



## Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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## Vietnam's Average Monthly Wage +7.89% y/y to VND7.9M in Q1: GSO

The average monthly income of Vietnamese contracted workers is estimated to have reached VND7.9 million (\$329) in the first quarter (Q1) of 2023, up by VND578,000 or 7.89% y/y, reported the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO). The average monthly wage for female workers is VND8.3 million and VND7.3 million for female workers. The rate of households reporting either non-change or increase in their monthly income is estimated at 93.4% in Q1, up 20.3 percentage points y/y. (Nhip Song Kinh Doanh, GSO Mar 29)

### Vietnam's Workforce Reaches 52.2M in Q1, up 2.03% y/y: GSO

Vietnam's workforce at the age of 15 or above is estimated to have reached 52.2 million in the first quarter (Q1) of 2023, up 2.03% y/y; according to the latest data of the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO). The figure includes 27.8 million males and 24.4 million females, up 2.21% y/y and 1.86% y/y, respectively. The number of employed people at the age of 15 or above is 51.1 million in Q1, up 2.2% y/y, comprising 13.8 million in the agriculture-forestry-fisheries sector, 17.3 million in the industry-construction sector, and 20 million in the service sector. The unemployment rate is estimated at 2.25% in Q1, down 0.07 percentage point q/q and 0.21 percentage point y/y. The jobless rate among young people (at the age of between 15 and 24) is estimated at 7.61% in the spell, down 0.09 percentage point q/q and 0.32 percentage point y/y. The underemployment rate is estimated at 1.94% in Q1, down 0.04 percentage point q/q and 1.07 percentage points y/y. (Thoi Dai, GSO Mar 29)

## Business Sector and Labour Market

### Foreign Cooperation

#### Ninh Thuan Vocational College Organizes Girls' Day 2023

On April 1, an experience day for female students is organised by Ninh Thuan Vocational College that is supported by the Vietnamese-German Programme "Reform of TVET in Viet Nam" to become the first training centre on renewable energies in Viet Nam. The event opens a space for 150 local girls from 10 high schools to explore career prospect in technical fields, through a diverse of activities at the college. Technical occupations are still perceived as more suitable for men and significant barriers to girls' participation in the field still exists. With the theme "Follow you passion, choose the right occupation" the event encourages young people to choose a profession based on personal interests and capacities not on gender stereotype. At the beginning, female high-school students participated in the talk show with panellists from the enterprise, college alumni, college rector, female technical teacher and GIZ on women choosing





and pursing technical occupations. Panellists highlighted the need for increased awareness and support the female students by providing information on career opportunities, benefits, and bright future at companies after graduation. After that, students had interactive experiences in the workshop tour. At different workshops, they had chances to work with the machines, to basically operate electrical system, or control the robot, fix the minor errors in the controlling panel, etc... Ms. Truong Tieu Bang – from Truong Chinh High School expressed, "The talk show and workshop tour gave me a lot of useful knowledge and interesting experience about technology. Thanks to this event, I know more about the equipment and machine which are not only for boys, but girls can also easily handle with them. I was also impressed most with the welding workshop which was very exciting in combining two or more objects together". Mr. Truong Ngoc Hoang, Education Manager, Festo VN Co., Ltd said that Festo is always open the door to female technicians. The advantage is that women are very meticulous and have the ability to convince customers as well as partners in the technical fields, which leads to the company success. Currently, the number of female technicians in Festo is quite small, so Festo always tries to recruit as many high-skilled woman technicians as possible. The event is supported by the Development Partnership (DPP) Vocational Training Center for Renewable Energies – Wind and Solar Technology. The DPP is implemented jointly by the cooperation partners Vietnam Industries Building Services JSC (IBS), Festo Didactic SE, Schneider Electric Vietnam, Ninh Thuan Vocational College (NTVC), and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), represented by the Programme Reform of TVET in Viet Nam, and supported by the develoPPP.de programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The objective of the DPP is to establish vocational training for wind and solar energy in selected regions in Viet Nam and to build up a network among predestined TVET institutes, competent to offer initial and further training in renewable energies that is inclusive and meets the industry demand. (TVET Apr 5)

