



SERP-P NEWS

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Socioeconomic Issue on Spotlight **AGRICULTURE**

Moreover, almost 12 million Filipinos—or 35.1 percent of the total workforce—are engaged in agriculture-related work. However, the current state of agriculture in the country is marred by low productivity, declining employment share, inferior technology and infrastructure, complex distribution system, climate change and natural resource degradation, and rural poverty.

In a discussion paper published by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), Dr. Roehlano Briones, a PIDS senior research fellow, argues that to achieve and sustain development, it must be anchored on productivity growth in agriculture. As a strategy, the Philippine government, through the PDP, has committed to: (1) improve productivity and increase rural incomes, (2) intensify programs on building resilience to climate change, and (3) enhance policy environment and governance.

A review of the agricultural policy environment in the Philippines shows that it is highly biased on rice and corn primarily because these crops are the main sources of livelihood of the majority of farmers. But according to a book published by the Philippine APEC Study Center Network (PASCN) and PIDS, this bias on certain agricultural products, particularly in terms of policy and research and development, has constrained efforts to promote rural diversification. Dr. Liborio Cabanilla, a professor at the University of the Philippines Los Baños and one of the authors of the PIDS-PASCN book, explains that because exports have remained concentrated on traditional commodities such as rice and corn, new sources of growth for agriculture have been limited.

Agriculture remains to be the backbone of the Philippine development agenda. According to the *Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2011–2016*, the agriculture and fisheries sector contributed 18.4 percent to the country's gross domestic product in 2004 to 2010. In the same period, agricultural exports increased from USD 2.5 billion to USD 4.1 billion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

26th National Statistics Month
Pagyamanin at Gamitin ang
Estadistika, Kalusugan para sa Lahat
ay Abot-Kamay Na
October 2015

Call for Submission
Public Policy Journal (PPJ)
Economic Emancipation,
Employment, Education, and
Environment
Deadline of submission: 27 July
2015

1st Asian Politics
and Policy Conference
Is the Philippines Ready for a Post-
American World?
25 July 2015
University of the Philippines Diliman,
Quezon City

Traffic Administration Course
10–14 August 2015
NCTS Building, UP Diliman,
Quezon City

With over 100 million people to feed, the call for the development of the Philippine agricultural sector has become more urgent. A poverty study by Dr. Celia Reyes, another PIDS research fellow, and her team, shows that three out of four poor Filipinos come from agricultural households. To achieve optimal agricultural growth, a World Bank policy paper encourages investment in manpower and infrastructure. As agriculture impacts employment and food affordability, appropriate policies and sustained government support for the sector may help reduce rural poverty. Moreover, with the integration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Philippines has to focus on developing its agricultural sector to increase its comparative advantage relative to other ASEAN member-countries.

A number of studies in the SERP-P tackle the complex issues hounding the agricultural sector. Some studies are sector- and crop-specific, while others are centered on policy, implementation, and assessment. There are also studies that link poverty, infrastructure, social protection, and financing to agriculture.

- [Philippine Agriculture, Food Security, and APEC](#)
- [Inputs for Philippine Hosting of APEC 2015: Food Security](#)
- [Targeting the Agricultural Poor: The Case of PCIC's Special Programs](#)
- [Competition Reform in the Philippine Rice Sector](#)
- [Choke Points and Opportunities in the Supply Chain of ASEAN Agricultural Products: A Philippine Country Study](#)
- [Enhancing Supply Chain Connectivity and Competitiveness of ASEAN Agricultural Products: Identifying Chokepoints and Opportunities for Improvements](#)
- [Perceptions on the Importance, Adoptability, and Extent of Integration of Sustainable Agriculture in Extension Programs in Oriental Negros, Philippines](#)
- [Impacts of Natural Disasters on Agriculture, Food Security, and Natural Resources and Environment in the Philippines](#)
- [What's in Store for AFNR Graduates in the Philippines?](#)
- [Household choices, circumstances, and equity of access to basic health and education services in the Philippines](#)
- [Assessing Poverty and Distributional Impacts of the Global Crisis in the Philippines : A Microsimulation Approach](#)
- [ACPC: A Catalyst in Rural Finance Policy Reforms](#)
- [Agricultural Diversification and the Fruits and Vegetables Subsector: Policy Issues and Development Constraints in the Philippines](#)
- [Mobilizing the Agricultural Colleges and Universities in Accelerating Agriculture and Fishery Productivity, Job Generation, and Income: Goat Upgrading and Production](#)
- [Agriculture Extension Delivery System of Selected Land Grant Universities: Insights, Lessons Learned, and Implication to the Philippine Extension System](#)
- [Structure and Conduct of Agricultural Extension Services of Local Government Units in Region I, II, III, and CAR](#)
- [Agriculture, Rural Employment, and Inclusive Growth](#)

For more agriculture-related studies, simply type 'agriculture' in the Search box of the [SERP-P website](#).

