

IBLAW Field Study Trip 2017

“In Quest for a Sustainable, Prosperous and Peaceful World”

February 17th – February 26th, 2017



Graduate School of International Social Sciences



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

IBLAW Philippines Field Study Trip 2017

In Quest for a Sustainable, Prosperous and Peaceful World



A group of eleven students, two professors from the Graduate School of International Social Sciences and one professor from Wayo Women's University participated in a field study trip to the Philippines from February 17th to February 26th, 2017

IBLAW Philippines Field Study Trip 2017

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The study trip to the Philippines since its inception in 2005 has produced fruitful results for the student's research. For 12 years, we have participated in our IBLAW field study trip with the theme "In Quest for a Sustainable, Prosperous and Peaceful World". This year, our team of eleven students from Japan, China, Vietnam, accompanying with three professors, visited government agencies, private entities, NPO and local community located in Metro Manila and Mindanao Island.

List of Participants

Professors

	Surname	Given name	M/F	Nationality	
1	Kabashima	Hiromi	F	Japan	Professor
2	Kobayashi	Takaaki	M	Japan	Professor
3	Kanamaru	Yuji	M	Japan	Professor

Students

	Surname	Given name	M/F	Nationality	
1	Tao	Li	F	China	D1
2	Kanai	Subaru	M	Japan	U4 (Leader)
3	Fukasawa	Kotaro	M	Japan	U2 (Deputy Leader)
4	Harimaya	Aya	F	Japan	U2
5	Le	Bao Vi	F	Vietnam	U2
6	Matsuda	Suzuka	F	Japan	U2
7	Matsuoka	Yuji	M	Japan	U2
8	Tanno	Ai	F	Japan	U2
9	Tomioka	Ryota	M	Japan	U2
10	Kawasaki	Chihiro	F	Japan	U1
11	Teragaki	Nanami	F	Japan	U1

Messages from Professors

More than 10 years already passed since we started the field study program and this is the fourth time that undergraduates participated in it. Though the members are undergraduates except one postgraduate student this year, their performance was far beyond my expectations. Congratulations, all! We had lunch time meetings every Wednesday since last November. Members who were not familiar with development studies and the Philippines for the first time made great progress as each meeting was held.



Some students were hesitant to make some comments and ask questions in

English when we had a seminar at UST on February 18. Yes, it is natural. Most of Japanese, even college students have never had the chance to train their discussion skills. It must be a kind of tragedy for the Japanese people. As long as they do not know how to be involved in discussion in public, they will be left behind under globalization. Fortunately, our lovely students soon noticed that those were the good opportunities to ask their frank questions even if something is wrong with grammar and their manner. I am very much proud of them. Actually I have learned from them that we can develop capability in such a short period.

We would like to express our gratitude to all the professors, students and graduates of University Santo Tomas. Every time our group visits UST, Dean Marilu R. Madrunio kindly accepts us to have joint seminars and gives us wonderful opportunities that students interact each other. I do not know how to express my gratitude to Professor Tommy Tiu. He is really on the ball. Our trip had not been completed without his cordial cooperation. I also appreciate heart-warming support from Dr. Elizabeth Recio, Dr. Socorro Calara and

Dr. Maria Natalia Dimmano. Dr. Recio always makes arrangements to complete our program smoothly. Dr. Calara often takes care of our students. Dr. Dimmano accompanied us to Mindanao under a tight schedule. I also thank Dr. Carol

Castano. She has been my friend since I visited the Philippines for the first time.

I hope to further develop the relationship between University of Santo Tomas and Yokohama National University.

Hiromi Kabashima

Through the filed trip to Philippines 2017, we observed the reality that Philippines as a middle-income country are facing on the ground. After visiting both Metro Manila and remote area in Mindanao, I recognized there are big gap of living standard between the rich and the poor in the country. It is said that large number of people is still struggling under the poverty line.

However, I also recognized the government and people of the Philippines generate lot of solutions to attack poverty. Beside traditional way of attacking poverty trough the public policy and international assistance provided with by JICA or ADB, I found new approach of attacking poverty are emerging in the field. In the area of agriculture, Hijo Banana Plantation and Nestlé Plantlet Production and Training Center gave me a good insight of new solutions.

I might say the small farmers who don't have enough capacity to stand alone have no way other than belonging the plantation company as an employer.



Small farmers could survive by themselves without salary only if they have competitiveness in the market economy. It is the case that small farmers are not competitive because of the lack of opportunities to get new

knowledge and theology which would be useful to improve productivities.

Usually the governments take a role of supporting poor small farmers with subsidies. In the case of Mindanao, Nestlé Plantlet Production and Training Center give training for small farmers to make them competitive in market economy. I am impressed with the fact

that company as products buyer provides farmers as products seller with training courses, which are usually supported by aid organization or public entities. This indicates private company could also play public role in terms of poverty reduction through free trade of the products in certain conditions.

Takaaki Kobayashi

I would like to appreciate faculties and students of the University of Santo Tomas for hosting our visit to Manila and Davao, and, of course, professors and students of Yokohama National University for allowing me to join the field study tour.

Many places we visited were quite impressive and people we saw there were very kind, friendly and charming. The joint session held on the Day 1 at UST gave me a precious opportunity to present my recent research about Singapore Model in Rwanda. I could have a lot of audience listening carefully to my lecture and gave me valuable questions. Bajau village (or barangay) we visited in Davao was very interesting for me. I could know how they live in their community.



The Philippines is still less-developed than Japan and other industrialized countries in Asia, and has many problems in their politics, economy, society, and people's daily lives. But, I could know, they are tackling with the problems and struggling to make their lives and country better in the future.

Not only I but also YNU students must have had a chance to think what we can do for the people living in developing countries like the Philippines.

Yuji Kanamaru

Group Reports by Students





UST – YNU Joint Session

Date and Time:

18 February 2017, 8:00-11:40

**Place: Espana Blvd., Sampaloc, Manila,
Philippines 1008**



Our first destination of the study trip in 2017 was University of Santo Tomas (UST) to have UST – YNU Joint Session.

The theme of our joint session this year was “Income Inequality and Poverty: Challenges and Call for Action”. Dean Marilu R. Madrunio of UST Graduate School gave us welcome remarks and short introduction of this year’s session

theme. After that, four professors from UST side and YNU side made each presentation.

First presenter was Professor Yuji Kanamaru, special guest from Wayo Women’s University, speaking as YNU delegate this year. His speech theme was “Singapore Model in Rwanda – Asian Development Model Outside Asia”. The

research was based on comparative study of Singapore and Rwanda economic growth model. There are three common conditions between Rwanda and Singapore. They are small countries, have multi-ethnic society, and have experienced ethnic conflict. In addition to these conditions, they have a similarity in economic growth and political aspect in terms of strategy and policy as well as political liberty control. The comparison of African country and Asian country gave us interesting insight and new perspective.

Second presenter was Professor Conrado T. Montemayor, talking about “Non-Government Organizations and Civil Societies”. One of the biggest factors that cause the poverty is unequal distribution of income. He stated the importance of five strategic interventions such as education, health provide and access to technology, and the integration of these factors. In the end of the part, he proposed that Democratic Socialism could be an only resolution to reduce the poverty.

Third speaker was Professor Nancy Eleria, giving a presentation of

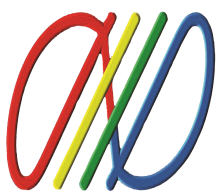
“International Organizations”. Poverty is no longer a problem within the country. International organizations have a responsibility to support poverty resolution. Cooperation of international organizations and the government will be essential for this issue.



Last speaker was Professor Nicasio San Agustin, talking about “Philippine Government”. Since the financial crisis in 1997, GINI index started to decrease. Based on three pillars such as moderating income inequality, closing gaps in health, nutrition and education, and addressing social exclusion and discrimination, the government has reached several achievements to reduce poverty.

As each presentation had its own point to clarify factors and relations, the session gave us profitable introduction and instructive insight before getting started of our field study trip.

Reported by Subaru Kanai



Medical Mission Group (MMG)

Hospital & Health Services Cooperative

Date and Time: 19 February 2017, 8:00-9:30

Place: Visayan Village, Tagum City, Davao del Norte 8100



Before introduce Medical Mission Group Hospital & Health Services Cooperative of Tagum(MMGHHSCT), I want to talk to you about the Medical Mission Group Hospitals And Health Services Cooperative of The Philippines (MMGHHSCP).

