

Stop the
pandemic

▶ **Worldwide events**
to commemorate the
World Day for Safety
and Health at Work
2020



The COVID-19 global pandemic has affected nearly all areas of life for billions of people around the globe, including profound, unprecedented impacts on the world of work.

In many countries, economic lockdowns and mandatory quarantines have found workers in many sectors transitioning overnight to teleworking arrangements, essential workers adapting to new safety and health protocols, increased amounts of work and many workers forced out of work, among other profound and far reaching impacts. Occupational safety and health, both during and after the pandemic, will be of paramount importance to employers, workers and governments, including ensuring that workplaces are adequately prepared and resilient for any subsequent peaks of infection from COVID-19 as well as future pandemics.

This year's World Day for Safety and Health at Work, commemorated on April 28th, 2020 focused on the theme "Stop the pandemic: Safety and health at work can save lives" and addressed different facets of responding to outbreaks of infectious diseases at work, specifically focusing on the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The ILO held a **global press conference** on the occasion of the World Day. Watch the press briefing video [here](#).

The **press release** titled "Protect workers both now and after lockdowns ease, says ILO" is also available [here](#) in 11 languages.

The ILO urged Governments to take action to prevent and control [COVID-19 in the workplace](#), with active involvement and dialogue with employers' and workers' organizations. The ILO stressed that conducting risk assessments to ensure workplaces meet strict occupational safety and health criteria is essential.



The courage & commitment of all frontline workers during the #COVID19 crisis is truly inspirational.

We must give them the support they need, and ensure their health & safety at this challenging time.

António Guterres,
UN Secretary General

(on the occasion of the World Day for Safety and Health at work 2020)

Global Press Conference

27 April 2020

ILO GOVERNANCE Department Director **Vera Paquete-Perdigão**, ENTERPRISES Department Director **Vic Van Vuuren**, LABADMIN/OSH Branch Chief, **Joaquim Pintado Nunes** and Senior OSH Specialist, **Manal Azzi**.

Watch the press briefing video [here](#).



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The safety and health of our entire workforce is paramount today. In the face of an infectious disease outbreak, how we protect our workers now clearly dictates how safe our communities are, and how resilient our businesses will be, as this pandemic evolves... It is only by implementing occupational safety and health measures that we can protect the lives of workers, their families and the larger communities, ensure work continuity and economic survival.

**Guy Ryder, ILO
Director-General**

On the 28th of April 2020, a **global expert panel webinar** was organised by the ILO and hosted on Zoom with livestreams on YouTube and Facebook. The webinar was viewed by over 12,000 participants from around the world.

The panel of experts included Joaquim Pintado Nunes (Branch Chief, LABADMIN/OSH), Manal Azzi (Senior OSH specialist), Silvana Cappuccio (ILO Workers' Group member, Italy), Kris De Meester (Senior Advisor, Federation of Enterprises, Belgium), Richard Jones (Head of Policy and Regulatory Engagement, Institute of Occupational Safety and Health), Lode Godderis (Leuven Centre for Environment and Health, Department of Public Health and Primary Care), Chris Laszcz-Davis (President, the Environmental Quality Organization), Michelle M. Robertson (CPE, Executive Committee, International Ergonomics Association), Barry Kistnasamy (Department of Health, South Africa) and Teresita S. Cucuenco (Department of Labor and Employment, Philippines).

The panelists discussed safety and health at work during the COVID-19 pandemic, the mental health impact of COVID-19 in different work scenarios, but also how to prepare for a return to work. A special focus was given to vulnerable groups and lessons learned for the future. The panelists were prompted by various questions that were sent in by webinar participants from around the world in advance.

In conjunction with the webinar, the ILO also produced products for the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020 that were subsequently translated into over 10 local languages by partners around the world. These materials included the following:

- **Poster:** [Poster for World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020](#)

- **Report:** [In the face of a pandemic: Ensuring Safety and Health at Work](#)

- **PowerPoint:** [PPT Presentation of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020](#)

- **Think Pieces on COVID-19:** [Original and exclusive think pieces on the OSH response to the Covid-19 pandemic from the global OSH community](#)
 - [“Good jobs to minimize the impact of Covid-19 on health inequity”](#) by Lode Godderis

 - [“Work at the Sharp End: Human factors/ergonomics for protecting healthcare workers and patients”](#) by Sara Albolino and Kathleen Mosier

 - [“Work from home: Human factors/ergonomics considerations for teleworking”](#) by Michelle M. Robertson and Kathleen Mosier

 - [“Covid-19: How do OSH professionals impact public-policy”](#) by Richard Jones

 - [“The new world battleground with Covid-19: Challenges, partnerships, impact and business”](#) by Chris Laszcz-Davis

Global OSH expert panel 28 April 2020



Watch the full expert panel discussing OSH and Covid-19 [here](#)

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The World Day received **global press and social media coverage** from around the world.

