



OSH in supply chains of construction and agri-food sector

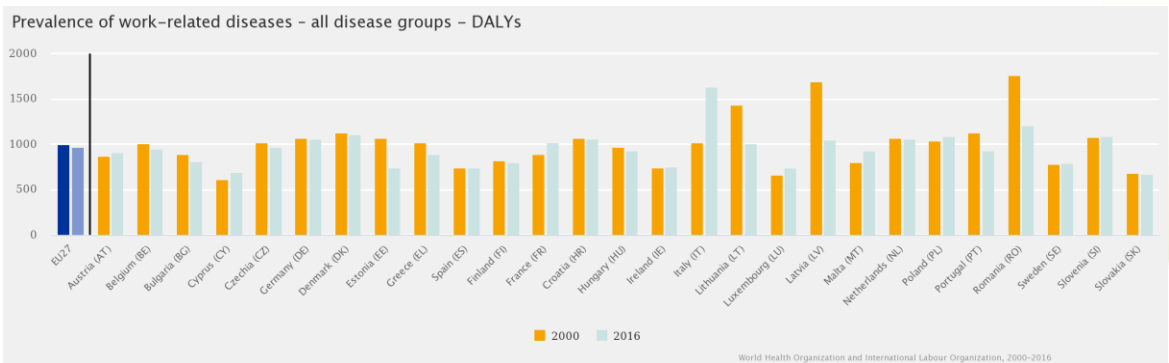
Dr. Dietmar Elsler, Senior Research Project Manager,, EU-OSHA Bilbao

36th Summer University on Ergonomics, 3-5 July 2024, Gyöngyös, Hungary



Safety and health at work is everyone's concern. It's good for you. It's good for business.

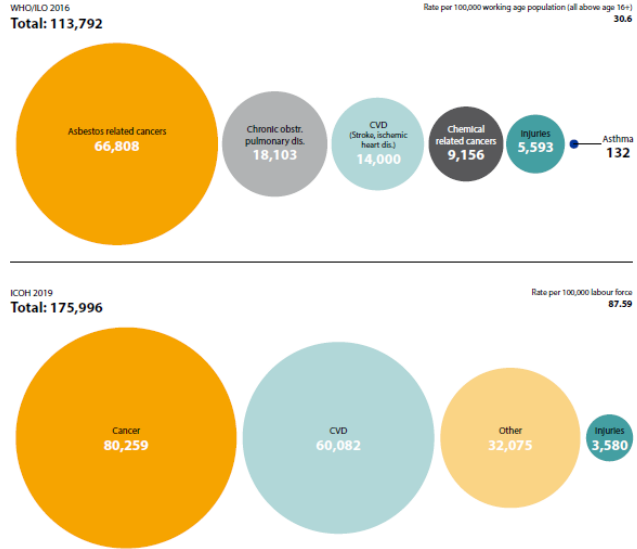
OSH-Barometer – data visualisation from EU-OSHA