MMGHHSCP, a Federation of 19 primary health cooperatives, is started in 1982, and now is looking back and examining what are the pluses and minuses of their 24 of existence as a community health care delivery system in the Philippines.

Each of the 19 members of the Federation is a primary Health Service Cooperative that is owned and operated by all the workers in the Hospital and/or Health Facility, from the medical doctors, nurses, allied medical workers, administration and maintenance personnel as common shareholders. Common shareholders are investors in the organization that can vote and be voted upon as members of the Board of Directors, the policy making body of the organization.

MMGHHSCT is build in Davao, one of the 19 members. The vision of the MMGHHSCT is, every Filipino enjoying his basic human right to health, without fear of discrimination and rejection or

inaccessibility, through the spirit of cooperativism. And it aims to provide affordable, accessible, adequate, and appropriate health services to all members of the community especially the marginalized sector.

We visited the MMGHHSC, and listened a present from Dr. Jose M. Tiongco.

The title of the article was “the hidden war”, which was presented in World Health Organization of United Nation (UN-WHO).

He point out that the Globalization and world wide economy have brought economic development, but also led to inequality of wealth differentiation, so that the gap between the rich and poverty is more than more obvious. He said that developed countries with the ability to use 5% of wealth and high-tech exchange for 95% resources of the under developed countries or developing countries. That is a kind of exploitation and inequity.

And he said “Poverty is a disease of exploitation. The exploitation is basically economic. We came to realize that the only war that should be fought was the War against Poverty. ...”



It made people have no money to see a doctor. The poor who comprise 80% of their population cannot pay and starve; the doctors cannot sell and suffer.

And then, they established the first Health Cooperative in the country, (MMGHHSCP). They decided to approach health bluntly as the business that it is. They were going to use big business methods to bump heads with the multinational business organizations, which capitalized on the miseries of their people. They were going to match them capsule for capsule and dollar for dollar and win in the process.

There is one main difference between the transnationals and the cooperatives. They were the first health facilities in the Philippines owned by not only the health providers but also more importantly by the poor themselves.

Reported by Li Tao

Bajau Field Trip

Date and Time: 19 February 2017, 14:00-16:00

Place: Emilio Jacinto St., Batagas Eden, Davao City, Davao del Sur 8000



In February 19 afternoon, we visited a village, Bajau. We went there by bus and jeepney. Then, we went to assembly facility. Bajau people invited us passionately. They danced for us. The dance was very beautiful. And, they gave us handmade necklace. Seeing it, I felt they have made it hard. Then, a village headman spoke for us. His speaking was great. We thought he also welcomed us intensely. We felt all of the Bajau people accepted us. Then, we played with children in Bajau. There were many cheerful children. They played basketball or tag or a game which is hitting the target. We played these game together with children. I thought children felt very

happy. They were very lively and vigorous. So playing with them, we were cheered up. We thought we didn't have to worry about trivial things.



In Bajau, there are many people living. Compared to their lives, our developed country's live is very rich. But I think our affluent people don't feel happy. We assume that we are not wealthy and we are unhappy. I think it is because we



worry about our own future more than necessary such as our lives, employment, pension. But the people living in Bajau is different. They are not wealthy in lives. But they seemed very happy. They looked lively. Seeing it, I realized that with material wealth it doesn't matter with happy. How do our affluent country's people feel joyful in living? Is what most important is money? Is poverty necessarily bad? I can't help thinking these things.

Reported by Yuji Matsuoka





Hijo Banana Plantation

Date and Time: 20 February 2017, 8:30-13:30

Place: Barangay Madaum, Tagum City, Davao del Norte



We visited Hijo Banana Plantation on February 20th in the morning. First, they gave us presentation on the company and the banana plantation. Hijo Resources Corporation is the first exporter of bananas to Japan. Now 60 percent of Japanese fruit imports are bananas. Bananas grown in Hijo Banana Plantation are used for Japanese products like “Marugoto Banana.”

Next they took us to the banana plantation and the mill. Bananas product

fruit for six months and it is harvested three months after that. Banana trees harvested fruit are cut down and used as fertilizer. They cover bananas with plastic sheets to keep shape and prevent sunburn. At the bottom of the bananas, ribbons of different colors are tied so that



they manage the harvest season perfectly. It is difficult to maintain banana plantations because they should be careful about climate, plantation condition, and diseases. Harvested bananas are cut into pieces, washed in the pool, and boxed for export.



Then we went to the banana research laboratory. Bananas are grown from seeds in glass bottles to prevent contamination and diseases. After 21 to 28 days they are planted in the fields.



Next the president showed us the coconut plantations by bus. They manufacture coconut sugar. From bus windows we saw wild boars and monkeys.

After that we came back to the building where the first presentation were given, and the president gave us the presentation on Hijo coastline protection. They not only do plantations but also plant mangroves to protect coastline and shore from waves and wind.



Reported by Nanami Teragaki



Nestlé Coffee Farm and Development Farm

Date and time: 20 February 2017, 13:30-17:30

Place: Purok Sunshine2, Visayan Village, Tagun City



We visited the Department for Nestlé Experimental & Development Farm, Tagun City, in the afternoon on 20th February.

We learned about the Philippines coffee trade and how to make coffee beans.

■ **The Philippine Coffee Situation**

Total Annual Production is the highest ever at 70,000 MT in 1989 and the lowest last Crop was Year 2006-2007 at 22,800 MT.

Today, annual local demand for coffee beans, now amounts to 64,000 MT valued at PHP 2.5 Billion.

Annually the Philippines imports coffee beans now amount to 30,000 MT valued at PHP 1.2 Billion.

■ **Coffee processing type for trade**

Fresh Berries, Dried Cherries, Green Coffee Beans, Roasted Beans, Ground Beans, Instant Soluble Coffee

■ **How to make**

In the first stage, they grow coffee seedlings from reproductive cultivation from seeds.

After cultivating in sexual propagation, they grow coffee seedlings in asexual propagation with harvesting of rooted cuttings.

Doing this, is easy to grow clones and productivity's all the same.



■ **Educate farmer**

As part of CSR, Nestlé educates farmers for free. Instead of Nestlé teaching them how to make coffee beans accurately,

coffee farmers don't need to pay money. Nestle recovers coffee beans properly so as not to make money with coffee beans cultivated by farmers.



■ The reason for low production

Many farmers grow coffee beans as a part-time job and a side work for money

rather than their main business, so they neglected their work. For example, they do not give the necessary pesticides properly, there is a difference in sunshine depending on places because agricultural land is not flat etc.

Nestle is very famous all over the world but it was my first time to see the coffee farm. I thought the system of educating farmers is really good for human resource development. However, the problem is the low production of coffee beans because farmers work part-time. They have to change the system.

Reported by Aya Harimaya



Department of Agriculture Davao

Date and Time: 21 February 2017, 9:30-12:30

Place: Unit No. 11, Bangoy St., Poblacion District, Davao City



The purpose of this visiting is to gain more understanding about how Philippine government has tried to improve the living standard in rural areas. From our researching before the trip, we have noticed that the program named Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), a long-term project of Department of Agriculture (DOA) has played a very important role in changing the faces of Philippine rural areas.

In order to be able to listen to real stories from involved people, we decided to visit the Department of Agriculture in Davao city, Mindavao, where we had a priceless chance to directly talk with enthusiastic

Project Coordinators of PRDP Region XI.

Beyond our expectations, we had a fruitful discussion time with governmental officials in DOA.

About the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP)

PRDP is a six-year project designed to establish the Philippine government platform for a modern, climate-resilient and market-oriented agri-fishery sector.

With the assistance of World Bank, Local Government Units (LGUs), other national government agencies (NGAs),

POs and private sectors in providing key infrastructure, facilities, technology, and information, PRDP has put its effort to raise incomes, productivity, and competitiveness in the countryside. Around 75% of the total fund is from World Bank (IMF) ODA. The rest of fund sources come from, Local Government Units (LGUs), national government agencies (NGAs) and GEF. The objective of PRDP is to increase at least 5% in annual real household incomes of farmer beneficiaries, 7% increase in value of annual marketed output and 20% increase in number of farmers and fishers with improved access to DA services.

Four components of PRDP



In order to attain these goals, PRDP focus on four components which are: I-Plan, I-Build, I-Reap, and I-Support.

In particular, I-Plan is to strengthen the DA's planning, programming & budget execution process and to improve the delivery of support services to provinces implementing agriculture & fishery

projects.

