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What about the effects of climate change on  
workers' health?





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# What about the effects of climate change on workers' health?



## Project background

- 2023-2027 Spanish Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health (EESST). Second objective.
- First action plan (2023-2024).
- Climate change working group.

## Project goals

- Characterize working outdoors occupations.
- Identify occupational risks related to new climate situation.
- Provide tools to facilitate the assessment of occupational risks related to climate change for each activity to OSH technicians.



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## Who are we talking about?



## Methodology

- Methodological triangulation of information through:
  - Statistical analysis: Labor Force Survey and occupational accidents.
  - Literature review: scientific and gray literature: 185 documents.
  - Qualitative techniques: individual and group interviews: 31 experts in 10 interviews.

## Physical risks



- Exposure to extreme heat temperatures.
- Exposure to solar ultraviolet radiation.



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## Biological risks



- Exposure to animals, invasive species, and disease-transmitting vectors.



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## Chemical risks



- Exposure to air pollution.
- Exposure to hazardous building materials.



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## Ergonomic risks



- Musculoskeletal disorders.



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## Psychosocial risks



- Stress and fatigue due to exposure to extreme cold or heat temperatures.
- Stress due to unpredictable financial situations.
- Stress or fatigue due to work overload.



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## Safety risks



- Fires.
- Workplace accidents.



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## Emerging risks



- Exposure to extreme weather events.



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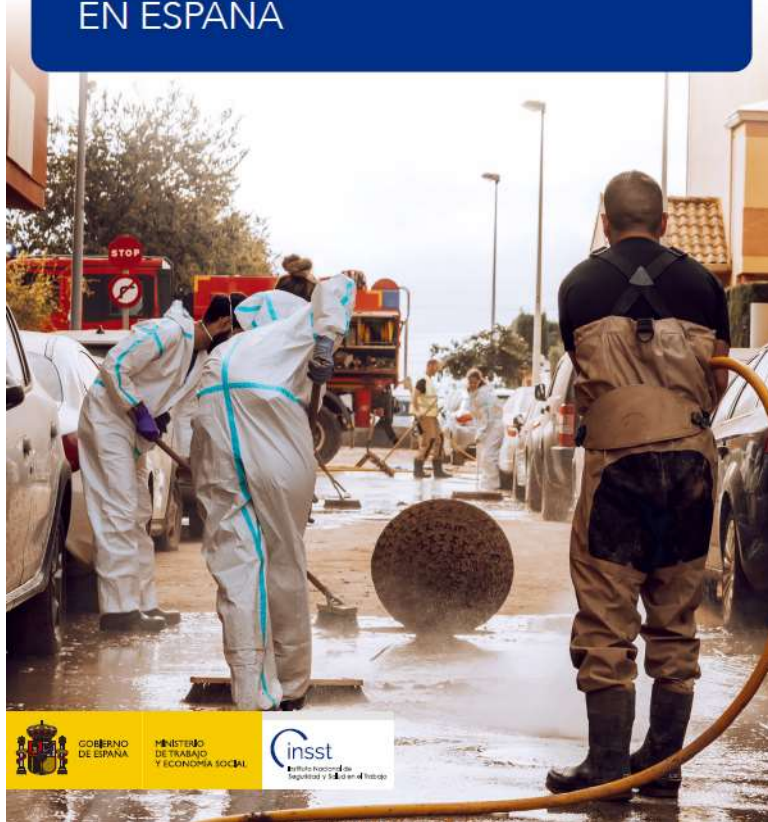


# What about the effects of climate change on workers' health?

## Products

ESTUDIOS TÉCNICOS

ESTUDIO DESCRIPTIVO SOBRE LA IDENTIFICACIÓN Y LA CARACTERIZACIÓN DE LAS OCUPACIONES MÁS VULNERABLES AL CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO EN ACTIVIDADES A LA INTEMPERIE EN ESPAÑA



OCUPACIONES MÁS VULNERABLES AL CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO EN ESPAÑA EN ACTIVIDADES A LA INTEMPERIE: VETERINARIOS/AS (EN EXPLOTACIONES GANADERAS) - CNO 213

## Conclusions

- Climate change is a generator and amplifier of certain occupational risks.
- In Spain, the most affected sectors are primary sector, construction, emergency services and cleaning.
- Effects on workers' health: cardiovascular diseases, skin illnesses, thermal stress, infectious diseases, allergies, respiratory diseases, musculoskeletal disorders, injuries, emotional and behavior disorders, post-traumatic stress, ...
- Adaptation to these risks requires updated preventive strategies such as epidemiological surveillance, prevention training, monitoring technologies and improvements in protective equipment.

## Next steps...

- Collect useful and practical information to manage occupational risks affected by climate change.
- Compile best practices for workplace risk assessment in companies of sectors particularly affected by climate change.

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Thank you so much for your  
attention!

