

IBLAW Field Study Trip 2018

"In Quest for a Sustainable, Prospererous and Peaceful World"

February 21st – March 3rd, 2018



Graduate School of International Social Sciences



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

IBLAW Field Study Trip 2018

In Quest for a Sustainable, Prospererous and Peaceful World



A group of 15 students, 1 professor from the Ayo Women's University and two professors from Ferris University participated in a field study trip to the Philippines from February 21st to March 3^d, 2018

IBLAW Field Study Trip 2018

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The study trip to the Philippines since its inception in 2005 has produced fruitful for the student's research. After 10 years, we again participated in our IBLAW field study-trip with the theme "In Quests for a Sustainable, Prosperous and Peaceful World". Our team, consisting of eight students from Japan, China, Cambodia, accompany with six professors, visited many agencies, authorities located in Metro Manila and Leyte island.

List of Participants

Professors

	Surname	Given name	M/F	Nationality	
1	Kabashima	Hiromi	F	Japanese	Professor
2	Kobayashi	Takaaki	M	Japanese	Associate Professor
3	Yonemura	Kotaro	M	Japanese	Associate Professor
4	Kanamaru	Yuji	M	Japanese	Professor
5	Ogaya	Chiho	F	Japanese	Professor
6	Suginohara	Masako	F	Japanese	Associate Professor

Student

	Surname	Given name	M/F	Nationality	
1	Shi	Xiaoyu	F	Chinese	M1
2	Feng	Xiaomei	F	Chinese	M1
3	Peng	Bo	M	Chinese	M1
4	Te	Muykim	F	Cambodian	M1
5	Sakamoto	Keishun	M	Japanese	U1
6	Tamura	Yurino	F	Japanese	U1
7	Takahashi	Yuka	F	Japanese	U2
8	Kawasaki	Chihiro	F	Japanese	U2
9	Sorita	Haruna	F	Japanese	U2
10	Nomoto	Shohei	M	Japanese	U4
11	Asano	Erina	F	Japanese	U3
12	Ozawa	Ayaka	F	Japanese	U3
13	Kan	Mamiko	F	Japanese	U3
14	Konno	Anju	F	Japanese	U1
15	Okawa	Eri	F	Japanese	U3

Messages from Professors

We visited to many different places; universities, government offices, corporations and local communities, discussed with many people; professors, students, public officials, business people, ordinary citizens, NGOs. I have learned so much as our students from all of them. First of all, I would like to appreciate all the people who support our trip. Although every place we visited gave me wonderful opportunities to deliberate on various practical and philosophical matters, I want to comment about Payatas alone, for it especially deeply related to 'divided society', which is the theme of the fieldtrip.



Payatas is famous for the dumpsite and poverty. However, in Barangay Payatas, what we saw was children smiling, dancing to K-pop music on the streets, playing basketball. Although streets were filthy and the air was stinky, most of them looked happy. To be honest, foolishly I assumed that people in slum always looked sad, so their smile surprised me a bit. At the same time, it reminded me familiar philosophical debates on assessment of people's

well-being. According to some philosopher, if human well-being consists in satisfaction of their preferences or their subjective happiness, we might judge that Payatas children's life is going well. And then, there is no need to improve their life.

It seems morally dangerous conclusion, and that is the very reason why the Nobel winner economist, Amartya Sen tried to define human well-being and poverty objectively by human 'capabilities'. He wants to say that the situation like payatas is not morally innocent, even if they are smiling and content with their lives. Pace Sen, theoretically I still don't agree with his idea of capability. However, seeing the children's smile, I realized what Sen wants to say from my heart. While they are smiling and perhaps content with their lives, they might not be able to speak English at least as much as children of elites in Manila do. They might have a risk of various diseases caused by insanitary conditions. They might have to leave their school because of their parent's economic situations. They don't seem to have enough money, time and space for flourishing their capabilities. Even if they themselves are satisfied with their lives, their situations are problematic and they need some help.

We also found how NGOs are tackling with this difficult situation. For example, the Salt Payatas Foundation teach some women in the community cross-stitch so that they can earn money other than

scavenging. A woman proudly explaining her achievement with tears in her eyes deeply moved us. After that, the foundation staff showed us a small library for children. I think that it also helps the children for developing their capabilities in a not outstanding but still important way. In my opinion, the important thing is that the library can offer them spaces for study. For example, one of the mother told me that the nineteen members, three families live together in her small house. This is only a guess, but her sons or daughters don't have enough space for study at home. Problem of space

seriously affects children's academic performance, so the library can play an important role for improvement of children's well-being in Payatas.

Surely I don't mean that these measurements for poverty are enough. Poverty is so complex phenomenon, that it is obvious that we need complex measures against it. I just want to say that NGOs like the Salt Payatas Foundation are tackling with tasks of human development in many ways, and their efforts deserve our respect.

Kotaro Yonemura

The Philippines study tour in this year was held as a joint program of three universities for the first time. I was concerned with the students from different universities to collaborate with each other successfully even in the foreign country. As a result, it was needless anxiety. The students including international post graduates cooperated very well not only during the tour but also in preparation before. The experience during the tour and

discussion or conversation before the tour would make students be open minded, think globally and be active to the problems that is happening in the world.

I wish all the students to make use of the precious experience of this program for their future life.



Yuji Kanamaru

The 2017th trip was special one in the history of YNU study trip to Philippines; First, it was the first joint trial with

Wayo Womens's University and Ferris University.

Second, because of the distance among the three universities, we faced the difficulties to prepare for the trip enough.

Third, even though there existed the



difficulties of on-campus meeting in

week days, our students planned to have several off-campus meetings in week end.

Until last year, professors had supported the logistics matters because students had not capacities and experience to manage it, even though subject matters such as making research questions and questionnaires was managed by students themselves. The students this year managed not only subject matters but also logistics matters by themselves. It was partly because of the progress of IT technologies. I am really impressed with their initiatives and leaderships.

Takaaki Kobayashi

Group Reports by Students





Japan International Cooperation Agency Philippines

Date and Time: 28 February 2018, 10:00–11:30
Place: 40th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza,
6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City PHILIPPINES



(1) Overview of JICA

First of all, ODA (Official Development Assistance) is broadly divided into bilateral aid and multilateral aid. Then, JICA is a governmental agency that provides bilateral aid in the form of Technical Cooperation, Japanese ODA Loans and Grant Aid.

(2) JICA's assistance to infrastructure maintenance in Philippines

They concentrate on sustainable economic growth by promoting investment. Therefore, their tasks are that infrastructure maintenance for sustainable economic growth and the improvement of investment environment.

Specifically, they support the maintenance of transport infrastructure to stop excessive concentration of population and industry in Manila by improving transportation networks in

main cities near Manila. For instance, the construction of North - South Commuter Railway from Malolos to Tutuban will be started in the first half of 2018. Also, they are planning to Metro Manila Subway Project (Phase1) in First quarter of 2018.

