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Vietnam TVET Bulletin

May 20 – May 26, 2021

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● Highlights ●

● Policies ●

Vietnam PM Works with Labour Ministry on May 19

On May 19, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh worked with the MoLISA over topics of social welfares. PM Chinh demanded the sector to further push the anti-corruption activities and focus more on improving social welfares, such social insurance, removal of downgraded houses in needy areas, and others. Minister Dao Ngoc Dung said that Vietnam allocates 21% of its budget for social welfares, the highest rate in the ASEAN, hence the country basically fulfils its targets. Amid COVID-19 pandemic, the government's assistance and policies of social and unemployment insurance helped 14.4 million people with a total aid of VND33 trillion (\$1.42 billion). Other achievements are (i) vocational training improves, helping increase rate of trained labourers to 64.5% from 51.6% in 2015, (ii) 90% of the population is covered by healthcare insurance, (iii) unemployment rate is among the ten lowest figures in the world, and others. The MoLISA made many suggestions, including changes to the legal framework, more choices of social insurance, project of labour supply-demand, assistance for needy households, and others. However, PM Chinh listed some problems, including low labour productivity, imbalanced development of the labour market, low coverage of social insurance, problematic implementation of COVID-19 relief package, and others. For the future, PM Chinh asked the MoLISA to focus on communications with the people, administrative procedure reform, adaptation to the aging population, COVID-19 relief, simultaneous developments of economic growth and social equality, and others. ([VTV](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [CAND](#), [Vnbusiness](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Nhan Dan](#), [MOLISA](#) May 19)

PM Orders Preparations of Resources for Wage Reform in 2022

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has asked the Ministry of Finance (MoF) to prepare resources for the wage reform in 2022 and other social welfare plans. The wage reform follows the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee's Resolution 27/NQ-TW, which was issued in 2018, on wage reform for officials, civil servants, public employees, staff of armed forces, and labourers of businesses. The wage reform is scheduled to begin on July 1, 2022. ([Vietnam Finance](#), [VTV](#), [NDH](#), [Dan Tri](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#), [SGGP](#) May 25)

MoLISA Update Rules on Online TVET Recruitment in 2021

Per Document 1486/LDTBXH-TCGDNN, the MoLISA asked units to push online recruitment, ensure recruitment in areas with low-COVID-19 risk, publicize recruitment plans, prepare conditions for fair recruitment, and share recruitment information to the online platform and mobile apps. ([Luat Vietnam](#) May 24)



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MoET Official still Suggests TVET Managed by MoET

Former Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) official Lam Quang Thiep suggested that colleges should be managed by the MoET (again). He explained that the learning program, managed by both the MoET and the MoLISA, is hard to let learners advance from one system to the other, hurting their learning careers. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#) May 23, [Giao Duc Thoi Dai](#) May 21)

Learning TVET is Fair

At the online discussion on trend of advancing to TVET after secondary schools, participants said that TVET is a fair choice, amid the high fees from private high schools. Besides, employment rate among TVET graduates is high, unlike low rate of university graduates. Besides, there is a growing trend of 20%-30% secondary school learners advancing to TVET, regardless of their excellent results to advance to high schools. ([Dan Tri](#) May 25)

General Confederation of Labour Helping Labourers in Bac Ninh, Bac Giang

On May 25, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour delivered assistance of VND900 million to workers in Bac Giang province and VND500 million to workers in Bac Ninh province. As of May 24, the two provinces have recorded over 1,000 workers infected with COVID-19. ([Nhan Dan](#) May 25)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

Foreign Cooperation

LILAMA 2 Mechanical Teachers Participating in Training with Lifting Equipment

From April 15 to April 21, the training “Attaching, securing and lifting of loads (crane & forklift truck)” was organized for 05 Mechanical teachers of LILAMA 2 International Technology College (LILAMA 2), conducted by Mr Nguyen Xuan Luong, LILAMA 2’s trainer of Vehicle Engineering Faculty. The training was aimed to help the teachers get familiar with the vehicles usually exploited for lifting operations, typically for metal equipment, machine or wood boxes in the workshops. Mr. Nguyen Tien Dat – a young teacher of Metal Cutting – expressed: “A lifting operation may be performed manually or using lifting equipment. We were instructed on how to work with suspended loads and to reduce risks when working with loads. We have gained better knowledge about the structure of the crane and forklift truck. Now we know how to repair it when problems arise. This process also applies to mechanical lifting equipment, lifting tackle used in rigging a load, lifting attachment points. Therefore, all of us are very excited to participate in this effective training”. “Although we acknowledge that a person who operates a forklift truck must hold a high-risk work forklift license, we are happy to enhance our knowledge and skill to operate the crane and forklift truck. After this training, we will try our best to practice more and more. In addition, we will spend time to register further training to get official license so that we can operate the forklifts or cranes safely and professionally”, said Mr Nguyen Hai Binh, a Construction Mechanic teacher at LILAMA 2. This training course was held within the



