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DVET

Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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● Highlights ●

● Policies ●

MoET Still Drafting General Education within Vocational Training

The MoET is still drafting rules about general education within vocational training for learners, MoET official said. Mr. Hoang Duc Minh, head of the MoET's Continuing Education Department, made the statement to the issue about vocational training for secondary school graduates. Vietnam currently has about 300,000 secondary school graduates learning vocational training. Their training programs include some high school subjects. By completing both vocational training and general education, those learners can advance to the labour market sooner. However, the MoET has yet to regulate general education within education, hence those learners have to exhaustively travel a lot between vocational training schools and continuing education schools. The Vietnam Association for Vocational Education-Training and Social Work Profession (VAVET) has also sent a plea to the Prime Minister to urge the MoET solve the issue. The MoET also clarified that qualified vocational training schools can teach general education contents, per guidance from the MoET. The MoET vowed to issue such rules in 2021. Some vocational training experts reminded that Minister of Education and Training Phung Xuan Nha has once promised to issue such rules in 2020. ([Dan Tri](#), [VietnamNet](#), [GDNN](#), [GDNN](#), [Dan Tri](#), [Dan Tri](#), [Tien Phong](#) Mar 29)

Experts Warn against Vocational Courses for Secondary School Graduates

As the MoLISA has been promoting the vocational training courses, named 9+, for secondary school graduates, many have warned that such courses may not be as good as the promotion. The courses let secondary school graduates advance to college-level vocational training courses. After two years, learners can graduate and gain intermediate-level certificates. After another one or two years, learners can graduate and gain college certificates. Upon college graduation, learners can advance to universities or join the labour market. The Association of Vietnam Universities and Colleges (AVU&C) complained that such quick training with possibly overloaded amount of learning contents would unlikely lead to qualified labourers. The association added that there is a trend of vocational training schools "renaming" themselves as colleges to attract learners, hence hurting the outcomes of colleges in Vietnam. Vietnam currently has about 300,000 people learning high school general education and vocational training simultaneously. ([Cong Luan](#), [Cong Luan](#), [Cong Luan](#) Mar 25)

Vietnam Vocational Training Sector to Push Distance Teaching

The DVET, under the MoLISA, has recently issued a guideline on different formats of learning, in order to push distance teaching and learning. The guideline is for courses of part-time learning, distance learning, and self-learning. The DVET suggested municipal and provincial Departments of Labour, War Invalids, and Social Affairs enhance recruitment of employed



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people, labourers in areas under impacts of climate change, labourers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and others. The DVET asked vocational training units to review and prepare courses and mechanism for those types of learning. In late March, the DVET will review suggestions for the move. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 24)

PM Appoints Deputy Labour Minister Nguyen Van Hoi

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc has recently appointed Mr. Nguyen Van Hoi, born 1970, as Deputy Minister of Labour, War Invalids, and Social Affairs. Mr. Hoi has worked at the MoLISA for 27 years. Most recently, he was head of the MoLISA's Department of Social Assistance. As a result, the MoLISA now has five deputy ministers, namely Le Van Thanh, Le Tan Dung, Nguyen Thi Ha, Nguyen Ba Hoan, and Nguyen Van Hoi. ([VietnamNet](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Dan Tri](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Giao Duc Thoi Dai](#) Mar 29)

Deputy Labour Minister Thanh Appointed Head of Vietnam National Wage Council

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc has recently founded the National Wage Council of Vietnam, with Deputy Minister of Labour, War Invalids, and Social Affairs Le Van Thanh as the chairman of the council. The council is in charge of researching, surveying, and analysing wage, livelihoods, labour market, job demands, unemployment, and other factors to determine the country's minimum wages and make relevant suggestions about wages. The council has 17 members. Three vice chairpersons are Vice Chairman Ngo Duy Hieu of the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL), Vice Chairman Hoang Quang Phong of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), and Vice Chairman Nguyen Van Thinh of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance. Other members of the councils are officials from the MoLISA, officials the VGCL, officials of representative organizations of employers, and labour experts. ([Lao Dong](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [VTV](#) Mar 29)