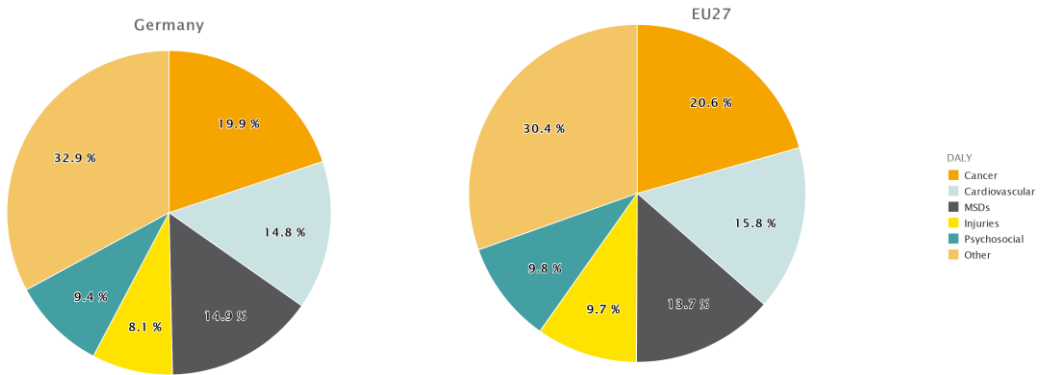
www.healthy-workplaces.eu



Figure 10: Work-related deaths – estimates by WHO/ILO and ICOH for EU27



Disease groups DALYs



International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH), 2019

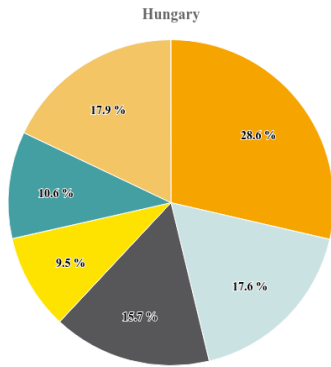
International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH), 2019



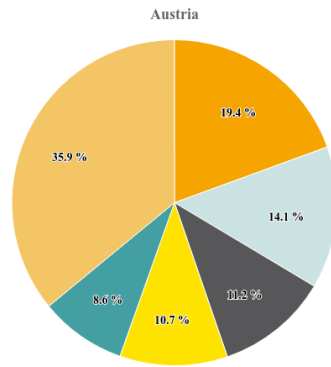
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Disease groups DALYs



International Commission on Occupational



International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH), 2019



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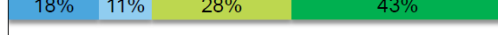
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Guter Arbeitsschutz zahlt sich aus:

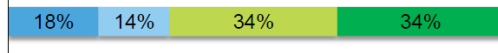
Eher zufrieden mit dem Arbeitsschutz (7-10)



Durchschnittlich zufrieden mit dem Arbeitsschutz (4-6)



Eher unzufrieden mit dem Arbeitsschutz (0-3)



0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Arbeitgeberwechsel in den nächsten 12 Monaten

■ sehr wahrscheinlich

■ eher wahrscheinlich

■ eher unwahrscheinlich

■ sehr unwahrscheinlich

Beschäftigtenbefragung NRW 2023, n = 2.008 www.lia.nrw

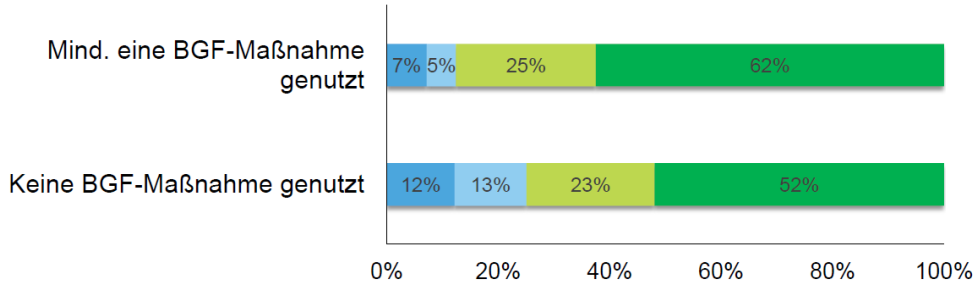


Quelle: Krauß-Hoffmann, P, Keller, Siebelhoff, Brauner-Sommer, C (2024). Sichere und gesunde Arbeitsgestaltung als Baustein der Fachkräftesicherung? Erkenntnisse der Beschäftigtenbefragung NRW 2023. PASIG Kongressband: Asanger. www.healthy-workplaces.eu



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Nutzung der BGF-Maßnahmen und Wechselwahrscheinlichkeit



Arbeitgeberwechsel in den nächsten 12 Monaten

- sehr wahrscheinlich
- eher wahrscheinlich
- eher unwahrscheinlich
- sehr unwahrscheinlich

Beschäftigtenbefragung NRW 2023, n = 2.008 www.lia.nrw



Quelle: Krauß-Hoffmann, P., Keller, Siebelhoff, Brauner-Sommer, C (2024). Sichere und gesunde Arbeitsgestaltung als Baustein der Fachkräftesicherung? Erkenntnisse der Beschäftigtenbefragung NRW 2023. PASIG Kongressband: Asanger. www.healthy-workplaces.eu



EU-OSHA and campaign partners



www.healthy-workplaces.eu



Good practice exchange initiative

STELLANTIS

- Initiative from Campaign Partners
- Added value for campaign partners
 - Exchange of good practices
 - Better OSH management
 - Higher visibility of OSH activities
- Added value for EU-OSHA
 - Strong link to campaign & reinforcing its messages
 - Improvement of OSH at workplace level
 - Structure for collaboration with different stakeholders
- On-site workshops



TOYOTA

TOYOTA MATERIAL HANDLING EUROPE



SEAT

SIEMENS

What is the issue?

