



# Vietnam TVET Bulletin

June 24 – June 30, 2021

### **Table of contents**



### POLICIES •

Vietnam to Further Promote Vocational Training in 2021-2025
Vietnam to Continue Support for COVID-19 Hit Employers, Employees
Vietnam to Boost Vocational Training for People of Ethnic Minorities
4th COVID-19 Outbreak in Vietnam Hurt 9.1M People So Far: Minister
DVET Prepares Contents for National Skill Competition
PM Appoints New Director of Vietnam National University Hanoi
HCMC Passes \$38M Relief Package in Aid of COVID-19-affected People

### BUSINESS SECTOR AND LABOUR MARKET

#### FOREIGN COOPERATION

An Giang Vocational College Trainees Learn How to Make Automatic Hand Sanitizer Machines Vietnam Should Ease COVID-19 Impacts by Helping Firms, People Directly: ADB New Zealand Embassy Aids 420 COVID-19-affected Female Workers in Vietnam Vietnam Seeks to Promote Educational Cooperation with Germany's State Companies Sign MoU for First Offshore Wind Farm in Vietnam Vietnam Verifying Cases of Its Labourers Illegally Sent to Cambodia Vietnamese Government Gives Top Priority to Citizen Protection: MoFA

#### DOMESTIC NEWS

TVET Units Enrol 645K Learners in H1: GSO

Vietnam's Workforce Reaches 51.1M in Q2/2021: Statistics Office Vietnam's Average Monthly Wage Reaches VND6.8M in Q2/2021

Vietnam Has 21.8M Learners in 2020-2021: GSO

Vietnam Licenses 67,100 New Firms in H1, up 8.1% y/y: GSO

Vietnam Streamlines 7,292 Staff of Single-Member LLC in 2015-2020

Vietnam's Per Capita GDP Misses Target of \$3.2K-\$3.5K for 2020

Vietnam's Wood, Wooden Product Exports May Hit \$16B in 2021: Ministry

Bac Ninh Reopens to Migrant Labourers

Vinh Phuc Provides Employments to 7,000 People in H1/2021

Labourers in Bac Ninh Return to Work Normally

Quang Ninh to Boost Connection between TVET and Businesses

Thanh Hoa Has 35 FDI firms with 151,259 staff

Quang Binh Provides Employments to 12,300 People in H1

Colleges in Phu Yen Adapting to COVID-19 in Recruitment

HCMC, Binh Duong Suspend 22.7K Labourers

48K Labourers in HCMC Claim Jobless Benefits in Jan-May, up 8.1% y/y

Binh Phuoc Expels Former Head of Binh Phuoc Vocational College

Ca Mau Fines Firm for Using Unlicensed Chinese Workers at Wind Farm











# **Vietnam to Further Promote Vocational Training in 2021-2025**

Vietnam plans to establish a communication ecosystem for vocational training (TVET) in 2021-2025, in order to further promote and improve TVET. The DVET, under the MoLISA, has recently released a decision on building such system. In 2021-2022, relevant agencies are tasked with building TVET promotion, especially platforms and products. In 2023-2025, relevant agencies are tasked with building TVET communication platforms and ecosystem. The DVET set methods of building the facilities; media teams; promotion events; promotions on mass media, press agencies, social media, public spaces; and others. (Tin Tuc, Bao Dan Sinh, Lao Dong Jun 22)

# Vietnam to Continue Support for COVID-19 Hit Employers, Employees

The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee (CPVCC)'s Politburo agreed to continue support for COVID-19 hit employers and employees. CPVCC General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong chaired a meeting of the CPVCC Politburo on June 25 on such support. The CPVCC Politburo agreed on continued support for COVID-19 hit employers and employees, per the CPVCC Politburo's Conclusion 07-KL/TW and the government's Resolution 42/NQ-CP. The CPVCC Politburo asked relevant agencies to implement such support, the government to issue suitable guiding documents, and the National Steering Committee on COVID-19 fight to carefully check the implementation to prevent mistakes. (Tuoi Tre, BNews, Bao Chinh Phu, Kinh Te Do Thi, VietnamNet, Dan Tri, Tuoi Tre, VnExpress, Lao Dong, CAND, VietnamBiz, Thanh Nien, VietnamNews Jun 25)