I-Build is to develop a strategic network of climate-resilient rural infrastructure and facilities supportive of the value chain in the program areas.

I-Reap is to increase productivity and marketability of agriculture and fishery products through increased access to information and support services; to increase farm and fishery household incomes through engagement in value-adding activities; and to improve the protection and conservation of the natural resource base of identified enterprises through alternative livelihoods and support facilities.

I-Support is to provide participants a long-term support through micro-enterprise development and employment facilitation activities.

These four components together have built a fulfill Philippine Rural Development Project in many dimensions. The effectiveness and the accessibleness of PRDP is enhanced by regional system dividing into 16 regions. Even the most remote areas in a country which has more than 7000 islands can be approached. Thus, these programs, projects can be implemented more

effectively and appropriately to each region, each target. This time, we visited Davao - the region XI.

What have I learnt from PRDP?

By setting a specific goal and clearing out approaches, each region itself can be able to develop its own sub-projects in all dimensions. This is what surprised me a lot. Only in I-Build component of region 11, there are 67 sub-projects included the ones operating and the ones waiting for validation. This number is predicted to increase more in the future.



Planning – Building – Reaping and then Supporting, this process is an amazing system to generally help people in remote areas have better lives. Not only showing them the importance of value of chain in producing, but also letting them be dependantly to build their own new future.

Reported by Bao Vi Ngoc Le



Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process

Date and Time: 21 February 2017, 13:30-15:30

Place: J. Abad Santos St., poblacion District, Davao del Sur



One of our main purposes to visit Mindanao Island was to understand causal factors of the Moro conflict, peace negotiations government had been done to settle this issue, and its future prospect for peacebuilding. The Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) is mandated to oversee, coordinate, and integrate the implementation of the comprehensive peace process, tackling not just Mindanao conflict but also three other conflicts happening in the Philippines.

Roots of Conflict

There are several factors of causing the Moro conflict such as displacements of Non-Malay indigenous people and the interest in land and other natural resources. The biggest reason, however, is identity issues which divide Mindanao island into three religious groups; 72% of Christian, 20% of Muslim, and 8% of Indigenous people. As growing number of Christian settled in Mindanao, the conflict broke out in 1960s with the formation of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to aim their

goal for freedom. Their strong desire is ensuring geographical area where they can promote their culture, region, and way of life.

Peace Agreement and Process

Starting from the Tripoli Agreement signed in 1976, the government of the Philippines showed efforts to establish autonomy in Southern Philippines. In 2014, Benigno Aquino III, the former president of the Philippines, reached the comprehensive agreement on the Bangsamoro ending the peace negotiations with the MILF to promise the establishment of Moro autonomy by 2016. Nevertheless, he resigned before the implementation and the agreement was in deadlock.

After the new presidential election, Duterte administration declared the commitment to implementations of all signed peace agreements in step with constitutional and legal reforms. There are Six-Point Peace and Development Agenda in the new administration. In addition to the necessity of early closures of peace processes arising in other islands, they put an emphasis on development in conflict-affected areas and promotion of the culture of peace and conflict sensitivity in peacebuilding and

development. Mainstreaming of peace education and building a constituency supportive of the peace process with the Bangsamoro and Communists, integrating gender in the peace process including the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women, healing and reconciliation of former combatants and conflict affected communities, for instance, are discussed in this agenda.



As mentioned above, the Moro conflict is not the only insurgent that the Philippines is facing. Threats of terrorism and armed rebellion by Communist is another big issue for peace process. Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) is leading militia, New Peoples Army (NPA) and National Democratic Front (NDF), to overthrow the government of the Philippines. The government is conducting socio-economic interventions in conflict affected areas and planning calibrated release of alleged political offenders and political prisoners, not to

mention the continuing efforts of agenda and implementing ceasefire as a prior strategy for moving the communist insurgent negotiations forward.



For the Peaceful Future

Duterte administration had got into a quite hard and complicated, but truly crucial period for conflict resolution. The former administration was not able to implement what had been promised in the last agreement signed between the government and MILF. Bangsamoro and

accelerating negotiations of remaining people living in the conflict affected area are desiring their own autonomy with the legal constitution and law. This should no longer be postponed or canceled. Everyone in the country is looking at president Duterte's political skill.

“What if Duterte administration fails to implement the agreement as the former government experienced before?” I asked delegate speaker from OPAPP. His answer was, “We will never repeat the same failure. President Duterte and all of us are giving our best efforts to solve this problem.” Words he gave me were full of powerfulness, sincere, and reliability. The new administration has just started. We hope the peacebuilding will be successfully completed and never stop looking over it.



Reported by Subaru Kanai



Asian Development Bank

Date and Time: 22 February 2017, 10:00-11:30

Place: ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City



ADB is a public bank established by mainly Japan and USA to invest for Asia to support Asian countries to be developed. ADB has owned a number of projects. Those projects help Asia to grow up and also make positive impacts to even outside of Asia.

Eco-friendly activities

Global warming has been a big environmental issue for the most recent decades. To solve the problem, ADB takes great efforts; setting up solar panels, keeping the amount of water used stable, recycling paper, and so on. The previous president of ADB, Haruhiko Kuroda, who is now the chief of the Bank of

Japan, has opened a rooftop solar power project that provides clean and renewable energy for the next few decades. There are 2,040 photovoltaic panels occupying 6,640 square meters on the roof of ADB's main building. The electricity generated on the rooftop is to run a portion of the Bank's air conditioning, lighting, and computer systems, reducing its carbon footprint. The bank is not only trying 'to provide' but also trying 'to keep' the use of water.



ADB keeps the amount of water used stable ingeniously while the number of people occupying in the ADB building is increasing. People use water to drink, to clean up, to water flowers, and so on. To do those activities, they use rainwater which has turned clean water by filters. The most beneficial system the ADB has is to recycle used paper. Every piece of paper used in the ADB's building is collected in the underground floor of the building, separated into white paper and colored one, shredded into tiny pieces so that ADB can overcome security issues, and bunched by every 60 kg of shredded paper. Those bunched blocks of paper are sold to Filipino private firms to be recycled. The paper industry is now prospering in Philippines. The labor wages are comparatively low in the country so that recycled paper can be reproduced with low cost, while those recycled paper can be sold relatively high prices.



ADB is not only keeping the environment but also earning money and growing Filipino industry so that the country will be able to develop economically. Those efforts discussed above influence not only ADB itself but also the entire Philippines and even other countries. African Development Bank, AfDB, and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, AIIB, follows ADB's initiatives.

Infrastructures

ADB had invested for agriculture in Asia for a long period. Recently the bank invests for infrastructure more. There is a similar bank named Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, AIIB. This bank was mainly established by Chinese government with cooperation with other countries, even non-Asian countries. The bank is new and gets attention from all over the world, however, Philippines hasn't joined it yet because AIIB has not been a well-organized bank yet. The main concerns are the influence of environment and indigenous people. On the contrary, Philippines is expected to join AIIB in the near future because Philippines should use all the tools to develop its country economically.

The reason why those two similar banks both invest for infrastructure is the

expansion of demands for infrastructure in Asia. Many Asian countries are experiencing rapid economic growth right now and in those countries and cities infrastructure systems are needed to be introduced sooner or later. Industries and people have gathered in urban area, which makes some problems of traffic jams, air pollution, and so on. The two banks are able to respond only just a little bit of those demands due to the limitation of funds so that they need to cooperate

with each other. At present ADB plans to work by getting funds from AIIB and the World Bank, WB, so that AIIB can learn the knowhow to support the economic growth of Asia. ADB also cooperate with private companies to expand projects.

ADB is struggling to get Asia more fascinating not only by itself but also by cooperating with other organization and that initiatives influences positively to other countries and areas in the world.



Reported by Ai Tanno



Ayala Corporation

Date and Time: 13:30-15:30

**Place: 34th Floor, Tower One, Ayala Triangle,
Ayala Avenue, Makati**



Ayala is seemed as one of the biggest companies in the Philippines and Ayala and its subsidiaries have a market capitalization that reaches nearly P2 trillion, accounting for 20% of Philippines stock exchange index. Ayala corporation has a lot of plans to make Philippines society well. In addition, they have various connection. For example, foreign companies and Philippines government. They are center position in real estate, financial service,

telecommunication, water infrastructure, electronics manufacturing, automotive distributor ship, dealer ship, business process outsourcing, new investments in power generation, transport infrastructure, and education. In order to be an entity leading other companies in such field, Ayala does many businesses: Ayala land, bank of the Philippines island, glove telecom, manila water and so on, to realize such plans. AyalaLand is the biggest developer in Philippines. They

promoted development in the Makati area and designed to build a flood prevention city in BGC. Telecom business named GLOVE does not only mobile phone business but also Wi-Fi business and so on. Manila Water has been a representative water company in the Philippines. Their water systems cover most of the Manila and recently, they also develop, operate and manage water supply and sewerage in Boracay island.



