



SERP-P NEWS

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Socioeconomic Issue on Spotlight TRANSPORTATION

Over the years, the country's worsening traffic problem and inefficient transport system have affected the economy.

In 2014, the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** revealed that

the traffic congestion in Metro Manila costs the Philippine economy at least PHP 2.4 billion per day. This amount reflects the value of time lost due to delay, fuel costs, impact on health, and environmental destruction, among others.

With the traffic piling up due to the rising urbanization in the capital, JICA predicts the associated costs will likely increase to PHP 6 billion if no effective intervention will be implemented by 2030. At present, Filipinos are wasting roughly PHP 5.5 billion annually on Epifanio de Santos Avenue or EDSA's notorious traffic alone, according to **Domingo et al. (2015)**.

These figures only highlight the pressing need to formulate policies and introduce innovative solutions to improve the country's transportation system and traffic situation. **Torres (2017)**, for instance, recommends the reduction of the volume of vehicles plying EDSA daily. By doing so, buses will be able to quadruple their trips to accommodate more passengers. **Domingo et al. (2015)** also suggests the consolidation of bus operators to form bus consortia. With fewer bus transport operators, they argue monitoring and regulation will be easier.

The Department of Transportation has also laid out its plans to improve public transportation networks, promote alternative mobility options, and encourage the use of cleaner and environment-friendly transport systems. Some of these initiatives include the express

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MEMBER-INSTITUTION ON SPOTLIGHT

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)



The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) was established by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) in 1966 “to provide participating countries with high-quality graduate study in agriculture; promote, undertake, and coordinate research programs related to the needs and problems of the Southeast Asian region; and disseminate the findings of agricultural research and experimentation”.

Founded in 1965, SEAMEO is a chartered international organization whose purpose is to promote cooperation in education, science, and culture in the Southeast Asian region. Its highest policymaking body is the SEAMEO Council, which consists of the Ministers of Education of the 11 SEAMEO member- countries, namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam.

SEARCA works to strengthen institutional capacities toward inclusive and sustainable agricultural and rural development in Southeast Asia through graduate education, research and development, and knowledge management. It is headed by Dr. Gil C. Saguiguit Jr.

Know more about SEARCA [here](#). Click [here](#) to access SEARCA materials in the SERP-P database.



SERP-P FEATURED RESEARCHER

Dr. Roehlano Briones

Dr. Roehlano Briones is a senior research fellow at the Philippine Institute for Development Studies, where he conducts policy research for the Philippine government, with specialization in agricultural policy. He has authored numerous research papers and co-edited four books, on the economics of agriculture and natural resources, rural development, food security, international trade, and the macro economy.



He is a board member of the consultancy group Brain Trust Inc., a past board member of the Philippine Economic Society, and a fellow of the Foundation for Economic Freedom. He has also provided technical assistance to government agencies in Thailand, Indonesia, Viet Nam, and various Association of Southeast Asian Nations bodies, while serving as a consultant for international donor agencies. Previously, he was an assistant professor at the Ateneo de Manila University and the University of the Philippines

Los Baños (UPLB). He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of the Philippines School of Economics in 2000 and did postdoctoral research at the WorldFish Center in Penang, Malaysia. In 2017, he was the UPLB College of Economics and Management Outstanding Alumnus for Economics and Public Policy.

Check out his publications below.

- Domestic Resource Cost in Philippine Agriculture: Measuring Global Competitiveness of Key Commodities
- Food (In)security and the Price of Rice Self-Sufficiency
- Trade Liberalization and the Rural Sector: A Review of Issues of Household Nutrition
- Trade liberalization and Household Welfare: A Survey of Available Data
- Food Security: Household Perspective
- Characterization of Agricultural Workers in the Philippines
- Outlook for the Philippine Economy and Agro-Industry to 2030: The Role of Productivity Growth
- The Fertilizer Industry and Philippine Agriculture: Policies, Problems, and Priorities
- Quantitative Restriction on Rice Imports: Issues and Alternatives

For other publications by Dr. Briones, simply type “Briones” in the search box of the SERP-P website.

bus and point-to-point bus service rollout in the country's major thoroughfares, the construction of Manila Metro Rail Transit System Line 7, and the impending jeepney modernization plan.

