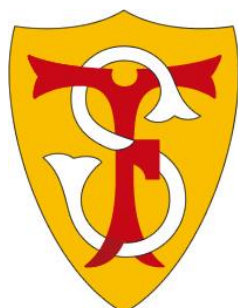


# IBLAW Field Study Trip 2020

YNU × Ferris University × Wako University

2020/02/19 — 2020/03/01



Department of International and Business Law  
Graduate School of International Social Sciences

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## I . Introduction

We stayed in the Philippines from 19th February 2020 to 1st March 2020. This group consists of six graduate students, six undergraduate students, and five professors. The members are from Yokohama National University, Ferris University and Wako University. The study trip has achieved fruitful results for the students' research since its start in 2005. Since 2018, students and professors from other universities have joined, making the program more diverse.

In addition, University of Santo Tomas and University of the Philippines, both of which have partnerships with YNU, have provided generous supporters and we have obtained very valuable experiences. Let us take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation of the relationships.



## II . List of Participants

### *Students*

	Name	Sex	Discipline	Grade	Nationality
1	Nakamura Kota	M	Economics	B2	Japanese
2	Horiuchi Kaito	M	Urban Science	B3	Japanese
3	Asano Erina	F	Development Studies	M1	Japanese
4	Kawamura Kenta	M	International Business Law	M1	Japanese
5	Wei Lantian	F	Private international Law	M1	Chinese
6	Ung Huykong	F	Contract Law	M1	Cambodian
7	Xu Wentian	M	Development studies	M1	Chinese
8	Zhang Zhaojing	F	International Business Law	M1	Chinese
9	Tsuruoka Nozomi	F	Global and Intercultural Studies	B1	Japanese
10	Mimura Hina	F	Literature	B3	Japanese
11	Ito Reia	F	Literature	B4	Japanese
12	Asano Emiri	F	Representational Studies	B3	Japanese





### *Faculty Members*

	Name	Sex	Occupation
1	Kabashima Hiromi	F	Professor
2	Kobayashi Takaaki	M	Associate Professor
3	Yonemura Koutaro	M	Associate Professor
4	Ogaya Chiho	F	Professor
5	Suginohara Masako	F	Associate Professor



### III. Messages from Professors

Congratulations on a great success of the field study trip in the Philippines 2020! I am truly thankful to everyone who are committed to it. Especially, it is surely impossible to implement the trip without our partner universities, University of Santo Tomas and University of Philippines Diliman. I have no idea how to appreciate those faculty and staff.



Professor Tommy Tiu has been involved in the exchange program between University of Santo Tomas and Yokohama National University over 10 years. He kindly not only accompanies our students who visit local institutes in the Philippines but also supports them to make arrangements for meetings in advance. Lots of advice he gives them with his smile are always helpful and jokes he cracks have made them happy.

Professor Amparo Adelina Umali, III, called Jina-sensei, is another important figure. She sets up fruitful joint workshops stimulating students and gives them a great insight, every time we dispatch them. While it owes a long term friendship between her and Professor Chiho Ogaya of Ferris University, she has cherished and encouraged our students and faculty. It was a pity that I had no chance to see her this time.

And last but not the least, I want to thank my colleague, Chiho Ogaya, Masako Suginoara, Kotaro Yonemura and Takaaki Kobayashi. Without their continued support, students would never become high achievers. Thank you, everyone. Cheers!

*Hiromi Kabashima*

**Yokohama National University**



This year's trip was the most memorable one in a sense because of COVID19.

When we left Japan, we did not so much worry about the possibility we would be affected by this notorious virus because it was Japan that was the one of

the most affected countries in the world at that time. On the other hand, Philippine control the situation successfully at that time. Because of that, it might be said, our delegation was kind of "risk factor" for them. As a matter of course, we had to face hard time especially in the rural area. Even in the hard situation, our students did not upset at all and rather they got to cope with an accident appropriately. I am proud that our students are really mature. It should be noted, however, we could safely back to Japan because of the support and effort by my partner of University of Santo Tomas team. They were with us even in the hardest time. On behalf of the delegation, I would like to express my special thanks to Dr. Tommy S. Tiu, Ms. Jannet Maloles, Ms. Susan Reluao, Mr. Anthony Bravo, and Mr. Prince Medina.

***Takaaki Kobayashi***

**Yokohama National University**

From Feb. 22th to 25th, we have been staying in Ifugao. Ifugao is far from Manila. It takes more than 12 hours by bus. Besides, according to some guidebooks and advice, we have to walk through mud around the Banaue Rice Terraces. So, it was physically hard, at least for some students. We had already expected these things. However, our visit also became hard in an unexpected way.



Unfortunately, it was when COVID-19 had started spreading in Japan that our students embarked on this study trip. The internet and TV news repeatedly reported on Japan's epidemic, about the cruise ship berthed in Yokohama. Therefore, though we could not fully realize, people had some reasonable concern about tourists from Yokohama.

Consequently, we got several cancellations of appointments due to the epidemic at the last minute. Students had to change their initial plan there. To be sure, I have no intention to blame anyone at all. As I said, it was an entirely reasonable and justifiable reaction in such a circumstance.

However, our students found a way to deal with this difficult situation very well without our help. They never say, "Teachers, what should we do then?" Every time the situation changes, they had a student-meeting and sought what they could do. And as a result, they grew up to one-team within a few days. The same as in the past trip, each student has different research interests. They also are diverse in age, nationality, ethnicity, and personality. Such diverse students were tackling with difficulty cooperatively. That was one of the most impressive things for me during this trip.

I was also much moved by tremendous support from the professors and former-students from UST Graduate School. Despite the problematic situation mentioned above, Prof. Tiu did the best to rearrange our schedule. The UST



members stayed with us, talked with us, laughed with us as ever. I genuinely admire and appreciate their unchanging friendship.

***Kotaro Yonemura***  
**Yokohama National University**



Congratulations to all the participants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> YNU-Ferris joint study tour to the Philippines! I do appreciate all of your efforts and generosity for making this tour successful. I understand your experiences are both “sweet and bitter” during the whole period-- before, during and even after the tour. I know it is



quite tough thing to organize the different interests and concerns of different people/students from different backgrounds, even from different universities. However, each of you contributed to the program in your own ways, then great leadership and team work flourished during the tour, and all of you have gained precious friendship in the end. What you have all done for this tour and what you have learned through this program would be irreplaceable.

As a former faculty of YNU, I personally want to thank Prof. Kabashima and Prof. Kobayashi to maintain this inter-university collaboration. Without your continuous efforts, Ferris students couldn't have the privilege to join this tour. Prof. Yonemura always stayed beside of the students and took care of them especially when they had hard time in Ifugao. Any words of appreciations are not enough for the all of the support from Prof. Tiu and his kind and generous staffs and graduate students of UST. Maraming salamt po. Salamat din po my friends at UP-CIS, especially Dr. Jina Umali. I also have to thank Prof. Suginoara, whom I “violently” invited to this program 3 years ago. Now she looks more and more interested in the Philippine economy and politics, so my feeling of “guilty” are mostly disappearing though.

As a scholar who has been studying about the Philippine society, I hope this tour becomes a gateway for all the students' further study and career. I wish all of you including our student leader, Erina Asano, who studies both at Ferris and YNU,

could be a great example to show how this inter-uni collaboration could be developed to produce talented leaders and promising researchers with cool head, warm heart, and global perspective, for the next generation.

Maraming salamt po sa inyong lahat!

*Chiho Ogaya*

**Ferris University**

I first visited the Philippines in 2018, joining the study trip organized by Yokohama National University. For a researcher of economic policies in advanced economies, the experience in a developing country was truly eye-opening. I was lucky that I did not just visit famous tourist sites but could see a lot of people in my first visit to the Philippines, such as professors and students at universities, government officials, NGO staff members, and less affluent “ordinary” people.

(In fact, I have never visited tourist spots in Manila ever since!)



I am very glad that students had the chance to experience something similar again this year. Even in a short trip, participants could feel the paradox of the Philippines: the great economic gap, ranging from super luxury residential areas and gorgeous shopping malls to crowded houses in less well-off neighborhoods seemingly vulnerable to natural disasters and other kinds of external shocks. The strengths and weaknesses of the country could also be observed: warm, friendly and tremendously kind people, on the one hand, and weak (but improving) infrastructure, on the other. Looking out of the window from a Grab car, I could not help thinking if there was a more effective way for the Philippine government and the global society to deliver a safer life for the people

who deserve it.

At the same time, there are things we cannot easily feel during a short stay. The structure of the society, economy, and politics, all of which are deep-rooted in the history, cannot be just felt. To get an answer to the question of realizing a better world, we also need to know these things by studying hard. Thinking about economic development by reading books is important, but knowing the people on the field is also important. I hope the study tour provides an opportunity for all participants, including myself, to find a right balance between the two.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the people whose kindest support made this wonderful trip possible: Professor Tiu and the members of University of Santo Tomas, and Professor Umali (Jina sensei) and her colleagues at University of the Philippines Diliman. Thank you very much!

***Masako Suginohara***

**Ferris University**



#### **IV. Detailed Itinerary**

TIME	ACTIVITY (ADRESS)	REMARKS
February 19 (Wednesday)		
9:35am	Depature flight from Haneda	via NH869
1:05pm	Depature flight from Narita	via 5J5055
1:35pm	Arival at NAIA Airport, Manila from Haneda	
3:00pm	Check in at Hotel in Manila (The Chater House) from Haneda	
5:20pm	Arival at NAIA Airport, Manila from Narita	
6:50pm	Check in at Hotel in Manila (The Chater House) from Narita	
February 20 (Thursday)		
8:45am	Leave the Hotel	
10:00am-12:00pm	1. PCCI (3F Commerce and Industry Plaza 1030 Campus Ave. cor. Park Ave. McKinley Town Center,Fort Bonifacio Taguig City, Philippines) 2. Maligaya House (10-26 Cabezas St., Project 4, Quezon City, 1800 Metro Manila, Philippines)	Split into 2 groups
1:30-5:00pm	Payatas (Block 16 Lot 34-45 Phase 1D, Kasiglahan Village Barangay San Jose, Rodriguez, Rizal, Philippines)	
February 21 (Friday)		
8:00am	Leave the Hotel	
10:00am-11:00am	DOLE (6flr BF Condominium Solana St Instamuros Manila)	
1:30pm-2:30pm	DOLE NCR on SPES (967 Maligaya Malate 1004 Metro Manila)	



February 22 (Saturday)		
5:00am	Check out at Hotel in Manila Moving to Ifugao	
5:00pm	Check in at Hotel in Ifugao (Banaue Hotel)	
7:00pm	Batad village	
February 23 (Monday)		
9:30am	Leave the Hotel	
10:00am- 12:00pm	1. Politan & bangaan village 2. Intereview in the market	Split into 2 groups
1:30pm- 5:00pm	Watching rice teraces	
February 24 (Tuesday)		
9:30am	Leave the Hotel	
10:00am- 12:00pm	Watching rice teraces	
3:00pm	Check out at Hotel in Ifugao Moving to Manila	
February 25 (Wednesday)		
5:00am	Check in at Hotel in Manila (The Chater House) Free Day	
February 26 (Thursday)		
8:00am	Leave the Hotel	Split into 2 groups
9:30am- 12:00pm	1-1. TESDA (TESDA Board Room 7flr Administration Bldg TESDA Complex Taguig City)	
	1-2. TESDA Woman Center (Same as above)	

