

PHILIPPINES: Country Gender Profile

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List of Abbreviations

ARMM	Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
CALABARZON	Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon
CAR	Cordillera Administrative Region
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CFSI	Community and Family Services Incorporated
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DEPED	Department of Education
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FLEMMS	Functional Literacy Education and Mass Media
FPW	Framework Plan for Women
GAD	Gender and Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRP	Government of the Republic of the Philippines
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LFPR	Labor Force Participation Rate
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MCW	Mindanao Commission on Women
MILF	Moro Islamic Liberation Front
MIMAROPA	Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, Palawan
MNLF	Moro National Liberation Front
MTPDP	Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan
NCR	National Capital Region
NCRFW	National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women
NEDA	National Economic and Development Authority
NOH	National Objectives for Health

NGO	Non Government Organization
NSCB	National Statistics Coordination Board
NSO	National Statistics Office
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PCIJ	Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism
PPGD	Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development
POPCOM	Commission on Population
OFW	Overseas Filipino Worker
RA	Republic Act
SOCCSKARGEN	South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, General Santos
SPPR	State of the Philippine Population Report
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
US	United States
VFF	Visayan Forum Foundation
WEDC	Women in Especially Difficult Circumstance
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Basic Profile

This section presents the statistical data on the following sectors: (i) socio-economic; (ii) health; and, (iii) education.

1.1 Socio-economic Profile

Table 1.1.1 Economic Indicators Source: World Development Indicators 2007

Gross National Income (GNI) \$ billion	GNI Per Capita(\$)	Purchasing Power Parity GNI		Gross Domestic Product		Gini Index
		\$ Billions	Per Capita \$	% Growth	Per Capita % Growth	
2005	2005	2005	2005	2000-05	2004-2005	2003
109.7	1,300	440.2	5,300	5.0	3.2	44.5

Table 1.1.2 Demographic Profile Source: World Development Indicators 2007

Total Population In millions			% of Female Population	Average Annual Population Growth Rate (%)		Life Expectancy at Birth 2004	
1990	2005	2015	% of total 2005	1990-2005	2.0	Female	Male
61.1	83.1	98.7	49.7	2005-2015	1.7	73	69

Table 1.1.3 Public Sector Expenditure by Sectors Source: Human Development Report 2007

Education		Health		Military		Total debt service	
2002-2005	2.7 % of GDP	2004	1.4% of GDP	2005	0.9% of GDP	2005	10.0% of GDP

Table 1.1.4 Labor Indicators Source: Philippine National Statistics Office, various years

Year	Total Population 15 Years and Above	Total Labor Force (in 000)	Labor Force in (in 000)		Labor Force Participation Rate Both Sexes %	Labor Force Participation Rate %		Unemployment Rate	
			Female	Male		Female	Male	Female	Male
2002	50,841	33,675	11,812	20,515	66.2	46.4	80.8	10.2	10.1
2003	52,299	35,078	13,360	21,718	67.1	50.9	83.3	10.3	10.0
2004	53,562	35,619	13,478	22,140	66.5	50.2	82.9	11.7	10.5
2005	54,797	35,496	13,679	21,817	64.8	49.8	79.8	7.35	7.4
2006	55,989	35,806	13,703	22,104	69.9	48.9	79.1	6.8	7.6

Table 1.1.5 Employment by Economic Activity Source: World Development Indicators 2007

Year	Agriculture/a		Industry/a		Service/a		Total	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
	% of Female Employment	% of Male Employment	% of Female Employment	% of Male Employment	% of Female Employment	% of Male Employment		
1990- 1992	32	53	14	17	55	29	101	99
2000- 2005	25	45	12	17	64	39	101	101

a/ Data may not add up to 100 because of the workers not classified by sectors and rounding off of figures

Table 1.1.6 Participation of Women in Decision Making Source: Human Development Report 2007

Seats in Parliament Held by Women (% of Total)	Female Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers (% of Total)	Female Professionals and Technical Workers (% of Total)
22.1	58	61

Table 1.1.7 Ratification and Signature of International Law for Women

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)	1979
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Laws for the Benefit of Women (See Attachment 1)

Table 1.1.8 Gender and Development (GAD) Policy

Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development (PPGD) 1995-2025	A 30-year perspective plan that outlines the policies, strategies, programs and projects that the government must adopt to enable women to participate in and benefit from national government. Adopted as the country's main vehicle in implementing the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
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Table 1.1. 9 National Gender Machinery

National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)	Advisory body to the President of the Philippines on policies, and programs concerning women. It is mandated to review, evaluate and recommend measures, including priorities to ensure the full integration of women for economic, social and cultural development at national, regional and international levels, and to ensure further equality between men and women.
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1.2 Health Profile Source: Human Development Report 2007

Public Expenditure on Health (% of GDP)		Physicians (per 100,000 people)		Births Attended by Skilled Health Personnel (%)		One Year Olds Fully Immunized			
						Against Tuberculosis (%)		Against Measles (%)	
2004	1.4	2000-2004	58	1997-2005	60	2005	91	2005	80

HIV Prevalence Ages 15-49		Tuberculosis Prevalence (per 100,000 people)		Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)		Infants With low Birth weight (%)		Maternal Mortality Rate per 100,000 live births		Contraceptive prevalence rate (15-49 years)		Total Fertility	
2005	<0.1[.0.2]	2005	450	2005	25	1998-2005	20	Adj. 2005	230	2003	47.3	2003	3.5

Population Undernourished (% of total population)		Population using improved sanitation (%)		Population using improved water source (%)	
2002/04	18	2004	72	2004	85

1.3 Education Profile Source: Human Development Report 2007

Public Expenditure on Education				Education System			
As % of GDP		As % of total government expenditures		Compulsory Education (Number of Years)			
2002-2005	2.7	2002-2005	16.4	Primary	6	Secondary	4

Adult Literacy (% ages 15 and Older)		Youth Literacy Rate (% Ages 15-24)		Children Reaching Grade 5 (% of Grade 1 Students)	
2005	92.6	2005	95.1	2004	75

Net Primary Enrolment Ratio (%)		Net Secondary Enrolment Ratio (%)		Tertiary Students in Science, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction (% of tertiary students)	
2005	94	2005	61	1999-2005	27

2. Government Policy on Gender and the National Machinery

2.1 Women's Situation in the Philippines

The current situation of women in the Philippines is best described as having sharp contradictions. Filipino women may be considered as one of the most advanced vis-à-vis the women in other countries, in the areas of academic, professional, politics and legislation. However, they also suffer from domestic violence, economic disadvantages, discrimination at the workplace, exploitation as migrant workers, and as prostituted women¹ and displacement brought about by the intermittent wars in conflict affected areas in the Philippines.

The Philippines accords high priority to the promotion of gender equality. It is one of the few countries with gender provision in its Constitution, and one of the earliest signatories to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). It also signed the Millennium Declaration, wherein gender equality plays an integral role in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. On top of the international commitments, the Philippines has a long list of laws and policies promoting gender equality. The Philippines also has a vibrant women's movement which is recognized for its work in the international and national levels.

Out of 115 countries in 2006 and 128 countries in 2007, the Philippines consistently ranked number 6 in the World Economic Forum initiated Global Gender Gap Index 2007², "the Philippines (6), along with Sri Lanka (15) remain distinctive for being the only Asian countries in the top 20 of the rankings". "The Philippines is once again the only country in Asia to have closed the gender gap on both education and health and is one of only six in the world to have done so." The Philippines' scores on political empowerment improved further, as did some of its economic indicators such as estimated income, labor force participation and income equality for similar work." Further, in the latest survey conducted by the Grant Thornton International³, it was found out that the "Philippines is the only country in the world where women have parity to men in senior management roles"

¹ Anonuevo, Carlos Antonio Q., An Overview of the Gender Situation in the Philippines, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, September 2000

² The Global Gender Gap Index examines the gap between women and men in four fundamental categories namely: (i) economic participation and opportunity, (ii) educational attainment, (iii) political empowerment and (iv) health and survival. The Political Empowerment Category mainly measures the gap between women and men in political decision making at the highest levels. This concept is captured through the ratio of women to men in minister-level positions, the ratio of women to men in parliamentary positions and the ratio of women to men in terms of years in executive office (Prime Minister or President) in the last 50 years. The Global Gender Gap Report 2007 covered 128 countries and was produced by the World Economic Forum.

³ Grant Thornton International is one of the world's leading organizations of independently owned and managed accounting and consulting firms providing assurance, tax and specialist business advice to privately held businesses and public interest entities

In spite of the remarkable achievements mentioned above, thousands of Filipino women suffer from sex and other gender-based abuses. The most common form of gender-based violence in the Philippines is domestic violence, followed by rape. (Women's Legal Bureau 2006) One of the most common forms of domestic violence is wife battering. (Mananzan 1997). Wife battering is not limited to physical violence but also includes verbal and psychological abuse. Violence against women persist because of the patriarchal views, values and practices which are still prevalent in Philippine Society and are replicated in many ways by several institutions like the Catholic Church, fundamentalist Christian and Muslim religious groups, media, education and government itself. (Women's Legal Bureau 2006)

The Philippine Population Commission has noted the increasing feminization of migration as more and more women are leaving the country to work abroad. A huge number of women are deployed as laborers and unskilled workers (mostly as domestic helpers). Female Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) incur more costs and face greater risks compared to their male OFWs counterparts. They are subjected to discrimination, trafficking, prostitution and degrading jobs. They are also prone to human rights abuses, reproductive health problems and violence.

While Filipino women suffer the same domestic violence, and economic disadvantages all over the country, women in some parts of Mindanao and other conflict affected areas in the Philippines suffer more. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center, armed conflict in the Philippines caused the displacement of nearly two million people from 2000 and 2006⁴. As in most countries affected by displacement, women and children made up the great majority of the displaced population in the Philippines and experienced additional vulnerabilities. The intermittent wars affected women's livelihood, health, education and family life, among other things.

⁴ These armed conflicts happened between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines/Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the New People's Army

2.2 Government Policy on Gender

In the past two decades, the Philippines did well in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. These are evident in the inclusion of gender equality principles in development programs and processes and legislative reforms.

The Philippine Government adopted the Philippine Plan for Gender-Responsive Development (PPGD) 1995-2025, a 30-year strategic plan that translated the Beijing Platform for Action into policies, strategies, programs and projects for Filipino women. However, inasmuch there was a need for short-term operational plans to realize the goals of the PPGD, the Philippine government, in collaboration with its partners in the non-government organizations, the academe formulated the Framework Plan for Women (FPW) in 2001.⁵

The FPW envisions development as “equitable, sustainable, free from violence, respectful of human rights, supportive of self-determination and the actualization of human potentials, and participatory and empowering”⁶ The FPW has the following 3 priority areas: (i) promotion of women's economic empowerment, (ii) protection and advancement of women's rights, and (iii) promotion of gender responsive governance.

The Plan has been implemented through a GAD mainstreaming strategy and in accordance with existing guidelines for the preparation of agency specific agenda and use of the gender budget. It is worthy to note that the Philippines is one of the few countries in the world that has adopted a GAD Policy Budget (1995) that requires all government agencies (including local government units) to utilize at least five percent of their respective total budgets for programs, activities and projects that address the needs and uphold rights of women.

In the area of legislative reforms, the Philippines has also ensured the protection of women against economic, social and political forms of discrimination. The country passed important laws like the Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998, Anti Sexual Harassment Act of 1995 and the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004.

2.3 National Machinery

The National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW) was established on 7 January 1975, through Presidential Decree No. 633. It serves as an advisory body to the President.. Among its mandate is to review, evaluate and recommend measures, including priorities to ensure

⁵ Report on the State of the Filipino Women 2001-2002

⁶ Framework Plan for Women, 2000

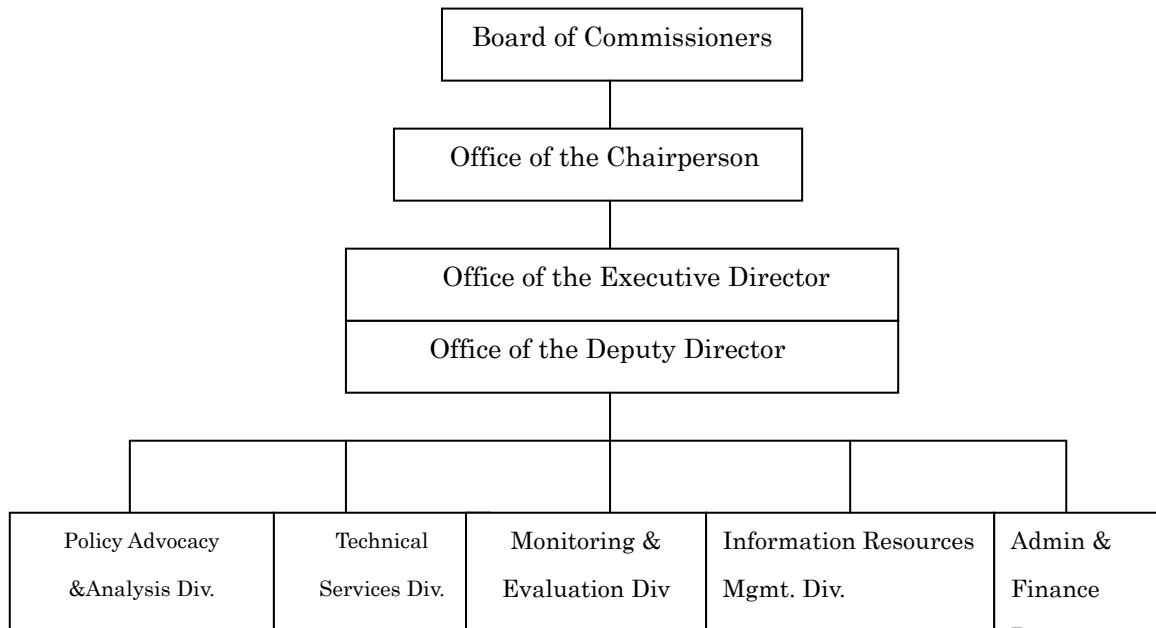
the full integration of women for economic, social and cultural development at national, regional, and international levels. It is also mandated to ensure further equality between men and women. Following are the functions of the NCRFW:

- Advise the President in formulating policies and implementing programs on increased contributions by women in national development;
- Ensure the gender responsiveness of national development plans and coordinate the preparation, assessment and updating of the National Plan for Women, ensure its implementation and monitor the performance of government agencies in the implementation of the Plans at all levels;
- Undertake continuing advocacy to promote economic, social and political empowerment of women and provide technical assistance in the setting up and strengthening of mechanisms on gender mainstreaming

The NCRFW's programs include:

- Conduct policy studies and gender analysis of priority policy issues;
- Provision of technical assistance or advisory services to key government agencies and selected local government units to mainstream gender concerns in their policies, plans and programs;
- Monitoring of the implementation of national laws and policies, and international instruments on women, such as the Anti-Rape Law, Anti Sexual Harassment Law, Women in Development and Nation Building Act, GAD Budget Policy and the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (UNCEDAW);
- Development of institutional mechanisms and tools for sustaining and tracking the progress of gender mainstreaming efforts and gender-responsive programs and projects at the national and local levels; and,
- Development and maintenance of computer-assisted information services and sex-aggregated database

Organizational Structure



The Board of Commissioners, which is headed by the Chairperson, sets the policies, programs, thrusts and rules toward the achievement of the vision and mission of the Commission. The Chairperson is responsible for ensuring the over-all implementation of the policies and programs of the NCRFW. The Executive Director, on the other hand, oversees the planning and implementation of NCRFW operations. The Executive Director is assisted by two Deputy Executive Directors and five Division Chiefs.