Improving other modes of transportation will also minimize the traffic congestion in the Philippines. Among others, **Francisco (2017)** recommends the roll-on/roll-off (Ro-Ro) system, which he says has demonstrated positive outcomes not only in enhancing the mobility of goods and services but also in providing welfare-improving opportunities especially to households living near the Ro-Ro ports.

The Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P) has a collection of studies on the analyses of transportation issues in the Philippines, including transport energy demand (**Ricardo et. al 2006**), the impact of EDSA-MRT stations in land use and economic changes (**Lapeña 2004**), the impact of Ro-Ro transport system in the Philippines (**Francisco 2017**), and the competition among bus operators along EDSA (**Llanto and Gerochi 2017**).

SERP-P Resources on Transportation

- Regulatory Measures Affecting Services Trade and Investment: Distribution, Multimodal Transport, and Logistics Services
- Philippine Priorities in Expanding APEC-Wide

Connectivity through Infrastructure Development

- Revenue Performance of the Land Transportation Office (LTO): CY 1994-2003
- Analysis and Update of the Philippine Transport Energy Demand
- Transferability of the 1987 LRT-Jeepney Mode Choice Model to the MRT3 Passenger Demand Forecasting
- Stakeholders' Preferences on Urban Freight Transport Measures in Metro Manila
- Bus Passenger Demand Models for Metropolitan Manila
- The Impacts of Roll-On/Roll-Off Transport System in the Philippines
- Urban Transportation in Metropolitan Manila
- Port Development Projects and their Traffic Impact
- Regulatory Measures Affecting Services Trade and Investment: Distribution, Multimodal Transport, and Logistics Services
- Philippine Priorities in Expanding APEC-Wide Connectivity through Infrastructure Development
- The Impact of Trade Liberalization and Economic Integration on the Logistics Industry: Maritime Transport and Freight Forwarders

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Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines 2017

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as of December 2017

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- Knowledge, Attitude, and Perception of Fishers and Sardine Factory Workers on the Closed Fishing Season Policy for Sardines in Zamboanga Peninsula (Region IX)
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Call for Submissions

#NO1LEFTBEHIND PHOTO CONTEST

We all want to live in a world where prosperity is enjoyed by everyone. Share a story on what it means to have a Philippines where no one is left behind. Open to all professional & amateur Filipino photographers. Participants are allowed to submit only 1 photo each. Three winners will get the chance to win P20,000 worth of prizes!

Email your photo to neda.prd@gmail.com with a short write-up on what you think the country needs to achieve inclusive development. Submit on or before 5 pm, January 10, 2018 (Wednesday).

For more details, visit www.neda.gov.ph

The NEDA #No1LeftBehind Photo Contest is open to all professional and amateur Filipino photographers. Each participant is allowed to submit only one (1) photo entry.

Email your photo to neda.prd@gmail.com. The file must have a resolution of at least 600 x 600 pixels at 300 dpi, and must be in .JPEG format.

Call for Papers

The *Philippine Journal of Development* is a professional journal published by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies. It accepts papers that examine key issues in development and have strong relevance to policy development. As a multidisciplinary social science journal, it accepts papers in the fields of economics, political science, public administration, sociology, and other related disciplines. It considers papers that have strong policy implications on national or international concerns, particularly development issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

CLICK HERE for the guidelines in the preparation of articles. Submissions and inquiries may be sent to PJD@mail.pids.gov.ph

Call for Participants

15th SEAMEO INNOTECH International Conference
THRIVING IN THE MARGINS
Inclusive Education Re-imagined

6-8 MARCH 2018 - QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES

Stay tuned for more information on the conference!

15th SEAMEO INNOTECH International Conference
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