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Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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• Policies •

Some of Vietnam's Labour-Related Rules Yet to Match International Law

Some terms of Vietnam's Labour Code 2019 have yet to match international law, including the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Convention 138 and Convention 182, particularly in terms about working ages, working hours, and inspection against child labour. Regarding working age from 15 years old, Vietnam's Labour Code 2019 matches international law. However, the legal framework is lacking details about permitted and banned jobs for children. Vietnam only stipulates that under-13 kids can only work in arts and sports, between 13 and 15year-old kids can do light jobs, and heavy jobs are only for over-18 people. About working hours, Vietnam stipulates that people between 15 and 18 years old can do overtime tasks. This is different from the ILO's recommendation of no overtime for young people. For resting hours, Vietnam applies the same rules for both adults and adolescents. Regarding banned jobs for young people, Vietnam's list includes jobs of heavy industries, chemical industry, and others; and excludes jobs of fisheries and agriculture. About inspection and punishment, Vietnam's Labour Code 2019 specifies adolescents as under-18 people, while the Penal Code 2015 only sets out punishments for violations against under-16 people. Hence, there is a loophole of no punishments for violations against workers between 16 and 18 years old. (VKSNDTC, Kiem Sat May 24)

Vietnam Education Ministry to Push Career Path Guidance for Learners

Vietnam's Ministry of Education and Training has issued Circular 07/2022/TT-BGDDT on boosting career path guidance for learners. The circular stipulates different targets of outcomes for learners of primary schools, secondary schools, high schools, and higher education units. For secondary schools, the designated outcome is learners understanding about their strengths, willingness to works, and experiences of working. For high schools, the target is learners understanding the developments of some jobs and experiencing some works. For secondary schools, high schools, and higher education units, the circular stipulates they have to conduct at least one experiencing session per year for learners. The circular will become effective on July 8. (Bao Chinh Phu, MOIT, VKSNDTC, Bao Dan Sinh May 26)

Vietnam Must Build Vocational Training as Key of Rural Development: Minister

Vietnam must build vocational training as a key to rural development, said Minister Dao Ngoc Dung, at a dialogue between the Prime Minister and farmers nationwide. In order to improve vocational training, Mr. Dung suggested relevant authorities, including the MoLISA and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), cooperate in pushing farmers to improve themselves and learn more knowledge. He added that dissemination of career paths and agricultural developments should be innovated per different areas. Vocational training must also







adapt to changes in the workforce, employments, and higher incomes for farmers, he noted. He also said that investments in vocational training need improvements, particularly in inspections, in order to ensure that the investments are fully disbursed. Besides, he stated that the MARD is in charge of agricultural vocational training and the MoLISA is in charge of non-agricultural vocational training. (Dan Tri, MoLISA, Dan Viet May 29)

Higher Education in Vietnam Cannibalizes Vocational Training: Official

Higher education units in Vietnam are lowering and lowering their entrance requirements and opening up more and more courses, leading to low numbers of students entering vocational training, an official said. Mr. Dao Trong Do, an official from the DVET, made the statement at a recent conference on developing vocational training in the northern region in 2021-2030, with a vision to 2045. He elaborated that the numbers of university learners are triple that of vocational training learners, leading to problems in the workforce structure, with too few people participating in production. He noted another problem of many people's negative prejudices against vocational training. Ms. Khuong Thi Nhan from the DVET reminded of the targets for vocational training, including 40%-45% of secondary and high school graduates advancing to vocational training, retraining for 25% of the workforce, 100% of vocational training, building up of 70 high-quality vocational training schools, and others. (Dan Tri, TVET, VietnamNet, Tuoi Tre, Nhan Dan May 28)

Vietnam May Not Classify Sexual Activities at Work with Consent as Harassments

Suggestive sexual activities at work, which are responded with consent, may not be classified as sexual harassments at work; and those not responded with consent may be classified as sexual harassments at work, according to draft rules on prevention and control of sexual harassment at work. The draft rules are compiled by the MoLISA, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL), and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI). Per the draft rules, examples of not sexual harassments at work are casual compliments per the moral code and culture, sexual intercourses with consent (except for sexual intercourses with kids), and sexual harassment not at work and subject to other laws. Examples of sexual harassment at work are unwanted sexual or suggestive actions (touching, caressing, hugging, kissing, raping, attacking, and others); statements via direct conversation, phone, digital connection, such as stories, costume compliments, constant asks for dates; body languages, such as display of pornography, eyes contacts, illicit actions; and others. Per the draft rules, employers must build detailed terms for their workplaces and apply them accordingly. (Tien Phong May 30)

