

SERP-P NEWS

Innovating Knowledge Exchange in Policy Research

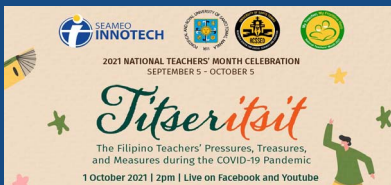


September 2021

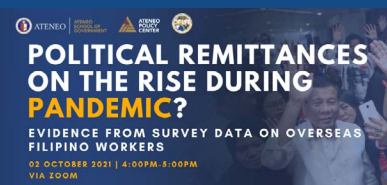
Socioeconomic Issue on Spotlight LABOR MIGRATION (Overseas Filipino Workers)

Photo from GMA News

SERP-P Partner Activities



Let us celebrate the hero in every teacher! Join SEAMEO INNOTECH on October 1, 2021, at 2:00 pm, for this year's National Teachers' Month Forum. Watch it live on SEAMEO-INNOTECH's Facebook page or register here.



Join the Ateneo School of Government and the Ateneo OF-LIFE Network on October 2, 2021, 4:00 to 5:00 pm, as Jurel K. Yap and Gabrielle Ann S. Mendoza of the Ateneo Policy Center present the paper "Political Remittances on the Rise during Pandemic? Evidence from Survey Data on Overseas Filipino Workers" via Zoom platform. To register, click here.

The International Organization for Migration defines international migration as the movement of persons away from their residence and across an international border.¹ Meanwhile, labor migration is the movement of persons from their home to another location for employment.

Based on the 2019 Survey on Overseas Filipinos conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), a total of 2.2 million Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) worked abroad between April and September 2019, 97 percent of whom were overseas contract workers.² The most preferred destination of OFWs was Saudi Arabia, followed by the United Arab Emirates, Hongkong, and Taiwan.

Most OFWs were engaged in elementary occupations (39.6%).³ Others were service and sales workers (18%) and plant and machine operators and assemblers (12.2%). Only a small percentage were technicians and associate professionals (8.7%) and professionals (8.5%). The rest were craft and related trade workers (8.1%)

Daquio (2016) found that prospective migrants are open to paying their recruiters high fees for jobs even in the low-skilled segment, such as domestic service and construction labor, to work overseas. Most of them took loans from personal networks such as family and friends, and most repaid their loans through remittances.

Tabuga (2017) saw in her research that people who perceive their living conditions as dismal are more likely to manifest and undertake concrete actions toward international migration. In comparison, those who feel more satisfied with their living conditions are less likely to form migration aspirations.

continued on page 3

¹ <https://www.iom.int/key-migration-terms> (accessed on September 17, 2021)

² <https://psa.gov.ph/sites/default/files/attachments/hscd/pressrelease/Press%20Release%202019%20SOF%20signed.pdf> (accessed on September 17, 2021)

³ Based on PSA's definition, elementary occupations are "simple and routine tasks which may require the use of handheld tools and considerable physical efforts". Examples include cleaning, delivering, carrying luggage, collecting and sorting refuse, and sweeping streets, to name a few. Source: <https://psa.gov.ph/classification/psoc/?q=psoc/major>. (accessed on September 17, 2021)

PARTNER-INSTITUTION ON SPOTLIGHT

DOLE-Institute for Labor Studies (DOLE-ILS)



The Institute for Labor Studies (ILS) is the policy research and advocacy arm of Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). Among its functions include the conduct of research and studies in all areas of labor and manpower policy and administration and the review of existing labor legislation and regulations. ILS also studies and develops innovative and indigenous approaches toward the promotion of harmonious and productive labor-management relations and the improvement of workers' welfare services. It also develops and undertakes research programs and projects in collaboration with other national agencies to enhance DOLE's capability to participate in national decisionmaking and policymaking.

DOLE-ILS is headed by Executive Director Ahmma Charisma Lobrin-Satumba.

To access studies from DOLE-ILS in SERP-P, click [here](#).

To know more about DOLE-ILS, click [here](#).

