



# SERP-P NEWS

Innovating Knowledge Exchange in Policy Research

June 2018 | Vol. 9 No. 1

As a driver of productivity and competitiveness, innovation is necessary to achieve sustained economic growth. The Philippines recognizes this and even devotes an entire chapter in its *Philippine Development Plan* to the advancement of innovation in the country.

Despite this recognition, the country's investments in innovation have remained below the prescribed benchmark of

## Socioeconomic Issue on Spotlight INNOVATION

the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization for research and development expenditures, according to **Albert et al. (2018)**. Coupled with other issues, such as inadequate infrastructure and restrictive regulations, these poor investments have resulted in the country's low performance in the Global Innovation Index rankings.

Local firms also tend to shy away from innovation, despite its role in facilitating their good performance (**Llanto and Prado 2016**). In 2015, for instance, only 2 in every 5 firms were innovation-active in the Philippines, according to **Albert et al. (2018)**. This figure further plummets among micro firms, with merely 1 in every 3 of them considered innovation-active that same year. When asked about public intervention, only 1 in 30 firms reported public support for their innovation activities.

**Albert et al. (2018)** also noted the government's failure to mainstream innovation policies. They argued that the country often views innovation only within the context of science and technology and tends to implement it without a whole-of-government approach.

To address these issues, the authors recommended the crafting of a time-bound national innovation plan. The said plan should ideally consider sector-specific needs of firms and complementary factors for their innovation, as well as the soft and hard infrastructures needed to improve their capacities and drive to innovate. The study also urged the government to ease barriers to trade, stamp out anticompetitive practices, and address issues of inadequate physical and institutional infrastructure.

On the part of the firms, **Llanto and del Prado (2016)** said they should

*continued on page 3*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 4th Annual Public Policy Conference: Harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution

9:00 AM | September 19, 2018  
Edsa Shangri-la Hotel, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

The conference will bring together researchers, policymakers, and the private sector to share their insights on how the Philippines can take advantage of the benefits of automation and modern advances in science and technology while managing the risks associated with the scale, scope, and complexity of this fourth major industrial era. More info [here](#):

### First Asian Family Business Case Competition

9:00 AM | September 19, 2018  
Metro Manila, Philippines

The BIRLA Professorial Chair in Asian Family Corporations will hold the first Asian family business case competition in July 2018. Registrations are still open! Join the competition for the opportunity to showcase your skills and meet other students from across Asia. For inquiries, contact the BIRLA team at [birla@aim.edu](mailto:birla@aim.edu) or +62.2.892.4011 ext. 1250.

## MEMBER-INSTITUTION ON SPOTLIGHT Asian Institute of Management- Rizalino S. Navarro Policy Center for Competitiveness (AIM-RSN PCC)

Established in 1996, the Asian Institute of Management Rizalino S. Navarro Policy Center for Competitiveness (AIM-RSN PCC) is the public policy think tank and research arm of AIM.

Among its primary mandate is to respond to the emerging international economic trends and the demands of an increasingly integrated and competitive global trade and finance environment. Since its inception, it has carried out this mandate by producing cutting-edge policy and academic research, providing technical assistance to multilateral organizations and actors from the public and private sectors, and hosting evidence-based policy discussions in support of the long-term growth and development of the Philippines and the Asian region.



Although the AIM-RSN PCC remains engaged in other forms of development, policy, and economic research, its renaming in 2015 prompted a shift in focus toward building national competitiveness and promoting shared prosperity. Under this competitiveness framework, it carries out a dynamic research agenda, covering a wide array of topics and affecting industries and people from all walks of life. It specifically works under the premise that competitiveness, by itself, is not an end but a means to achieve increased productivity and shared prosperity. In turn, competitiveness stands on three pillars, namely, policies, institutions, and conditions of factors of production.

Know more about AIM RSN PCC [here](#). Click here to access AIM RSN PCC Materials in the [SERP-P database](#).



