

# Vietnam TVET Bulletin

July 20 – July 26, 2023

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## ● Highlights ●

## ● Policies ●

### Conference Covers Training Hurdles in Vocational Schools

The Institute for Education Cooperation and Development held a conference on July 21, covering difficulties in training at vocational schools. Manager of the MoLISA-run Vocational Education Office Dang Minh Su pointed out difficulties in investing in facilities at TVET centres as vocational training is under the co-management of MoET and MoLISA. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Viet Vuong from the Hanoi National University of Education said that students' selection of occupations remains unplanned as they are not provided with career orientations at high schools. Besides, many TVET institutions are short of financial resources for buying, maintaining, and repairing practical equipment and teaching materials, Mr. Vuong said, mentioning loose linkage between schools and firms. ([Giao Duc](#) Jul 22)

### MoLISA Proposes Extending Contracts, Raising Base Pay for Vietnam Workers Abroad

The MoLISA is working on a draft Circular amending and supplementing Circular 21 on Vietnamese people working abroad under contracts. In the draft circular, it proposed raising base pay for citizens working in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Americas, Taiwan, China, and Macau. It suggested extending contracts for those working in New Zealand and the Americas. ([VnEconomy](#) Jul 19)

### MoLISA Warns of Scams in Recruitment for Work in Greece

MoLISA has warned of scams in recruitment for work in Greece. DoLAB said that currently, there are no firms licensed to dispatch contract workers to Greece. ([VietnamPlus](#) July 24)

### Gov't Requests VGCL to Halve Trade Union Fees for Workers in 2023

The government has requested the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) to mull halving trade union fees for workers to 1% in 2023 and extending trade union fee payment deadline. ([VnEconomy](#) Jul 21)

## ● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

### *Foreign Cooperation*

### Building an Inclusive Environment so that Disability is no Longer a Barrier to Access to Education and Training

To help vocational colleges grasp the knowledge and skills needed to improve the accessibility of people with disabilities in vocational training activities, on July 18 and 19 in Hue city, the Vietnam-Germany Cooperation Programme “Reform of TVET in Vietnam” (TVET Programme) in collaboration with the Action to the Community Development Center (ACDC) organised the workshop “Development of Inclusion Plan for Partner TVET Institutes”. Participants of the workshop were Inclusion focal points from TVET’s partner institutes. During the 2-day workshop, participants learned about models and approaches to disability: from charity, medical, social, to human rights. From this knowledge, participants could understand the need for an inclusive strategy in which people with disabilities are recognised for their potential and contribution to society instead of their disability. Participants also visited Hue Industrial College to have a concrete visualisation of physical as well as intangible accessibility in a training environment. Barriers to access could come from awareness, attitudes, policies, facilities, or communications. With guided assessment tools, teams of participants examined their institutes’ accessibility and planned an inclusion strategy to overcome current accessibility limitations. After the workshop ended, schools would continue to receive support to finalise their institutes’ inclusion plan. Along with the support of the TVET programme at partner institutes such as scholarships for people with disabilities, awareness-raising communication, and training on inclusion for lecturers, the inclusion strategy will provide vocational colleges with detailed orientation to gradually remove barriers and create opportunities for people with disabilities to participate equally in Vocational Education and Training. The activity is carried out within the framework of the Vietnam-Germany Cooperation Programme “Reform of Technical and Vocational Training and Education 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](#) Jul 20)

### **Vinh Long University of Technology Education Sends 9 Candidates to ASEAN Skills Competition**

On July 20, Vinh Long University of Technology Education held a ceremony to send nine students to the ASEAN Skills Competition 2023 in Singapore. The contest is underway on July 18-28. They will compete in five occupations of internet cable installation, computer network management, CNC machine maintenance, mechatronics, and mobile robotics. ([Giao Duc Thoi Dai](#) Jul 21, [Dan Sinh](#) Jul 20)

### **S.Korea in Need of Vietnamese Workers to Plug Shipbuilding Labour Shortage**

Two players in South Korea’s shipbuilding industry, Hanwha Ocean and HD Hyundai, are vying for Vietnamese workers to deal with labour shortages. Hanwha Ocean signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Vietnam’s Ministry of Industry and Trade in Hanoi on July 22 to enhance comprehensive cooperation in training Vietnamese shipbuilding workers and providing them with employment. Hanwha Ocean selected Green Peace Holdings, a tier-1 supplier to Samsung Vietnam, as its partner to carry out a pilot training project in Vietnam. President of HD Hyundai Chung Ki-sun, on the other hand, inspected Hyundai Vietnam Shipbuilding’s shipyard in Vietnam’s central coastal province Khanh Hoa in June while accompanying the South Korean President on his Vietnam visit. Since Hyundai Vietnam Shipbuilding’s foundation in 1996,



