



SERP-P NEWS

Innovating Knowledge Exchange in Policy Research

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Socioeconomic Issue on Spotlight GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

When one talks about assessing the economy, it is usually followed by data on gross domestic product or GDP. According to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' **Selected Philippine Economic Indicator**, GDP refers to the total output of the country within its

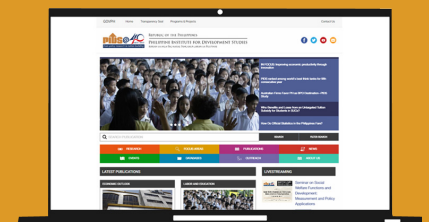
geographic boundaries; this is regardless of the nationality of the entity or entities producing the output. Simply put, the GDP of a country is the value of goods and services made within its economic territory.

Aside from gross national product (i.e., the total value of income earned by residents of a country regardless of where the income came from) and other national income accounts, GDP is one of the most frequently used indicators to know the economic status of a country. Likewise, according to **Tabuga (2006, p. 1)**, GDP values—whether growing at a high or low rate—are used “to gauge the competency of an administration to steer the economic wheels of a country”.

During the last quarter of 2016, the Philippine GDP growth is recorded at 6.6 percent. According to Socioeconomic Planning Secretary and National Economic and Development Authority Director-General **Dr. Ernesto Pernia**: “Economic growth from the first to the last quarter of 2016 has been very encouraging, with an average full-year growth of 6.8 percent. This is along the high-end of the government’s target of 6.0 to 7.0 percent growth rate for 2016. This also brings the seven-year moving average of real GDP growth rate to 6.3 percent—the highest since 1978.”

Given its role in understanding the conditions of the economy, **Medalla and Jandoc (2008)** argued the relevance of accurately

ANNOUNCEMENTS



As part of its 40th founding anniversary, the **Philippine Institute for Development Studies** has launched its new website.

Call for Applications
Visiting Fellowships Program
School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet)
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific
Deadline: 1 June 2017

Call for Papers
RND Congress on Sustainable Urbanization in the Course of ASEAN Economic Integration
For inquiries, contact: (049) 536-2269 | erdburbanecon@gmail.com

measuring GDP growth, as it plays an important role on how policymakers, researchers, and opinion leaders frame the economic and policy problems that confront the country. More relevant than ever, for **Medalla and Jandoc (2008, p. 30)**, it is important to ask why recent high economic growth does not translate to benefits or to the improvement of the quality of life of the poor. For them: “If GDP growth rates are taken at face value, there is no choice but to conclude that the quality of Philippine economic growth leaves much to be desired because of its failure to create enough jobs and raise the incomes of the poor.”

The Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines features other GDP-related studies, such as those that attempt to understand GDP in constant and in chained prices (**Dumagan 2008, 2009**), GDP vis-à-vis the revenue performance of the national government (**NTRC 2008**), and GDP’s role in social programs (**Bangsang et al. 2011**). ■

SERP-P Resources on Gross Domestic Product

- [Avoiding Anomalies of GDP in Constant Prices by Conversion to Chained Prices: Accentuating Shifts in Philippine Economic Transformation](#)
- [Comparing GDP in Constant and in Chained Prices: Some New Results](#)
- [The GNP and GDP: Understanding their Scope and Measurement](#)
- [Philippine GDP Growth After the Asian Financial Crisis: Resilient Economy or Weak Statistical System?](#)
- [Revenue Performance of the National Government, CY 2007, July – August](#)
- [Accountability Mechanisms in the Implementation of Conditional Cash Transfer Programs](#)

For more GDP-related studies, simply type “**GDP**” or “**gross domestic product**” in the search box of the SERP-P [website](#).



**SERP-P
FEATURED
RESEARCHER
Danilo
C. Israel**

Dr. Danilo C. Israel was a senior research fellow at the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) from 1992 up to 2017. He was also a project scientist of the WorldFish Center, an international research organization based in Penang Malaysia, from 2003 to 2005. Dr. Israel is author of publications and other research works in fisheries economics and policy, and in natural resource and environmental economics and policy in general. He has been consultant to both national and international organizations including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, among others.

Dr. Israel has a PhD in Applied Economics major in Natural Resource Economics from Clemson University in South Carolina, USA, and a Master in International Economics from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. ■

Check out his publications below:

- [Planting Seeds of Self-Defeat: Effects of Unrealistic Regulations on the Caraga Wood Industry and Forest Conservation](#)
- [Nongovernment Reforestation in the Philippines: Ways Forward](#)
- [Taking Stock of the National Greening Program Six Years Hence](#)
- [Performance and Problems of Water Districts: Selected Experiences](#)
- [Fishpen and Fishcage Culture in Laguna de Bay: Its Importance and Problems](#)
- [The Current State of Aquaculture in Laguna de Bay](#)
- [Lessons from Cambodia...Exploring the Potential of Inland Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the Philippines](#)

To check out other publications by Dr. Israel, simply type “**Israel**” in the search box of the SERP-P [website](#).