## GIZ Head of Division Asia, Pacific, Latin America, Caribbean Visits VCMI

On March 23, Mr. Matthias Giegerich, GIZ's Head of Division Asia, Pacific, Latin American, and the Caribbean, visited the Vocational College of Machinery and Irrigation (VCMI). Accompanying Mr. Matthias was Ms. Elisabeth Gager, Senior Departmental Advisor of Division Asia, Pacific, Latin American, and the Caribbean GIZ; Dr. Juergen Hartwig, Programme Director, together with the officers of the Programme "Reform of TVET in Vietnam" and representatives from VCMI's partner companies. Having visited and experienced VCMI, Mr. Giegerich was presented on the development history, achievements during the past few years of the college, and also the challenges that it has been facing during the process of developing VCMI to become a High-quality Institute for Green TVET by Mr. Pham Duy Dong – the College Vice Rector. Mr. Giegerich had the opportunity to visit the Green Building, recognized by the Vietnam Green Council with the achievement of the Golden Lotus in 2022. He was highly impressed with the application of workshops management and the pilot of the two new occupations which followed the concept of German standard oriented Cooperative Training, with the support from the Programme Reform of TVET in Vietnam: "Electronics for Energy and Building Technology" and "Mechanics for Sanitary, Heating and Climate Technology". He highly appreciated the close cooperation of partner companies during the implementation process. During the visit, Mr. Nguyen Hoang Hiep, chairman of Mien Dong Mechanical





Refrigeration Electrical Corporation – showed his confidence in the quality of students from the German-standard oriented pilot classes: "The students have good technical and language skills, therefore, after they graduate, our company has a plan to employ and intend to further develop this high-quality human resource to take over manager, supervisor positions." In the closing speech, Mr. Giegerich stated his commitment to continue to accompany and enhance the joint efforts to develop VCMI, especially in fields such as Business cooperation, Greening TVET, Inclusion and Digital transformation, aiming to develop VCMI becoming a High-quality Institute for Green TVET in Vietnam and in the region. This activity was held within the component "Supporting High-Quality TVET Institutes" as part of the Vietnamese – German "Programme Reform of TVET in Vietnam". The programme is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), implemented by GIZ together with the Vietnamese MoLISA. (TVET Mar 27)

## Vietnam Dispatches 37.9K Workers Abroad in Q1, Reaching 35% of Year Target

Vietnam sent 37,923 workers overseas from early 2023 to March 20, reaching nearly 35% of the whole-year target, according to the DoLAB, under the MoLISA. Of the amount, which comprised 12,872 female workers, 18,044 were taken to Taiwan; 17,696 to Japan; 517 to China; 364 to Singapore; 278 to South Korea; 260 to Hong Kong, and other markets. (Nhan Dan Mar 31)

## Vietnam, ILO Seal Decent Work Country Program 2022-2026

Some ministries and agencies of Vietnam and the International Labour Organization (ILO) signed the Vietnam Decent Work Country Program 2022-2026 on March 28, the fourth joint program following those in 2006-2010, 2012-2016, and 2017-2021. Addressing the signing ceremony in Hanoi, Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Dao Ngoc Dung affirmed that in the fourth program, the government will continue to focus on employment, workforce development, and social security in association with international economic integration in the new context. ILO Country Director Ingrid Christensen spoke highly of Vietnam's priorities in green jobs and productivity, social protection and security for workers, and the effective governance of the labour market and labour relations. The ILO is willing to work closely with the Vietnamese government and social partners, she said, adding that with close cooperation between the parties, differences can be made at the national and local levels. She also expressed her belief that the signing and the program will be the next important step towards the common goal of promoting social equality and sustainable work for all. (QDND, MoLISA, Tin Tuc, Dang Cong San, Thanh Nien, Bao Dan Sinh, Nhan Dan Mar 28)

## Vietnam Requests Japan to Raise Base Salary, Lower Resident Tax for Its Trainees

Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Nguyen Ba Hoan has called on Japan to raise base salaries and bring down resident tax for trainees and workers from Vietnam while receiving Mr. Nakagawa Tsutomo, Associate Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency of Japan. Speaking to the Japanese official in Hanoi on March 28, Deputy





Minister Hoan recommended Japan expand occupations for receiving Vietnamese workers and improve working environment and conditions for labourers from Vietnam. Mr. Hoan proposed Japan shorten the time of document approval, visa issuance, and residence grant for Vietnamese trainees and workers. The Japanese official, for his part, welcomed proposals from the Vietnamese side, contributing to the amendment of Japan's two draft laws on trainees and specified skilled workers. (Bao Dan Sinh, MoLISA Mar 28)

