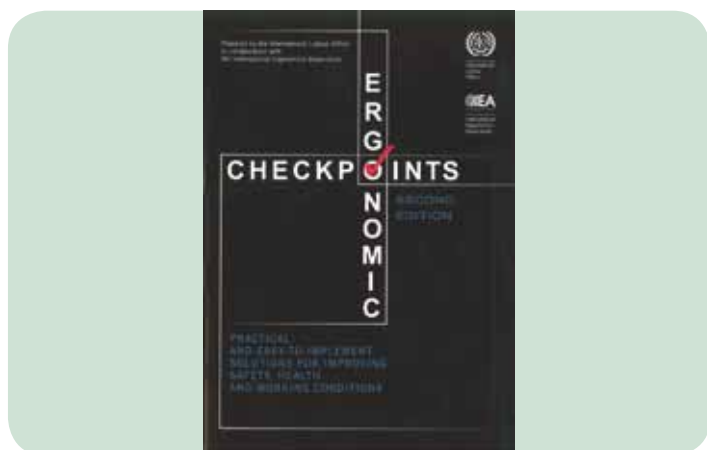


Rural-Relevant Tools

Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture

Themes



What is Ergonomic Checkpoints in Agriculture?

A manual that comprises checklists for applying ergonomic principles to address all agricultural workplace safety and health problems and to improve working conditions. It includes practical solutions for safety and health hazards discovered through a checklist survey. Its second edition was published in 2010

For whom?

- **Direct beneficiaries:** All who are concerned with OSH in agriculture such as employers, supervisors, workers, farmers, inspectors, safety and health personnel, trainers and educators, extension workers, engineers, ergonomists and designers
- **Ultimate beneficiaries:** Agricultural workers and employers



© FAO/Giulio Napolitano

For what purpose?

- Educate and train beneficiaries to improve workplace safety and health conditions

How is it delivered?

- Training of trainers
- Training of institutions/organizations
- Handing out of brochures and manuals

What are its components?

- This manual presents 100 ergonomic interventions aimed at improving safety, health and working conditions in small-scale agricultural farms, with a clear focus on practical, low-cost solutions
- Each checkpoint indicates an action, “why” it is necessary, and “how” to carry it out. It also provides further hints and points to remember
- The checkpoints, all of which are illustrated, cover the main ergonomic issues at the workplace

Which technical areas are covered?

- Skills training
- Occupational health and safety

Can it cover more technical areas?

Yes, such as work in informal activities





Where has it been used?

At least in 8 countries: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam (see map)

Which languages?

Available in 17 languages: Arabic, Bahasa Indonesian, Bahasa Malaysian, Chinese, English, Estonian, Farsi, French, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Turkish, and Vietnamese

Is it suitable for rural areas?

Yes, it focuses on agriculture

What are its strengths?

- Based on many examples of realistic solutions and practical ergonomic improvements achieved at low cost, that can be applied in a flexible manner and contribute to improved working conditions and productivity in agriculture
- Confirmed validity of these practical solutions through recent ILO activities in Asia, Central Asia, Latin America and Africa
- Action-oriented tools such as checklists referring to readily applicable ergonomic checkpoints can lead to many similar improvements by farmers in these countries
- Uses the ILO *Work Improvement in Neighbourhood Development* (WIND) approach
- Linked with the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) tool: ILO/IEA *Ergonomic Checkpoints* 2nd edition. An ILO-IEA practical guide on ergonomic checkpoints in agriculture is to be issued in late 2011



© ILO/K. Sovannara



© Fotolia



© Fotolia

Is there a training course in ITC-Turin?

No

Where to find more information?

- Ergonomic Checkpoints 2nd edition:
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@dgreports/@dcomm/@publ/documents/publication/wcms_145207.pdf
- International Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre: www.ilo.org/cis, for accessing the following ILO Databases:
 - CISDOC to access over 70 000 references
 - Encyclopaedia of Occupational Health and Safety
 - International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSC)

Who to contact?

E-mail: Shengli Niu: niu@ilo.org or safework@ilo.org

Address: International Labour Office
4 Route des Morillons
Genève 22 CH-1211
Switzerland