MEMBER-INSTITUTION ON SPOTLIGHT

St. Paul University Philippines (SPUP)

SPUP was founded on May 10, 1907, as Colegio de San Pablo by the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres, who came to Cagayan Valley upon the invitation of Bishop Dennis Dougherty. The school's name was changed to Colegio del Sagrado Corazon de Jesus in 1909, then to Sacred Heart of Jesus Institution in 1925. The school started in a Spanish Convento adjoining the Cathedral; due to increase of enrollment and curricular expansion, however, the community moved to the Colegio de San Jacinto and its grounds in 1934.

In its efforts toward global and international education, SPUP gained the distinction of being the First Private Catholic University in Asia and the First Private University in the Philippines to be granted ISO 9001 Certification by TUV Rheinland in 2000, and the only University accredited by the Asian Association of Schools of Business International in 2014. SPUP has also been selected by the World Bank as one of only 11 universities in the Philippines as Knowledge for Development Center.

Moreover, the Commission on Higher Education has designated SPUP as one of the 12

participating schools in the entire country for the ASEAN International Mobility for Students programme. In July 2014, SPUP was conferred a full accredited status by the International Accreditation Organization in recognition of its outstanding organizational management, business management, and business performance through its commitment to quality and continuous improvement.

These accolades advanced the stature of SPUP as an international university. Currently, the international community in SPUP, comprising of international and exchange students and professors, is continuously growing; its international linkages and partnerships are extensively expanding. Subsequently, the pioneering internationalization initiatives of SPUP have fostered opportunities for SPUP students and teachers for their academic exposure and exchange, work and travel, and cultural immersions in various countries across the world.

In February 2017, SPUP and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies signed a memorandum of understanding to continuously promote knowledge networking in the country through the Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines. ■

Read more about SPUP [here](#).

Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines

INNOVATING KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE IN POLICY RESEARCH



5,700+ materials uploaded

3,000+ contributing authors

4,900+ keywords recorded

2,000+ average daily visits

as of March 2017

Research Themes

Agriculture, fisheries, and forestry; Banking and finance; Climate change; Economic outlook; Environment and natural resources; Fiscal policy and taxation; Gender and development; Governance; Health; Infrastructure, transportation, and communication; International relations and foreign policy; Labor and education; Land reform and property rights; Migration and development; Poverty; Trade and industry; Urban development and housing

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- Who Benefits from the Government Health Insurance Subsidy for the Poor?
- Value Chain Analysis of the Wood Processing Industry in the Philippines
- How Do Official Statistics in the Philippines Fare?
- Who Benefits and Loses from an Untargeted Tuition Subsidy for Students in SUCs?
- Australian SME Micro-Offshoring in the Philippines: Opportunities and Challenges
- Is the Agricultural Insurance Program of the Philippines Serving the Poor?
- Diving Into the Blue Economy
- Strengthening Social Enterprises for Inclusive Growth: Philippines
- Does Innovation Mediate Good Firm Performance?
- The Potentials of Agricultural Insurance as a Poverty Reduction Tool
- Philippine Journal of Development 2014–2015
- Health Accounts Estimates of the Philippines for CY 2012 Based on the 2011 System of Health Accounts
- Domestic Resource Cost in Philippine Agriculture: Measuring Global Competitiveness of Key Commodities
- Stock Market Development in the Philippines: Past and Present
- Sustaining the Competitiveness of Philippine Services
- Services-Manufacturing Linkage and the Role of Policy
- Implications of a Philippines-United States FTA on Trade in Goods: An Indicator Approach Using the Sussex Framework
- Dominant Supplier Approach to Liberalizing Trade in APEC Environmental Goods
- Is the Pacific Alliance a Potential Pathway to the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific?
- Nongovernment Reforestation in the Philippines: Ways Forward
- Mergers and Acquisitions: Do They Hinder Competition?
- How Do Private Schools Fare in the Provision of Health-Care Services to Students?

Call for Expression of Interest

Productivity Improvement in the Private and Public Sector

Global Development Network (GDN)
Deadline: 6 April 2017

The purpose of this call is to support high-caliber and policy-oriented research on the topic of firm level productivity emanating from developing countries.

Call for Application

Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center Residency Competition

Deadline: 1 May 2017



On March 8, 2017, state think tank Philippine Institute for Development Studies was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for attaining Human Resource Maturity Level II in three personnel mechanisms, namely, performance management, learning and development, and rewards and recognition. Read the full article [here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Career opportunities at **PIDS**

- **One (1) Division Chief III (Publication and Circulation Division)** Item No. RID 03
- **One (1) Administrative Aide IV** (Item No. AFD 15)
- **One (1) Chief Administrative Officer** (Item No. AFD 26)
- **Two (2) Research Analyst II** (Item Nos. OP 35-4 and OP 35-5)
- **One (1) Supervising Research Specialist, and one (1) Research Analyst II** under the PIDS-3iE Project

ABOUT THE BANNER PHOTO

The banner photo used for this issue features the Makati Central Business District. Photo by *Aldrich Lim* | Flickr. Here's the [link](#).

The banner features the PIDS@40 logo with the tagline "From policy research to nation building" and the years "1977-2017". The main text reads: "38th among the top 100 think tanks in Southeast Asia and the Pacific". Below this, it says: "—Based on the 2016 Go To Think Tank Index Report". The logo for TTCSPP (Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Philippines) is also present.

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If you want your forthcoming events, latest publications, and other announcements to be included on the *SERP-P News*, contact:

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