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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](#) May 19)

Mechanical Teachers from 4 TVET Institutes Participate in Workshop Management Training

From April 5 to April 9, the further training on “5S workshop management” was organized at LILAMA 2 International Technology College (LILAMA 2) for 23 Mechanical teachers from LILAMA 2, Ninh Thuan, Long An and Yen Bai Vocational Colleges, who will be the leaders of a group of students involved in this training. The objective of this training was to review the importance of maintenance based on 5S standard. Also, the participants would discuss the new approaches and exchange experience in managing practical workshops. Firstly, 23 teachers were divided in 12 groups in collaboration with students to work on the survey about the current status of all kinds of equipment, tools, materials at every workshop of Mechanical Faculty. Participants made a plan on how to do with each criterion of 5S including Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain. After that, all participants decided on the best approaches that should be implemented. Ms. Nguyen Hoang Van, one of the participants, said that “I myself, as well as the students, rarely paid attention to the bad condition at the workshops. We just focused on the lesson or the manufacturing process. The teachers usually carried out the workshop management alone. However, through this training, we found out that the planned workshop management will be very helpful. For example, we have labelled and classified equipment, tools and supplies which will make them easier to be used later. In addition, we prepared and hanged up the Safety Instruction Sign for machine operation, or Equipment Maintenance Plan Board for teacher-in-charge and the students, etc. These will not only make the workshops look better, but also help the training become more professional and effectively.” “In general, after the training, all teachers and students will have more knowledge about 5S workshop maintenance and lean workshop management. The input knowledge on 3-layer workshop concept will be improved together with the awareness on the importance of regular maintenance. Finally, all teachers and students can make a daily routine to be on duty at each workshop. I hope that in the future, each individual can have his/her own viewpoint of doing maintenance for the workshop proactively”, expressed by Mr Nguyen Anh Dung, the Dean of Mechanical Faculty. This training course 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](#) May 19)

MoLISA, ILO Sign MoU on Cooperation in 2021-2030

On May 20, officials from the MoLISA and the International Labour Organization (ILO) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation between the two sides in 2021-2030. Per the MoU, the two sides will push the cooperation in researching and applying international working standards in Vietnam. Since joining the ILO in 1992, Vietnam has passed 25 ILO conventions, including seven out of eight core conventions. In 2021-2030, Vietnam aims to ratify



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additional 15 ILO conventions. On the occasion, the MoLISA granted a medal of appreciation to ILO Director in Vietnam Chang-Hee Lee. His major achievements in Vietnam were contributions to the signing of the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), Vietnam's Labour Code 2019, wage policies, and others. ([MOLISA](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) May 20)

Vietnam Sends 35K Labourers abroad in Jan-Apr, Reaching 38.79% Yr Plan

Vietnam had sent 34,912 people to work abroad under contracts in the first four months of this year, fulfilling 38.79% of the whole year target, according to the DoLAB, under the MoLISA. Japan received the most Vietnamese workers during the period with 18,355 people, followed by Taiwan with 15,055 labourers. Other popular locations were China, South Korea, and Hungary, the DoLAB said. However, Taiwan has suspended entry of foreign workers until June 18, which temporarily interrupts Vietnam from sending its labourers to the territory. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) May 24)

Vietnam Resumes Sending Labourers to South Korea after 1-Yr Interruption

Vietnam has officially resumed sending workers to South Korea after more than one year of disruption due to the expiration of the two countries' agreement on this issue and the COVID-19 pandemic. The reinstatement was marked after a flight conducted by Asiana Airlines on May 20 night transported 24 Vietnamese labourers to South Korea under the agreement extended by Vietnam MoLISA and the Korean Ministry of Employment and Labour in March. South Korea said that it would receive 8,200 Vietnamese labourers throughout this year, including 8,000 employed for the manufacturing industry and 200 in the fisheries sector. According to the management board of Vietnamese Labourers in South Korea, from March 2020 to April 2021, some 5,000 Vietnamese were chosen to sign contracts with South Korean employers. The partner country will at first receive 290 employers who signed their contracts last year and completed visa procedures. The two sides are finalizing procedures for the next 1,600 workers. Vietnamese labourers will be quarantined for 14 days upon entry and tested for COVID-19 twice. ([Tin Tuc](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [VOVworld](#) May 24)

