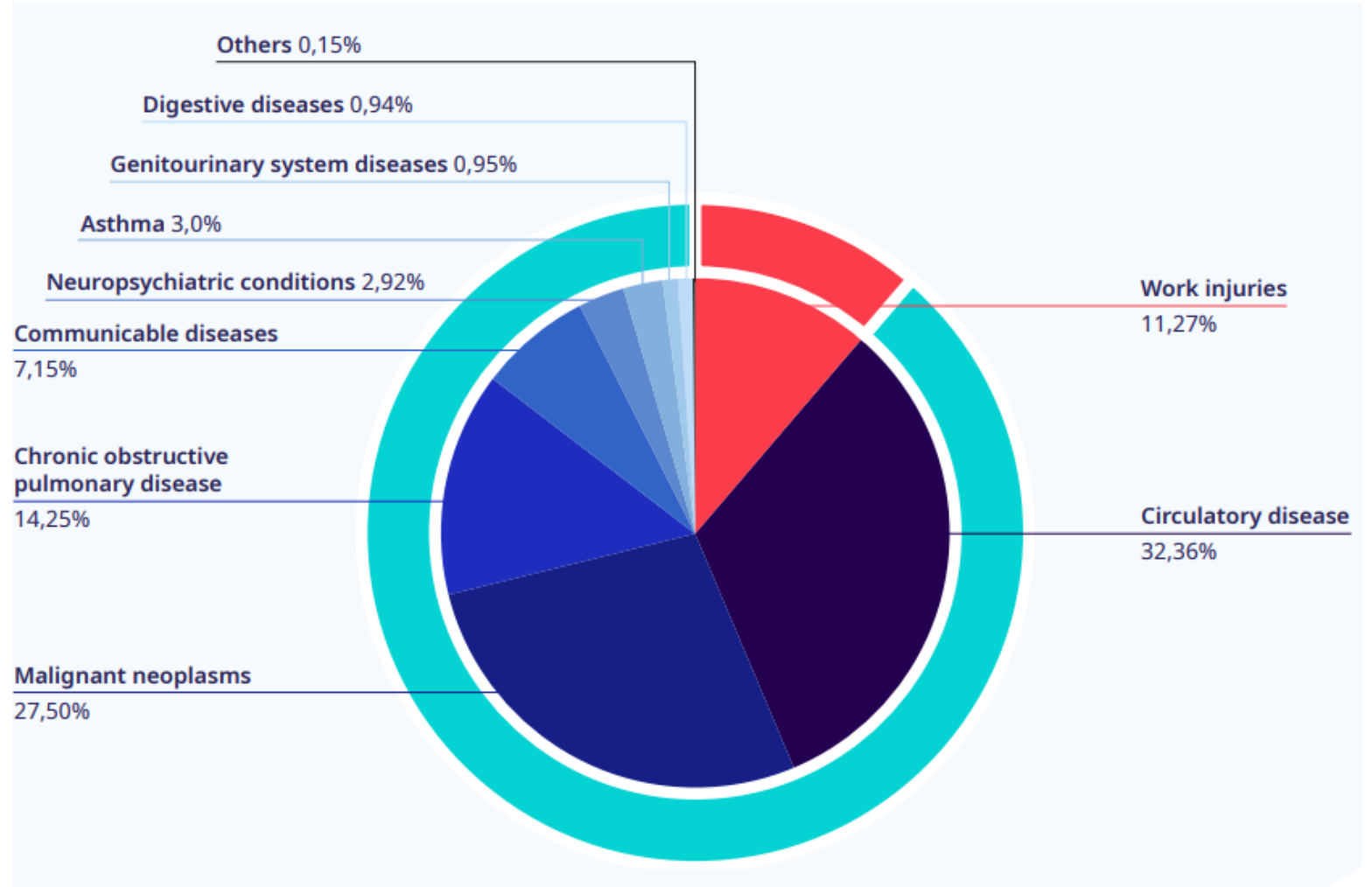
# ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) as amended in 2022

- ▶ Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining;
- ▶ Elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour;
- ▶ Abolition of child labour;
- ▶ Elimination of discrimination at work;
- ▶ A safe and healthy working environment