10:00am-11:00am	2. BOI  (Industry and Investiments Building, 385 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave, Makati, 1200 Metro Manila, Philippines)	
2:00pm-4:00pm	1. DAWN  (Bocobo Commercial Center, J. Bocobo St. corner Padre Faura St., Maynila, 1000 Kalakhang Maynila, Philippines)	Split into 3 groups
2:00pm-3:30pm	2. DTI  (Industry & Investiments Building, Office of the Trade and Indusrty Secretary, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati, 1200 Metro Manila, Philippines)	
3:30pm-4:30pm	3. Meeting with Congressman  ( Diliman, Quezon City, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines)	
February 27 (Monday)		
8:00am	Leave the Hotel	
9:00am-11:00am	TMI (PJS LAW in Makati, Manilla)	
2:30pm-9:00pm	UP Presentation  (Roxas Ave, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philipines)	
February 28 (Tuesday)		
	Leave the Hotel	
10:00am-11:00am	1. JETRO  (44/F, Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo de Roxas 1226, Philippines)	Split into 2 groups

	2. Department of Justice (Padre Faura Street Ermita, Manila 1000 Republic of the Philippines)	
1:00pm- 4:00pm	1. ADB (6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Metro Manila, Philippines)	Split into 2 groups
2:00pm- 2:30pm	2-1. Meeting with Lawyer	
4:00pm- 5:00pm	2-2. Ateneo School of Law ( No. 20 Rockwell Drive , APS Building, Rockwell Center, Makati, 1200, Philippines)	
6:00pm- 9:00pm	UST Presentation (España Blvd, Sampaloc, Manila, 1008 Metro Manila, Philippines)	
February 29 (Wednesday)		
10:00am	Leave the Hotel	
11:00am- 4:00pm	Marikina & Local Tour	
2:00pm- 4:00pm	Meeting with Lawyer Lu	
6:30pm- 9:30pm	Farewell Party	With UST and contact person
March 1 (Thursday)		
11:00am	Check out at Hotel in Manila	
2:50pm	Departure flight from NAIA airport, Manila	via NH870/5J5056
8:00pm	Arrival at Haneda/Narita airport, Japan	

## V. Group Reports of Participants



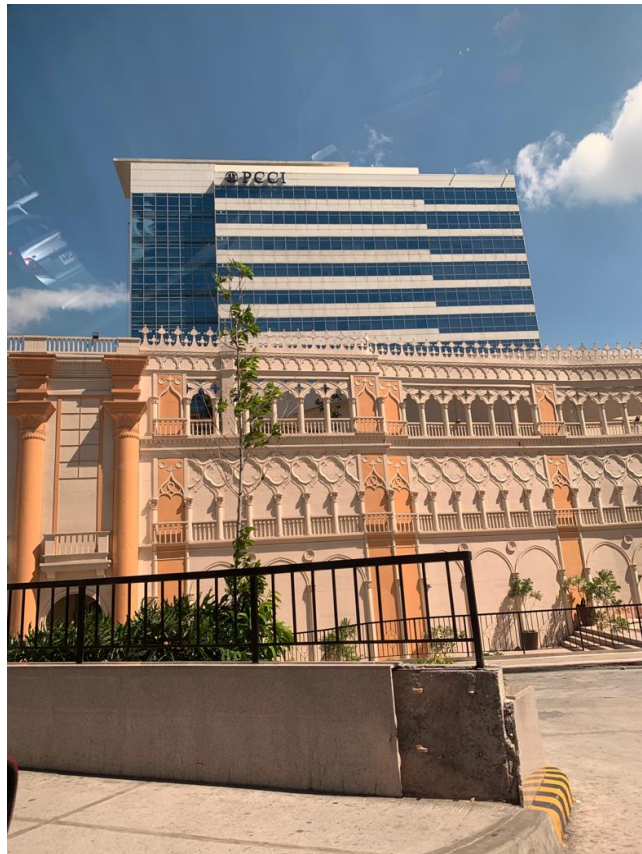
### **PCCI (The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry)**

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 1:00pm~2:00pm**

#### ***1). ABOUT PCCI***

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) is the biggest chamber of Philippine companies. PCCI is a non-stock, non-profit, non-government business organization of small, medium, and large enterprises, local chambers and industry associations representing various sectors of business, all working together to foster a healthier Philippine economy and improve the viability of the business in the community.

PCCI is the result of a merger on July 1, 1978, of Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, established on July 19, 1903, and the Philippine Chamber of Industry, established on March 4, 1950. PCCI is recognized as the “sole official representative and voice of the entire private business community” by virtue of Letter of Instruction No. 780.



#### ***2) The meeting summary***

On 20th February, our group visited PCCI, and our purpose is to get more information about the law policy for international companies, especially Chinese



companies.

To sum up, the information I got into two parts. The first part is about investment. As a foreign company, the first step to enter the Filipino market is an investment. From former research, I knew for international investment, 1987 and 1982 international investment law is the most important law. And for international investment, it has a strict line. For example, for infrastructure, the percentage of foreign money can not get over 25%. And for the high-technology industry, the government will give a lot of bonuses, about the percentage, foreign money can be 100%.

However, after our interview, we found something different with the former research. For infrastructure investment, there are 3 ways to reach: government project (*build!build!build!*), foreign loan and public-private partnership. Recently, *build build build* project become the main cooperation between Chinese companies and Philippine. The reason may be something in the policy. For the Philippine government, the most important problem they want to solve is employment, and for the Chinese government, because of *the belt and road* policy, promoting cooperation is very important.

Compared with the rise of infrastructure investment, for small-medium companies, getting into the Philippine market is very difficult. From the introduction of the PCCI chairman for education, who we mainly interviewed, he said that although from the law, a lot of small foreign investments don't have the regulation of percentage, for practice if a foreign investor does not choose a Filipino partner, it is very difficult for them to move. From the short experience in Philippine, I also notice that in this country, having a person inside is very important.

The second part is international trade. The main responsibility of PCCI is to provide focused advocacy for business growth and sustainable development by providing business services for the advancement of grassroots entrepreneurship, chamber development, international trade relations, business innovation and excellence, and operating efficiency. These will be achieved through a professional

organization working in close cooperation with various stakeholders in the public and private sectors. Regarding export and import, customs hold the standard.

And for the trade dispute solution, PCCI has an organization, which is called the Philippine dispute resolution center. And this organization has very detailed arbitration rules. Since its inception in 1996, the Philippine dispute resolution center and its officers have been at the forefront of the development and growth of alternative dispute resolution in the Philippines. Initially, its focus was primarily on arbitration. As a result of this focus and effort, the Philippine dispute resolution center has built a reputation as the leading center for commercial arbitration in Philippine.

PCCI, as an advocacy for Philippine enterprises and international companies, play a main role in the development of the economy.

*Reported By Zhang Zhaojing*



## Maligaya House

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 10:30am~12:00pm

In the 1980s, with the increase of Filipino women who went to Japan to work, some of them fell in love with the Japanese, married, and had children. Among them, there were happy families, but there were also children abandoned by their own fathers. JFC is a group for safeguarding mother's human rights. Maligaya House was established in 1998 according to NGO organizations in the Philippines, and its headquarters are in Tokyo.



Maligaya House mainly helps Filipino children abandoned by their Japanese fathers to find their own fathers, be recognized by them and get Japanese nationality and provide the opportunity to study and live in Japan. Certainly, they also need to get corresponding parenting and living expenses.

Maligaya House receives about 10 phone calls every day. Most of them go to the embassy for help first, but the embassy responds that they cannot help them and they need to solve the problems by themselves. They have no way to go for exploratory consultation, so they hope to get help from Philippine mothers. Maligaya House has a consultation once a month, there will be about a dozen people to introduce the process and how to help mothers to solve their problems effectively with their competence. Because most mothers received little education and could not understand the law, there is a simple way to introduce the process on the walls of Maligaya House. After the meeting, there will be separate small meetings. At this time, you need some supporting documents, photo information, address, etc., which are the effective types of information to find a Japanese father. If there is a mother in need, she can receive

assistance from Maligaya House at the beginning of a contract. As for the lawsuit about the request for parenting expenses and living expenses, there will be family visits according to the different lawyers. After that, all the materials will be sent to the Tokyo office and translated into Japanese. Then the Tokyo office can find the father based on the information.

The first job of the Tokyo office is to send a letter to the father who has been found (not directly to his home, to avoid causing trouble to his father and leave room for him) and wait for about a month. Usually, he will not reply, and they will send it again. The second time, he will not reply either. At this time, the lawyer will communicate with him. If the father moves away and it is hard to find him, they have to give up. But if they find him, they can continue if he is sure to live there.

Of course, there will also be cases of fathers in the Philippines, which is difficult for Japanese lawyers to sue, so they basically sue in Japan.

First of all, with the permission of the Filipino mother, the lawyer has full power to act for her. The Filipino mother does not need to appear but first comes to the family referee office to mediate. Because of the bubble economy, the visa for the Philippines' labor is becoming stricter. Therefore, on the one hand, the Filipino mother cannot come to Japan. On the other hand, she cannot understand why rich Japanese fathers cannot give their children 100 thousand yen for a month's upbringing, and they usually fail to negotiate and appeal directly.

There are many Filipino mothers and Japanese fathers who are formally married in the Philippines. Of course, there are also many Japanese fathers who have registered marriage (bigamy) in both Japan and the Philippines. In the case of bigamy, it is necessary to determine which is a valid marriage. If the marriage of a Filipino mother and Japanese father is valid, the Filipino mother can submit the marriage certificate to Japan to obtain the nationality of the child. Of course, the Japanese marriage will be automatically judged as invalid. Another situation is that if children of Filipino mothers and Japanese fathers are extramarital children, cognitive litigation should be initiated.

The biggest obstacle before the lawsuit is that the Filipino mother thought it



was not easy for the father and gave up persecution.

99% of fathers against whom a lawsuit is successfully filed refuse to do so, because now their families have children who are also in school, and they do not like Filipino children entering their household registration. We can prove the parent-child relationship through DNA identification, but there are many fathers who refuse providing DNA, so the judge can only judge according to the information provided by the mother. There are also cases that have been prosecuted for two or three years and have no blood relationship with Japanese fathers.

Two cases filed in 2019 were cancelled because the Japanese father called the Philippine mother to give up the lawsuit, promised to buy a computer for her children or paid a one-time rearing fee of three million yen.

Most of the cases that have been prosecuted are successful in the first trial, and they can hardly reach the Supreme Court. There is only one case that has reached the Supreme Court. It was the lawsuit brought in 2008 about the nationality of extramarital children. Because it would violate the 14 equal principles of the Japanese Constitution if the suit is passed, the nationality law then corrects the provisions.



Before the correction, the extramarital children of Japanese men and Filipino women could not get Japanese nationality after being recognized by their father. After the correction, they can get Japanese nationality under the same conditions. I learned some details in Maligaya House that could not be seen in the cold judgment, which impressed me a lot and deepened my understanding of what I have learned.

*Reported By Wei Lan Tian*



## Salt Payatas Foundation Philippines

Date 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020, 1:00pm~5:00pm

The organization is known for providing children empowerment programs, life skills-based education (storytelling, drawing, and e-learning) for primary and secondary students, advocacy and study tour for students and livelihood programs for the local people of Payatas and Kasiglahan Village.

This time, we visited Kasiglahan Village. Kasiglahan Village is large resettlement for urban poor living along the Pasig River across Metro Manila. We joined a program of Salt Payatas, and we saw a place called “poor area.” And we communicated with local people and felt the other side of the Filipino society which is different from Makati. We also interviewed teachers who are working in junior high school.