# **Vietnam to Boost Vocational Training for People of Ethnic Minorities**

The DVET, under the MoLISA, will focus on vocational training for people of ethnic minorities, said DVET General Director Truong Anh Dung, in an interview about boosting the labour productivity and national competitiveness in 2021-2025. Mr. Dung listed methods of training per conditions and cultures of areas inhabited by people of ethnic minorities, especially beginner-level courses and quick courses (below three months); training per the trend of the market, such as jobs relating to herbs, tourism; working abroad; startups; online training; and others. Vietnam's vocational training system aims to recruit 2.5 million learners in 2021. (Bao Dan Toc Jun 25)





# 4th COVID-19 Outbreak in Vietnam Hurt 9.1M People So Far: Minister

The 4th COVID-19 outbreak in Vietnam from April 27 has so far negatively impacted 9.1 million people, said Minister of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs Dao Ngoc Dung, at an online meeting of the National Assembly's Economic Committee on June 24. Mr. Dung added that 540,000 labourers have been unemployed or underemployed, 19.2% of businesses have been hurt directly, and 21% of cooperatives have been impacted. He also said that the worse impacts are that the pandemic is damaging industrial parks and processing zones, including 60,000 labourers in Bac Giang province, 40,000 in Bac Ninh province, and 23,000 in Binh Duong province and Ho Chi Minh City. So far, 5,840 labourers have become COVID-19 patients (F0), 37,496 have become F1, and 5,900 firms have withdrawn from the market. He listed two problems. First, the vaccination campaign in Vietnam is slow and partly leads to worse attraction of foreign directive investments (FDI) into Vietnam. Second, the worst impacts belong to sectors of service, tourism, trade, and transport. He added that disease prevention is the key method and vaccination is the sustainable solution. He added that the ministry is drafting relief policies, including changes in social insurance, direct helps for some sectors, and credit for firms to pay wage and resume operation. (Dan Tri, Dan Tri, Thanh Nien, Bao Dan Sinh Jun 24)

# **DVET Prepares Contents for National Skill Competition**

The DVET hosted a conference on June 28 to prepare contents for the 12<sup>th</sup> national skill competition 2021. So far, 600 contestants have registered in 35 jobs. (GDNN, Nhan Dan, Dan Sinh Jun 28)

### PM Appoints New Director of Vietnam National University Hanoi

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has signed Decision 998/QD-TTg to appoint Mr. Le Quan, vice secretary of the provincial Party Committee and also chairman of Ca Mau province People's Committee, as Director of the Vietnam National University-Hanoi (VNU-Hanoi). Mr. Quan, born 1974, took over as Deputy Director of the VNU in 2014. In September 2017, he was appointed as Deputy Minister of Labour, War Invalids, and Social Affairs. (CAND, Giao Thong, Dan Tri, Tuoi Tre, Thanh Nien, Lao Dong, VnExpress, VOV, Nguoi Lao Dong, PLO, Nong Nghiep Viet Nam, Tien Phong, Zing, Thoi Dai, Dan Viet Jun 24)

# HCMC Passes \$38M Relief Package in Aid of COVID-19-affected People

Ho Chi Minh City People's Council approved a VND866 billion (\$38 million) relief package in support of COVID-19-affected people. Accordingly, 10,000 under dedicated quarantine will receive VND80,000 each/day, and 10,000 people who join COVID-19 fight will secure VND120,000 each/day. 80,000 labourers who got furloughed or labour contracts suspended will be aided VND1.8 million each. Another 20,000 who have labour contracts terminated between May 1 and December 31 or are ineligible to claim unemployment benefits will be offered VND1.8 million each. In addition, an estimated 230,000 non-contract labourers will receive VND50,000 each per day during social distancing period, and 10,000 business households in







social distancing places will get VND2 million each. Nearly 60,000 sales points at traditional markets will enjoy a 50% cut in amenity services throughout the second half of this year. (CAND, Nguoi Lao Dong, Thanh Nien, CafeBiz, VTC Jun 25)