## ▶ Nearly 3 million people die of work-related accidents and diseases

- ▶ **2.6 million deaths** from work-related diseases globally
- ▶ **395 million non-fatal occupational injuries** globally



Globally

**2.41 billion  
workers**

70 per cent of the working population  
are exposed to excessive heat

This results in

**22.85**

million non-  
fatal injuries

and

**18,970**

deaths  
annually



**US\$361 billion**

could be saved globally

**if OSH measures to prevent  
occupational injuries related to  
excessive heat were implemented.**

## ► Associated risk factors in agriculture

### Solar UV radiation

1.6 billion workers exposed  
18,960 work-related deaths

### Vector-borne diseases

14,576 work-related deaths due  
to malaria

### Workplace air pollution

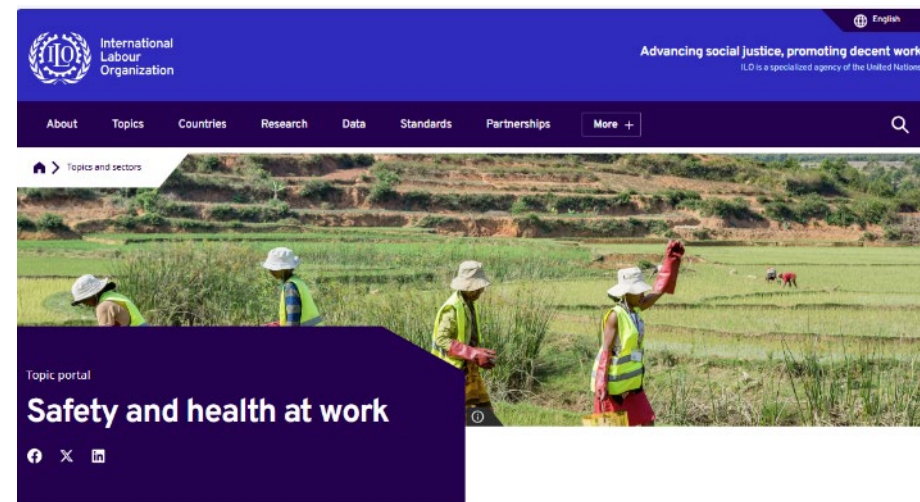
1.2 billion workers exposed  
860,000 work-related deaths  
(outdoor workers)

### Agrochemicals

Over 300,000 deaths annually  
due to pesticide poisoning

## ▶ ILO technical instruments and tools

- ▶ International Labour Standards
- ▶ Codes of practice and Guidelines
- ▶ Training tools
- ▶ Policy briefs
- ▶ Research papers
- ▶ Communication and awareness materials



<https://www.ilo.org/topics-and-sectors/safety-and-health-work>

## ► What Occupational Safety and Health Convention No.155 entails for States:

### At the national level:

- ✓ Formulation, implementation, and periodic review of a coherent national OSH policy
- ✓ Identification of arrangements on the measures to be taken for the policy implementation, enforcement, coordination between authorities and bodies, and provision of guidance to employers and workers

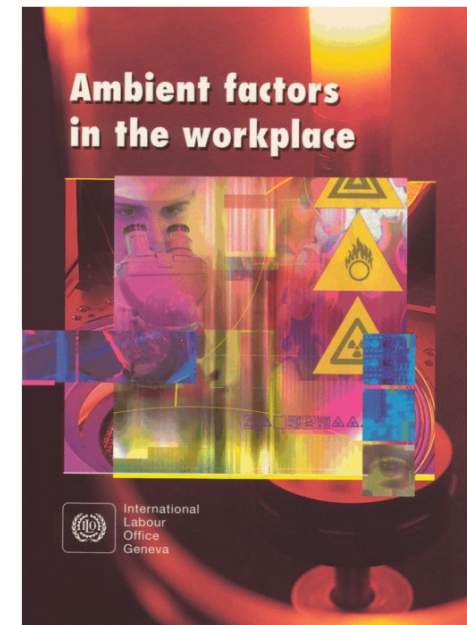
### At the workplace level:

- ✓ Employers' duties and responsibilities to ensure that **the working environment is safe and without risk to health**; and where necessary, to provide personal protective equipment at no cost to workers
- ✓ Rights and duties of workers and their representatives to cooperate with the employer, to receive adequate information, to be given appropriate training, to enquire/be consulted on all OSH aspects, to report imminent and serious danger.