Vietnam Economic Forum to Take Place in HCMC on Jun 5

The fourth edition of the Vietnam Economic Forum, themed "Building an independent, selfreliant economy associated with deep international integration in the new context," will take place in Ho Chi Minh City on June 5. This year's event will have three thematic seminars, namely (i) the development of labour supply chains after COVID-19, (ii) the development of



capital and property markets, and (iii) innovation, technology, digital transformation, and supply chain diversification. (<u>Dau Tu</u> May 31)

2.7M People in Vietnam Enjoy Retirement Pension of VND5.4M/Month on Average

As many as 2.7 million people in Vietnam currently enjoy retirement pension of VND5.4 million (\$231.8) each per month on average, said Ms. Ly Hoang Minh, an official from the Vietnam Social Security. Such a figure is higher than the average per capita monthly wage of VND4.2 million in 2021. (VnExpress May 28)

• Business Sector and Labour Market •

Foreign Cooperation

Developing Capacity for Teachers on Using PV Equipment Training at Ninh Thuan Vocational College

Aiming to implement the objective of improving the quality and market orientation of technical vocational education within the framework of the Programme "Reform of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Vietnam"-GIZ, therefore a training consisting of two parts on developing teacher capacity on using photovoltaic (PV) devices for 15 core teachers split into three small groups for maximum effectiveness were conducted on May 10-12 and 17-19. The training focuses on building capacity for teachers on how to use specialized PV devices and hands-on training on using those devices on a real PV installation. It is also a necessity of improving teaching quality and applying knowledge regarding the use of photovoltaic devices into the curriculum of Renewable Energy occupation. The main contents of the training are giving an introduction on different PV devices; instructing on how to use them; sensitizing on the restrictions of these devices; and training of the devices on real PV installations. During the training, the participants were guided through the concepts of theoretical knowledge and how to use the PV devices such as SOLAR I-Ve CurveTracer, Clamp meters, Solar Pathfinder for shade analysis, Insulation and continuity tester, Digital Earth resistance tester, Infrared thermometer and MC4 connectors and their assembly. After the training, teachers are confident in using the devices; having a clear overview of the different devices available and knowing how to apply the devices to real installations. "Through this training, the core teachers have acquired a lot of knowledge and skills related to hand tools, how to use solar-related measuring equipment correctly" said Mr. Dang Ngoc Vong - Dean of Renewable Energy Faculty at NTVC. This training on developing capacity for teachers on using PV devices mark the first step towards a good preparation for NTVC teachers to get more and more Renewable Energy trainings at the college in the near future. (TVET May 27)

Girls' Day at LILAMA 2 - No TVET Gaps for Girls!

The main slogan No TVET Gaps for Girls inspired more than 120 female high-school students from Phu My High School and Phu My Continuing Education Centre to participate in the Girls' Day on May 19 at LILAMA 2 International Technology College. LILAMA 2 college organised





