

# *MIGRANT ASSOCIATION and PHILIPPINE INSTITUTION for DEVELOPMENT/AENEAS PROGRAMME*

Regions 10, 11, 12  
Mindanao

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# Development Prospect

- Development Prospect is mostly related to economic development, agriculture, infrastructures and services while international labor migration is hardly factored in all development thrust and plans.
- Regional Development Plans in all regions and development directions that National Line Agencies pursue did not identify International labor migration as a potential for development.



# Development Prospect

- Lack of programs addressing the present cost of International Labor Migration in all regions except for the assistance extended OWWA is providing for the Overseas Filipino Family Circles (OFCs)
- The Local Government Units reflected the same Scenario as that of the Regional Level Development Prospect. The potential of International Labor Migration has never been an integral part of the plans as a potent force for local development.



# Policies

- Lack of policies and development direction regarding Migration and Development
- No mention of international migration and its potentials for development in all regional medium term development plans.
- The lack of Migration Desk in all government line agencies except for OWWA and POEA caused lack of program and development direction for Migration and Development.



# Policies

- International labor migration were never mentioned in all Provincial and Municipal/City development plans except for Bansalan, Davao del Sur that targeted Overseas Filipinos as Potential Investment source. Davao City also formulated ordinance protecting the welfare of the Overseas Filipinos



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## View and Perception on international migration

- Poverty drives people to leave the country
- Lack of employment opportunities in the country
- No data as to the threshold of number of Overseas Filipinos
- Feminization of International Labor Migration
- Not given much importance - No data and not integrated on plans, programs and projects in almost all levels – contribution and importance were highlighted during the interview



# Benefits of International Labor Migration

- Better lives (economically and ability to send children to school)
- More skills (applied to home country)
- Remittances
  - Increase demand for consumer goods
  - Improve Real Estate Industry
  - Vibrant local economy
- Investments
  - Micro investments account for a larger contribution to economy
  - Increase the diversity of economic activities
- Education
  - Skills transfer (OFW to community)
  - OFW Children are getting better education



# Cost of International Labor Migration

- Social cost of migration  
(maltreatment and abuses in the foreign land)
- Juvenile delinquency
- Broken marriages



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# Views about future prospects of international migration

- Future demands for Overseas Filipino Workers would help keep economy afloat
- Over-dependency of the economy on the Overseas Filipino makes economy vulnerable
- The recession of the country of destination would have impact on the plight of the Overseas Filipinos
- Women Household Service Workers (HSWs) are increasing in the neighboring countries of Southeast Asia.



# Programs to maximize the benefit and minimize cost

- Comprehensive database (Survey of the Overseas Filipinos)
- Complete Accounting of the Overseas Filipinos' contributions
- Protection for Overseas Filipinos (Welfare and Security)
- Improve communication technology
- Improvement of economy and creating employment alternatives



# Programs to maximize the benefit and minimize cost

- Maximize Program for Overseas Filipino Investment
- Training activities for Entrepreneurship as preparation for reintegration (OWWA and DOLE)
- Training on building partnership
- Establish a clear program on partnership between Overseas Filipinos and Government Institutions (Replication of Tres Por Uno)



# Practices

- The lack of Data and Vital Statistical Information regarding Migration and Development resulted to the lack of policy direction and the lack of programs integrating migration and development.
- No migration desks in all National Line Agencies Regional Offices except for OWWA and POEA.
- There is no Migration desk in all Local Government Unit. In Surallah, South Cotabato, an office dealing with migration issues is still attached to the Municipal PESO.



## Existing Migration Structures or Mechanisms

- Davao City Ordinance creating a center for overseas Filipino
- Surallah Overseas Filipino Workers Desk
- Local church initiative in Tagum City in partnership with OWWA
- OFW desks in PESO (Tagum) collaborating with OWWA
- Collaborative intervention of the church and OWWA in educating the OFWs
- Modification the OFW Family Circle (OFC) federating the Provinces of Davao Region and Compostela Valley.





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