In addition, a number of international, regional, and national OSH institutes commemorated the day through virtual events with special highlights, offering support to the ILO, its constituents, and OSH practitioners worldwide.

In the Press and Social Media

The collage displays a wide range of media coverage for the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020. Key elements include:


- United Nations News:** A headline reads "Employers Urged to Observe Safe Health Practices at Workplaces to Defeat Coronavirus".
- Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali:** A headline states "Oggi, 28 aprile, l'OIL celebra la Giornata mondiale per la salute e la sicurezza sul lavoro".
- António Guterres:** A tweet from @antonioguterres on April 28, 2020, says "The courage & commitment of frontline workers during the #COVID19 crisis is truly inspirational. We must give them the support they need, and ensure their health & safety at this challenging time."
- International Workers' Memorial Day:** A graphic from the ILO states "World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020 - Stop the pandemic... Recognizing the great challenge that governments, employers, workers and whole societies are facing worldwide to combat the COVID-19...".
- Various News Articles:** Headlines from "The Sun Daily" include "Remembering the fallen healthcare workers" and "Frontline workers are the heroes of the global COVID-19 pandemic". Other articles discuss workplace safety during lockdowns and the importance of safety for public and private sector organizations.
- Promotional Graphics:** Several images feature the event's logo, which includes a globe and the text "SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK CAN SAVE LIVES".

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Furthermore, ILO constituents around the world organized **regional and national social media campaigns**, lectures, webinars, virtual dialogues and other various themed events.

Participants in these events included OSH professionals, employers, workers, government officials, students and various other people interested in the topics being discussed. The various webinars included, in some cases, several hundreds or thousands of online participants and viewers.

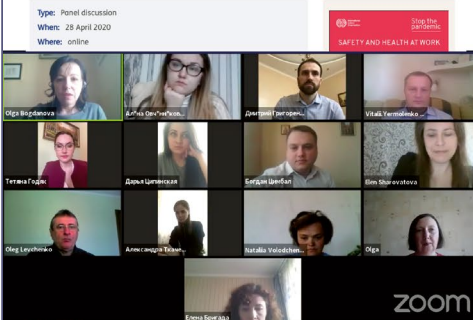


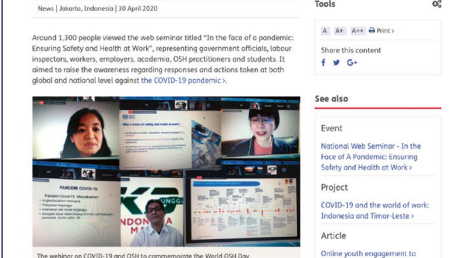
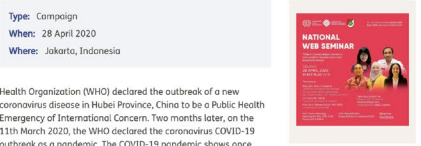

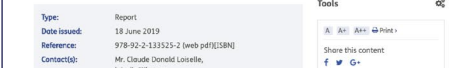


Regional events and national events included, among others, regional events in the African Continent, the Latin American and Caribbean Region and events hosted in countries across Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, South America and the Pacific Region. While many of these events focused broadly on COVID-19 and health and safety at work, others focused specifically on topics such as youth engagement, healthcare workers, returning to work and the impact of COVID -19 on OSH, among others.



