UN Regional Workshop on Strengthening the Collection and Use of International Migration Data in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Bangkok, Thailand
31 January - 3 February 2017
• Created under the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013 (RA10625 - Reorganizing and Strengthening of the Philippine Statistical System)

• **Merger of four major statistical agencies** - National Statistics Office (NSO), Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS), National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB); and Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES)

• **Headed by the National Statistician** (Dr. Lisa Grace S. Bersales)

• **Key mandates of PSA:**
  Primarily be responsible for all national censuses and surveys, sectoral statistics, consolidation of selected administrative recording systems and compilation of national accounts.

  Plan, develop, prescribe, disseminate and enforce policies, rules and regulations and coordinate government-wide programs governing the production of official statistics, general-purpose statistics, and civil registration services.
The Commission on Filipinos Overseas is a government agency mandated to promote and uphold the interests of overseas Filipinos and preserve and strengthen their ties with the Philippine Motherland.

- Batas Pambansa 79
OUTLINE

I. Overview of Philippine Migration

II. Migration-Related Statistics from the Government Agencies

III. Policy Issues and Data Gaps
OVERVIEW ON PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

100.9 M Filipinos in the Philippines (PSA, 2015)

9.1 M Filipinos Overseas (DFA, 2015)
OVERVIEW ON PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

5,000+ Filipinos Leave the Philippines everyday
(CFO, POEA, 2015)
OVERVIEW ON PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Philippines - among the top 10 countries of origin with the largest diaspora populations

(UN International Migration Report, 2015)
TOP 10 DESTINATION COUNTRIES OF FILIPINOS OVERSEAS

1. USA (3,176,208)
2. SAUDI ARABIA (1,075,148)
3. CANADA (662,600)
4. MALAYSIA (620,043)
5. UAE (537,393)
6. QATAR (379,432)
7. JAPAN (377,233)
8. CHINA (246,800)
9. ITALY (227,177)
10. AUSTRALIA (210,934)
PHILIPPINE REMITTANCES

Philippines is the 3rd top receiving country of remittances; accounts for 9.8% of GDP.
# MATRIX OF MIGRATION DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Responsible Agency</th>
<th>Frequency of Data</th>
<th>Availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock: Stock Estimate of Filipinos Overseas</td>
<td>Department of Foreign Affairs, Commission on Filipinos Overseas</td>
<td>Annual/Semi Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Online for CFO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outflow: Deployment of OFWs</td>
<td>Philippine Overseas Employment Administration</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outflow: Registered Filipino Emigrants</td>
<td>Commission on Filipinos Overseas</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflow: Aliens and Foreign Nationals</td>
<td>Bureau of Immigration</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Upon Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflow: Alien Employment Permit</td>
<td>Department of Labor and Employment</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Upon Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of OFWs, Socioeco characteristics, Remittances of OFWs:</td>
<td>Philippine Statistics Authority</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Yes. Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey on Overseas Filipinos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Migrants in the Philippines: Census of Population and Housing</td>
<td>Philippine Statistics Authority</td>
<td>Every 10 years</td>
<td>Yes. Online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2022

MAIN STRATEGIES

"Empowering Overseas Filipinos towards Inclusive and Sustainable Development"

- Enhancing PROTECTION & WELFARE of OFs and their families
- Strengthening ENGAGEMENT of OFs, families, and other stakeholders in governance
- Facilitating the REINTEGRATION of returning OFs

Source: NEDA, 2017
MIGRATION RELEVANT POLICY ISSUES AND DATA NEEDS

1. Human Trafficking, Illegal Recruitment Cases

Data Needs – Harmonized, comprehensive data on Human Trafficking - no. of victims, nature of cases, country or supposed transit and country of destination of the victims
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Data Needs – Harmonized, comprehensive data on Human Trafficking - no. of victims, nature of cases, country or supposed transit and country of destination of the victims
2. Protection of migrants in countries in crisis

Data Needs – Reliable, harmonized data from relevant agencies on Filipinos Overseas (including irregulars)
MIGRATION RELEVANT POLICY
ISSUES AND DATA NEEDS

3. Overseas voting - increase registration and voter turnout; use of a more advanced voting technology

Data Needs – Reliable Estimates of Filipino Overseas Potential Voters (in setting registration targets and voters turnout)
MIGRATION RELEVANT POLICY ISSUES AND DATA NEEDS

4. Ensure successful socioeconomic reintegration of Overseas Filipinos

Data Needs – Comprehensive data on permanently returning Filipino migrants
MIGRATION RELEVANT POLICY ISSUES AND DATA NEEDS

5. Irregular migration (including stateless children in Sabah)

Data Needs – Reliable Estimates of irregulars for the implementation of programs and services for them
MIGRATION RELEVANT POLICY ISSUES AND DATA NEEDS

6. Philippines Shared Government Information System on Migration – not yet operationalized

Data Needs – Migration-related data of all government agencies harmonized; database with the same information system or platform

The Challenge of Informed Decision-Making on International Migration
Posted on April 30, 2016 by Jorge V. Tigno in UP Forum
The OFIS Project

- EO 34 of April 6, 2011 created the Overseas Preparedness and Response Team (OPRT)

- OPRT-Technical Working Group was created to plan, design, develop, pilot test, and commission an operational system to **consolidate and reconcile** databases on OFWs. DFA as lead

- This database system called “Overseas Filipinos Information System Project” will provide accurate information on the number, profiles, whereabouts and movements of OFWs

- The project scheduled to be completed until March 2012.
OFIS – Architectural Plan
OFIS - Current Status

- OFIS v1 is up but has not been used
- The system is hosted at the DOST-ASTI with the domain name: [https://ofis.gov.ph/](https://ofis.gov.ph/)
- The interface servers were set up but connection to the OFIS central server was not established
- The OFIS V2 is being developed:
  - Implement a better solution to interface with databases of agencies concerned with migrant information
  - Use tools to determine that a person record in a database refers to the same person in another database.
OTHER DATA GAPS AND CHALLENGES

1. Not Systematic reporting/ estimation of Stock of OFs made by Posts
2. No Data disaggregation of the Stock of OFs
3. No Comprehensive data on permanently returning migrants (for the Philippine reintegration program of OFs)
4. Openness of data by other government agencies that produce migration data (despite FOI and Open Data Policy)
5. Lack of migration data at the local level
6. Lack of annual estimate of migrants/ foreign nationals in the Philippines
7. Interconnection of migration data by all migration-related government agencies – not yet realized
THANK YOU