DVET

the day to raise awareness among young high-school students for a solid education in TVET and new smart manufacturing technologies. And on the other hand to attract especially female students to join the modular initial training programmes, oriented on German training standard and offered by LILAMA 2 for: Metal Cutting Technician, Mechatronics Technician, Construction Mechanics Technician, Industrial Electronics Technician. The survey "Are you interested in technical occupations?" was conducted at the beginning and end of the event to measure the interest to enrol in vocational training. It proved an increasing interest of many female students, especially the students from Phu My Continuing Education Centre, to enrol in the cooperative vocational training programme of LILAMA 2 after graduation. Ms. Quang Thi Nhu Ngoc, a grade-11 student from Phu My High School expressed that "I realised I changed my mind rather easily after participating in the Challenging Race with TVET experience in different kinds of labs and workshops at LILAMA 2. Before that, I had no idea on technical occupations, but when I touched the buttons on CNC milling machine and received the workpiece engraved with my name, I decided on metal cutting occupation. I have a strong belief in my bright future". The girls had also the opportunity to approach the representatives of the industry, LILAMA 2 and GIZ directly with their impressions and questions. Ms Le Thi Nhiem of Siemens Vietnam explained that her company create equal opportunities for all male and female candidates. The working environment in Siemens is diverse and inclusive, and female technicians even get a lot of benefits and advantages in the company. Adding to that, Ms Le Thi Thu Uyen of Martech Boiler, Ms Doan Huu Vinh Ngon of Festo Didactic, Mr Doan Thanh Cao of NS BlueScope Viet Nam, Mr Nguyen Khanh Cuong, Rector of LILAMA 2 and Mr Bach Hung Truong of GIZ justified themselves to the high-school students and informed about working conditions and measures to support women in their organisations. The event was conducted in the frame of the Development Partnership with the Private Sector (DPP) Vocational Training for Smart Manufacturing in Machine Tools. The DPP is implemented jointly by the cooperation partners Siemens Limited Company Vietnam, LILAMA 2 International Technology College and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (represented by the Programme Reform of TVET in Vietnam) and supported by the develoPPP.de programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). (TVET May 26)

Female Industry Technicians Go CNC!

LILAMA 2 International Technology College implemented from May 10 to 20 the further training course Fundamental DIN/ISO Programming – CNC Turning and Milling. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Huy and Mr. Le Tuyen Giao, LILAMA 2's CNC experts and master trainers in smart manufacturing conducted the 10-day further training particularly for women technicians and engineers of the industry and fresh college and university graduates in metal cutting occupations to enhance women's job opportunities and access to modern and intelligent production technologies on sophisticated machine tools. Ten women technicians of enterprises (Nidec, ISHISEI Vietnam, Duy Tan Precision Mold, ITEQ Vietnam) and 06 fresh college/university graduates (LILAMA 2, HCMC University of Technology and Education, HCMC College of Industry and Trade, HCMC University of Technology) participated successfully in the training and assessment course. The participants learned to programme with DIN/ISO programming language and Sinumerik 840D, simulate the CNC programmes, and basically operate and maintain CNC turning and milling machines. All participants will receive a certificate on course







completion that proves their newly acquired professional competencies and supports to promote in their current jobs and to find better job positions with solid incomes. Ms. Bui Thi Khoi An from Duy Tan Precision Mold expressed that "It seems that a whole horizon of knowledge on modern technology is open, not only to me but to everyone in the training. We see the passion from our heart for the training, the dedication of trainers, and we surely see our qualifications improved and confidence is strengthened in the field of CNC metal cutting technology. We all expect to have chances to participate in following further trainings at LILAMA 2 in future soon". The practice-oriented training course was conducted in the frame of the Development Partnership with the Private Sector (DPP) Vocational Training for Smart Manufacturing in Machine Tools. The DPP is implemented jointly by the cooperation partners Siemens Limited Company Vietnam, LILAMA 2 International Technology College and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (represented by the Programme Reform of TVET in Vietnam) and supported by the develoPPP.de programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). (<u>TVET</u> May 26)

Vietnam, ILO Work on Child Labour Eradication

The MoLISA and the International Labour Organization (ILO) co-staged a workshop on child labour prevention and elimination on May 27 in Hanoi. Addressing the conference, Deputy Minister Nguyen Thi Ha said the Vietnamese government has been focusing on five measures, namely (i) universalizing general education, (ii) promoting social welfare policies, (iii) improving the working environment in the informal economy via cooperation with international partners, (iv) raising awareness about child labour prevention, and (v) easing COVID-19 impacts on education. Director of ILO Vietnam Ingrid Christensen recommended strengthening programs and policies on poverty reduction and vocational training for children, especially in rural areas. Vietnam's child labour rate went down from 15.5% in 2012 to 9.1% in 2018, 2% lower than the average of the Asia Pacific. (MoLISA, Hanoi Moi May 27)