In addition to these businesses, concretely, Ayala has 5 plans to contribute to development of the Philippines. Firstly, about education, Ayala do 4 activities: CENTEX, Text2Teach, Training Institute. CENTEX (The Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Education) provides holistic, high-quality primary education for bright children from economically

disadvantage families. In fact, they operate two public schools and I think it is the most important point in this program that CEVTEX supports not only education but also food, transportation, uniforms. TextTeach2 is the Philippine version of the global Bridge IT Program. It provides educational videos and lesson guides on hard-to-teach concepts and least-learned competencies. Training Institute is a teacher training program. Ayala supports to train teachers and built institute. The program focuses on 4 essential elements for lifelong learning: classroom pedagogy, development of critical thinking skills, values clarification and use of technology in the classroom. Secondly, they try to improve youth leaderships.

In order to realize that, Ayala has 3 activities. Ayala Young Leaders Congress, LeaderShip Communities, Bangsamoro Young Leaders. Every program is good, but the most interesting activity for me is second one. This activity corporates with colleges, universities and communities outside the National Capital Region and makes the participants deepen understanding about

the problems in their local community and think about them. It is necessary to improve student's knowledge in order to solve such local issues by themselves. Thirdly, it is about Sustainable Livelihood. This project is for the bottom of the pyramid and other vulnerable groups. Ayala think providing sustainable livelihood with the Philippines people as important so Ayala helps the people who don't have official address, suffered from natural disaster and some communities. Fourth, Ayala has own museum and library named Ayala museum and Filipinas Heritage Library. They seem art and culture is enough important to protect the Philippines society because Ayala Foundation has committed to inspiring pride in for almost 50 years and awareness of Filipino history, art, and culture. At last, Ayala cooperate with disaster rehabilitation called special

project. Philippine is regularly attacked by natural disaster so Ayala thinks protecting people from such disasters is essential.



As described above, Ayala proceeds many many plans, businesses and projects. we cannot imagine how many executions Ayala has. By achieving such plans, they can make Philippines society develop. Developing some communities and society connect to enhance people's life quality. Ayala' s activities will began generating good circulation in Philippines society.

Reported by Suzuka Matsuda



Real Life Foundation

Date and Time: 22 February 2017, 16:00-18:00

**Place: 32nd St. corner University Parkway,
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City**



The Philippines is different from Japan in climate, economy, and religions. I visited the Philippines for the first time and I became a fan of this country.

I stayed Manila and Mindanao islands for about 10 days and visited some government departments, private companies, NGOs, universities and slums. Before this trip, I wanted to visit an organization that helps poor children. Then one of my Filipino friends told me about Christian organizations that work for poor children, and some of them

recommended me Real LIFE Foundation.

Real LIFE Foundation is a religious organization in Makati, Manila and it's supporting poor children to get education and go to college. The mission is "to honor God by serving the poor in the Philippines and empowering their dreams through educational assistance, character development, and community service". And they provide scholarships to poor students and hold "kids program" every Saturday to feed and play with needy kids.

This program is one of the biggest programs they have. They try to help the children have a dream through playing games or having a fun talk, and they also choose some scholars from the kids. Real LIFE Foundation helps children not only in economic aspects but also mental aspects.



For almost all Japanese, religious organizations sound suspicious and it's hard to understand. But in the Philippines, religious ideas are common and it's nothing hard to believe them. The Philippines is the only one Catholic country in ASEAN, and about 83% of its population is Catholic and about 10% is Christian. During the trip, I found that there are a lot of crosses and paintings of Jesus everywhere in the Philippines.

When we visited the slum in the Mindanao island, we saw that wooden houses stand in a marsh and only thin wooden bridges connect them. A lot of garbage are in the marsh. I thought "this is the poverty" and I imagined the faces of the people with no hope. But I was wrong. Everybody was living so freely and looked like they knew how to enjoy a life.

Why? Because there are some churches. The people got gather and listened to the poster seriously.

I saw a lot of things in the Philippines during this trip and some of them can be stated in figures. But one interesting thing I discovered cannot be stated in numbers. Faith can move people and help people. I learned that there is a way to support the poor in the Philippines like Real LIFE foundation does.

When we want to help the poor in the Philippines, we must know them and try to find the best way for them because Japan and the Philippines are all different.

Reported by Chihiro Kawasaki



Department of Social Welfare and Development

Date and Time: 23 February 2017, 9:30-12:30

**Place: Constitution Hills, Batasan Pambansa Complex,
Quezon City**



During the preparation time before going, we randomly found our interest in a program named Sustainable Livelihood Program, a long-term project of Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). Thus, we decided to visit here to gain further information about the program. Moreover, as one of the governmental organizations that was established in order to support vulnerable people included the poor one, DSWD also completely fits our group's aim, to

know how the Philippine government does plan, do, check, act toward the poverty problem.

Beyond our expectations, we had a fruitful discussion time with governmental officials in DSWD.

About the DSWD

For a society that all Filipinos free from hunger and poverty, and have equal access to opportunities, Department of Social welfare and Development has played a leading role in the formulation,

implementation, and coordination of social welfare and development policies or programs for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged.

With the assistance of Local Government Units (LGUs), NGOs, other national government agencies (NGAs), POs and other members of civil society, the DSWD is able to make their programs, projects and services which will alleviate poverty become accessible to the smallest autonomous units. Thus, these programs, projects can be implemented more effectively and appropriately to each region, each target.



The DSWD divides their programs and services into two types: Protective programs and Promotive programs. In other way of sayings, it can be understood that the DSWD divides their targets into two types: the one that needs to be concerned to be able to stand up,

and the one that needs to be supported to be able to step forward. For instance, the former can usually be seen in programs for disadvantaged individuals, communities as homeless people, elders, women and children. Otherwise, the latter is often known as a form of investment or micro-finance for poor people. Sustainable Livelihood Program is one of Promotive programs.

About the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP SEA-K)

Before the trip, we have searched for Sustainable Livelihood Program is a community-based capacity building program that aims to improve the socio-economic condition of the participants through micro-enterprise development and employment facilitation activities. In particular, by orienting, providing resources such as man power, funds, systems and structures, participants can be able to engage in quality livelihoods or jobs. What is more, until they find a sustainable livelihood, participants are kept track their employable skills to facilitate and train

them skills in the most suitable way. In the end, the program is expected to improve economic sufficiency of poor people.

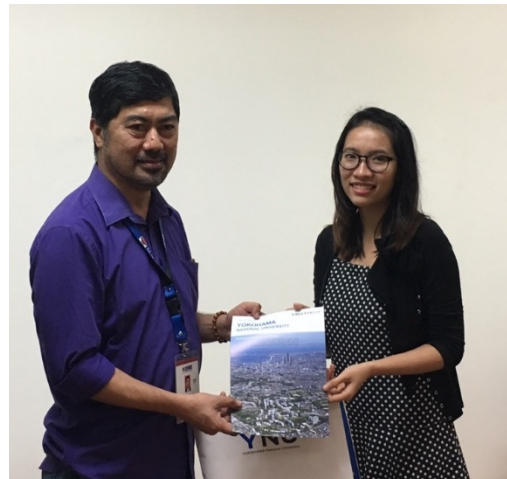


What makes SLP SEA-K special?



There is a great number of projects aiming to support the poor. However, I personally think that the problem cannot be solved without providing “sustainability” to them, or I prefer saying that, letting them building their “sustainable live”. It means it is required

a long time and spontaneous will from participants themselves. SLP SEA-K has succeeded in both inspiring participant to change their lives by themselves and maintaining a long-term support to them.



I wish such a program can be expanded wider and wider since it is very meaningful to poor people. Enterprising or taking higher education such a “luxury” investment will not be unaccessible for them anymore. Poverty hopefully will eliminated forever one day.

Reported by Bao Vi Ngoc Le



University of the Philippines Diliman

Date and Time: 23 February 2017, 13:00-14:30

Place: First floor, Benton Hall, Roxas Avenue, UP Diliman



After visiting DSWD in the morning, our group visited University of the Philippines Diliman (UP) to attend the class, “Learning is a struggle”. We were going to study the relation between household environment and the poverty of the children.

