



# **Vietnam TVET Bulletin**

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# Vietnam Aims to Develop Open, Modern Vocational Training

The MoLISA aims to develop an open, flexible, modern, easy-to-access vocational training system with diverse organizations for different jobs at different levels. The MoLISA noted the target in the draft planning for the vocational training system in 2021-2030, with a vision to 2045. In 2021-2025, the system aims to streamline itself, reorganize public units, facilitate private units, and build a strong workforce per local labor market. The system also plans to reduce 10% of public units (and also halve intermediate schools) and increase private units to 40% of the total. In 2025, the sector targets to have 70 high-quality schools, including 40 ones reaching ASEAN-4 standards. In 2026-2030, the system aims to focus on training for key economic sectors of the nation. The country's target is to increase the rate of private schools to 45%, to have multi-sector schools in all localities, to have 90 high-quality schools with 50 reaching ASEAN-4 standards. (Bao Chinh Phu, duthaovanban.molisa.gov.vn Oct 19)

## Vietnam Needs VND100T to Reform/Increase Salary: Expert

Vietnam needs VND100 trillion (\$4.29 billion) to run its salary reform (increase) and the problems may outweigh the benefits, said Dr. Bui Sy Loi, former vice head of the National Assembly's Social Affairs Committee. Dr. Loi made the statement while backing the decision to delay the salary reform from July 1, 2022. He added that Vietnam is facing big problems relating to budget and the COVID-19 pandemic. He also stated that the state budget has been restrained to run COVID-19 relief packages, hence the delay of salary reform is suitable. Besides, at the 15th National Assembly's second meeting, President Nguyen Xuan Phuc noted that the delay of salary reform should not be too long. (Dan Tri, QDND, Tuoi Tre Oct 21)

## **Vietnam to Add Gender Equality Contents to Vocational Training**

Deputy Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam has signed Decision 1790/QD-TTg on gender equality promotion until 2030, including promotion within vocational training. Until 2025, the target is that all ministries, sectors, and localities would have action months for gender equality and prevention and control of gender-based violence. Until 2025, at least 70% of mass media agencies would apply the index on gender and then 90% in 2030. In 2025, at least 95% of social codes and rules do not feature gender-based discrimination and then 100% in 2030. Regarding vocational training, the MoLISA is in charge of adding gender equality contents into the curriculum, training vocational training teachers with such contents, running campaign of gender equality on November 15-December 15 yearly. (Bao Dan Sinh, ANTD, VOV, DNVN Oct 25)

Vietnam to Allocate VND137.7T to Develop Ethnic Minorities, Mountainous Areas





Vietnam will allocate VND137.67 trillion (\$5.91 billion) on socioeconomic development for people of ethnic minorities and mountainous areas in 2021-2025, according to the recently-signed Decision 1719/QD-TTg on such development in 2021-2030. The money includes VND104.95 trillion from the central budget, VND10 trillion from local budgets, VND19.73 trillion of policy loans, and VND2.97 trillion of other sources. Until 2025, the targets are to double the incomes of people of ethnic minorities (versus that in 2020), to reduce the rate of poor household by three percentage points yearly, to halve the number of towns in extremely harsh conditions, 97% of kids entering primary schools, 95% of children entering secondary schools, 50% of laborers learning vocational training, 100% of town having concrete roads for vehicles, and others. Other targets are to provide vocational training for 2.25 million people, increase the incomes of four million needy households, build 3,250 concrete roads for production and daily lives, supply clean water to 268,860 households, and others. (Tap Chi Tai Chinh, Bao Chinh Phu, cema Oct 25)

# **Vietnam to Streamline Inefficient Public Vocational Training Schools**

The MoLISA has proposed relevant ministries and agencies streamline inefficient public vocational training schools. The MoLISA said that in 2017-2021, Vietnam has streamlined 11% of public vocational training schools, meeting the targets. However, there remain problems disconnection between vocational training schools and the labor demand, weak compliance with the country's development paths, questionable merge of vocational training schools, and others. The MoLISA asked relevant ministries and agencies to closely follow Resolution 19-NQ/TW, in order to build a strong vocational training system with high-quality schools. (Tin Tuc, hemepv.org.vn Oct 23)

