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# Vietnam TVET Bulletin

January 7 - January 13, 2021

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## ● Policies ●

### **Vietnam Should Increase Minimum Wage by 3%-4% in 2021: Expert**

Vietnam should increase minimum zonal wage in 2021 by 3%-4%, versus 6%-7% annually in other years, said Ms. Nguyen Thi Lan Huong, former director of the ministry-run Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs (ILSSA). She explained that Vietnam had many difficulties in 2020 but eventually recorded positive economic growth, which could facilitate wage hike. She suggested that the hike should match the inflation, or consumer price index (CPI). ([CafeF](#), [VnEconomy](#) Jan 8)

### **Vietnam Should Carefully Check Priorities before Raising Min Wages: Official**

Vietnam should carefully check the macro conditions, resources, and priorities, in order to make a decision on possible hike of minimum zonal wages, said Mr. Pham Quang Vinh, deputy head of the General Statistics Office of Vietnam (GSO). Mr. Vinh voiced his opinions on the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL)'s suggestion on conducting the annual hike of minimum wage on July 1. Mr. Vinh also noted that at the moment, many businesses are suffering from COVID-19 impacts. He listed that 101,700 firms temporarily paused their operations or waited to process bankruptcy in 2020, up 13.9%. He also suggested that the authorities should focus on help firms in vulnerable sectors, especially small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and firms with high numbers of labourers. He added that there should be support for labourers with heavily-reduced incomes. ([CafeF](#), [Tin Tuc](#), [VnEconomy](#) Jan 6)

### **Vietnam to Consider Putting Preschool, P.E. Teachers into Hazardous Jobs List**

Based on the proposal of the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL), the Vietnamese Government Office has assigned the MoLISA to research to add preschool teacher and physical education (P.E.) teacher into the list of hazardous occupations. If the proposal is approved, these two aforesaid worker groups can retire early at the ages of 57 for men and 55 for women. It also is a longstanding desire of preschool teachers and P.E. teachers because of their professional characteristics. Vietnam has so far had three million labourers working in 1,800 heavy industries and jobs. ([Giao Duc Thoi Dai](#), [Lao Dong](#) Jan 6)

## ● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

### *Foreign Cooperation*

### **GIZ-Run Program Offers Free TVET Courses to 800 People in Vietnam in 2020**

The TVET in Vietnam, run by the GIZ, offered short-term TVET courses to 800 learners in Vietnam in July-December 2020. The courses aimed to help labourers, who are negatively affected by COVID-19 pandemic, such as unemployed people seeking employment, employed



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people with reduced working hours and high risk of unemployment, and others. The GIZ cooperated with 10 TVET colleges across Vietnam to offer courses in industrial electricity, home electricity, automobile technology, water treatment, food safety and processing, and others. The training durations are between four and eight weeks. So far, 34 courses were deployed with 1,100 people registering to join. At an event on January 6 on the program, the MoLISA's Department of Employment anticipated that Vietnam would have 30,000-40,000 people losing jobs monthly in 2021 in case that COVID-19 is under control. If COVID-19 is not under control, the figures could reach 50,000-60,000, especially in sectors of producing, apparel and footwear, electronics, and others. ([Tuoi Tre](#), [GDNN](#), [Thanh Nien](#) Jan 6)

## **Second Industry Advisory Board Meeting at LILAMA 2**

On January 5, the second Industry Advisory Board (IAB) Meeting for the two groups of occupations Mechanics and Electricians – Electronics took place at the International Technology College LILAMA 2 (LILAMA 2), Dong Nai Province. Managers and trainers of 15 partner companies, Rector board and teachers of LILAMA 2, GIZ's experts and staff attended the meeting. During the meeting, representatives from partner companies gave feedback about the German standard oriented Cooperative training programmes having been implemented for the four occupations Mechatronics, Industrial Electronics, Metal Cutting and Construction Mechanics at LILAMA 2. Mr Dinh Truong Viet, Vice General Director of ISHISEI Vietnam, shared his positive thoughts about the Cooperative training concept after four years implementing with LILAMA 2: "The students of the German standard oriented Cooperative training classes undertook the in-company training phase, were professionally trained, therefore enhanced their problem-solving skills and professionalism, some of which have now become key employees of our company." With the coordination of the IAB's Chairman – Dr. Le Quang Trung, Vice Rector of LILAMA 2, IAB's members actively engaged in discussion to give feedback on the Constitution of IAB and the organization of IAB meetings, with the goal to increase the effectiveness of the upcoming activities. The activity ended after the topics for the next IAB meeting was agreed by all members. Ms. Le Thi Thu Uyen – the Vice Director of Martech Boiler, put her faith in the effective operation of IAB: "IAB acts like a bridge of cooperation between the three stakeholders: the college, partner companies and governmental institutes. The members need to develop a detailed action plan for each specific period, in order to improve the quality of demand-oriented training, meanwhile to support the recruitment of high-skilled labour force for the company in the future." This activity was held within the component "Supporting High-Quality TVET Institutes" as part of the Vietnamese - German "Programme Reform of TVET in Viet Nam". The programme is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), implemented by GIZ together with the MoLISA. ([TVET](#) Jan 7)