## ▶ Code of Practice: Ambient factors in the workplace

Eliminating or controlling exposure to

- ▶ hazardous airborne chemicals
- ▶ ionizing and non-ionizing radiation
- ▶ ultraviolet
- ▶ infra-red and (in some circumstances) visible radiation
- ▶ Electric and magnetic fields
- ▶ Noise
- ▶ Vibration
- ▶ **high and low temperatures and humidity**



[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_protect/@protrav/@safework/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms\\_107729.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_protect/@protrav/@safework/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_107729.pdf)

# Policy brief: Occupational safety and health in a just transition

- ▶ ILO Guidelines for a Just Transition towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies for All (2015)
- ▶ presenting the linkages between just transition and OSH



[https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/publications/just-transition-pb/WCMS\\_895605/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/publications/just-transition-pb/WCMS_895605/lang--en/index.htm)

## Recent ILO publications on the health and safety impacts of climate change

- ▶ **Global Report: Ensuring safety and health at work in a changing climate** <https://www.ilo.org/publications/ensuring-safety-and-health-work-changing-climate>
- ▶ **Heat at work: Implications for safety and health: A global review of the science, policy and practice** <https://www.ilo.org/media/578371/download>

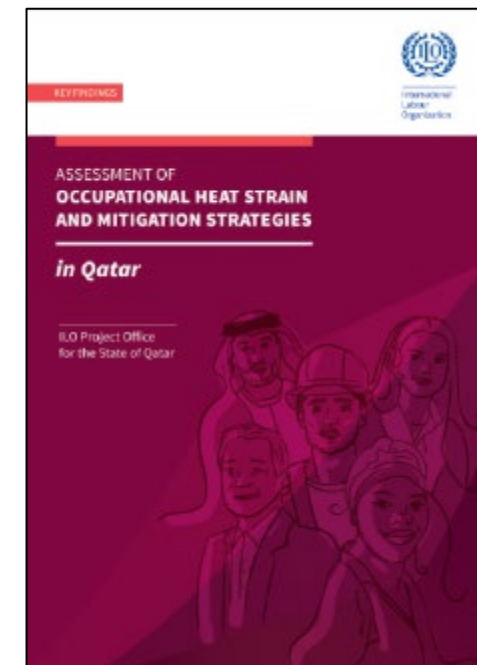


## ▶ Country Good practice (Qatar)

### ▶ Evidence-based policies and tools

- ▶ Study on heat stress
- ▶ Ministerial Decision
- ▶ A guide for employers
- ▶ FAQ for employers/workers
- ▶ Video for workers/employers
- ▶ International Conference on Occupational Heat Stress

[https://www.ilo.org/beirut/countries/qatar/WCMS\\_874714/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/beirut/countries/qatar/WCMS_874714/lang--en/index.htm)



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## ▶ Workplace awareness tool

### ▶ Joint product by multiple ministries and agencies

- ▶ Department of Labour Protection and Welfare
- ▶ Thailand Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
- ▶ Department of Disease Control (MPH)
- ▶ Department of Climate Change and Environment
- ▶ Association of Occupational and Environmental Diseases of Thailand
- ▶ WHO Country Office for Thailand
- ▶ **Language version (Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia... more coming)**



**Be cautious of excessive heat**

Excessive heat - combined interaction of increased air temperature, humidity, limited air flow and radiant heat sources can impact workers on the job, by leading to

**illnesses, injuries, and even death**

**Health impacts of heat stress**

**Mild**

- Heat fatigue
- Heat syncope (fainting)
- Heat rash

**Serious**

- Heat exhaustion
- Kidney disorders
- Heatstroke
- Cardiovascular disease
- Respiratory conditions

**Others**

- Accidents and injuries
- Mental health effects

**Did you know?**

In Thailand, a workplace with heat sources or at risk of harmful heat exposure has an obligation to measure and analyse working environment and submit the report annually.

<https://www.ilo.org/resource/training-material/be-cautious-excessive-heat>

## Extreme heat is a global health emergency.

Billions of people are at risk of preventable death and illness from extreme heat, which is exacerbated by the escalating effects of climate change. Action is urgently needed to save lives.

Learn More