About the UPD

The University of the Philippines Diliman is the biggest campus of the UP System Administration, and was formally established as an autonomous unit at the 976th meeting of the Board of Regents (BOR) on April 23, 1985. Now, it is the largest constituent university in terms of the number of degree-granting academic units, student population, faculty and

library resources. There are more than 1500 faculties and 20,000 students in this university.



About the class

I have studied and have been interested in how to make environment that enables children in the poverty to go to school or receive education. It was very fresh and impressive for me to be able to focus on the process how children make sense of their world. During the class, the teacher gave us a lesson in a lecture form. In the activity performed by the teacher was also the highlight of the class.



About the process

The process consists of many schemes built by the children, as they grow up, the schemes increase in number and in the process, they learn more things. In other words, a baby who is just born will have no schemes. They will start to increase their own schemes from then on.

About the scheme

There are two stages during building the scheme. The first stage in building a scheme is “adaptation”. In adaptation, children are assimilating their old scheme to their unknown world to understand the new information. After that, the information is labeled by children’s recognition. For example, when a baby sees a dog at the first time, he does not know what a “dog” is. Then his mother teaches him that it is called a “dog”, and finally he knows that it is a “dog”. In this process, he has made the scheme that a dog is a creature that has two eyes, a big mouth, a tail, and walks with four legs. This is how children make sense the of world.



The second stage is “Organization”. In organization, children organize some schemes that they already have. In other words, they find the differences and the similarities among the world, utilizing their interconnected cognitive system. For example, when that baby saw a pig, he may call it a “dog”, because it has two eyes, a mouth, a tail, walks with four legs. However, his father teaches him that it is called a “pig”. In this process, he gets a new scheme that a pig is like a dog, but it has different characteristic from a dog. In addition, when he sees a dog again, he revises the scheme about what a dog is.

In this way, schemes are rearranged and linked with other schemes.

To build schemes

We understand how children make sense of their world. Then, what should we do? For stimulating their curiosity, promoting the construction of their schemes, it's good to let them compete with others. In addition, they need responsible others. Creating such environment with constant interactive is required of us. We learned that there is another factor which helps children study hard other, other than just giving them lessons.

I would like to express all our appreciation to the teacher, Jina-sensei. We couldn't take such a nice class without them. Also we thank all of UP student who attend this class with us.

Reported by Kotaro Fukasawa



National Anti-Poverty Commission

Date and Time: 23 February 2017, 15:30-18:00

**Place: Water System Training Center, Local Water Utilities
Administration, MWSS-LWUA Complex, Katipunan
Avenue, Quezon City 1105**



We visited the National
Anti-Poverty
Commission after UP.

The National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) was established to serve as the coordinating and advisory body for the implementation of the social reform and poverty alleviation agenda. Their vision

is to make a progressive society where there is equitable distribution of wealth, and its people, especially the poor and the marginalized, enjoy improved quality of life and participate responsibly in governance.

Mr. Ferdinand B. Hombrebueno explained us their idea, mission, and so

on. He focused on the government's attitude to indigenous people in the Philippines. It keeps their strength culture, happiness, spirit. Also, it tries to provide any accessible social service for the indigenous people, for making them can do anything by their own.



The government has many ways to approach the problem about the poverty, indigenous culture issue. However, the most important thing is “How to implement”.

It's not easy to change the various situation related to the poverty. For

example, he explained on case in Mindanao as example. There are some religious, ethical conflicts. They have a lot of guns, other weapons. Some of those are used in conflicts. However, it's not simple problem which the government can solve with taking the weapons up from them. In Mindanao, they have unique culture that people are given a gun at 18 years old. This culture will be destroyed if the government takes those up from them without considering their cultures.

In addition, when the government consider about the poverty with sectors, there are various basic sectors, for example urban poor, farmers, fishers, over workers, working classes, informal workers. It must coordinate all the sectors with making any programs.

The solution which I was impressed is the follow. The infrastructure in the urban should be moved to rural area, for solving the traffic problem and distributing the population. The reason is that I also studied about the relation about infra and

population in the university, and in the same way, Japan solve the same problems in Tokyo. I hope the plan performs well for the Philippines.

Lastly, I would like to thank Mr. Ferdinand B. Hombrebueno, and who arranged this meeting, the UST students who accompanied with us. We couldn't

get such a nice experience without them.



Reported by Kotaro Fukasawa



Japan International Cooperation Agency Philippines

Date and Time: 24 February 2017, 9:30-11:30

**Place: 40th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaz,
6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City**



JICA Japan International Cooperation Agency, known as JICA, is a governmental agency that coordinates official development assistance (ODA) for the government of Japan. It is chartered with assisting economic and social growth in developing countries, and the promotion of international cooperation. ODA is considered as a voluntary activities of a government, however, it actually promotes interdependence by 'give and take.' The 'give' is the concrete of ODAs from Japan to developing countries. JICA give helps

to solve social issues; poverty, financial crisis, dispute, environmental changing, infection, terrorism, and so on. The 'take' is benefits which Japan gets from developing countries, for example, resources and energy, food, labor force, clothes and electronic products, etc. JICA is beneficial not only for developing countries but also for Japan.

JICA Philippines

There are five ways for JICA Philippines to support the country; by technical cooperation, reimbursable funds, non-reimbursable funds, citizen

cooperation, and international emergency helpers. Technical cooperation is to instruct people technology and know how. JICA sends specialists and holds workshops in Japan to educate people and to introduce systems. Reimbursable funds are to develop infrastructures in big scales; roads, bridges, subways, power plants, water supply maintenance, and so on. This funds are mainly for middle income countries with long-term repayment and low interest rate. Non-reimbursable funds are to develop basic infrastructures, and to supply medicines and machines. This funds are mainly for low income countries. JICA also encourages Japanese citizens to join it. It provides them great opportunities; Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, donations, international cooperation activities for NGOs, institutions, and universities to name a few. The purpose of those encouragements are to support developing countries, while the main target is Japanese citizens to have beneficial experiences. In addition, JICA sends international emergency helpers when a big disasters happens overseas.

Goals

There are three goals JICA Philippines has to accomplish; sustainable economic development, conquest of vulnerability and sustainability of lives and the base of production, peace and development of the Mindanao island. For the sustainable economic development, JICA develops infrastructures and improve the investment environment. For conquest of vulnerability, maintaining the risk of disasters, and developing safety nets are required. JICA Philippines has determined those goals with the Filipino government.

Supports

There are four supports JICA Philippines do; logistic infrastructure, development of agriculture, education, and development of Mindanao island and keep peace there. Logistics support is now the one of the biggest problem in Philippines. Population gets highly concentrated in Manila and there is heavy traffic jam on the roads, in the sky access, and on the sea. To ease those traffic jams, JICA tries to develop infrastructures

more, such as highways and subways, so that logistics flow will be smooth, and also to build new hub cities to ease the rapid increase of population. Agricultural industry occupies 30% of domestic labor population while it only occupies 12% of GDP, which means that agricultural laborers work with low salaries. JICA tries to support to build so called 'value chain' from producers to consumers so that there will be less food loss. Filipino government has just decided to change education system. In this change, children have to go to schools for 12 years from elementary school to senior high school.

JICA encourages cooperation between firms and education institution so that children will be talented workers in the future. JICA also tries hard to educate people the knowledge for disaster prevention. The Mindanao island, which is still considered to be a dangerous place, has actually great potential to develop because there are good soils for agricultures and resources underground. JICA supports the islands from multilaterally; educating people, developing infrastructure, negotiation for the peace, and proposing plans to develop the island.



Reported by Ai Tanno



Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)

Date and Time: 24 February 2017, 14:00-16:00

Place: 375 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City 1200

We visited the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) on February 24th 2017. DTI administrates the domestic trade and marketing programs.

We visited and learned about the Export Marketing Bureau (EMB). The EMB in the DTI is mandated to supervise development, promotion, and monitoring of the Philippine exports. The EMB provides the exporters enabling environment to make them globally competitive.

The current trade situation of the Philippines

The top 5 countries for the Philippines export markets in 2015 are as follows.

1. Japan (20.91%)
2. United States of America (15.34%)
3. Hong kong (10.86%)
4. China (10.50%)
5. Singapore (6.46%)

The top 5 of the Philippines suppliers in 2015 is as follows.