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Vietnam has ranked fifth among the top recipients of shipbuilding orders globally. The country is known for the largest number of skilled and experienced shipbuilding workers in ASEAN. Between January 2022 and January 2023, Vietnamese accounted for 55.1% of 1,595 foreign workers receiving South Korea's E-7 visas to work in the shipbuilding industry. ([Tin Tuc](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) Jul 24)

### **Vietnam Calls for ODA Expansion from South Korea**

Vietnam expects South Korea to expand its official development assistance (ODA) with greater incentives to the country, said Chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly (NA) Vuong Dinh Hue and Deputy Prime Minister Le Minh Khai. The senior Vietnamese officials made their requests at meetings with former Speaker of the South Korean NA Park Byeong-seug, who is also a member of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of South Korea's NA, in Hanoi on July 24. Mr. Park, in reply, said the South Korean government will strive to maximize preferences of funding programs to Vietnam, particularly through the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) and the Economic Development Promotion Facility (EDPF). He noted that in 2024, South Korea will increase the quota for foreign workers, opening up opportunities for Vietnamese people to work in his nation. He proposed Vietnam simplify license issuance to South Korean experts and skilled workers to work in the Southeast Asian country and deal with educational needs of Korean children and multicultural Vietnamese-Korean families. ([Bao Quoc Te](#), [QDND](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [Cong Luan](#), [Lao Dong](#), [VTV](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Tin Tuc](#), [Cong Luan 1](#) Jul 24)

### **Vietnam Requests Macau to Facilitate Visa Issuance for Its Workers**

As Macau visa application is the biggest hurdle to Vietnamese workers, Vietnam expects the Chinese special administrative region to shorten and simplify visa issuance procedures for its workers from the Southeast Asian country, said a diplomat. Vietnamese Consul General in Macau and Hong Kong Pham Binh Dam made his request to Macau's Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak on July 18. Mr. Dam called on Macau to reconsider its visa issuance process for Vietnamese workers who have their contracts extended in Macau, adding that the country is willing to work with the region to handle illegal stays by Vietnamese people. Currently, there are 7,000 Vietnamese workers in Macau, decreasing by two-thirds from the peak period of over 2,000. Welcoming proposals by the Vietnamese diplomat, Security Secretary Wong Sio Chak said that the rate of Vietnamese workers in Macau committing local laws is higher than those from other countries, asking for closer coordination from Vietnam to tackle the problem. On the same day, Mr. Dam met with Director at Macau Government Tourist Office Maria Helena De Senna Fernandes, during which they concurred that the two sides should seek to expand two-way travel and hold joint tourism promotion. ([Bao Quoc Te](#) Jul 19)

### **Czech Republic Eyes Workers from Vietnam to Plug Labour Shortages**

The Czech Republic should strengthen the recruitment of foreign workers, including those from Vietnam and the Philippines, to plug the labour shortages, proposed Minister of Labour and

Social Affairs Marian Jurečka. Minister Jurečka made his proposal while addressing the first meeting of the Czech Government's Committee on Strategic Investments on July 18, with a focus on the development of transport infrastructure and labour shortage settlement. The minister said that labour shortages will hamper the country's growth capability, so the government should attract skilled foreign workers to supply for local companies. Aside from traditional partners in Eastern Europe, it should also enhance labour partnerships with others such as Vietnam and the Philippines, he elaborated. In early June, the Czech government issued a plan to increase the recruitment quota for foreign workers. According to the regulation adjusted by the Czech Government in October 2022, four embassies of the Czech Republic in Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia, were granted foreign worker recruitment quotas. The embassy in the Philippines was granted a quota of 2,500, Thailand 280, Vietnam 200, and Indonesia 130. ([Tin Tuc](#) Jul 19)

### **Samsung Vietnam Aims to Maintain Export Upward Trend**

Samsung Vietnam targets to maintain its export upward trend as global demand for smartphones is forecast to decline 8% amid economic hardship, said General Director of the firm Choi Joo Ho. The executive made his statement at a meeting with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Tran Luu Quang in Hanoi on July 21. Samsung has by far invested \$20 billion in Vietnam and employed over 100,000 staff and workers for its plants in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Bac Ninh province, and Thai Nguyen province. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Cong Luan](#), [Tin Tuc](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [Bao Quoc Te](#), [VietnamFinance](#) Jul 21)

### **Thai Central Retail Opens 6th Mini Go! Supermarket in Vietnam**

Thailand's Central Retail Corporation launched a mini go! supermarket in the central province of Quang Nam on July 19, its sixth outlet of this kind in Vietnam to date. The Dien Ban mini go!, covering nearly 2,000 square meters, is located in Dien Ban ward of Dien Ban town. It is expected to support employment for 100 local workers. ([BNews](#), [Nong Nghiep](#), [Kinh Te Nong Thon](#) Jul 19)