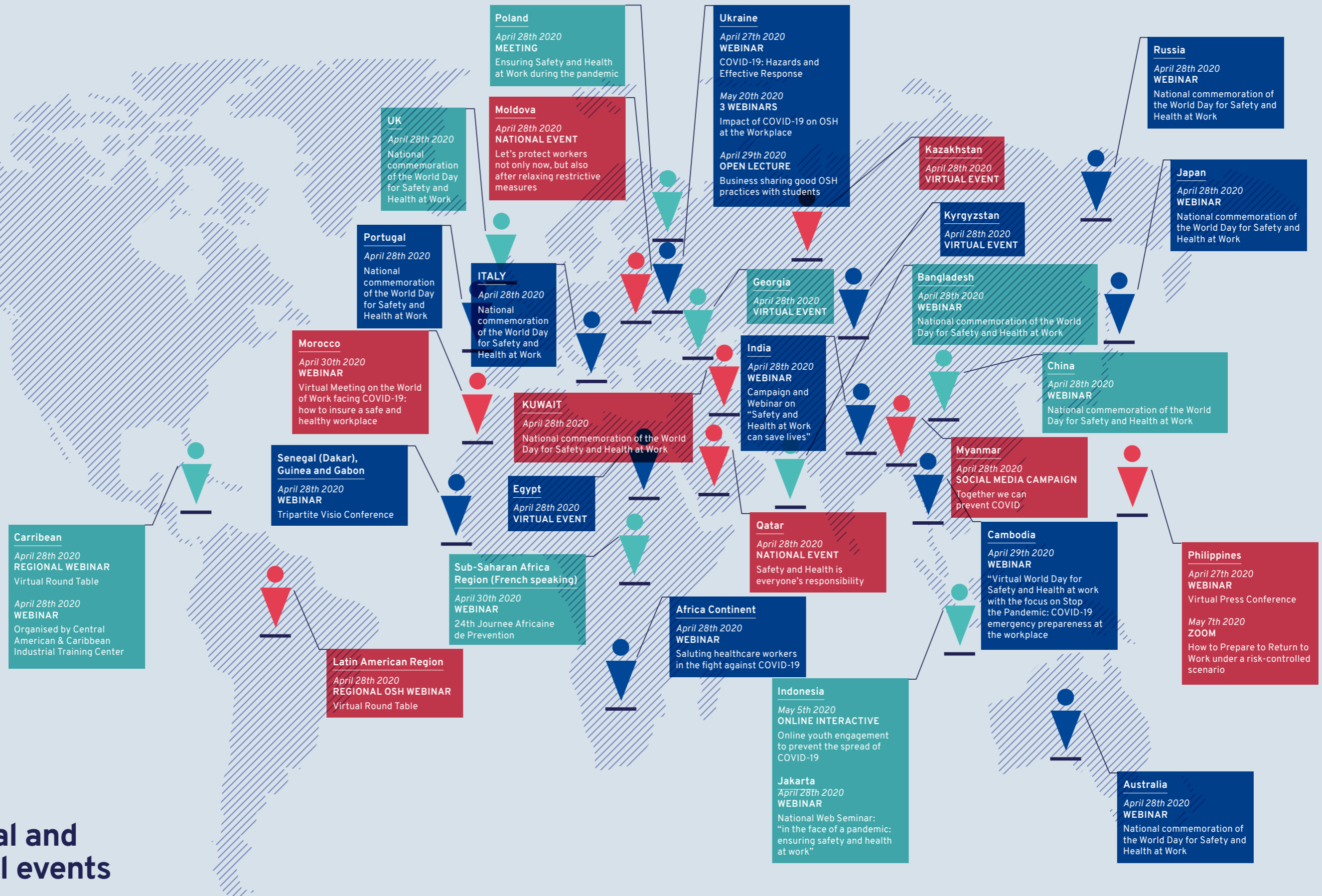
On World Day for Safety and Health at Work, I call on all countries to assure well-defined, decent and safe working conditions for all health workers.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General