## **Vietnam Sends 78,641 Labourers Abroad in 2020**

Vietnam sent overseas 78,641 labourers in 2020, including 28,786 females, much lower than the achievement of 152,530 in 2019 and the target of 130,000 for last year, according to DoLAB, under the MoLISA. The DoLAB attributed the low figure to the COVID-19 pandemic, which hurt the operation of foreign firms and the disrupted commercial flights. The DoLAB added that



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three out of five major programs failed their targets in 2020. The program of sending labourers to Japan, named IM Japan, fulfilled only 48.6%. The figures were 7.45% for the South Korean program, named EPS, and 56.4% for the German program. The DoLAB listed another problem that about 26,000 labourers abroad with expired contract could not go home because of no flights. Some nations adapted by letting those labourers work by extending the contract or changing the work format. In 2021, Vietnam aims to send abroad 90,000 labourers, focusing on the programs with Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, and others. ([VnEconomy](#), [Thoi Dai](#) Jan 12)

### **Japan Asks Vietnamese Migrant Labourers to Prepare COVID-19 Testing Docs**

Vietnamese people, who migrate to Japan to work, must provide COVID-19 testing documents to Japanese authorities within 72 hours before their departure from Vietnam, per Japan's rules on COVID-19 prevention and control. The rule will become effective on January 13 (Japanese time). It will expire when Japan cancels its emergency situation, as a method to respond to COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, South Korea and Taiwan had applied or will apply such rules to foreign labourers. From January 8, South Korea demanded foreign labourers to provide results of COVID-19 negative per PCR testing and the results must be as latest as 72 hours before departure to South Korea. Taiwan will enforce similar rules from February 28. ([An Ninh Thu Do](#), [VnEconomy](#) Jan 11)

### **Hong Kong Firm to Build \$200M Electronic Spare Parts Plant in Vietnam Nghe An**

Everwin Precision Hong Kong Company Limited, a supplier of U.S.-based Apple Inc, will build an electronic components factory in Vietnam's central province of Nghe An with a total investment of \$200 million. The factory will cover 43.2 hectares in VSIP Nghe An industrial zone. Upon completion, it can churn out 270 million products per year and create jobs for 15,000 labourers, including 1,000 foreign workers. ([CafeF](#), [NDH](#), [VietnamBiz](#) Jan 6)

### ***Domestic News***

### **MoLISA Lists 10 Achievements in 2016-2020**

The MoLISA on January 11 announced the sector's 10 achievements in 2016-2020. Regarding institutional construction, the sector issued and approved many documents, including a resolution on wage reform, a resolution on social insurance reform, Labour Code 2019, Law on Vietnamese people working abroad 2020, three international conventions, and others. The vocational training sector saw better connections between schools, businesses, and the labour market. Vocational training management was transferred to the MoLISA. In five years, the sector recruited 11.1 million people, improved the rate of trained labourers from 51.6% to 64.5%, and increased the rate of labourers with certificates to 24.5%. Regarding employment, the sector hosted 6,000 job fairs to offer jobs to five million people, of which 68.5% offers were accepted. In total, Vietnam solved eight million jobs and reduced the unemployment rate to 2.48%. In 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the MoLISA joined in the COVID-19 combat and assisted people with COVID-19 impacts. The sector provided VND31.5 trillion (\$1.35 billion) to ensure lives and jobs of the people and labourers, including VND12.9 trillion for 13 million people. The



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people's trust in social welfare have grown. A survey in January 2021 showed that 72% of the responders highly rated social welfare and 68% high rated employment and poverty reduction. ([DVET](#), [Dan Tri](#), [MoLISA](#) Jan 11)

