



Occupational safety and health is good for you and good for business

Employees of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are subject to greater risks than those of comparable larger companies. Of all occupational injuries in the EU, 82 % occur in SMEs. This is because, in general, SMEs have greater difficulty controlling risks.

As an employer, you have a legal responsibility to safeguard the health and safety of the workers you employ. However, good management of OSH risks is also good for business in terms of return on investment, improved productivity and reputation.

Enterprise Europe Network and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) and its network of focal points would like to help you better manage OSH risks. Good OSH management involves recognising and assessing the risks and taking steps to prevent or reduce them, thereby preventing avoidable illness and injury.



Why adopting good OSH practices is also good for business

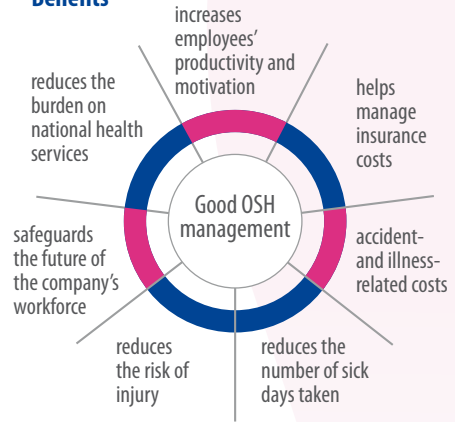
Return on investment

For SMEs in particular, investing in the resources and know-how to manage workplace safety and health can be perceived as an obstacle. However, EU-OSHA and Enterprise Europe Network can offer practical support — such as free user-friendly tools and information and advice. And there will be real returns on your investment: it is estimated that funds invested in OSH management provide a return of more than 200 %.

Impact on potential business

Regardless of your reasons for forming partnerships with other organisations, it is important that a poor safety and health record does not count against you. A good record will not only save your business money and make it more productive, but also boost its reputation and increase your chances of building partnerships with other organisations.

Benefits



In short, everyone benefits from good OSH management — employers, workers, the economy and wider society.

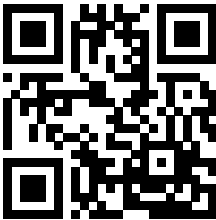
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Where can you find more information about OSH?

EU-OSHA has a network of national focal points. Find your nearest at <https://osha.europa.eu/en/about-eu-osha/national-focal-points>

EU-OSHA also has a number of free tools, publications, infographics and other interactive resources available online at <https://osha.europa.eu/en/tools-and-publications>

Find your nearest Enterprise Europe Network contact at <http://een.ec.europa.eu/>



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