Government Agency (GO) Commissioners and Their Permanent Alternate Representatives

Ex-Officio Member Secretary Arturo D. Brion, DOLE DG Augusto B. Santos, NEDA Secretary Esperanza I Cabral, DSWD Secretary Arthur Yap, DA Secretary Jesli A Lopus, DepEd Secretary Francisco T. Duque, III, DOH Secretary Alberto G Romulo,DFA Secretary Ronaldo V Puno, DILG Secretary Peter B. Favila, DTI Secretary Rolando G. Andaya, Jr.,	Alternate Representative/s Asec. Teresita Soriano DDG Margarita R. Songco Usec. Alicia R. Bala Usec Bernadette Romulo-Puyat Use. Vilma L Labrador Asec. Mario C. Villaverde Director Yolando E. Oliveros Usec. Edzel T. Custodio Asec Austere Panadero Asec Lourdes T. Baua Asec. Marliza V. Reyes
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Non-Government Organization (NGO) Commissioners

Florencia P Cabatingan Isabelita Sy-Palanca Geraldine S. Padilla Dr. Amaryllis T. Tores Apolonia A Tolentino Atty. Evelyn S. Dunuan Maribeth C. Floralde Elsie Brandes-De Vera, RN Dr. Amelia Lourdes Benitez-Reyes Mary-Anne Concepcio C. Tan Dr. Teresita U Quirino	Labor Sector Business and Industry Sector Science and Health Sector Education or Academe Sector Urban Poor Sector Indigenous Peoples Sector Peasants and Fisherfolks Sector Elderly and Disabled Sector Media and Arts Culture Youth Sector National Council of Women of the Philippines
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3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

3.1 Education

Education in the Philippines

The 1987 Philippine Constitution protects and promotes the right of Filipinos to quality education. The State has the duty to establish and maintain a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels. The state shall likewise assign the highest budgetary priority to education. While the Philippines may have a sound constitutional framework for education, the quality of Philippine basic education has been deteriorating continuously.

The expanding student population brought about by the rapid population growth has made it difficult for the public school system to cope with the resource requirements of providing free education. Moreover, public education has suffered from the severe budgetary constraints of the Government. While the education sector receives the highest allocation in the Philippine Government's budget, and government spending for education grew at an average of 4.5%, in 2004-2010, 89% of the Department of Education (DepEd) went to salaries and other personnel benefits. Only a meager 4% went to capital outlay expenditures like classrooms and instructional equipment, while the remaining percentage went to maintenance and operating expenses like attendance to training programs, purchase of instructional materials and devices and conduct of instructional supervision.

Table 3.1.1 Public Expenditure on Education, Selected Southeast Asian Countries, 2002-2004

Country	Public Expenditure on Education	
	As % of GDP	As % of total government expenditure
Indonesia	.9	9.0
Malaysia	8.0	28.0
Philippines	3.2	17.2
Thailand	4.2	40.0

Source: Human Development Report 2006

Compared with its neighbors in the region, the Philippines' expenditure on education is one of the lowest. This underinvestment has led to numerous problems. Among the problems faced by the public schools in the Philippines are shortage of classrooms, books, chairs and qualified teachers.

Table 3.1.2 Basic Key Indicators, SY 2002-2003 (in %) ⁷ Source: Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010

Indicators	Female	Male	Overall
Participation Rate ⁸			
Elementary	90.87	89.26	90.05 ⁹
Secondary	62.35	53.80	58.03 ¹⁰
Cohort Survival Rate			
Elementary	74.06	66.01	69.84
Secondary	73.13	58.72	65.83
Drop-out Rate			
Elementary	6.15	8.44	7.34
Secondary	9.96	16.26	13.10
Completion Rate			
Elementary	71.18	62.94	66.85
Secondary	67.46	52.38	59.79

- In school year 2002-2003, the participation rate of female pupils at the elementary level was slightly higher than that of the male pupils (90.87% and 89.26%, respectively). However, at the secondary level, the female pupils' participation rate was far more than that of the male pupils' (62.35% and 53.80%, respectively).
- Female students had better cohort survival rates in both elementary and secondary level at 74.06% and 73.16%, respectively, compared to male students' 66.01% and 58.72%, respectively. This is because the drop out rate for female students was lower than that of the male students. The female students' completion rate was also higher than that of the male students' in both levels.
- In a paper entitled "When Classes Open Today, Many Boys Won't be in School" (PCIJ 2005)", the following were reported:
 - (i) "Overall, boys score lower than girls in National Achievement Tests (NATs) ¹¹, but this does not mean that boys are mentally inferior, they are simply less academically prepared for various reasons, including their inattentiveness in class";
 - (ii) "Boys tend to do poorly than girls, as they become frustrated, they tend to drop out";

⁷ Medium Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010, p.197

⁸ Participation Rate refers to the proportion of 7-12 age group (elementary) and 13-16 years old (secondary) who are in school against a total population for the same age group. However, beginning SY 2002-2003, the age group consists of the 6-11 years old (elementary) and 12-15 years old (secondary) who are in school against total population of the same age group

⁹ Data cover public and private schools. Data on private schools based on 82.5 percent of processed school profiles

¹⁰ *ibid*

¹¹ NATs are designed to determine what the graduating students know in 5 subject areas at the end of the school year, namely: Mathematics, Science, English, Filipino and HEKASI/Araling Panlipunan (Social Studies)

- (iii) “Girls value education more than boys do because they no longer see themselves merely staying at home when they grow up, they expect to have careers, boys tend to assume they would be able to work even without finishing school”;
- (iv) “Poor families tend to make the boys work because they are considered to be more physically able than girls. Since boys generally perform poorer in school, it seems easier for parents to make them quit and get a job”;
- (v) “Boys tend to be diverted from school by all sorts of distractions, like billiards, basketball and computer gaming”;
- (vi) “Large classroom size and in general, the deteriorating quality of education is also adding to the make drop out rate. Public High Schools have been growing at an enormous rate as hard times force more students to transfer out of private schools into public institutions. Each section tend to have 50-70 students. Boys get easily irritated and hot-tempered because they can barely move”;
- (vii) “Parents are busier these days and are less able to supervise teenage students and encourage them to stay in school”;
- (viii) “In the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, the reason why more boys are dropping out of school in their early teens (two years earlier than among boys in other parts of the country) may be due to the continual armed conflict in the region, its disruptive effects on homes and schools and its adverse impact on the economy”.

Table 3.1.3 Enrollment by Program Level and Sex Category (Public and Private) SY 2003-2004

Master’s		Total	Percentage		Doctoral		Total	Percentage	
Female	Male		Female	Male	Female	Male		Female	Male
60,483	31,905	92,388	65.4%	34.6%	6,686	3,943	10,629	62.9%	37.1%

At the post-graduate level, more females than males are enrolled in master’s and doctoral programs in the Philippines. On the average, 64% of the students in master’s and doctoral programs are women.

Table 3.1.4 Number of Examinees who Took and Passed the Board Examination by Profession and Sex Category, 2003

Course	Female			Male		
	No. of Examinees	No. of Passers	Passing Rate	No. of Examinees	No. of Passers	Passing Rate
Accountancy	9,432	1,697	18.0	3,543	832	23.5
Architecture	620	193	31.1	1,525	606	39.7
Chemical Engineering	645	225	34.9	401	190	47.4
Civil Engineering	2,264	770	34.0	6,334	2,382	37.6

Criminology	1,512	613	40.5	9,137	3,488	37.9
Dentistry	2,285	830	36.3	585	190	32.5
Electronic and Communications Engineering	1,757	703	40.0	5,565	2,305	41.4
Geodetic Engineering	144	57	39.6	453	169	37.3
Mechanical Engineering	127	55	43.3	3,596	1,450	40.3
Medicine	2,423	1,332	55.0	1,411	825	58.5
Metallurgical Engineering	15	11	73.3	27	19	70.4
Midwifery	2,412	1,177	48.8	109	65	59.6
Mining Engineering	3	2	66.7	18	10	55.6
Nursing	12,022	5,792	48.2	3,589	1,736	48.4
Nutrition-Diabetics	515	252	48.9	45	28	62.2
Registered Electrical Engineering	320	149	46.6	3,473	1,408	40.5
Social Work	823	386	46.9	77	46	59.7
Teacher-Elementary	64,852	17,053	26.3	10,448	2,712	26.0
Teachers-Secondary	51,729	13,366	25.8	17,181	4,749	27.6

Source National Statistics and Coordination Board (NSCB) Gender Statistics

- Traditionally, Filipino female students enroll in health related courses while male students enroll in engineering and technology related courses. However, based on the results of the Board Examinations in 2003, female examinees scored better than male examinees in the following courses: criminology, dentistry, geodetic engineering, mechanical engineering, metallurgical engineering, mining engineering and registered electrical engineering.
- On the other hand, male examinees scored better than female examinees on the following courses: accountancy, architecture, civil engineering, medicine, midwifery, nursing, nutrition-diabetics, and social work.
- In the Philippines, women can excel on areas where men traditionally excel on and vice versa.

Table 3.1.5 Basic and Functional Literacy Rates of Household Population 10 to 64 Years Old By Sex Category and Region, 2003

Region	Basic Literacy Rate ¹²			Functional Literacy Rate ¹³		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
PHILIPPINES	93.4	94.3	92.6	84.1	86.3	81.9
NCR National Capital Region	99.0	99.1	98.9	94.6	95.2	94.0
CAR Cordillera Administrative Region	91.6	91.1	92.0	85.4	87.0	83.9
I Ilocos Region	97.4	97.3	97.6	88.6	89.2	88.1
II Cagayan Valley	92.7	93.5	92.1	84.4	86.1	82.9
III Central Luzon	96.9	96.9	96.8	86.9	87.4	86.5
IV-A CALABARZON	97.2	97.5	96.8	90.4	92.0	88.8
IV-B MIMAROPA	91.2	91.0	91.4	82.3	84.4	80.2
V Bicol Region	95.0	96.3	93.8	80.1	83.8	76.6
VI Western Visayas	92.8	94.0	91.6	81.5	85.2	77.7
VII Central Visayas	92.4	93.2	91.5	81.7	83.6	79.8
VIII Eastern Visayas	90.1	93.3	87.0	76.7	82.1	71.7
IX Zamboanga Peninsula	88.9	90.9	86.8	74.8	79.8	69.8
X Northern Mindanao	91.8	93.5	90.1	83.7	86.9	80.5
XI Davao	90.3	92.7	88.0	77.8	82.2	73.7
XII SOCCSKSARGEN	87.3	88.8	85.9	77.1	79.7	74.5
XIII CARAGA	92.1	94.6	89.5	81.0	84.6	77.3
ARMM	70.2	69.4	71.0	62.9	62.1	63.6

Source: 2003 FLEMMS, National Statistics Office and Department of Education

- Overall, in terms of basic and functional literacy, females have higher rates than males, except in ARMM, where women have lower basic and functional literacy rates than men.
- ARMM has the lowest rates, while the National Capital Region has the highest.

Among the 10 Southeast Asian countries, women in the Philippines ranked third in adult literacy rate, following Brunei Darussalam and Thailand. The Philippines, however, scored higher than Singapore and Malaysia. On the other hand, the men in the Philippines, ranked 4th after Brunei Darussalam, Thailand, and Singapore in terms of adult literacy rates.

¹² Basic Literacy Rate – % of population 10-64 years old who can read, write, a simple message in any language or dialect

¹³ Functional Literacy Rate - % of population who can read, write, compute and/or comprehend

Table 3.1.6 Adult Literacy Rates¹⁴ in Southeast Asia, 2004

Country	Women	Men
Brunei Darussalam	99	99
Cambodia	60	80
Indonesia	87	94
Lao PDR	75	83
Malaysia	93	96
Myanmar	93	96
Philippines	96	95
Singapore	92	97
Thailand	88	98
Viet Nam	-	-

Source: 2005/2006 ASEAN Statistical Yearbook and NSCB Fact Sheet, 8 March 2007

According to the Philippines' Mid-term Progress Report on the Millennium Development Goals 2007, there is a need to step up its efforts on goal 2 - *Achieve universal primary education* inasmuch as access to primary education worsened in School Year 2005-2006. There was a decline in the net enrolment rate from the 2000 level of 96.8% to 84.4% setting back the 2015 target of universal access. The probability of attaining the targets for (i) elementary participation rate, (ii) elementary cohort survival rate and (iii) elementary completion rate by 2015 is low.

¹⁴ Adult Literacy Rate refers to 15 years old and above

Health Situation in the Philippines

The Department of Health (DOH) engineered the FOURmula ONE for Health (F1) as the new implementation Framework for vital health sector reforms. FOURmula One is designed to implement critical health interventions with speed, precision and effective coordination to achieve the three major goals of the health care system, namely: *better health outcomes, more responsive health system and more equitable health care financing*. Following are the four elements of the Framework: (i) health financing – to foster greater, better and sustained investments in health, (ii) health regulation – to ensure the quality and affordability of health goods and services, (iii) health service delivery – to improve and ensure the accountability and availability of basic and essential health care in public and private facilities and services, and (iv) good governance – to enhance health system performance at the national and local levels (National Objectives for Health Philippines 2005-2010)

Health services were devolved to the local government units in 1992. Provincial government managed provincial and district hospitals while municipal governments managed rural health units as well as barangay¹⁵ health stations. Given the different socio-economic situations of LGUs as well as the varying geographical locations, issues of inequity continue to happen nationwide.¹⁶

According to the World Health Organization's Regional Office for the Western Pacific, the factors contributing to the limited capacity of the country's health care system to deliver better health outcome may be summed as follows: (i) Poor health care financing (ii) Inappropriate health service delivery system (excessive reliance on use of high end hospital services rather than primary health care) (iii) Brain drain of health professionals (iv) Excessively high price of medicines (v) Inadequate enforcement of regulatory mechanisms, and, (vi) Insufficient effort being expended on prevention and control of new diseases, particularly non –communicable diseases.

Table 3.2.1 Trends in Maternal Mortality Ratio in the Philippines, 1993-2003

Year	MMR
1993/a	209 between 1987 -1993
1998/b	172 between 1991-1997
2003/c	138

Source: National Objectives for Health Philippines 2005-2010 a/1993 National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) b/1998 NDHS , c/2002 Ericta Study – based on the maternal causes of deaths in the civil registry in 2002

¹⁵ Barangay or village is the smallest political unit in the Philippines

¹⁶ WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Health Situation, Philippines

- Based on the table above, there was a slight improvement in the MMR in the Philippines. Maternal deaths made up less than 1% of total deaths in the country, however, it contributed to 14% of all deaths in women aged 15-49 years (National Statistics Office 1998).
- Based on the Philippine Health Statistics of 2000, MMR is lowest in the National Capital Region (50 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births), Central Luzon (60 per 100,000 live births), and it is highest in the Bicol and Eastern Visayas (around 160 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births).
- Common causes of maternal deaths were (i) hypertension, (ii) postpartum hemorrhage and complications from abortions.¹⁷

Based on the Philippines' Mid-term Progress Report on the Millennium Development Goals, it is unlikely that the Philippines will meet its target of 52 deaths in the MMR by 2015. Further, while access to reproductive health care improved at a modest rate for currently married women ages 15-49, from 49% in 2001 to 50.6% in 2006, at this rate, the 2015 target of 80% is difficult to achieve.

