

Drowning prevention: an infographic for policymakers in **labour and occupational safety**

Working on the water should never cost a life.

Fishers and other
water-dependent
workers support
economies and
food security.

**They deserve safety
standards that match
the risks they face.**

Scan the QR code for
more information



More than
32,000
fishers die
each year¹.



of people employed
in fisheries work in
the small-scale sector,
while more than 60
million people rely on
lakes and rivers for
their livelihoods².

What policymakers can do:

Align with best-practice international standards

and develop sector-specific
codes of practice to address
drowning risk.



Legislate for practical safety training, drills and certification for workers,

tailored to the risks of different
water-related occupations.



Establish workplace safety systems

for risk assessment,
inspection, reporting and
continuous improvement.



Benefits beyond drowning prevention

- 1** Fewer work-related injuries and deaths
- 2** Healthier, safer and more productive workers
- 3** Stronger livelihoods and resilient economies
- 4** Reduced financial losses from workplace injuries and fatalities

1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Fishing Safety – Background. Rome: FAO. <https://www.fao.org/fishing-safety/about/background/en>

2. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2024: Blue Transformation in Action. Rome: FAO, 2024.