Vietnam to Survey 2,000 Firms to Suggest Minimum Wage Hike 2022

The MoLISA from April 2021 will survey 2,000 firms in 18 localities to make a suggestion on minimum zonal wage hike in 2022. The MoLISA will check 150 firms in each city of Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Danang. The MoLISA will collect data about firms of three sectors of manufacturing-production, agriculture-forestry-fishery, and industry-trade-service. The survey will last for 60 days. The MoLISA will survey firms' business statuses, labour contract, collective labour agreements, wage, firms' recommendations, and others. ([VTV](#), [CafeF](#), [An Ninh Thu Do](#) Mar 24)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

Foreign Cooperation



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Vietnam Sends 26,118 Labourers abroad in Jan-Feb: MoLISA

Vietnam sent abroad 26,118 labourers, including 10,864 females, in the first two months of 2021, up 30% y/y, according to the DoLAB, under the MoLISA. The figures were 23,133 in January and 2,985 in February. Regarding destinations, Japan was the most popular one with 18,134. The next names were Taiwan with 7,171, Singapore with 531, China with 238, Romania with 143, and South Korea with 101. ([CafeF](#), [VietnamBiz](#), [Tien Phong](#), [Kinh Te Va Du Bao](#), [Thoi Dai](#) Mar 27)

Vietnam to Enhance Ties with ADB in Vocational Training, Social Welfare

Officials of the DVET, under the MoLISA, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), had a meeting in Hanoi on March 23 to discuss cooperation in 2022-2024, including vocational training and social welfare. DVET General Director Truong Anh Dung affirmed that attracting official development assistance (ODA), especially ADB-sourced ones, into vocational training is a priority of Vietnam, per government's decision in 2018. Mr. Dung noted that the DVET seeks support from the ADB to reach the target of building 70 high-quality vocational schools in 2025, including three reaching G20 level and 40 reaching ASEAN-4 level. He suggested that ADB provide help in facilities, equipment, training for vulnerable people, and others. He also suggested the DVET give technical support in updating the legal framework for vocational training, building and deploying the development strategy in 2021-2030, boosting digitalization and cooperation with firms, accrediting training qualities, and others. At the event, Mr. Andrew Jeffries, country director of the ADB in Vietnam, listed prioritized cooperation with Vietnam, including green growth, social welfare development, vocational training and sustainable development for SMEs, and others. He added that the ADB is committed to helping Vietnam in finance, technical support, construction and implementation of development strategy for vocational training, vocational training for vulnerable and elderly people, and others. ([DVET](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Dan Tri](#) Mar 24)

Meeting Highlights Social Work for Cohesive, Responsive ASEAN Community

A kick-off meeting on the development of a roadmap to implement the Hanoi Declaration on strengthening social work towards cohesive and responsive ASEAN Community took place in Hanoi on March 25. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs in its capacity as Chair of the ASEAN Social Work Consortium for 2020-2021. The Hanoi Declaration was approved at the 37th ASEAN Summit last year. Speaking at the meeting, Deputy Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs Le Tan Dung said the declaration has important implications for ASEAN member countries, especially in the context that the sector in charge of social work has yet to meet the needs of people, especially vulnerable groups. He hoped the implementation roadmap to be submitted to the 38th ASEAN Summit will include strategies, actions, and dates for related commitments. Participating ASEAN member states jointly set a target that the implementation roadmap will be developed with strategies and actions to conduct the commitments outlined, with a focus on integrating the plans of related agencies such as social welfare and development, health, education, and labour, among others. After the



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function, a working group on the roadmap was established. ([Vietnam Plus](#), [Dan Sinh](#), [MoLISA](#) Mar 25)

Vietnam to Send Two Youngsters to Asia-Pacific Online Mechatronics Competition in Apr

Two Vietnamese youngsters, who had won the gold prizes at the 2020 national skills competition, will join the Asia-Pacific online mechatronics competition on April 7-8. Both candidates are from the Hanoi Electromechanical Vocational College. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 30)

Japan Honours Four Vietnamese as Excellent Foreign Workers

Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport on March 23 held a ceremony to award the title of excellent foreign construction workers for five workers, including four Vietnamese. They are Than Van Hoang working for Osaka-based Okasan Kogyo, Dang Van Kien of Nitta group in Tokyo, Hoang Manh Hung of Sato Construction Management Company (Sacom) in Hokkaido, and Nguyen Manh Duong of Masuko in Ibaraki. ([BNews](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [Bao Quoc Te](#), [Tin Tuc](#) Mar 23)