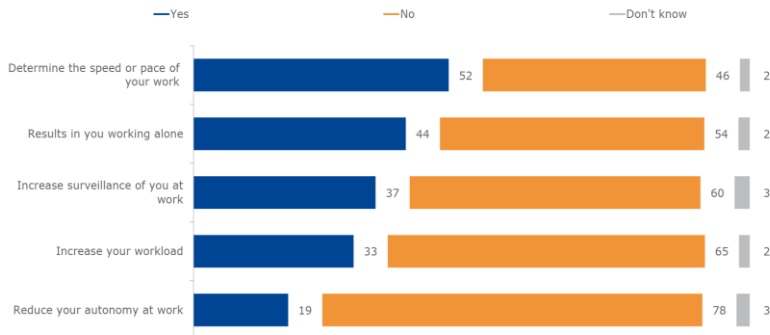
Safe and healthy work in the digital age

- Digital technologies are rapidly changing how, where and when we work.
- For workers and employers in many workplaces and in all sectors, digital technology offers **increased opportunities but also presents challenges** and risks in terms of safety and health.

Facts and figures

Flash Euro Barometer, OSH Pulse 2022

A1 Would you say that the use of digital technologies in your workplace ...?



Facts and figures

EU-OSHA, ESENER 2019

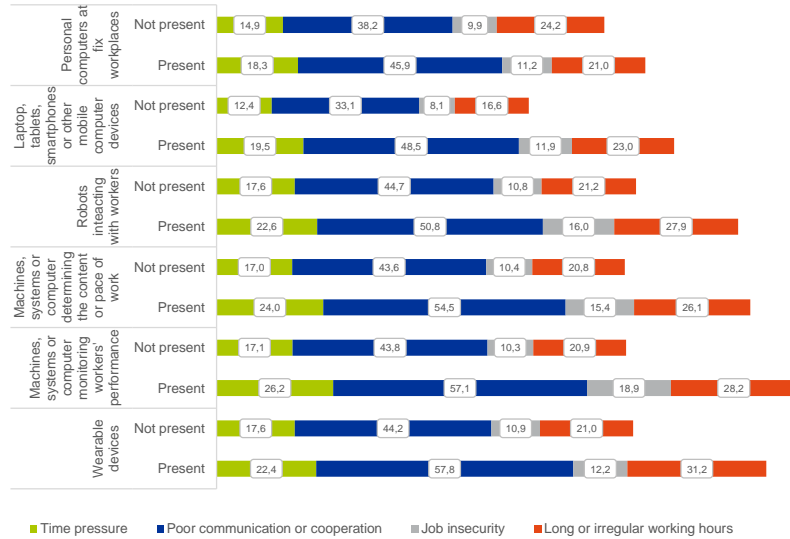
Psychosocial risks most commonly associated with digital technologies:

- time pressure;
- long/irregular working hours;
- poor communication/cooperation;
- job insecurity.

Facts and figures

EU-OSHA,
ESENER 2019

Workplaces reporting psychosocial risks by presence/not presence of digital technology – EU27, 2019



Campaign objectives

- Raising awareness about the importance, relevance and implications for OSH of the digital transformation of work, including **the business case by providing facts and figures**.
- **Increasing everyone's awareness** and practical knowledge across all sectors, types of workplaces (including virtual and remote workplaces) and groups of workers about a safe and productive use of digital technologies at work.
- Improving knowledge about new and **emerging risks and opportunities** related to the digital transformation of work.
- Promoting risk assessment and a healthy and safe proactive management of the digital transformation of work by **providing access to relevant resources: e.g. good practice, checklists, tools, and guidance**.
- Bringing stakeholders together to facilitate the **exchange of information**, knowledge and good practice and stimulate collaboration for a safe and productive digital transformation of work.