### Contents of interview

I study the education system in the Philippines, especially, about the secondary education. I interviewed about K to 12 and bilingual education. I obtained information from the perspective of the people working on site.

The answer that surprised me the most was that all teachers said K to 12 was a good education system. The system has been often criticized by many media and researchers. Teachers, too, acknowledged that the system had many points to improve. However, they said the government was working hard to resolve the lack of budgets and supplies, which were the most problematic, and they evaluated that it was better than the pre-system. In



particular, they valued the increase in teachers' income and the improvement of the

students' quality. Regarding the latter, the increased number of years of compulsory education has led to the improvement of student abilities, which has led to an increase in the employment rate of the youth. On the other hand, the budget of a school is determined by a size based on performance and population. It is said that small schools are difficult to manage because of less budget allocation. The school we visited is the largest in this area, and has received a great deal of support by the government. I also felt that the school had very good facilities, even though it was a public school. But in fact, some students have financial problems, and teachers may pay for their stationery and lunch with their salaries.

I was very surprised because teachers evaluated K to 12. However, they acknowledged that there were many problems in the educational site, and I felt that the problems required urgent solutions.

### **Joining the program**

After the interview, we joined the program of Salt Payatas. First, we heard a presentation summarizing the district of Kashigrahan. We learned how this area became a resettlement site and what kind of people live there. After that, we had discussions with the staff who actually living there. We told staffs of Salt Payatas that we had no plans to do after this, so and, with their



kindness, they allowed us to participate in the support activities for children. The staffs not only read book for children, but also quizzed children to develop their thinking skills. After that, we were dancing together happily to make friendship, and grew sociability and expressiveness. We forgot the time and had a good time with the children and staffs.

This was my second time participating in the Salt Payatas program, but



because of the different districts, I could learn something new. And I heard such a comment from a member saying, "It is different from the slum I had imagined", and it was not the first time hearing it. Our image (from the outside) of slums and poverty tends to be colored and tends to be viewed as a pitiful subject. Every time I think about it, I recognize the importance of seeing reality.

*Reported By Erina Asano*





## DOLE (The DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT)

### DOLE NCR (National Capital Region)

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020, 10:00am~12:00pm, 1:30pm~2:30pm



**DOLE:** The Philippines' Department of Labor and Employment is the executive department of the Philippine Government mandated to formulate policies, implement programs and services, and serve as the policy-coordinating arm of the Executive Branch in the field of labor and employment.

**DOLE NCR:** The Department of Labor & Employment-National Capital Region (DOLE-NCR) is the premier Regional Office responsible for the implementation of policies and programs that promote gainful employment opportunities, develop human resources, protect the welfare and advancement of workers, and maintain harmonious industrial relations between and among the workers and employers in Metro Manila. Filipino working population is 44,693 million. They can work from the age of 15, and 70% of them work in the private sector.

They have many support projects. “Build Build Build project” aims to strengthen infrastructure (train, buses, and making the roads and highways) and to overcome the traffic jam. This project will improve the working environment and lower the unemployment rate, and this will expand employment increases in the construction sector too. “Government internship program (GIP)” is for high school students and above, and they work for government offices as assistant for 3-6 months. “JOB START” works after six-month training, and about 73.30% people will get a job. “SPES” is for ages 15-30, from poor families, without skill, who do not go to school or work. They are trained to do easy jobs, such as work to bake pate and rapping etc. They can enter the course by paying 20 peso per person, and graduate in about 4 years. This program’s big problem is budget shortage.

DOLE NCR: the national office responsible for the implementation of policies and promoting employment. This program requires a school certificate, and out of school youth no more than age 30.

I learned so many things about employment support. They’re needed by many Filipinos, and I didn’t know there was so much support. There is much support for students, and I look forward to the youth’s future. I would like to use the survey to learn more. If I can support these organizations, I want to do it.

*Reported By Nozomi Tsuruoka*





## Banaue, Ifugao State

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020



Clarification of property is necessary for effective utilization of land, economically and ecologically. And for areas with rural labor shortages and aging farmers, farmland consolidation can be an important solution for which clear land rights is precondition. In Banaue, there is a complicated agricultural system that has been managed communally since long time ago, and still needed to be preserved in the future. But the traditional way is facing a challenge caused by shortage of labor and inappropriate use of lands. So that is why I chose Banaue as the field of my study.

According to the Philippines' law, lands with slope over  $18^\circ$  shall be prohibited from development. But to protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to their ancestral lands, the State recognizes and promotes certain rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) within the framework of the Constitution through the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997.



The prohibition of utilization of land over 18° is meant for ecological purposes. But under the condition that the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act may be misused, it is possible to let someone who is not Indigenous Peoples or even not Phillipinos to access those lands.

## **1 Picture of terraces in Banaue**

Among the terraces in Banaue, the Batad Rice Terraces and Bangaan Rice Terraces have been listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site since 1995. These terraces are believed to have a history of more than 2000 years. According to the data from the Bureau of Soil and Water Management, more than 50% of lands in Banaue are characterized as very steep and mountainous areas with slope above 50%. Although these areas are less suitable for agriculture, Ifugaos people, indigenous ethnic groups inhabiting in Ifugao province, curved these lands into rice terraces with their splendid engineering skills.

As I mentioned above, lands with slope over 18° shall be categorized as forestland, only 21.84% of areas of Ifugao province are classified as alienable and disposable land and 89.29% as forestland. But the rice terraces located in Ifugao have special status- they are under the category of unclassified forests. The Ifugaos regard these lands as part of their ancestral domains and welcome the recognition of their ancestral domain by state under the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act.

Government impedes the development of forest areas for ecological purpose, while Ifugaos' traditional rice production has been harmonizing with the local environment since 2000 years ago. There is no reason to deprive their rights to live there, but the problem is, could local people adapt the traditional way of production and ownership to the modern-day life?



## 2 Past and Challenges in the Future

Rituals and other traditions in relation to the rice terraces are practiced. There are recorded rituals before, during and even after planting rice. They are time-proven through trial and error method. Like the traditional practice of “baddang” where all terraces owners come together to help work, is no longer observed nowadays. Out-migration of the youth and the resulting shortage of labor have forced them to adopt the modern practice of hiring laborers, which is unaffordable for most of the rice terraces owners.

A lady running a store in Batad told us the following: compared with other regions, situation there is not so severe, but still young people went out every year. Many Ifugao people continue to assimilate into modern ways of living, making traditional rice-production no longer satisfy their economic needs. The young Ifugaos have become increasingly indifferent to its survival and conservation, which largely contributed to its abandonment and deterioration. A project named SLT (schools of living traditions) helps in the promotion of local culture



and in influencing the youth to inspire them to continue the tradition of their ancestors.

Traditional land use system in rice terraces communities is a complicated one consisted of buffer area, irrigation system and water distribution system. Its complexity requires everyone in the community to work together to preserve it. I assume that it is why transaction of land is so strict among indigenous people community. Unfortunately, our activities in Banaue were restrained for the concern of COVID-19, so I could not get my assumption verified by local institutions.

For local individuals, renting, selling or conversion of use of farmlands may be a solution to the shortage of young labor. But every terrace is connected with others by canals, protected by forests managed communally. These characteristics make the rice terraces community naturally exclusive. So here is the question -- whom they can sell the lands to? And do they really have rights to dispose lands under the country's judicial system and local tacit laws?

### **3 What kind of rights indigenous people have toward the rice terraces?**

The tradition of local commons existed for centuries among the rice terraces communities. Family members can work together to feed themselves with ownership staying unclear. But when we consider the lands as disposable properties, not just as resources of rice production, the story will be different.

Before we entered Batad terraces, everyone was required to pay the heritage fee (200peso per person). The stuff said part of the money will subsidize local agriculture. And as I mentioned, use of the land over 18° slope is a privilege of indigenous people. It is necessary to clarify who will be the beneficiary of the privilege and subsidy.

a. Ownership or approval of use?



During our stay in Banaue, all the appointments with local officials were cancelled, so instead we had talks with local people. At the first day we arrived at Taman, we interviewed with a villager. He said he had a document from the government that can prove

his ownership and the document can be succeeded by his children with ownership of the land. And the next day, a manager of a handicraft shop assert the same thing -- she succeeded the ownership of store from her parents.

But after we came back to Manila, Professor Raymond Aquino Macapagal from University of Philippines said that is not a legal paper of ownership but an approval from the government.

b. Limited private right

According to the definition in the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997, "The indigenous concept of ownership generally holds that ancestral domains are the ICC's/IP's private but community property which belongs to all generations and therefore cannot be sold, disposed or destroyed."

Restrictions on disposal of lands are normal in Banaue. The "muyung" or the protected production areas are typical. This buffer areas protect the terraces from wind and flood, usually succeeded by the first son. But this area is actually maintained and owned by the whole family.

Although the owner of the handicraft shop asserted her ownership of the store, she said real estate like houses and lands can only be sold to relatives. But actually a couple from Manila bought a house in Taman Village and lived there for many years. And according to her, a foreigner bought a piece of land by finding an indigenous people to be on half of him, a resort will be built there in the future.



And our guide, a student studying in Ifugao State University, told us if someone married with another who lives in another village and moved there, it will be difficult to take care of his farmland. Under such kind of circumstances, he or she can “exchange” the land or house with his or her relatives, not sell.

Professor Raymond said normally lands are owned by family in Banaue, and anyone cannot alienate the lands to others without the approval of family members. But if nobody rejected, he could virtually sell it to anyone. That is why someone who is no indigenous people can access the land with slope over 18°.

c. Disputes

According to the Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997, Native Title refers to pre-conquest rights to lands and domains which, as far back as memory reaches, have been held under a claim of private ownership by ICCs/IPs, have never been public lands and are thus indisputably presumed to have been held that way since before the Spanish Conquest.

Such title based on memories may cause some disputes. For example, someone’s grandfather A lend a piece of farmland to another people B. After that, B and his child lived there for generations. Like 70 years later, when A and B died, nobody will remember who own the land.

To settle this kind of disputes, Professor Raymond said, both sides will invite elders in the village to make the judgement, which is also based on memories. Captain of each barangay, leader of local municipality, do not make decision, but just witness the settlement.

*Reported by Wentian,Xu*

On 26th Feb, the Trade and Investment team went to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), where we met and discussed with Atty. Allan B. Gepty, Assistant Secretary for International Policy and Trade Negotiation in the morning, and Jean T. Pacheco, Assistant Secretary for The Competitiveness and Innovation Group in the afternoon.



### *The Meeting summary*

Firstly, Ms. Huykong who is interested in E-commerce business started asking her questions about remarkable changes and its issues after the implementation of the Philippines E-commerce Roadmap (PECR) 2016-2020. Atty. Gepty pointed up some

issues such as trademark registration, the necessities of Intellectual Property law about online selling Goods & Services, cybercrime on the internet.

Since Atty. Gepty is not familiar with the E-commerce business, our colleges started other questions by a focus on Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) and other foreign direct investors disputes which also our main purpose to visit DTI this time. He is in charge of International Trade and Policy and we got a detailed explanation of that.

Secondly, the questions mainly focus on Investor-State-Dispute-Settlement (ISDS). ISDS is a very controversial theme. There are many considerations between

Japan and the Philippines. Mr. Gepty said he wanted us to think of it from a broader view. When governments make agreements with each other, ISDS would be one of the parts. There are many considerations and many experiences, and the Fraport case is also one of them.as Mr. Gepty said. When they think about whether they support introducing ISDS to the economic treaty, Fraport can be one of the factors but not become whole factors, it's just one of them. ISDS is a policy question and it is judged by whether it's fair or not, equitable or not and balanced between the investor and government side or not.