The Philippines' MMR is relatively high compared with Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam but better than Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar. (NOH 2005-2010)

Table 3.2.2 Percentage of Married Women and All Women Age 15-49 Years Who Ever Use Any Contraceptive Method By Age Group, 2003

Age Group	Percentage of Currently Married Women	Percentage of All Women
15-19	36.8	4.0
20-24	61.0	31.8
25-29	71.5	56.6
30-34	75.8	66.5
35-39	76.5	69.7
40-44	72.2	66.5
45-49	67.7	63.1
TOTAL	70.6	47.3

Source: National Demographic and Health Survey, 2003

¹⁷ National Objectives for Health Philippines, 2005-2010, p.12

- The contraceptive prevalence rate among all Filipino women of reproductive age (15-49 years) is only 47.3% while it is higher for currently married women (70.6%). The age group of 15-19 has the lowest percentage of ever using contraceptives while the age group of 35-39 has the highest percentage of using contraceptives (NOH 2005-2010)

Table 3.2.3 Current Use of Contraception by Background Characteristics (%)

Background Characteristics	Any Method (Modern and Traditional Method)	Not currently Using	Total
Residence			
Urban	50.1	49.9	100.0
Rural	47.4	52.6	100.0
Education			
No education	18.1	81.9	100.0
Elementary	44.0	56.0	100.0
High School	51.9	48.1	100.0
College or Higher	51.4	48.6	100.0
Wealth Index Quintile			
Poorest	37.4	62.6	100.0
Poorer	48.8	51.2	100.0
Middle	52.7	47.3	100.0
Richer	54.4	45.6	100.0
Richest	50.6	49.4	100.0
Total	48.9	51.1	100.0

Source: 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey National Statistics Office and Department of Health

Modern Method

Background Characteristic	Any Modern Method	Female Sterilization	Male Sterilization	Pill	IUD	Injectibles	Male Condom	Mucus, Billings Ovulation	LAM
Residence									
Urban	33.9	12.1	0.1	12.6	3.5	2.5	2.3	0.1	0.4
Rural	32.8	8.6	0.1	13.8	4.7	3.7	1.5	0.1	0.2
Education									
No Education	11.7	6.1	0.0	4.6	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Elementary	30.3	10.3	0.2	11.0	4.3	3.1	1.0	0.1	0.2
High School	35.9	10.0	0.1	14.9	4.7	3.8	1.8	0.0	0.4

College or Higher	34.2	11.5	0.1	13.4	3.2	2.1	3.1	0.2	0.2
Wealth Index Quintile									
Poorest	23.8	3.9	0.2	11.4	3.6	3.5	0.8	0.1	0.2
Poorer	33.8	7.9	0.0	14.7	5.2	3.7	1.8	0.2	0.3
Middle	35.7	11.2	0.2	14.5	4.6	3.2	1.4	0.1	0.4
Richer	37.9	13.4	0.1	13.6	4.8	3.2	2.2	0.0	0.4
Richest	35.2	15.9	0.1	11.5	2.1	1.7	3.3	0.1	0.3
Total	33.4	10.5	0.1	13.2	4.1	3.1	1.9	0.1	0.3

Source: 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office and Department of Health

Traditional Method

Background Characteristics	Any Traditional Method	Calendar/Rhythm Periodic Abstinence	Withdrawal	Others
Residence				
Urban	16.3	6.1	9.7	0.5
Rural	14.7	7.4	6.5	0.7
Education				
No Education	6.3	1.7	1.6	3.1
Elementary	13.8	5.4	7.6	0.7
High School	16.0	6.1	9.3	0.6
College or Higher	17.2	9.2	7.6	0.4
Wealth Index Quintile				
Poorest	13.6	6.0	6.1	1.4
Poorer	15.0	5.7	8.5	0.8
Middle	17.0	7.0	9.7	0.3
Richer	16.5	7.1	9.2	0.3
Richest	15.3	7.7	7.4	0.3
Total	15.5	6.7	8.2	0.6

Source: 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey, National Statistics Office and Department of Health

- 48.9% of the currently married women in 2003 use any form of contraceptive method while 51.1% do not use any form of contraceptive method at all
- There are more users of contraceptives in the urban areas than in the rural areas
- More than half (51.9%) with at least High School education are current users of contraception compared with 18.1% with no formal education

- As one's wealth status increases, the use of any method of family planning also increases. Contraceptive prevalence is 50.6% for women in the highest wealth quintile while contraceptive prevalence is only 37% among women in the lowest wealth quintile

Table 3.2.4 Wanted Fertility Rate, Total Fertility Rate, and Mean Number of Children Ever Born to Women Age 40-49 Years by Region, 2003

Region	Desired Fertility Rate	Total Fertility Rate	Mean Number of Children Ever Born to Women Age 40-49 Years
NCR	2.0	2.8	3.2
CAR	2.7	3.8	4.7
Ilocos	3.0	3.8	3.9
Cagayan Valley	2.6	3.4	4.1
Central Luzon	2.4	3.1	4.1
CALABARZON	2.3	3.2	3.8
MIMAROPA	3.6	5.0	5.1
Bicol	2.6	4.3	5.5
Western Visayas	2.7	4.0	4.9
Central Visayas	2.6	3.6	4.4
Eastern Visayas	2.9	4.6	5.4
Zamboanga Peninsula	2.6	4.2	4.9
Northern Mindanao	2.8	3.8	4.8
Davao Region	2.2	3.1	4.6
SOCCSKARGEN	3.0	4.2	5.0
CARAGA	2.8	4.2	5.2
ARMM	3.7	4.1	5.4
Philippines	(2003) 2.5	3.5	4.3
	(1998) 2.7	3.7	
	1993) 2.9	4.1	

Source: National Demographic and Health Survey, 2003

- MIMAROPA has the highest total fertility rate (5.0) while the NCR has the lowest at 2.8.
- The mean number of children born to a Filipino woman at the age of 40-49 is 4.3 while the average total fertility rate is 3.5 children per woman.
- The desired fertility rate of 2.5 is lower than the total fertility rate of 3.5. This means that women bear 1 more child than they desire.

- In the Philippines, the desired fertility rate has always been lower than the total fertility rate which means that the number of children they bear is not exactly the number they want or desire.
- The high fertility rate in the Philippines may be caused by the relatively low contraceptive prevalence rate.

Table 3.2.5 Fertility Background Characteristics (Total Fertility Rate for the three Years Preceding the Survey, Percentage of Women aged 15-49 Currently Pregnant, and Mean Number of Children Ever Born to Women Aged 40-49 by Background Characteristics, (2003)

Background/Characteristics	Total Fertility Rate/a	Percentage Currently Pregnant/1	Mean Number of Children Ever Born to Women Aged 40-49
Education			
No Education	5.3	7.0	6.1
Elementary	5.0	6.7	5.3
High School	3.5	5.7	4.2
College or Higher	2.7	4.7	2.9
Wealth Index Quintile			
Lowest	5.9	9.6	6.0
Second	4.6	8.0	5.2
Middle	3.5	5.1	4.4
Fourth	2.8	4.1	3.7
Highest	2.0	3.2	3.0
Total	3.5	5.6	4.3

a/ Women aged 15-49 years

Source: National Demographic and Health Survey 2003, National Statistics Office

- Poor women have almost 3 times more children than the rich (5.9 children for the poor and 2 for the rich)
- There is a decreasing trend in the number of children as the educational attainment of a woman becomes higher (5.3 for the unschooled while 2.7 for those who have college degrees)
- The same survey also showed that 26% of women aged 15-24 years have already begun childbearing. About one in 16 girls aged 15-19 are already young mothers.
- In general, adolescent and young mothers are more likely to come from poor families, reside in rural areas, and have obtained an elementary school certificate only
- Early childbearing is highest in MIMAROPA and Cagayan Valley. It is lowest in Western Visayas and Bicol.

Abortion

Abortion is illegal in the Philippines, it is condemned by the Catholic Church and is unacceptable to the Philippine Population Management Program; but according to the Study *Unintended Pregnancy and Induced Abortion in the Philippines*: “an estimated 473, 000 abortions occur annually, one third of women who experience an unintended pregnancy end it with abortion. A higher proportion of pregnancies are unintended in Metro Manila than in any other major geographic region, and a higher proportion of unintended pregnancies in Metro Manila end in abortion than elsewhere” (Singh et al 2006). The same study also revealed the following:

- “Some 54% of those who have ended an unintended pregnancy by abortion were not using any family planning method when they conceived”
- “Women from all segments of society experience abortion. The majority are married, Catholic and poor. They have some high school education and have already had several children”
- Filipino women cited the following reasons for seeking abortion: (i) economic cost of raising a child (72%); (ii) they have enough children (54%); pregnancy occurred to soon after their last one (57%)
- Poor women tend to use unsafe methods because of the cost of relatively safe procedures performed by trained providers in hygienic settings (US\$73-273). Said amount is many times higher than that of unsafe and less effective methods costing as little as US\$1.
- Filipino women employ a wide range of methods when attempting abortion which includes: (i) Surgery or “operation”; (ii) hormonal pills; (iii) eating/drinking traditional medicines/herbs; (iv) drinking alcohol; (v) insertion of a catheter or other objects into the cervix; (vi) massage, (vii) climbing a tree, (viii) jumping and exercising, (ix) taking Misoprostol (Cytotec)
- “Only 30% of women who attempt an abortion succeed in having one, many women try again and again to end a pregnancy. With each unsafe attempt at ending pregnancy, successful or not, a women increases the risk to her life and health”
- “Poor and rural women often lack access to safer methods and providers and thus experience higher rates of severe complications than do their wealthier and urban counterparts”
- “An estimated 79,000 women were hospitalized because of health complications of abortion in 2000. This translates into an annual rate of 4.5 abortions for every 1,000 women of reproductive age”
- “An estimated 800 women per year die from complications of unsafe abortion”

Table 3.2.6 Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Under 5 Mortality Rate by Region, 2003

Region	IMR	Under 5
NCR	24	31
CAR	14	34
Region1 –Ilocos	29	39
Region 2 - Cagayan Valley	28	35
Region 3- Central Luzon	25	31
Region 4A –CALABARZON	25	31
Region 4B-MIMAROPA	44	68
Region 5 – Bicol	28	43
Region 6 -Western Visayas	39	50
Region 7 -Central Visayas	28	39
Region 8 - Eastern Visayas	36	57
Region 9 -Western Mindanao	27	43
Region 10 -Northern Mindanao	38	49
Region 11 -Davao Region	38	47
Region 12 -Central Mindanao	27	37
CARAGA	35	49
ARMM	41	72
Philippines	30	42

Source: Philippine Statistical Yearbook 2006

- High IMRs were noted among infants of mothers with no education and no antenatal and delivery services.
 - IMR is lower in urban (24 deaths per 1,000 live births) than in rural areas (36 deaths per 1,000 live births).
 - The 3 regions with the highest IMRs are MIMAROPA (44 deaths per 1,000 live births), ARMM (41 deaths per 1,000 live births) and Western Visayas (39 deaths per 1,000 live births).
 - The 2 most common causes of IMR are pneumonia and bacterial sepsis
- The IMR in the Philippines is lower than the IMRs in Indonesia, Myanmar, Lao PDR and Cambodia but higher than in Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and Thailand
- Under 5 Mortality Rates are highest in ARMM (72 deaths per 1,000 live births), followed by MIMAROPA at 68 deaths per 1,000 live births. Under 5 Mortality Rates are lowest in NCR, Central Luzon and CALABARZON (31 deaths per 1,000 live births)

. Source: National Objectives for Health Philippines 2005-2010

Table 3.2.7 Public Health Indicators, Southeast Asia, 2005

Country	Tuberculosis		Estimated Number of Adults and Children Living with AIDS/a	
	Prevalence per 100,000 population	Incidence per 100,000 population	Adult 15+ and Children	Women 15+
Brunei Darussalam	62.9	53.6	<100	<100
Cambodia	702.9	505.5	130,000	59,000
Indonesia	262.1	239.2	170,000	29,000
Lao PDR	305.8	154.6	3,700	<1000
Malaysia	130.9	101.6	69,000	17,000
Myanmar	170.4	170.9	360,000	110,000
Philippines	450.3	291.2	12,000	3,400
Singapore	28.2	28.7	5,500	1,500
Thailand	204.0	142.3	580,000	220,000
Vietnam	234.8	175.2	260,000	84,000

Source: WHO – World Health Statistics 2007 and WHO, UNICEF,UNAIDS Epidemiological Fact Sheets on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections, December 2006

a/These estimates include all people with HIV infection, whether or not they have developed symptoms of AIDS

- The Philippines has the second highest prevalence and incidence rate of tuberculosis in Southeast Asia
- In terms of the Estimated Number of Adults (including women 15 years and above) and Children Living with AIDS/a the Philippines has one of the lowest in the sub region.

Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances

The Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan 2004-2010 identified several vulnerable groups for provision of essential social and health services, among these vulnerable groups are women in especially difficult circumstances (WEDC). The following are examples of WEDC:

1. Women in armed conflict - Thousands of people have suffered from continued armed conflict and violent confrontations. Most unprotected in these situations are women who are left alone at home doing household chores and caring for children. The unstable situation leads to inadequate basic government services like health services. Women in armed conflict situation have poor health, leading to high rates of maternal and infant death.
2. Women victims of domestic violence – It is difficult to obtain accurate statistics on

violence against women because it is often seen as a “private matter”. Problems involving domestic violence such as physical battering verbal abuse and sexual assault at home usually lead victims to bear their fear, pain and rage in silence for the sake of the family.

3. Women in prostitution - Examples of prostituted women in the Philippines are struggling female students, young women migrants from depressed rural areas and urban poor communities. These women often lack the skills to compete in business-oriented market often find themselves in the lowest and marginalized jobs both in the domestic and international labor market. As a result, they become victims of male employers and costumers, susceptible to all kinds of sexually transmitted diseases.

4. Women in prison – Studies and researches have indicated that a lot of women who have been convicted for murder and manslaughter of husbands and boyfriends have had abusive relationships. Others have been imprisoned because of drug-related cases. Among the issues confronted by women in prison are: (i) poor and non-existent medical care; (ii) separation from their children, (iii) sexual abuse, and, (iv) mental health care

5. Single women – A single women seeking for reproductive health services is often condemned. As a result of a misled culture and gender insensitivity among health providers and people in the community, single women are deprived of access to family planning and other reproductive health services

Table 3.2.8 Number of Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances (WEDC)¹⁸ Served by DSWD by Region, 2005 and 2006

Region	2005	2006
National Capital Region	525	266
CAR	675	395
Region 1 – Ilocos	332	274
Region 2 – Cagayan Valley	399	359
Region 3 – Central Luzon	559	592
Region 4A- CALABARZON	106	73
Region 4B MIMAROPA	74	65
Region 5 – Bicol	85	71
Region 6 _Western Visayas	116	100

¹⁸ Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances (WEDC) are those who were sexually abused, physically abused or maltreated, victims of illegal recruitment, involuntary prostitution, armed conflict, trafficking, those in detention, There is also a category called “others”, these are the stranded persons, abandoned, emotionally distressed, unwed mothers, sexually exploited, voluntary committed/surrendered. The last grouping is called “uncategorized” these are WEDC clients provided crisis intervention services but whose cases were not categorized

Region 7- Central Visayas	416	377
Region 8 – Eastern Visayas	215	157
Region 9 – Zamboanga Peninsula	766	688
Region 10 Northern Mindanao	477	645
Region 11 Davao	486	1083
Region 12- Central Mindanao	172	211
CARAGA	37	22
TOTAL	5440	5378

Source: Philippine Statistical Yearbook 2006 and DSWD website

Women are put in disadvantaged position due to the differences in gender roles. This limits their access to resources and their ability to provide and protect their health¹⁹

In 2005, a total of 5,440 WEDC were served by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The highest number of WEDC was reported in Region 9 (Zamboanga Peninsula) while the lowest was reported in CARAGA. In 2006, a total of 5,378 WEDC were likewise served by the DSWD. The highest number of WEDC was reported in Region 11 (Davao), while the lowest was reported again in CARAGA. In both years, no reports were received from the ARMM.

Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC)²⁰

VAWC is an act or a series of acts committed by any person against his wife, former wife, a woman with whom he has or had a sexual dating relationship, or with whom he has a child; or against the woman's child. This act may have been committed within or outside the family residence resulting to: (i) physical violence (bodily or physical harm), (ii) sexual violence, (iii) psychological violence and (iv) economic abuse. A Survey conducted by the Social Weather Station (SWS) in November 2003, revealed that:

- 2.16 million females, 18 years old and above, were physically harmed; majority of them were inflicted by either the woman's husband, boyfriend, or live-in partner
- Some 2.8 million men admitted having physically harmed someone-wives, girlfriends, live-in partners
- Of the women physically harmed by their husbands, two-thirds have been hurt more than once while the remaining one-third can no longer remember the number of times they have been abused.

¹⁹ National Objectives for health Philippines 2005-2010 pages 233,236-237

²⁰ A Guide to Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children (RA 9262) November 2004

For the first half of 2004, Region 7 had the most number of reported cases of violence against women (774 cases). Of these cases, 68.5 % were on physical injuries/wife battering while 12% involved rape (including incestuous and attempted rape). The number of cases may actually be higher, however, some women do not report the abuses committed against them because of the following reasons:

- they feel that it is embarrassing
- they do not know how or whom to report to
- they feel nothing would be done on their complaints
- little support from their families, law enforcement agencies, and the health sector
- they feel that the abuse was just a small thing to bother with

The Department of Health has identified the following are factors that lead to poor health among Filipino women:²¹

- low social status of women
- reproductive risks
- inadequate gender-responsive services and facilities for women
- environmental hazards and contaminants
- increased participation of women in the workforce (reproductive health risk at work especially during pregnancy and lactation)

²¹ National Objectives for Health Philippines 2005-2010, pp.237-238

3-3 Agriculture

Agriculture in the Philippines

Agriculture plays an important role in the lives of many Filipinos. It accounts for 20% of the gross national product, while one third of the population is employed in agriculture or agri-related industries. While agriculture and fisheries production targets for 2001-2003 were exceeded, this was not enough to improve the country's international competitive position. Moreover, there was not much improvement in the overall productivity of the Philippine agriculture sector relative to the productivity of its neighboring countries like Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. As a result, the Philippines has become a net importer of agricultural products since 1994. (MTPDP 2004-2010).

Table 3.3.1 Unemployment and Underemployment in Philippine Agriculture, 1997-2002

Year	Rural	
	Unemployment Rate %	Underemployment Rate %
1997	5.6	18.3
1998	6.7	18.2
1999	7.1	18.8
2000	7.0	24.9
2001	5.4	20.0
2002	7.5	20.3

Source: MTPDP 2004-2010:7.1

The high rate of unemployment and underemployment may be attributed to the (i) seasonal nature of agriculture, (ii) the relatively low level of cropping intensity and diversification, (iii) vulnerability to price fluctuations, and, (iv) generally low prices offered to its raw materials²²

In terms of the percent distribution of hired workers in agriculture 23% are female while 73% male (NSCB 2004). On the other hand, the proportion of unpaid family workers is broken down as follows: 54.5% for females and 45.5% for males (NSO 2006)

²² MTPDP, p. 26

Land Ownership

Table 3.3.2 Distribution of Land Titles by Gender, 2002-2006

Year	Female	Male	Total
2002	423,917	1,180,302	1,604,219
2003	21,158	47,783	68,941
2004	20,369	39,722	60,091
2005	21,027	36,811	57,838
2006	20,100	34,083	54,183
TOTAL	506,571	1,338,701	1,845,272

Source: Department of Agrarian Reform 2007

Out of 10.4 million workers employed in agricultural, hunting and forestry sector in 2004, 27.3 % were women.²³ Although it is often not counted in official government statistics, women participate in trading of agricultural and fishery products, working in farms, and engaging in micro manufacturing enterprises.

Despite the important role played by women in agriculture, most of the land titles of land owning households are in the name of their spouses. Out of the 1,845,272 land title holders²⁴, only 27% or 506,571 are women. This may be explained by the patriarchal system in the Philippines where men are traditionally believed to be the main breadwinners while women are responsible for childbearing. Further, the traditional pattern of task allocation in the rural community is women still do the most of the household chores while men spend most of their time in occupation. In the Philippines, women are still strongly tied to their traditional roles as mother, wife and housekeeper. “In the rural community, marriage and raising a family are among the most important and, in fact, more easily attainable career paths”. (Women’s Studies Reader 2004)

Women’s Participation in Agriculture

There are more men than women employed in forest based industries. More women are employed in saw milling than in logging, veneer and plywood manufacturing and other wood based products manufacturing. Of the one million people directly and indirectly employed in the fisheries sector, only 8.2% were women. While men fishers are primarily involved in catching fish,

²³ Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Fact Sheet Philippines, Women in Agriculture, Environment and Rural Production

²⁴ These land titles consists of Emancipation Patents and Certificate of Land Ownership Award under the Comprehensive Agrarian reform Law of 1988 which guarantees equal rights to landownership and equal shares of the farm’s produce.

women fishers are engaged in pre- and post- fishing activities. Women are engaged in 50-70 percent of local fish processing and marketing activities. Further, they are involved in tending the fishing equipment and mending the nets. In the dairy sector, both women and men are involved in feeding the cattle and the proper management and handling of cattle prior to milking. However, women are involved mainly in sanitizing milk equipment and facilities, cleaning cattle barns and grazing areas and surroundings and conversion of raw milk to milk products. (FAO Fact Sheet Philippines, Women in Agriculture, Environment and Rural Production)

A survey conducted by the Philippine Peasant Institute in 2002²⁵ showed that:

- Women are engaged in almost all areas of rice production, namely: planting, weeding, input and fertilizer application, drying and sacking
- Besides the actual rice production, women are also primarily tasked to prepare food to be brought to the field during meal time.
- Women's scope of influence extends beyond household maintenance, it also includes decision relating to budget allocation for farm input expenses and productive activities
- Women are also involved in tasks such as hiring of workers and the storing of seeds for future planting
- Almost 70% of the women surveyed are directly involved in capital procurement. Ninety four percent (94%) of the women have borrowed money from informal moneylenders, small convenience stores, cooperatives, relatives and other sources to finance rice farming and augment household expenses
- Women borrow money more than men do because they are the ones directly managing the household and production expenses and are under pressure to budget resource gaps.
- Access to formal credit is low for women as compared with men, hence, they end up in borrowing from private money lenders

A research conducted by the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)²⁶ revealed that among the individuals of farming households who out migrated, there was a higher proportion of males than females who migrated in Thailand and Vietnam. However, in the case of the Philippines, a higher proportion of females than males migrated. Further, the study found out that in the Philippines, although rural to urban migration occurs, domestic to international migration is more prevalent. Female migrants mainly worked as domestic helpers and entertainers within the Philippines and in the Middle East, Italy, Singapore and Hong Kong. Others worked as factory workers in Taiwan, Japan and Korea.

²⁵ Filipino Women in the Rice Industry: A Case Study, Gender and Trade and FAO Fact Sheet on Women in Agriculture, Environment and Rural Production

²⁶ Project ID: PLIA/2000/039: Impact of Migration and/or Off-Farm Employment on Roles of Women and Appropriate Technologies in Asian and Australian Mixed Farming Systems

Indigenous Women in Traditional Agriculture

The study entitled “The Role of Indigenous Women in Traditional Agriculture in the Philippines”,²⁷ found out that:

- Women’s task in traditional farming are complex and multi-faceted, demanding most of women’s time and efforts in practically all phases of the production cycle
- Indigenous women’s many roles in production add to their burden of daily household chores of cooking, cleaning and childcare, which remain as women’s main responsibility
- The role of indigenous women in agricultural production is an inadequately appreciated one, in relation to labor valuation in an increasingly cash-based economy.

²⁷ “The Role of Indigenous Women in Traditional Agriculture in the Philippines” Women’s Wisdom: Documentation of Women’s Knowledge on Ecological Agriculture in the Philippines, Indonesia and Pakistan, Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific

3-4 Economic Activities

The promotion of women’s economic empowerment is one of the key priorities of the Philippine Government’s Framework Plan for Women. While gains have been attained in this respect, in terms of legislation, a number of challenges still need to be addressed with regard to advancing women’s economic empowerment.

While women’s labor force participation rate is close to 50%, their rate still trails that of men. Women are prevented from entering the labor force because of the gender role stereotyping, particularly in relation to reproductive responsibilities. Globalization has affected the economic activities of women involved in agriculture as well as in the manufacturing. Employment in the business process outsourcing have led to the deskilling of educated women. The lack of employment in the country has led millions of women to leave and work abroad as overseas Filipino workers (OFWs). In exchange for higher wages, these women OFWs are often subject to marginalization and deskilling and are often exposed to exploitation and trafficking.²⁸

Table 3.4.1 Labor Force Status, 15 Years Old and Above, 2002-2006

Year	Total Population 15 Years and Above	Total Labor Force (in 000)	Labor Force in (in 000)		Labor Force Participation Rate Both Sexes %	Labor Force Participation Rate %		Unemployment Rate	
			Female	Male		Female	Male	Female	Male
2002	50,841	33,675	11,812	20,515	66.2	46.4	80.8	10.2	10.1
2003	52,299	35,078	13,360	21,718	67.1	50.9	83.3	10.3	10.0
2004	53,562	35,619	13,478	22,140	66.5	50.2	82.9	11.7	10.5
2005	54,797	35,496	13,679	21,817	64.8	49.8	79.8	7.35	7.4
2006	55,989	35,806	13,703	22,104	69.9	48.9	79.1	6.8	7.6

Source: NSO various years

- From 2002-2006, women constituted 38% of the country’s labor force
- Males consistently had higher labor participation rate compared to females, the difference between the labor force participation rates of females and males slightly decreased in 2005 and 2006 because males’ labor force participation rate decreased
- Women have slightly higher unemployment rate than men, except for 2005 and 2006, despite the fact that more females complete tertiary education

²⁸ Philippine Statement by Dr Amaryllis T. Torres, Commissioner, National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, Informal Thematic Debate of the General Assembly Promotion of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 6-7 March 2007

Table 3.4.2 Labor Force Status by Sex Category and Age Group, 2006

Age Group	Total Population	Labor Force (in 000)		Labor Force Participation Rate		Unemployment Rate	
		Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
All age group	55,989	13,703	22,104	48.9	79.1	6.8	7.6
15-24	16,674	2,919	4,776	35.8	56.0	18.4	15.9
25-34	13,094	3,423	6,229	52.6	94.6	7.5	8.3
35-44	10,203	3,091	4,891	60.2	96.6	2.6	4.0
45-54	7,360	2,353	3,419	63.4	93.8	1.7	3.9
55-64	4,756	1,310	1,883	54.1	80.6	1.2	3.4
65 & over	3,897	605	903	28.7	50.6	1.15	.99

Source: NSO 2006

- The highest unemployment rate for women and men was at age group 15-24 years
- Across all age groups there were more males in the labor force
- In terms of labor force participation rates, the highest rate was registered at age group 45-55 for females and 35-44 for males
- In 2006, the unemployment rate for males was higher than that of females'.

Table 3.4.3 Female Professional and Technical Workers

Countries	Female Professional and Technical Workers % of Total/a	Ratio of Estimated Female to Male Earned Income/b
Cambodia	33	.74
Indonesia	-	.45
Malaysia	40	.36
Philippines	61	.60
Singapore	45	.51
Thailand	53	.59

Source: Human Development Report 2006

a/Data refer to the most recent year available during 1992-2004

b/Estimates are based on data for the most recent year available during 1991-2004

- The Philippines has the highest percentage of female professionals and technical workers at 61% of total workers. Cambodia has the lowest percentage at 30% of total. However, Cambodian women have the least income differential relative to their male counterparts.

- While Malaysia has the 2nd least percentage of women professionals and technical workers, Malaysian women and men have the largest income differential.

Women as Senior Managers and Household Decision Makers

A recent survey of 32 economies revealed that the “Philippines has the highest proportion of business with women participating in senior management (97%)” and while “the percentage of women in senior management positions globally has grown slightly from 19% to 22% since 2004, the Philippines comes out top with 50% of managerial positions being held by females” This makes the Philippines the only country where women have parity to men in senior management roles. (Grant Thornton International Business Report 2007).

Table 3.4.4 Women as Senior Managers, Southeast Asia Source: Grant Thornton International Business Report 2007

Countries	Percentage of Business with Women in Senior Management	Percentage of Women in Senior Management
Philippines	97	50
Malaysia	85	23
Thailand	81	39
Singapore	67	21
East Asia Average	42	14
Global Average	59	22

Table 3.4.5 Status of Women as Household Decision Makers, 2003

Household Decision making	Wealth Quintiles					
	Low	2nd	3rd	4th	High	Ave.
● Can seek own healthcare	69.4	73.5	72.2	73.6	77.1	73.5
● Can seek children’s healthcare	89.7	93.7	94.9	96.1	96.3	94.2
● Can make daily household purchased	73.8	72.8	69.0	64.5	56.4	66.3
● Can make large household purchases	68.2	64.9	62.1	57.4	52.0	60.0
Can make meal-related decisions	60.1	58.4	52.6	47.9	38.8	50.3
Other Decision making attitudes						
● Can decide how to spend own money	60.9	68.2	70.7	71.6	78.9	71.9
● Can decide whether to have sex	96.1	96.4	97.0	97.1	97.3	96.8

● Justifies domestic violence	39.4	29.0	23.7	19.7	15.1	24.1
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Source: Socio-Economic Differences in Health, Nutrition, and Population, April 2007

- With regard to decisions on healthcare, the woman's decision making power is directly proportional to her wealth status, i.e., as the woman becomes richer, the more she is able to make decisions.
- In terms of daily and large purchases, the woman's decision making power is inversely proportional to her wealth status i.e., as the women becomes, richer,, the less she is able to make decisions
- More women belonging to the lower economic status justify domestic violence as compared with their rich women counterparts

Women and Overseas Labor Migration

Temporary labor migrants or more commonly known as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) comprise the biggest number of Filipino international migrants in recent years²⁹ (POPCOM 2007). According to the information from the Commission on Overseas Filipinos, the number of temporary labor migrants increased from 2.99 million in 2000 to 3.8 million in 2006. Of the total 8.23 million estimated overseas Filipinos in 2006, temporary labor migrant comprised 46.2 %.

Table 3.4.6 Stock Estimates of Overseas Filipino, World Total 2000-2006

Year	Permanent	Temporary	Irregular	Total
2006	3,556,035	3,802,345	874,792	8,233,172
2005	3,391,338	3,651,727	881,123	7,924,188
2004	3,187,586	3,599,257	1,297,005	8,083,848
2003	2,865,412	3,385,001	1,512,765	7,763,178
2002	2,807,356	3,167,978	1,607,170	7,582,504
2001	2,736,528	3,049,622	1,625,936	7,412,086
2000	2,551,549	2,991,125	1,840,448	7,383,122

Source: Commission on Filipino Overseas and Population Commission's 4th SPPR, 2007

The following are the characteristics of OFWs (POPCOM 2007)

- Most of the OFWs are young with the median age of 32. The median age for women is 29

²⁹ According to the Commission on Population, there are several kinds of international migrants and different ways of classifying them. There are permanent migrants, who settle permanently and become immigrants or citizens in the destination country. And there are temporary migrants, who stay in the foreign country only for a limited time – just to work, reunite with family, seek political asylum, or for other purposes

while that of men is 35. The biggest number of women OFWs belong to the age bracket of 25-29 while men belong to the 45 years and over bracket.

- While the OFWs come from all over the country, the biggest numbers come from the National Capital Region and the CALABARZON (the provinces of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon)³⁰ The least number of OFWs came from the CARAGA region.
- In terms of educational attainment, 64% completed College/Tertiary level, 31% reached High School, and 5% only reached grade school. A few OFWs had post graduate schooling. OFWs end up being overqualified for the unskilled overseas jobs they get.