Priority areas – linked to research activities



Digital platform work



Automation of tasks



Remote and hybrid work



Worker management through AI

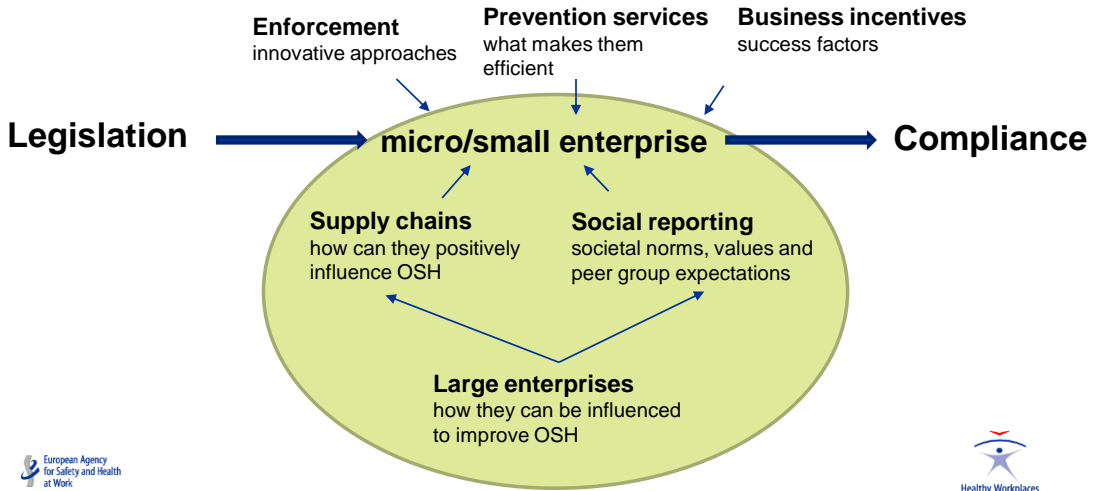


Smart digital systems

Key dates

- **Campaign Partnership Meeting:** September 2023 (Brussels)
- **Campaign launch:** October 2023
- **European Weeks for Safety and Health at Work:** October 2023, 2024 and 2025
- **Campaign Partner Good Practice Exchange**
 - ZF, Ponte de Lima, Portugal, May 2024
 - Boehringer, Ingelheim, Germany, October 2024
- **Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Exchange event:** April 2025
- **Results of the Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards:** April 2025
- **Healthy Workplaces Summit:** November 2025

Supporting compliance: Overarching review - Review the latest findings regarding the influencing factors
 (Walters D, Johnstone R, Bluff E, Limborg HJ, Gensby U, EU-OSHA, 2021)



EU Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence passes council vote

- On 15 March 2024 the EU Council finally voted in favour of the new EU Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CSDDD).
- The agreed rules will apply to companies with at least 1,000 employees and annual sales of €450 million.
- The trilogue negotiations on the CSDDD concluded in December 2023, with a text that would apply to companies with at least 500 employees and a turnover of €150 million.



Source: EPSU – European Public Service Union
<https://www.epsu.org/article/eu-directive-corporate-sustainability-due-diligence-passes-council-vote>



First cases filed under the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act against Tom Tailor, Amazon, and IKEA , Rewe and Edeka

Complaint against Tom Tailor, Amazon, and IKEA: trade union in Bangladesh with support from two European NGOs

- The charge: not “adequately monitoring” the conditions in their factories and for “endangering the workplace safety for employees.”
- The companies are not members of the “Accord for Health and Safety in the Textile and Garment Industry” (the International Accord)
- Source: <https://duediligence.design/first-case-filed-under-the-german-supply-chain-due-diligence-act-against-tom-tailor-amazon-and-ikea-by-bangladeshi-workers/>

Complaint against Supermarket chains Edeka and Rewe:

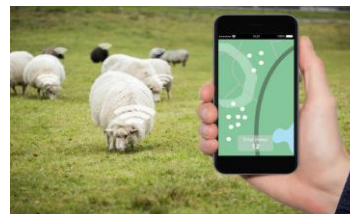
- Oxfam: complaints of workers on human rights and safety in a banana plantation in Ecuador
- Edeka and Rewe: complaints were followed and not confirmed

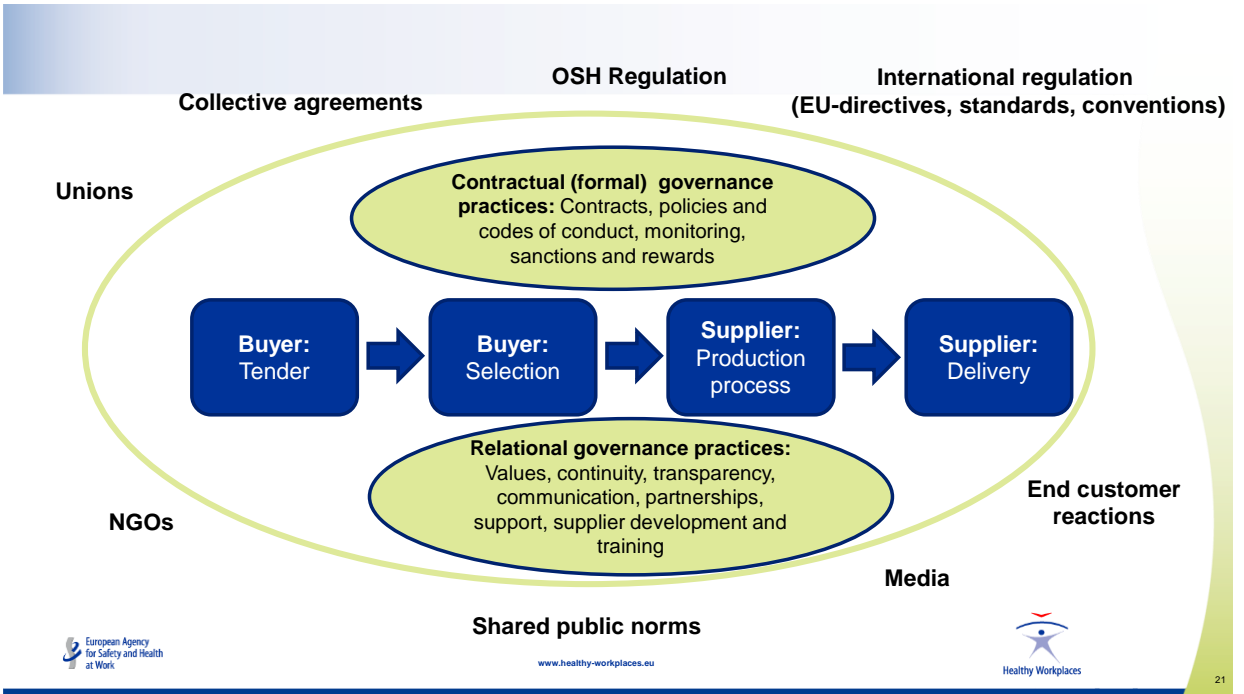


Foto: Martin Mejia / AP
Healthy Workplaces

LIFT-OSH: Supporting Compliance in Construction and Agri-Food Sector

- Sectors with high rate of fatal accidents
- Few multinationals dominate the sector
- Many SMEs
- High worker mobility in the EU, many migrants
- A lot of subcontracting and outsourcing
- Dynamic work environment
- New supply-chain legislation on national and European level
- New technologies
 - 3d printing, robotics
 - Drones





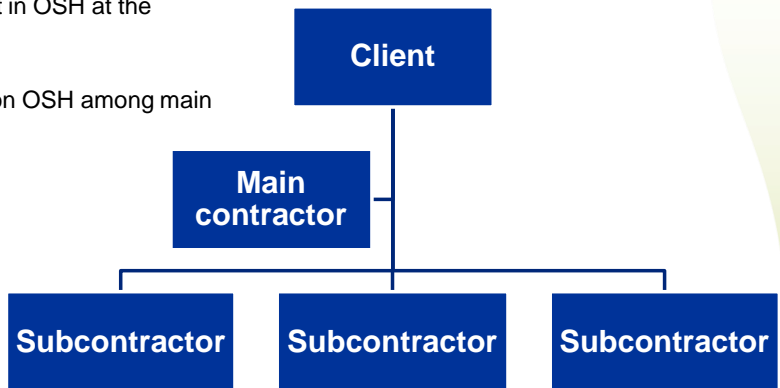
Policy Brief - Construction

▪ **The role of a client**

- Traditionally: little involvement in OSH at the construction sites
- Since last decade: Influence on OSH among main contractor and subcontractors