In terms of the improvement of investment environment, because Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) to Philippines is smaller than other neighboring countries, they are trying to increase FDI from other countries including Japan by improving the condition of investment in Philippines.

(3) Other current tasks in Philippines and JICA's assistance to those

1. Maritime safety

They help Philippines to accomplish maritime mission such as salvage rescue by introducing ships to overall of Philippines sea area, fostering human resources, and developing communication.

2. Peace and development in Mindanao

Since 2016, the personnel have been

sent to International Monitoring Team(IMT) and JICA started peace construction and supports development for conflict affected area in Mindanao. They offer assistance such as human resource development and reconstruction of local industry.

3.Development of agriculture and rural
In order to promote inclusive development that all the people can benefit from any aspects, it is important to increase income of agriculture, forestry, and periphery industry. Therefore, JICA gives a lot of aid including strengthening farm, developing community, and improving financial access.

4.The reduction and management of disaster risks

They suggest many projects including improvement of disaster education system and introducing disaster-related technology by making use of experience in Japan.

5.Assistance to reconstruction in Leyte
Leyte island was struck by a typhoon, Yolanda in 8 November 2013. Hence, they conducted emergency development survey and did Grant Aid project for restoration and reconstruction.

6.Support for health

They provide support related to the illegal drug measure and develop human resources to cope with maternity problems.

7.Support for education

They facilitate to carry out education system, “K+12” and support for higher

education field from the point of view of industrial human resource development.

(4)The JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

JPP is the project that JICA works for developing countries with organizations such as NGO, universities, and municipalities and makes use of such organization’s experience and technology. Actually, it was conducted in disaster area, Leyte to farm oysters by introducing technology suggested by a municipality in Miyazaki Prefecture Japan.

(5)Impression

I found that there are some peculiar problems in Philippines when JICA assists. For example, because of the president’s term of office is 6 years in Philippines, next president tends to change former president’s policy to get support from people. Thus, it is hard for JICA to continue to conduct their project in the long term. As a result, they have to adapt it every time the president changes

After listening to stories from JICA’s staff, I was most impressed by their attitude trying to get close to Filipino and tackle problems patiently. Finally, the word that “what people really need can be seen when you are in an objective position” still remains in my heart.

Reported by Yurino Tamura



National Economic Development Authority

Date and time: 23 February 2018, 14:00–16:00

Place: 12 St. J. Escrivá Drive,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City



As population and economic growth,

Manila has a much more huge demand for transport infrastructure in compared with what can be supplied now. The average cost of traffic congestion in Manila is 3.5 billion pesos per day in 2017, much higher than the estimated 2.4 billion pesos in 2012.

To solve the problem, NEDA, formally named “National Economic Development Authority”, made “the Philippine Development Plan”, and in transport division, the goals of this plan was translated into many specific projects included in the “Roadmap for Transport Infrastructure Development for Metro Manila and its Surrounding Areas (Region III and Region IV-A)”, or “Mega Manila Dream Plan”.

The Dream Plan focus on 3 major problems of Metro Manila: traffic congestions, natural disaster (flood, earthquake, tsunami etc.), and land use (especially affordable housing which free from disaster risk). They interrelate with each other, and may worsen as continuing expansion of urban area and population growth.

As a solution, First, the spatial structure of Manila proposed by the Dream Plan shift from radial/circumferential to ladder form to avoid higher risk of disaster from west and east side. Then, Manila will become poly-centric from mono-centric, and form north-south transport corridors to connect north center and south center with Metro Manila. This is like “suburbanrail + newtown” development model, use transport as catalyst to facilitate

integrated development of the area, which used by many cities in Japan like Kohoku New Town in Yokohama or Tsukuba Science City.

There are five main components of the transport interventions in the plan: (1) At-grade Roads: includes missing links on C3, C5, bridges and others; 137 km of new roads; flyovers; sidewalks and pedestrian facilities. (2) Expressways: compose of intercity expressway of 426 km and urban expressway network of 78 km. (3) Urban/Suburban Rail: comprising 6 main lines with combined length of 246 km; 5 secondary lines measuring 72 km, and integration of lines for improved accessibility. (4) Bus/jeepneys: includes modernized fleet and operation; rationalized route structure; and improved terminals and interchange facilities. (5) Traffic Management: includes intelligent transportation systems (ITS) for different modes of transport, traffic signals, traffic safety, and traffic environment and education.

The transport sector goals are 5 “NOs”. NO traffic congestion, NO household living in high hazard risk areas, NO barrier for seamless mobility, NO excessive transport cost burden for low-income groups, NO air pollution.

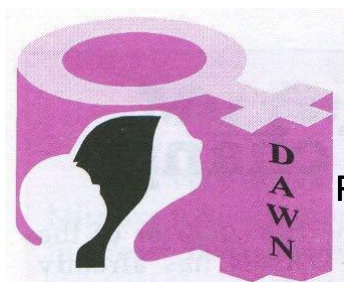
And the implementation of this plan was separated into 3 steps: the short term TRIP (Transport Investment Program, 2014-2016), which focused on

accelerating infrastructure development; the medium term TRIP (2017-2022), which aimed at moving the transport system into a less-congested and sustainable future; and the long term TRIP (2022-2030), which lead to a congestion-free situation.

As for the condition of implementation, the reply from NEDA is “most of projects identified in the short-term TRIP have yet to be completed. As such, it is too early to give an assessment whether the goals for the short-term TRIP have been achieved…….However …… there were indeed problems encountered that caused delays in the implementation of the projects identified.” And NEDA will not take responsibility for implementation of projects because they just do the plan and give advice if there has any problems through implementation.

In the short-term TRIP, “majority of the projects are to be financed via Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) while a few have been identified to be financed via ODA. The financing mix for the projects is similar for the medium-term TRIP.” And though the PPP-biased strategy was be used, the public sector is more dominant in the partnerships with regard to the projects in the short-term TRIP.

Reputed by Bo Peng



Development Action for Women Network

Date and time: 27 February 2018, 14:00–16:00
 Place: Unit 3, 3rd Floor, Bocobo Commercial Center
 1253 J. Bocobo St. corner Padre Faura St.
 Ermita 1000, Manila, PHILIPPINES



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 ADOVOCACY, 4.EDUCATION. And two support

programs:1.INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 2.NETWORKING.

Their vision is a society where women and men share equal opportunities for a just and human living, creating empowered and self-reliant families in communities where each one cares for one another in the spirit of peace based on justice; and where migration is an option that is respected and protected. And their mission. To live in hope with the Filipino people, especially with the returning distressed migrant women and their children, through programs and services that enable them and their families to regain and strengthen their sense of dignity and self-worth, reclaim

their wholeness and attain total development.

We watched a part of the alternative livelihood programs. It is “Sikap Buhay (SIKHAY)” center-based project. “SIKHAY” 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.

The merchandises on this picture are made by this program. And also DAWN has home-based projects providing to buy and sell such as sari-sari stores, services such as massage or pedicure & manicure, and etc.



