

# *International Migration and Development Advocacy Issues*

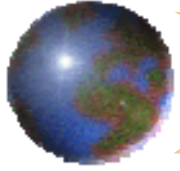
Mai Dizon-Anonuevo

November 19, 2007

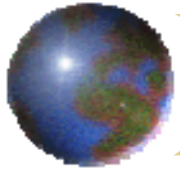
Turning Transnational?

International Migration and Development in the Philippines

Pan Pacific, Manila



*Minimize the Cost and  
Maximize the Gains of Migration*



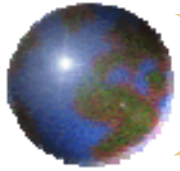
# *Minimize the Cost*

## Cost

- Social Problems of the family left behind (dependency, alienation, family break-up,)
- Discrimination of overseas Filipinos in the host countries (class, gender and race)

## Advocacy issues

- Expansion and institutionalization of programs and services that address the social costs of migration both in the Philippines and receiving countries
- Provide programs furthering people's awareness of the realities, conditions and rights of migrants, especially women
- Work for the ratification by all countries, especially of United Nations and ILO human rights conventions relevant to migrant workers
- Representation of migrants and advocates in relevant policy-making processes and bodies in both sending and receiving countries



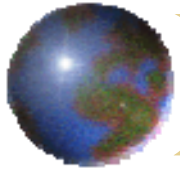
## *Minimize the Cost*

### Cost

- Brain Drain

### Advocacy Issues

- Provide “compensation schemes” whereby developed countries which draw and use the skilled labor from developing countries provide some form of compensation to offset the effects of brain drain.



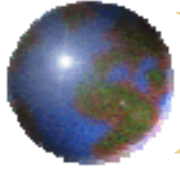
## *Minimize the cost*

### Cost

- Death of some community enterprises
- Breeding culture of dependency
- Rising cost of goods, services and real estate in communities with high concentration of OFs

### Advocacy Issues

- Philippine government should give primacy to people-centered development.
- Provide enabling policies that empower migrants and people to participate in economic development, that support the growth of migrants' and people's investments
- Migration-and-development agenda is incorporated in the national development plan, and progressively reduce the country's systemic dependence on international migration;



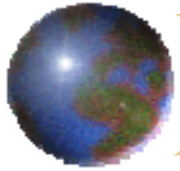
## *Maximize the gains*

### Gains

- USD 12.6 B remittance to the Philippines

### Advocacy Issues

- Reduce the cost of remittances for families and communities to benefit from higher remittance inflows
- Companies to channel part of the profit derived from remittance to community development or local social services;



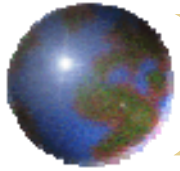
## *Maximize the gains*

### Gains

- Savings and Investments of OFs and their families

### Advocacy issues

- Provide mechanisms and programs in support of migrants' savings, investments, including the provision by the government of tax incentives to Overseas Filipino investors
- Enabling environment for migrants' savings and investments to prosper



## *Maximize the gains*

### Gains

- Diaspora Philanthropy

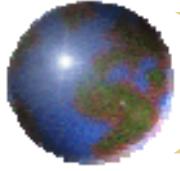
More than USD 200 M

About 43% of OFs are permanent residents mostly highly skilled and professionals

Able to provide financial assistance and technical assistance (brain gain)

### Advocacy issues

- Pooling and Leveraging with government and development agencies
- Directing to sustainable development projects such as social enterprises, development projects
- Provide avenues for OFs expertise to assist in various fields of development work



## *Migration to contribute to development*

Multi-stakeholder involvement

- OFs and their families
- Government
- Corporations
- NGOs and other development players

Requires trust and confidence building

Converging of initiatives