Table 3.4.7 Number of Newly Hired Overseas Filipino Workers by Sex Category, Philippines 1998-2006

Year	Total	Female	Male	% Female	% Male
2006	308,142	184,454	123,688	59.86	40.13
2005	284,285	205,206	79,079	72.18	27.81
2004	280,475	208,411	72,064	74.30	25.69
2003	241,511	175,103	66,408	72.50	27.49
2002	286,128	208,278	77,850	72.79	27.20
2001	258,204	186,018	72,186	72.04	27.95
2000	253,030	178,323	74,707	70.47	29.52
1999	237,260	151,840	85,420	63.99	36.00
1998	219,215	133,458	85,757	60.87	39.12

Source: SPPR4

- From 1998-2006, women outnumbered men in terms of newly hired OFWs
- In terms of destination, the Middle East ranks the number destination of OFWS, followed by Asia, Europe and Americas

Table 3.4.8 Percentage of Overseas Filipino Workers by Occupation and Sex, 2004

Major and Minor	Both Sexes	Female %	Male %
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³⁰ These areas are the nerve centers of all recruitment activities, processing of papers and other pre-departure procedures

Occupation Groups	(in 000)		
Total Philippines	1,063	51	49
Professionals	81	63	37
Technicians and Associate Professionals	91	46	54
Clerks	42	57	43
Service workers and Shop and markets sales workers	136	58	42
Farmers, forestry workers and fisher folk	5	-	100
Trade and related workers	164	12	88
Plant and machine operators and assembler	161	13	87
Laborers and unskilled workers	335	86	14
Special occupations	1	-	100

Source: SPPR 4

- In terms of jobs, the number of laborers and unskilled workers (including domestic helpers) account for the largest number at 33% in 2004 and 32% in 2003. Women dominated as laborers and unskilled workers while men dominated as trades and related workers.
- In 2004 and 2003, women outnumbered men in the following occupational categories: professionals, clerks, service and sales workers and laborers and unskilled workers.
- Males are more likely to predominate in the production sector while females in the service and professional/technical occupational groups
- Women predominate in 7 out of the 10 destinations of OFWs.³¹ Women work as domestic helpers in Hong Kong³², Kuwait, Singapore, and Italy. Women who make up 53% of all OFWs in Japan work in entertainment jobs. While in the United Kingdom, nursing and other health related jobs are the most common jobs for Filipino women³³

Table 3.4.9 Top Ten Destinations of Overseas Filipino Workers and Percentage of Females in the Overseas Workers Population, 2002

Country	Deployed	% Female of the Contract	Jobs Commonly Held by Filipino Women
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³¹ According to the SPPR 4, The ten top destinations of OFWs are Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Taiwan, Singapore, Kuwait, Italy, United kingdom and Brunei Darussalam

³² Ninety three percent (93%) of all Filipino workers in Hong Kong are women, Filipinos are the largest group of Foreign domestic workers

³³ The Philippines is the UK's top source of nurses

	Workers	Workers Deployed	
1. Saudi Arabia	193,157	24	Domestic work, Nursing, other health related work
2. Hong Kong	105,036	93	Domestic work-Filipinos are the largest national group of foreign domestic workers in H.K.
3. Japan	77,870	53	Entertainment Work
4. United Arab Emirates	50,796	56	Domestic work, other service work, sales
5. Taiwan	46,371	53	Domestic work, care giving, factory work
6. Singapore	27,648	72	Domestic work, Filipinos are one of the two largest national groups of foreign domestic workers in Singapore
7. Kuwait	25,894	74	Domestic work
8. Italy	20,034	63	Domestic work
9. United Kingdom	13,655	50	Nursing, other health related work, the Philippines is the United Kingdom's top source of nurses
10. Brunei Darussalam	11,564	33	Domestic work

Source: SPPR 4

OFWs work abroad in exchange for a salary which she or he sends home in the form of remittances.³⁴ According to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP),³⁵ from 1975 – 2006, the country's banking system has received a total of US\$104.75 billion worth of remittances from overseas Filipinos. While the annual remittances in 1997 amounted to US\$5.5 billion, the amount jumped to US\$12.8 billion in 2006. In 2000-20004, the average remittance of male OFWs were bigger than that of women OFWs by a third. Remittances often go to basic needs like food and other household needs. Other than the basic needs, remittances also go to education and other types of investments, medical expenditures, household appliances (television sets, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, and cellular phones). Others spend the remittances in purchasing a house, a car and other forms of vehicles.(POPCOM 2007)

Table 3.4.10 Average Remittances per Year in (Philippine Peso), 2000-2004

Year	Both Sexes	Female	Male
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³⁴ Remittances refer to money sent by overseas Filipinos to benefit their families, relatives, and communities in their country of origin. These are sent through formal channels, that is, through banks, or through informal or non-bank channels.

³⁵ In the Philippines, the major remittance-recording government agency is the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (Central Bank) since most of the remittances pass through the banking system.

2004	72,795	51,420	93,613
2003	82,121	59,789	101,817
2002	74,487	53,520	92,061
2001	63,592	49,404	76,007
2000	66,146	48,287	80,427

Working overseas has certainly brought a lot of difference in the lives of Filipino women. For instance, those working as domestic workers are now getting remuneration for domestic work which they have been doing in their own homes, but were not credited for any economic value. The women’s ability to contribute financially to their families has not only empowered them but also gave them a greater sense of self-worth. (POPCOM 2007)

Despite the financial gains, female OFWs incur more costs and face greater risks compared to their male OFW counterparts. Female OFWs are subjected to discrimination as they have to take on jobs way below their qualifications just because those are the only jobs available to women. Some women become victims of trafficking and are sometimes forced to prostitution, marriage and degrading jobs. They are also prone to human rights abuses, exploitation, reproductive health problems and violence. (POPCOM 2007)

Overseas employment also demands a lot of adjustment in the family life, especially on the family roles. When a parent leaves, the other becomes a solo parent. If the wife leaves to work overseas, and the husband is left behind, the husband becomes the “houseband”. He will then be responsible doing all the responsibilities of the wife such as childcare and housekeeping. A lot of documented cases have shown that overseas employment has led to family breakdown and marital discord. (POPCOM 2007)

3-5 Political and Public Life

History of Filipino Women’s Participation in Public Life

The Filipino women's participation in public life could be traced as far back as the Spanish colonial era. There were women who demanded for higher education from the Spanish colonists, while some played significant roles in the country's resistance to Spanish rule. Filipino Women also fought side by side with Filipino men during the Filipino-American War. During the American colonial period, they put up organizations that had civic, humanitarian and political aims. Among these organizations are the Women's Red Cross Association (1899) the Asociacion Feminista Filipina, the first women volunteer organization (1905). As early as 1906, the issue of woman's suffrage was already raised and in 1921, the National Federation of Women's Club spearheaded the Suffragette Movement. During the post independence period in 1946, the First Women's Civic Assembly was held which highlighted the participation of women in public affairs. While short-lived, a National Political Party of Women was founded in 1951 (Mananzan, 1997)

Table 3.5.1 Women's Political Participation

Country	Year Women Received the right		Year first woman elected or appointed in Parliament A-Appointed E-Elected	Women in Government Ministerial Level % of total in 2005	Seats in Parliament % of Total held by Women		
	To vote	To stand for election			Lower or Single House		Upper House or Senate 2006
					1990	2006	
Cambodia	1955	1955	1958 E	7.1	-	9.8	14.8
Indonesia	1945	1945	1950 A	10.8	12	11.3	
Malaysia	1957	1957	1959 E	9.1	5	9.1	25.7
Philippines	1937	1937	1941 E	25.0	9	15.7	16.7
Singapore	1947	1947	1963 E	0	5	18.9	-
Thailand	1932	1932	1947 A	7.7	3	10.8	10.5

Source: Human Development Report 2006

Women in the United Nations

As early a 1937, Filipino women were already allowed to vote and allowed to stand for election. Further, as early as 1941, a woman has already been elected into Parliament (the first in the region)

In the international front, the Philippines takes pride in having numerous Filipino women who

played significant roles in the United Nations to advance women’s global agenda³⁶. The following four Filipino women chaired the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and prepared for the World Conferences on Women:

- Helena Z. Benitez - CSW Vice Chair, 1964-1966 and CSW Chair 1966-1970
- Leticia Ramos-Shahani - CSW Vice Chair, 1973-1974, CSW Chair, 1974-1975 and Secretary-General, Third World Conference on Women, Nairobi, 1985
- Rosario Gonzalez-Manalo - Philippine representative to the CSW, 1982-1985, CSW Chair, 1984-1985
- Patricia B. Licuanan - CSW Chair, 1994-1996

The following are Filipino women who sat as experts in the CEDAW Committee, holding States Parties responsible in honoring their commitment to respect, protect and fulfill women’s human rights.

- Irene R. Cortes – CEDAW Committee Vice Chair, 1982-1986
- Teresita Quintos-Deles – CEDAW Expert, 1991-1994 and Rapporteur, 1993-1994
- Aurora Javate de Dios – CEDAW Expert, 1995-1998 and Rapporteur, 1997-1998
- Rosario Gonzalez-Manalo - CEDAW Expert, 1999-2006 and CEDAW Committee Chair, 2005-2006

Women in the Philippine Government Bureaucracy

Table 3.5.2 Inventory of Government Officials, 2004

Total	Females	Males	Total	%Females	%Males	Total/a
Major Subdivisions:						
National Govt. Agencies	610,272	391,223	1,001,495	60.93	39.06	99.99
Govt. Owned and Controlled Corporations	40,846	63,131	1,039,77	39.28	60.71	99.99
Local Government Units	180,403	189,824	370,227	48.72	51.27	99.99
Total	831,521	644,178	1,475,699	56.34	43.65	99.99

- There are more female employees (56.34%) than males in the Philippine government

Source: Civil Service Commission 2004 a/ total not equal to 100, due to rounding off of figures

³⁶ Shaping the WOMEN’S GLOBAL AGENDA Filipino Women in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women/CEDAW Committee, 2007

bureaucracy

- Sixty one (60.93%) of the national government agencies are females, there are more male employees in the government owned and controlled corporations,(60.71%) as well as local government units (51.27%)

Table 3.5.3 Number of Government Employees by Category of Service, 2004

Category of Service ³⁷	Females	Males	Total	% Females	% Males
Career	772,401	543,765	1,316,166	58.68	41.31
Non-Career	59,120	100,413	159,533	37.05	62.94
Total	831,521	644,178	1,475,699	56.34	43.65

Source: Civil Service Commission 2004

- There are more females than males occupying career positions. These positions offer better opportunities for advancement and security of tenure to women.

Table 3.5.4 Number of Government Employees in Career Service by Level of Positions, 2004

Level of Position ³⁸	Females	Males	Total	% Females	% Males
First level	162,925	210,700	373,625	43.60	56.39
Second level	603,312	322,871	926,183	65.13	34.86
Third level	3,440	5,941	9,381	36.66	63.33
Non Executive	2,724	4,253	6,977	39.04	60.95
Career					

Source: Civil Service Commission 2004

In the career service, 65% of the professional, technical and scientific positions are occupied by female employees, however, male employees occupy 63% of the management and decision making positions in Philippine government. Men dominate as decision makers and managers while women are predominant professionals in government.

Women in Politics

³⁷ Career Service – The entrance of employee is based on merit and fitness determined by the competitive examinations or on highly technical qualifications. Employees under this category enjoy opportunities for advancement to higher career positions and security of tenure

Non-Career Service – The entrance of employees is based on factors other than usual test of merit and fitness utilized for the career service. Their tenure is limited to a period specified by law, or is coterminous with that of the appointing authority or is the subject of the pleasure, or is limited to the duration of a particular project for which purpose employment was made

³⁸ First Level – Clerical, trades, crafts and custodial services positions

Second Level – Professional, technical and scientific positions

Third Level – Positions in the Career Executive Service

While the incumbent President of the Philippines is a woman, the percentage of elective positions occupied by women is less than a fifth of the total positions (16.6%). Only twenty five percent (25%) of the elected Senators are women while in the House of Representatives (Congress), only 15.16% are women.

Table 3.5.5 Number of Elected Women and Men by Position, 2004

Positions	Women	Men
President	1	0
Vice President	0	1
Senators	3	9
House of Representatives	32	211

Source: Commission on Election 2004

Political Empowerment

Table 3.5.6 Political Empowerment³⁹ in Southeast Asia, 2007

Countries	Women in Parliament Rank	Women in Ministerial Positions Rank	Number of Years with a Female Head of State Rank	Gender Gap Index Rank in Terms of Political Empowerment
Cambodia	93	95	42	105
Indonesia	82	76	17	70
Malaysia	99	85	42	101
Philippines	71	18	6	14
Singapore	29	121	42	71
Thailand	102	92	42	110
Vietnam	22	70	42	42

Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2007

According to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2007, the Philippines

³⁹ The Global Gender Gap Index examines the gap between women and men in four fundamental categories namely: (i) economic participation and opportunity, (ii) educational attainment, (iii) political empowerment and (iv) health and survival. The Political Empowerment Category mainly measures the gap between women and men in political decision making at the highest levels. This concept is captured through the ratio of women to men in minister-level positions, the ratio of women to men in parliamentary positions and the ratio of women to men in terms of years in executive office (Prime Minister or President) in the last 50 years. The Global Gender Gap Report 2007 covered 128 countries and was produced by the World Economic Forum.

ranked 14th out of 128 countries in terms of political empowerment. All the other countries in Southeast Asia ranked much lower than the Philippines. Vietnam who ranked next to the Philippines only got the 42nd place while Thailand who ranked the lowest among the Southeast Asian countries ranked 110th place.

In the Judiciary branch of government, 73% of the judges in the First and Second Level Courts⁴⁰ are males, while female judges only make up 27% of the total judges. In the Sharia Circuit courts, there is not a single female judge. Female judges in the Supreme Court and the Court of Tax Appeals occupy only a third of the total positions. While female judges in the Court of Appeals occupy only a little over a quarter of the total positions. In 2006, only 39% of the appointed Justices and Judges were females. With regard to women lawyers, the average rate of women who passed the Philippine Bar Examinations from 2001-2005 was only 43%. However in 2005, almost half of the Bar examination Passers were women (48.27%). (Supreme Court Manila, 2007)

4. Gender Projects

⁴⁰ First Level Courts include the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Sandiganbayan and the Court of tax Appeals. On the other hand, Second Level Courts include: Regional Trial Courts, Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, Sharia District Courts and Sharia Circuit Courts

4-1 Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines for Project Development, Implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation⁴¹

The Philippines accords high priority to the promotion of gender equality. It is one of the few countries with gender provision in its Constitution, and one of the earliest signatories to the CEDAW. It also signed the Millennium Declaration, wherein gender equality plays an integral role in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. On top of its international commitments, the Philippines also has a long list of laws and policies promoting gender equality.

Sustainable development require the participation of women in all levels of policy making and implementation. Hence, Gender and Development approach is necessary for the Philippines to adhere to all its commitments in the international and local fronts.⁴²

In 2002, the document entitled “Mainstreaming Gender in Development Planning: Framework and Guidelines” was published by NEDA and the NCRFW. The document gave directions to development planners in mainstreaming gender in every phase of the planning process, namely: (i) identification of issues and challenges, goals and objectives, targets, policies and strategies, programs and projects, implementation mechanisms; and (ii) monitoring and evaluation.

In 2004, the Official Development Assistance – Gender and Development (ODA-GAD) Network, together with the NCRFW and NEDA produced the “Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines for Project Development, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation”. The ODA-GAD Network is an informal group of gender and development focal persons from bilateral and multilateral development agencies, international NGOs, and the Philippine government. The said guidelines are meant to provide donor organizations, NEDA and proponent/implementing agencies with a common tool to ensure gender responsiveness in the various stages of the project cycle.