# Vietnam Can Recover Labor Market from 2022: Deputy Minister

Vietnam's labor market can begin recovering from 2022, when COVID-19 vaccination is sufficed around the world and in Vietnam, said Deputy Minister of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Affair Le Van Thanh. Deputy Minister Thanh made the statement at an online conference about labor skills for Vietnamese people amid digitalization. The event was conducted by the MoLISA and ManpowerGroup Vietnam. ManpowerGroup Country Manager for Thailand, Vietnam, and Middle East quoted a recent survey as saying that 94% of foreign-invested firms in Vietnam have a tendency of applying more modern technology in production in the next three years, amid COVID-19 pandemic and the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0). (VOV, molisa, Bao Dan Sinh Oct 25)

Business Sector and Labour Market

#### Foreign Cooperation

## **HCMC** to Enhance International Cooperation

On October 18, Ho Chi Minh City hosted an online conference of boosting international cooperation. The event featured Vice Chairman of HCMC People's Committee Vo Van Hoan,





28 heads of Vietnam's representative offices in foreign nations, and leaders of 19 key economic areas in southern areas. With Shanghai (China), HCMC is hopeful on cooperation in construction, development of financial hubs, education policies, exchange between young people, general education, vocational training, higher education, and others. (Vietnam Plus, hemcpv.org.vn, hochiminhcity.gov.vn Oct 19)

# Vietnam, Laos to Enhance Cooperation in Labor, Social Welfare

On October 19, officials from Vietnam's MoLISA and Laos' Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare had an online meeting to construct an agreement in labor and social welfare cooperation. The discussion aimed to prepare for the 7th meeting of labor ministers of both nations in November. The discussed implementation of the bilateral labor agreement, especially for laborers in border areas; work safety and hygiene; labor relations; wage policies; unemployment insurance and social insurance; training; social welfare; and others. Besides, Mr. Nguyen Manh Cuong, head of the MoLISA's Department of International Cooperation, hailed the cooperation in 2019-2021, including COVID-19 fight, vocational training, and others. He particularly lauded short-term training courses in Laos with official development assistance (ODA) from Vietnam, for sectors of automobile, electrical, electronics, and others. (Bao Dan Sinh Oct 19)

## Japan Vows to Help Vietnam with Economic Recovery

Japan is committed to helping Vietnam with economic recovery after COVID-19 pandemic, according to a press conference of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on October 21. Addressing the event, JICA Chief Representative in Vietnam Shimizu Akira said that the Japanese government will continue supporting Vietnam, mainly in the infrastructure and labor forces. (VnExpress, Tuoi Tre, CAND)

#### Australia Gives \$37.4M Grant to Support Vietnam's HR Development in 2021-2025

The Australian government will grant AUD50.1 million (\$37.4 million) to Vietnam in support of the country's human resource development in the 2021-2025 period. The aid package is within the second phase of the Vietnam-Australia Partnership for Human Resource Development (Aus4Skills) program, announced by the Australian Embassy in Hanoi and the Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training late last week. In 2016-2021, over 105,000 Vietnamese students have benefited from the Aus4Skill program. (Bao Quoc Te, Hanoi Moi, Thanh Nien, Dan Tri Oct 22)

#### **ENZ to Hold Forum on TVET in Asia-Pacific**

The Education New Zealand (ENZ), for the first time, will hold a forum on TVET in the Asia-Pacific on November 5, 11. The event will feature Vietnamese language for participants. (LDTD, VTV Oct 20)





# Vietnam, Japan Launch Eighth Phase of Join Initiative from Nov 2021 to Mar 2023

The Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), the Japanese Embassy in Vietnam, and the Vietnam-Japan Economic Joint Committee organized a virtual meeting to launch the eighth phase of the joint initiative between the two countries, a forum for policy exchanges between Japanese investors and Vietnamese officials. The eighth phase of the initiative is expected to last for 17 months from October 2021 to March 2023. Regarding labor, both nations will cooperate towards (1) labor demand of Japanese firms in Vietnam, (2) labor cooperation via TVET schools, (3) recognition of labor skills, (4) policymaking relating to TVET. (Dan Sinh, GDNN) Oct 22)