Vietnam Seeks to Strengthen Supply of Workers to Germany

A conference aimed to seek solutions to German training and supply of skilled Vietnamese workers to Germany has taken place in Hanoi. The workshop was held by the Goethe-Institut Hanoi, the Vorpommern business association of the German state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (MV), and An Duong group. Chairman of An Duong group Bui Xuan Quang proposed lowering standards of German competency for workers in some fields such as hospitality, hotel, and construction, and assessing working experiences through practical skills and contracts instead of social insurance books. (Lao Dong May 26)

Germany's Industrial Robot Firm KUKA Eyes Investment in Vinh Phuc

CEO Gerald Mies of Germany-based KUKA Systems GmbH has taken a trip to Vinh Phuc province to look for investment opportunities there. Talking to Chairman of the provincial People's Committee Le Duy Thanh on May 25, the executive said the firm eyes investing in the province in high-tech solution development, industrial automation equipment, education, health,





and skilled labour force training for the transfer of its technology in Vietnam. (<u>Thoi Dai</u>, <u>vinh</u> <u>Phuc TV</u> May 25)

Vietnam, UK Work to Promote Sustainable Economic, Trade Ties

Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade Dang Hoang An and British Minister of State at the Department for International Trade Penny Mordaunt co-held the 12th working session of the Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) on May 25 to promote the sustainable economic and trade cooperation between the two nations. During the event in London, the two sides discussed the grant of work permits to foreigners working in Vietnam and the implementation of the memorandum of understanding on cooperation in vocational training between the two governments. (<u>Tin Tuc</u>, <u>Vietnam Plus</u> May 26)

Vietnam, Israel Seek to Promote Cooperation at 4th Political Consultation

Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Do Hung Viet and Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs Political Director Alon Bar sought to promote cooperation between the two countries while cochairing the fourth political consultation conference between the two ministries via videoconference on May 26. They concurred that the two countries should soon organize activities in the framework of some existing cooperation mechanisms, including the third meeting of the Inter-Governmental Committee, and speed up the negotiation of important cooperation agreements such as the Vietnam-Israel Free Trade Agreement and a labour agreement. (Vietnam Plus, Dien Bien TV, Bao Quoc Te, VTV May 26)

Coca-Cola Invests \$1B in Vietnam to Date

Coca-Cola has invested nearly \$1 billion in Vietnam since 1994, becoming the biggest foreign beverage investor in the country. At present, the beverage giant directly employs 2,000 workers and indirectly contributes nearly 16,000 jobs to the local labour market via its supply chains and supporting industries. (<u>Tien Phong</u> May 30)

Jasmine Beauty School Founds Member in Vietnam

The U.S.-based beauty industry-specialized school Jasmine Beauty has announced the foundation of its member in Thu Duc city of Ho Chi Minh City. Jasmine Beauty Vietnam will inclusively offer short-term beauty training to learners according to U.S. standards, the first of its kind in Vietnam. (Dan Sinh, So Huu Tri Tue May 25)

Domestic News

DVET, DENSO Vietnam Ink MoU on Preparations for WorldSkills Competition 2022





On May 24, the DVET and DENSO Vietnam inked a memorandum of understanding on preparations for the WorldSkills Competition 2022 in CNC lathing and milling. (<u>Dan Sinh</u> May 24)

Vietnam Licenses 62,961 New Firms in Jan-May, up 13% y/y: Ministry

Vietnam is estimated to have licensed 62,961 new firms with a total registered capital of VND761.03 trillion (\$32.8 billion) in the first five months of this year, up 12.9% in number but down 2.2% y/y in value, according to the Agency for Business Registration, under the Ministry of Planning and Investment. The new firms used 437,689 labourers during the period, up 6.1% y/y. (Dau Tu May 27)

Over 69% of Vietnamese Women Engage in Workforce: MasterCard

69.3% of Vietnamese women participate in the workforce, among the countries with the highest rates of working females, according to the fifth annual MasterCard Index of Women Entrepreneurs 2021. Vietnam comes 11th in terms of women's advancement outcomes and opportunities for women entrepreneurs, the report said. (<u>VnMedia</u> May 24)

129,000 Learners in Hanoi to Graduate from Secondary Schools

This academic year, 129,000 learners in Hanoi are scheduled to take graduation exam, up 19,000 y/y. About 104,000 will advance to high schools, 12,900 will advance to TVET-continuation education centres, and 12,100 will advance to TVET. (VOV May 30)

