

4. Reports

4.1. Dora Veronika Rusznak

Thanks to the generous support of the Ministry of Education of Japan, we had the chance to conduct a two weeks research trip in the Philippines. Our student group was very diverse in terms of nationalities and academic interests. Under the guidance of Professor Kikuchi Yasushi, seven students of Waseda University joined to the research project: Sarah Edwards (Australia) specialized on E-learning and M-learning and on their implications for development and poverty reduction; Hunleng Hay (Cambodia) specialized on slum resettlement and human rights; Scott James Ingram (USA) specialized on watershed management and community involvement for environment protection; Ilya Kravtsov (Russia) specialized on leftist movements and political anthropology; Mikiko Saito (Japan) specialized on regional sociology and social capital, Viviana Malvina Sosa (Argentina) specialized on information and communication technology in economic development; and myself (Dora Veronika Rusznak, Hungary) specialized on food related issues, focusing on the cultural appropriateness of food assistance. Due to this incredible diversity of the students and the academic supervision of Professor Kikuchi, we could carry out a very successful research trip that provided us with many new information in our fields as well as real-life experiences of poverty and development issues that most of us encountered only through statistics and reports before.

During our stay in Manila we visited the following organizations: JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), ADB (Asian Development Bank), UNICEF, Idente Foundation, IIRR (International Institute for Rural Reconstruction), NEDA (National Economic Development Agency), World Bank, Embassy of Japan, IPC (Institute of Philippine Culture) and the three most prestigious universities in the Philippines: UP (University of the Philippines), De La Salle University and Ateneo de Manila University.

On the first day we had an orientation in the JICA headquarter where we learned about JICA's involvement in the development projects taken place in the Philippines from Mr Kurisu Masanori (Chief Representative) and Ms Eloisa Romero (Head of the JICA – NGO section). A few days later we had the chance to visit some of the project sites: Dr Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital, Tuloy Sa Don Bosco Institute for Education and a Research Center in the DOST compound (Department of Science and Technology).

Our visit in the Dr Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital started with the presentations of Ms Murakami Izumi (Chief Adviser of Maternity and Child Health Project) and Dr Cyntia Tan on child and maternity health problems in urban and rural Philippines and on the ongoing projects addressing these issues, such as the safe motherhood program or the skills training for doctors and midwives. After



the presentations we took a tour in the hospital. Among many projects we learned about the Kangaroo Mother Care program and the Breast Milk Collection Center operating in the hospital. The Kangaroo Mother Care program originates from Columbia where it was designed for premature babies. Due to inadequate health and nutritional status of the mothers, to poor health education and to the fact that there are many underage girls are giving birth in the Philippines; the number of premature infants and babies with low birth weight are relatively high. These babies are supposed to stay in an incubator for the first few weeks after they got born. However, in this case they cannot develop a strong contact with the mother that is very important not only for emotional reasons but also to have enough breast milk later, which is crucial for the physical development of the infants. Therefore in the Kangaroo program, the baby is tied to the mother in a way that they would have a skin-to-skin contact

and the mother would keep the baby warm with her own body heat. The Fabella Memorial Hospital also accommodates one of the few breast-milk stations, where mothers with excess breast milk can donate milk to mothers who do not have enough to feed their babies.



Another JICA supported project we visited was the Tuloy Sa Don Bosco Institute. This institute gives education and accommodation to street children who cannot get a profession and have a chance for a better life

otherwise. At the beginning the institution recruited its students directly from the streets, however by now they have such a positive reputation in the neighborhood that the devoted children submit their applications without any advertisement. The institution provides basic education and training for the following professions: car mechanic, baker and information technology.

The third JICA supported project was a research center for packaging. Their work is very helpful for companies who would like to produce not only for the local market but also for export. Since the requirements for packaging and labeling depends on the regulations of the given country, this institute can provide the local Philippine companies with technical help to create products for export. The institute also employs designers who can differentiate the design according to the targeted markets.

In the UNICEF office we had the chance to participate in a discussion with Vanessa Tobin (country representative, UNICEF). We learned about the UNICEF GOP programs, regional efforts and cooperation addressing the issues concerning children and the youth in the Philippines. As for my research the most important part of the discussion

was the problematic of the infant formulas. As it is well known, due to the unethical marketing practices of the formula producing companies, in many developing countries bottle-feeding became a usual feeding method. However, in developing countries infant formula can do much more harm than good and bottle-feeding is directly associated with the increase of infant mortality. In the Philippines infant formula is still extensively used as a result of the widespread marketing of the large multinational companies. In the discussion we learned about the struggle of UNICEF against these immoral marketing campaigns and the importance of breast milk in child development.