# Business Sector and Labour Market

### Foreign Cooperation

# An Giang Vocational College Trainees Learn How to Make Automatic Hand Sanitizer Machines

Earlier this month, trainees of An Giang Vocational College have been enthusiastically participating in the contest "Innovations to prevent Covid-19", launched by the College. With online instruction by Mechatronics teachers, they got to know about the basic structure of an automatic hand sanitizer machine as well as applications of mechatronics in the installation of the device. With provided knowledge and sets of equipment, trainees were divided into groups to design and install 20 automatic hand sanitizer machines. They will be granted to high schools and other units in the area to help the province prevent the spread-out of the pandemic. "Activities like this make me love Mechatronics more because of its practical applications. Thanks, our college for opportunities to nurture our creative thinking and love for science and bring benefits to our community", shared Ha Hoang Nhan, a trainee from An Giang Vocational College. (TVET Jun 28)

### Vietnam Should Ease COVID-19 Impacts by Helping Firms, People Directly: ADB

Vietnam should relieve COVID-19 impacts by helping firms and individuals directly, besides other reliefs of delaying tax collection, purchasing vaccines, and running vaccination, said Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s Country Director Andrew Jeffries. In the long-term, Vietnam should improve the private sector, reform state-owned enterprises, capital market, digitalization, and others. He suggested methods of giving cash to needy people and long-term developments for the poor and needy people, such as vocational training and credit access. (Zing Jun 23)

# New Zealand Embassy Aids 420 COVID-19-affected Female Workers in Vietnam

The New Zealand Embassy in Vietnam granted VND1 million (\$43) each to 420 female labourers from two COVID-19-hit northern provinces of Bac Giang and Bac Ninh on June 28. The beneficiaries are those who have been furloughed or suffered pay cuts due to the plague. Over the past twelve months, nearly 3,000 women across Vietnam have been assisted with COVID-19 resettlement via the New Zealand Embassy fund, Ambassador Tredene Dobson said. (VietnamNews, Zing Jun 29)

### Vietnam Seeks to Promote Educational Cooperation with Germany's State

Vietnam has sought to promote further cooperation in education, notably teaching the German





language, with Germany's State of Hessen, said Vietnamese Consul General to Frankfurt am Main Le Quang Long while joining an online meeting with Minister of European and Federal Affairs cum representative of Hessen State Lucia Puttrich on June 22. In his speech, Ms. Long highly spoke of Hessen's support to Vietnam over the years, especially in education with the significant spot of the establishment of the Vietnamese-German University. The diplomat also suggested the state consider providing technical support and sending German teachers for teaching German at Vietnamese high schools as well as the possibility of building a German-model parallel vocational training school in Vietnam. For her part, Ms. Lucia Puttrich affirmed Hessen's stance in beefing up cooperation with Vietnam, particularly in education, while voicing her support to the proposals of the Vietnamese Consul General. (Bao Quoc Te Jun 23)

### **Companies Sign MoU for First Offshore Wind Farm in Vietnam**

DEME Offshore BE NV, a subsidiary of Belgium-headquartered DEME Group, and Vietnam-Russia oil and gas joint venture (JV) Vietsovpetro have recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the 1,000-megawatt (MW) Vinh Phong offshore wind power project, which could become the first offshore wind farm in Vietnam. The project is expected to create 2,500 qualified jobs during its deployment. (Sputnik, Neftegazru Jun 28)

# Vietnam Verifying Cases of Its Labourers Illegally Sent to Cambodia

Vietnamese authorities are verifying cases of many Vietnamese people implicated or tricked into legal or illegal traveling to Cambodia for casino work and will then handle the cases in accordance with law, Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Le Thi Thu Hang said at the regular ministry's press briefing on June 24. The Vietnamese representative agencies in Cambodia learned about the affair and worked with Cambodian partners to take citizen protection measures, Ms. Hang added. (Dan Tri, MOFA Jun 25)