Hanoi Resumes Production Close to 100%: Official

After two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hanoi has resumed its production close to 100%, said Chairman of Hanoi People's Committee Chu Ngoc Anh, at a meeting with labourers in the city on May 26. The meeting focused on solutions to workers' problems, especially insurance indemnification for COVID-19 patients, lighting for roads near industrial parks and workers' residential areas, schools for workers' children, upgrade for downgraded workers' housing areas, and others. Hanoi currently has 326,000 businesses with 2.5 million employees. The figure includes 661 firms with 165,000 workers in nine industrial and processing zones and high-tech parks. (Kinh Te Do Thi, Hanoi Moi, VnExpress, Dan Tri, VietnamNet May 26)

Quang Ninh Province Aims to Become Aquaculture Centre in Northern Vietnam

Quang Ninh province has set a target to become an aquaculture centre in Vietnam's northern region by 2030, with a vision to 2045. By 2030, the province aims for a fisheries production value of VND31 trillion (\$1.3 billion), doubling 2020's figure; a fisheries output of 228,000 tons; and a fisheries export revenue of \$487 million, as well as create jobs for over 50,000 labourers. (Nhan Dan May 27)



Vinh University of Technology Education Signs Cooperation Deals with 15 Firms

Vinh University of Technology Education in central Nghe An province has sealed cooperation deals with 15 large corporation, such as WHA Nghe An, VSIP Nghe An, TH, LG Display Vietnam-Haiphong, GOERTEK VINA, and others. (Dan Sinh May 28)

IPs, EZs in Quang Tri Attract \$20.35B So Far

Industrial parks (IPs) and economic zones (EZs) in central province of Quang Tri have attracted 221 projects with a total pledged capital of VND472.24 trillion (\$20.35 billion) so far, said Mr. Tran Quang Trung, deputy head of the Quang Tri EZ Authority. Most of the projects operate in the energy, seaport, processing, garment, footwear, and construction material sectors. The operating projects have created 7,000 jobs, Mr. Trung noted. (Vietnam Plus May 27)

Quang Nam Aims to Create 80,000 Employments in 2021-2025

Quang Nam province aims to create 80,000 additional employments in 2021-2025, including 65,000 for the manufacturing-processing sector. (Dan Tri May 31)

Building of \$1.6M TVET Centre Project in Quang Ngai at Standstill

The construction of Son Tinh model vocational training centre project in the namesake district of Quang Nam province comes to a standstill after its start in 2012. The 30,000-square-meter project with total capital of VND37.8 billion (\$1.6 million) is put on the shelf and looks ramshackle and shabby. (<u>SGGP</u> May 30)

Danang City Aids Pandemic-hit Labourers with VND600B So Far

Central Danang City has provided nearly VND600 billion in aid to 58,000 labourers at 2,700 suspended firms and 690 dissolved firms due to COVID-19. (<u>Dan Sinh</u> May 26)

Phu Yen Province Prosecutes Staff of Phu Yen TVET Centre

On May 27, Phu Yen police prosecuted and applied ban from leaving residence against director Pham Tan Ngoan and accountant Pham Thi My Hoa of Phu Yen TVET-Career Path centre, for charges of "violating accounting rules, causing serious consequences." In 2019-2020, the duo abused their power to forge documents, causing damages of VND900 million to the State budget. (<u>Tuoi Tre</u> May 27)

HCMC OKs Accommodation Support to over 41K Labourers

Ho Chi Minh City's Social Security has okayed to provide accommodation support to 41,237 labourers at 3,064 firms, per the Prime Minister's Decision 08/2022/QD-TTg. (Dan Sinh May 29)



Long An Creates Jobs for 15K Labourers, Enrols 8,000 People into TVET in Jan-May

Southern Long An province is estimated to have created jobs for nearly 15,000 labourers and enrolled roughly 8,000 people into TVET in the first five months of this year. (Dan Sinh May 27)

73% of Secondary School Graduates in Vinh Long to Advance to High Schools

12,500 secondary school learners in Vinh Long province will participate in the high school entrance exam, with a recruitment target of 73%. The remaining will advance to continuation education or TVET, or join the workforce. (VOV May 30)