冠状病毒：应对大规模失业 Coronavirus: Dealing with mass unemployment

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Neil.

大家好。这里是 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语。我是内尔。

And I'm Sam.

我是萨姆。

You and I are lucky, Sam, because we can do our jobs remotely, working from home.

你和我很幸运，萨姆，因为我们可以远程工作，在家办公。

There are some downsides, though-like not being out to meet up with friends or share ideas with colleagues.

尽管有一些弊端——例如不能出去跟朋友见面或跟同事分享想法。

And going out for lunch!

还有出去吃午餐。

But the coronavirus pandemic has caused millions of people to lose their job and forced thousand more out of work temporarily with no idea if their job will still be there when they return.

但是新冠疫情让几百万人失业并迫使数以千计的人暂时失业，不知道他们回去后工作是否还在。

For those daily workers without savings to pay the rent and feed their families it has been especially stressful.

对于那些没有存款去支付租金并养活家人的临时工来说尤为有压力。

Each job loss is a potential personal tragedy.

失去的每一份工作都有可能是一个个人的悲剧。

In this programme, we'll be assessing the post-Covid job landscape and asking whether a radical new approach is needed to prevent global mass unemployment.

在本期节目中我们会评估后新冠时代的就业状况，并且询问是否需要新的激进的方法来防止全球大规模失业。

We'll be asking whether one of the world's smallest-and richest-countries, Denmark, might hold the answer.

我们要询问世界上最小的，也是最富有的国家之一，丹麦是否有答案。

And of course, we'll be learning some new vocabulary as well.

当然，我们还会学习一些新词汇。

But first it's time for our quiz question.

但是首先是我们的问题。

One man who knows a lot about jobs is Brad Smith, president of Microsoft, a company employing over 150 thousand workers.

有一个人非常了解工作，那就是布拉德·史密斯，雇员超过15万人的公司微软的总裁。

He's made gloomy predictions about the number of people out of work-but how many people does he predict will be left unemployed this year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic?

他就失业人数做出了悲观的预测——但是他预测有多少人今年会因为新冠疫情失业呢？

Is it a) one quarter of a billion people, b) one third of a billion people, or c) half a billion people?

是 A. 2.5 亿人，B.3.33亿人，还是 C. 5亿人？

Wow, those numbers do really look gloomy!

哇，这些数字看上去真的很悲观！

I'll say b) one third of a billion people unemployed around the world.

我要选 B. 全世界会有3.33 亿人失业。

OK, Sam, we'll come back to that later.

好的，萨姆，我们稍后再揭晓答案。

Now, mass unemployment-millions of people losing their jobs due to the Covid pandemic-has left the world facing an enormous jobs challenge.

现在大规模失业——数以百万计的人由于新冠疫情失业——让世界面对着巨大的就业挑战。

Elisabeth Reynolds, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is author of the report 'Work of the Future'.

麻省理工学院的伊丽莎白·雷诺兹是报告《未来工作》的作者。

Here she is talking to BBC World Service programme, Business Daily, about the current situation.

以下是她在 BBC 世界服务节目《每日商业》中谈论当前的形势。

Well, I think in the short term, it does feel like we are not yet in a place where we can talk about recovery and rebuilding completely-we're still gonna see the ramifications, the impact and the ripple effect of all this for months to come.

嗯，我认为短期来看，感觉上我们确实还没到谈论完全恢复和重建的时候——我们在接下来的几个月里还会看到所有这些情况带来的复杂后果，影响和扩散效应。

We use the expressions, 'in the long term' and in the short term to talk about what will happen over a long or short period of time.

我们使用"长期来看"和"短期来看"谈论在很长一段时间或很短一段时间内会发生的事情。

In the short term, over a short period of time, Elisabeth thinks it's too early to talk about a jobs recovery.

伊丽莎白认为短期来看，在短时间内谈论就业恢复还为时过早。

She also warns that we haven't yet experienced the full impact or ramifications of the pandemic.

她还警告说我们还没有经历这次疫情的完全影响或后果。

Like throwing a stone into water, these consequences create a ripple effect- a situation where one event causes a series of effects which spread and produce further effects.

就像往水里扔石头，这些后果会产生扩散效应——一个事件会导致一系列会扩散并且进一步产生影响的效应。

According to Elisabeth, the problem is that many of the government measures put in place to support jobs are not sustainable in the long term.