### **Vietnam Must Improve TVET to Match Higher, General Education**

Vietnam must improve its TVET to match the levels of higher education and general education, said Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam, at the MoLISA's conference on January 11 to review the performance in 2020. Mr. Dam reviewed that the World Bank's rankings of Vietnam's general education and higher education were about 40th and 67th places. He added that TVET has seen improvement, from no ranking to 94th place in 2019. Deputy PM Dam suggested the MoLISA cooperate strongly with relevant sectors and ministries in boosting career path guidance for secondary school learners, improving the learning path for TVET learners to advance to colleges and universities, and letting experts and fine labourers joining TVET teaching. TVET schools in Vietnam recruited 2.28 million learners in 2020, or 100.9% of the plan, including 580,000 going to intermediate-level schools and colleges. Besides, 2.19 million TVET learners graduated in 2020, including 510,000 from intermediate level schools and colleges. Vietnam currently has 1,911 TVET schools, including 408 colleges, 446 intermediate-level schools, and 1,057 centres. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [VnEconomy](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Dan Viet](#) Jan 11)

### **Vietnam's TVET Recruits 2.2M People amid Pressure from Universities in 2020**

Although higher education units have been lowering their entrance requirements to attract more learners, Vietnam's TVET schools and colleges successfully recruited 2.2 million people in 2020, or 100.9% of the target. In the 2016-2020 period, Vietnam's TVET system recruited 11 million people, or 3% above the target. The DVET attributed the achievements to the TVET system's development into an open and flexible one, the streamlined school system, the cooperation between TVET schools and businesses, the promotion of startups from students, and others. The DVET particularly listed major firms and organizations with TVET cooperation in 2016-2020, such as the Vietnam Chamber of Industry and Commerce (VCCI), Samsung, Denso, Vingroup, Trung Nguyen, FLC, Viet Jet Air (HOSE: VJC), Sun Group, BIM, and others. In 2021, the TVET system aims to recruit 2.5 million learners. The DVET set methods of improving the legal frameworks for TVET, pushing career path guidance for secondary and high school learners, focusing on training and re-training for rural labourers, digitalizing the learning contents and methods, and others. ([Tien Phong](#), [Tien Phong](#) Jan 4)

### **Vietnam Aims to Improve Labour Market, Labour Relations in 2021**

The MoLISA aims to ensure and improve the labour market, the labour relations, and social welfare policies in 2021, Minister Dao Ngoc Dung listed at the MoLISA's conference on January 11 on setting tasks for 2021. Regarding the labour market, the MoLISA will focus on post-COVID-19 conditions, vocational training improvement, and labour training per labour reform. About labour relations, the MoLISA will focus on key issues of wage reform, higher





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retirement age, foundation of labourers' representative organizations. The MoLISA will also focus on social welfare, especially for revolution contributors, poor people, vulnerable people. The MoLISA will also seriously handle violations against kids and women. Besides, the MoLISA listed achievements in 2016-2020, such as 3% of the population receiving regular social welfare assistance; new employments for eight million people; 635,000 people working abroad, including 79,000 in 2020; poverty rate going down to 2.75% in 2020; unemployment rate at 2.48% in 2020; and others. ([CafeF](#), [MoLISA](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Dan Tri](#) Jan 11)

### **Vietnam's Unemployment Rate Reaches 2.48% in 2020: Ministry**

Vietnam's unemployment rate reached 2.48% in 2020 overall and 4% in urban areas, making the Southeast Asian country among the lowest ten nations in the world, the MoLISA informed at a conference on January 11 to review 2020. The MoLISA added that Vietnam provided new jobs to eight million people in the last 5 years and sent 635,000 labourers abroad, or 27% above the target, Minister Dao Ngoc Dung added. On COVID-19 impacts, Minister Dung emphasized that the labour and employment status in Vietnam has basically resumed to the normal level. Nevertheless, the MoLISA stressed the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the workforce, such as the unemployment rate in urban areas reached ten-year high, incomes of labourers went down, the workforce decreased, and others. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [VTV](#), [Nguoi Lao Dong](#) Jan 11)

### **1.6M People in Vietnam Lose Jobs due to COVID-19 in 2020: GSO**

COVID-19 pandemic made 1.6 million people jobless in Vietnam, the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) informed at a conference on June 1 to announce and give insight on labour statistics for 2020. The GSO explained that Vietnam's labour force at the age of at least 15 reached 54.6 million in 2020, down 1.2 million y/y. In 2016-2019, the workforce's growth was 0.8% annually, and if the growth had continued in 2020 without COVID-19, 1.6 million more people would have been employed. The GSO said that COVID-19 affected jobs of 32.1 million people at the age of 15 or above, including 69.2% having reduced incomes, 39.9% having reduced workload, and 14% leaving jobs temporarily. The biggest impacts went to the service sector with 71.6% of labourers, followed by industry and construction with 64.7% and agriculture-forestry-fisheries with 26.4%. The GSO added that the average monthly incomes of labourers went down in 2020. The figure at the fourth quarter of 2020 was VND5.7 million (\$244), down VND108,000 y/y. Besides, the GSO informed that COVID-19 made 1.3 million people become unemployed. ([Vietnam Finance](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [VOV](#) Jan 6)