RESEARCHER ON SPOTLIGHT

Prof. Tereso S. Tullao Jr.

Prof. Tereso S. Tullao Jr. is a University Fellow, Professor of Economics, and the Director of the De La Salle University-Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies (DLSU-AKI).

From 1996 to 2011, he served as the dean of the College of Business and Economics of DLSU. He has a PhD in International Economics and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University and an MA in Development Education from Stanford University. His extensive experience and service as an educator was recognized by the Metrobank Foundation in 1993 by awarding him as one of the Outstanding Teachers of the Philippines. He has published several articles, monographs, and books in Filipino and English in the fields of economics of education, trade in services, movement of natural persons, and migration and remittances. He was also a visiting professor and scholar at various institutions in Japan, the United States, China, Thailand, France, and Laos.

To check the publications of Prof. Tullao in SERP-P, type "Tullao, Tereso" in the search box of the SERP-P website or click [here](#).



In addition, [Artajo \(2016\)](#) found that the children of OFWs are most likely to follow in their parents' footsteps. Aside from tending to mirror the migratory behavior of their parents, she noted that the lack of domestic employment opportunities and the government's overseas employment policy motivate children of OFWs to work abroad.

Financial remittances are the most visible contribution of OFWs to the economy. At the household level, [Alba and Suguio \(2009\)](#) found that altruism dominates the remittance exchange behavior of migrants as their households back home are heavily dependent on remittances for subsistence. [Pernia \(2009\)](#) noted that remittances increase household income and savings but may result in complacency among household members and diminish labor participation. To help OFW families use remittances productively, [Capistrano and Sta. Ana \(2007\)](#) emphasized the need to educate OFW families on how to handle their money properly and to encourage them to participate in entrepreneurial activities.

With the increasing exodus of Filipinos to work abroad for greener pastures, [Estrada \(2015\)](#) underscored the threat of brain drain or the "apparent loss of valuable knowledge and skills in developing countries", which is seen as a cause of underdevelopment for countries of origin ([Siar 2014](#), p. 2). According to Estrada, this can be addressed by instituting a national development policy that urges returning OFWs to help in building the capacities of Filipinos back home through skills sharing. In a related study, [Siar \(2013\)](#) argued that the outflow of skills and knowledge may not necessarily mean a loss for sending countries as migrants can remain connected to and involved in the development of their home countries. She added that the experience of China and India shows the wealth of knowledge assets that migrant professionals overseas can contribute to their countries of origin; thus, migrant-sending countries like the Philippines should have an effective diaspora engagement policy.

Meanwhile, [Bernas \(2016\)](#) noted the need for capacitating OFW returnees to facilitate their productive reintegration into society. Most OFWs, he said, have a low level of return preparedness in terms of accumulated resources while others are still in their productive stage. Only a few OFWs, he added, end up becoming business owners or entrepreneurs.

The COVID-19 pandemic largely affected the livelihood of millions of Filipinos, including OFWs. Data from the Department of Labor and Employment–Philippine Overseas Labor and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration cited by [Lorenzo \(2021\)](#) show that 645,071 OFWs were affected by the global pandemic, 97 percent of whom lost their jobs. Of the total number of affected OFWs, more than 500,000 were repatriated to their hometowns. Despite the adverse effects of the

pandemic, OFWs have continued to support their families back home. The *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP) saw an increase in OFW remittances from January to May 2021 with the easing of lockdown restrictions and recovery of jobs worldwide. According to the BSP, there was an increase in remittances by 6.7 percent, equivalent to USD 16.16 billion, in the first half of 2021 versus USD 15.57 billion in January to June 2020. Most of these remittances came from the United States, Malaysia, and South Korea.⁴

[Roldan \(2020\)](#) emphasized that comprehensive support services should be extended to displaced OFWs. These, she said, should include livelihood, healthcare, psychological support and counseling, and legal assistance.