In the World Bank country office first we had a basic orientation on the work of the organization, while afterwards, during the Q&A session we could have an informative discussion on the current corruption scandal involving World Bank workers and the First Gentleman. Similarly, on our visit to the Japanese Embassy, we had a chance to hear about the issues that the Japanese businessmen had to face in the Philippines because of the high corruption rate.

In the Institute of Philippine Culture (IPC) we had presentations on the Filipino society, culture, values and *mindset*, along with children's participation in the work of UNICEF and on the struggle of the preservation of the old buildings as cultural heritage in Manila.

On our visit to the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) we had a very constructive discussion on how to blend technology with anthropology in order to create sustainable and successful development programs *with and for* the recipient society. It was especially delightful to hear that in the nutrition programs of IIRR, the



organization is promoting predominantly indigenous vegetables and plants.

Our most valuable program was maybe our visit to the Idente Foundation. We could experience and see the daily life of a slum and the inhumane conditions under millions of people are forced to live. I believe most of us got strengthened in our commitment to work on poverty reduction and development after this visit.

In our visits to the universities we had workshops with the Philippine students who were very helpful and after discussing our individual research topics they helped us out with valuable advices on data availability, contact persons, contact numbers and resources in the Philippines.

I believe that our research trip to the Philippines was very helpful academically as we could have workshops and discussions with people working on the field. Moreover, as we also visited field



sites, slum settlements and development centers we also had direct contact with the recipients and had an extraordinary experience and an unforgettable time. Once again, I would like to thank to the Ministry of Education of Japan and Waseda University for the financial support and to Professor Kikuchi for his everlasting energy and academic supervision to make this research trip possible.

4.2. Hunleng Hay

Learning from the Field

An intensive schedule fieldtrip to the Philippines has provided another benefit of knowledge besides theoretical learning at university. On the other hand, it was crucial for an application of theory into practices; especially, in the field of Development Anthropology. Through out the trip

there was a series of lecture and workshop were presented and discussed among a number of local and international development agencies, universities as well as making site-visit to certain projects. Among those institutions were ADB, JICA, World Bank, UNICEF, IIRR, NEDA and etc. That has become a tool to learn and observe about reality on field regarding implementation of official development assistance (ODA) into multi-disciplinary fields. Apart from that, fieldwork was also offering another tip for students to look for topics or issues which are relevant to their research interest in the process of writing their theses or dissertation.

From my personal experience during the trip, I have come across the discussions which were quite informative for my research interest. Those resourceful information for would be very much helpful to deepen my research orientation while at the same time it would become an example for a comparative study with my original case study. Besides, what has impressed me so much among the contents of itinerary was site visit to different projects. In this following, I would like to pick up two examples of those cases.

a. Slum Settlements

Following a site visit to one of slum settlements in Metro Manila, I would like to share an example of Markina Slum which is a project site of IDENTITE at Sitio Payong. The community is inhabited by hundred of urban poor families whom live in informal settlements and majority are extreme poor. The area is almost surrounded by residential villas of upper and middle class families; and on the other side of the village is border with a river bank. The access to the squatters is only by a small gateway which cut through a part of an enclosure wall of the villa. The wall is obviously demarcated between squatting settlements and fancy dwellings; in other words it is the borderline between the rich and the poor who live in an adjacent locality. In previous years, the village was quite poor in infrastructure and sanitation; recently, there have been some support to upgrade the basic needs such as paved roads in the community as well as

having access to safe and portable drinking water. High percentage of children in each household is another problem for the future of this community. Children usually have very limited access to education attainment; therefore, the project of IDENTÉ Mission is voluntary helping to provide early childhood education to those kids at every week-end. The Purpose is to train those children to get used to the classroom activities while at the same time also give them basic knowledge of morality and hygiene. In exchange those children will be provided some food and snacks (*merienda*) for their attendance and if they commit to do a today-class work according to instructors' suggestion; i.e. drawing pictures of objects or landscape with pencils and/or color pencils. Usually, kids can choose to come or not to attend such activities depends on their willingness and permission from parents as well; otherwise, those children will stay home to do other task to help their family. Some of those children may have a chance to go the formal school with further support from the charity. The project seem to move quite well even though it has been operating on a small scale. However, it is part of the promising future for children's vision toward improving their living conditions as well as awareness of a better education.