根据伊丽莎白的话，问题在于很多用于支持就业的政府措施无法长期保持。

She says more radical change is needed.

她说需要更为激进的改变。

Of course the big question is how?

当然问题是怎么做？

One proposed solution is the Danish model.

丹麦模式是一个被提出的解决方案。

This balances citizens' rights and duties.

这个模式平衡了公民的权利和义务。

Denmark provides one of the world's most generous unemployment payouts but in return citizens are expected to commit to any job or training the government thinks would be beneficial.

丹麦提供世界上最为慷慨的失业救济金，但是相应地，市民们被要求参加任何工作以及政府认为有益的培训。

Jacob Kirkegaard, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute in Washington, is himself a Dane.

华盛顿皮特森国际经济研究所的资深员工雅各布·柯克加德自己就是一名丹麦人。

Here he explains to BBC Business Daily how the model works.

以下是他向 BBC 的《每日商业》解释这个模式的运作方式。

It's very easy to hire and fire people in Denmark.

在丹麦雇佣和解雇人很容易。

It doesn't cost you anything.

你不用为此付出任何代价。

And you don't have sort of a guaranteed job for life, once you get a permanent contract, which is the situation in many other continental European countries.

而且一旦你获得了永久合约，你的工作并不会永久得到保障，在很多欧洲其他国家是这样的。

So it combines labour market flexibility with employment security, namely the idea that people, if they lose their job, they know that they can find another job even if that requires them to pick up new skills-because that upskilling-or reskilling, if you like-is going to be made available to them, partly through very lavish government subsidies.

所以它把劳动市场灵活性和就业保障结合在一起，也就是说如果人们失业了，他们知道他们能够找到另一份工作，即使这需要他们学会新的技能，因为他们能够获得技能强化或技能重塑，有一部分是通过极为阔绰的政府津贴。

Denmark enjoys labour flexibility because it's easy for bosses to hire and fire-employ someone and release them from employment, meaning there's no such thing as a job for life-one that you can stay in all your working life.

丹麦拥有劳动灵活性，因为老板很容易雇佣和解雇人——雇佣某人以及把他们放回就业市场，意味着不存在铁饭碗——你可以从事一生的职业。

But citizens also have the security of lavish-generous and expensive-benefits, and the government will also pay for worker upskilling-training to learn new skills making them better at their jobs.

但是市民们也有充分的保障，并且政府还会支付员工技能提升——学习新技能使他们更擅长工作的培训——的费用。

...and thereby preventing unemployment, which reminds me of your quiz question, Neil.

......这样就防止了失业，这让我想起了你的问题，内尔。

Yes, I asked you how many people were predicted to lose their jobs to the Covid pandemic.

是的，我之前问你有多少人被预测会因为新冠疫情失去工作。

And I said b) one third of a billion.

我说的是 B. 3.33亿人。

Well, fortunately it's the slightly lower, but still worrying, figure of, one quarter of a billion people.

嗯，幸运的是没那么高，但是还是很令人担忧，数据是 2.5 亿人。

We've been discussing predictions of mass unemployment in the short term, or over a short time period, caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

我们一直在讨论由新冠疫情导致的短期的大规模失业。

It also seems we will be experiencing the ripple effects-series of consequences, of the virus for a long time to come.

我们似乎会在很长一段时间内经历病毒的扩散效应——一系列后果。

One solution to mass unemployment may be the Danish model, were the power to hire or fire, employ someone or make them unemployed, means there are not many jobs for life, jobs you can do all your working life.

解决大规模失业的一个方案可能是丹麦模式，那就是雇佣和解雇，雇佣某人或让某人失业，的权利，这意味着没有许多铁饭碗，你可以从事一生的工作。

But lavish, expensive and generous, benefits from the government, who also pay for upskilling or training in new skills, means that Danish unemployment is rarely out of control.

但是政府阔绰的，昂贵且慷慨的福利以及政府付钱提供技能提升或培训新技能意味着丹麦的失业没有失控。

That's all we have time for, but come back soon for more trending topics and useful vocabulary here at 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English.

这就是我们今天的所有内容，但是请回到 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语收听更多流行话题和有用的词汇。

Bye for now!

再见！

Bye!

再见！