Regional and National events

<p>Virtual Roundtable (COVID-19 webinar series) Safety and health at work in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic (28 April 2020 at 2:00 pm ECT).</p> <p>Type: Panel discussion When: 28 April 2020 Where: online</p> 	<p>Safety and health is everyone's responsibility</p> <p>New animation highlights the role of government, employers and workers in making workplaces safe and healthy</p> <p>Press release 28 April 2020</p> 	<p>Как обеспечить охрану труда в условиях пандемии</p> <p>Охрана труда в Восточной Европе и Центральной Азии в условиях пандемии. МОТ продолжает оказывать содействие своим транспортным участникам – правительствам, организациям работодателей и работников, предлагая различные меры в ответ на пандемию с целью преодолеть ее негативное влияние на рынок труда, охрану труда, условия труда и доступ к базовой социальной защите. Ключевые принципы, на которых строится предлагаемые МОТ ответные меры, включают: стимулирование экономики и занятости, поддержку предприятий, рабочих мест и доклада, защиту работников на рабочих местах и поиск решений в рамках социального диалога.</p> <p>date published: 24 Апрель 2020 г.</p> 
<p>OSH World Day Indonesia take actions to stop the pandemic through OSH</p> <p>As a response to a growing concern over the continuing rise in COVID-19 infections in some parts of the world, including Indonesia, the ILO teamed up with the Ministry of Manpower and National OSH Council (DK3N) highlighted actions that could be taken to mitigate the impact and stop the outbreak.</p> <p>News Jakarta, Indonesia 30 April 2020</p> 	<p>Commemoration of the World OSH Day National Web Seminar - In the Face of A Pandemic: Ensuring Safety and Health at Work</p> <p>The world of work is being profoundly affected by the global virus pandemic. In addition to the threat to public health, the economic and social disruption threatens the long-term livelihoods and well-being of millions.</p> <p>Type: Campaign When: 28 April 2020 Where: Jakarta, Indonesia</p> 	<p>Mesa Virtual de Diálogo: Seguridad y salud en el trabajo frente a la pandemia en América Latina</p> <p>Qué: Panel de discusión Cuándo: 28 abril 2020 Dónde: Virtual de 10:00 a 11:00 horas de Lima (GMT-5) Contactos: oshlat@ilo.org</p> 
<p>Profile of the Inter-African Association for the Prevention of Occupational Risks</p> <p>Type: Report Date issued: 18 June 2019 Reference: 978-92-2-13325-2 (web.pdf)(158N) Contact(s): Mr. Claude Donald Lottelle, lottelle@ilo.org</p> 	<p>Online youth engagement to prevent the spread of COVID-19</p> <p>One of the ILO's OSH youth champions manages and organizes a weekly livestreamed talkshow to engage Indonesian youth to better protect themselves and prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Article Jakarta, Indonesia 03 May 2020</p> 	<p>Charla Patrocinada: En el marco del Día Mundial de la Seguridad y Salud en el Trabajo</p> <p>Relatora: Msc. Ana Catalina Ramírez Especialista Técnica, OIT</p> <p>APARTA TU FECHA</p> <p>28 10:00 AM Hora de Caracas (+4 GMT)</p> 

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► **Regional and national events**

► **Regional and national events on the occasion of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020**