# Vietnamese Government Gives Top Priority to Citizen Protection: MoFA

The Vietnamese Government always gives the highest priority to the protection of Vietnamese citizens living abroad amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Spokeswoman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Le Thi Thu Hang said at the ministry's press briefing on June 24. Ms. Hang gave the statement on June 24 in reply to local newswire Zing's query about the information stating that the Vietnam Association of Manpower Supply (VAMAS) has recommended the Prime Minister propose Japan and Taiwan vaccinate stranded Vietnamese labourers with expired contracts due to COVID-19. The Government has directed the MoFA to ask Vietnamese diplomatic representative agencies abroad to regularly keep in touch with, promptly encourage and visit overseas Vietnamese and take citizen protection measures when necessary, Ms. Hang said. Vietnamese representative agencies abroad have also worked with local authorities and requested them to take necessary measures to ensure the health, healthcare, vaccination, and legitimate rights and interests of Vietnamese citizens, including Vietnamese guest workers. (BNews, CAND, MOFA Jun 25)







#### Domestic News

### **TVET Units Enrol 645K Learners in H1: GSO**

TVET units across Vietnam are estimated to have recruited 645,000 learners in the first half (H1) of this year, or 27.2% of the annual target, according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). Of which, colleges and intermediate schools recruited 45,000. Beginner-level courses and other courses attracted 600,000 learners. As of end-2020, Vietnam had 3,005 TVET units, down 0.6% y/y. The figure included 1,345 public ones, down 6.7% y/y, and 1,660 non-public ones, up 4.9% y/y. (GSO Jun)

# Vietnam's Workforce Reaches 51.1M in Q2/2021: Statistics Office

Vietnam's workforce at the age of 15 or above is estimated to have reached 51.1 million in the second quarter (Q2) of 2021, up 44,700 q/q and 1.7 million y/y, according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). In the first half (H1) of 2021, the workforce at the age of 15 or above is estimated to have reached 51 million, up 737,700 y/y. The participation rate is 68.6%, up 0.1 percentage point y/y. The number of employed people at the age of 15 or above is 49.8 million in Q2/2021, including 13.8 million in agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector, 16.6 million in industry-construction sector, and 19.4 million in service sector. In H1/2021, the number of employed people at the age of 15 or above is 49.9 million, including 13.9 million in agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector, 16.4 million in industry-construction sector, and 19.6 million in service sector. The overall unemployment rate in H1/2021 is 2.3% (2.19% in Q1 and 2.4% in Q2), ranging from 3.07% in urban areas to 1.86% in rural areas. Unemployment rate among young people (at the age between 15 and 24) is 7.45%, ranging between 9.97% in urban areas and 6.22% in rural areas. The underemployment rate in H1/2021 is 2.58% (2.2% in Q1 and 2.6% in Q2), ranging from 2.64% in urban areas to 2.54% in rural areas. (VTV, GSO Jun 29)

# Vietnam's Average Monthly Wage Reaches VND6.8M in Q2/2021

The average monthly income of Vietnamese labourers is estimated to have reached VND6.8 million (\$291) in the second quarter (Q2) of 2021, down by VND410,800 q/q but up by VND454,600 y/y, reported the General Statistics Office (GSO). The figures are VND7.3 million for male workers and VND6.2 million for female workers. Overall, in the first half (H1) of 2021, the figures are VND7 million, up VND281,700 y/y. The rate of labourers without labour contracts outside the agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector is 57.2% in H1 (57.1% in Q1 and 57.4% in Q2), ranging from 48.5% in urban areas to 64.5% in rural areas. (GSO Jun)

### Vietnam Has 21.8M Learners in 2020-2021: GSO

In the school year of 2020-2021, Vietnam is estimated to have had 4.3 million kids in kindergartens and preschools and 17.5 million learners in general education, or 21.8 million in total, according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). The general education system has 8.9 million students at primary schools, 5.9 million at secondary schools, and 2.7 million at high





schools. Vietnam has 15,547 kindergartens and preschools and 26,403 general education schools in this school year. In the period, the country has 282,000 kindergarten-preschool teachers, up 5.1% compared to the previous school year, and 818,000 teachers for general education schools, up 1.7% y/y. Besides, Vietnam recorded over one millions students registering for the national high school graduation exam, with three-quarters of candidates applying for universities and colleges. (GSO Jun)