South Korea Urges Vietnam to Continue Reception of Its Experts, Labourers

South Korean Ambassador to Vietnam Park Noh Wan has recommended Vietnam continue to allow entry of experts and labourers from South Korea in line with COVID-19 containment regulations, state media reported. The diplomat gave the call at the meeting with Minister cum Head of Government Office Mai Tien Dung in Hanoi late last week. He notified that South Korea is weighing to receive Vietnamese labourers. For his part, Minister Dung stated that since March 2020, more than 20,000 South Korean experts, teachers, students, and labourers have been permitted to enter Vietnam. He expected the South Korean Embassy to promote bilateral high-level visits, investment projects, as well as the reception of Vietnamese labourers. ([Van Phong Chinh Phu](#) Mar 26)

Switzerland Pledges \$70M Grant for Projects in Vietnam in 2021-2024: Diplomat

The Swiss Government commits a \$70 million grant for Vietnam to carry out projects on sustainable development and climate change response in 2021-2024, said Mr. Marcel Raymond, head of Economic Cooperation Embassy of Switzerland in Vietnam, at a press briefing on March 25. Mr. Raymond shared that the Southeast Asian country is now home to 157 Swiss investment projects with total registered capital of VND40 trillion (\$1.72 billion), generating over 20,000 jobs. ([Zing](#) Mar 26)

Vietnam Politburo Member Thang Hosts Ambassador on Mar 25-26

Professor-Doctor Nguyen Xuan Thang, director of the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics, hosted ambassadors of Germany on March 25-26 and discussed cooperation. Per suggestions from German Ambassador to Vietnam Guido Hildner, Mr. Thang elaborated the



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contents of the CPVCC's 13th National Congress and relevant targets and policies. Besides, Mr. Thang agreed with Mr. Guido Hildner's suggestions on cooperation between the two nations, including education, vocational training, law building, science-technology, and others. ([HCMA Mar 26](#))

Vietnam, Samsung Discuss Higher Cooperation in Vocational Training

Officials of the DVET, under the MoLISA, and Samsung Vietnam had a meeting in Hanoi on March 22 to discuss further cooperation. DVET General Director Truong Anh Dung proposed Samsung Vietnam cooperate in labour training and recruitment, especially in (i) giving information about labour demand and training orders to vocational schools, (ii) improvement of training in Vietnam, sending experts to work with vocational schools, organizing field trips to Samsung units, (iii) researching about new jobs, such as electronics, supporting industry, electromechanics, and (iv) helping Vietnamese competitors at labour skills competitions. Samsung Vietnam informed that the firm has so far employed 100,000 people in Vietnam after over 12 years of operating in the country. ([DVET Mar 23](#))

Dongnai College of High Technology, Hwaseung Vina Ink Deal for Vocational Training

Dongnai College of High Technology and South Korea-invested Hwaseung Vina Co., Ltd have recently signed a cooperation agreement on vocational training. Under the deal, Hwaseung Vina will send experts to guide and assess the learning results of learners at Dongnai College of High Technology. ([Dong Nai Mar 29](#))

AEON to Develop \$190M Commercial Centre in Vietnam Bac Ninh in 2022

Japanese retail and financial services corporation AEON is planning to develop a \$190 million commercial centre in Vietnam's northern province of Bac Ninh in 2022. The shopping mall is expected to generate jobs for about 3,000 locals and to help consume traditional and agricultural products of the province. ([Vietnam Finance](#), [BNews](#), [VietnamBiz Mar 26](#))

Austria's AT&S Eyes Development of \$1.78B Hi-tech Proj in Vietnam Thai Nguyen

AT&S Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik AG is pondering to build two high-tech plants with a total investment of EUR1.5 billion (\$1.78 billion) in their first phase, and the northern province of Thai Nguyen is able to meet the firm's requirement in terms of infrastructure. The information was revealed by AT&S Chief Operating Officer Ingolf Schröder at a meeting with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on March 23. The project is set to attract around 6,000 labourers. ([Thoi Bao Kinh Doanh](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Vietnam Finance](#), [VOV](#), [Nhan Dan Mar 24](#))

Domestic News



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Vietnam's Workforce Reaches 51M as of end-Q1: GSO