#### Domestic News

# HCL Technologies to Onboard 2,600 Students in Vietnam in 5 Yrs

HCL Technologies (HCL) has launched its TechBee early career program in Vietnam with plans to onboard 2,600 candidates in the next five years. Students, who have finished high school education and hold a high school graduation certificate or its equivalent, can apply for the program. Candidates will undergo extensive 12-month training to become successful information technology (IT) professionals and work for global companies. After the completion of the one-year training, they will join HCL Vietnam. (Tuoi Tre, VnEconomy, Cong Thuong Oct 19)

# 1.7M Laborers in Vietnam Receive Supports from Relief Package of VND38T

As of October 19, 1.7 million laborers in Vietnam have received support of VND4.09 trillion (\$175.4 million) from the relief package of VND38 trillion per the Government's Resolutions 116 and 68. The package is funded from the Unemployment Insurance Fund and aims to help employers and employees amid COVID-19 pandemic. So far, 1.9 million laborers of 56,900 employers have been confirmed eligible for the support. Besides, 1,790 laborers are subject to labor skill training; and 67,600 employees of 882 employers are given loans for wage payment. (Dan Tri, Cong An TPHCM, Thanh Nien Oct 19)

## **HCMC Plans to Vaccinate 130,000 Future Workers**

HCMC DoLISA plans to provide COVID-19 vaccine to 130,000 learners, who are about to graduate and become interns at firms. HCMC DoLISA made the statement at a conference on ensuring the human resources for the supply chain. The event on October 22 was chaired by the DVET. HCMC estimated that after easier COVID-19 restriction, 60% of firms have resumed operation and in early October, 100 firms have been recruiting 9,000 staff. Besides, participants said that as of October 21, electronics firms in HCMC have only attracted 60%-70% of staff to return to work. As of October 22, 91% of firms in industrial park have resumed operation with only 70% of the workforce, while 100,000 laborers have yet to return. HCMC suggested a solution of building one million affordable houses for factory workers. The DVET suggested boosting vocational training in HCMC. One option is to bring 500,000 fresh-year students and 500,000 senior students to work as interns at firms. (Lao Dong, Tuoi Tre, Kinh Te Do Thi Oct 22)







# **MoLISA Launches 12 Teams to Inspect Relief Packages**

The MoLISA launched 12 teams to inspect the implementation of COVID-19 relief packages for employers and employees until November 3. The packages are the VND26 trillion (\$1.12 billion) one and the VND38 trillion. The teams also check rice support of relief packages. Besides, the team checks labor market demand in sectors, firms, the foreign-invested sector, export-processing zones, and others, in order to suggest recovery methods. As of October 15, the disbursed amount from those packages reached VND22 trillion for 24.3 million people. (Tuoi Tre, Tuoi Tre 1, VnEconomy, Dan Tri Oct 19)

#### Vietnam's Social, Unemployment Insurance Reach VND953T at End-2020

Vietnam's social insurance and unemployment insurance funds reached VND953 trillion (\$40.9 billion) as of end-2020, up 14.3% y/y, according to reports, which were delivered to the National Assembly. The number of people covered by social insurance was 15 million, down by 153,092 y/y, or 1%. The decrease was due to impacts of COVID-19 forcing firms to scale down and the campaign of streamlining staff under State payrolls. In 2020, the collection of social insurance premium was VND261.7 trillion, up 6.28% y/y. The average wage, which was the basis for insurance premium calculation, was 5.6 million per month, up 6.05% y/y. In 2020, the social insurance fund invested in g-bonds, bonds of banks, deposits in banks. The invested amount was VND897.7 trillion, including VND779.2 trillion into g-bond and VND118.5 trillion into banks. The gained interest was VND47.59 trillion in 2020, or 5.02%. (VietnamNet Oct 20)