1. China (16.14%)
2. United States of America (10.51%)
3. Japan (8.96%)
4. Taiwan (8.22%)
5. Singapore (7.04%)



The Philippines has a variety of the export items; Electronics (semiconductors, electronic integrated circuits), IT-Enabled Services (Business Process Outsourcing, Non-Voice), Travel Goods, Garments, Design-Driven Products, Motor Vehicle Parts (auto parts), Fresh/processed food, Coconut Products, Wines and Spirits, Health and Wellness Products, Halal Products and Services, Parts of vessels and airplanes and so on.

Free Trade Agreements

FTA is an agreement between two or more countries to eliminate or reduce tariffs and other requirements of commerce that restrict trade between them. The reasons why the Philippines adopts this agreement are as follows.

- Maintain competitiveness
- Promote cross-border complementation
- Sustain inflow of investments
- Mutual support on issues of common interest
- For the benefit of consumers

Currently, the Philippines exist 7 FTAs.

1. ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)
2. ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA)
0% tariffs for more than 94.6% of China's tariff lines
3. ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA)
0% tariffs for more than 92% of Korea's tariff lines
4. ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA)
Zero tariffs for all products exported to Australia and New Zealand by 2020
5. ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (AJCEPA)
6. Philippines-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (PJEPA)
About 85% of Japan's tariff lines at 0%
7. ASEAN-India Free Trade Area (AIFTA)
The Philippines enjoys reduced tariffs for 94% of exports to India



Besides, Philippine European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Free Trade Area and ASEAN-Hong Kong Free Trade Areas are expected.

Generalized System of Preferences

GSP is a preferential tariff treatment for selected goods extended by developed countries (“donor countries”) to certain developing and least developed countries (“beneficiary countries”). Its tariff preference is granted on a non-reciprocal basis (unilateral), under terms and conditions set by the donor (non-negotiated), and time-bound, temporary (graduation).

DTI has some support programs; Shared Service Facilities, Negosyo Centers, Regional Integrated Platform for the Philippines Exporters (RIPPLES), Halal Development Program, Philippine Export Competitiveness Program, Business Matching, Outbound and Inbound Missions and so on.

Reported by Ryota Tomioka



Department of Education

Date and Time: 24 February 2017, 15:00-17:00

**Place: Department of Education Complex, Meralco Avenue,
Pasig City**



The main theme of our project this year is to seek for the causes of inequality and poverty in the Philippines. When we think about this, industrial and infrastructure development might come to mind first. On the other hand, education is as important for poverty resolution as giving basic knowledge, skills, chances and opportunities for human's future decision. Without taking account of education, it is impossible to have a sustainable and

prosperous society. Department of Education (DOE) is mandated to make education accessible to every Filipino child as well as raising the quality of education.

Dropout Problem

It is said that there are some clear indicators that access to education has improved in recent years. However, still dropout problem makes it difficult to achieve the ideal goal despite the efforts

to ensure that every Filipino child completes at least basic education through a free public school system. According to its survey, about 4 million Filipino children and youth were out of school in 2013. The top reason of dropout is marriage and this is inordinately more pervasive among females. The second biggest reason is insufficiency of family income to send the child to school.

Why is This Problem?

When these children reach working age, they have to be labor forces as those who have not completed basic education. Being unable to complete basic education has a major impact on an individual's mobility and capability in the labor market and the economy. Individuals unable to complete basic education will be disadvantaged not only in the economy but also disadvantages will be experienced in the social and political realm as well.

Alternative Learning System (ALS)

For those who had experienced dropout from school or were not able to complete basic education, the Department introduced Alternative Learning System (ALS) Programs consisting of both non-formal and informal education. ALS has 10 programs containing such as Basic

Literacy Program, Indigenous Peoples Education, Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education and so forth. In addition to providing free public education in non-formal and informal ways, some schools have a feeding program to maintain nutrition and this becomes an incentive to stay at schools.



K to 12

The Department is challenging new policy to improve educational disparity among children. K to 12 requires children to study from kindergarten and adds two years senior high school study after four years junior high school study. This helps Filipino children to be more matured as they start working at least from 18 years old.

Education can hardly be a direct solution of poverty. However, this is crucial for human development and surely the indirect impact of education will create the future of the country.

Reported by Subaru Kanai



Board of Investments (BOI)

Date and Time: 24 February 2017, 16:30-17:30

**Place: Investments Assistance Service G/F, Industry and
Investments Bldg. 385 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City**



On 24th February, we visited The Philippine Board of Investments (BOI). BOI, is the lead government agency responsible for the promotion of investments in the Philippine. And the BOI is tasked to boost investments in industries and in the countryside, aiming for both job generation and balanced economic development. The BOI provides assistance to Filipino and foreign investors to set up business and prosper

in desirable areas of economic activities.

Our research target at BOI is to intensively understand the Philippine specific policy of investment and investor treatment, and some connection with poverty. The meeting was consist of listening presentation and discussion between the staff, Director Mr. Domingo I. Bagaporo, Ms. Helen S.S. Casco., and students. I think the main point of the meeting are as follows:

1. Doing Business in the Philippines

At first, Director Mr. Domingo I. Bagaporo showed us the Foreign Investments Act of 1991 (R.A. No. 7042), the basic law that governs foreign investments in the Philippines. The act liberalized the entry of foreign investments into the country up to 100% unless restricted by the Constitution and other special laws as enumerated in the Foreign Investment Negative List. Tell us what investor should pay attention to. And then, he continued to introduce about the entry of foreign investments and investor's visa policy program.

On investor's visa, there are three kinds of visa.

Special Investor's Resident Visa (SIRV)

The SIRV is a program of the government in attracting foreign investments into the country. The program requires investors to remit at least US\$75,000 into the country and invest subject capital in the following viable economic activities pursuant to Book V of the Omnibus Investments Code (Executive Order No. 226, as amended):

Special Resident Retiree's Visa (SRRV)

Executive Order No. 1037- The Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA) is

a government owned and controlled corporation mandated to attract foreign nationals and former Filipino citizens to invest, reside and retire in the Philippines with the end-view of accelerating the socio-economic development of the country, contributing to the foreign currency reserve of the economy and by providing them the best quality of life in the most attractive package.

Special Visa for Employment Generation (SVEG)

Executive Order No. 758 provides for a Special Visa for Employment Generation (SVEG) that allows foreign investors to stay indefinitely in the Philippines who shall actually employ at least ten Filipinos in a lawful and sustainable enterprise, trade or industry.



2. Doing Business with Incentives

In this sector, Director Mr. Domingo I. Bagaporo introduced us Incentives. BOI incentives are divided fiscal incentives and non-fiscal incentives.

And we understand that they use the following laws and police to regulate incentives activity.

The Omnibus Investment Code of 1987 (E.O. 226) Consists of six (6) books, regulate rules of law about Investments with Incentives in Book I. And according the rule, the proposed activity must be listed in the IPP.

The Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) is a plan prepared and formulated through the concerted efforts of the IPP Inter-Agency Working Group headed by the BOI in coordination with the PMS, NEDA, DOF and other concerned government agencies.

The 2014-2016 Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) is a three-year rolling plan which contains the following priority investment areas : (1)Preferred Activities; (2)Export Activities;(3) Activities with Special Laws ;(4)**ARMM List**

At last, because of the subject of our Philippines study trip is related to Poverty, they introduced about **ARMM List**.

3. What is ARMM List?

The creation of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) brought

about the existence of the Regional Board of Investments (RBOI) on May 17, 1991 by virtue of Executive Order No. 458 which devolves the powers and functions of the National BOI over investments within the region to the Autonomous Regional Government (ARG).

Its creation is anchored on its desire to serve as the forefront of the Autonomous Regional Government in the attraction, registration and administration of local and foreign investments as well as the granting of incentives in order to realize ARMM's greater vision of evolving an economically viable, stable and self-reliant autonomous region forcefully addressing the issues of poverty, mass unemployment, low standard of living, balanced environment, equitable distribution of wealth and technology capability build-up.

The ARMM List covers priority activities that have been identified by the Regional Board of Investments of the ARMM (RBOI-ARMM) in accordance with E.O. No 458. The RBOI-ARMM may also register and administer incentives to activities in this IPP for project locating in the ARMM.

Reported by Li Tao

Messages from Students

This study trip is very meaningful to me. I have been studying in Japan for five years. I honored to be able to study in Japan, once again get the opportunity to study in Philippines.