#### Vietnam, Cambodia Hold Senior Labour Officials Meeting

The Vietnamese MoLISA and Cambodia's Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training held a senior labour officials' meeting in Hanoi on April 4 in preparation for a ministerial labour conference slated for April 5. Addressing the meeting, Vietnamese Deputy Minister Nguyen Ba Hoan lauded the outcomes of cooperation between the two ministries, especially the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on labour cooperation in 2022-2027. Mr. Hoan commended a working group for Vietnam-Cambodia labour cooperation for compiling an action plan to execute the MoU and preparing content for the upcoming ministerial labour conference. During the meeting, delegates discussed and shared policies, laws, and national priorities regarding labour and vocational training by the two countries. Prior to the conference, Deputy Minister Hoan had a meeting with the Cambodian mission led by General Director of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Department Hing Sideth. (MoLISA, Dan Tri Apr 4)

## JICA-Developed Project on Vietnamese Labour Abroad Almost Complete

A project providing information about Vietnamese labour abroad developed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is about to be accomplished, said Senior Assistant to the President of JICA Shishido Kenichi. The JICA expert gave the information in a meeting with Deputy Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Nguyen Ba Hoan in Hanoi on April 3. JICA has talked with the Department of Overseas Labour about the organization of a workshop on employment according to international standards, and it will consult participants about the project at the event, Mr. Kenichi added. Deputy Minister Hoan said the project, once operational, will help connect and support Vietnamese trainees and workers employed abroad. The project minutes are close to finalization for submission to the Vietnamese ministry for approval. (MoLISA Apr 3)

## Vietnam, Austria Stage Political Consultation

The foreign ministries of Vietnam and Austria co-held a political consultation on March 29 in the virtual format to review cooperation outcomes and discuss measures for stronger ties between the two nations. The Austrian diplomat pledged to bolster ties with Vietnam in traditional fields and expand to new scenes, including labour, vocational training, innovation, and climate change response. (Bao Quoc Te Mar 30)

### Tra Vinh, Germany's BiW Ink Cooperation Agreement





On April 3, Tra Vinh province's DoLISA, Vietnam Bank for Social Policies (VBSP)'s Tra Vinh branch, and SHB Investment-Development JSC inked a cooperation agreement with the construction training centre of Germany's BiW. Under the deal, the five parties will jointly provide consultations and career orientations to students who wish to pursue studying at the college level in Germany. (Thoi Dai Apr 3)

### Khanh Hoa Wants to Recruit 500 Labourers to Work in Japan Monthly since Early 2022

Central Khanh Hoa province has received announcements from the MoLISA to recruit around 500 labourers to work in Japan per month on average since early 2022, according to the provincial DoLISA. They will work for a duration of three-five years each in fields of caregiving, food, fisheries, apparel, automobile maintenance, industrial packaging, agro, and construction. (Bao Khanh Hoa Apr 2)

#### 22 Vocational Lecturers Receive Daikin Authorized Instructor Certificate 2022

Twenty-two vocational lecturers from 22 TVET schools nationwide received Daikin authorized instructor certificates 2022 on March 29. This is part of a joint project on improving the skills of air conditioning technicians implemented by businesses under the oversight of DVET. Vietnam is forecast to need 80,000 air conditioning technicians if some five million air conditioners are sold to the market by 2025. (Dan Tri Mar 30)

#### Domestic News

# Hanoi Education Department to Hold Test Exam for 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Students on Apr 7-8

The Hanoi Department of Education and Training will hold a test exam for 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students citywide on April 7-8, including students of continuing education centres, to prepare them for the upcoming high-school graduation exam. In their talks to the Vietnam Education e-magazine, directors of some continuing education centres voiced concern about their students slacking off in revision for the test exam. Besides, some continuing education centres are still waiting for guidance from the department about combining with other units to organize the exam at a specific place. (Giao Duc Mar 31)

# Hanoi Supports Employment for 563,253 People in 2020-2022, Surpassing Plan by 18.3%

Hanoi generated jobs for 563,253 persons in 2020-2022, reaching 118.3% of the target, which means that the city supported employment for 187,751 people each year. The urban unemployment rate decreased to 3.18% in late 2022 from 3.22% in 2020. Currently, 70%-80% of graduates from vocational education and training get a job, with some occupations recording 100% of recruitment such as air conditioning engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, automobile technology, and automation, among others. (Lao Dong Apr 3)

80% of Vocational Graduates in Bac Ninh Get Jobs in 2022





As many as 80% of vocational graduates either landed a job or were self-employed in 2022, DoLISA said. Last year, Bac Ninh recorded 61,376 vocational graduates, including 3,041 learners of college level, 3,137 learners of intermediate level, 43,122 learners of primary level, and 12,076 of under-three-month-training level. (Lao Dong Mar 29)