### **Vietnam Aims to Give Job Opportunities to 80% of Jobless People in 2025**

Vietnam's unemployment insurance system is tasked with providing free job consultations for all insurance policy holders and 80% of unemployed people in 2025, according to the Prime Minister's Decision 2269/QĐ-TTg on boosting unemployment insurance agencies. For unemployed people, a sub-target is to let 60% become employed people with such job



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consultation. In 2030, the target is to provide free job consultations to 90% of unemployed people and let 70% of them become employed people. The government set some methods for the tasks, such as improving the legal framework, boosting the structure and performance of unemployment insurance agencies, updating the financial mechanism of unemployment insurance, enhancing the procedures, and others. ([Tap Chi Tai Chinh](#), [Nhan Dan](#) Jan 5)

### **Science-Tech Helps Vietnam Surpass Targeted Annual Labour Productivity Growth**

Vietnam's annual labour productivity growth in 2016-2020 was 5.8% on average, which was higher than the previously-set target of 5% thanks to science and technology, said Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Le Xuan Dinh at the ministry's meeting in Hanoi on January 6 morning. The contribution of total factor productivity (TFP) in the past five years averagely reached about 45.2%, breaking the expected goal of 30%-35%, Deputy Minister Dinh said. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [VnExpress](#) Jan 6)

### **Vietnam Breaks Ground on \$32M National Innovation Centre**

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on January 9 began the construction of the National Innovation Centre (NIC), under the management of the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), with a total investment of VND740 billion (\$31.8 million). The 35-hectare project, located at Hanoi-based Hoa Lac high-tech park, is set to attract 40 big technology companies, 150 startups and small- and medium-sized enterprises, and 15 venture investment funds, thereby generating more than 5,000 jobs. ([Lao Dong](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Thoi Bao Kinh Doanh](#), [VTV](#), [Cong Thuong](#), [CAND](#), [QDND](#), [Nhan Dan](#), [QDND](#), [BNews](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Hai Quan](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Dan Tri](#), [Lao Dong](#), [VTV](#) Jan 9)

### **Hanoi Generates Jobs for 180,578 Labourers in 2020: Official**

Throughout last year, Hanoi created jobs for 180,578 labourers, surpassing the targeted number of 156,000 workers, Vice Chairman of the municipal People's Committee Chu Xuan Dung said. The city sent 2,571 in 3,500 labourers abroad under contract and offered jobs to 7,400 employees through rural labour training. As many as 13,930 labourers were recruited via job fairs and introduced job for 114,840 labourers based on firms' demand analysis. As of end-2020, the city had 362 vocational training facilities, including 122 public units. These establishments recruited 215,000 learners, beating the target of 102.4%. Additionally, firms received 52,126 learners for internship and joined amendment of 422 course books. There were 229 enterprises offered to train 12,320 people and recruit 16,177 learners upon graduation. Businesses granted VND8.14 billion (\$350,000) in equipment and materials to vocational training facilities. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Kinh Te Do Thi](#), [Lao Dong Xa Hoi](#) Jan 11)

### **Hanoi University of Law Hosts Job Fair 2021 on Jan 7**



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Hanoi University of Law on January 7 hosted the Job Fair 2021 with the participation of 20 recruiters in the offline format and 50 others in the online format. They offered 300 job vacancies for 80,000 students of law across Hanoi. ([Doi Song Phap Luat](#) Jan 8)

### **Vietnam Coal and Minerals College Aims to Enrol 4,700 Learners in 2021**

Vietnam Coal and Minerals College in northern Quang Ninh province has set a target to enrol 4,700 learners in 2021, equal to 117% of the goal set by Vietnam National Coal-Mineral Industries Holding Corporation Limited (Vinacomin). In 2020, the college enrolled 5,400 learners, up 9% y/y and equivalent to 120% of the Vinacomin-assigned target. ([Bao Quang Ninh](#) Jan 9)

### **Thanh Hoa Hosts Career Path Guidance to 3,000 Learners**

The central province of Thanh Hoa on January 10 hosted career path consultations for 3,000 grade 11 and grade 12 learners. This was the sixth edition of the event. The event featured representatives from 50 universities, colleges, TVET schools, and others. ([Dan Sinh](#) Jan 10)