While the government has assisted OFWs affected by the pandemic, [Lorenzo \(2021\)](#) said that there is still a lot to be done to strengthen the link between labor migration and development. She noted the need to mainstream labor migration in local development plans and governance to boost the role of local governments as "prominent actors in providing assistance and services to outgoing and returning OFWs" (p. 17).

The Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P) has a wealth of resources on the country's experience in labor migration. Below are some of them:

- [Low-Skilled Labor Migration: Measuring Migration Costs of OFW Returnees from Saudi Arabia using CAPI](#)
- [A Probe into the Filipino Migration Culture: What Is There to Learn for Policy Intervention?](#)
- [‘Should I Stay or Should I Go Too?’: Understanding the Employment Aspirations and Migration Trajectories of Left-Behind Children in the Philippines](#)
- [Motives and Giving Norms behind Remittances: the Case of Filipino Overseas Workers and their Recipient Households](#)
- [Migration, Remittances, Poverty, and Inequality - The Philippines](#)
- [The Impact of International Labor Migration and OFW Remittances on Poverty in the Philippines](#)
- [Prospects and Challenges of Brain Gain from ASEAN Integration](#)
- [Engaging the Highly Skilled Diaspora in Home Country Development through Knowledge Exchange: Concept and Prospects](#)
- [A Typology of OFWs Returning Home: A Survey Study on the Return and Reintegration of OFWs](#)

⁴<https://www.bsp.gov.ph/SitePages/MediaAndResearch/MediaDisp.aspx?ItemId=5898> (accessed on September 21, 2021)

- Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos in the Face of the Pandemic and Other Global Challenges
- Reintegrating Overseas Filipino Workers Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Vulnerable But Unfazed? Revisiting OFW Experiences, Coping Strategies, and Migration Prospects Amid Economic Crisis
- Reconciling Labor Realities with Policy: The EPS and the Overseas Filipino Workers
- The Philippine Diasporic Dividend: For the OFWs, Their Families, and the Country
- Determinants of Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) Remittances

For more studies, simply type "labor migration", "OFW", and other related keywords in the Search box of the SERP-P website.

Notice for SERP-P Coordinators

The PIDS SERP-P team recently produced a content management system (CMS) video to guide you in uploading your knowledge materials and editing uploaded entries. You may access the video here:



https://youtu.be/Bx4W_PXTu3o



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aYmFY1SVOji_C78ptUFAGaxes2Zm41C6/view

Most Downloaded Publications in September 2021

No	Title	Institution	No. of Downloads
1	Toolkit for Building Disaster-Resilient School Communities in Southeast Asia	SEAMEO INNOTECH	9,571
2	An In-depth Study on the Film Industry In the Philippines	Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc.	6,677
3	China's Economic Growth and the ASEAN	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	6,016
4	Improving the Financial Management of Local Economic Enterprises	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	2,397
5	Forming a Government: Parliamentary vs. Presidential System	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	1,739
6	Bureaucracy for Democracy	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	1,511
7	Cross-Border Issues for Digital Platforms: A Review of Regulations Applicable to Philippine Digital Platforms	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	1,473
8	Agenda for Action for the Philippine Rural Sector	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	1,393
9	Poverty in the Philippines: Causes, Constraints, and Opportunities	Asian Development Bank	1,273
10	Interim Assessment of the PhilHealth CARES Project	Philippine Institute for Development Studies	809