#### Migrant Workers Satisfy 70% of Demand in Southern Vietnam

The rate of migrant workers returning to southern Vietnam has by far met between 60% and 70% of businesses' labor demand, said Ms. Do Thi Thuy Huong, Vice Chair of the Vietnam Association for Supporting Industries (VASI), stressing a serious shortage of workers when the COVID-19 resurgence has been curtailed. Samsung plant in Ho Chi Minh City finds it hard to make a full return by November due to lack of laborers, especially fully-vaccinated people, she noted. Mr. Nguyen Van Be, Chairman of the HCMC Export Processing and Industrial Zones (HEPZA) Businesses Association, said that HCMC-based enterprises need to employ 9,000 workers across fields per their resumption of activities. To date, some 200,000 migrant workers have got back to work in export processing and industrial zones compared to 320,000 laborers reported pre-pandemic, he added. According to the MoLISA, about 17.8% of firms are in short of workers. The fourth COVID-19 wave has forced 1.3 million workers to leave urban areas for their hometowns. Mr. Vu Xuan Hung from the DVET said that the MoLISA has made two labor supply plans, which are either offering collectively one million freshman, sophomores, and seniors to work in businesses, including 200,000 students from vocational training establishments in the southeastern region; or promoting vocational recruitment and training, including on-the-spot training. (VOV, VTV, GDNN, Dan Sinh, Dan Tri Oct 25)







# Young Vietnamese at Risk of Jobless to Digital Econ in Next 7 Years

Digital economy might take jobs of millions of young Vietnamese workers in the next five or seven years, said Mr. Hoang Nam Tien, chairman of FPT Telecom JSC. Of 2.7 million textile workers, 1.7 million footwear laborers, and over one million electronics assembly employees, some 70% may be on the verge of unemployment as robots are supposed to replace their jobs over an 87% decline in robot cost on average, the executive added. Mr. Tien strongly recommended enhanced technology training for both students and people of leadership, including state and local officials and business leaders. (CafeF, Doi Song Phap Luat Oct 23)

## **Many TVET School Fails Their Recruitment Targets**

One year after applying online teaching and recruiting, many TVET schools still fail to reach their recruitment target, some even reaches only 40%, due to universities' overwhelming recruitments with many methods. Besides, many TVET learners admitted that learning at universities is more prestigious, although TVET learning is more suitable for employment. (VTV Oct 23)

HCMC DoLISA reported that 59 colleges have recruited only 19,827 learners, versus the target of 45,000; and 64 intermediate schools have recruited only 9,980 learners, versus the target of 36,000. (VOV Oct 18)

#### 9+5 Course is Unattractive

The MoLISA's proposed TVET course of college education for secondary school graduates, named 9+5, is unattractive due to its long learning time of 5 years. Experts suggested the courses should take 3-3.5 years only. Besides, many agreed with the recruitment of secondary school graduates as trainees. (KTDT Oct 20)

## **Vietnam to Host Competition of TVET Teachers on Nov 5-12**

Vietnam will host the competition of TVET teachers on November 5-12, the DVET announced at a preparatory session on October 22. The competition will feature 402 TVET teachers and will take online format. Within the competition, the DVET and the GIZ will hold a sub-competition of building online TVET lessons. So far, the sub-competition attracted 101 entries and 7 best products will be shown on November 7. (GDNN, Dan Sinh, Lao Dong Oct 23)

#### **National Assembly Discusses GDP 2022**

In order to reach GDP growth of 6%-6.5% in 2022, Vietnam must have suitable strategies for COVID-19 and economic growth. Deputy Do Chi Nghia lauded the government's methods about education-TVET and suggested stronger support for TVET. Other deputies suggested better labor prediction in the post-pandemic era from the TVET sector. (Giao Duc Vietnam, Dan Viet Oct 22)







# 13K Workers Returning to Binh Dinh Have Demand for Jobs

Nearly 13,000 workers in Binh Dinh returning from Ho Chi Minh City and some southern localities have the need for jobs, and other 3,700 wants to get vocational training. To date, there have been 100,000 local people getting back from COVID-19-hit places, and 60%-70% of them are laborers. 70% of workers want to come back to their workplaces while 20% have yet to decide on the issue. At present, Binh Dinh is home to 7,500 companies with 160,000 employees in total. The COVID-19 pandemic has hit over 32,000 laborers across the province. (Dan Tri Oct 22)

