



कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि संगठन, श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS ORGANISATION
(MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA)
30-31, संस्थागत क्षेत्र, जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली - 110058



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No.13/07/2020-2021/PDNASS/50

Dated: 15.04.2021

To

**All Officers of EPFO
Head Office/Zonal Office's/Regional Office's**

Subject: ISSA Webinar: Rehabilitation and return to work policies - The need for holistic approaches - reg.

Madam/Sir,

This ISSA Webinar on rehabilitation, the second of a series of webinars on various aspects of this major challenge related to the ISSA's four triennial topical priorities. Rehabilitation – understood as “a set of interventions designed to optimize functioning and reduce disability in individuals with health conditions in interaction with their environment” (World Health Organization – WHO) – plays an important role in the care and recovery of people.

2. The ageing of the workforce, combined with the stagnation of healthy life years and the prevalence of long-standing illness in older age groups, compels workplaces and national social security systems to improve the management of sickness absence and adapt work to chronic conditions and mild disabilities.

3. The evolution of the narrative on rehabilitation/return to work and the recommendations of international organisations, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the ISSA, have highlighted the need for holistic approaches to return to work, individualised interventions and improved cooperation of the different actors.

The details are as under:

Wednesday, 21 April 2021, 14:30–16:00 (UTC/GMT+2 or CEST)

Please adapt timing to your time zone

Languages: Simultaneous interpretation in English, French and Spanish

Speakers:



Alarcos Cieza
Unit Head, Sensory
Functions, Disability
and Rehabilitation,
World Health
Organization (WHO)



François Perl
Director of public affairs, studies and
advocacy, National Union of Socialist
Mutual Benefit Societies (Solidaris),
Belgium and Chair of the ISSA
Special Working Group on
Rehabilitation



Philip Germain
Chief Executive
Officer,
Saskatchewan
Workers'
Compensation Board,
Canada



Saskia Decuman
Research and Development Advisor,
Benefits Department, National
Institute for Health and Disability
Insurance (NIHDI), Belgium

This webinar will examine the following questions:

- What are the main steps towards strengthening rehabilitation in health systems and improve inter-sectoral collaboration?
- How to enable more people to access appropriate, timely, affordable and high-quality rehabilitation interventions?
- How to maintain the sustainability of social security systems and reduce the economic impact of sickness absence and mismanaged return to work leading to unemployment, disability pensions or early retirement?
- How to enhance collaboration at international level to address the barriers and support the development of effective and efficient rehabilitation programmes?
- How to exploit the opportunities post-COVID-19?

Agenda:

- ✓ Welcome by Marcelo Abi-Ramia Caetano, ISSA Secretary General
- ✓ Technical introduction by the Chair of the ISSA Special Working Group on Rehabilitation
- ✓ Rehabilitation addressed by WHO
- ✓ Country experience of Canada
- ✓ Country experience of Belgium
- ✓ Q&A – Panel discussion
- ✓ Conclusions



**Moderated by Dominique La Salle, Director, Social Security
Development, ISSA**

URL:- <https://ww1.issa.int/events/webinar-2021-04-21>

Officers of EPFO are encouraged to register and take advantage of this webinar at no cost. This ISSA webinar will address the rehabilitation matters from a holistic perspective, exploring links with occupational rehabilitation, based on the experiences of ISSA members and international organisations. Interested officers may register for this webinar at the URL mentioned above.

(This issues with the approval of Competent Authority)

Yours faithfully,

**(Shyam V. Tonk)
Regional P.F. Commissioner-I (Training)**