LATEST SERP-P PUBLICATIONS

- Briefing Notes for the DBCC Presentation: The Proposed FY2022 National Budget and the Medium-Term Fiscal Program
- Updated Harmonized Region 1 Research and Development Agenda (HRRDA) 2017-2022
- Resurgence of Bundling Mechanisms in Digital Services Trade
- Enhanced Ilocos RDP 2017-2022 Midterm Update
- BSP International Research Fair on "Central Banking in the Time of Pandemic", 13-14 July 2021
- Multiple Intelligence Among the PUPLHS Students: Bases for Developing K to 12 Subject Activities
- Using Extensive Reading in Improving Reading Speed and Level of Reading Comprehension of Students
- We Call the Shots: Women Referees Officiating Men's Basketball
- Bridging the Digital Infrastructure Gap: Policy Options for Connecting Filipinos
- Drawing Lessons from the Experiences of Filipino Nurses and Careworkers Under the Philippines-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (PJEPA)
- PJEPA-MNP in Focus: Is PH Getting a Fair Deal?
- Decent Work for Household Service Workers (HSWs): Examining Labor Market and Profiling HSWs for Occupational Mobility
- Regulatory Impact Statement: Holiday Rationalization Review
- Exploring Options for Employment Insurance in the Philippines: Input to the Regulatory Impact Statement on Employment Insurance
- Skills Profiling of Workers in the Sugarcane Industry
- Review of the Social Amelioration Program (SAP) in the Sugarcane Industry
- Measuring Success of the Kabuhayan Program: An Outcomes-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- Strengthening Adaption Through Migration: Outlining a Risk Reduction Response Framework to Climate-Induced Migration
- Generating Green Jobs Through Green Procurement
- DOLE Roadmap to Managing ASEAN Integration in 2015
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Improving Labor Market Resilience and Employment Recovery
- "Enabling Expert Returnees to Contribute to National Development": Case Studies of Returned Migrants Engaging in Brain Gain/Transfer of Knowledge Activities
- Driving Enterprise Growth and Improving Workers' Productivity: A Study of Productivity Gainsharing Practices in the Philippines
- ILS e-Newsletter for January 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for February 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for March 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for April 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for May 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for June 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for July 2021
- ILS e-Newsletter for August 2021
- Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos in the Face of the Pandemic and Other Global Challenges
- Monitoring the Philippine Economy Second Quarter Report for 2021
- Local Food for Local Good: Youth Action for Food Security Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic
- The Learning Organization: Group Dynamics, Institutional Linkages Toward Technology Adoption, Value-Adding Innovation, and Sustainability
- Application of Remote Sensing and SWAT Model to Assess Climate and Land Use Changes Impacts on Hydrological Responses and Sediment Yield
- Microbes for Sustainable Agriculture: Isolation and Identification of Beneficial Soil- and Plant-Associated Microorganisms
- Seed Guidebook: Scaling and Expanding for Effective Development the Experiences and Learning from the SEARCA Project ISARD
- Promoting a More Innovative and Inclusive Society through ICT Development
- Gender Perspectives in E-livelihood and E-entrepreneurship
- Employment Mainstreaming of Workers with Disability
- Growing Rural Employment Through Community-Based Tourism
- ASEAN 2015: Implications of People Mobility and Services
- Enhancing Decent Work Outcomes in Small-Scale Gold Mining
- Mapping Out Employment Opportunities in the Cultural Heritage Sector A Strategic Framework
- Exploring Responses to the Employment Impact of Excise Tax Reform: The Case of the Philippine Tobacco Industry
- Regulatory Impact Assessment Adoption Determinants: A Diagnostic Framework
- 'Reexamine SHS Programs Employment and Entrepreneurial Objectives'
- Revive and Thrive: Actions for Decent Work Amid and Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic

SERP-P is now on



Subscribe

now!

bit.ly/YoutubeSERPP



Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management

7 OCTOBER 2:00-5:30PM (MANILA)

Join the Asian Development Bank on its webinar on "Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management and Procurement" on October 7, 2021, 2:00 to 5:30 pm, via Zoom. For details, click here.

Computing Covid Numbers: Connecting the Dots Between Science and Policy

8 October 2021, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Dr. Fredegusto Guido David
Professor, UP Institute of Mathematics
ICTA Research Fellow

Dr. Jomar F. Rabajante
Dean, Graduate School
University of the Philippines Los Baños
Faculty, Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Physics

For inquiries, contact Mr. Minelli Rosette Quejado at mrquejado@econ.upd.edu.ph.

UP-School of Economics and Ayala Corporation will conduct a webinar on "Computing Covid Numbers: Connecting the Dots Between Science and Policy" on October 8, 2021, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, via Zoom.

To register, click here.

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2021 | MANILA/CELEBRITY

Join the World Bank on October 11-17, 2021, on its series of webinars covering climate, trade, vaccines, and economic recovery.

