The 9th ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labour Migration in Asia: Innovative Approaches for the Effective Management of Labour Migration in Asia

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2. Recent changes in labor migration trends and related policies in Viet Nam

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1.Introduction

- Vietnam: The total area ≈ 331,000 km2; population: 96 million people, South-East Asian country.
- Vietnamese economy continued upward trend in 2018, expanding 7.08% compared to the Government's preset goal of 6.7% and this is the highest growth rate since 2011.

GDP per capita: 2.587 USD

Core inflation: 1.48%

Agriculture, forestry and fishery: 14.6% GDP

Industry and construction: 34.3% GDP

Services: 41.2% GDP

- Prior to 1975: Vietnamese people mainly migrated to countries in the region on a small scale.
- From 1975 to the late 1980s: 2 trends: Evacuees after the liberation of the South Vietnam and National Reunification.

Students and workers to Eastern Europe countries and former Soviet Union under bilateral agreements.

 From 1990 to date: the number of Vietnamese citizens migrating abroad on the dramatic rise, in various forms and with complex characteristics. Up to now, about 4.5 million Vietnamese are living, working and studying in 103 countries and territories.

Characteristics of population leaving Viet Nam

Vietnamese going abroad falls into those types of migration: labour, studying or marriage, among which, contract-based migrant worker is the remarkable trend. 2. Recent changes in labor migration trends and related policies in Viet Nam Labour migration:

- More than 580,000 Vietnamese migrant workers in 46 countries and territories,
- Major sectors: industry ,construction, textiles, electronics, domestic work, etc.
- Remittance : approximately 2.0 billion US dollars per year

Number of Vietnamese migrant workers since 2007 -2018

Year	Total	Taiwan (China)	Japan	South Korea	Malaysia	Others
2007	85020	23640	5517	12187	26704	16972
2008	86990	31631	6142	18141	7810	23266
2009	73028	17766	4740	6451	2084	41987
2010	85546	28499	4913	8628	11741	31765
2011	88298	38796	6985	15214	9977	17326
2012	80320	30533	8775	9228	9298	22486
2013	88155	46368	9686	5446	7564	19091
2014	106840	62124	19766	7242	5139	12569
2015	115980	67121	27010	6019	7354	8476
2016	126296	68244	39938	8482	2079	7553
2017	134751	66926	54504	5178	1551	6592
2018	142860	60369	68737	6538	1102	6114

Nam

Viet Nam has issued the Law on Vietnamese Migrant Worker (effective from July 01, 2007) and legal documents guiding the implementation of the Law. MOLISA is in charge of the state management of migrant workers, conducts assessment for granting or withdrawing licenses of recruitment agencies, inspects activities of recruitment agencies, deals with violations of related provisions. Up to now, 362 recruitment agencies were licensed.

Recruitment agencies have obligations:

- To register labor supplying contracts to the DOLAB of MOLISA
- To give orientation training and education to migrant workers
- To sign contracts with migrant workers
- To have responsibility to monitor, manage and protect the legitimate interests of workers during the time they work overseas. The recruitment agencies must have representative to manage laborers.
- Agencies that have violation actions, depending on the nature and seriousness of their violations, be subject to the punishment according to the provisions of Vietnamese law

The role of the state agencies:

- MOLISA coordinate with MOFA and the Ministry of Home Affairs in organizing the Labour Management Section under the Vietnamese representation offices in the countries and areas where large numbers of Vietnamese workers working. Currently, the Labor Management Section is available in Malaysia, Taiwan (China), Japan, South Korea, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia.

To date, Vietnam has signed bilateral agreements, MoU with 18 countries such as: South Korea, Japan, Taiwan (China), Malaysia, Laos PDR, Kingdom of Oman, the State of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Romania, negotiating for the signing of MoU with Israel, Russia.

3.1. Major challenges Related to Migration

- Increasing in irregular migration and human trafficking in Viet Nam. Criminal networks trick people into becoming illegal migrants, to make huge illegal profit and to endanger their lives, to force many of them into trafficking, prostitution and and forced labour. A number of Vietnamese children are sent to Thailand illegally for forced street hawking. Many Vietnamese women are often misled by fraudulent labor opportunities and later forced into prostitution in some countries, including Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore.

3.2. Innovative strategies of Vietnam

-Viet Nam has promulgated many legal documents with a view to protecting human rights in general and the rights of women and children in particular: the Constitution, the Law on Vietnamese migrant workers, the Law on Marriage and Family, the Penal Code, the Law on Gender Equality, the Law on Fighting against Family Violence, the Law on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combat passed by the National Assembly and effective from January 01, 2012.

3.2. Innovative strategies of Vietnam

- -Viet Nam emphasizes international cooperation in combating irregular immigration, especially in preventing human trafficking.
- Closely cooperated with many international and NGOs: IOM, ILO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons (UN-ACT),to implement projects on anti-TIP, especially in women and children, and reintegration for trafficked persons.

3.2. Innovative strategies of Vietnam

- -To perfect the mechanism, policies in guiding the implementation of the Law on Vietnamese migrant workers.
- -To study for new policy to assist in forming competitive recruitment agencies;
- -To enhance the responsibilities of the Ministries and local authorities in developing the labor market and the management;
- -To enhance the inspection activities and dealing with violation;
- -To enhance the quality of the workers

CONCLUSION

It is important to have a comprehensive and effective migration policy for the purpose of maximizing the positive impacts of migration on the national development, protecting the legitimate rights and interests of migrant workers.

Thank you for your kind attention