An Duong, Avestos Sign Agreement in TVET & Human Resource Supply

On May 22, An Duong Group and Avestos Group signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in TVET and human resources supply, offering more chances for Vietnamese labourers to learn TVET in Germany. ([Dang Cong San](#) May 22)

Domestic News

Vietnam Records 600 Industrial Park Workers as COVID-19 Patients

As of May 20, Vietnam recorded about 600 COVID-19 patients, who are workers of industrial parks in eight localities, reported the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL). In order to help the COVID-19 fight, the VGCL ordered units to allocate money from the labour union fund to purchase medical items and help labourers, who have to be quarantined. The



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VGCL also asked units to draft plans of fulfilling the production amid the quarantine of staff and ensuring the livelihood of the affected ones. Besides, the VGCL demanded units to provide support to labour union staff, who join the COVID-19 fight. ([CafeF](#), [VnEconomy](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#) May 21)

Footwear Association Proposes Gov't Prioritize Vaccines for Sector's Labourers

The Vietnam Leather, Footwear and Handbag Association (LEFASO) has recommended that the government give urgent priority to vaccinate workers in the COVID-19 pandemic hotspots and allow the sector's businesses to make financial contributions to buy vaccines. The association said that the leather and footwear sector has about 1.5 million workers and each factory needs dozens of thousands of labourers. If workers at a firm have to quarantine for 14-21 days, its customers will cancel orders. The firm will go bankrupt and a large number of labourers will lose jobs. At the same time, the government will have to spend much money on stamping out the pandemic. Currently, some neighbouring countries such as Cambodia and Malaysia have prioritized vaccination for enterprises with a large number of employees, the association noted. ([VnExpress](#), [VnEconomy](#) May 18)

Vietnam Timber Assoc. Seeking to Purchase 1M Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines

The Vietnam Timber and Forest Product Association (VIFORES) has sought approval from the Prime Minister and the National Steering Committee for COVID-19 Prevention and Control for timber firms to buy one million doses of COVID-19 vaccines by their own budget. Currently, the sector has around 5,300 businesses with over 700,000 labourers, apart from tens of thousands of workers in woodcraft villages nationwide. They significantly contribute to helping the industry earn \$15 billion and \$20 billion in export values in 2021 and 2025, respectively, Mr. Do Xuan Lap, VIFOREST chairman said. If a firm with 1,000 labourers detects a COVID-19 case, it may be shut down for 21 days, blowing off tens of billions VND, Mr. Lap noted. If adopted, the vaccines will be prioritized to reach enterprises with more than 1,000 employees in industrial parks based in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Binh Dinh province, Dong Nai province, and Binh Duong province. ([BNews](#), [Tin Tuc](#) May 21)

Vietnam Should Conduct COVID Vaccination for Supporting Industry Workers: Assoc.

The Vietnam Association for Supporting Industries (VASI) has proposed the government prioritize the COVID-19 vaccination for people working in the manufacturing and supporting industries, who are at a high risk for the pandemic. Chairman of the VASI Le Duong Quang said that the priority for workers in manufacturing and supporting industries will help avoid disruptions in the production and supply chain. Many enterprises in the sectors are eager to pay for the vaccination for their labourers, he noted. Recently, the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association and the Vietnam Leather, Footwear and Handbag Association (LEFASO) have suggested that the government give urgent priority to vaccinate workers in the COVID-19 pandemic hotspots and allow the sector's businesses to make financial contributions to buy vaccines. ([SaigonTimesEnglish](#) May 21)



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Vietnam Loses 3% of GDP for Not Utilizing People with Disabilities: ILO

Vietnam's gross domestic product (GDP) loses 3% due to lacklustre employments of labourers with disabilities, reported the International Labour Organization (ILO). As of 2018, Vietnam had about eight million people with disabilities, including 40% with working abilities. However, only 30% were employed. A survey by the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) in 2019 showed that 54.8% of employers would not hire people with disabilities, 24.4% would hire people with disabilities, 1.4% would prefer people with disabilities, and 19.4% did not answer. Vietnam's current legal framework does not mandate firms to employ people with disabilities but only encourages them to recruit people with disabilities. ([VietnamNet](#) May)