For details, click here.

REFORMING AGRARIAN REFORM, Quo Vadis?

21 October 2021 | Thursday | 1:30-4:30 pm PHT

Join the UPLB-College of Public Affairs and Development on its webinar on "Reforming Agrarian Reform, Quo Vadis?" on October 21, 2021, 1:30 to 4:30 pm, via Zoom.

To register, click here.

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

SERP-P Team
Email: serpp@mail.pids.gov.ph

CALL FOR PAPERS



POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, EXTENSION, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT
RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

CALL FOR PAPERS: *BISIG*

Ang *BISIG* ay bilingual na refereed journal na nagtatampok ng mga artikulo o papel pananaliksik hinggil sa kalagayan ng paggawa, anakpawis, at kanilang mga pagawaan at komunidad. Ito ay taunang inilalabas ng PUP at pangunahing nagtatampok ng mga pag-aaral at pananaliksik sa mga isyu at usaping inilululwal ng relasyon pang-industriya at panlipunan.

Maaring isumite ang papel sa bisig@pup.edu.ph. Tumatanggap ang Bisig ng mga kontribusyon sa buong taon at inaasahang labas ang isyu tuwing Mayo. Kung may paglilimaw o katanungan, maaring makipag-usap sa Managing Editor ng Bisig na si Eb. Mary Joy Sawa-an mula sa tanggapan ng Research Publications Office, Rm. 425, South Wing, Main Academic Bldg., Polytechnic University of the Philippines Al Mabini Campus, Sta. Mesa, Manila.

KAHINGIAN SA PAGPAPASA NG PAPEL-PANANALIKSIK



Polytechnic University of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, EXTENSION, PLANNING, & DEVELOPMENT
Research Publications Office

CALL FOR PAPERS Education Review

We accept submissions via

Email: edrev@pup.edu.ph | Subject: Education Review Contribution/Sumame_Given Name_Middle_Initial



Polytechnic University of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH, EXTENSION, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT
Research Publications Office

Call for Papers MABINI REVIEW

an interdisciplinary journal published by the
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
OF THE PHILIPPINES

We accept submissions all year round.

Email: mabinireview@pup.edu.ph | Subject: Mabini Review Contribution/Surname_Given Name_Middle_Initial

Philippine Journal of Development

CALL FOR PAPERS

pjd@mail.pids.gov.ph

SEE PREVIOUS ISSUES

The *Philippine Journal of Development* (PJD) is a professional journal published by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies. It focuses on the different aspects of development, particularly the economy, business, governance, political dynamics, international relations, and other related fields of study.

As a multidisciplinary social science journal, it accepts original, unpublished papers with strong policy implications on national or international concerns, particularly development issues in the Asia-Pacific region.

For inquiries and submissions, contact PJD@mail.pids.gov.ph.

For the guidelines in the preparation of articles, click here.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Career opportunities at PIDS
- Career opportunities at NEDA
- Career opportunities at ADB
- Career opportunities at AIM
- Career opportunities at DAP
- Career opportunities at ILS
- Career opportunities at INNOTECH
- Career opportunities at SEARCA
- Career opportunities at ASOG
- Career opportunities at BSP
- Career opportunities at World Bank
- Career opportunities at PCAARRD

SERP-P Access Statistics

Average daily hits:	30,583
Average daily visits:	5,046
Total monthly hits:	889,327
Total monthly visits:	141,311

Total number of publications as of September 29, 2021: **7,373**
Added during the month: **50**
Contributors: **DOLE-ILS (30), SEARCA (5), PIDS (4), PUP (3), DLSU-AKI (2), CPBRD (2), NEDA Region 1 (2), and BSP (1)**

SERP-P Team at PIDS:
Aniceto C. Orbeta Jr., Adviser
Sheila V. Siar, Project Manager
Ezekiel R.H. Nicomedes, SERP-P Coordinator



Philippine Institute for Development Studies
18F Three Cyberpod Centris, North Tower