We knew that recipients of foreign company or people are using Filipinos who want to work. Recipients treat

Filipinos as just cheap labors. And they say that they spend most of their earnings on sending money to their family and are forced to live a life of reality. Some people succeeded as OFW. However, like women coming here, some people return to the Philippines exhausted physically and mentally in foreign land, and they live economically hard lives. Because OFW's earnings are exhausted by allowance, and it is difficult for them to get a job if they don't have their own hands and don't have licenses or skills in the Philippines. OFW is called the hero, but there is a stark reality to wait for people who have failed as OFW.



Reported by Erina Asano



Center for Migrant Advocacy

Date and time: 27 February 2018, 15:00–17:00
Place: 15 (Unit 7) CASAL Bldg. Anonas Road, Project 3
Quezon City 1102 Philippines



1 、 Introduction

My purpose of this trip is to learn about migrants to Japan and the problems of Filipino workers in Japan because I am interested in those topics and have studied about them.

This is the 3rd time to visit the Philippines and I believed that I knew a lot of things about this country, but this time I found that I do not know anything about OFW. OFW means Overseas Filipino Workers and they dynamize the

economy of the Philippines so they are treated like heroes. However, as I am a Japanese student, I know some cases that Filipino are forced to work in underprivileged working environments so I feel some differences between the Filipino and Japanese attitudes to OFW.

2 、 About CMA

CMA is 'an advocacy group that promotes the rights of overseas Filipino land or sea based migrant workers and Filipino immigrants and their families.' So it supports OFW to work and live in a better environment. Our group met the

executive director, Ellene A. Sana. She is a powerful lady and she gave us a lot of information passionately. We did some questions and she answered each question with more information than we expected.

Our questions were following;

- What do you think about the foreign technical intern trainee system in Japan? Is this working, or not?
- Many OFW had terrible experiences and sometimes they even died. Why do they keep coming to Japan?
- Do the OFW's families keep working in the Philippines?
- Is this true that some people try to get 'study visa' because getting 'working visa' is difficult?
- If the OFW have higher skills, do they have better situation in Japan?
- What kind of people become OFW? The poor or the rich?
- If the number of OFW increase, then the economic gap will be wider?

3、 Conclusion

I used to think that we Japanese have some responsibilities to help Filipino who have to work in foreign countries

with bad working environments. However, through this study tour, I became to think that maybe not their demand because they keep coming to Japan no matter how bad their working environment is, and even the government encourages them. And also I found that what I wanted to do in the nearer future is unrealistic because of lack of the laws in the Philippines and inefficiencies.

Now I am back to square one and trying to grasp the real problems of OFW.



Reported by Chihiro Kawasaki



Philippines Overseas Employment Administration (POEA)

Date and Time: 1 March 2018, 14:00–16:00

Place: POEA Building, Ortigas Avenue corner EDSA, Mandaluyong City

We visited POEA (Philippines Overseas Employment Administration) which govern and manage OFW (Overseas Filipino Workers) in the afternoon of Mar 1. POEA was established in 1982, began to promote and develop the overseas employment program, because of lack of employment opportunities for nationals. Now, they are sending 2 million Filipino workers a year to other countries.



What is the OFW?

OFW means Overseas Filipino Workers, and they have played important roles for a long time in the Philippines. In fact, the number of them consists 10% of Philippines' population, and the remittance that they earned in other countries contributes 10% of GDP. It is said that most of OFW go to work to the Middle East area (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, etc.) because there are enough employment opportunities and they can

get more salaries. Most of them will be domestic workers (housekeepers and caregivers) or the construction workers. They usually get temporary contracts with employer, excepting some go to developed countries and eventually resident permanently, but they are very limited numbers.



Interview

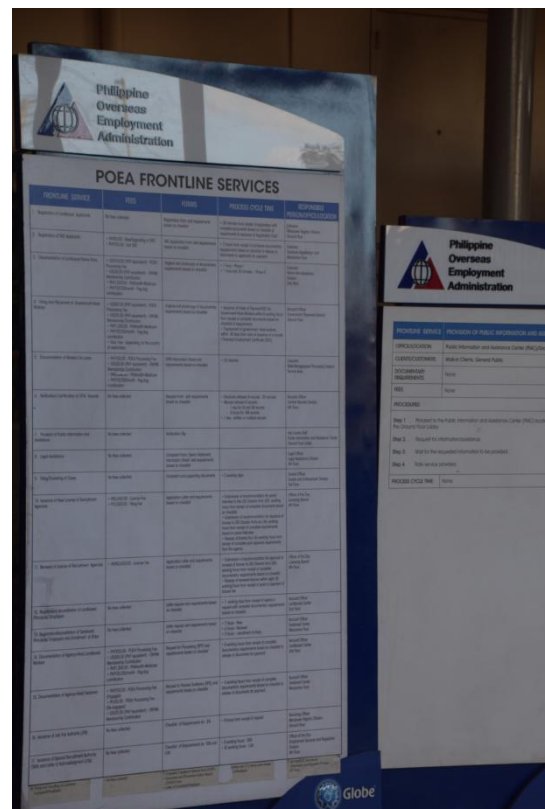
We could interview Ms. Maybelle M. Gorospe, OIC of planning branch, and she herself also worked in Middle East before as one of OFW. First of all, she explained services to OFW. They are very comprehensive, registering workers online, getting in touch with foreign government and recruit agencies to licenses to recruit, and regulating illegal workers and giving welfare services. After that, she answered the questions we prepared.

One of the most impressive was OFWs' burdens. If they go to the countries whose language they don't know, they

have to learn the languages by themselves. Of course, when studying languages, it will be required additional time and money while working their own places. Regarding this point, some students seemed it was too severe for them, but it may be natural that they cannot manage languages support since more and more OFW are applying. Also, we have question that what level of supports POEA can offer. As long as they are one of the government office, they cannot provide individuals with well-managed level of services, so we think that it is really difficult issues. In fact, NGO groups are making up grass-roots supports which government agencies cannot offer. Sometimes, POEA is associating with them in the aspect of welfare program. But I wonder if the association is really enough for OFW.

Besides, there are no end to problems about illegal workers. Ms. Gorospe said this is because employment agencies should meet harsh requirements to get licenses. However, some agencies cannot meet, some cases happen that OFW suffer from long hour working, abuse and trafficking. These days, a dead body of maid has been just found in refrigerator in Qatar. Then, it is possible to develop into an international issue.

Therefore, OFW are called “Heroes”. They are taking much of risk. Before I came to Philippines, I had an image that OFW symbolize the poor domestic industries and the poverty, but this time I could know about more fundamental problems. In even Japan, more and more OFW may come, so we should consider about them.