The Harmonized GAD Guidelines is aimed at promoting the twin goals of women’s empowerment and gender equality. The guidelines has two specific objectives: (i) provide NEDA, ODA donors, Philippine government agencies, and development practitioners with a common set of analytical concepts and tools to integrate gender concerns into development programs and projects; (ii) help achieve gender equality in and empower women through projects and programs.

4-2 Gender Related Projects Funded by Official Development Assistance

⁴¹ Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines for Project Development, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation, NEDA and NCRFW, October 2004

⁴² Ibid

Table 4.2. Gender Related Projects

Development Partner	Project Title and Proponent Agency	Description	Duration
Japan (Embassy of Japan)	Center for Bangsamoro Women (Itthadun/Nisa' Foundation)	Construction of a Skills Training Center in Barangay Simuay, in the Municipality of Sultan in Shariff Kabunsuan Province. The newly constructed skills training center will initially benefit 400 Bangsamoro women per year.	Completed in 2007
Japan International Cooperation Agency	Gender Responsive Employability (Wage and Skills) and Training (Technical Education and Skills Development Authority - (Philippine Women' Center)	The 3-year project is aimed at increasing the employability of women, both wage and self through GAD-based researches, expanded advocacy activities and improved delivery of TVET training The project outputs include: 1) strengthened gender capacity of TWC staff and gender focal persons; 2) Enhanced effectiveness of TWC training courses; 3) Strengthened one-stop service facility for women; and, 4) Strengthened TWC functions in policy formulation, information dissemination and networking	Completed in 2007
Canadian International Cooperation Agency (CIDA)	Gender Responsive Economic Actions for the Transformation of Women (GREAT) Women Project (National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women)	The GREAT project will assist the NCRFW and its partners at the national and local levels, to contribute to the economic well-being of women, by strengthening these agencies' capacities to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate gender responsive economic legislation, policies, programs, and services, with an emphasis on micro enterprises. It will also help create a more accessible and friendlier business	2006-2011

		<p>environment for women.</p> <p>The project involves the following:</p> <p>(1) training activities to increase NCRFW staff's knowledge and skills;</p> <p>(2) building partners' capacities;</p> <p>(3) creating and strengthening partnerships to achieve women's economic empowerment activities; and</p> <p>(4) supporting stronger coherence between national and local level economic laws, policies and programs</p>	
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5. Special Topics

5-1 Status of Women in Mindanao

According to the Mindanao Commission on Women, urgent attention should be given to Mindanao women in the areas of economic opportunities, reproductive health, political participation education and even basic services such as water and power. While many women are victims of poverty and violent conflict they still hold a pivotal role in achieving peace and development in Mindanao. The numerous roles played by women in Mindanao in keeping their families and communities together puts them in a strategic position in contributing significantly to reduce poverty and achieving peace at all levels in Mindanao. The Moro⁴³ and lumad⁴⁴ women are the poorest and the most disadvantaged among the Mindanao population. They are not only victims of the long running conflict in Mindanao but resilient survivors as well. Lumad and Moro women are considered as minorities within minorities” (State of the Women of Mindanao 2004 Report)

Women and Armed Conflict

“The contemporary armed conflict on the Moro front is the sharpest expression of the Moro or Bangsamoro problem: the historical and systematic **marginalization** and **minoritization** of the Islamized ethno linguistic groups, collectively known as Moros, in their own homeland in much of Mindanao islands, by Spain (from the 16th to the 19th century), and more recently by successor Philippine governments since formal independence in 1946. It might be viewed as a clash between **two imagined nations or nationalisms**, Filipino and Moro, each with their own narratives of the conflict. For the Moro liberation fronts, it has been a conscious struggle to regain the historical sovereignty of the independent Moro nation-states called sultanates over their homeland. For the Philippine government and the nations-state of the 20th century, it has been a matter of defending the territorial integrity of the country against secession and dismemberment among the three main island regions of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao” (Philippine Human Development Report 2005)

The deliberate resettlement policy of the central government in Manila in the 60s caused

⁴³ Multilingual ethnic group and the largest mainly Non-Christian ethnic group in the Philippines

⁴⁴ Indigenous people of Mindanao

the migration of Catholic Filipinos from other parts of the country to Mindanao. The systematic marginalization of the Moros by the national government in favor of the Catholic Filipinos is considered as the root cause of the conflict. The ruthless discrimination of the Moros by the Marcos administration in the 70s, led to the uprising of the Moro groups led by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) who demanded complete autonomy. The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) was created in the 90s following a Peace Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MNLF. Autonomy did not pacify certain groups within the MNLF who had earlier broken away from the MNLF in 1984 to form the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). The MILF demanded independence to create an Islamic State. Further, autonomy did not bring economic development to the people as well as alleviate the poverty experienced by the people. ARMM was also considered as “too weak to address even basic human development needs”. Intermittent outburst of conflicts ensued until the end of the century and the emergence of the MILF as the more powerful faction. The GRP declared an all-out-war against the MILF in 2000 and 2003 to stop the MILF’s efforts as well as decrease their size. A ceasefire between the GRP and the MILF is currently in place. (The Impact of Armed Conflict on Male Youth in Mindanao, Philippines 2006)

Repeated armed conflict in Mindanao since the 60s has led to the deaths of at least 120,000 people. Following the war between the GRP/Armed Forces of the Philippines and the MILF more than 930,000 persons were displaced in 2000 alone. Another 411,000 persons many of whom had only recently returned home after the war in 2000 were displaced as a result of a military offensive in 2003. Armed conflict in the first quarter of 2007 has also displaced at least 60,000 persons. (CFSI 2007) “As in most countries affected by displacement, women and children make up the great majority of the displaced population in the Philippines and experience additional vulnerabilities” (IDMC 2007).

Table 5.1.1 Negative Impact of Displacement to Women and Children

Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Women in Central Mindanao linked their poverty to the ongoing armed conflict. They blamed their displacement for their losses in economic capital, difficulties in finding livelihood
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduced livelihoods and food intake, malnutrition can be a significant contributing factor in complications in the periods before and after pregnancies ● Exposure to stressful events and being in the unhealthy conditions of evacuation centers. Main stress factors for women are actual fighting and the presence of soldiers, evacuating with children under fire seeing their homes damaged and destroyed and seeing people wounded and killed, additional responsibility of taking care of the whole family during turmoil ● Limited access to potable water and sanitary facilities and limited number of health facilities workers, medicines and supplies

Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Studies on education in Mindanao have repeatedly asserted that poverty exacerbated by recurrent armed conflict is the single most important factor affecting education in the region. Due to severe poverty, provinces in Central Mindanao were reported to be among the most education deprived areas in the country ● Literacy rates and school enrollment rates were significantly lower in the Muslim-populated areas of Mindanao as compared to the rest of the country. Reasons for not attending are: relocation of families, child labor to raise the family income, trauma, and uncertainty of school during war
Family roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Men in the evacuation centers find themselves in situations of very limited authority and great dependency. More and more frequently, food and other relief supplies are being delivered through women who are considered by providers as more efficient and less likely to allow the supplies to be diverted, stolen and /or misused ● Women and girls often wait in line to obtain food rations, assist with food distributions, fetch water and/or do the laundry, prepare meals and provide care for their children as well as their husbands and/or elderly dependents. Their already long and busy days before displacement become doubly long and busy upon displacement

Source: Profile of the Internal Displacement Situation, IDMC, 2007

Muslim men expect their women to sympathize with the reasons for the war even if they do not consent to it or want it. Women support their men by becoming spies or couriers smuggling information, food and medicine. As such, women do not carry firearms and are non-combatant, this makes them easy targets of the military. Women also take on the sole responsibility of caring for their families when their husbands are fighting or die in war or when their children are drawn into battle to seek revenge. Besides the psychological burden women carry, they are still dependent upon for income, emotional resource and protection (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004 in Tuason and Guss, undated).

Another constant source of violent conflict in Moro communities is Rido⁴⁵ between families and clans. Sporadic conflicts developing from family or clan feuds in the ARMM and in the bailiwicks of local Moro landlords and politicians is a source of tension and general lack of peace in the area. The intermittent clashes frequently lead to killings and the evacuation of civilians who are afraid of being caught in the crossfire. Female members and children of families involved in Rido face the high risk of being kidnapped or taken hostage by the opponent's family who are seeking revenge. (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004 in Tuason and Guss, undated).

An increasing number of Lumad and Moro men have been attracted to rebellion because of

⁴⁵ Rido is a type of conflict characterized by sporadic outbursts of retaliatory violence between families and kinship groups as well as between communities. It can occur in areas where government or a central authority is weak and in areas where there is a perceived lack of justice and security

the lack of employment and the alienation from mainstream development processes. Moro youths are recruited by Islamic rebel groups while young unemployed Lumads are, as asserted by the New People's Army (NPA), recruited to join the NPA. As a result, women have taken the responsibility in the upkeep of their families. Further, as an offshoot of the continuing conflict between the government troops and rebel forces, Lumad and Moro women regularly experience harassment. Rebel groups force the women to support rebel causes and pay revolutionary taxes. On the other hand, Government forces who rove around accuse the women of being sympathetic to rebel causes and insist that they take part in anti-insurgency campaigns. (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004)

For the women in Mindanao, "war is the cause of their poverty, the displacement from their provinces and families, the violence in them and their families, and the absence of actual information on the state of their physical and mental health" They experience fear, anger and a deep sense of hopelessness for a future without conflict because of the prolonged stress of combat and the seemingly endless war. (Tuason and Guss, undated)

Violence Against Women

According to the Mindanao Commission on Women, bride abduction, forced marriage and payment of bride price still persist as part of the culturally sanctioned practices in Mindanao. Further, other forms of sexual violence like incest rape, sexual harassment, wife battering and abuse in intimate relationships are still common in the everyday lives of many women in Mindanao, especially those who live in remote areas. (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004)

Minorities within Minorities

Women occupy low rank within their respective ethnic communities and across ethnic groups. As compared to other women in Mindanao, Lumad and Moro women become doubly disadvantaged because of their minority status. The practice of an early arranged marriage by parents and the belief that women should only stay at home restricts women from acquiring knowledge and skills needed to achieve economic independence. Discrimination gives women a slim chance in succeeding in various facets of their lives. (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004)

According to the Mindanao Commission on Women, "the institutionalization of the

madrrasah system has enabled Muslim women to enjoy their religious and cultural rights although it has not improved their economic opportunities in the local job market” further, “illiteracy remains a major impediment towards the economic uplift of Lumad women in the remote and isolated upland villages in Mindanao” (State of the Women of Mindanao Report 2004)

Education

Table 5.1.2 Functional Literacy Rate in % of Population 10-64 by Sex Category and Regions in Mindanao, 2003

Region	Basic Literacy Rate			Functional Literacy Rate		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
PHILIPPINES	93.4	94.3	92.6	84.1	86.3	81.9
Zamboanga Peninsula	88.9	90.9	86.8	74.8	79.8	69.8
Northern Mindanao	91.8	93.5	90.1	83.7	86.9	80.5
Davao	90.3	92.7	88.0	77.8	82.2	73.7
SOCCSKSARGEN	87.3	88.8	85.9	77.1	79.7	74.5
CARAGA	92.1	94.6	89.5	81.0	84.6	77.3
ARMM	70.2	69.4	71.0	62.9	62.1	63.6

Source: 2003 FLEMMS, National Statistics Office

- Overall, Mindanao performed poorest in terms of basic and functional literacy. Among the regions in Mindanao, ARMM registered the lowest rates in terms of basic and functional literacy rates
- As in the whole Philippines, females attained higher basic and functional literacy rates compared to that of men in all the regions in Mindanao. This, however is not true in ARMM, where women’s basic and functional literacy rates are lower than that of men

Table 5.1.3 Ranking of Grade 6 and Fourth Year High School Students by Region under the

National Achievement Test⁴⁶, SY 2005-2006

Region	Grade 6	Fourth Year
	Rank	Rank
National Capital Region	16	11
Cordillera Administrative Region	7	6
1-Ilocos	6	8
2-Cagayan Valley	11	5
3-Central Luzon	10	12
4A-CALABARZON	4	13
4B-MIMAROPA	3	7
5-Bicol	13	15
6-Western Visayas	15	10
7-Central Visayas	8	3
8-Eastern Visayas	2	1
9-Zamboanga Peninsula	5	4
10-Northern Mindanao	9	9
11-Davao	12	14
12-SOCCSKSARGEN	14	16
CARAGA	1	2
ARMM	17	17

Source: NSCB Fact Sheet 2007

- The results of the NATs above show that Grade 6 students in CARAGA scored better than all the students nationwide, however the same results also show that Grade 6 students in ARMM performed the poorest.
- With regard to the Fourth Year High School students, students in CARAGA landed on second place, while students in ARMM consistently performed the poorest.

Health

⁴⁶ The National Achievement Tests (NATs) were administered by the national Education Testing and Research Center of the Department of Education to Grade 6 and Fourth Year Students in government schools in March 2006. The tests were designed to determine what graduating students knew and can do in 5 subject areas at the end of the SY, namely: Mathematics, Science, English, Filipino and Hekasi/Araling Panlipunan (Social Studies)

Table 5.1.4 Percent Distribution of Live Births By Persons Providing Assistance During Delivery In the Five Years Preceding the Survey⁴⁷, 2003

Region	Doctors	Nurse	Midwives	Total	Hilot	Others/a	Total
NCR	64.4	0.7	22.8	87.9	11.6	0.5	100.0
CAR	40.7	3.7	15.2	59.6	14.1	26.2	100
1-Ilocos	28.5	0.7	44.9	74.1	24.6	1.3	100
2-Cagayan Valley	23.5	1.1	28.6	53.2	42.9	3.9	100
3-Central Luzon	43.6	0.4	41.8	85.8	12.0	2.2	100
4A-CALABARZON	40.4	0.5	33.8	74.7	24.4	0.9	100
4B-MIMAROPA	13.7	3.2	12.4	29.3	66.3	4.4	100
5-Bicol	19.5	2.1	26.2	47.8	50.2	1.9	100
6-Western Visayas	30.9	0.0	16.5	47.4	49.7	2.9	100
7-Central Visayas	34.2	1.5	32.6	68.3	29.0	2.7	100
8-Eastern Visayas	16.4	1.4	18.2	36.0	62.3	1.7	100
9-Zamboanga Peninsula	12.9	1.3	16.8	31.0	64.3	4.7	100
10-Northern Mindanao	24.6	3.4	13.0	41.0	49.4	9.6	100
11-Davao	31.0	1.2	15.4	47.6	43.6	8.8	100
12-SOCCSKSARGEN	19.7	0.3	17.2	37.2	58.7	4.3	100
CARAGA	85	0.8	12.4	21.7	76.6	1.6	100
ARMM	23.4	2.3	16.8	42.5	55.4	2.0	100

Source: 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey – National Statistics Office

a/ Others may be classified as (i) relatives/others; (ii) No one; and (iii) Missing

- In the Philippines, assistance during delivery may be provided either by trained health professionals (doctors, nurses or licensed midwives) the hilot⁴⁸, and relatives/others
- Among the regions in the Philippines, CARAGA had the least number of deliveries (21.7%) assisted by trained health professionals. On the other hand, 87.9% of the deliveries in the National Capital Region were assisted by trained health professionals
- In all the regions in Mindanao, the percentage of deliveries assisted by trained health professionals did not reach 50%. The rest of the deliveries were substantially assisted by the hilot. The highest number of assistance provided by the hilot was in CARAGA (76.6%), Zamboanga Peninsula (64.3%), followed by SACCSKARGEN (58.7%)
- In the CAR, 22.4% of the deliveries were assisted by relatives/others while some 3.4% of the

⁴⁷ Total percentage will not equal to 100% inasmuch as there are other persons who may provide assistance during delivery like relatives or in some deliveries, no one provides assistance

⁴⁸ Traditional birth attendants who usually assist at home

deliveries were not assisted by anyone

Table 5.1.5 Percentage Distribution of Live Births by Place of Delivery In the Five Years Preceding the Survey, 2003

Regions	Health Facility				Home	Others	Total
	Government Hospital	Government Health Facility	Private Sector	Total			
National Capital Region	38.4	2.7	28.4	69.5	30.0	0.5	100
CAR	38.6	0.0	6.2	44.8	55.2	0.0	100
1-Ilocos Region	21.4	0.3	7.5	29.2	70.2	0.6	100
2-Cagayan Valley	19.2	0.0	6.5	25.7	73.9	0.4	100
3-Central Luzon	30.7	0.8	17.8	49.3	49.3	1.4	100
4A-CALABARZON	22.8	3.2	20.0	46.0	53.5	0.5	100
4B-MIMAROPA	13.1	0.6	2.1	15.8	83.0	1.3	100
5-Bicol Region	15.7	0.7	5.5	21.9	76.3	1.7	100
6-Western Visayas	24.1	2.4	6.9	33.4	65.9	0.8	100
7-Central Visayas	20.9	1.5	17.6	40.0	58.8	1.2	100
8-Eastern Visayas	14.7	0.7	5.3	20.7	79.3	0.0	100
9-Zamboanga Peninsula	10.9	1.0	3.7	15.6	83.8	0.6	100
10-Northern Mindanao	18.5	0.3	10.1	28.9	70.2	0.9	100
11-Davao Peninsula	21.3	0.3	19.4	41.0	59.0	0.0	100
12-SOCCSKSARGEN	12.7	1.2	9.6	23.5	76.2	0.3	100
CARAGA	6.3	0.5	3.9	10.7	88.4	1.0	100
ARMM	21.3	0.9	3.9	26.1	73.6	0.3	100

Source: 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey National Statistics Office

- Except for Davao Peninsula, more than 70% of the deliveries in all the regions in Mindanao, occur at home. Likewise, in all the regions in Mindanao, not more than 22.5% occur in government facilities
- CARAGA has the most number of deliveries occurring at home (88.4%) and the least number occurring in public and private medical facility. Davao has the least number of deliveries occurring at home and the most number occurring in public and private medical facilities
- Among the regions in Mindanao, the highest number of deliveries which occur in government

facilities was registered in ARMM.

