



EYE HEALTH AND THE WORLD OF WORK

The ILO and IAPB have collaborated on a brief 'Eye Health and the World of Work'.



Together our aim is to ensure a safe and healthy work environment that **recognizes eye health as a fundamental right** and includes collaborative efforts across stakeholders to protect workers' eyesight.

We are calling on every workplace to have a formal program to protect and enhance the sight of workers.

The workplace program should be designed with three goals in mind:



To prevent exposure to the hazards particular to each workplace



To protect the existing health of workers' eyes



To provide a system to include workers' naturally occurring sight loss, including age-related vision loss, in risk assessments

The collaboration between the ILO and IAPB recognises:



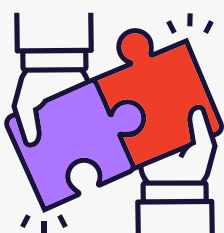
Healthy sight as integral to **safety and productivity** at work



The **magnitude of the burden of sight loss** in the workplace



The opportunity for improving **wellbeing and productivity** through promoting healthy sight



The brief provides a detailed proposal of the content for such a program and the stakeholders who should be involved. It recognises the need for collaboration between Occupational Safety and Health and Public Health in the workplace to address the needs and challenges around eye health.

♥ YOUR EYES AT WORK

The brief highlights the role of health promotion campaigns and strategies, such as the Love Your Eyes Campaign can play in improving health outcomes.

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Together, we know:

Sight loss can impact people, employment opportunities and workplace productivity:



Annual global **productivity loss** from sight loss is approximately **US\$ 411 billion.**

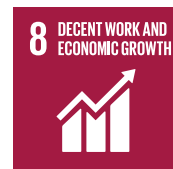


About **143 million** of the **working age population** in 2020 were living with moderate or severe sight loss.



More than 90% of people with sight loss of a preventable or treatable cause with existing cost-effective interventions.

Sight loss can lead to reduced personal independence, mobility, and employment opportunities, which ultimately lead to a lower quality of life. **Good eye health contributes to progress on many of the Sustainable Development Goals, including:**



There is a huge opportunity in addressing eye health in the workplace to unlock not just **economic productivity, but global progress** on multiple agendas.



The ILO and IAPB hope that this brief will raise awareness about the magnitude of the burden of sight loss within the workplace for workers, businesses, and economies. It gives recommendations to governments, employers, workers, and their representatives to identify and remove workplace risks that can harm eye health.