Reported by Yuka Takahashi

During the 11-day field study trip in Manila city and Tacloban City of the Philippines, the participants have been to many private and public institutions for various purposes, and I have been to four top financial institutions in the Philippines. My first visit was DBP leasing where I met the President of DBP and the officer in charge of Account Management Group in the afternoon of 23rd Feb. On 28th Feb, I went to Banco De Oro, the biggest bank in the Philippines in term of asset and got the chance to discuss with the Senior Executive Vice President of the bank, and at the same day in the evening, I had dinner appointment with the Relationship Manager of Citibank. Last but not least, on 2nd March 2018, I was given honor to have a meeting with the President of Japan-PNB and the Vice-president of Japan-PNB IBJL. All the meetings have proceeded successfully and fruitfully thanks to an enthusiastic coordination of a professor of University of Santo Tomas and a kind cooperation from the host financial institutions. The reason that I chose financial institutions is I wanted to deepen my understanding in financing which is crucial to the current research topic of my master degree.



DBP Leasing

Date and Time: 23rd Feb 2018, 14:30 –16:30

Place: 4/F DBP Bldg. cor Makate Ave., Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave, Makati, 1227 Metro Manila, Philippines



The presentation of background of DBP Leasing was delivered by the President of DBP Leasing accompanied with the Account Manager, and the President has

given honor to stay until the end of the meeting in order to answer all the questions from the participants. DBP Leasing is a financial institution that is 100% owned by the National Development Bank of the Philippines. DBP offers three kinds of products including Loan, Factoring, and Leasing. Leasing is a financing method that allows a company or an individual to acquire an immovable property or a movable property like factory equipment, vehicles, or building by renting it from a leasing company. The process starts from the customer engaging the leasing company to buy a particular property from customer's chosen supplier and renting it back from the leasing company with monthly or quarterly rental fee plus interest. The ownership of the property still belongs to the leasing company at the end of the term, and the lessor (financing

company) may sell it to the lessee (customer) at a price of the guarantee deposit. Guarantee deposit is a down payment which usually costs around 10% of the leasing amount that every lessee has to pay to the lessor at the beginning of the leasing term, and the lessee will get it back at the end of the leasing term. The product that the customer asks the leasing company to buy must be marketable that means it has market value because in case that the customer does not buy it at the end of the leasing term, the leasing company can sell it to other buyers or rent it out.

DBP Leasing is of the opinion that Leasing is very helpful to SME or a start-up company that needs to operate or expand the business with limited capital and that is not qualified enough for being bankable. I would not say that this is related to my research topic, but I am also interested in Leasing because knowing more is always better especially when leasing business has become marketable in Cambodia nowadays.

During the two-hour discussion, we focused only on Leasing. At DBP, there are two types of Leasing, (1) Financial Lease and (2) Operating Lease. Operating Lease used to be a main product of DBP Leasing before but was replaced by Financial Lease. The major difference between operating lease and financial lease is that financial lease is non-cancellable during the term while operating lease is subject to cancellation anytime. The main object for operating lease is vessel while financial lease is open for any objects ranging from small movable objects such as air conditioner and kitchen

appliance to big factory equipment and immovable property. At the end of the term of operating lease, should the lessee want to own the object, it is going to be sold to the lessee at a market price while the lessee of the financial lease can get it just at the very minimum price equals to the amount of the guarantee deposit.

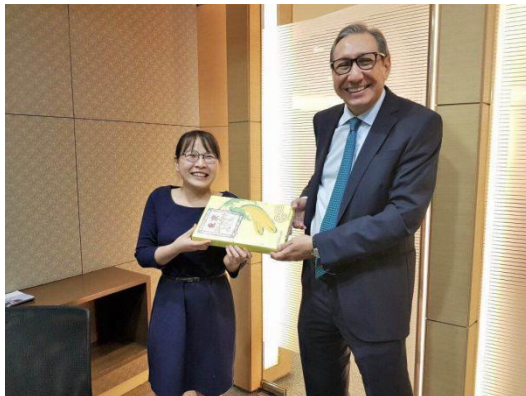
In order to get a financial lease, it is very important that the potential lessee have sound credit, and one way to check the creditworthiness of the potential lessee is to confirm with the Leasing Association that has blacklisted the defaulted lessees, or the lessor can check with the suppliers who have payment experience with the potential lessee. DBP Leasing has explained the reason why the lessee gets to choose its own supplier in the process of leasing. The reason is to save the leasing company from responsibility and blame when the property does not work or has defect. In such a case, the lessee cannot use the defect of the property as an excuse for not paying monthly or quarterly rental fee because the lessee has chosen the supplier by themselves. In addition, during the supplying process, though the lessor is the one who pays the purchase money to the supplier, it is the lessee who has a legal relationship with the supplier. All the lessor has to do is to pay the money and check the validity of the purchase agreement and follow up with the performances of both parties in order to ensure that the purchasing process is going well so that it does not affect the leasing process.



Banco De Oro (BDO)

Date and Time: 28th Feb 2018, 9:30 – 11:00

Place: 12 Adb Avenue Ortigas Center, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong, 1554 Metro Manila, Philippines



BDO is the biggest bank in the Philippines in term of assets, trust assets, and gross customer loan and deposit. BDO stands for Banco De Oro which means Golden Bank in English. The meeting was with the Senior Executive Vice President of the Bank, and he warmly welcomed us by answering the questions enthusiastically. BDO provides many services including but not limited to Loan, Deposit Taking, Cash Management, Trade, Trust & Investment, Leasing and Finance. Due to my point of interest is Receivable Financing, we were discussing more the products that BDO can provide to customers who want to use their

account receivable to finance their companies.

At BDO, when it comes to Receivable Financing, BDO has 3 kinds of products to offer, Post Data Check Discounting Line, Installment Sale Financing, and Factoring through subsidiary Leasing. Post Data Check Discounting Line uses an account receivable that the customer has against a debtor as source of payment, but this transaction is with recourse, which means when the debtor fails to pay the bank, the customer has to pay the bank. Installment Sale Financing is the sale of installment payment that a debtor pays to the customer, and the customer promises to use that installment payment for paying the bank. Factoring is a transaction that the customers advance their account receivable by selling the receivable to the bank. In Factoring, the customer, who holds account receivable, wants to get money before the due date of account receivable and sells that account receivable to the bank, and the bank will generally pay around 80% of the receivable to the customers and will get payment back from the debtors when the due date comes.

In financing method, Receivable Discounting is always confused with Factoring, but these two are slightly different in term of payment collection. In Receivable Discounting, the customer must have a bank account with the bank because the bank would withdraw the payment automatically from the bank account while the bank would collect payment directly from the debtor of the customer in Factoring. In my research topic, I am working on answering the function of an account receivable in an

assignment transaction. I am wondering if an account receivable is only an object for sale or also collateral. According to BDO, an account receivable can only be for sale. It is sold to the bank, and it becomes a source of payment when the due date comes. It is not collateral because the bank does not get priority in payment through buying this account receivable.