### **Firms Propose Building VND6T Logistics Centre, IZ in Thanh Hoa**

Three firms have proposed building the North Central Coast logistics centre and No.6 industrial zone in Thanh Hoa with a total investment of VND6 trillion (\$258.62 million). Upon completion, the complex is expected to generate jobs for 20,000 local labourers, make a huge contribution to the province's budget, and meet the requirements about infrastructure of investors in Nghi Son economic zone. ([Dau Tu](#) Jan 9)

### **Quang Tri Provides TVET to 57,490 People in Rural Areas in 2010-2020**

The central province of Quang Tri provided TVET to 57,490 people in rural areas in 2010-2020 per the Prime Minister's Scheme 1956. In the period, the province spent nearly VND191.3 billion on the work. ([Dan Sinh](#) Jan 7)

### **Thua Thien-Hue Targets to Create Jobs for 16,000 Labourers in 2021**

The central province of Thua Thien-Hue has set a target to create jobs for 16,000 labourers in 2021, including 1,800-2,000 outbound jobs. ([Dan Sinh](#) Jan 7)

### **Van Phong EZ Attracts \$4.1B, Disburses \$1.39B to Date**

Van Phong economic zone (EZ) in Khanh Hoa has so far attracted 153 projects at their total registered capital of \$4.1 billion and disbursed \$1.39 billion, or 33.9% of the total registered capital. Van Phong EZ have contributed VND20.95 trillion (\$903.02 million) to the provincial budget and generated jobs for 6,200 locals. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Tin Tuc](#) Jan 7)





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## **Khanh Hoa to Host Career Fair on Jan 15**

Central Khanh Hoa province on January 15 will host a career fair. Eight firms will join to recruit 450 labourers. The event will also feature career path guidance and TVET learning consultations for participants. ([Khanh Hoa](#) Jan 10)

## **Xuan Thien Group Seeks to Invest VND20T in Livestock, Logistics in Dak Lak**

Vietnam's northern Ninh Binh province-based Xuan Thien Group is seeking approval to invest VND20 trillion (\$862 million) in a series of livestock and logistics projects in the Dak Lak province. The projects will be conducted in districts of Ea Sup, Cu M'gar, Krong Buk, and Cu Kuin, along with Buon Ho Township and Buon Ma Thuot city in 2021-2025. They are expected to employ 5,000 labourers. ([VietnamBiz](#), [BNews](#), [Vietnam Moi](#) Jan 10)

## **HCMC Provides Career Path Guidance to 150,000 Grade 12 Learners**

HCMC on January 11 launched career path guidance and higher education entrance consultation for 150,000 grade 12 learners of 250 high schools. The program will last until April 10. ([Giao Duc](#) Jan 12)

## **Vietnam's Thu Duc City Needs \$1.29B for Infrastructure Development by 2025**

The newly-established Thu Duc City within Ho Chi Minh City will need over VND30 trillion (\$1.29 billion) for infrastructure development in 2020-2025, according to a development scheme of Ho Chi Minh City. The development area is expected to be expanded to 500 hectares and 1,800 hectares in the second and the third phases, along with the number of jobs for openings for bachelors and engineers increasing to 50,000 and 150,000, respectively. ([CafeF](#) Jan 10)

## **An Giang Vocational College Inks Deal with Firm to Send Students to Japan**

An Giang Vocational College in the southern namesake province on January 11 inked a strategic cooperation agreement with International Media & Finance Corporation (MIF), under Sao Mai An Giang Corporation, to send students to work in Japan in 2021-2025. ([Bao An Giang](#) Jan 11)

## **Vinh Long Provides Career Path Guidance to 15,300 Youths in 2020**

The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union in Vinh Long cooperated with TVET centres to provide career path guidance to 15,300 young people and gave job opportunities to 3,250 young people last year. ([Vinh Long](#) Jan 8)

## **Ca Mau to Integrate TVET to Climate Change Adaptation**

Ca Mau province annually provides new jobs to 38,000 labourers, trains 35,000 others. In 2020, salinization hurt the province's socioeconomic development, but Ca Mau adapted by training



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38,929 labourers. The figure included college-level TVET for 1,090, intermediate TVET for 347, TVET assistance for 8,490 rural labourers, and others. For youths, Ca Mau financed VND2.54 billion for 187 learners. To adapt to climate change, Ca Mau's TVET schools should boost connections with learners, enhance links between learners and firms, train per agricultural development, improve management software to help relieve COVID-19 impacts, and others. ([Dan Sinh](#) Jan 11)