Table 5.1.6 Number of Local Government Health Practitioners by Region, 2004

Region	Doctors	Dentists	Nurses	Midwives	Total	Rank	%
NCR/a	648	554	686	1076	2964	2	11.26
CAR	80	34	150	590	854	15	3.24
1-Ilocos/b	167	110	231	1028	1536	7	5.84
2-Cagayan Valley/b	107	70	204	812	1193	10	4.53
3-Central Luzon/b	290	180	443	1791	2704	3	10.28
4-Southern Tagalog/b	332	259	585	2297	3473	1	13.20
5-Bicol/b	184	78	247	1045	1554	6	5.90
6-Western Visayas/b	236	118	393	1720	2467	4	9.38
7-Central Visayas	213	125	313	1504	2155	5	8.19
8-Eastern Visayas/b	160	97	220	898	1375	9	5.22
9-Zamboanga Peninsula/b	87	40	182	662	971	13	3.69
10-Northern Mindanao	137	70	252	972	1431	8	5.44
11-Davao Peninsula	71	68	139	794	1072	12	4.07
12-SOCCSKSARGEN/b	114	53	190	802	1159	11	4.40
CARAGA	90	59	117	677	943	14	3.58
ARMM	53	14	83	299	449	16	1.70
<u>PHILIPPINES</u>	2,969	1,929	4,435	16,967	26,300		c/

Source: Philippine Statistical Report 2006

a/ Combination of retained medical personnel at the Regional Health Office (RHOs) and devolved health personnel in the local government units b/ Devolved/absorbed health personnel by the LGUs c/Total number will not be equal to 100% due to rounding off

- Overall, ARMM has the least number of government health practitioners in the Philippines with only 1.7% of the total number of practitioners. On the other hand, the Southern Tagalog Region has the most number of medical practitioners with 13.20% of the total number
- Four out of the 5 lowest ranking provinces in terms of number of medical practitioners could be found in Mindanao, namely: ARMM (16) CAR with (15) CARAGA (14), Zamboanga Peninsula (13), and Davao Peninsula (12)

Table 5.1.7 Number and Bed Capacity of Government Hospitals by Region, 2004

Region	Government Hospital	Bed to
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	Number	Bed Capacity	Population Ration
National Capital Region	24	9965	1:807
CAR	36	1670	1:916
1-Ilocos	37	2100	1:2,109
2-Cagayan Valley	34	1720	1:1,754
3-Central Luzon	45	3385	1:2,452
4-Southern Tagalog	93	6295	1:2,206
5-Bicol	50	2250	1:2,260
6-Western Visayas	53	2750	1:2,466
7-Central Visayas	45	2910	1:2,054
8-Eastern Visayas	53	2195	1:1,851
9-Western Mindanao	29	1975	1:1,749
10-Northern Mindanao	24	1150	1:2,624
11-Southern Mindanao	32	1615	1:3,575
12-Central Mindanao	21	1195	1:2,176
CARAGA	34	1255	1:1,910
ARMM	24	870	1:2,836
PHILIPPINES	634	43300	1:1,860

Source: National Objectives for Healthy 2005-2010 / National Statistics Office 2000

- The National Capital Region has the smallest bed to population ratio in the country (1:807) followed by CAR at 1:916
- The bed to population ratio of five out of six regions in Mindanao fall under the average bed-to population ratio of the Philippines
- Western Mindanao is the only region in Mindanao which fared better than the average bed-to population ratio of the country. The region also fared better than most of the regions in the Philippines
- Among the regions in Mindanao, Southern Mindanao has the highest bed to population ratio at 1:3,575, performing worse than ARMM

Labor Participation

Table 5.1.8 Labor Force Participation Rates (LFPR), Employment and Unemployment Rates by

Region, April 2003

Region	Both Sexes		Female		Male	
	LFPR	Unemployment Rate	LFPR	Unemployment Rate	LFPR	Unemployment Rate
PHILIPPINES	67.1	12.2	52.2	12.6	82.0	11.9
9-Zamboanga Peninsula	63.5	8.6	43.6	11.1	82.4	7.4
10-Northern Mindanao	77.9	9.8	68.3	9.9	87.3	9.7
11-Davao	70.2	10.4	55.2	12.5	84.2	9.2
12-SOCCSKSARGEN	70.9	12.2	54.0	15.8	86.9	9.9
CARAGA	73.8	12.2	59.5	13.8	87.3	11.2
ARMM	60.4	7.7	35.6	14.0	84.8	5.2

Source: National Statistics Office, 2003

- In terms of both sexes, the LFPR of the regions in Mindanao were higher than the national rate except that of Zamboanga Peninsula's and ARMM's. In terms of unemployment rate, no region exceeded the national unemployment rate. However, the unemployment rates of SOCCSKSARGEN and CARAGA were equal to the national rate.
- In terms of females' LFPR, the regions in Mindanao had a higher LFPR than the national rate except for Zamboanga Peninsula and ARMM. With regard to unemployment rates, SOCCSKSARGEN, CARAGA and ARMM exceeded the national unemployment rate
- In terms of males' LFPR and unemployment rates, all the regions in Mindanao fared better than the national rates
- Across regions, the region with the least number of women in the labor force may be found in ARMM, while the most number of unemployed women may be found in SOCCSKSARGEN. The most number of men in the labor force may be found in Northern Mindanao and CARAGA while the most number of unemployed men are in CARAGA.
- In general, there are more men than women in the labor force and there are more unemployed women compared to men

Mindanao Commission on Women (MCW)

On 6-8 December 2001, Muslim, Lumad and Christian women leaders gathered in Davao

City for the Kamindanawan: Women Working a Mindanao Agenda, and created the Mindanao Commission on Women (MCW). The MCW is a non-governmental organization established to provide leadership to address political, economic and socio-cultural concerns for the achievement of peace and development in Mindanao. The Commission is composed of 25 women leaders who have many years of experience working in development programs in Mindanao.

Its mission is to influence public policy and opinion. MCW's 3 strategic program areas include:

- (1) Peace and Multi-culturalism – Create a critical mass of individuals and groups committed to multi culturalism as policy and as practice
- (2) Poverty Reduction – Focus on the triple concerns identified in the UNDP Human Development Report on poverty reduction, namely:, *health, education and income*
- (3) Politics and Governance – Campaign for Women's vote, no to political dynasties and strengthen Mindanao Young Women Leader's Forum

MCW's strategies include: (i) campaign and public advocacy, (ii) networking, (iii) research and documentation, (iv) website and electronic data banking, (v) gender mainstreaming, and the (vi) Mindanao Fund for Women.

The MCW has also contributed to conflict transformation and peace building through "Mother's for Peace", a national peace advocacy program .The campaign which kicked-off on 11 May 2003 was aimed at convincing the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to immediately resume peace negotiations. A huge number of displaced women participated in the preliminary activities of the campaign. The campaign's strategy included speaking to cabinet-level officials, lobbying the leadership of the Armed Force of the Philippines and the MILF, and letting the mothers speak out.

Source: MCW homepage

5-2 Trafficking of Filipino Women

"Trafficking in persons is a modern-day form of slavery, a new type of global slave trade. Perpetrators prey on the most weak among us, primarily women and children, for profit and gain. They lure victims into involuntary servitude and sexual slavery" (Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, TIP Report 2007)

Definition of Trafficking in Persons

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000⁴⁹ defines severe forms of trafficking as: (a) “Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or (b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery” (TIP Report 2007)

The Philippines has been rated by the US State Department under its Trafficking in persons Report 2007 as a *tier 2* country.⁵⁰ Being classified as such means that the Philippines does not fully comply with the minimum requirements of the TVPA but is making significant efforts to do so.

“The Philippines is a source, transit, and destination country for internationally trafficked persons for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor.. The Philippine government and non-governmental organizations estimate that from 300,000-400,000 women and 60,000 to 100,000 children are trafficked annually. The most serious problem appeared to be trafficking of women across international borders for purposes of sexual exploitation” (US Department of State Human Rights Report 2006)

“A significant number of Filipino men and women who emigrate abroad for work are subjected to conditions in involuntary servitude in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore , Japan, South Africa, North America, and Europe. Women and children are also trafficked in the Philippines, primarily from rural areas, such as the Visayas and Mindanao to urban areas for forced labor as domestic workers, and factory workers, and in the drug trade, and for sexual exploitation. A smaller number of women

⁴⁹ The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 is the U.S. law that guides anti-human trafficking efforts. The law states that the purpose of combating human trafficking is to punish traffickers, to protect victims, and to prevent trafficking from occurring.

⁵⁰ The U.S. State Department has 4 categories for levels of compliance with the TVPA which provides the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking: TIER 1 is the category of countries that “fully comply” with the law TIER 2 is or countries that “do not fully comply with these standards but making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance TIER 2 WATCH LIST is for countries “requiring special scrutiny because of a high or significant increasing number of victims; failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat trafficking in persons, or an assessment 2 based on commitments to take action over the next year TIER 3 is or countries that “neither satisfy the minimum standards nor demonstrate a significant effort for compliance; countries in this tier are subject to potential non-humanitarian and non-trade sanctions

are occasionally trafficked from the People's Republic of China (PRC), South Korea, Japan and Russia to the Philippines for sexual exploitation. Foreign tourists, particularly other Asians, sexually exploit women and children in the Philippines” (TIP Report 2007)

According to the 2006 Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the following pattern occurs in most human trafficking cases: (i) abduction or recruitment of people in a country of origin; (ii) transfer through transit regions; and, (iii) exploitation in a destination country. The same Report mentions that the following three elements constitute human trafficking:⁵¹ (Newsbreak September-December 2007)

- (i) the **criminal act** of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons within or across national borders;
- (ii) by **means** of: threat, or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victims;
- (iii) for the **purpose of exploitation** which includes, at a minimum, exploiting the prostitution of others, other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organs.

Push Factors of Trafficking in the Philippines

According to the Primer in Trafficking in Persons in the Philippines, the following are some of the factors which cause trafficking:

- (i) poverty
- (ii) lack of job opportunities
- (iii) the conflict in Mindanao
- (iv) discrimination against women
- (v) dysfunctional families
- (vi) mere inability of young girls to continue schooling
- (vii) parents easily consent to promises of local recruiters especially those with known connections to local officials and leaders

The main sending areas in the Philippines are:

⁵¹ The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNDOC) say that at least one element from each of these three groups is required before the definition applies

Luzon	Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, Baguio*, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Olongapo City*, National Capital Region*, Batangas, Mindoro, Lucena and Bicol *Also as main destination areas
Visayas	Samar, Leyte, Cebu, Bohol, Panay, Iloilo, Antique, Negros Island
Mindanao	Davao*, Zamboanaga*, South Cotabato, General Santos*, Dipolog* and Butuan *Also as main transit points

Source: A Primer on Trafficking in Persons in the Philippines

Trafficking Routes (Source: Primer on Trafficking in the Philippines)

- Shipping is a major mode of transport with 123 ports located all over the country
- Inter-related ferries are gateways and choke points of land routes
- Visayas and Mindanao are major source areas
- Internal trafficking leads to overseas trafficking
- International destinations include: Japan, Middle East, Hongkong, Malaysia, Italy, Saipan, United States

Domestic and International Trafficking

Domestic Trafficking

The demand for human commodities in brothels, sweatshops and even in households makes trafficking in the Philippines a lucrative business. Recruiters prey on women and children for domestic employment because they are easier to lure. Thousand leave their poor rural homes to work in the urban centers but they fall victim to false promises of legitimate and safe jobs. (Primer on Trafficking in Persons 2005)

According to the Visayan Forum Foundation (VFF), recruiters usually victimize young women and children, aged 12-22 years old (mostly girls). A significant number of victims of internal trafficking come from Mindanao and were fleeing poverty and conflict in their areas. The Visayan region was also a source of trafficking victims. Women and girls are far more at risk being victimized of trafficking than men and boys. They are usually school drop outs and looking for jobs. Recruiters promise them domestic work but instead end up in prostitution. Young women are easily recruited to work as domestic workers because they believe one does not need to show diplomas, birth certificates and meet other qualifications to for immediate hiring. Most parents also believe that domestic work is safe and free from abuse.

“Recruiters usually scout for potential recruits in local communities, assisted by headhunters who know the community and its residents well enough. These headhunters help the recruiters

convince the parents to allow their children to leave. Often the recruiters give parents cash. To facilitate transit, a recruit's personal documents are faked. Once in transit, they are not allowed to talk to anyone outside the group. Once they reach their destination, the recruits are told that their transportation expenses, along with other incurred expenses would be deducted from their salaries. Having huge debts to pay, they begin to work as prostitutes, laborers on bondage or even beggars and not as salesladies or caregivers or any job promised to them” (Newsbreak September-December 2007)

Domestic Trafficking to International Trafficking

Recruitment for international trafficking starts from far-flung and economically depressed areas in the Philippines. Like in the case of internal trafficking, potential victims of international trafficking come from poor provinces. Potential victims are screened first by recruiters prior to their transportation to Manila or to other international exit points. These victims are then transported via the various land routes and different ports. Along these routes, the victims are housed in transit points where they receive basic training for the kind of work that they will do abroad. (Primer on Trafficking in Persons 2007)

The Role of the Non-Government Organizations

According to the U.S. Traffic in Persons Report 2005, the Visayan Forum Foundation's⁵² (VFF) anti-trafficking partnership with the Philippine government and private shipping companies is one of the best practices in combating trafficking in the world. The VFF provides services to trafficked victims by managing halfway houses constructed by the Philippine Ports Authority and the Manila International Airport Authority in major Philippine ports.