Japan-PNB

Date and Time: 2nd Mar 2018, 14:30 – 16:00

Place: 6th Floor, Salustiana Ty Tower 104 Paseo de Roxas corner Perea Street Legaspi Village, Makati, Philippines



Japan-PNB is a joint-venture between Philippines National Bank and a Japanese leasing company called IBJL

Leasing. Philippines National Bank ranks number 4 in the country while IBJL is one of most leading financing and Leasing companies in Japan, which makes Japan-PNB become a top financing and leasing corporation in the Philippines. Japan-PNB has many products to offer to its customer including financial lease, operating lease, term loan, and receivable discounting. In 2008, Japan-PNB Leasing and Financing Corporation established a subsidiary company called PNB-IBJL Equipment Rentals Corporation that does a business of renting real property and personal property.

Operating and Financial Lease are also products of DBP Leasing as I have mentioned before, but according to Japan-PNB, what distinguishes operating Lease and Financial Lease is that operating lease is considered to be an expense while financing lease is an asset in the balance sheet of a company. At Japan-PNB and BDO, Leasing is not only about the leasing company buying a product from a designated supplier and renting it to a customer, but also about another kind of product called “Leaseback” which refers to a transaction that the leasing company buys a product not from a supplier but the customer itself and rents it back to that customer. Besides Leaseback and Leasing, Japan-PNB has an additional product called Lease Sublease which involves three parties naming lessor, lessee, and sub-lessee. The sub-lessee, usually a rental company, leases a property from the lessee.

Japan-PNB offers Receivable Financing as BDO does. At Japan-PNB, Receivable Financing is divided into two, Installment Purchase Paper and

Receivable Discounting. Actually, what I have noticed is that some of these transactions are the same while some are similar; the only difference is their name. Different financial institute usually names their products differently. Regarding the opinion on the function of an account receivable, unlike BDO, Japan-PNB thinks that an account receivable can be both a source of payment and collateral. For an example, in case of Installment Purchase Paper, the customer sells the account receivable to the bank by using a promissory note from their debtor as collateral. With a promissory note as collateral, the bank feels more secured that the bank can collect the account receivable on due date, so when the customers get paid by their debtors, the customer pays the bank.



Citibank

Date and Time : 28th Feb 2018, 18:30 to 20:30

Place: 34th street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, 1634



The meeting with Citibank was not at its office, but it was a nice meeting over a dinner at a hotel in Global City. Citibank has many branches in many countries, and banking is not its only service. However, the central of focus during the two-hour meeting was still on Receivable Financing. Citibank Relationship Manager has emphasized the benefit of Receivable Financing that a seller (customer) can have. First of all, unlike Factoring, Receivable Financing is without recourse. A without-recourse transaction does not put the burden in case of default on the seller because the bank would go after the debtor of the seller for payment during default. Second, it helps the seller to take the account receivable out of the balance sheet, and last but not least, it mitigates the risk. The risk that a seller can have is if a debtor of the seller is bankrupt or dead, it does not affect the seller in collecting the payment because the account receivable has been sold to the bank already. Another risk that can happen is the risk of losing input for producing if the seller lets the long-due account receivable increase; then sooner or later, the seller might not

have capital for producing more products because the payment for supplied products has not been paid yet. In contrast, if the seller sells the account receivable to a bank, the seller can advance those account receivables.

The benefit does not only go to the seller but also to the debtor of the seller. According to Citibank, sometimes Receivable Discounting is approached by the debtor with a condition that the bank would prolong the due date for the debtor. If the bank agrees, then the debtor would convince the seller to sell the receivable to the bank. In Receivable Discounting, the credit of the debtor is very important because whether the bank accepts the receivable or not and the how much the bank agrees to pay are all based on the creditworthiness of the debtor. The bank has to send a notice about Receivable Discounting to the debtor, but consent from the debtor is not

required on that notice. This practice of Citibank is different from that of BDO because BDO requires consent to be written back on the notice from the debtor since BDO believes that consent from the debtor would give BDO priority in payment. From the point of view of citibank, an account receivable can be collateral but not common.

Having met with the four above-mentioned financial institutions with local and international financial experiences, I received a lot of priceless information for my research. I also got the answer for my research question. The answer is that the function of an account receivable is indefinite. In Japan, it is a mutual understanding that an account receivable functions as both collateral and an object for sale. Thus, this function varies from country to country and financial institution to institution.

Reported by Te Muykim



SURF CAMP

Sabang Daguitan Surf Camp

Date and time: 27th February 2018, 15:00–17:00

Place: Barangay Sabang Daguitan,
Bayan ng Dulag, 6505 Hilagang Leyte,
Philippines

(Contents)

They began this activity in 2016 about two years.



And it became the community where 220 people gathered. There are one tourist facility includes some fields in there. (Agriculture, the fishery, accommodations, an eating place.)

They are tourists from Cebu and Tacloban mainly. It is popular that a good wave.

There is the place where a professional surfer often come. Therefore tourists always come.

The person of 90% of these towns was in a flood. They picked up a fruit of the

coconut which fell without eating for one week and they drank that little by little every day. As for it, air was black, and the floodwater came to the bottom of the nose and was a very hot day. They set fire with paper because tree got wet. And it was difficult to set fire, and to use it to a dish. A pig and the bird which they kept in the area was died, and only 1% life.

They said, “The town was rolled up in a flash so that paper flew by wind.” And also say “I don’t never forget it on November 30. It was very sad memory.” He was smiles but tears came to his eyes.

After a disaster, some children has became to crying only raining. Mental support was necessary. Therefore medical Dr. came for support from Sri Lanka. He as encouraged the people and the community. In addition, there were much support and contribution from foreign countries. The contribution was used for a building and dig a well.

This activity is the second life for him. Their the most wish is that the tourist who came comes back here again once. This is because it thinks that they can

accomplish quicker revival for the area.

(Impression)

I think Yolanda's situation and the East Japan great earthquake disaster have a similar part. Because after a disaster, it have been needed the mental care of the victim. They lost an important person and an important place in a disaster. Even if how is the support from others, I think that I cannot rebuild without power of local people. Therefore I felt that the connection of the person is important. It is assist for the revival that took root in the area. Exactly, surfing is the one of the resources in this area. They invite a tourist using tourist attractions to surfing and make use for local revival. In this way, I think that we can rebuild it if there is even the connection of the person even if very serious. I think it be a purpose to make community

through surfing. I felt that the resources were only the tools which made it.

(The think of a future plan)

☆ Do not make disaster prevention measures and hazard map.

I asked him a question. What would you do in future when a disaster was caused?

He said, I pray not to have a disaster anymore. It is the important thing for them.

But I think, there is life to be able to prevent in what I prepared for natural disasters. On that account we understand culture and must convey disaster prevention education.

In addition, we will demonstrate our experience in the world for we don't make the same mistakes twice.