80% Polled Vietnamese Youth Optimistic about Technology's Support

As many as 80% of Gen Z, who aged between 15 and 24, have shared optimism that technology will improve the job prospects, while 11% of others were nervous about the future impacts of technology on jobs, local media reported from the latest survey of accounting firm PwC Vietnam. The report was conducted with 461 respondents, based on the previous survey on the digital skills readiness released in March. According to PwC, Gen Z in Vietnam are concerned about three major issues, including (i) technology making their role become redundant (51%), (ii) weak technological capacity (26%), and (iii) difficulty in acquiring appropriate skills (12%). In addition, the survey showed a link between the education or skill level of responders and their level of optimism about the effect of technology on the future of work. Specifically, 62% of Gen Z Vietnamese without a degree claimed that automation will bring more risks, compared to 47% of others with degrees and technical qualifications. It also found that Gen Z embraces flexible working arrangements and could be the most productive remote workforce, with 80% of them expect remote work to be the new norm and 57% said they were productive while working from home. In terms of the role of stakeholders in improving career skills, 50% of polled people said that skill development depended on the individual, meanwhile, 46% said they expect businesses and the government to play a core role in supporting workers to upgrade their skills, PwC noted. ([VnEconomy](#), [VnExpress](#) May 20)

Vietnam's Monthly Average Income Per Capita Reaches VND4.23M in 2020

In 2020, the average monthly income per capita in Vietnam was VND4.23 million (\$181.5), down 2% y/y, and the average monthly spending per capita was VND2.89 million, according to a survey by the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO). The survey collected answers from 46,995 households in both rural and urban areas of six localities. In 2016-2020, the average monthly income per capita grew 8.1% annually. In 2020, the figure was between VND5.5 million in urban areas and VND3.48 million in rural areas. The income was between VND9.1 million (the richest, or 20% of the total) and VND1.13 million (the poorest, or 20% of the total). Regarding areas, the highest figure at VND6.02 million belonged to people in the southeastern areas and the lowest one at VND2.74 million belonged to people in the northern midlands and mountainous areas. The localities with the highest numbers were southern Binh Duong province



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with VND7.02 million, Ho Chi Minh City with VND6.54 million, and Hanoi with VND5.98 million. The average monthly spending per capita increased 13% from that in 2018, slower than 18% from 2016 to 2018, partly due to COVID-19 pandemic. The spending was between VND3.8 million in urban areas and VND2.4 million in rural areas, and between VND2.1 million in northern midlands and mountainous areas and VND3.9 million in southeastern areas. The figures were VND4.8 million for the richest and VND1.4 million for the poorest. ([Dan Viet](#), [NDH](#), [VietnamNet](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [VOV](#) May 24)

Businesses Join Hands to Train 52,000 Vocational Learners in Vietnam in 2020

Businesses have been cooperating to train vocational training (TVET) learners in Vietnam in 2020, such as accepting 52,000 TVET learners for practices and internships, updating and building learning courses, making orders of training 12,000 with TVET schools, and recruiting 16,000 TVET learners upon graduation. Besides, the MoLISA has been promoting TVET, giving an example that 200,000 university graduates are unemployed annually while TVET graduates have better chances of employment. Additionally, the local sector is boosting the cooperation between businesses and TVET schools for win-win outcomes, in order to fulfil the supply and demand of the labour market, reduce unemployment, and improve the labour force to adapt to Industry 4.0. ([Bao Phap Luat](#) May 23)

MoIT to Facilitate its TVET Schools

On May 21, Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien worked with 22 TVET schools under the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT). Among those, 10 seek to become high-quality schools. In 2018, the MoIT had 35 TVET schools. Last academic year, 22 TVET schools reached 80% of the plans. At the event, officials of TVET schools suggested the MoIT further cooperate with the MoLISA and other ministries to update the legal framework. Concluding the event, Mr. Dien set guidelines of further cooperation with businesses, more autonomy for schools, and continuation of re-networking of TVET schools. He also asked TVET schools to build development plans, complete project of founding school board, to check recruitment demand, use state budget effectively, and others. ([Cong Thuong](#) May 21)