When thinking about investments from Japanese companies, it is very important to know how Japanese investments are protected. Mr. Gepty answers that it's well protected by the Philippine's domestic judicial system because the judicial system is strong. Philippine's governments judges whether ISDS is needed or not by what the advantages and disadvantages are. What are the advantages and disadvantages, the question is difficult and probably we have to continue to think about it.

Some people say that to promote the economy, inviting foreign investments is important. The Duterte administration would have tried that too. Nowadays, many Chinese companies invest in the Philippines more and more Philippines governments would try to conduct new policies for promoting investments. Mr. Gepty pointed out there is a need for more investment on infrastructure(Ex. Build, build, build Project by the Duterte administration) and he pointed out other infrastructure projects are proposed by Government, Foreign loan Act No 81&82, PPP(Public-Private Partnership) and technical & practical projects.

After the discussion with Mr. Gepty, the most impressive thing is that ISDS is one of the parts when governments negotiate with each other. And he's saying, he wants us to think of it from a broader view. Now Philippines governments try to promote investments from foreign countries and try to make the economy better and better. Thinking about foreign investment promotion, growing up the economy, there would be many approaches. It's not only about the law perspective, but probably politics is also related to it. There would be various aspects. After the

discussion with Mr. Gepty, I came to want to think about my concerning theme ISDS article from more various views. They would be related to each other variously. From now on, I want to keep on studying and if possible I could contribute to making the Philippines and Japan relationships better and better in some forms as possible in the future.

*Reported by: Kenta Kawamura, UNG HUYKONG*





After the appointment with Assistant Secretary Allan B. Gepty on Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in the morning, The Trade and Investment team continuously visit Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) where we set an appointment with Mary Jean T. Pacheco, Assistant Secretary for The Competitiveness and Innovation Group from 2 pm , mainly focuses on *E-commerce*.

### 1) About DTI

Recognizing the importance of E-commerce for the Philippine economy, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) developed *The Philippines E-commerce Roadmap 2016-2020* (PECR) to boost E-commerce business in the Philippines. The PECR addresses issues in the e-commerce ecosystem that require the effort and collaboration of government, partner agencies, private sector, academe, and other stakeholders. There are recommendations in this roadmap that have been classified according to the 6 I's: Infrastructure, Investment, Innovation, Intellectual Capital, Information flows, and Integration. The primary objective of the PECR is for E-commerce to contribute 25% to the country's GDP by 2020.



## 2) The meeting summary

When we arrived there we had a useful presentation about the overall E-commerce business in the Philippines by Mary Jean T. Pacheco, Assistant Secretary for The Competitiveness and Innovation Group.

The most interesting point of the presentation is that people in the Philippines spend an average of 10 hours online every day. In this regard, the Government plans to issue some policies for using social networking service (SNS) more productive and more beneficial. For example, teaching the people how to use an online platform to sell the products and make money, inviting young entrepreneurs or young potential businessmen to give lectures on online business. More than this, promoting and encouraging local investments is the most important thing to boost domestic micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), because compared to international investments regarding E-commerce business, local investment is still small, and also strengthening Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). The private sector is perceived to be more efficient, more innovative and offers better quality services than the public sector.

However, the trust of consumers on online selling is still an obstacle to e-commerce business in the Philippines. To solve this, DTI created an application so that consumers can make complaints to DTI about the process of buying online



(payment or delivery service) or counterfeit products directly through it.

Finally, reply to the question “*How do consumers notice which website is reliable and safe to do shopping?*” She replies that every platform has to be

registered and after registration “Trust Mark” which is provided by private sector (Industry company) will be given.

DTI has been working so hard to boost e-commerce business, building rules, and support systems for both consumer and other online merchants. DTI is now writing another new Roadmap for 2022.

***Reported by: UNG HUYKONG***



## **TESDA (Technical Education and Skill Development Authority)**

**Date: February 26, 2020, 9:30am~11:30am**

TESDA (Technical Education and Skill Development Authority) is a Filipino government agency. TESDA was established in 1994 to promote technical education under a law enacted by President Ramos. The purpose of TESDA was to strengthen international competitiveness in the Philippines and to develop mid-level human resources who are necessary and appropriate for economic development. In addition, in order to develop human resources who fully responded to the needs of the industry, the participation of private companies was emphasized in particular on the soft and financial side.



### **Contents of interview with TESDA**

I asked about an executive order for a four-year national plan for technical education in June 2019 by the President Rodrigo Duterte (its content is "Mobilizing, revitalizing and strengthening the technical and vocational education and training sectors to achieve global competitiveness and human resource development of the workforce, as well as to achieve social equity for workforce inclusion and poverty reduction) and the policy of TVET. The most important points of TVET in their policy



are: Agility—to prepare the Philippine workforce for global competitiveness and future world of work; Scalability—to deliver high quantity job-ready, quality workforce; and Flexibility and Sustainability for social equity and economic inclusion. In addition, the budget of TESDA has been significantly



increased due to the national plan, and they are aiming to promote contracting foreign companies and expand enterprise-based training. In particular, they are focusing on human resource development for advanced science and technology such as AI. In high schools, there are academic courses and vocational courses. The vocational course is controlled by TESDA. TESDA inspects and supervises about 4,000 courses. This is a national policy to create people who can work quickly, but I think we need to consider the boundaries where the private sector can participate in education.



**TESDA Women's Center**

## **TESDA Women's Center**

**Date: February 26, 2020, 11:30am~1:00pm**



The TESDA Women's Center (TWC) is a training center under TESDA. It was established in 1998 through a grant-aid from the Government of Japan. TWC stands as a symbol of the Filipino women's capability to engage in livelihood and wealth creation. Since its establishment, it has focused on activities that promote the economic empowerment of women and gender equality. It has trained women in areas that are traditionally male-dominated such as automotive, electronics, and welding and in other areas such as commercial cooking, dressmaking, food processing, food and beverage services, housekeeping and pharmacy.



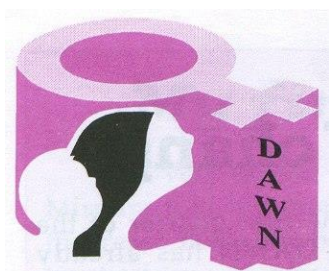
We visited the training center and watched the facilities used in the training. And we asked the trainers about training and certificates. The training term is different depending on industries. The welding and bartending courses are finished in about 1.5 months. Training in the automotive

industry and Samsung which is cooperative with foreign companies takes more than six months to complete, but is very popular. There are 30 to 40 programs. They also support OFW. TESDA conducts OFW training programs by the request of POEA (The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration). There are many OFW who will go to Japan, because of the support by JICA and the existence of Japanese classes.

There are many foreign companies and training facilities in one building, and there are 122 centers such as the women's center in the Philippines. I confirmed that vocational projects are putting great emphasis on by the government.

*Reported By Erina Asano*





## **Development Action for Women Network (DAWN)**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 1:00pm~5:00pm**

The Development Action for Women Network (DAWN) is a non-government, non-profit organization established in 1996 to assist distressed women migrants from Japan, as well as their Japanese-Filipino children, in the promotion and protection of their rights and welfare. In 2011, DAWN expanded its programs to include Filipino migrant domestic workers and their families. It has four core programs: 1. SOCIAL SERVICES, 2. ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD, 3. RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY, 4. EDUCATION, and two support programs: 1. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 2. NETWORKING.

The purpose of visiting here is to interview women who have worked in Japan about their life histories. Previous research has shown that many Filipinas have been discriminated against when they came to Japan to work as entertainers, and this interview confirms this fact. In addition, I asked them what kind of changes their meeting with DAWN had brought about.

Four women participated in the interview. The women who worked as entertainers in Japan gave us a detailed account of their experiences in Japan. She says that she had a hard time working long hours, drinking while underage, and being teased about her Japanese by customers. Back in the Philippines, they met DAWN and receive a support program for independent living called





Sikap Buhay (SIKHAY). Sikhay is DAWN's maiden alternative livelihood program for women. Sikhay is short for Sikap-Buhay, which means striving for a better life or self-empowerment. It presently consists of sewing and handloom weaving. Sikhay shall continue to showcase the livelihood activities as effective tools for the empowerment of women. This program allowed them to interact with other women in the same situation. Her child also had a good influence because he got to know other JFC (Japanese - Filipino children) and met someone who understood half people. A woman was able to afford to go to college. It was clear that SIKHAY had become a conduit for their active participation in the society.

Now they are working hard at DAWN with their own goals. They want to do my best at SIKHAY so that they can help my child graduate. They found that they liked working in teams, so someone wants to have my own restaurant someday. Someone want to spread the technology I learned at SIKHAY. They talked about their visions. Before I went to DAWN, I had a negative image that they had had a hard time in Japan, but when I heard about their experiences, I realized the positive side that they had had a hard time as entertainers in Japan, but after meeting DAWN, they





had changed so that they could regain a stable life and live independently. At the end of the interview, when they talked about their vision for the future, they all spoke so vividly that I felt their strong power as women that made us feel positive, and it was a very meaningful time.

*Reported By Reia Ito, Hina Mimura*



TMI総合法律事務所

## TMI Associates Contact in the Philippines, Attorney Dan Masao sensei

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 9:00am~11:00am

I was very happy to have been able to visit TMI associates, in which Attorney Dan Masao sensei is. TMI Associates is one of the biggest Law firms in Japan which expand the enterprises to the world. The Philippine Office is the one of them and is located in Makati City in Manilla. To the TMI Associates Contact in Philippines it took about 10 minutes from our hotel by using Grab (Grab is local taxi service which we can use by our smartphone app, we used a lot in this study trip).



(The photo in the lobby of PJS LAW by Kobayashi sensei, for Kobayashi this time was second time to visit Dan sensei)

Why I wanted to visit TMI Associates and see Dan sensei is that I wanted to learn about the actual situation of law enterprises particularly between Philippines and Japan and I wanted to confirm the actual situation in practical law enterprises. My main theme of concern was the ISDS article, investment laws. When I refer to the EPA between Philippines and Japan, ISDS article is not written so I was interested in the point how the Japanese investors and their investment property are protected and I wanted to know the theme mainly from the legal perspective. Therefore I want to ask Dan sensei particularly about practical view for that point.

(The building PJS Law Firm is inside, very tall...)



Dan sensei has been engaged with legal enterprise for about 4 years in Philippines after the graduation from local law school there. The cases which Dan sensei has dealt with are: about 90% is by Japanese companies and about 70% of them is legal enterprises for starting enterprises in Philippines and the legal enterprises for investment, and about compliance. Dan sensei also deals with the legal problems which Philippines local office cannot deal with. Nowadays, more Japanese companies try to expand the business area to Philippines than before, but on the other hand, there may still be problems when they try to expand the business to Philippines. Judicial system in Philippines may not be sufficient for foreign investors. In such a situation, how do Japanese investors try to invest to Philippines and how are they treated legally?