Reported by Eri Okawa

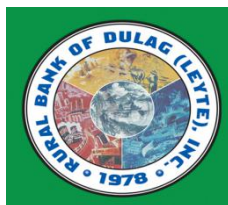


CARD BANK

Date and Time: 26 February 2018, 7:00–12:00

Place: CARD Bank, Inc. Tacloban Branch:
182 Salazar Street, Brgy. 4, Tacloban City

Rural Bank of Dulag



Date and Time: 27 February 2018, 10:30–11:30

Place: Rural Bank of Dulag Tacloban Branch:
Padre Burgos St., Tacloban City
6500 Leyte, Philippines



I have interested in microfinance, so

we visited two microfinance institutions in Tacloban City, in Leyte. My research questions are 1. How did microfinance

institutions(MFIs) aid the victims of super typhoon Yolanda, and 2. Do MFIs really aid the poorest?

The Center for Agriculture and Rural Development, Inc. (CARD, Inc.) is one of the biggest microfinance institution(MFI) in Philippines. CARD, Inc. consists of 21 companies including CARD Bank.

On February 26th morning, Mr. Jerwin Dayon, a training officer of CARD Bank Tacloban Branch, took us to a barangay in Samar. It took around 1.5 hour from Tacloban to the barangay. We joined a center meeting, where clients of CARD

Most of the clients who gathered in the center meeting were women. Mr. Dayon said that is because one of the missions of CARD MRI is empowerment of socially-and-economically challenged women and families. CARD staffs use “socially-economically-challenged” instead of “poor”, because “poor” sometimes hurt people. First, CARD stuff checked attendance. Attendance of the center meeting is one of the important criteria of clients. Others are repayment, project, and attitude. CARD staffs evaluate clients based on these criteria.

According to a client, her family and lives were badly damaged after the typhoon Yolanda. CARD provided financial assistance, 10,000 pesos. Mr. Dayon said they began financial assistance on the next day after Yolanda hit the island. The

Bank get together to hold their meeting about the services of CARD MRI and to conduct other membership transaction, of the barangay. It is held for about one hour every week at Barangay Hall. Actually, I really wanted to see center meeting, but I didn't ask for joining center meeting in request mail because I thought it is impudent to do that. However, Mr. Dayon and Ms. Deverna, who is a contact person of CARD Bank, kindly arranged it. I really appreciate them.



client said she began saving for next disaster after Yolanda. Saving is important to save their lives. She said she is very happy to be a CARD member, because CARD helps her family and provides scholarship for her children.

After the center meeting, we went back to Tacloban and visited CARD Bank Tacloban branch for the orientation and discussion.

Mr. Dayon said programs of CARD Bank are flexible. The shortest loan is 2 months, and the longest loan is 1 year.

Clients can select the loan term based on their capacity to pay. If a person wants to be a member of CARD, he or she have to pass criteria, but CARD has several levels of criteria, because the mission of CARD is to empower all “socially-and-economically challenged” people. People who don’t have jobs or businesses also can be a clients of CARD.

CARD gives assistance and train them. CARD is targeting 18-65 years old people, but they also have programs for 65-100 years old people. CARD categorize their clients depend on their situation: income, lives, age etc. I was surprised to hear that, according to the data of 2017, 99.3% of clients have returned their loan.



On February 27th, morning we visited Rural Bank of Dulag (RB Dulag) in Tacloban. RB Dulag promote and expand the rural economy by providing the people with means to increase their income and purchasing power through a stimulation of capital for productive activities. Although there was no plan to visit there until the day before the meeting with RB Dulag, Professor Tiu kindly arranged the meeting, and Ms.

Elvie YU, a president of RB Dulag kindly accepted us. It was sudden meeting, so we only did discussion about microfinance and how RB Dulag help clients. When we visited there, Ms. Elvie YU was not at the office, so we discussed with her son.

RB Dulag also aid victims of typhoon Yolanda. He said RB Dulag started aid for their clients on December 26th, about 1 month after the typhoon. They provided additional financial assistance. RB Dulag members have meeting every week. Members discuss and understand

other members' situation there. Staffs monitor their clients in the meeting. The criteria for clients are 1. They must have businesses and 2. Their attitude are good. Staffs ask client's neighbors or barangay about behavior or personality of that person and evaluate his attitude.

The percentage of loan repayment of RB Dulag is 80%. Compared to the rate of CARD Bank, it is lower. However, I cannot conclude that loan repayment of RB Dulag is not good. I must study loan repayment of other MFIs.

He said RB Dulag help the poorest, like farmers in rural area. However, to be a member of RB Dulag, clients must have their businesses. In other words, they don't lend money for no income people. I thought that means RB Dulag is not targeting the poorest.



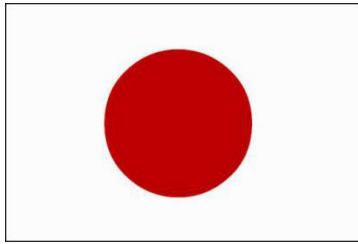
I learned that systems and programs of CARD Bank and RB Dulag are quite different. I thought systems of CARD are more flexible than that of RB Dulag, so CARD can be targeting more various

people including poorest. In addition, loan is the only product of RB Dulag, but CARD provide some kinds of programs like scholarship. I think that is because CARD is one of the biggest MFIs in Philippines and contains many kinds of companies.

Mr. Dayon said the clients we met are not socially-economically challenging people. The percentage of return in the center meeting is 100%. However, I wonder how many percent of the socially-economy-challenging clients can return their loans, so if I have a change, I want to interview socially-economically-challenging people. Thanks to CARD Bank and RB Dulag, I learned a lot about microfinance, and microfinance attracted me strongly. However, I cannot solve my research questions yet. I also have to research about systems of other MFIs to compare with these two MFIs I visited. Moreover, I should visit MCPI (Microfinance Council of the Philippines), which I really wanted to visit, but It was difficult to put on our schedule. MCPI is the association of companies and NGOs engaged in microfinance, to learn microfinance in Philippines.

I really appreciate all the people who accepted us.

Reported by Haruna Sorita



Embassy of Japan in the Philippines

Date and Time: 23th March 2018, 10:00–12:00
Place: 2627 Roxas Blvd., Pasay City, Metro Manila, 1300, Philippines.



The reason why we decided to visit

Embassy in this time is that we were so much eager to know REAL relationships between the Philippines and Japan, which we can not get details from the media but as Japanese local resident officers who are specialized in diplomatic affairs.

<Q&A>

Why is it difficult for the Filipino to get VISA?

★ Comparison the number of VISA issues from in 2015 to 2017

- 220,000 (2015)

- 270,000 (2016)

- 470,000 (2017)

→ As you can see above, the date shows that Visa issues are getting increased from year to year.

Needless to say, the applicant for a Visa who has any problems in the process, it takes comparatively longer time than usual case. It is common not only in the Philippines but also with every countries in the world.

The problem whether taking Visa is difficult or not depends on individual. There is no doubt that taking Visa doesn't relate to the country which he/she lives or belongs to. In other words, it never happens that if an applicant is from Japan, and he/she is

easier to get Visa than the Philipino.

<Cultural Affairs & Public Relations>

★ Achievement

- Cosplay festival

→It was visited approximately
30,000visitors.