Vietnam's workforce at the age of 15 or above reached 51 million as of the end of the first quarter (Q1) of 2020, down 1.1 million q/q and down 180,900 y/y, due to COVID-19 impacts and post-the Lunar New Year (Tet-holiday) period, according to the latest data of the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) released on March 29. The participation rate is 68.7%, down 1.6 percentage points q/q and 1.1 percentage points y/y. The number of employed people at the age of 15 or above is 49.9 million, including 14.1 million in agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector, 16.1 million in industry-construction sector, and 19.7 million in service sector. The overall unemployment rate is 2.19%, ranging from 2.96% in urban areas to 1.76% in rural areas. Unemployment rate among young people (at the age between 15 and 24) is 7.44%, ranging from 10.34% in urban areas and 5.99% in rural areas. The underemployment rate is 2.2%, ranging from 1.52% in urban areas to 2.6% in rural areas. ([VietnamBiz](#), [Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [VOV](#), [VnEconomy](#), [GSO](#) Mar 29)

Average Monthly Wage Reaches VND7.2M in Q1: GSO

The average monthly income of Vietnamese labourers reached VND7.2 million (\$309) in the first quarter (Q1) of 2021, up by VND557,000 q/q and VND133,000 y/y, reported the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO). The figures are VND7.6 million for male workers and VND6.6 million for female workers. The rate of labourers without labour contracts outside the agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector is 57.1%, ranging from 48.4% in urban areas to 64.3% in rural areas. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [VOV](#), [VnEconomy](#), [GSO](#) Mar 29)

Vietnam Has 21.9M Learners in Preschool, General Education in 2020-2021: GSO

In the school year of 2020-2021, Vietnam has 4.31 million kids in kindergartens and preschools, down 0.1% year/year; and 17.55 million learners at general education, up 3% y/y, according to the latest data of the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) released on March 29. Specifically, the general education system has 8.89 million at primary schools, up 1.6% y/y; 5.92 million at secondary schools, up 4.9% y/y; and 2.74 million at high schools, up 3.3% y/y. In TVET, the DVET, under the MoLISA, sets a goal to recruit 2.5 million people in 2021, including 260,000 people into colleges, 340,000 into intermediate level schools, and 1.9 million into beginner-level courses and other courses. ([GSO](#) Mar 29)

Gov't of 2016-2021 Tenure Does Excellent Job with Robust GDP Growth

The government of the 2016-2021 tenure has done an excellent job with vibrant achievements recorded, which are lauded by domestically and internationally for the robust economic growth, which puts Vietnam among the top 40 economies in the world. During the period, over 8 million new jobs have been generated and incomes of people improved. ([VTV](#) Mar 23)



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Vietnam Licenses 29,300 New Firms in Q1, down 1.4% y/y: GSO

Vietnam licensed nearly 29,300 new firms in the first quarter (Q1) of this year, down 1.4% y/y, with their total registered capital of VND447.8 trillion (\$19.3 billion), up 27.5% y/y, the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) said in its latest monthly report. The average registered capital of a new firm in Q1 grew by 29.2% y/y to VND15.3 billion, the agency said, noting that the new firms used 245,600 labourers during the period, up 0.8% y/y. ([GSO](#) Mar 29)

Vietnam's Apparel Industry Adapts to COVID-19 thanks to PPE Switch

Many Vietnamese manufacturers have switched to producing personal protective equipment (PPE) to adapt to a surge in demand on the COVID-19, Forbes reported. Forbes quoted data from the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) as saying that Vietnam has currently had 6,000 apparel factories, which employed about three million workers. ([VTV](#) Mar 25)

PM Orders Focus on Labour Productivity, Sustainability in Forestry Sector

The Prime Minister has asked the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) to focus on raising labour productivity, products' value, and sustainability-related factors in the forestry sector. The PM made the order following an article on the local newswire Kinh Te Sai Gon (The Saigon Times) on March 18. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Tin Tuc](#), [BNews](#) Mar 25)

Defence Ministry Transfers TVET School No.21 to Army Corps 15

The Ministry of National Defence on March 29 transferred TVET school No. 21 from Corps 3 to Army Corps 15. ([MoD](#) Mar 29)

