

Regional Conference #EconomyOfTomorrow

THE FUTURE OF WORK IN THE NEW NORMAL

Youth perspective

Pham Thi Thu Lan Institute for Workers and Trade Unions

Youth's vulnerability

More likely in self-employment and more affected by Covid-19.

Due to the self-employment status: not covered by law regarding their employment status, and thus they are not guaranteed with minimum wage, OSH, compulsory social insurance coverage with contribution partly from the company.

□ Among the lowest wage group.

Youth's matters

- More likely in non-standard employments (fixed-term contract, part-time, on-call, subcontracted labour, through temporary agency, apprenticeships, internships) – no job security.
- No guarantee of minimum working hours nor minimum wage nor social insurance nor unemployment benefits.
- More likely to transition between non-standard employment and unemployment and difficult to transition to better jobs.
- □ More difficult with youth migrant workers.

Youth's matters

□ High unemployment.

Vietnam: Youth unemployment rates (6.5% vs. 2.15% in the quarter IV of last year and 6.98% vs. 2.73% in the 2nd quarter of 2020, during Covid-19)

Ironically very high unemployment among the university graduation group (the 2nd among the 6 group classification – Population General Survey 2019); University degree but still worked as low-skilled workers.

Youth's matters

- Knowledge of skills needed for work 4.0 is limited as well as education system is not qualified enough to provide training on skills for work 4.0.
- Gender dimention and youth: labour-intensive sectors and women predominant.
- □ Women lost jobs and move to informal sector.
- Lack of representation and voice and collective bargaining.
- Collective action when facing unacceptable working conditions: Grad drivers and Bebike – BeCar in 2018 and 2019.

Reccomendations

- Trade unions need to discuss on organizing youth and how trade unions work.
- Awarness-raising and capacity-building for youth to voice their rights.
- Non-standard employment need to be regulated under employment law and labour law.
- International commitment by governments on regulating non-standards employments and living wages
- A national strategy to tackle youth unemployment.
- Formalization of the informal economy must be a priority agenda in the 21 century – promotion of initiatives.