- Ongoing activity

→creating “Japan town”

@Philippine Mall

Japan-Philippines relations are very good so far. The primeminister in Japan- Shinzo Abe- and the president of the Philippines- Rodrigo Duterte- have already come and visited each country more three times last year.

Especially, relationship in economic is so strong in the point of CAR industry. In the Philippines, the big issue is bad infrastructure. Public transportation such as train is not so developed so most of people use car in their life.

Therefore, people there face traffic congestions everyday. It is apparent difference between Japan and Philippines. I was actually surprised that wherever I went, traffic congestions were inescapable.

<Comment>

This academic tour was my first visiting the Philippines. Before going there, I was in charge of making appointment with cultural affairs and public officer at the Embassy of Japan. Speaking personally, this experience was quite important for me because now I have had internship at the Embassy of

Afghanistan for more than half a year, and my section there is almost same with the embassy of Japan’ s one. The atmosphere at the Embassy was totally different from Afghanistan one and Japan Embassy was much more strict in the point of security. We all were not permitted bringing electronic devices such as cell phones and computers into the Embassy so we were able to take only this photo.

On the whole, my impressions to the Philippines were changed so much. People living there were very friendly and full of hospitality. Compared Japan to Philippine, Japan is much more developed in the economic situation but I think people n the Philippines seemed to be satisfied with their own lives.

The only thing I was disappointed during my stay was insanitary of the rest room. I had to bring paper by myself every time and when I was in the Leyte, the toilet in my room was clogged. From this experience, I came to realize that how clean Japanese one is.

Anyway I am so blessed to make wonderful memories with wonderful members in the Philippines and also looking forward to visiting again as soon as possible. I am so grateful this opportunity which I was given and I want to thank you for all who made my stay enriched and unforgettable.

Learning continues forever!

Thank you!

Reported by Mamiko Kan

Salt Payatas

Date and Time: 22nd Feb 2018, 12:00–17:00

Place: Quezon City



Recently, many companies which established in not only Japan, but also other countries look at Philippine as tremendous opportunity because of economic growth. For example, GDP is increasing every year. However, the gap between the rich and the poor are also increasing now. Majority are poor and disempowered (not changing for the last 30 years). This time, we went to Payatas which is in Quezon city. By the way, do you know the meaning of Payatas? Payatas means dumpsite. In this area, a lot of people don't have stable occupation. Many people are scavengers, which means they have just informal contractual seasonal. Because of this, the rate of dropout is very high in this area, so this is the one of reason for difficulty of getting stable jobs. Unfortunately, people who are poor get used to environment of

poverty, so they don't think "I want to get out of poverty and improve quality of life"

On July 10th, 2000, Trash slide happened. The impact was very deep. Many people were died and buried alive. Because of this, many people came to think close the dumpsite is better than losing job and collapsing again. Now, the dumpsite is closed.

In this tour, we visited memorial of the collapse of the dumpsite, home, small library and work place for women.



To be surprised, many people who live in Payatas has very bright personality. Especially children are bright.

I wonder one point thanks to this opportunity. That is really suffering from poverty or not and definition of poverty. This was the different from image I thought and real I saw. As I mentioned, many people were laughing and I though everyone is enjoying their life. I thought even they can't escape from poverty, there are no problems. However, situation is different. What I saw was just their part of life. If I image

they get sick, I don't have idea how to treat them because they don't have enough money to cure it, so I think the current situation is much more severe than I expect. However fortunately, thanks to people who came here like us and support them like Salt Payatas, thinking of their mind is changing little by little. I hope near the future the gap between rich and poor are decreasing.



Reported by Ayaka Ozawa



Japan External Trade Organization

Date and time: 22nd February 2018, 10:00–11:00

Place: 44th Floor,

Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo de Roxas,
Makati City 1226, Metro Manila, PHILIPPINES



JETRO, or the Japan External Trade Organization, is a government-related organization that works to promote mutual trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world. Originally established in 1958 to promote Japanese exports abroad, JETRO's core focus in the 21st century has shifted toward promoting foreign direct investment into Japan and helping small to medium size Japanese firms maximize their global export potential.



The purpose of visiting here is to search the business relationship between Japan and the Philippine. Besides that, we gained the local information of how Philippine economic has operated until now.

Concerning about the merit of Japanese enterprises invest into the Philippines are cheap personnel expenses, few difficulties of communication because of English, and

the scale of market. In contrast, the demerit are lacking of infrastructure development, the unstable of politic and society, and uncertain outlook toward administration. Japanese can communicate with Filipino easily, but as the demerit of undeveloped infrastructure makes huge traffic congestion.



About the economic situation in the Philippines, the Philippines economic

growth rate has recorded 6-7% and, the most significant feature of Philippine economic is that 10% of total Philippine population worked abroad. The number of migrant workers leads to great impact toward Philippine GDP.

However, highly skilled human resources are in the shortage. The main reasons are at the labor market, the field of technical workers are not trained well and supplied. Also, job hopping and the high rate of leaving a company is the secondary reason. In fact, the industry of service is developing, but looking through the future of the Philippines, they need a highly education so that economic situation will be more improved.

Reported by Keishun Sakamoto



Department of Education

Date and Time: 2 March 2017, 10:00–12:00

Place: DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave.,
Pasig City, Metro Manila



The visions

As The Philippines is the last country in Asia and one of only three countries worldwide with a 10-year pre-university cycle, and a 12-year program is found to be the best period for learning under basic education. The Philippines decided to implement 12 years of basic education started from 2012. To learn more about k-12 program, we visited the Department of Education (DepEd) on 2 March 2018. And Supervising education program specialist Ms. Ligaya introduced to us the visions and the changes of education in the Philippines.

DepEd has two vision of the education. One is the Long-Term Vision, another is a Team Vision. The Team Vision is “By 2022, DepEd is a modern, professional, pro-active, nimble, trusted and nurturing institution delivering quality, accessible, relevant and liberating K to 12 Education, enabling our learners to be nation-loving, resilient and competent lifelong learners”. To achieve the team vision, DepEd set a strategic goal that they are ① expand access to basic education ② improve quality and relevance ③ modernize Education Management and Governance.

The changes

In order to improve the quality of Education, DepEd makes some changes of the Curriculum. For example, from kindergarten to Grade 3, except the English classes, other subjects are taught in Filipino. And for the Senior High School Curriculum, they are 4 Applied Track Subjects, Academic, Technical-Vocational-Livelihood, Sports, Arts and Design. No matter which subject they choose, they have to take the core learning areas, such as Language, Humanities, Communication, Mathematical, Philosophy, Science, Social science, PE & Health. This will ensure that students learn a wide range of knowledge. Ms. Ligaya also mentioned the need to improve the quality of teachers. Teachers will be trained not only to teach students Knowledge of the 21st century, but also to teach students Critical Thinking.