The name of Philippines is no stranger to me. In my mind, poverty and backwardness are just symbols with the country.

However, when I came to this country to find out, even if there is poverty, but the Filipinos hospitality; even if the development is lagging behind, but also for their own goals to work hard.

The YNU study trip should be one of the best experiences in my life. It was a fruitful and unforgettable experiences for me.

One of these experiences made me feel deep. When we were visiting slum village, a teenager (just as picture) attracted me and my friends. The teenager is good at making toy cars with waste rubber. With his permission, I looked at the toy car he

made. The structure of the toy cars exactly looked like with the true one. I marveled at his talents to imitate. But, at the same time, I felt a pity that he almost have no educational opportunities to develop his talents. If could be educated, maybe he would be become an engineer or designer or other professional in the future. Through this experience, I deeply realize the most emphasis in the development of the economy would make people rich in material life. On the other hand, the most emphasis in the development of education would make people rich in people's spiritual life, and



it would been improved, to creating more wealth. I would like to be a volunteer to help those who need help.

In this stay, I visited lots of places that I wouldn't have got opportunities by myself. Thank you for YNU and UST professors and UST students, I could spend really valuable time in Philippines.

Li Tao

My first time of visiting the Philippines was in 2014, participating in a similar study program. I still remember I could not understand what people were exactly talking and hardly express my thoughts most of the time during the stay. After that, I had studied abroad for one year exchange to improve my English skill and acquire deep understanding of academic knowledge and different culture apart from Japan. My personal purposes of taking part in this program were to attempt whether I had learned abroad was accepted or not, to understand poverty and other related problems from comprehensive perspective, and to have a small reunion with my Filipino friends I met in the former program.



Through the whole stay, we could have had chances to visit not just the universities but also the government offices, private sectors, NPO and local

community. Since my interest was significantly connected to the relationship among poverty, education and conflict, every moment was amazing and fruitful for me. The Philippines has a lot of problems to be resolved, which do not exist in Japan.



For example, there is serious traffic congestion every day especially during rush time and this makes people difficult to have business smoothly. Dropout from schools and being unable to complete basic education seize opportunities for future decision making. Frightful conflicts cause serious frictions result from religion or value, take numerous number of innocent lives. All the problems might be connected and none of them should be deprecated. We had kept asking in each session based on our problem awareness and all the speakers answered clearly and honestly. It is obvious that problems they are trying to

resolve are neither easy nor simple. However, I saw people facing problems very seriously and devoting themselves to resolve these issues. Now I can say with confidence that I really look forward to seeing future development that the Philippines will enjoy over the next several decades and all the people smiling without being worried or struggling with inequality and poverty.

I stated three purposes at the beginning of this paper and all of my aims were

accomplished. This second study trip gave me different kinds of insights and impressions from what I have obtained in the first time. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Kabashima and Professor Kobayashi for allowing me to take part in, to Professor Tiu who had arranged our appointments and made our trip full of smiles, and to all the passionate and adorable students from YNU who had followed me to make this study trip very successful one.

Subaru Kanai

This is my first study and third time to visit foreign countries. Before this time, I have never been to foreign countries with academic purpose. The reason I joined this program is to know the situation which is different from one in Japan in terms of the poverty and education.

I have been interested in the relationship between youth's ability and situation of their household because I found that the relation has a huge influence on children, from my experience. When I work as a cram school teacher, or talk with other various kind of teachers, I'm always thinking that why there are some

difference in various abilities of the children, for example, test score of each subject, logical thinking ability, communication ability, and so on. They are studying in the same school, same classroom, taught by same teacher. Is it just because of personality? Is it because of that everyone has good or weak point? I think that such a difference is made by their household.

In Japan, many children who get high score or pass difficult examination to enter high-level school are raised up by rich parents under stable household because they can go cram school, belong some club activities without any financial

restriction. Simply speaking, children's future can be decided by annual income of their parents. In Kanagawa, I think almost all junior high school students or high school students who get high score or pass the examination had been to cram school.



However, the problem in the Philippines are probably different from one in Japan. There are so many children who can't go even to school because they have to work at daytime, because they receive no other's help.

I joined this program to confirm the situation in the Philippines and the solution which people in the Philippines try to do.

To tell the truth, I could see only some part of the situation in the Philippines, but I got some surroundings circumstance and met people engaging for solving problems. I can say that almost all they are serious about thinking poverty, and

some of them are thinking that country growth will be the solution.

In the UP class, I learned that constant stimulation is very important for the children's growth. At NAPC, to move the infrastructure out of the city to local area is very helpful to reduce regional disparity.

After coming back to Japan, I and my project member, Vi met the manager of E-education in Mindanao which supports dropped-out students and holds special classes for them on weekends. As she said, at the local in the Philippines, a lack of teachers of math or science is a big problem. In addition, the students have various reason to drop their schools out. It seems that one solution can never change the situation.



As I previously mentioned, I've met a lot of people who try to solve the problems, but there are some people who try to solve other problems. When we visited Bajau people, some Filipino social

workers accompany us. They are working for Bajau people.

Although I have no answer to the problems in the Philippines in this study tour, I believe that all the people who involved with our study change the situation in the future. I also would like to

contribute to solve the problem related to this experience in my career.

With many thanks to the people from University of Santo Tomas who arranged and support this meeting and I really appreciate participants from YNU.

Kotaro Fukasawa

My experience was very impressive for me. My imagination about poverty was different from I had expected than before. Especially, I was shocked about the Philippines slums and street children because I've never seen poverty towns and children who live on the road. We went to Bajao, Davao city. I saw many children there. One of the children, they made a few cars with using the bottom of a slipper.



I asked their ages and if they go to school or not. Their answer was that they don't know their ages and they don't go to

school. (They couldn't understand English.) I can expect that they don't go to school but I was surprised that they don't know their ages. In Japan, no matter how poor, they know their own age. In addition, according to the story I heard, the parents don't know how to name their children, so some children have their family names as their first name.



A small school was built in the slum, but because of the large number of children, not everyone can receive high quality education. I think education is very

important for developing countries and can open up the future of the country. Actually, the chance to participate in this study tour was only one of the killing time for spring vacation. However, I really had a good experience to know the

world's poverty gap and I thought that I would like to participate in activities that give children equal educational opportunities in some way or another. Then, I want to improve my English skills.

Aya Harimaya

Manila welcomed us with a nice weather, towering skyscrapers, which now remains in my mind my first impression about a splendid and sprawling city. However, on the other side of the city lies impoverished shantytowns which are known as a place where “slum dogs” live. I kept comparing the Philippines with my home country – Vietnam and it made me confused a lot to figure out the question that which country is really on its stage of developing. Though the Philippine is maintaining the top rate of economic growth in Asia, which was 7.1% last year, the gap between wealthy and poor within the country is significantly high. The top 10% of the population possess around 33% of the total income (2012) and the lower 10% of the population possess only about 2.5% of the total income. It made me wonder about what genuine development is and how to maintain a sustainability of a country. I feel worried

whether because of keeping chasing economic benefits, ‘people of the bottom of the society’ are ignoring, and a country economic development is a trade-off of income inequity.



Through visiting different organizations from international ones to governmental departments, from private enterprises to NGOs, NPOs, I feel relieve that there are a lot of people who not only realize the

seriousness of the inequity problem but also contribute their whole heart for a world without poverty. They are coming from different fields but they all, have tried to use their own strengths to fight against the war of poverty. The Philippines currently may still have a lot of problems that need to be solved, but I strongly believe that in the new future, such kinds of problems will not bother them any more since they have a lot of devoted people, who are sparing no effort to contribute to their own country.

My vision is about a country without significant gap between wealthy and poor. Especially, I want to contribute myself to eliminate economic gaps within my home country - Vietnam. Therefore, when I first knew about this study tour, without hesitating, I know exactly what I want to search for, and what I want to gain through the trip. Ten days visiting from

places to places in the Philippines was a priceless time for me to once again clear out my future goal.

Wherever we come from, there are people who have to struggle a lot to maintain their daily life. I believe that through such a trip, we all learnt a lot from each other experiences. I did find many helpful measures and new solutions that the Philippines are holding to fight against poverty. I hope that I can bring some of them back to my country.

I wish that one day the boundary between shanty towns and sky-building will be no more seen in cities and the imbalance between urban and rural areas will be eliminated. People can happily work together, have their own investment for their children's futures and recall the word "slum" just in order to remember how great it has developed in a decade.

