



International  
Labour  
Organization

# VISION ZERO FUND

## Achieving a world without occupational accidents and diseases



Launched in 2015, the Vision Zero Fund (VZF) is an initiative of the Group of Seven (G7) countries, and has also recently received the endorsement of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries.

It is aimed at preventing work-related deaths, injuries and diseases in sectors operating in or aspiring to join global supply chains (GSCs). VZF's main objective is to increase collective public and private action aimed at fostering and enhancing concrete occupational safety and health (OSH) prevention activities in businesses operating in low and middle income countries.

The VZF is a multi-donor trust fund, and welcomes contributions from governments, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations, and from private sources including companies, foundations and individuals.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) administers and implements the Fund's projects.

# Achieving a world without occupational accidents and diseases

## CONTEXT

! EVERY YEAR...



2.78 million workers die from work-related injuries and diseases

160 million workers suffer from work-related diseases

313 million workers suffer from non-fatal injuries



60% of the world's labour force is ineffectively protected against work-related accidents and illnesses



4% of the world's annual GDP is lost as a consequence of work-related injuries and diseases

## OUR FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION



### GLOBAL LEVEL

- Training material and tools
- Research and studies
- Convening learning and knowledge sharing forums
- Oversight & strategic direction
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Partnerships, coordination and backstopping



### COUNTRY LEVEL

#### PRIVATE SPHERE

- OSH management systems
- OSH committees
- Awareness raising and training
- Strengthening of occupational health services
- Promoting affiliation to social security compensation mechanisms



#### PUBLIC SPHERE

- Laws and regulations
- Regulatory authorities (labour and social security inspectorate)
- Supporting development of Employment Injury Insurance (EII) scheme

## OUR APPROACH

Each value chain is unique and requires tailor-made interventions



Each global value chain is different, and a unique set of interventions are needed to achieve OSH compliance.

As a result, VZF conducts an in-depth diagnosis of the main drivers and constraints of safety and health improvement in each value chain.

The diagnostic tool was developed under the ILO Flagship Programme on OSH, and identifies:

- The main risks and vulnerabilities at different tiers of the value chain;
- The commercial practices and institutional gaps in which vulnera-

bilities are rooted;

- The most relevant actors, incentives and capacities; and
- The mix of public and private interventions necessary to drive targeted and sustainable improvements in OSH.

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## PILOT COUNTRIES AND SECTORS

The VZF's primary focus is on sector-specific and country-level activities.

VZF will target low-income and lower-middle income producing countries in which there is an expressed commitment by all relevant stakeholders, including the government and social partners, to apply principles of relevant ILO standards on prevention, work place safety and ILO fundamental principles and rights at work, and to develop social dialogue in their implementation.

Current pilot countries include Ethiopia, Madagascar and Myanmar.

The initial focus of VZF projects will be on the garment and agri-food value chains.



## VZF IN ACTION: THE CASE OF MYANMAR

### Multi-stakeholder engagement

- In June 2016, the VZF was officially launched in Myanmar. The event was co-hosted by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the European Commission, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the ILO, and brought together over 150 relevant public and private local and international stakeholders.
- In September 2016, the VZF received the endorsement of the Myanmar National Tripartite Dialogue Forum.
- In June 2017, the VZF supported the creation of a Project Consultative Committee, composed of relevant line ministries, workers and



employer organizations, to ensure engagement and ownership by national stakeholders and coordination of the ILO portfolio on occupational safety and health in Myanmar.

### Ongoing activities

- Supporting the strengthening of national institutions such as social security institutions, the labour inspectorate, workers and employers associations;
- Conducting assessments of information and administrative needs of OSH systems, including social security, labour inspectorate, and occupational health services;
- Conducting comprehensive diagnosis and assessment of drivers and constraints of OSH in garment and agri-food value chains;
- Based on the diagnosis and assessments, design and support the implementation of a mix of public and private interventions to improve the safety and health of workers involved in global supply chains.

# Achieving a world without occupational accidents and diseases

## ENDORSEMENTS



*“The Vision Zero Fund will help prevent and reduce the unacceptable number of workplace-related deaths, injuries and diseases. Gaining access to global supply chains can be an important part of strategies for poverty reduction. The Fund will help to make this route safer.”*

**ILO Director-General Guy Ryder at the G7 announcement of the Vision Zero Fund, June 2015**

*“We are committed to establishing a Vision Zero Fund (...) because we believe that the issue of better working conditions has not been adequately solved in many countries in Asia and Africa. I believe that this issue will continue to play a major role in coming years.”*

**German Chancellor Angela Merkel, June 2015**

*“We support the Vision Zero Fund Initiative to foster global action in global supply chains to improve occupational safety and health practices in low-income sourcing countries... [and] encourage multinational companies and brands headquartered in G20 countries to support the Vision Zero Fund.”*

**Ministerial Declaration, G20 Labour and Employment Ministers, May 2017**

*“Trade unions support the idea of establishing a fund for preventing work-based accidents in global supply chains.”*

**The associations of G7 country trade unions and the International Trade Union Confederation, March 2015**

*“The Vision Zero Fund can be helpful in preventing work-related accidents in less developed countries.”*

**The associations of trade and industry of the G7 countries (Business 7), May 2015**

## CONTACT

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