## SERP-P FEATURED RESEARCHER Dr. Epictetus E. Patalinghug



Dr. Epictetus E. Patalinghug is a professor emeritus of economics and finance at the University of the Philippines (UP) and a trustee of the Albert Del Rosario Institute for Strategic and International Studies. He also served as a professor at the University of Hawaii, director of the doctoral program of the UP Virata

School of Business, and commissioner of the Tariff Commission.

As a researcher, his interests include nontariff measures in the Asia-Pacific region, foreign direct investments, inclusive growth, poverty, and inequality. He also

conducts studies on logistics, supply chain connectivity, competition policy in power and telecommunications sectors, and retail trade liberalization, among others. A cum laude graduate of the University of San Carlos, he obtained his PhD degree from the University of Hawaii on an East-West Center scholarship.

Check out his publications below:

- [A Review of the Components of the Medium-Term National Action Agenda for Productivity: An Integrative Report](#)
- [Assessment of Planning and Programming for Capital Projects at the National and Agency Levels](#)
- [Easing Port Congestion and Other Transport and Logistics Issues](#)
- [A System-wide Study of the Logistics Industry in the Greater Capital Region](#)
- [Supply Chain Connectivity: Enhancing Participation in the Global Supply Chain](#)
- [An Institutional Analysis of Research and Development Expenditure](#)
- [The Philippine National Innovation System: Structure and Characteristics](#)

For other publications by Dr. Patalinghug, simply type "Patalinghug" in the search box of the [SERP-P website](#).

continued from page 1

reconsider investing in innovation. [Patalinghug \(2003\)](#) argued the government must assist them in this pursuit by creating incentives, such as stronger intellectual property rights law, standardized quality system, and the availability of technology transfer programs.

In the end, innovation does not only depend on the cooperation between the private and public sectors. The government should also establish strong linkages and coordination among research institutions, universities, and industry associations. It should also find cost-effective ways of improving standards while at the same time minimizing restrictions and encouraging innovation.

The Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P) has a collection of studies on innovation, including those of [Albert et al \(2017\)](#) on the measurement and examination of innovation in business and industry, [Macasaquit \(2011\)](#) on the strengthening of sources of knowledge to promote innovation in CALABARZON, [Little and Fabella \(1997\)](#) on the technological change as a determinant of economically sustainable growth, globalization, and innovation systems, and [Conroy and McGuire \(1997\)](#) on the financial innovation for the poor.

## SERP-P Resources on Innovation

- [Globalization, Innovation Systems, and AFTA: Emerging Trends and Challenges](#)

- [PIDS Prods Government to Regulate Digital Economy](#)
- [Impact of Foreign Linkages on Innovation Activity of Manufacturing Firms in CALABARZON](#)
- [Innovation Activity of Firms in the Philippines](#)
- [Measuring and Examining Innovation in Philippine Business and Industry](#)
- [Achieving Innovation Without Formal R&D: Philippine Case Study of Garment Firms](#)
- [Does Innovation Mediate Good Firm Performance?](#)
- [Service Innovation in Philippine Industries](#)
- [Innovative Behavior of Local Firms: Results of the 2009 Pilot Survey of Innovation Activities - Towards an Innovation-led Development Path in the Philippines](#)
- [Strategies to Promote Stronger Technology Spillovers From Trade and Investments: Tapping Production Networks, Promoting Services and Linking SMEs](#)
- [Opportunities for Making Health Financing and Services More Inclusive in the Philippines](#)
- [The Paradox of Local Economic Enterprises: A Look at the Philippine Setting](#)
- [Technological Innovations in Japan and S&T Experiences in the Philippines: Drawing Policy Lessons for the Philippines](#)
- [Science and Technology Development and Promotion in the Private Sector: Some Issues and Recommendations for Policy Research](#)

For more related studies, simply type "Innovation" in the search box of the [SERP-P website](#).

Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines

INNOVATING KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE IN POLICY RESEARCH



**studies uploaded** 6,018

**53** member-institutions

**keywords** 5,721

**3,465** authors

**11,632** hits per day



<https://serp-p.pids.gov.ph/>

@SERPPH

as of May 2018

## LATEST SERP-P RESOURCES

- Ensuring the Success of Agribusiness Ventures in the Philippines
- IT-BPO in the Philippines: A Driver of Shared Prosperity?
- Shaping the Public Perception Toward Local Authorities: The Role of Perceived Social, Economic, and Political Insecurities
- Leveraging Competition Policy for SME Development and Shared Prosperity
- Firm Creation and the Ease and Cost of Doing Business
- Associations between Oral Health-related Impacts and Rate of Weight Gain after Extraction of Pulpally involved Teeth in Underweight Preschool Filipino Children
- A Silent Public Health Crisis: Untreated Caries and Dental Infections among 6- and 12- Year-Old Children in the Philippine National Oral Health Survey 2006
- Public Health in Action: Effective School Health Needs Renewed International Attention
- Fit for School: a School-Based Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program to Improve Child Health: Results from a Longitudinal Study in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR
- WASH in Schools Operation & Maintenance Manual
- Low-cost and Healthy Recipes for School Feeding
- Learning Center Community Manual
- Regulatory Issues in the Philippine Food Manufacturing Industry
- Food Security, Global Competitiveness, Technological Innovation, and Philippine Rice: Some Insights from Existing Literature
- What about a Shared Cost for Watershed Rehabilitation?
- Facilitating FDI by Improving the Philippine Investment Negative List
- Risk Management Innovation for Philippine Banking
- Technical-Vocational Education and Training for Business Process Management: Challenges and Potential
- Fear of Crime and Saving Behaviors

RESEARCH PAPER SERIES NO. 2018-01

Results of the Assessment of the Motor Vehicle User's Charge Utilization in the Philippines

DOWNLOAD ↓

RESEARCH PAPER SERIES NO. 2018-01

Results of the Assessment of the Motor Vehicle User's Charge Utilization in the Philippines

Sheila G. Nagalang  
Pia May G. Agatep  
Anderson M. Navarro  
Keith C. Detros

**pids** Philippine Institute for Development Studies

**SERP-P Team at PIDS:**  
**Sheila V. Siar**, Project Manager  
**Jachin Jane O. Aberilla**, SERP-P Coordinator  
**Celia M. Reyes** and **Aniceto Orbeta Jr.**, Technical Advisers



**pids** Philippine Institute for Development Studies  
 18F Three Cyberpod Centris, North Tower  
 EDSA cor. Quezon Ave., Quezon City

## Search for Outstanding Volunteers 2018

NATIONAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - PHILIPPINE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE COORDINATING AGENCY

TAGAPAGTAGUYOD "PAG-ASA"

Volunteers are the untiring and unnamed heroes who help build and empower the nation. Their compassion and selfless service to the underserved communities ignite hope and serve as indispensable tools in our journey towards progress and sustainability.

SEARCH FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
 Telefax: (63) 777-7398 • Email: info@pnvsc.gov.ph • Facebook: www.facebook.com/PNVSCA • Website: http://www.pnvsc.gov.ph

Help PNVSCA recognize modern-day heroes in your community. Nominations for the Search for Outstanding Volunteers 2018 will be accepted until July 15, 2018.

Search guidelines and nominations forms may be downloaded [here](#).

## 7th BSP International Research Conference

24-25 September 2018  
 Quezon City, Philippines

The *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* is organizing the 7th BSP International Research Conference on "Expanding the boundaries of central banking in an environment of globalized finance". More info here: <http://www.bsp.gov.ph>.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Career opportunities at **PIDS**  
 Career opportunities at **NEDA**  
 Career opportunities at **INNOTECH**  
 Career opportunities at **SEARCHA**  
 Career opportunities for **economists**

Cover photo by **Yen Baet**.

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

**Jachin Jane O. Aberilla**  
 SERP-P Coordinator  
 Email: [jaberilla@mail.pids.gov.ph](mailto:jaberilla@mail.pids.gov.ph)  
 Tel.: +63-2 877-4022