Bao Vi Ngoc Le

I could have very precious experience in the Philippines. In the Philippines society, there has been the large gap between the rich and the poor yet. Otherwise, I think it is also sure that its situation is getting better. Until recently, Philippines seemed to rely on

foreign countries help, but now it try to develop by itself. To success self-development, Philippines companies, government, various organizations cooperate each other.

Before going to Philippines, I wondered whether the relationships between Japan and Philippines were good or not and I asked some companies, government groups and organizations the similar questions which is involved with my skepticism. All of them said "Yes, Philippines are really on good term with Japan" I was very happy to hear that. The most impressed thing is about the kindness of Philippines people. They are

very generous. Even if we were late for appointed time, they never had disgusting face. In Japan, such a thing is unbelievable. And also Philippines people are always laughing even though they are very poor. I can't tell them from poor or rich.

Though I stayed Philippines last year, I have become to like Philippines more this time.



Suzuka Matsuda

Through the Philippine study tour, I learned various things. In Japan, we can live without Speaking English. We use Japanese only. So it is difficult to realize that English is very important. In the Philippine, of course many English speakers are there. I was not good at English. So I could communicate with them little. I realized if I wanted to communicate with them, I have to have a good command of English. Then strongly, I felt I wanted to communicate with them.

Now, I study English very hard. If I didn't go to Philippine, now I may not study English. In addition, through the study tour, I saw all of the member of the study tour studied very hard. Talking with them, I was able to know several things which I didn't know. Thanks to

them, I was able to broaden my horizons, new values were generated. And seeing them, I want to study much more eagerly than before!



Furthermore, I was able to know poverty. I didn't know the poorness before. Certainly, I learnt poverty through school or TV or Internet. However, I was not able to realize impoverishment. This time, I saw the poorness directly for the first time. Then, strongly, I was able to understand it. It is what we should think. I was very glad that I joined the study trip. I has grown up.

Yuji Matsuoka

Listening to presentations given in every institution and stories people told us, and thinking what kind of questions I would like to ask in each place, I could study about struggles of the developing country, Philippines. This tour gave us great opportunities to visit government

institutions, NGOs, private companies, and some local communities to learn what kind of efforts they make to take parts of the development of the country. As a student of college of business administration, I tried to understand what kind of situation Philippines face from the view of business. Every institution

had goals to achieve for the development of Philippines, however, there are some gaps between them. The gaps occurs mainly between demands and supplies, especially in infrastructures and education.



One gap is that there are traffic jams everywhere; roads, oceans, and even sky access. The easiest suggestion to overcome the problem is to build another infrastructures, however, that doesn't solve the problem. Although a new transportation way is introduced, it takes considerable time to be trusted. People keep using old way of transportation until the new one get totally acknowledged. The root of the issue is actually too much concentration of population in urban

areas. The most effective solution is to build another hub city so that each city can have a role and the logistic flows will be clear from one city to another.

Another gap is on education. It is needed to do bottom up of the people in Philippines. On the contrary, there is an argument which states that forcing westernized way of thinking does not make people happy but even destroy their cultures. The world history proves that introducing new technology and logics pulls away traditions. The people who are considered to be poor are actually satisfied with their way of living. They are afraid of being destroyed their cultures by introducing westernized way while their supporters try to help them by educating them. Struggles occur when there are gaps between demands and supplies.

It is important to make sure what is the root of a issue to solve a problem. It is difficult to do so and to do by alone. We have to cooperate and rack brains with each other in the world. What a person can do is perhaps very tiny things, but it is a must to think what you can do and what role you have one by one.

Ai Tanno

The initial reason why I joined this study tour was that I just wanted to go abroad. Before this tour, I had been abroad only once. So, when I attended the first preparatory meeting for the tour, I was completely stunned. All the members except myself had specific purposes; volunteering in developing countries, learning economic situations of the Philippines, visiting educational sites and so on. Besides, the schedule was very tight with so little free time. More than anything, I had no confidence at communicating well in English. I thought canceling this trip. But I also thought that there would be something I could do even though I was poor at English. I left my home for Philippine with feeling both anxious and excited.

When I arrived at the Philippines, I was excited at the peculiar atmosphere of exoticism; landscape, temperature, language, building, all things were new and I got a fresh impression. We rode on a bus heading for the hotel. I couldn't understand even very simple English spoken by the bus tour guide. I was so worried how I would end up....

There were a lot of people, traffic, big shopping malls and skyscrapers in Manila.

It was surprising for me because I knew the Philippines was a developing country. The appearance of Metro Manila was just like it of Tokyo Metro. But within the same city, I could see many squatters in the immediate vicinity of modern buildings. The 3rd day of the trip, we visited Bajau in the corner of Mindanao, Davao City. Garbage was scattered throughout the vicinity and infrastructure such as water supply and roads were not satisfied. Also, some of the children I met there did not even know their own age. I got to understand what inequalities actually meant.



Frankly speaking, I could hardly understand the presentations that we heard in the government offices and companies. So I couldn't participate in the question-answer sessions. I wanted to contribute to the team in some manners. So, I decided to ask some questions, however awkward and irrelevant they

would sound, swallowing my pride. Surprisingly, all questions were answered without being ignored, which gave me a sense of confidence.

Although I have been filled with anxiety

before the trip, it has become really fruitful at the end. I learned a lot of things and could feel that I have overcome some of my weaknesses. I want to keep challenging difficulties during my university years.

Ryota Tomioka

I visited the Philippines and stayed there for about 12 days. I have been interested in the Philippines since last year. I have some Filipino friends who I met in a church in Yokohama and I really like them because they are so kind and so positive. I had never been to the Philippines so I really wanted to visit there. But when I actually heard that my professor wanted me to come with her to the Philippines as a study tour, I felt that I wanted to refuse the offer because this study tour looked so difficult for me.

What made me go to the Philippines was the curiosity. When I arrived at Manila, it was too hot and too humid, and I really wanted to go back to Japan. The first 3 days were terrible! The heat got to me and I got a fever in Mindanao island. What was funny was that I tried to tell my teammates that I almost died but nobody believed me because I recovered

in a day.



After that day, I got motivated and I asked a lot of questions in every organizations we visited. (I was exaggerating.) I really enjoyed everything in the left days, but the most interesting thing was the fact that Jollibee and I are very alike! Jollibee is a national character in the Philippines and he stands every

Jollibee restaurants. Our nasty leader Subaru Kanai once said that my smiling face resembles Jollibee and then everybody started to say so. It was troublesome, but now I don't feel bad and I agree that we are very alike.

Seriously the most interesting thing in this trip was the appointment with ADB. Before the meeting, actually I had no interests in ADB and I didn't even know what is ADB. But when I listened to the presentation, I just felt it interesting.

They were bright in the Philippines where is so much different from Japan in economic aspect and they looked like a hope of this country. Of course, the cafeteria was great! I want to eat there every day.

The trip to the Philippines gave me a lot of wonderful experiences and I learned a lot. I became a big fan of this country, and I want to stay longer and do something for the people in the Philippines.

Chihiro Kawasaki

This field study trip was my first trip to the Philippines. Filipinos were very kind to us. When I had a fever during the trip, UST students bought me a sports drink and went to the doctor together. Moreover when we needed to take a taxi, a staff member in the NGO we visited waited for a taxi with us for an hour. Filipinos were also very friendly, funny, and humorous, so I like Filipinos.

The Philippines is a wonderful country, but it has some problems. We visited Manila and Davao. Manila develop very much, but Davao do not. Manila has

heavy traffic jams. Manila developed rapidly, so the infrastructure could not keep up the development. The traffic jams prevent the Philippines from developing. Companies hesitate to advance into the Philippines because the traffic jams cause delays of delivery.

In Davao I saw an orphanage and street children. One in four Filipinos live in poverty. We also went to Barangay 23 which Bajau inhabit. Bajau lived in poverty. There were children who do not their birthday and even their own name. I asked a UST student about Bajau, but she answered as if she had nothing to do with

her. There is a gap between the poor and rich. The impressive thing was that Bajau looked happy. Although they are poor, they live happily. Some people who are richer than Bajau spend their days in boredom and feel discontent. Maybe it is just because Bajau do not know wealthy lives, but this experience made me think

about riches and happiness.

Through this trip I saw not only an exterior of the Philippines but also reality in the Philippines. I thank professors, YNU students, and Filipinos I met this trip.



Nanami Teragaki

Photo Essays

























Maraming salamat po!