## Nearly 300 Labourers in Ha Nam Apply to Work Seasonally in South Korea

On March 31, nearly 300 labourers in northern Ha Nam province applied to work as seasonal workers in South Korea. In the first phase of 2023, South Korea will recruit 50-200 labourers from Nam Dinh province to work in the crop production and harvesting with a duration of 90-150 days each, per an agreement between Ha Nam's DoLISA and authorities of Bonghwa-Gun, South Korea's Gyeongsangbuk province on February 24. (Lao Dong Apr 1)

### Nam Dinh Province Works with Jeju Delegation on Agro Seasonal Workers

On March 29, leaders of the People's Committee of northern Nam Dinh province welcomed a delegation from South Korea's Jeju province to discuss cooperation in agricultural seasonal workers. At the meeting, Chairman of Nam Dinh People's Committee Pham Dinh Nghi proposed Jeju's authorities continue to facilitate labourers from Vietnam in general and Nam Dinh in particular to work in Jeju. In reply, Jeju's Deputy Governor Kim Heehyon pledged to create the utmost conditions for Nam Dinh's labourers to work in the province. (Dau Tu Mar 29)

### Nearly 132K Labourers Work at IPs in Vinh Phuc Province as of End-Q1

Firms at industrial parks (IPs) in northern Vinh Phuc province employed 3,841 new labourers in the first quarter (Q1) of this year, raising the total number to nearly 132,000 as of end-March. (Lao Dong Mar 30)

### TVET Institutes in Thai Nguyen Enroll 39K Learners in 2022

TVET institutes in northern Thai Nguyen province enrolled nearly 39,000 learners in 2022, equal to 103% of the target. The figure included nearly 2,300 at the college level, 9,700 at the intermediate level, and 27,000 at the elementary and continuous training levels. (Bao Thai Nguyen Apr 4)

### **College Inks Human Resources Training Deal with Formosa Ha Tinh**

On March 30, Vietnamese-German Technical College of Hatinh inked a cooperation deal with Formosa Ha Tinh on human resources training. Per the deal, the college will organize short-term TVET classes at the elementary level per orders of Formosa Ha Tinh, using Formosa's capital. (Bao Ha Tinh Mar 30)

#### **Career Orientation Festival in Danang Attracts 4,000 Students**





A career orientation festival in central Danang City on April 2 attracted the participation of nearly 4,000 students from ninth and 12<sup>th</sup> grades and continuous training centres. Notably, the event featured 23 TVET institutes with an admission target of 23,270 in 372 occupations. (<u>Thanh Nien</u> Apr 2)

### **Quang Nam Enrolls 28,265 TVET Learners in 2022**

TVET institutes in central Quang Nam province enrolled 28,265 learners in 2022, equal to 120.28% of target, according to a meeting chaired by Vice Chairman of the provincial People's Committee Tran Anh Tuan on April 4. Such enrolment helped increased the local trained labour rate to 69%, including 29% with certifications. (Bao Quang Nam Apr 4)

#### Khanh Hoa to Provide TVET to 892 Workers at SMEs in 2023

Central Khanh Hoa province has set a target to provide TVET at the elementary level to 892 labourers at small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in 2023. The work is estimated to cost VND1.5 billion. (Doanh Nghiep Hoi Nhap Apr 1)

#### TVET Institutes in Dak Lak Enroll 34,615 Learners in 2022

TVET institutes in the Central Highlands province of Dak Lak enrolled 34,615 learners in 2022, equal to 88.99% of the year's target. The figure included 1,244 at the college level, 2,050 at the intermediate level, 14,291 at the elementary level, and 17,030 at short-term courses. (Lao Dong Apr 4)

#### 27K Labourers in HCMC Apply for Unemployment Indemnification in Q1, down 6K y/y

Over 27,000 labourers in Ho Chi Minh City applied for unemployment indemnification in the first quarter (Q1) of this year, down by 6,000 y/y, according to the municipal Statistics Office. In Q1, the city helped nearly 81,000 labourers get jobs, fulfilling 26.9% of the year's target. (Dan Tri Apr 2, NLD Apr 3)

#### Career Fair in HCMC Offers 8,000 Vacancies

A career fair hosted by Ho Chi Minh City's student support centre and TopCV on April 3 attracted the participation of 150 firms with over 8,000 vacancies in fields of IT, banking-finance, e-commerce, and hospitality management, as well as 7,000 students. (NLD Apr 3)