

# What are the main occupational hazards to which coffee farmers and processors are exposed?

Key findings of the International Labour Organization Vision Zero Fund's research.\*



# Main drivers and constraints for occupational safety and health improvement in the coffee sector

## ● Constraints

- General absence of **data** at the sectoral level on occupational accidents and diseases limits the understanding of the OSH conditions in the sector
- Deficits in **national legal and policy frameworks**, including in relation to the protection/coverage of migrant and seasonal farmworkers
- Limited **institutional capacity** to enforce OSH legislation
- Low levels of **awareness and knowledge** of OSH hazards in coffee production leads to poor OSH outcomes, for example, during the application of fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides
- Lack of appreciation of the **business case** for safety and health, which often results in low levels of investment on OSH equipment and training
- Absence of **health care services and sanitation facilities**
- Failure to acknowledge gender-differences and gender-specific risks results in inadequate OSH responses

## ● Drivers

- Strong **enforcement of national standards** by national authorities
- Presence of **national sectoral strategies** for the sustainable development of the sector
- Support from **national industry federations** to promote a culture of prevention in the supply chain
- **Buyers or brands mandating compliance** with OSH requirements for their supplier network
- Coffee **certification schemes** that pay higher prices and, in turn, improve the capacity to invest in OSH
- Existence of **free trade agreements** that include a labour dimension, including OSH
- **Food safety standards** in importing countries and **consumer pressure**
- Collective action of a broad range of supply chain actors, including global buyers



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Vision Zero Fund is part of Safety + Health for All, an ILO flagship programme building a culture of safe, healthy work.

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