Parent Guiding Learners to Enter TVET Schools, Not High Schools

Many parents confessed that they would want their kids to advance to TVET, amid the high pressure from the high-school-entrance exam. For examples, only 62% of secondary school learners in Hanoi would advance to public high school, and the rate is 70% in HCMC. ([CafeF](#) May 24)

NovaGroup Recruiting 100,000 Until 2025

NovaGroup is pushing its ecosystem and planning to recruit 100,000 labourers until 2025. Jobs include designers, engineers, marketing staff, project analysts, market analysts, administrative officers, sales, auditors, accountants, and others. ([Tuoi Tre](#) May 24)



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Light Equipment Maker RAL to Build \$99M Electronics Plant in Vietnam Hanoi

Rangdong Light Source and Vacuum Flask JSC (HOSE: RAL), among the leading lamp makers in Vietnam by market share, has been licensed to invest over VND2.3 trillion (\$99.1 million) in an electronics plant in Hanoi-based Hoa Lac Hi-tech Park. It is expected to manufacture 100 million lighting and electronics products each year and use around 1,400 labourers. ([Dan Viet](#), [BNews](#), [CafeF](#), [VietnamBiz](#) May 20)

TVET in Hanoi Linking with Labour Market

Hanoi asked relevant agencies to continue boosting the connection between businesses and TVET schools. Hanoi also asked TVET schools to update their recruitment and training per development of the labour sector. Annually, 360 TVET schools in Hanoi train 200,000 people, boosting the rate of trained labourers from 34.2% in 2010 to 70.25% in 2020. ([Nhan Dan](#) May 24)

4,000 Labourers in Hanoi Lose Jobs due to COVID-19

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, in Hanoi, 175 firms paused operations, 1,162 firms were affected but yet to halt operation, 3,930 labourers lost jobs, and 39,301 labourers were underemployed. ([Kinh Te Do Thi](#) May 25)

Bac Giang Hurt by COVID-19, Needs VND310B to Help 60,000 Workers

Bac Giang needs VND310 billion to help and provide one-month wages to 60,000 workers, who begin to suffer social issues due to COVID-19 pandemic. Problems arise as industrial parks are closed and workers are not allowed to leave their residence. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#) May 24)

Phu Tho Aims to Create Jobs for 80,000 People in 2021-2025

The northern province of Phu Tho is aiming to create jobs for 80,000 people in 2021-2025, including 13,500 to be sent abroad. In 2016-2020, the province created jobs for 78,384 people. ([Dan Sinh](#) May 22)

Nghe An Opens Labour Skill Contest 2021

Nghe An DoLISA opened labour skill contest 2021 on May 24, featuring 33 contestants from 12 TVET schools for 12 competitions. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Bao Nghe An](#) May 25)

Phu Yen Aims to Provide TVET to 6,000 Rural Labourers



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Phu Yen province aims to provide TVET to 6,600 rural labourers in 2021-2025, or 1,320 annually. The target is that 80% of graduates are employed upon graduation. ([Bao Phu Yen](#) May 22)

Firms in Binh Duong Have to Recruit Workers in Ha Giang

After Lunar New Year 2021, firms in Binh Duong province have to recruit 100,000 workers. However, after 4 months, many firms still struggle with the recruitment. Some have to reach northern Ha Giang province to recruit. ([Tuoi Tre](#) May 25)

Vocational Schools in HCMC Offer Training in New Skills

Only around 83,320 ninth grade students in Ho Chi Minh City will sit the 10th grade entrance examinations, and the remaining 16,245 have not registered for the exam, the municipal Department of Education and Training has said. Most of the latter are likely to apply for vocational and technical colleges and secondary vocational schools, said Le Hoai Nam, deputy director of the department. The city has 57 vocational and technical colleges, 64 secondary vocational schools and 272 vocational training centres. ([Vietnam Plus](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) May 19, [VOV](#) May 21)

HCMC Updates Network of TVET Schools

HCMC People's Committee has permitted Dong Saigon Intermediate College to rename to Dong Saigon College, under Thu Duc province People's Committee. District 2 TVET-Continuation Education Centre and District 9 TVET-Continuation Education Centre is merged into Thu Duc City TVET-Continuation Education Centre. ([HCMC Portal](#), [HCMC Portal](#) May 24)

Dong Thap Employs 60,000 People in as of May

Businesses in Dong Thap province employ 60,000 people as of end-May, including 12,000 for businesses inside industrial parks and economic zones. In 2021-2025, Dong Thap aims to offer TVET to 75,000 labourers. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#) May 22)