NGOs are generally more flexible and can act faster than government. Further, NGOs in the Philippines who are dealing on the matter are focused on a specific part of the problem. The End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (EPCAT) deals with children, the Coalition Against Trafficking of Women Asia-Pacific (CATW-AP) focuses on women, the VFF intercepts the act of trafficking while the International Justice Mission (IJM) makes sure that traffickers are brought to court. (Newsbreak September-December 2007).

The passage of the country's Anti-Trafficking Law was largely the result of the intense

⁵² The Visayan Forum Foundation Inc. is a non profit, non stock and tax exempt non governmental organization in the Philippines established in 1991. VFF works for the welfare of the marginalized migrants, especially those working in the invisible and informal sectors like domestic workers, and trafficked women and children. It is accredited by the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development to provide residential care and community based programs and service for women and children in especially difficult circumstance.

lobbying of NGOs, who have been combating trafficking much longer than the government has been. Inasmuch as the NGOs have been dealing with trafficking for decades, they already have a very good grasp of the problem, hence, they have also been a good source of best practices in addressing it. (Newsbreak September-December 2007)

Philippine Government Efforts

As part of the Philippines' commitment as a signatory to the *United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women*, and to the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*, the Philippine Congress passed Republic Act 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003. The Philippine government also formed the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT)⁵³ to address human trafficking in the country. The IACAT consists of six government agencies and three non-governmental organizations and is chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Justice.

Prosecution

According to the Trafficking in Persons Report 2008 "The Philippine criminally prohibits trafficking both for sexual and labor exploitation through its 2003 Anti Trafficking in Persons Act. In 2007, the government secured convictions under the 2003 law against 3 sex traffickers, 2 in Cebu City and one in Davao. Each convicted trafficker was found guilty, sentenced to life imprisonment and ordered to pay fines ranging from US\$50,000 to US\$70,000. Philippine law enforcement agencies reported 155 alleged trafficking cases to the Department of Justice in 2007, of which, prosecutors initiated prosecutions in 56 of the cases. The remaining cases remain under the preliminary investigation or were dismissed for lack of evidence. The government's ability to effectively prosecute trafficking crimes remained handicapped by a lack of resources, endemic corruption and general ineffectiveness of the judicial system".⁵⁴

The TIP Report also mentioned that the "Philippine Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) filed 469 administrative cases against licensed labor recruiters who used fraudulent deceptive offers to entice jobseekers abroad or imposed inappropriately high or illegal fees on prospective employees." "In addition to the DOJ's ongoing cases, one NGO initiated 32 criminal cases and achieved one conviction in 2007; 14 cases remained on trial; 8 were in preliminary hearings; 8 were under investigation; and one was achieved." "Widespread corruption at all levels

⁵³ The IACAT is tasked , among other things, to formulate policies and programs aimed at preventing human trafficking, assist victims in the filing of cases, train personnel who will directly address cases of trafficking, and engage in information and education campaigns with local governments

⁵⁴ The Department of Justice's Anti Trafficking Task Force is composed of 17 prosecutors who focus specifically on trafficking and an additional 72 prosecutors in regional DOJ offices handle trafficking cases. A high vacancy rate among judges significantly slowed down trial times.

of the government permitted many organized crime groups, including traffickers, to conduct their illegal activities. Corruption among law enforcement agents remained a particular obstacle to better anti-trafficking performance. It is widely believed that some government officials are involved in, or at least permit, trafficking operations within the country.

Protection

“The Philippine government sustained its strong efforts to protect victims of trafficking in 2007, including through partnerships with NGOs and international organizations that provide services to victims. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) operated 42 temporary shelters for victims throughout the country. Thirteen of these shelters were supported by a non-profit charity organization. Government efforts include (i) provision of temporary residency status, relief from deportation, shelter and access to legal, medical and psychological services. The government has also deployed social workers to Philippine Diplomatic mission to provide psychosocial counseling to overseas foreign workers in distress. It has also provided the building and amenities for halfway houses in ., Davao, Batangas, and Sorsogon and Zamboanga and are managed by NGOs.” (TIP Report 2008)

As part of the Philippine government’s efforts to protect victims of trafficking, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) extended assistance to Philippine citizens trafficked abroad and managed their repatriations. In coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment , the DFA took the lead through its embassies in protecting the rights of migrant workers abroad. DOLE deployed 41 labor attaches who served in 35 cities around the world to help protect migrant workers; in addition, DOLE’s Overseas Workers Welfare Administration sent 40 welfare officers abroad to support the work of labor attaches. However, due to budget constraints, the DSWD reduced the number of social workers in the Philippines’ diplomatic missions in 2007.” (TIP Report 2008)

Prevention

“The Trafficking in Persons Report of 2008 also concludes that the Philippine government demonstrated continued efforts to raise awareness and prevent trafficking in persons, mainly for migrant workers. In 2007, the POEA conducted nearly 1,000 pre-employment orientation seminars for more than 50,000 departing overseas Filipino workers in 2007. POEA also trained diplomatic staff and overseas labor and social welfare officers in methods for assisting trafficking victims abroad. To protect overseas Filipino domestic workers from fraudulent or otherwise illegal recruitment offers, foreign employers are required to undergo pre-qualification screening by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office and submit a written statement committing

themselves to the fair and humane treatment of their domestic workers. In 2007, the government also held 3 sub-national conferences on trafficking in Davao, Cebu, and Manila that brought together government officials, law enforcement, NGOs and international organizations.”

6. Gender Information Sources

6-1 Philippine Institutions Dealing with Gender Issues

Government

Name	Address	Nature/Program Services
National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)	1145 JP Laurel St San Miguel, Manila 735-1654	Advisory body to the President of the Philippines on policies, and programs concerning women.
Senate Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations	Philippine Senate, GSIS Building, Financial Center, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City	All matters relating to youth, women and family relations
Committee on Women, House of Representatives, Congress of the Philippines	House of Representatives, Batasan Hills, Quezon City	All matters directly and principally relating to the rights and welfare of women and female children and youth, inclusive of their education, employment and working conditions, and their role in nation building

Non Governmental Organizations

Name	Address	Nature/Program Services
Asian’s Women’s Human Rights Council (AWHRC) (Philippines Office)	#41 Fil-Garcia Building, Kalayaan Avenue, Diliman Quezon City Tel. No. 924-64-06, 924-6381	Advocacy for the rights of comfort women and prostituted women, community based crisis intervention program, micro-credit,
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women-Asia Pacific – Philippines	Secretariat: Room 406, Victoria Plaza, 41 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan Metro Manila Tel. no. (632) 744 0859 Fax no.(632) 722 0755	Education and training, organizational development and core group building, research documentation and publication, networking, policy advocacy and campaigns and referral on trafficking cases
Institute of Social Studies and Action	No. 10 Malumanay St., Teacher’s Village, Diliman,	Family Planning, research on women’s reproductive health, training and policy

(ISSA)	Quezon City	advocacy, HIV/AIDS information, HIV/AIDS/STD education and care, counseling, medical service
Institute of Women's Studies	St. Scholastica's College Manila 2560 L. Guinto St., Manila Tel no. (632) 522 3551 Fax no. (632) 523 0693	The Institute focuses on 3 programs, namely: research and publication, seminar and training and resource and development. The Institute has established a library and documentation center on women in Philippine history
ISIS International Manila	#3 Marunong Street, Brgy. Central District Quezon City 1100 Tel. No. (632) 435 3405 and 435 3408 Fax No. (632) 924 1065	ISIS International strengthens South to South and South to North linkages, aiming to enhance the capacity of the global women's movement. It also focuses on old and new issues facing women and women's organizations ISIS maintains information resources and electronic databases, and provides library services to women's organizations
Lihok - Pilipina, Inc.	102 P. Del Rosario Extension, Cebu City Tel. No. (032)254 8092	Livelihood training, credit facility/small business, skills training on livelihood and income generation shelter/halfway house, advocacy on violence against women, child abuse, etc.
Linangan ng Kababaihan (LIKHAAN)	92 Times St., West Triangle, Quezon City Tel. 411 31 51/454 9674	Postpartum care for pregnant women, family planning, reproductive health care, shelter/halfway house
Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc.	No. 18 12 th Avenue, Brgy. Socorro, Murphy Cubao 1109 Quezon City Tel. 709 0711/709 0573 Fax no. 421-9423	Provides residential care and community-based programs and services for women and children in especially difficult circumstances Provides services to trafficked victims by managing halfway houses
Women's Crisis Center	c/o Project Haven Penthouse East, East Avenue Medical Center, 63-B Madasalin St., Sikatuna Village, Quezon City, Tel. No. 921-6783	Crisis counseling, feminist counseling, temporary shelter for abused women, survivors' support group
Women's Health Care Foundation	1589 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City Tel. no. (632) 924 0717 and	Counselling, domestic violence identification/treatment, family planning, gender training, HIV/AIDS information,

	929 9492 Fax No. 924 0717	HIV/AIDS/STD education and care, lobbying and networking etc
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6-2 Reports and References Related to Gender

Title	Author-Publisher	Year
Philippine Development Plan for Women	NCRFW	1986
Philippine Plan for Gender Responsive Development 1995-2025	NCRFW	1995
The Woman Question in the Philippines	St. Mary John Mananzan, OSB – Institute of Women’s Studies	1997
Mainstreaming Gender in Development Planning: Framework and Guidelines	National Economic and Development Authority and the National Commission on the Role of the Filipino Women (NCRFW)	2002
Framework Plan for Women	NCRFW	2004
Women’s Studies Reader	Institute of Women’s Studies, St Scholastica’s College, Manila	2004
Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines	NEDA and NCRFW	2004
Combined Fifth and Sixth Philippine Progress Report on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	NCRFW	2004
Gender Assessment of USAID/Philippines Strategy for 2005-2009	Dr. Carolyn I. Sobritchea	2004
ADB Country Gender Assessment	Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank	2004
State of the Women of Mindanao 2004 Report	The Mindanao Commission on Women	2004
A Guide to Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children (9262)	Philippine Information Agency	2004
Report on the State of Filipino Women 2001-2003	NCRFW	2005
Addressing Gender in Conflict and Post Conflict Situations in the Philippines	Sonia Margallo – Conflict Prevention and Reconstruction, Social Development Department,	2005

	World Bank	
Looking from Within A Primer on Trafficking in Persons in the Philippines	Visayan Forum Foundation, Inc. Edited by: Vincent Nicolai F Henson , Marieta C Culibao and Jannis Montanez	2005
Gender Profile: Philippines	Regional Gender Project SEA- Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Philippine Office	2006
Philippine NGOs Shadow Report to the 36 th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women	Women's Legal Bureau, Inc	2006
Shaping Women's Global Agenda Filipino Women in the United Nations – Commission on the Status of Women/CEDAW Committee	Edited by Olivia H. Tripon – NCRFW	2007
Grant Thornton International Business Report 2007 Global Review	Grant Thornton International	2007
Global Gender Gap Report 2007	World Economic Forum	2007
Newsbreak Special Edition	Public Trust Media Group	2007

<p>Republic Act 6949 - An Act to Declare March Eight of Every Year as A Working Special Holiday to be Known as National Women's Day (1990)</p>	<p>It directs all Heads of Government Agencies and Employers in the private sector to encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their employees to engage and participate in any activity to celebrate national Women's Day</p>
<p>Republic Act 6955 – An Act to Declare Unlawful the Practice of Matching Filipino Women for Marriage to Foreign Nationals on a Mail-Order basis and Other Similar Practices, Including the Advertisement, Publication, Printing or Distribution of Brochures, Fliers and Other Propaganda Materials in Furtherance Thereof and Providing Penalty Thereof (1990)</p>	<p>Ban marriage matching for a fee as well as exportation of domestic workers to certain countries which cannot ensure the protection of their rights</p>
<p>Republic Act 6972 – An Act Establishing a Day Care Center in Every Barangay, Instituting Therein a Total Development and Protection of Children Program, Appropriating Funds Thereof, and For Other Purposes (1990)</p>	<p>Establishes day care centers in every barangay to free women for other activities such as taking a job or going back to school</p>
<p>Republic Act 7192 – An Act Promoting the Integration of Women as Full and Equal Partners of Men in Development and Nation Building and For Other Purposes (1991)</p>	<p>Provides equal opportunities for women in all military schools of the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police. Ensures that a substantial portion of foreign assistance funds be allocated to support programs for women</p>
<p>Republic Act 7600 – An Act Providing Incentives to All Government and Private Health Institutions with Rooming-In and Breastfeeding Practices and for Other Purposes (1992)</p>	<p>This provides an environment where basic physical, emotional and psychological needs of mothers and infants immediately after birth are fulfilled, through the practice of rooming-in and breastfeeding</p>
<p>Republic Act 7877 – An Act Declaring Sexual Harassment Unlawful in the Employment, Education or Training Environment, and For Other Purposes (1995)</p>	<p>It declares that all forms of work-related sexual harassment in the employment environment are unlawful</p>
<p>Republic Act 7882 Providing Assistance to Women Engaging in Micro and Cottage Business Enterprises and For Other Purposes (1995).</p>	<p>This provides assistance to women, particularly those who own small businesses and those who have proven themselves to have good track records in their respective businesses in order to fully harness the talents and skills of the female labor force.</p>

<p>Republic Act 8505 – An Act Providing Assistance and Protection for Rape Victims, Establishing for the Purpose a Rape Crisis Center in Every Province and City, Authorizing the Appropriation of Funds, Thereof, and For Other Purposes (1998)</p>	<p>Also known as the “Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998”</p>
<p>Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (Republic Act 9208)</p>	<p>Defines as criminal the acts of trafficking in persons, and acts as to promote trafficking in person, and redefines prostitution from a crime committed by women only to any act, transaction, or design involving the use of a person by another for sexual intercourse or lascivious conduct in exchange for money, profit, or any other consideration, with the criminal liability assigned to those who promote it through trafficking in persons</p>
<p>Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004 (Republic Act 9262)</p>	<p>Criminalization of violence against women and their children (VAWC) and protection of women and their children in the context of a marital, dating, or common law relationship, declaration of VAWC as a public crime</p>

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Glossary of Terms

Adult Literacy Rate is the percentage of people ages 15 and older who can, with

understanding, both read and write a short, simple statement about their everyday life

Cohort Survival Rate – The percentage of enrollees at the beginning grade or year in a given school year who reached the final grade or year of the elementary/secondary level

Empowerment to empower individuals or groups in political, economic and social sense

Gender analytical concept to clarify the social role of men and women and interrelation between them

Gini Index measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or, in some cases, consumption expenditure) among individual or households within an economy deviates from perfectly equal distribution. A Gini Index of 0 represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality

Infant Mortality Rate is the number of infants dying before reaching one year of age, per 1,000 live births

Labor Force Participation Rate is the proportion of the population ages 15-64 that is economically active: all people who supply labor for the production of goods and services during a specified period

Maternal Mortality Rate is the number of women who die from pregnancy-related causes during pregnancy and childbirth, per 100,000 live births

Purchasing Power Parity A rate of exchange that accounts for price difference across countries, allowing international comparisons of real output and incomes. A PPP US\$1 has the same purchasing power in the domestic economy as US1\$ has in the United States

Is a price relative which measures the number of units of country B's currency that are needed in country B to purchase the same quantity of an individual good or service as one unit of country A's currency will purchase in country A

Purchasing Power Parity Gross National Income is gross national income converted to

international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GNI as a U.S. dollar has the same in the United States

Total Fertility Rate is the number of children that would be born to a woman if she were to live the end of her childbearing years and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates

Total Labor Force comprises people who meet the International Labor Organization (ILO) definition of the economically active population. It includes both the employed and unemployed.

Wanted/Desired Fertility Rate – Preferred number of children