### **Fast Retailing Called to Support Vietnam in Promoting Export of Goods to Japan**

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Tran Luu Quang has called on Japanese multinational retail holding company Fast Retailing, which owns footwear brand Uniqlo, to support Vietnam in promoting domestic production and export of goods to Japan. The Vietnamese government vows a favorable investment environment for foreign investors, including Japanese, and supports Fast Retailing's expansion in Vietnam, he stressed, proposing the corporation strengthen human resources training and increase scholarships for Vietnam. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#) Jul 18)

### **Binh Duong Province Visits Singapore's Institute of Technical Education**

Vice Chairman of the People's Committee in Binh Duong province Nguyen Loc Ha took a working visit to Singapore's Institute of Technical Education on July 17. Speaking at the

meeting, Mr. Ha said, more than 25 years ago, in 1997, the Vietnam-Singapore Technical Training Centre (now Vietnam-Singapore Vocational College) was established. This is a training cooperation project between the governments of Vietnam and Singapore to provide skilled human resources to the Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park (VSIP). Over the past time, the school has trained more than 15,000 students and graduates, over 90% found jobs right after graduation and most of them have jobs that are suitable for their profession. ([Bao Binh Duong](#) Jul 17)

## ***Domestic News***

### **Labour Market to Continue Facing Difficulties in H2: Consultancy**

Vietnam's labour market in the second half of 2023 will continue to face difficulties with few positive signs from employers, said recruitment consultancy Adecco Vietnam. In the first six months of 2023, Vietnam did not see much improvement, according to the Vietnam talent market update H1 report released by Adecco Vietnam. Overall hiring demand decreased by more than 30% compared to the same period last year when economic activities resumed after the pandemic. Some sectors, such as consumer finance, real estate and retail, have experienced significant declines in recruitment due to restrictive policies and tightened consumer spending. Other sectors such as pharmaceuticals, healthcare and technical sales saw a more resilient demand for skilled professionals. Nguyen Hoang Thanh Chuong, head of permanent recruitment services at Adecco Vietnam, predicts that the labour market in H2/2023 will continue to face many difficulties without positive signs from employers. Several industries are expected to drive the job market such as technology, healthcare, e-commerce, renewable energy and digital services with increasing demand for skilled professionals. "Opportunities will open for domestic labourers when large corporations in Vietnam change their recruitment strategies. Open positions for expats are decreasing sharply, mainly focusing only on important functions in the early stages of their investment plans. More specifically, roles for expat vacancies mainly involve training and technology transfer, and domestic candidates with high professional skills will be prioritized by businesses to take on these roles," Chuong said. Technological transformation is taking place in various industries and is expected to continue to thrive in H2/2023. Job seekers need to accelerate updating their skills in digital technology and utilizing the application of artificial intelligence, digitalization, and automation into their current fields to seize opportunities during this turbulent period, with most strategies geared towards technology reform and cost optimization. ([Doanh Nhan Plus](#), [Nha Dau Tu](#) Jul 21)

### **Vietnam Should Focus on 3 Core Issues to Fulfil Apparel Export Target of \$40B**

Vietnamese textile and garment makers must focus on three core issues to fulfil the yearly export target of \$39 billion-\$40 billion, said Mr. Truong Van Cam, vice chairman and general secretary of the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS). Firstly, local firms need to find solutions to retain employees, especially the core labour force, organize vocational skills training courses, and boost green and digital transformation. Secondly, they should hold customers by accepting unprofitable orders while building reliable and long-term partnerships, seeking new



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markets, and paying attention to the domestic market. Lastly, Mr. Cam suggested Vietnamese apparel makers minimize the unnecessary expenses of their business. ([VnEconomy](#) Jul 20)

### **Over 5,800 Workers in Thai Nguyen Apply for Unemployment Indemnifications in H1**

As many as 5,802 workers in northern Thai Nguyen province applied for unemployment indemnifications in the first half (H1) of this year, according to the provincial employment service centre. Of whom, 5,354 received decisions to get jobless indemnifications while 222 others got support to join TVET. ([VnEconomy](#) Jul 24)

### **TVET Centres in Thai Nguyen, Bac Kan Record High School Graduation Rate of 100%**

Many continued education and vocational training centres in Bac Kan and Thai Nguyen provinces have recorded the high school graduation rate of 100%. Of these, three vocational centres schools are from Thai Nguyen, namely Song Cong, Song Cong's second branch, and Dao Duy Tu, and four from Bac Kan are Bach Thong, Cho Moi, Bac Kan, and Ngan Son. ([Giao Duc](#) Jul 20)

### **Thanh Hoa Likely to Help 185K Labourers Find Jobs in 2021-2023**

Central Thanh Hoa province is estimated to have helped 185,000 labourers get jobs in 2021-2023, fulfilling 64.9% of the target for 2020-2025 and equal to 56.06% of the 2016-2020 period's figure. Therefore, its unemployment rate has declined to 2.8% in urban areas and 5.8% in rural areas, versus 3.1% and 6.1% previously, respectively. ([Bao Thanh Hoa](#) Jul 24)