One trend in legal business enterprises, Dan sensei said, was arbitration using SIAC (Singapore International Arbitration Centre) (arbitration is conducted on the premise of agreement of each other). That point was one of my concerns. As there is not the ISDS article in



EPA between the Philippines and Japan, how Japanese investors and Investment property are protected was one of my big concerning points. Lawsuit in the Philippines Court is a possibility, but it may take a long time, such as more than 10 years and it may take much money. Instead, when the Japanese company and Philippines side making law Japanese law and court applicable would be another possibility, but it is not very likely, according to Dan sensei, which is related to language reasons. Japanese may not so be used in international practical fields. Also, the view from Dan sensei, “to what extent the ISDS article could be used” was a very insightful view for me. When we think about investment to the Philippines from a practical legal view, Dan sensei said that whether there is appropriate dispute settlement article is prepared or not is important. In current situation of the Philippines legal business practice, one of those



is submitting disputes to arbitration. However, bringing the case to the SIAC takes money, so as the next reasonable way is to bring the case to Philippines local arbitration. Besides, Dan sensei explains, because bringing the case to SIAC it

takes money, sometimes incentive not to bring the case to SIAC arise.

Besides as one of the questions concerns in which the contracts is canceled by the Philippines government. Legal problems may not be related only to legal problems but sometimes it is also related to political situations in the times. When we think about attracting foreign investments to Philippines, favorable treatments, for example tax breaks, would be one of the policies. According to Dan sensei, currently, in the Philippines, the favorable tax treatment may not be applied to not domestic firms. In the Philippines, traditionally, it is said that just a small part of the people who have much money such as big financial group occupy the much funds in Philippines. For the promotion of investment from foreign countries, are there any difficulty in understanding the situation, Dan sensei mentioned. The theory maybe just concluded only in domestic range, Dan sensei say. President Duterte now may try to change the situation. Historical factors and constructed the environments constructed in many years may not be changed easily but from now on the Philippines investment environments also may change gradually. I expect the investment environments in the Philippines become better and better from now on Judicial system in the Philippines.

I also asked Dan sensei, as an alternative way for ISDS, whether investment insurance could be considered or not, but it is not necessarily legal problems, Dan sensei say. Trading companies would consider the utilize the investments insurance. Whether the enterprises are regarded as ODA is one of the requirements when Japanese companies expand the business areas to Philippines. How can they collect



money is one of the important judgement criteria for them.

There is many discussions and views when we think about Philippines local judicial system. There may be still gap for understand the Philippines judicial system between Japanese legal practical fields and theory. I want to keep on thinking about how to cope with this situation. That subject cannot be considered uniformly it may be different in each countries situation since each country is different not only socially but also culturally. Dan sensei also gave a message at the end of the discussions for my question about career as a lawyer active in international business fields. “We have to find a new way while surrounded by unknown situations we have never known”. I keep on studying and broadening my horizons more and more.

Finally, the most important things which I have to do is to appreciate everyone. Dan Masao sensei must be busy, but sensei accepted my request, I’m so appreciate. And thank you so much every group mates of this study trip and Kobayashi sensei and Suginochara sensei. Thanks for Kobayashi sensei, I could’ve made this report with photos and thanks to Suginochara sensei’s advice for my concerning points I could’ve deepen my understandings. Thank you so much!

*Reported By Kawamura Kenta*





## University of the Philippines Joint Session

Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 2:30pm~4:00pm



We talked about “OTAKU” culture with perspective of “IDOL” and “ANIME”. In the part of “IDOL”, we showed famous men's groups and girl's groups. Some of the groups were famous in the Philippines. On the other hand, in the part of “ANIME”, we showed some Japanese ANIME. Many Filipino students knew many Japanese “ANIME” which we didn't know, so I was very surprised.

On the UP side, the speaker talked about “COS PLAY”. Cosplay events in which oneself wears costume s of anime characters and enjoys interacting with each other and taking photos with fans are also popular ove rseas. And I recognized that the love for anime around the world have become one of the purposes of visiting Japan. I felt that “ANIME”, “IDOL”, and “OTAKU” cult ure are affecting not only Japan but also overseas peop le. I discussed Japanese culture with Filipino students





and I objectively considered about Japanese culture.

After the session, we walked around the campus of UP. It was so large, and we got very tired. We enjoyed talking and taking photos with UP students. In the evening, we were invited to a dinner by professors and students of UP. Thank you so much for delicious dinner and nice souvenirs!

*Reported By Emiri Assano*





## Japan External Trade Organization, JETRO, Manila Office.

Date 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 10:00am-11:00am

JETRO is the organizations which promote trade and investments particularly between Japan and foreign countries. JETRO stands for the initial letter of Japan External Trade Organization(JETRO). JETRO

Yokohama Mr. Omure(Omure san) arranged the briefing for us before visiting Sakata san of JETRO Manila Office, after visiting Sakata san, and local JETRO Manila

office's Mr. Sakata(Sakata san). When I've contacted JETRO first, I applied to Foreign briefing service of JETRO. On that day, we could've arrived at the building in which JETRO Manila Office inside for about 15mins(or 20mins or so) on foot while walking around Makati city where many high buildings stand.

Why I wanted to visit and ask questions to Sakata san is that I wanted to know current actual investment situation mainly from the Japanese organization side. As Sakata san explained for us on that day of our discussion, JETRO is one of the organizations under Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and JETRO has



many offices not only in Japan also in many foreign countries. JETRO Manila Office is one of them. On February 28<sup>th</sup>, we met Sakata san in JETRO Manilla office. What JETRO do can be divided into mainly 4 parts, Sakata san said. First one is (1)about promoting investment to Japan, second one is (2)assisting expanding business fields to foreign countries for

Japanese companies, third one is (3)about the export of agricultural and marine products to foreign countries, and fourth one is (4)investigation and research in local places. According to Sakata san, the 1<sup>st</sup> one and 3<sup>rd</sup> one is conducted mainly in North-America, and when it comes to Philippine, the second one, the case of the expansion of the business field to Philippines is the most cases in JETRO Philippine



Manila Office.

Among the many insightful explanations on the basis of actual experiences of Sakata san, there was an explanation about the new appearing foreign investment law's bill. Nowadays, in Philippines, investments by Chinese companies is increasing sharply. And regulations on foreign investments in Philippines become more and more lenient. So, Duterte administration aims on opening the market and try to promote investment from foreign countries. Sakata san also mentioned circumstances in Vietnam. Vietnamese economical environments is attracting more attentions from foreign countries compared to Philippines, Sakata san said. Sakata san also speculated that image of Philippines may be also one of the factors. According to Sakata san, the relationships between Philippine and China becomes closer relationships. Surprising point was investment policy for electricity industry. Electricity industry can be categorized into power generation, power transmission, power distribution. Present Philippines government is trying to open the market more. So far Philippines had limitation for the foreign investment in electricity power industry. Power generation, power transmission, power distribution, each rate opened for the foreign investment was up to 40%. However, there is a new law bill issued to open the power generation industry up to 100%, Sakata san said. This point was so amazing to me. Telecommunication and electricity power industry can be seen as a fundamental infrastructure in that countries. When we think about Japanese fundamental infrastructure, to some extent, it is preserved to Japanese domestic companies, on the other hand, in Philippine, even such a fundamental infrastructure industry, the market becomes open to foreign countries. Sakata san explained for us the current electric charges in Philippines, "Electric charges in Philippines is so high, it costs about 7000 peso per month. It's almost that of Japanese in summer." Philippines electronic charges is so high. According to Sakata san, it's run all by private sectors and now Philippines government try to invite foreign investment and make the price more reasonable.

## Kota Nakamura The view from the economics perspective

I hereby inform you about the present situation of Philippines economy.

Generally speaking, Philippines has a unique history of development and economic growth different from other Asian countries, and it adopted democratic systems in a relatively early stage; nevertheless, other Asian countries shifted to it in the recent past. However, in referring to growing processes, we can't find the normal transition from agriculture-main era to service-main era through industry-main era (it's called "the law of Petty-Clark"). The small-scale manufacturing industry has been regarded as a factor that slowed domestic economic growth. That was caused by past colonial rules by US and Spain, geopolitical reasons, continuous chaotic domestic situations in politics and security, and so on. Therefore, the government established Special Economic Zones called PEZA (Philippine Economic Zone Authority). Nowadays, a lot of foreign capital firms set their own branch in it because of cheap labour and special tax break measures. On the other hand, the Duterte Administration is trying to levy tax on that zones now.

In addition, the government tackles a few policies to reinforce domestic economic bases. Two representative policies are infrastructure project called "Build-Build-Build" and enhancing the security; for instance, regulation of illegal drugs and elimination of corruption. Although, the massive constructions started a few years ago, it has generated certain results.

However, Philippines have many urgent issues. The more they build infrastructures, the more deficit they have. That's why the president Duterte approached China to raise large amount of loans and investments. As a result, however, a large portion of public infrastructures such as electricity, tap water and gas are supplied by Chinese firms. In short, Philippines economy can be affected by the relationship between China and Philippines. As for education, the domestic educational standard of poor quality is also controversial issues. Moreover, it is sad



that it causes undeveloped manufacturing industry.

In conclusion, the president is eagerly trying to solve some urgent challenges that hadn't been tackled by the past presidents. We should keep focusing on his policy and its effects.

### Conclusion

Although there are still subjects, Philippines economy is now developing. As Sakata-san said, the most cases in JETRO Manila Office were the cases that Japanese companies expand their business to Philippines. Japanese companies came to Philippines expecting for young labors, Sakata-san said. Also, Philippine is famous for its OFW(Overseas Filipino Workers) people, and the service industry is the most developed field in Philippines. Remittance from Overseas Foreign Workers is a huge quantity. Under such circumstances, how Philippines progress from now



on?

After the discussions with Sakata san and our members, there is both advantageous points and disadvantageous points, when we think about Philippines economic environments. However, now I'm expecting largely to Philippines and I

really think so. I talked with Philippines local people and communicated with each other, they're so active and they have open-minded spirits, I could feel so. There may be still many obstacles to overcome but I think they can conquer them and in the future I hope that I will also contribute to that in some form as possible as I can.

The photos of everyone after the discussions with JETRO Manilla Office, Sakata-san. Thank you very much for Sakata-san, JETRO Yokohama Office, Omure-san, every group mates, also Kobayashi-sensei, and Sugino-hara-sensei!

*Reported By Kota Nakamura, Kenta Kawamura*





**ADB (Asian Development Bank)**

**Date: 28th February 2020, 1:00pm~4:30pm**



## **(1) ABOUT ADB**

The ADB is a progressive regional development bank, aiming at prosperity of Asia, growing economy and diminishing of disparity inside the region. Indeed, its endeavors are focused on loans toward developing countries, especially in Southeast and South Asia. Moreover, in tackling assistances toward LDC (Least Developed Country) such as Lao PDR and Bangladesh, grant can be adopted with a few conditions.

In 1966, the ADB was established with assistances of Japanese Ministry of Finance. For approximately five decades, it has carried out a lot of projects in Asia hoping for peace and prosperity. Its devoted projects are supported by the large amount of funds from the US, China, Japan and so on.

Nowadays, the organization consists of 67 countries and regions including European and American countries. The headquarters is located in Metro Manila, Philippines.