# Vietnam Licenses 67,100 New Firms in H1, up 8.1% y/y: GSO

Vietnam is estimated to have licensed nearly 67,100 new firms in the first half (H1) of this year, up 8.1% y/y and the highest-ever H1 number to date, with their total registered capital of VND942.6 trillion (\$40.63 billion), up 34.3% y/y and also the record high in H1 to date, the General Statistics Office (GSO) said. The average registered capital of a new firm in the first half of this year grew by 24.2% y/y to VND14.1 billion, the agency said, noting that the new firms used 484,300 labourers during the period, down 4.5% y/y. (GSO Jun)

# Vietnam Streamlines 7,292 Staff of Single-Member LLC in 2015-2020

Vietnam streamlined 7,292 staff of 290 single-member limited liability companies (LLCs) in 2015-2020, with an expense of VND590.16 billion (\$25.33 million), according to the report of the MoLISA. Assistances for those streamlined staff included payments for early retirements, payments of social insurance premium, bonuses per working experiences, unemployment support, and others. On average, each streamline staff received support of VND80.9 million. (An Ninh Thu Do Jun 25)

### Vietnam's Per Capita GDP Misses Target of \$3.2K-\$3.5K for 2020

Vietnam's annual average gross domestic product (GDP) growth reached approximately 6% in 2016-2020, below the target of 6.5%-7%, while the per capita GDP failed to reach the target of \$3,200-\$3,500 set for 2020. The capital and the total-factor productivity (TFP) in the economy's growth was 50.86% and 44.87%, respectively, in 2016; 47.91% and 46.09% in 2017; 46.18% and 44.76% in 2018; 46.35% and 47.71% in 2019; and 104.21% and 44.43% in 2020. In terms of the purchasing power parity (PPP) in 2017, the labour productivity of Vietnam was \$13,800, merely 8.4% of Singapore, 23.1% of Malaysia, 41.5% of Thailand, 55.5% of Indonesia, and 62.8% of the Philippines, but higher than that in Cambodia. This indicated that the fact that the gap in the labour productivity of Vietnam and other nations has kept widening. It is challenging for Vietnam to catch up with the labour productivity of other nations. (CafeF Jun 24)

### Vietnam's Wood, Wooden Product Exports May Hit \$16B in 2021: Ministry

Vietnam's wood and wooden product exports are estimated at \$15 billion-\$16 billion this year, versus \$12.5 billion last year and the target of \$14.5 billion for 2021, forecast the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT). This year, the number of export orders is expected to increase by 30% y/y. Besides, the wood sector is facing a severe shortage of labourers. The sector has







employed over 500,000 labourers, but nearly 80% are manual workers, 20% are trained, and 1%-2% are designers. (HaiQuan Jun 23)

# **Bac Ninh Reopens to Migrant Labourers**

Bac Ninh province has allowed firms, excluding those with F0 cases, to resume operation and receive labourers from other localities as long as they are not under quarantine and do not come from places that are practicing social distancing under the Prime Minister-issued Directive 16. Enterprises in Bac Ninh are permitted to take non-native employees, who have tested negative for COVID-19 already, to the centralized accommodations. The workers can officially return to work if having negative results after three days. Employers are required to arrange isolated working and sleeping areas for them. Companies must take COVID-19 test of at least 20% of their workforce every week. (Zing, Tuoi Tre, VTV Jun 24)

# Vinh Phuc Provides Employments to 7,000 People in H1/2021

Vinh Phuc province provided employments to 6,800 people in H1/2021, including 20 people working abroad. In rest of 2021, Vinh Phuc will focus on promoting TVET, employment for TVET graduates, supply & demand in labour market. (Thuong Hieu & Cong Luan Jun 27)

# **Labourers in Bac Ninh Return to Work Normally**

On June 28, Bac Ninh province allowed normal working regulations. 7 out of 8 districts ease COVID-19 restrictions, 1,000 firms with 255,000 staff now work normally. (VTV Jun 28)