The problems

According to the “K-12” program, public schooling is free from kindergarten through high school. But the cost of clothes, textbooks and stationery can't be ignored, which is a heavy burden for poor households. What's more, faced with population growth and increasing demand for education, the Philippines has a shortage of teachers and insufficiency of classrooms. Schools in some places even need to divide one classroom into two, or use the gym as a classroom.

Facing these problems, Ms. Ligaya said it's a challenge for DepEd to keep

children in the school. DepEd are trying to expand access to basic education with



NGOs and other government agencies.

In addition, before we visited the DepEd, we went to the CARD BANK in Tacloban, we learned that CARD BANK provides an Education Loan for poor households so they can use the money to pay for the meal, textbooks and uniform, etc.

Back to the DepEd, Ms. Ligaya showed us the most recent quick counts enrollment figures as of August 5, 2017. There are 1,929,584 children in the Public Kindergartens, and 284,529 children in the Private Kindergartens. For the Elementary, there are 12,413,295 children go to the Public Schools and 1,173,769 children go to the Private Schools. We can see that there are much more children in Public Schools than in Private Schools.

Even though there are still many children who cannot go to school, DepEd never gives up to help them. Ms. Ligaya said, “If children really can't go to school, we go to them, we bring them to school.” I believe with this determination, DepEd will achieve their vision in the future.

Reported by XIAOMEI FENG



Kaisa Para sa Kaunlaran

Date and Time: March 1, Thursday 2018, 14:00–16:30

Place: 32 Cor Anda & Cabildo Sts, Bgy 655,
Zone 069, Intramuros Manila



Schedule and content

TIME p.m.	Mar 1, 2018 - Thur	VENUE
2:00	Meet and Greet guests/photo	Benito Cu Uy Gam Hall
2:10	Tour of Bahay Tsinoy	Bahay Tsinoy
Between 3:00 and 3:20 pm	Briefing about Kaisa & activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Outreach & development · Cultural work · Research 	Cheng Han Sui Board Room
Around 345 pm	Open forum: Focus on Tsinoy in mainstream society Many of the topics asked in the previously emailed interview questions may be answered during the museum tour.	
430 pm	Dialogue ends	

About Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran:

Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran is a leading resource organization that advocates the proactive and sustainable participation of the Tsinoy community in

local and national development.

Kaisa Para Sa Kaunlaran started on 28 August 1987, during the time when one of the bloodiest coups was being staged in the metropolis. It was a baptism of fire. Democracy has just been restored, and young Chinese Filipinos (Kaisa founders), felt it was a good time to

About Kaisa Heritage Center

Kaisa Heritage Center is a lasting repository of the historical and cultural legacy of the Chinese in all aspects of Philippine life. It documents the tangible and indelible imprints and Under the staff's explanation, we probably learned about the history of the Chinese immigrants to the Philippines. Even though these Chinese immigrants had left China for hundreds of years, they still did not forget their roots. Bahay Tsinoy is the best witness.

After hearing the president's brief introduction about the Kaisa, I asked



several questions about Chinese Filipinos. It's a great In the end of the dialogue, Mrs. Teresita Ang See, the founder, recommended three books that

would help me understand the relevant knowledge about Chinese Filipinos. Dr. Tiu bought these three books for me and invited Ms. Teresita Ang See to sign for me. As is known to all, Ms. Teresita Ang See is a very famous woman in the world. It is very lucky for me to get her

launch a new organization. The logo shows two hands clasped together with one heart beating for our country and pushing the wheel of progress. Kaisa's desires were simple, although the mission ahead was gigantic.

influences of the Chinese in Philippine history, society, culture and politics

What Impressed me most?

In this trip, we first visited Bahay Tsinoy –Museum of the Chinese in Philippine Life.

honor to get the answer about my questions. What impressed me most was that when I asked questions about the impact of the split between mainland China and Taiwan on the Chinese Filipinos community, the founder expressed very directly and clearly that Chinese Filipinos were not concerned about China's political problems. They are more concerned about their lives in the Philippines. It is very different from what I expected before.

signature. Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Tiu for the hard work he has paid for this negotiation. He personally went to kaisa for contacting the leader and invited Ms. Teresita Ang See to attend the meeting. Without Dr. Tiu's work, it would be difficult to facilitate this meeting, and see Ms. Teresita Ang See. His enthusiasm and friendliness is one of the biggest gains in my study trip in the Philippines.

Reported by Xiaoyu Shi



The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC)

Date and Time: February 17th, 2018, 12:00–13:30

Place: EVRMC Magsaysay Blvd,
Downtown, Tacloban City, Leyte



On November 8th 2013, a tragedy took place in Tacloban city, Leyte, where people surrounded by rich nature live peacefully. More than 5000 people were killed by Super Typhoon Yolanda. EVRMC was the last hospital standing in the aftermath of the Typhoon.

About EVRMC

The Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center is a regional and tertiary level teaching and training government health care facility in the Philippines. As of 2013, it has 275 hospital beds, 294

average daily censuses of admissions, and 100 average dairy ER cases. Also 389 personnel, such as medical staffs, nursing staffs and administrative staffs, is working regularly.

This medical center is designated as a responsive and functional hospital which continues to provide its services as a critical community facility when it is needed during and after disaster. Also, before Yolanda, it has been working as the “apex” and “end-referral” hospital where all the lower health facilities, patient transport services and volunteer emergency responders bring their patients during typhoon and earthquake.

Super Typhoon Yolanda

They had won the national award for excellence in disaster risk, management and humanitarian assistance. Even though they thought prepared well, Typhoon Yolanda transcended far beyond their forecast because of its unusual path.

As soon as the typhoon landed, almost all buildings of EVRMC were highly damaged and flooded.

The center continued to operate during and immediately after the storm, and never ceased operations despite the depleted manpower and scarcity of resources. Many institutions, such as Doctors Without Borders, and Medicos Del Mundo, and foreign governments send support team to EVRMC immediately. For 2 weeks after the typhoon landed, the center had more than 3000 patients and 664 admissions in total.

Problems Found After the Typhoon

After presentation from Dr. Reutas and our Q&A session, we found some problems.

The first is about logistics. Immediately after the typhoon, the support team tried to visit Tacloban from the Central Government, but the airport was unusable due to flood damage. For that

reason, they had to deal with enormous numbers of patients only by limited local staff for several days, and the rescue supplies were also short. Construction of airports and logistic routes that are resistant to disasters is required.

The second is patient transportation. The ambulances could not work due to floods or damage to the road. As a result, most of the patients in Tacloban had to visit EVRMC on foot. Improvement of transportation tools in the case of flooding, and drainage remains as a problem.

The last is communication system. The support teams from foreign countries and the local staff shared information mainly with text messages using English. However, local people could not speak in English well, and communication between patient and overseas support team did not work well. This problem can happen throughout the Philippines where multilingual is spoken.

Four years have passed after the tragedy. Local people have been getting back their usual daily life. We hope the lessons practically works well in the future.

Reported by Shohei Nomoto

Photo essay