## **(2) CAREERS**

The main purpose of our interviews was obtaining the internal information of the ADB's work style and staff's past careers. Fortunately, in this time, three Japanese professional staff members accepted our interviews in the headquarters. I will put my summary of interview in the following part.



a) Mr. *Rvotaro Havashi* (Region: South Asia / Profession: Social Sector Specialist)

He is a young professional specialist in the branch of Impact Analysis. The acquired experiences in his bright career in the JICA (Japan International Cooperation agency) and the World Bank support his worthwhile tasks in the ADB. In our interview, we grasped the importance of experiences at graduated school and regional and sectional **coherence**. Each occupation requires professional skills and abilities in the certain domain. As for me, it was an exciting time because I was able to receive a lot of precious information that only certain personnel can obtain; for instance, the different work style between the ADB, World Bank and JICA.

b) Mr. *Takashi Yamano* (Profession: Senior Economist)

The work that I have admired is that of economist in international institutions. That is why, as for me, it was a fascinating and sensational opportunity to talk with a professional economist. He recommended to us that we should study in foreign graduated schools. In addition, we acquired some information about scholarships and the way to get a job in international organizations. Besides, we discussed the meanings of Japan's ODA (Official Development Assistance). I had focused on nothing but its economic effects for a long time. On the other hand, he emphasized not only its effect but its impressive influences toward partner countries called recipients.

c) Ms. *Yumiko Yamakawa* (region: Southeast / Sector: Primary & Secondary Education)

What surprised me is that the ADB adopts different interests on loans according to recipients' domestic and economic situations. In short, excessive supports (loans, grants and technical supports) are not truly effective for recipient



countries, even if donor countries have been hoping for their thriving with eagerness. Surprisingly, the ADB has been providing grant supports to extremely poor countries despite being a bank seeking margins of loan.

### **(3) CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT OF ASIA**

Nowadays, there are a lot of urgent and controversial issues such as territorial disputes, cruel civil wars, climate crisis, continuous poverty, expanding disparity and the lack of public facilities. These challenges cannot be solved by a single country. All of Asian countries and regions must cooperate proactively to deal with them and to bring peace for mankind. To make it reality, the ADB should be a progressive institution with initiative.

*Reported By: Kota Nakamura*





## **Meeting with Congressman, Strike Revilla (At House of Representatives)**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 15:30~16:30**

### **(1) Abstract**

I researched the bill “Graduation Legacy for the Environment Act” from the perspective of environmental laws and ethics. This Act is about tree planting: it proposes every graduating student to plant ten trees in order to qualify for graduation. I was interested in the fairness of discretion. So, I met Congressman Strike Revilla, who is one of the proposers of this bill, and asked him my questions. Through discussion with him, I could know the Philippine people’s thoughts against the bill and the environment.

### **(2) What is the bill, "Graduation Legacy for Environment Act"?**

This bill requires for all graduating students from elementary school, high school and college to plant at least 10 trees as a mandatory prerequisite for their graduation. It said that the trees shall be their living legacy to the environment and future generations of the Filipinos.

Through this Act, they aim to promote environmental protection, biodiversity, climate change mitigation, poverty reduction, and food security. To this end, the educational system shall be a locus for propagating ethical and sustainable use of natural resources among the young to ensure the cultivation of a socially responsible and conscious citizenry.



This bill is proposed by Honorable Strike Revilla. He belongs to the National Unity Party (NUP), which is one of the ruling parties. His policy goals are the sovereignty of the state national interest and democracy; social justice and responsibility; and environmental awareness.



For this Act, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall implement the provisions of this Act. Appropriations to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budgets of the implementing departments/agencies in the annual General Appropriations Act.

### **(3) Questions and Answers**

I asked him my questions about this Act. My question is about the bill making process, its contents, current status at Congress of the Philippines and challenges of the Act. The following are the list of my questions and his answers.

The first and the second question is about the bill making process:

1. Why did he decide to make this bill? There are two reasons. One reason is the firsthand experiences of the bad effects of the climate change. Another reason, which would be the main reason, is to support national policies and Executive Order. The bill was filed for the institutionalization of Executive Order No.26, series of 2011 and to support the National Greening Program of the Government.
2. Did he refer to any laws of other countries? He said no, but this bill was based on former presidential decrees or some acts of the country. Presidential Decree 1153 was issued on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1977, which required all able-bodied citizens of the Philippines who are at least 10 years old to plant one tree every month for five consecutive years. Under PD 1153, non-compliance resulted in a fine of no more than one thousand pesos or, in appropriate cases, with disqualification to acquire or enjoy any privilege granted exclusively to citizens of the Philippines. PD 1153 was repealed by President Cory Aquino's Executive Order 287.

Republic Act 10176, or the Arbor Day Act of 2012, mandates that all able-bodied citizens of the Philippines, who are at least 12 years of age, to plant one tree every year. Unfortunately, unlike PD 1153, there was no provision in the law and the IRR to enforce and monitor compliance to this requirement. The law was toothless. So, the Act is expected to be legally binding in the form of graduation requirements.

The third question is about content: why does the Act focus not on controlling illegal logging but planting trees? He said there has already been a law that controls illegal logging, but it is not effective. This Act would have a significant effect on national policy like the National Greening Program of the Government if the Act could be legally binding: the initiative by the bill will ensure that at least 175 million new trees would be planted each year.

So he also said the bill is not a temporary measure and it is envisioned to be a long-term, interdependent, sustainable convergent program to consolidate and harmonized all greening effort.

The fourth question is about freedom by the bill. I suppose the bill may "force" each student to plant trees and they do not graduate if he/she fails to do that. So, I think it may threaten his/her discretion. But he does not think so because he thinks there is already the DENR's National Greening Program, thus the executive department is supportive of this measure.

He recognizes the role that the youth plays in nation-building. There is no reason why the State may not impose on them the obligation to contribute to our quest to achieve our desired ecological balance: there is no right for them to choose not to plant trees.

The fifth question is about the current state and challenges at Congress of the Philippines. He said, unfortunately, with the dissolution of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, the bill was back to square one. He believes in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress this measure will be approved faster, invoking Rule 10 Section 48 of the House Rules on measures being deliberated and already approved in the previous Congress.

As future challenges, the bill needs a balance with other social problems. Actually, tree planting activity by each student is good and environment friendly, but there are also social problems, especially the budget problems such as teachers' salary, construction cost of the classroom due to planting trees' cost or other transportation expenses.

#### (4) Conclusion

After discussing with him, I could deepen my understanding of the bill and get to know the public opinion on freedom. It was great for me to get to know that the bill was based on an old executive order and the people recognized that tree planting was important. Although the bill may not conflict with other laws, it will take time to enact it because congressmen submit the bill, not political parties. Also, the Act may be good in content, but it could cause other social problems. So, there are future challenges.

*Reported by Horiuchi Kaito*





## Ateneo de Manila University

Date: 28th February 2020, 4pm



Thanks to the introduction from Professor Tommy Tiu, we had a very golden chance to meet Atty. Ferdinand Negre, Chairman of the Commercial Law and Intellectual Property Department and one of the Philippines' leading lawyers on intellectual property rights on Feb 28 at 4 pm.

A couple of days before the appointment, we sent him an email to introduce ourselves, the purpose of the visit, and also included some questions about intellectual property rights and E-commerce in the Philippines. Surprisingly, on the meeting day, we got a very warm welcome from Jose Maria G.Hofileña, Dean of Ateneo de Manila University School of Law and he briefly introduced us about the school system as well as study programs. Ateneo de Manila University School of Law is one of the top Law schools in the Philippines.



## The meeting summary

After that, Atty. Ferdinand Negre started to answer our questions one by one with a clear explanation that made us understand easily.



Firstly, I mainly ask Professor Negre from the view of the relationships between Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Intellectual Property, particularly technology transfer. Technology Transfer Arrangement is the process by which one party systematically transfers to another party the knowledge for the manufacture of a product, the application of a process, or the rendering of a service, which may involve the transfer, licensing of intellectual property rights. Also, when talking about the policy of the Philippines' governments to invite foreign investments I think IP is important. It is because to promote foreign investments from foreign countries IP rights laws are also related to one of the incentives to expand the business fields to the Philippines. When I mentioned this, Professor Negre also said: “you can say that again, you can say that again”. Professor Negre explained to us very courteously and his story was full of humor. Among the explanations, he also mentioned the existence of a gap between practical situations and IP written law. Philippines Intellectual Property Protection Provision provides for a clear Technology Transfer Arrangement (TTA), but in practice, some regulations are not clear enough to interpret and also unclear government registration, approval is made even more confusing.

Secondly, Nowadays IT is very developing and there is much trade with foreign countries and also there is a problem with pirated goods. There are some practical issues that Pirated goods in the Philippines illegally imported from countries such as China. This problem is similar to Japan's case. Professor Negre mentioned the limit of coverable areas of law. The IP problem is not only a problem of the Philippines, but this is also a worldwide problem nowadays.

Finally, reply to the question that *Do you think E-commerce vendors actively take action against IP infringement complaints from the brand owners?*, he emphasized that online selling and distribution of counterfeit and pirated goods have long been a problem, and also IP and IP-related laws enforcement, Cybercrime and protection. Moreover, internet piracy is more difficult to control than physical piracy. And it is very important to know the value of trademark registration on one product and platform. So it's time government agencies band together to act against the use of online facilities to purvey and market goods and services that violate intellectual property rights including copyright violation through digital media.

***Reported by: UNG HUYKONG, Kawamura Kenta***

## Department of Justice

Date: 28th February 2020, 10:30am~11:30am

As we all know, the Philippines is the only country in Asia that does not allow divorce, and all the laws learned at ordinary times are filed and judged in Japan because divorce can be negotiated and judged there. If divorce is proposed in Japan, and the relationship between the husband and the wife is not obviously broken, there is no bad hobby between them but just a contradiction in a period of time, when the Philippine law is applied through the choice of private international law, the prohibition on divorce has saved a family to some extent. Also a lawsuit filed in Japan, if one party has gambling, drinking, maltreatment and beating of his wife and child, which is not conducive to the healthy growth of the child, and the marital relationship is obviously broken and cannot be repaired, long-term zoning and other situations, which obviously violates the public order and good customs of Japan, you can choose not to apply the Philippine law or directly apply Japanese law to make a judgment. To a certain extent, it gives the parties certain rights, safeguards the interests of the parties, and solves the problems effectively.

There is little information on Japanese and Chinese websites about Filipino couples' divorce cases. We only know that after the Philippines gained full independence in 1946, a new civil law was promulgated, and it stipulated that in 60 years of prohibiting divorce, local people pointed out that serious social and



family problems had been caused in the Philippines. On the one hand, due to the lack of divorce, women, have become the primary victims of domestic violence. According to the statistics of the Philippine Police Department in 2009, "beating wife" accounts for 72%

of all kinds of violence against women. On the other hand, due to the failure of legal divorce, a large number of Filipino families have been in a deformed state for a long time, and no internal relationship of status results in many civil disputes about custody and distribution of property.

So I wanted to find a professional legal person in the Philippines to learn the process of the trial or the actual situation. If one party's rights and interests are seriously infringed and it is impossible to divorce, is there any other way of relief except for divorce? Therefore, with the help of Philippine professors, we contacted the prosecutor of Manila's local legal department.

The prosecutor gave a further answer. In principle, divorce in the Philippines is not allowed, but the marriage can be canceled, that is to say, proving that the marriage is illegal and invalid all the time. But the materials needed are very complex. Some proofs cannot be used as evidence if they cannot be provided, and it will take a long time and a large number of litigation costs, which the ordinary Filipino people cannot afford. Another relatively simple method is to protect the rights and interests of children and property to apply for legal





separation. It can specify that the children's custody right should be in the charge of the party conducive to the growth of the child and that the common property of the couple can be separated from the illegal use of the other party. But bigamy is still not allowed because there is no divorce in law.

In the case of international marriage, Philippine courts generally accept Divorce Judgments abroad but, of course, not all of them. They will also combine Philippine laws to make judgments. When it comes to child custody, the Philippines actively adopts the Hague Convention (the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction) to best protect children's rights and interests.