### **Quang Ninh to Boost Connection between TVET and Businesses**

Quang Ninh DoLISA hosted a conference on June 22 on boosting cooperation between TVET and businesses. Deputy Director Vu Quang Truc of Quang Ninh DoLISA suggested TVET units and businesses boost TVET promotion, enhance links in training, improve usage of equipment and assistance to teachers and interns, and conduct training per orders from businesses. (Dan Sinh Jun 24, Nong Nghiep Jun 26, GDNN Jun 23)

### Thanh Hoa Has 35 FDI firms with 151,259 staff

Thanh Hoa province currently has 35 FDI firms with 151,259 workers, according to a working session between Thanh Hoa labour union and FDI firms on June 23. Among workers, 5,000 were newly recruited, 5,329 were let go, and 1,200 quitted. The average monthly incomes were VND6.3 million per head. (Dan Sinh Jun 23)

### **Quang Binh Provides Employments to 12,300 People in H1**

Quang Binh province provided employments to 12,324 people in H1/2021, including 1,750 people working abroad. Quang Binh recruited 6,130 people into TVET, or 38.3% of the annual





target. Besides, 3,383 TVET learners graduated. In 2021, Quang Binh aims to provide employments to 18,000 people, recruit 10,000 people into TVET, and boost rate of trained labourers to 65%. (Dan Tri Jun 24, Dan Sinh Jun 27)

# Colleges in Phu Yen Adapting to COVID-19 in Recruitment

Mientrung Industry and Trade College has been adapting to COVID-19 in recruitment. In 2021, the college aims to recruit 1,700 learners. The college has been pushing promotion on website, hosting conference to boost 9+ courses. Phu Yen Vocational College has been promoting recruitment via Facebook, Zalo, and others. (Bao Phu Yen Jun 28)

## HCMC, Binh Duong Suspend 22.7K Labourers

22,700 factory labourers in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) and Binh Duong province, where the COVID-19 pandemic is raging, have had to temporarily stop their work. As for Binh Duong, which has recorded 141 cases, 80 workers have been confirmed with Covid-19, affecting the operations of 171 companies and causing over 5,200 workers to take breaks. As for HCMC, the city has recorded 369 infections among workers, bringing 4,500 other workers to undergo quarantine at dedicated facilities and more than 13,000 to practice home quarantine. HCMC and Binh Duong are among localities with a large number of industrial parks in the country. Binh Duong is currently home to 29 industrial parks and 17 industrial clusters with 1.2 million employees. HCMC has 1.6 million working in plants, of whom more than 320,000 work in industrial parks and export processing zones. (VnExpress, Sai Gon Dau Tu Jun 22)

# 48K Labourers in HCMC Claim Jobless Benefits in Jan-May, up 8.1% y/y

More than 48,000 labourers in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) filed for unemployment benefits in the first five months of this year, which rose by 4,000 people, or 8.1% compared to the same period last year, said Mr. Phan Van Men, director of HCMC branch of the Vietnam Social Security (VSS). Throughout the spell, over 2.3 million people in the city joined social insurance, which increased by 67,000 y/y but declined by 43,000 versus late 2020 as a result of COVID-19 fallout. Should the plague continue to rage, HCMC's labour demand may dwindle by 70,000 workers compared to last year, and since early 2021, the city has recorded a decrease of 43,000 workers already, Mr. Men said. (Thanh Nien, VietStock Jun 23)

### Binh Phuoc Expels Former Head of Binh Phuoc Vocational College

Binh Phuoc Party Committee's Inspection Commission has expelled Mr. Doan The Nam, former head of Binh Phuoc Vocational College. Nam was detected to have let his subordinates forge lists of learners and make wrong financial calculation; show weak leadership; approve wrong bonuses for teachers. Binh Phuoc also punished Mr. Le Thanh Trung and Mr. Nguyen Trung Tin of the college. (VTV Jun 26)







# Ca Mau Fines Firm for Using Unlicensed Chinese Workers at Wind Farm

Ca Mau People's Committee has imposed an administrative fine of VND135 million (\$5,819) on China Harbour Engineering Company Limited for using 84 Chinese labourers without work permits at Vien An wind power project in Ngoc Hien district. The unauthorized Chinese labourers, comprising 26 experts and 58 technical workers, were guaranteed by Vien An Energy One Member Company Limited, the project's investor. (Thanh Nien Jun 22)