

Building a Generation of Safe and Healthy Workers SAFEYOUTH@WORK PROJECT



PROJECT AT A GLANCE

→ Partners

Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA); Ministry of Health (MOH); Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI); Viet Nam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL); Viet Nam Farmers' Union

→ Beneficiaries

Workers, particularly young workers from the minimum age of work up to age 24

→ Donors

United States Department of Labor (USDOL)

→ Duration

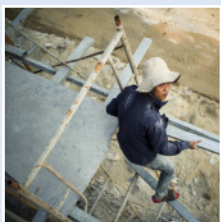
December 2014 to December 2018

→ Target provinces

Binh Thuan, Da Nang, Hung Yen and Phu Tho

→ Sector focus

Agriculture, construction and craft villages



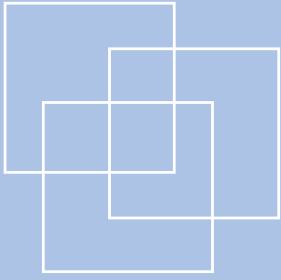
PROJECT CONTEXT

The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is entering a new era in occupational safety and health (OSH) with the passage in June 2015 of a new OSH Law. The legislation, for the first time, extends OSH protections to workers in the informal economy, including the establishment of an injury compensation system for those workers, who constitute over 60 per cent of the workforce.

The SAFEYOUTH@WORK project works together with the Government and the social partners to meet the challenge of this significant mandate. The project targets young workers because they suffer very high rates of workplace injuries and illnesses. Moreover, a significant proportion of the over one million youth entering the labour market every year in Viet Nam eventually find employment or launch their own business in the informal economy. These young workers have limited knowledge of their workplace rights, and generally lack the training, skills and experience to recognize workplace hazards, and manage associated risks. They are often unable to safely handle hazardous substances and job tasks. Young workers are also vulnerable to intimidation, denigration, and violence in the workplace. Lacking work experience and meaningful skills training, young workers usually are unaware of applicable OSH rules, or that they have a right to demand a safe and healthy workplace. They often work in precarious employment circumstances, and lack the capacity to voice safety and health concerns.

Viet Nam is one of the three “pilot countries” together with Myanmar and the Philippines to implement this global Project. The strategy and interventions employed in the pilot countries will serve as a model for potential emulation in additional ‘participating countries’.

The SAFEYOUTH@WORK project is a key element of the ILO’s OSH flagship programme “Occupational Safety and Health - Global Action for Prevention”, and supports the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on decent work and economic growth (Goal No. 8). The project also contributes to the SDG on good health and well-being (Goal No. 3).



Building a Generation of Safe and Healthy Workers SAFEYOUTH@WORK PROJECT



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the project is to improve the occupational safety and health of workers, particularly of young workers above the minimum age of work up to 24 years, and to develop a culture of prevention in Viet Nam. The project strategy has four main components:

- Improve the collection and use of OSH data and information, particularly regarding young workers;
- Strengthen the OSH regulatory framework and programme;
- Enhance the national capacity to promote and enforce compliance with OSH legislation;
- Design innovative public outreach and communication programmes to increase awareness on the importance of OSH, particularly regarding young workers.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Collection and use of OSH data and information, particularly regarding young workers, is improved and used to formulate effective legislative and regulatory responses, and to develop appropriate national policies and programmes.
- Regulations and policies on OSH, particularly concerning young workers, are improved.
- Capacities of the Government and social partners to promote and enforce compliance with OSH laws and regulations, particularly regarding young workers, are improved.
- Knowledge and awareness of the particular hazards and risks faced by young workers is increased.

* Funding for this project was provided by the United States Department of Labor. This material does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Department of Labor, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the United States Government.

Contact information:

Nicholas J. LEVINTOW
Chief Technical Advisor
ILO Geneva
Tel.: +41 22 799 7271
Email: levintow@ilo.org

Nguyen Ngoc Duyen
National Project Coordinator
ILO Country Office for Viet Nam
Tel. +84 24 3734 0902 ext. 105 | Fax. +84 24 3734 0904
Email: duyen@ilo.org
Website: www.ilo.org/hanoi