*Reported By Wei Lan Tian*



## University of Santo Tomas Joint Session

Date 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020, 6:00pm~9:00pm



In the session, there were 4 speakers, Prof.Suginohara from Ferris University, Dr.Recio from UST, Ms.Jackie and me. Prof.Suginohara talked about *“Regulating inward foreign investment in Japan under the “New Cold War.”*”

And I talked about *“Public Education and TVET (technical-vocational education and training) .”* In this page I would like to put a short version of my presentation.

### ***“Public Education and TVET”***

There is a growing international interest in TVET. In Japan, many public educational institutions and private companies have undertaken TVET. Recently, while public interest in the technical training system have increased, many problems have appeared. In the Philippines, there is a lot of concern on TVET. So

today I would like to talk about public education and TVET.

### TVET in the Philippines

The President of the Republic of the Philippines, Rodrigo Duterte, approved an executive order for a four-year national plan for technical education in June 2019. Its content is "Mobilizing, revitalizing and strengthening the technical and vocational education and training sectors to achieve global competitiveness and human resource development of the workforce, as well as to achieve social equity for workforce inclusion and poverty reduction. Presidential decree called on central government agencies, local governments and the private sector to adopt, disseminate and support the implementation of national plans. Funding for the implementation of the development plan will provided to the TESDA (Technical Education and Skill Development Authority) and other relevant government agencies. In February of the same year, a law was enacted to narrow the gap between domestic employment supply and demand by improving the skills of technical and specialized skills.

### TESDA

TESDA is divided into following institutions: a central office in Manila, 17 regional offices, 87 provinces, regional offices and 122 technical training facilities. TESDA adopts three different forms of training to create better job opportunities for trainees. There are three types of programs; an educational institution- based program on mobile training and e-learning, an enterprise-based, and a community-based programs on practice-based program centered.

There are problems from an administrative perspective in TESDA.

- 1, To improve the quality of performance and monitoring and evaluation capabilities.
- 2, To promote enterprise-based training.
- 3, Shortage of training facilities and equipment and securing of funds.
- 4, Employer demand and workforce alignment

### My assumption

Promotion of market entry as TVET in public education may undermine the original purpose of public education.

In general, public education typically refers to two separate yet related concepts, which are publicly available education and publicly sponsored education. Publicly available education simply refers to any type of education or schooling that is available to the general public. This may not just mean that it is available to the public, but also is mandatory to ensure that the citizens of a country are well educated and able to become productive members of the society. So it means that the goal of public education is to develop human thinking. There is a vocational course in high school in the K to 12 curriculum, and the vocational course is controlled by TESDA.

Despite the need for raising the level of public education for the development of the country, vocational education is promoting and a meaning of public education has been lost. So I consider that the entry of vocational education to public education could impair the development of the country in the long term.

#### A case of America

Since the 1980s, the United States has been using deregulation and privatization repeatedly, incorporating market principles into all aspects of public education through neoliberal education reform. As a result, the compulsory education system that would lead to the ranks of public schools and ensure equal opportunities in the society regardless of their status has become a social device that ironically widens the economic gap. You can see them in the Reagan administration's school selection system. The "market-type" school selection system, which has now spread across the United States, is an attempt to increase the competitiveness of each school based on the principle of competition, and by forcing exclusive competition between schools and families, the education system has been transformed into a major market. Then, because the school selection system is often done under a uniform evaluation based on the number of points, such as the unified test of the participation of the whole school, ranking came to occur in the same public school.

Also, due to repeated deregulation, the boundary between the "public" and the "private" has become opaque. In some states, it was even possible for



corporations to run for-profit schools using taxes in the “public education” framework. Today, public education in the United States has become a rich business ground with privatization in all aspects of education, including testing, supplementary teaching materials, data systems, and charter construction. Educational policy has been driven by the educational industry's intentions and can be said to be “educational reform for corporations by corporations”.

It is different from the point of TVET. However, to develop human resources that the market demands in public education can mean that public education would be influenced by the market.

Certainly, the marketization of public education will have some immediate benefits. But does public education closely linked to the market retain its original meaning as public education?

Making a presentation was a valuable experience for me. I learned again the importance of expressing my opinion. I appreciate the opportunity given by the teachers to make a presentation at UST.



*Reported By ERINA ASANO*



## Meeting with Lawyer Lu

**Date: 28th February 2020, 2:00pm~3:00pm**

At the end of our fieldwork, I got a chance to interview a Filipino lawyer. He is a Chinese Filipino, who can speak mandarin, which is the standard Chinese. I have heard that a very small part of lawyers can speak mandarin in the Philippines, so lawyer Lu is very professional in this part. Moreover, through the interview, I also get that he works for the Chinese embassy in the Philippines as a law consultant.

He shared with us a lot about the industry of Chinese network gambling in the Philippines, an issue that also connects with political and human rights.

About history, gambling in the Philippines has been present in the country since at least the sixteenth century. Various legal and illegal forms of gambling are found almost all over the archipelago. The government manages gambling through the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), a state-owned enterprise that both operates a number of individual casinos and in turn acts as a regulator to privately owned casino operators. Since 2016 PAGCOR has also granted operating licenses and overseen the regulation of the growing online gambling sector serving offshore markets. Casino gambling and integrated resorts have become a key component of the Philippines' appeal as a tourist destination with more than twenty casinos found in Metro Manila alone.

As gambling is allowable in the Philippines, there are certain laws in the Constitution that people must obey and be aware of in order to avoid penalties. Republic Act No. 9287 is an act increasing the penalties for illegal number games, amending certain provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1602, and for other purposes. Because gambling is illegal in China, some people come to Philippine to do network gambling. And it became a way for Chinese rich men to transfer their funds overseas, which became a problem for the Chinese government. At the same time, because of the development of this industry, some Chinese are employed by these companies. From the interview, lawyer Lu said a lot of employees do not have

a working visa. They only have a tourist visa. After coming to the Philippines, three of them use the same name, with a working visa. At the same time, a large part of these employees' passports are taken by their bosses, so they don't have freedom, and can only seek help from the Chinese embassy in the Philippines.

Lawyer Lu said that *he has handled some of these cases for Chinese embassy, and now it has apparently become a problem that Chinese government wants to solve. In my opinion, these employees are also victims, and that what Chinese government should solve is the origin.*

***Reported By Zhang Zhaojing***





## Malanday, Marikina

Date: 28th February 2020, 2:00pm~3:00pm



We went to Marikina to eat local food and see daily life in the Philippines.

First, we went to see the embankment in the area. Every year this village are suffering from flood. So, JICA is building an embankment to save their lives.

When I saw the embankment, I was surprised because the embankment is bigger than what I thought.

After seeing the bank, local people invited us to eat lunch together, so we ate lunch. It was delicious, especially spring rolls called by Lumpia are my best food because it was so juicy. Everybody ate lunch a lot.



After lunch, we sang songs using a karaoke machine. I was surprised that there was a karaoke machine at home. Furthermore, they brought the karaoke machine to outside and started to sing. They liked singing so they didn't mind the noise by others' song. Some students sang and we enjoyed singing.

Children lives in the neighbourhood gathered around us, and we shared our snacks with them as gifts.



After that, we went to a village in the north side of Queson City, where Reia's grandmother and her relatives lives. Reia invited us to visit her grandmother's home, we ate pizza with her family. Everyone likes gifts from Japan, it is happy to hear that.

Reia has a large family, and every family members have similar looks. I wish I could have such family like she has.



*Reported By Horiuchi Kaito*



## VI. Messages from Students



### *The more I do, the more I can do.*

At first, though I had planned to participate in English training course for YNU undergraduate students in University of Santo Tomas, the professor *Kobayashi* invited me to this program. In my preparation phase, I determined obvious purposes in the trip.

The most vital purpose of it was to investigate what is going on in the Philippines industrial spheres and influences by governmental fiscal policies and tax reform policy called TRAIN. I had referred some books and statistical official data via the Internet in Japan. Then, many difficult issues such as poverty, disparity, traffic jam and political corruption caught my attention. I'm terribly sorry, but I was thinking that even Manila was under the pressure of poverty.

Clearly, I realized there that the images I had before was totally wrong. It's true that urban people make an abundant living different from the people live in rural areas. Actually, streets, buildings and skyscrapers looked neat and modern like Tokyo. Besides, there were lots of luxury shops and hotels in Metro Manila.

With respect to the industries and fiscal policy, most of the Philippines citizens supported them performed by president Duterte. From the look of the town and road, the situation could be recognized that its economy had been accelerating continuously. I'm glad I can observe the hopeful signs that show the progress of the country.

Through my assignments I had carried out faithfully there, I acquired a lot of knowledges from intellectual graduate students and skilled professor. Moreover, through our activities, I had obtained "practical English skills" that can't be gained in the classroom. What is more, I could have some suggestive awareness and hypothesis in terms of economics. Based on this experience, I'm planning to carry out profound economic research from now on.



Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to UST professors and students and to my precious companions, though I can never thank you enough.



I hereby proclaim that these extraordinary experiences will make my life better in the future.

***Kota Nakamura***

**Yokohama National University**



This Short Visit (SV) was a series of miracles and accidents for me. My beginning was in June. I saw an article about the law of planting trees being enacted in the Philippines. It attracted me, and I hoped I could go there. In October, I heard an announcement to look for students for the exchange program to the Philippines from YNU website and I decided to join. As I investigated the law, I could get to

know a lot of things about it. First, the content of the article was wrong: the law was not enacted, only the bill passed the lower house. Also, a congressman who I tried to make an appointment with lost their jobs in the election.

But fortunately, with the help of colleagues, I could make an appointment with one co-proposer and had a meaningful time.

Apart from my research, I had a valuable experience even though our schedule didn't go well. At that time, COVID-19 was prevalent in Yokohama.

So, someone asked me what part of

Japan I came from? I felt they were scared of us. I was also worried that our colleague's appointments were canceled. I felt we weren't welcome. But most citizens welcomed us warmly. I think it was a good SV as a result.



I was impressed by a conversation with a guide. She introduced a rice terrace in Ifugao. I asked her why she chose the job as a guide. I thought she loved nature. But her reply surprised me. She said "For my family": she earned to support her children to get what they needed at school. When I heard that, I felt she was kind to her family. At the same time, I felt sad because she had to sacrifice what she wanted to do. I also remembered a small talk with her. She asked me how old I was because I always smiled and looked young. She said, "Your smile is good. Don't forget smiling." Then, I wanted you to be honest and laugh just like me.

Finally, I learned a lot of important things through this SV. I hope we can go together someday again.

*Horiuchi Kaito*

Yokohama National University



This study trip was so helpful, and it was a great time for me. I went to the Philippines for the first time, and also Southeast Asia. Before this study trip, I had a little bad image of the Philippines, but Filipino were so kind and the Philippines' atmosphere was good, so I had a good time in my life and the Philippines' image has changed for the better.



I had learned many unknown things during this study trip. For example, the education system, employment supports, and support for female independence, etc.

What remains in my impression, many children gathered in Salt Payatas. They were reading books, and they were dancing with Salt staff. It looks enjoyable, and I thought this place looks like a Japanese kindergarten. My image of Payatas is like a slum but actually is not that, it seemed not to be a very hard life. I think Salt Payatas and compulsory education up to high school support the Philippines' literacy.

When I went to Ifugao, I thought most of the Filipinos couldn't speak English, but actually many people could speak English. I was surprised. Because of tourist influence and compulsory education. I think this environment with lots of using English around feels so good for Filipino. I want to go into that environment, and I found the importance of the English language again. I think Ifugao is dominant in tourism, so, even more, English is needed.