### **Nghe An Logs 11,734 Workers Claiming Unemployment Benefits in H1, up 9.03% y/y**

In the first half (H1) of this year, Nghe An province recorded and approved 11,734 workers filing for unemployment benefits, up 9.03% y/y. In the period, 32 local firms furloughed workers, mostly in textiles, footwear, and electronics sectors. There were 6,237 workers subject to hour cut, and 2,307 others had their contracts terminated. In H1, the province generated jobs for 26,950 persons, down 9.83% y/y and meeting 62.67% of the year's target. Of those, 11,500 were dispatched abroad under contracts. ([VnEconomy](#) July 22)

### **Formosa Ha Tinh Recruits 100 Male Workers**

Formosa Ha Tinh has announced the recruitment of 100 male workers for positions of production, maintenance, security, and engineering. They will get yearly salaries of VND110 million-VND120 million, excluding overtime allowances. ([Bao Ha Tinh](#) Jul 22)

### **Gia Lai Creates 14,480 Jobs in H1**

The Central Highlands province of Gia Lai created 14,480 jobs in the first half (H1) of this year, fulfilling 54.63% of the year's target, according to the provincial DoLISA. Besides, the province



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enrolled 5,223 TVET learners, meeting 41.8% of target, thus raising the rate of trained labourers to 39%, versus 38.42% in 2022. ([Thuong Hieu Cong Luan](#) Jul 19)

### **Many Vocational Training Schools in HCMC Face Difficulties in Recruitment**

Many vocational training schools in Ho Chi Minh City have faced difficulties in recruitment. In the first half of this year, TVET schools citywide recruited 96,000 students, meeting only 31% of the target. As of June 30, HCMC's vocational training scale was nearly 371,000, including 177,000 of the college level, 126,000 of the intermediate level, and 34,000 of the continued training level. Currently, the city has 376 TVET institutions, comprising 62 colleges, 60 intermediate schools, 22 vocational and continued education centres, 54 vocational training centres, and 178 firms engaging in vocational training activities. ([Dan Sinh](#) July 25)

### **89 TVET Teachers in HCMC Join Teaching Competition**

As many as 89 teachers from colleges, intermediate schools, and continuous training schools in Ho Chi Minh City joined a teaching competition at Thu Duc Technology College on July 18. ([NLD](#) Jul 18)

### **1,935 Learners Drop out of Vocational Institutions in Dong Nai in 2022-2023 School Year**

In the 2022-2023 academic year, 1,935 learners quit continued education training centres and TVET centres in Dong Nai province, accounting for 7.96% of the total. The reasons for the departure were the modest capabilities of students, inadequate amenities, and few practical experiences. ([Tin Tuc](#) Jul 21)

### **Dong Nai Needs 5,000 Manual Workers for Long Thanh Airport**

Southern Dong Nai province is estimated to need nearly 14,000 labourers, including 5,000 manual workers, for Long Thanh international airport, whose first phase is set to operate from 2026. ([Lao Dong](#) Jul 20)

### **Ben Tre Aims for 40%-45% of Students Joining TVET by 2030**

Southern Ben Tre province has set a target that 40%-45% of its secondary and high school graduates will join TVET while two colleges will be rated high quality and at least 30% of TVET institutes and 50% of training curricular will meet accreditation standards by 2030. Besides, it aims to re-train 50% of local workforce. ([Bao Dong Khoi](#) Jul 21)

### **Tien Giang Helps 7,500 Labourers Find Jobs in H1**

Southern Tien Giang province helped over 7,500 workers find jobs in the first half (H1) of this year, fulfilling 47% of the whole-year target, according to the provincial DoLISA. Besides, the



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province sent 249 labourers overseas, meeting 83% of the target. ([Thuong Hieu Cong Luan](#) Jul 23)

### **Tay Ninh Likely to Enrol 41,784 TVET Learners in 2020-2023**

Southern Tay Ninh province is estimated to have enrolled 41,784 TVET learners in the 2020-2023 period, including 1,377 at the college level, 6,427 at the intermediate level, 25,886 at the elementary level, and 8,094 rural workers. Of whom, 34,563 have graduated, including 800 at the college level, 3,135 at the intermediate level, 22,962 at the elementary level, and 7,666 rural labourers. ([Bao Tay Ninh](#) Jul 19)

### **Vinh Long Enrols 21,800 TVET Learners in Jan-Jul**

Southern Vinh Long province is estimated to have enrolled nearly 21,800 TVET learners in the first seven months of this year, including over 20,000 joining short-term courses, according to the provincial DoLISA. ([Bao Vinh Long](#) Jul 21)