The 10th ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labour Migration in Asia:

Future of labour migration in Asia Challenges and opportunities in the next decade

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1. Introduction

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3. Challenges/problem and innovative strategies of Vietnam

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1. Introduction

- * Vietnam: The total area ≈ 331,000 km2; population: 96 million people, South-East Asian country.
- Vietnamese economy in 2019:
 GDP per capita: 2.739,8 USD
 Agriculture, forestry and fishery: 14%
 GDP

Industry and construction: 34.3% GDP Services: 51.7% GDP



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

- 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.



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

- 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.



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

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 650,000 Vietnamese migrant workers in 46 countries and territories,
- * Major sectors: industry, construction, textiles, electronics, domestic work, etc.
- Remittance: approximately 2.5 billion US dollars per year



Number of Vietnamese migrant workers since 2007 -2019

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
2019	152530	54480	82703	7215	454	7678



- * 75% of workers have migrated to 4 east and southeast Asian countries: Taiwan (China), South Korea (Employment Permit System), Japan, Malaysia.
- 60% VN migrant workers have employed in manufacturing, service (21%), construction (10%), fishery (5%). Female workers have made up 30%.



Vietnam sent only about 1000 workers abroad per year at the beginning of the 1990s, but the number of Vietnamese migrant workers subsequently steadily increased. Recently, Vietnam has sent about 100,000 workers abroad per year.





Related policies in Viet Nam

- Viet Nam has promulgated many legal documents
- * The Law on Vietnamese Migrant Workers in 2006. At present, we have prepared for the draft of Law amending and supplementing Law on Vietnamese Migrant Workers. It is expected to be passed in the end of this year. Many legal documents guiding the implementation of the Law has been issued. Up to now, 420 recruitment agencies were licensed.

- The project supporting poor workers in promoting overseas migration for sustainable poverty reduction".
- To protect migrant workers: Labour Management Section under the Vietnamese representation offices in the countries where large numbers of Vietnamese workers working. Currently, the Labor Management Section is available in 6 countries.
- Vietnam has signed bilateral agreements, MoU with 18 countries



3. Challenges/problem and innovative strategies of Vietnam

- 3.1. Major challenges
- The recent years have seen the increase in irregular migration and human trafficking in Viet Nam. The criminal groups exploit vulnerable illegal status in the host countries to force many of migrant workers into trafficking, prostitution and and forced labour.



3.2. Innovative strategies of Vietnam

- Viet Nam emphasizes international cooperation in combating irregular migration, 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),



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