This study trip gives me a chance to interview specialists and many Filipinos, and a chance to see yourself in the Philippines. Maybe If there wasn't this study trip, I wouldn't have gone to the Philippines.

This study trip was a very educational and good experience for me. I want to visit the Philippines again, and I hope I will go to the Philippines as an exchange student one day.

Thanks to the teachers and members who were involved in this study trip.



*Nozomi Tsuruoka*

Ferris University



Throughout the program, I became interested in the political situation in the Philippines and the issue of international marriage.

I visited NGOs like Marigaya House and government institutions like DOLE supporting Filipino women.

There are some organizations in Japan also support women. But I understood that the issues they deal with were different. In the Philippines, Philippians moved to Japan as entertainers and got international marriage with a Japanese man, and transnational problem would be happened. I thought it was so hard to resolve, but there were many people who had tackled transnational problems. I saw the situation, and I want to be a person like them.



*Emiri Asano*

Wako University



This study trip was my second time visiting the Philippines. The last time I went there, I was traveling, and this time I was studying. Visiting for a completely different purpose, my anxiety was overwhelmingly greater than my pleasure. Since I had no experience in field research, I had a lot to learn, from making an appointment to adjusting my schedule, because it was my first experience.

When I visited the Philippines last time, there was a big difference between the countryside and the city this time, so everything seemed new to me. When I looked at the city from inside the car, I was surprised by the number of cars, and the city suddenly changed from a high-rise building to a local street lined, and the daily scenery was full of surprises. In particular, during this study trip, many incidents were unique to this period because of the coronavirus epidemic. When I visited IFUGAO, many of our appointments were canceled and our plans changed drastically, but thanks to the teachers, graduate students, and the local people, we were able to get through it. I think getting on the bus in a hurry that has become a good memory now. The exchange with the local people was also a valuable experience for me to understand the real situation in the Philippines. It was a delightful experience to eat Filipino food made by local people and to play with children who couldn't speak English. Although it was a busy two weeks and not just fun, the schools and slums that I would never have been able to visit had I not participated in this training were valuable experiences that I would never forget in my life.

*Hina Mimura*

**Ferris University**







The 11 days period from February 19th to March 1st, I took part in the Study Tour for the first time. I am half Japanese and Half Filipino. I lived in Quezon City before enroll elementary school. I have been in Philippines many times but I have only been to my mothers's house in Quezon City (Manila). This Study Tour, we went to Makati (Manila), Ifgao (Banaue), and Marikina (Manila) for the first time, I was able to feel different atmosphere of Philippine compare to the Quezon City which I had lived. In Makati, everything was fashionable, I feel as if I were in another country.

I heard that Ifgao's official language is Ilocano, I thought they couldn't speak English or Tagalog. Because my Filipino family told me so.

But in fact, anybody, regardless of age, can speak English and Tagalog. Marikina was similar where I had lived in Quezon City. It was the place I felt the most about the Philippines. After Marikina, we went to my grandmother's house in Quezon City, we could meet my Filipino family. I got sick because it was on a tight schedule. But this Study Tour was a really fulfilling 11 days for me. I rarely go to other parts of Philippine without my Filipino family. I had many wonderful experiences with teachers and students, I appreciated it.



*Reia Ito*

Ferris University





I had joined this program twice time. When I was an undergraduate student of Ferris University, I joined for first time. And I decided to go to graduate school of YNU. I had studied political science, public administration, developing assistance and so on for about a year. This time I was able to participate with a different perspective from

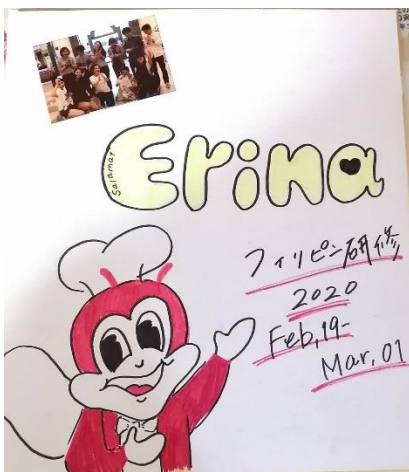
two years ago.

You research your topic of interest before going to the Philippines, make assumptions, and you can confirm with realities. And you can discuss everyday on various themes with teachers and friends with different fields and backgrounds. I think it's a really great program. Although there were many troubles, it was a valuable time for me including that. Finally, Tiu sensei, Dr.Recio, Susan, Jannet and Jina sensei, I appreciate your supports and amazing experiences you have given for us. I am grateful to my friends who had a hard time with me, and to Yonemura sensei, Kobayashi sensei, Suginochara sensei who supported us, and especially to Kabashima sensei who guides me every day and Chiho sensei who gave me the chance to go to graduate school. Maraming salamat po!!

*Erina Asano*

Yokohama National University

*On the last day, everyone surprised me!*



Hello! My name is Kawamura Kenta. Thank you for reading our reports! It was for the first time such an experience, before visiting a research field preparing for the trip about my concerning points. Among the this time short term study trip, I could've met with many people in Philippines, Sakata san, Omure san, Dan sensei, local people, the people in Hotel which we stayed, Philippines students in UP and UST, also we could've visited Banaue and in Banaue also I could've become friends. Also, not only local people, the Professors, students of Ferris University, Wako University, also YNU graduate school classmates, professors, students of YNU undergraduate school...now I'm thinking I am so happy to communicate with each other a lot and could've become precious friends. The best memory in this trip was to have been able to communicate with everyone! There were also tough experiences though, *I think I could've been here now as I could've been with everyone.* I'm still not mature and I have to grow up from now on too. I appreciate this time short term



study trip experiences and keep on going ahead with a thankful heart to everyone. Thank you so much! Finally, let me introduce my precious friends and people and share memories!

The first photo, this is the photos with everyone, UP friends after the session! We could've talked about their interest not only about study and we could've talked a lot!

The second photo, this was the after discussion about anime of the Philippines and Japan with UP friends. Maybe I should talk about JolliBee. JolliBee, he is loved by Philippines people!





Third Photo. This is the photo with JolliBee! The forth photo. I'm discussing anime from the Philippines and Japan. Everyone represents their thinking about anime and manga.



***Kenta Kawamura***

**Yokohama National University**

This year Philippine study tour has been divided into 2 groups. There is a Development Studies team and Trade & Investment team, and I was in the Trade & Investment team, so we were able to visit many various government offices and set appointments with Attorney during our stays in the Philippines. I cannot thank those people who unconditionally accepted our appointment requests, even some appointments were set after arrival in the Philippines and 1day before the meeting. Even though, we still got a very warm welcome with professional explanations which are very useful sources. The opportunities of meeting the experts from the government offices provided information that could not be found on the websites. We learned what is happening right now in the real society of the Philippines. That



***On the way to Museum, Ifugao***

one thing is the weak implementation of the law and it is still the social issue.

Besides some unexpected situations, we enjoyed a lot from the whole program. The trip was very useful, interesting and enjoyable. There are no many differences such as food, weather,



people among the ASEAN countries so yeah I felt like I went to my own country, Cambodia. And after meeting and talking to 2 taxi drivers that we rode during our stay, I realized that Filipinos truly adore Japanese. They told me how they feel about the Japanese Government, people, and its famous Manga and Anime.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all the YNU professors, UST professors and Ferris professors for their unconditional assistance and endless support. I also learned a lot from our colleagues through their cooperative, helpful, independent, and active characteristics. I hope to visit the Philippines again very soon.



***UNG HUYKONG***

**Yokohama National University**

I'm a graduate student major in international government and assistance, after my graduation, I want to be a researcher in my field and take my phd course. This time's field work in Philippine is a great step of my research and a meaningful milestone in my career designation. During this trip, professors and students from UST, UP, Ferris University, and YNU gave me inspirations and lot of help, the way they deal with troubles and get informations from others set an example of a scholar to me, make me realize distance to become a real researcher.

I must show my gratitude to Professor Tiu, who contacted with local officials and collected information for me, after and before our arrival. And Ms. Jenelyn, arranged the interview with professors of IFSU for me, but unfortunately we had to cancel the visit, and cannot say thanks to her directly. Anthony, translated fo me in the trip, and sent me a document about Banaue after we returning to Japan.

Professors and students from Japan also gave me precious advices and guidance.



The spread of virus and panic made it difficult for someone with Chinese passport like me to travel to other countries. Pro. Kabashima told me to prepare the answers for questions from the stuff in airport . Pro.Yonemura and Pro. Kobayashi, my advisor, accompanied with us, and dealt with unexpected situations for us during the trip. Pro. Ogaya and Pro. Suginoara, followed us in each interview. And at last,



Our captain, Erina, had done too much for our team, it was so lucky to have you in our group. May your life and study in UP happy and successful.

***Wentian,Xu***

**Yokohama National University**

Trip to the Philippines felt a lot of different learning atmosphere, because the law will have been sitting at a desk to look over and provision analysis case, temporary didn't go out, have a class at the time of publication is to communicate with teachers have, other students have no good discussion, lead to study single and can't express myself well's point of view, this time learning to take the initiative to participate in discussions, listen to the opinions of others, in order to better develop their own new ideas.

***Wei Lan Tian***

**Yokohama National  
University**



From February 19th to March 1st, we have a fieldwork at Philippine. It's an excellent trip, because that this is a very good chance for me to experience the way that doing my research from field working. In the past, I always learn knowledge from books, and in university I do my paper from research the books and essays written by scholarships. But in this trip, I got a chance to do research from interview.

Because the help of professor in Philippine, we got a lot of chance to visited some great people. Here I really want to show my thanks to all of the teacher, especially Professor Tiu and professor Recio. Not only interview chances but also some sightseeing, they introduced a lot of spots and some history knowledge to us.



About my research question, as a Chinese, China and Philippines have a lot of connections in history. And recently, China come up with an initiative called the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road(B&R). China pay more attention to the communications with Philippines, so it is also have lots of advantages for me to know more about Philippines.Connecting with my graduate thesis, in this field working, I put my focus on the legal issues of Chinese companies faced in Philippine. For researching it, we visited mainly visited PCCI.From the homepage of PCCI, I find the mission of this organization: The main responsibility of PCCI is to provide focused advocacy for business growth and sustainable development by providing business services for the advancement of grassroots entrepreneurship, chamber development, international trade relations, business innovation and excellence, and operating efficiency. These will be achieved through a professional organization working in close cooperation with various stakeholders in public and private sectors.



At last, I want to talk about something about my impression about Philippine. Filipinos are very enthusiastic, and like to make friends. But this time I also felt a lot about the unbalance of economic. Comparing with Manila, other part of Philippine is very poor. So it is also a big problem for the government to solve.

I learned a lot and experience a lot from this trip and thank for all of our teachers and our leader.

*Reported By Zhang Zhaojing*

Yokohama National University

## VII. Photo Essays



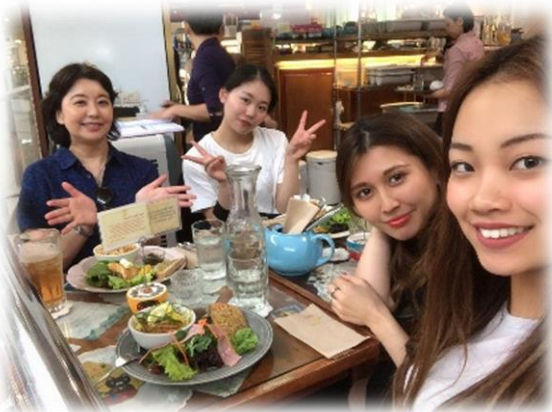




















**Maraming salamt po sa inyong lahat!**