Traffic Impact Assessment for Technical Evaluators

22-24 September 2015
NCTS Building, UP Diliman,
Quezon City

Coloring a World Where Men and Women are Equal

As part of a drawing contest organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Filipino children put colored pencils to paper to imagine a world where men and women work together in harmony in creating a safe future for the next generations.



Twelve students have been announced as winners in the drawing competition organized by ADB to mark the International Women's Day and Gender Month in March, as well as the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for Women's Empowerment. View winning entries [here](#).

ASoG-ASA Annual Forum on Leadership in Governance

The Ateneo School of Government - Alumni and Students Association (ASoG-ASA) is holding its annual *Leadership in Governance* forum on 08 July, Wednesday, from 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM at the San Alberto Hurtado Hall (former SDC Auditorium), Social Development Complex, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City. The guest speaker for this event is *Mr. Ho Sun Yee*, Managing Partner of Decision Processes International (DPI), who will discuss, "Improving Decision-Making in a Global ASEAN thru Strategic Thinking Process."

To register, kindly contact *Ms. Anna Zabat* at 426-6061.

Savings Consciousness Week

Perang Pinag-ipunan, May Dalang Kaunlaran

30 June – 06 July 2015



Eko-KNOW-Miya : 60-Second Adventure in Economics

What is Structural Reform?

LATEST SERP-P RESOURCES

- [Mainstreaming SMEs through Social Enterprises](#)
- [A Review of the Accreditation System for Philippine Higher Education Institutions](#)
- [Toward an Enabling Set of Rules of Origin for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership](#)
- [Performance of APEC Economies in Ease of Doing Business](#)
- [How Has Basic Education in the Philippines Fared and What Else Needs to Be Done?](#)
- [The Effect of Different Green and Animal Manures on the Growth and Yield of Potted Lettuce, Cabbage, and Cauliflower](#)
- [Antioxidant Activity and Citral Content of Different Tea Preparations of the Above-Ground Parts of Lemongrass](#)
- [Growth Performance of Lacatan Banana Fertilized with Different Brands of Commercial Organic Fertilizer at Ilong Bukid, San Rafael, Iloilo Conditions: A Community-Based Participatory Research](#)
- [Design and Evaluation of a Pellet Mill for Animal Feed Production](#)
- [Design and Development of Automatic Battery Charger with Controller for Battery Charging Station](#)
- [The Effects of Soil Application of Biofertilizers on the Early Growth of Beauty Leaf](#)
- [Production Practices of the Native Chicken Growers in Western Visayas](#)
- [Briquetting of Biomass and Urban Wastes Using a Household Briquette Molder](#)
- [Knowledge about, Attitude towards Reproductive Health and Health-Seeking Behavior of Adolescents in Iloilo City](#)
- [Tubiganay: Conflict Resolution amongst Indigenous Cultural Communities in Central Panay Mountains](#)
- [A Baseline Survey of Barangays Covered by the Bulabog Puti-An National Park](#)



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
Center for Integrative and Development Studies

Update on PNoy

An Assessment of the Performance of the
Aquino Administration on the Five Key Result Areas

November 17 1:00-5:00pm	Poverty Reduction and empowerment of the poor and vulnerable: (Rural Development) Venue: ERP Room, UPCIDS Ang Bahay ng Alumni Ground Floor, UP Diliman Q.C.
November 21 1:00-5:00pm	Integrity of the environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation Venue: ERP Room, UPCIDS Ang Bahay ng Alumni Ground Floor, UP Diliman Q.C.
November 25 1:00-5:00pm	Rapid, inclusive and sustained economic growth Venue: ERP Room, UPCIDS Ang Bahay ng Alumni Ground Floor, UP Diliman Q.C.
November 27 9am-12nn	Transparent, accountable and participatory governance Venue: Balay Kalinaw, UP Diliman Q.C.

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SEARCA Graduate Scholarship for Southeast Asians

The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) invites applications for its graduate scholarship (MS and PhD) in agriculture and related fields for Academic Year 2016–2017.

Inquiries can also be directed to:
Graduate Education and Institutional Development Department (GEIDD)
SEARCA, College, Los Baños, Laguna 4031, Philippines
Telefax: +63-49 536 7164
Email: gsd@searca.org

Update on PNoy

The UP CIDS organized a series of public learning sessions on the achievements of the administration under President Benigno S. Aquino III, and together with the academia and other players, put together a picture of the 'state of the nation' from 2010 till the present.

Call for Proposals

3rd Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA)

For information on the Orientation session organized by the World Bank in the Philippines, contact: Ms. Yolanda J. Azarcon (yazarcon@worldbank.org).

British Library for Development Studies (BLDS)

BLDS houses Europe's most comprehensive print collection of research on development issues, offering an unparalleled range and depth of coverage. Visit their website [here](#).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Research Associate

Innovations for Poverty Action-PH
Please direct questions to:
jobs@poverty-action.org

Division Chief III (Publications)

and **Division Chief II** (Research Dissemination and Public Affairs)
Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS)

Contact Ms. Gil Remorin at
gremorin@mail.pids.gov.ph

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

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