



15 July 2014 Issue No. 2

## SocioEconomic Issue on Spotlight

## Announcements

### Education



Education serves as the foundation for personal growth and development and plays a critical role in nation-building. It empowers citizens to become productive members of society and therefore is an important tool to eradicate poverty and inequality. An educated population leads to a stronger economy that can

provide a bright future for the nation. Formal education in all levels—primary, secondary, and tertiary—as well as technical and vocational education must be given proper attention.

As a field of study, education is one of the most researched areas. In the SERP-P, various studies on education were contributed by the member-institutions—encompassing basic education, the newly adopted K to 12 curriculum, and evaluation of higher education and graduate programs, among others.

Most of these studies were contributed by the SEAMEO Regional Center for Educational Innovation and Technology (INNOTECH) and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) and tackled issues on the root causes of low participation in basic education, educational disparities, and the need to improve the quality of education. Dr. Jose Ramon Albert of PIDS studied the demand side barriers to primary schooling in a [policy note](#). He said that the most critical demand-side barriers and bottlenecks to schooling and late school entry and completion are parental perceptions on school readiness, poverty, differences in expectations between boys and girls, and the education of mothers.

One of the most recent developments in basic education is the K to 12. There are studies in the SERP-P that explored the opportunities and challenges this new curriculum poses for the education sector. SEAMEO-INNOTECH published a [report](#) that aims to map the way toward the implementation of the K to 12 based on certain benchmarks that are aligned with national priorities and the experience of more developed countries in the Southeast Asian region like Malaysia and Singapore.

Some studies on higher education delved on how funds are sourced and used by state universities and colleges (SUCs) and analyzed the efficiency of resource utilization. A [study](#) by Dr. Rosario Manasan of PIDS examined the programs offered by SUCs vis-a-vis their mandates and the quality of graduates being produced by the educational system, and recommended courses of action to improve the relevance and quality of their course offerings.

These and other issues are covered in studies on education available in the SERP-P. Some of these studies are given below. For more, simply type 'education' in the Search box of the SERP-P website.

### Call for Papers: Philippine Journal of Development

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS: Doing Research – Assessing the Environment for Social Science Research in Developing Countries



Global Development Network (GDN), a public international organization that aims to build research capacity in global development, is inviting applications from multidisciplinary research teams for a research grant to undertake a systematic study of the research environment in developing countries.

The project is called “Doing Research” and seeks to develop a comprehensive understanding of the factors (pertaining to policy framework, institutional factors, and informal relations) that influence the organization of social science research, its quality, quantity, and social relevance. The research grant is supported by various institutions such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Government of France, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

The project has three main objectives: (1) To identify and develop objective measures (both qualitative and quantitative) of key elements of the research environment that have significant impact on the ability to train researchers in developing countries to undertake quality research and communicate it effectively to a broad range of stakeholders; (2) To expose important shortcomings and barriers to research to the relevant stakeholders including academia, policymakers, civil society, and donor organizations to bring into the mainstream, issues related to the research environment, research support, and funding and the demand for it as one of the key policy concerns in developing countries; and (3) to build a

- [Funds Flow and Financial Control Analysis of the Student Financial Assistance Programs \(StuFAP\)](#)
- [Review and Assessment of Programs Offered by State Universities and Colleges](#)
- [Assessment of Student Financial Assistance Programs \(StuFAP\) Policies, Procedures, and Control Mechanisms](#)
- [Profile of Multigrade Schools in the Philippines](#)
- [A Profile of Graduate Education Programs in the Philippines](#)
- [Rationalizing the Public Higher Education](#)
- [Basic Education in Albay: an Analytical Brief](#)
- [Addressing Late School Entry and other Demand-side Barriers to Primary Schooling](#)
- [Primary Education: Barriers to Entry and Bottlenecks to Completion](#)
- [Improving Teacher Deployment Practices in the Philippines](#)
- [K to 12 in Southeast Asia](#)
- [Enhanced K to 12 Basic Education Program: Opportunities and Challenges](#)

For more studies on labor issues, simply type 'education' in the Search box of the SERP-P website.

## New Acquisitions (Second Quarter)

A total of 32 publications were added to the portal in the second quarter. Below is a partial list. Check out the SERP-P website to see more new acquisitions.

- [Multisectoral Coalition to Advocate for Reforms in Services Sector](#)
- [The Philippine Manufacturing Industry Roadmap: Agenda for New Industrial Policy, High Productivity Jobs, and Inclusive Growth](#)
- [Designing a Cooperation Framework for Philippine Competition and Regulatory Agencies](#)
- [Toward Competitive and Innovative ASEAN SMEs: Philippine SME Policy Index 2012](#)
- [Review and Assessment of Programs Offered by State Universities and Colleges](#)
- [PJEPA: Strengthening the Foundation for Regional Cooperation and Economic Integration, Vol. II](#)
- [Study of Government Interventions for Employment Generation in the Private Sector](#)
- [AEC 2015: Issues and Challenges in Standards and Conformance](#)
- [SME Development: Narrowing the Development Gap in the ASEAN Economic Community](#)
- [The ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint: Implementation and Effectiveness Assessment for Philippine Agriculture](#)
- [The Impact of Trade Liberalization and Economic Integration on the Logistics Industry: Maritime Transport and Freight Forwarders](#)
- [Investment Liberalization and Facilitation Toward AEC 2015](#)
- [AEC 2015: Challenges Affecting Labor Mobility and MRAs on Professional Services](#)
- [Services Liberalization in the Philippines: A Capacity Needs Assessment for AEC 2015](#)
- [Managing the ASEAN Economic Integration Process in the Philippines: An Assessment of Progress in Trade Liberalization and Facilitation](#)
- [PJD 2012 Special Volume on ASEAN Economic Community - Introduction](#)

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## SocioEconomic Member on Spotlight



The SERP-P Network is proud to have the [National Tax Research Center](#) as one of its members. The Center contributes studies and materials on Philippine taxation and fiscal policy.