Inter-provincial Job Fair in Northern Vietnam Offers over 10,000 Vacancies

The job service centre in Hanoi on March 25 cooperated with its counterparts from Thai Nguyen, Bac Ninh, Bac Giang, Bac Kan, and Son La to hold an online job fair with the participation of 77 firms offering 10,187 vacancies. ([Dan Sinh](#), [CAND](#) Mar 25)

Thai Binh Generates Jobs for 165,750 People in Five Years

The northern province of Thai Binh generated jobs for 165,750 people in 2016-2020. The figure is set at 34,500 at minimum in 2021-2025. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 26)

Job Fair in Thanh Hoa Offers over 9,000 Vacancies

The job service centre in central Thanh Hoa province on March 24 held a job fair with the participation of 31 units with a total recruitment demand of 9,093 people. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 24)



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Ha Tinh to Boost Ties with Provinces of Laos

Secretary Hoang Trung Dung of Ha Tinh province Party Committee on March 24 hosted Laotian Ambassador to Vietnam. Currently, Ha Tinh is training in many Laotian officials with university, college, intermediate, and TVET courses in Vietnamese language. So far, Ha Tinh's universities and colleges have trained 1,725 Laotian officials. ([Ha Tinh](#) Mar 24)

Job Fair in Hue Offers 700 Vacancies to Job Seekers

A job fair on March 27 at the Hue University attracted the participation of over 20 firms, who offered more than 700 vacancies to job seekers. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 27)

Quang Ngai Boosting TVET

Quang Ngai province, with many economic zones, industrial parks, has been boosting TVET and employments to fulfil investors' requirements. Quang Ngai currently has 26 TVET units and about 23,000 learners. Quang Ngai's rate of trained labourers is 55%. Quang Ngai has had 40,800 TVET learners in the last 5 years. In 2020, Quang Ngai provided employments to 22,880 labourers, or 55.8% of the plan. ([Nhan Dan](#) Mar 22)

Firms Offer 4,000 Vacancies at Job Fair in Danang on Mar 27

The DoLISA in central Danang City held a job fair on March 27, with over 4,113 vacancies on offer by 113 firms. Of which, 41 firms joined in the offline format, with 3,505 vacancies. ([Dan Sinh](#) Mar 27)

HCMC's March Job Fair Support 1,512 People to Find Jobs

The job fair in March of Ho Chi Minh City supported 1,512 people to find jobs, the municipal job service centre said on March 28. The fair attracted the participation of 48 firms and 3,937 job seekers. ([DDK](#) Mar 29)

HCMC Still Fails to Match Demand & Supply of High-Level Labourers

HCMC is having a huge supply of mid-end and high-end labourers, however, the supply has yet to meet to demand, according to Navigos search. Some sectors are facing a shortage of high-quality labourers are Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence, fintech, propotech, and others. Besides, there are shortages of high-quality labourers with proficiency in English, Korean, and Japanese. ([SGGP](#) Mar 29)

Cao Thang College Launches Free Training Program for Labourers Hit by Pandemic



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Cao Thang Technical College in Ho Chi Minh City on March 25 launched a free-of-charge training program for labourers who lost jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first stage of the program is expected to benefit 500 labourers. ([NLD](#) Mar 25)

Dong Thap Creates Jobs for 9,158 Labourers in Q1

The southern province of Dong Thap has created jobs for 9,158 labourers in the first quarter (Q1) of this year. Of whom, 236 labourers were sent abroad. ([Dan Sinh](#) Mar 30)

Dong Thap Aims to Provide TVET to 9,107 Rural Labourers in 2021-2025

The southern province of Dong Thap has set a target to provide TVET to 9,107 labourers in 2021-2025. Such target is expected to increase the local trained labour rate to 79% by 2025. ([Dan Sinh](#) Mar 28)

Tien Giang Provides TVET to over 65,000 People in 2010-2020

The southern province of Tien Giang provided TVET to 65,575 people in 2010-2020, per a scheme approved by the Prime Minister in Decision 1956/QD-TTg, the provincial DoLISA said at a conference on March 24. ([Dan Sinh](#) Mar 25)

Bac Lieu Creates Jobs for 20,930 Labourers in 2020

The southern province of Bac Lieu generated jobs for 20,930 labourers last year, which surpassed the target by 16.3%. This year, the province aims to create jobs for 18,500 labourers and bring 300 labourers abroad. ([Lao Dong](#) Mar 25)