LOCATION	DATE/TIME	TITLE/THEME	ORGANIZED BY	TYPE OF EVENT	WHO PARTICIPATED	# OF PARTICIPANTS	LINK
African Continent	April 28th	Saluting healthcare workers in the fight against COVID-19	ILO and African Union Development Agency	Webinar	OSH professionals, government, academia, employers, workers and media	369 people from 38 countries	https://www.nepad.org/event/world-day-safety-and-health-work-commemoration-africa-webinar
Cambodia	April 29th	"Virtual World Day for Safety and Health at work with the focus on Stop the Pandemic: COVID-19 emergency preparedness at the workplace	ILO, IFC, Better Factories Cambodia, GMAC, ILO/Japan Multi-Bilateral Programme	Webinar		212 (349 registered)	https://drive.google.com/open?id=1O27UQT-S0zYzBRj4jgIYOgT1UoyPK7aI
Caribbean	April 28th	Virtual round table	ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean	Webinar			https://www.ilo.org/caribbean/events-and-meetings/WCMS_741881/lang--en/index.htm
Caribbean	April 28th	Event	Central American & Caribbean Industrial Training Center	Webinar			
Georgia	April 28th	Event	supported by ILO regional office	Virtual event	N/A		https://www.ilo.org/moscow/information-resources/video/WCMS_742752/lang--ru/index.htm
Indonesia	May 5th	Online youth engagement to prevent the spread of COVID-19	Indonesian Occupational Safety and Health Council under Ministry of Manpower	Online interactive talkshow	Indonesian youth	3000	https://www.ilo.org/jakarta/info/public/fs/WCMS_743699/lang--en/index.htm
Indonesia (Jakarta)	April 28th	National Web Seminar: "in the face of a pandemic: ensuring safety and health at work"	ILO Jakarta, Ministry of Manpower and National OSH Council	Zoom	Workers, employers, labour inspection, government officials, academics, students, OSH practitioners	1300	https://www.ilo.org/jakarta/whatwedo/eventsandmeetings/WCMS_742963/lang--en/index.htm
Kazakhstan	April 28th	Event	supported by ILO regional office	virtual event	N/A		https://www.ilo.org/moscow/information-resources/video/WCMS_742752/lang--ru/index.htm
Kyrgyzstan	April 28th	Event	supported by ILO regional office	virtual event	N/A		https://www.ilo.org/moscow/information-resources/video/WCMS_742752/lang--ru/index.htm
Latin American Region	April 28th	OSH Virtual Table	ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	Virtual Round Table			https://www.ilo.org/americas/eventos-y-reuniones/WCMS_742466/lang--es/index.htm
Moldova	April 28th	Let's protect workers not only now, but also after relaxing restrictive measures	National Confederation of Trade Unions in Moldova				
Morocco	April 30th	Virtual Meeting on the World of Work facing COVID-19: how to insure a safe and healthy workplace					
Myanmar	April 28th	Together we can prevent COVID	ILO's Vision Zero Fund (VZF)	Social Media Campaign	Workers, employers, ministry of health and sport, ministry of labour immigration and population, ministry of information, other UN agencies, and other partners		https://m.facebook.com/Together-we-can-prevent-COVID-103361088031052
North African Region	April 28th	Virtual Commemoration	Ministry of Manpower of Egypt	Virtual Commemoration			
Philippines	April 27th	Virtual Press Conference		Zoom			
Philippines	May 7th	How to Prepare to Return to Work under a risk-controlled scenario	Employers Confederation of the Philippines, ILO, and OSHC	Zoom	Employers Representatives, Workers representatives		Flyer on I-Drive

► Events worldwide to commemorate the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2020

Qatar	April 28th	Safety and Health is everyone's responsibility	Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs with the support of the ILO project office				https://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/qatar-office/WCMS_742947/lang-en/index.htm
Senegal (Dakar), Guinea and Gabon	April 28th	Tripartite Visio Conference	ILO Country Office (Dakar)	Visio Conference	employers, workers, universities, social security institutions, OSH institutions and ministry of labour	45	
Sub-Saharan Africa Region (French speaking)	April 30th	24th Journee Africaine de Prevention	CSS Senegal (National Social Security Institution) and Interfricaine de prevention des risques professionnels (IAPRP)	Zoom	Ministries, employers, workers, and professional associations and OSH leaders from other countries	100	https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/safety-and-health-at-work/resources-library/publications/WCMS_710921/lang-en/index.htm
Ukraine	April 27th	COVID-19: Hazards and Effective Response	Industrial Safety Magazine	Webinar	State Labour Service top management and staff of central and territorial bodies, trade union representatives, employers representatives	1300 views of the webinar	https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/safety-and-health-at-work/events-training/events-meetings/world-day-safety-health-at-work/WCMS_741814/lang-en/index.htm
Ukraine	April 29th	Business sharing good OSH practices with students	European Society of Occupational Safety and Health	Open lecture	students	300	https://www.facebook.com/olga.bogdanova.7121/videos/1613592285457099/
Ukraine	May 20th	Impact of COVID-19 on OSH at the Workplace	EU-ILO Project "Towards safe, healthy and declared work in Ukraine"	3 webinars	trade unions, employers and labour inspectors		
Italy	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Bangladesh	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
India	April 28th	Campaign and Webinar on "Safety and Health at Work can save lives"		Webinar			
Australia	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Kuwait	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Russia	April 28th	Celebration of World Day for Safety and Health at Work	National Association of OSH Centers of the Russian Federation	Celebration and Development of Safety Standards for COVID-19			
UK	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
China	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Japan	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Portugal	April 28th	National commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work		Virtual commemoration			
Poland	April 28th	Ensuring Safety and Health at Work during the pandemic	The Labour Protection Council of the Polish Parliament	Meeting			https://m.phnompenhpost.com/national/over-100000-hit-factory-suspension