Tax research has long been recognized as a vital element in economic

systematic framework to document the research environment in developing countries around the world. The deadline for submission of proposals is July 30, 2014. For details, visit the GDN website at <http://www.gdn.int/index.php>.

## Call for Papers: Philippine Journal of Development



The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) is inviting submissions for the [Philippine Journal of Development \(PJD\)](#). The PJD is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year by PIDS. PJD considers original, unpublished papers on economic development, public administration, foreign relations, sociology, political dynamics, agriculture and national resource management, environment, international migration, and other development topics, which are policy oriented and may or may not explicitly have a bearing on the Philippines. Book reviews are also accepted. The theme or topic of the book should fall within the scope of the articles accepted for publication. The target readers of PJD include researchers, educators, policymakers, and planners. For guidelines in the preparation of articles, please refer to [www.pids.gov.ph/ris/publications/pjd/pjd\\_guidelines.html](http://www.pids.gov.ph/ris/publications/pjd/pjd_guidelines.html). Inquiries and submissions may be forwarded to the Managing Editor at [ssiar@mail.pids.gov.ph](mailto:ssiar@mail.pids.gov.ph)

## International Conference on Impact Evaluation



"Making Impact Evaluation Matter: Better Evidence for Effective Policies and Programmes", an international conference being organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), and PIDS will take place on 3-5

development. It was institutionalized in the Philippines on May 15, 1959, with the enactment of Republic Act (RA) 2211 that created the Joint Legislative Executive Tax Commission (JLETC). Though the Commission was dissolved during the declaration of Martial Law in 1972, then President Ferdinand Marcos, through the recommendation of the Presidential Reorganization Committee, decreed the conversion of the JLETC's Technical Staff into the National Tax Research Center (NTRC).

NTRC was first organized as a single-headed agency under the administrative supervision of the National Economic and Development Authority. More than a decade after, it was made an attached agency of the Department of Finance by virtue of Presidential Decree 74 under the administration of then President Corazon Aquino.

NTRC seeks to promote a tax system that ensures fair distribution of the tax burden among the Filipino taxpayers. Its mandate includes conducting continuing research on taxation for the purpose of improving the tax system and tax policy, and recommending reforms to improve revenue collection and to formulate a sound tax policy and more efficient tax structure.

It publishes the bimonthly NTRC Tax Research Journal. The journal contains articles on tax issues, tax information, and NTRC staff development and other activities.

To date, NTRC has contributed 142 studies to SERP-P. Check out <http://serp-p.pids.gov.ph/search.php?inst=10> for details.

## Memorandum of Agreement Updates

As of March 2014, 25 institutions have already signed the MOA on the SERP-P partnership. The most recent among the institutions that signed the MOA are the [World Bank](#), [UP School of Urban and Regional Planning](#), [AIM Policy Center](#), and [AIM JBF](#).

Once again, we would like to remind the SERP-P members to finalize the MOA. Kindly contact the SERP-P team at (02)893-9575 local 5034 or email [koteyza@mail.pids.gov.ph](mailto:koteyza@mail.pids.gov.ph) for queries and/or clarifications about the content.

September. It will be preceded by 2.5 days of preconference workshops on 1-3 September. All activities will be held in ADB. There will be five to six streams of preconference workshops and up to eight streams of parallel sessions, allowing for over 150 presentations. Speakers for the plenary sessions will include distinguished international figures from the field of impact evaluation.

It is mandatory to register online to take part in the conference—whether you are presenting or not. To register, go to <http://impactevaluation2014.org/registration/>.

There is no registration fee for nationals of low- and middle-income countries who are currently employed by a government or local nongovernment agency (not an international agency) in a low- or middle-income country.

Bursaries (courtesy of USAID) are available for participants from low- and middle-income countries. A bursary will cover return economy airfare and hotel accommodation. All other expenses (ground transport, visa, meals outside the event) must be paid by the participant or their employer. Preference will be given to bursary applicants who have a paper or workshop accepted for the conference.

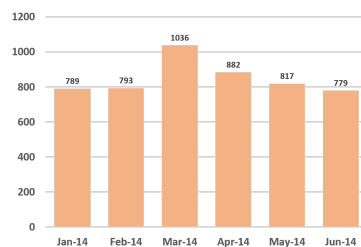
For those in the Philippines, a limited number of bursaries are available for participants outside of Metro Manila.

More details about this event are available at <http://impactevaluation2014.org/>.

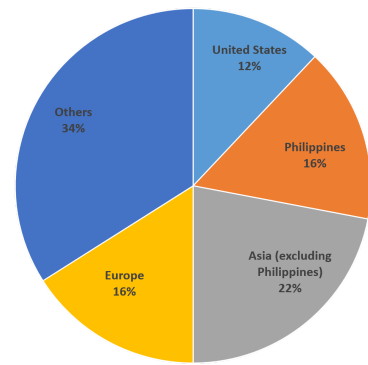
### SERP-P at a Glance

Number of Publications	5392
Number of Member Institutions	53
Number of Authors	2645

### MONTHLY UNIQUE VISITS



Percentage of Users by Location  
(based on the number of hits)



SERP-P Team at PIDS:

Sheila V. Siar, Project Manager; Kristine Carla Oteyza, SERP-P Coordinator; Gilbert Llanto and Aniceto Orbeta, Jr., Technical Advisers; Ronald Yacat, Technical Consultant

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