# 45.3K Workers Returning to Nghe An Seeking Jobs

Nghe An province has reported that nearly 45,300 local workers returning from COVID-19-hit southern region are seeking jobs, of whom more than 21,500 want to work in the province, 20,700 prefer to work outside the province, and nearly 2,900 wish to go abroad for work, according to DoLISA. Mr. Le Hai Duong, deputy director of the provincial employment service center, informed that 57 firms based in Nghe An plan to hire 15,000 laborers, and 27 enterprises outside the province look to employ 14,000 employees. (Dan Tri Oct 22)

## Hanoi Employment Service Center Helps 7,680 People Get Jobs in Jan-Sep

The Hanoi Employment Service Center helped 7,680 persons get jobs and other 49,565 enjoy unemployment insurance policy in the first nine months of this year. The center supported vocational training for 1,201 people during the period. (Nong Nghiep Oct 25)

#### **Quang Binh Generates Jobs for 13K Laborers Since Early 2021**

Quang Binh province has created jobs for 13,000 people since early 2021, completing 70% of the year target, of whom 1,900 have been selected to work abroad under contract, according to DoLISA. During this year, the province aims to generate jobs for 18,000 people, including sending 3,500 to work abroad under contract. (Dan Sinh Oct 23)

# Vinh Long Records Vocational Training Recruitment of 14.1K Learners as of Oct

Vinh Long province reported TVET recruitment of 14,112 people as of October, raising the rate of trained laborers in the province to 54.22%, of whom 16.37% hold degrees and certificates, DoLISA said. In November, it guns for 2,000 people registering for vocational education. During 2021, the province aims for TVET recruitment of 34,200 people, bringing the rate of trained laborers to 57%, with 20% holding degrees and certificates (Vinh Long Oct 26)

## 21.5K Workers Returning to Dong Thap Have Demand for Jobs







DoLISA in Binh Dinh province has reported that some 21,500 local workers returning from COVID-19-hit localities have the need for jobs and vocational learning. (Giao Thong Oct 20)

## **TVET Colleges in HCMC Find it Hard to Recruit Learners**

A number of TVET colleges in Ho Chi Minh City find it hard to recruit learners due to COVID-19 and universities' overwhelming recruitment. A majority of colleges citywide have recruited about 50% of their targets. (NLD Oct 24)

# Over 85% of Firms in HCMC Hit by COVID-19

The COVID-19 flare-up dealt a blow to 85.71% of surveyed enterprises in HCMC in the third quarter of 2021, according to the municipal Center of Forecasting Manpower Needs and Labor Market Information (FALMI). The FALMI-conducted survey, covering 11,502 local companies, shows that wholesale, retail, and vehicle repair firms were hit hardest by the pandemic, accounting for 36.74% of the affected; followed by manufacturing and processing with 16.42%. Meanwhile, information and telecommunications businesses were least impacted, making up only 3.69%, the FALMI reported. Over 39% of polled enterprises said they plan to streamline their workforce for the rest of this year. (Tin Tuc, Vietnam Plus, VTV Oct 24)

## Vietnam Sees Low Disbursement of COVID-19 Relief Package for Labor

After three months, the COVID-19 relief package of VND4.5 trillion (\$193.1 million) for employers and employees has been disbursed in only two provinces of Thai Binh and Quang Binh. As of October 22, Thai Binh has approved the relief package for 600 employees and Quang Binh has approved the support for 800 employees. The DVET listed problems, including COVID-19 pandemic disrupting paperwork and some localities applying rigid rules. The DVET also urged localities to issue clear details for agencies to run the relief package with easy rules. Besides, experts urged vocational training schools to improve the cooperation with businesses to implement the package. Employers also suggested the DVET clarify details, such as the fees of training courses. (Kinh Te Do Thi Oct 25)