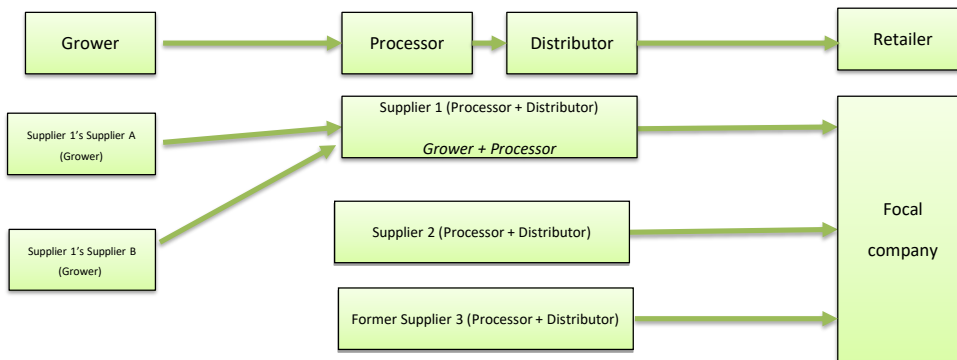
© EU OSHA / Michel Wielick



Policy Brief - SUPPLY CHAIN GOVERNANCE IN CONSTRUCTION: Client led OSH regulation in complex construction projects

- **Case Study: A large transportation company**
 - Establish a board of OSH experts
 - Prioritise the management of relationship with main contractors
 - Demonstrate managerial commitment to safety
 - Employ managers on sites to supervise and aid main contractors' OSH
 - Weekly safety walks
 - 'Safety academy' - Mandatory training courses for different groups on site
 - Short-term subcontractors (4~5 hrs training)
 - Workshop for managerial roles
 - Professional capacity to investigate accidents at sites
 - Directly participation in contractor's OSH investigation group
 - root cause analysis - monitor the investigative process

Case study – Agri-food supply chain for Spanish supermarket chain



Policy Brief – SUPPLY CHAIN GOVERNANCE IN AGRICULTURE

- **Agri-Food industry**

- Risks associated with work nature
- Migrant/seasonal labour

- **Relational governance**

- Values, trust
- Importance of local production

- **Contractual governance in supply chain**

- Formal tendering & contracting
- Auditing & monitoring



Fruit pickers on a farm. Photograph: Bloomberg via Getty Images

Policy Brief – SUPPLY CHAIN GOVERNANCE IN AGRICULTURE

- **Audits and visits**

- Focus on food quality
- Issues related with work and migration
- OSH: workplace prevention plans, training of workers in good handling practices and delivery of PPE for each workplace.

- **An example**

- Best case practice of a Spanish retailer:
Global G.A.P. or Producción Integrada



Policy Brief – SUPPLY CHAIN GOVERNANCE IN AGRICULTURE

Audit and certification schemes

- **Benefits**
 - OSH as an element for evaluation
 - Traceability, Third party involvement
- **Challenges**
 - A wide variety of standards: how to select?
 - Certification schemes
 - Potential burden for small producers
- **Suggestions**
 - Reduce the number of standards
 - Make the schemes transparent



Sedex²



Conclusion

- **Pressure from regulation puts OSH in supply chains higher on the agenda**
- **Also investors are asking for more sustainability**
- **Enterprises need information how to ensure new requirements**
- **EU-OSHA research shares good practices for OSH compliance in the supply chain**
- **Buyers and suppliers in supply chain need to link procurement and sustainability**
- **Public pressure - Your responsibility as a consumer**

Thank you very much for your attention!