b. Tuloy Foundation

Tuloy Foundation is a non-profit organization which is operating as training center for street-children in Metro Manila. It is located at Tuloy Sa Don Bosco Street-children Village, Alabang-Zapote Road, Muntinlupa City. The foundation is supporting by a Catholic charity and JICA also partly provides trainer under the Japan Oversea Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV). Most important here is that the center not only provides shelters and meals to homeless and street-children but also significantly give them skill-training with certain options; i.e. mechanic, computer and IT and etc. What I found interesting in this center is the criteria to recruit those children and the curriculum of the training program. Of course, not every and each street-children prefer to be housed in the center and receive

education only because they might find hard time to force themselves to follow some forms of strict regulations and be devoted to the study; whereas, outside of the center they can have complete freedom to do whatever they want and live base on whatever they can afford. Dealing with this process, the center will first spot on children who live or make living on the streets around the city; asking them about family background, home, and finally ask if they want to join the training and stay in the center. Some children might have family somewhere; usually, if they agree to proposal, the center will give them a try to stay partially in place like pre-training center while they still can go back to their home for half a day; for example, to teach them about hygiene, how to take shower, how to dress properly and to well behave and so on. From time to time, when they already get used to a life in the center then they can enroll to receive the full scale training and stay in the center until the end of the program. Most of the children are teenagers and have no previous background in education attainment; therefore, the skill-training will give them chances and possibilities to make a living on their own. Talking to some of trainees who have been trained to become mechanists; they seem to have optimistic future for their professional skill which would eventually bring them to better future. Each and every of them seemed to study very hard and expect to be recruited by one of the well paid electronic companies.

Remarks

These two examples are willing to show that what development is really meant for different groups of people or society. The idea to provide support or aid to certain groups should target on the real needs so that the result will be very effective and be satisfied for both sides. Even thought the project is small but if it is quite active and promising it will bring hope to the people; otherwise, it will be useless in spending large amount of budgets and yet receives no good results.

Taking into account the aspect of cultural value of aid recipients; it is a matter of fact that donor should consider about tradition of local people or community which is a tool to foster a well collaboration in the project implementation. Otherwise, it will be only one side decision and operation whereas majority of the people will be excluded and the support will never reach the real needs.

4.3. Ilya Kravtsov

The fieldtrip we went to in February under the supervision of professor Kikuchi contributed to both my understanding of research questions I am working on right now and general first-hand knowledge of how development works on a practical basis.

Speaking about the former, although my research topic (anthropology of the leftist movements in Asia) has no obvious relation to the issues of economic development that we were looking at, they are interdependent in a long-term perspective, and understanding one of those necessarily contributes to the understanding of another. Furthermore, I was given a plenty of opportunity (through Q&A sessions, for example) to dig in deeper and gather data directly related to my research.

The later type of contribution had an immense impact on me from the perspective of educating a general development specialist. Seeing how different development agencies and academia work in the field on a practical level was an extremely valuable experience that I could not received anywhere in Japan. I do think that this experience will help me a lot during the practical work in development in future.

Let me now highlight the most rewarding of the sessions we had. A visit to the ADB headquarters was both intellectually rewarding and impressive. The detailed presentations and information sessions we were given deepened my understanding of the structure and working philosophies of this organization. A very good point of it was also the fact that this session was adjusted to our research interests and we had an

opportunity to meet social development department representatives, who usually are less noticeable in development organization. And tour through their facilities and offices gave an actual feeling of how does a daily work in a development agency looks like.

JICA offered us not only an informative presentation at their office, but also visits to several of their project sites. These might have been among the most rewarding experiences we had during the fieldtrip. Getting in touch with development workers in the field was one of the goals I pursued going to this trip, and JICA visits were the most rewarding in this aspect. We've seen a wide range of projects Japanese ODA are enrolled in and felt just how many various ways are there to make a difference in this world.

A visit to UNESCO was another highlight of our trip, as any visit to any body within UN system should have been. Seeing the practical work of one of the world's leading development organizations in their relative field was rewarding on its own; however, in addition to that, the staff spent a lengthy amount of time with us answering our question and providing a real in-depth information applicable to our research interests.

Another very rewarding experience was a visit to the Embassy of Japan, although that might not seem directly related to the main themes of our trip. The reason for that was that their representative, Mr. Katayama just had a free and lengthy Q&A session about the development issues of the country with us. And unlike the other development practitioners we met, he had a much more narrow specialization – Philippines – so his insight was truly very informative. In addition, we were able to ask questions on any topic, which allowed all of us to gather a lot of extremely valuable data related to our research interests.

The last thing I wanted to note were the workshops we had in the Universities of Philippines, De La Salle and in JICA. This not only allowed us to share our own thoughts and development ideas with students and practitioners alike, but also made us intellectually fit

throughout the trip by emphasizing our own participation and contribution, while limiting the amount of passive learning we were exposed to.

In general, organization of the trip at all levels didn't leave anything but extremely good impression in me, and I just hope that it was just as rewarding for other group members as it was for me.

4.4. James Ingram Scott

On looking back on the two-plus weeks spent in the Philippines, I would like to begin by thanking the Ministry of Education and the Waseda University Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies for their financial and organizational contributions that made this trip possible. I would also like to thank Professor Kikuchi for all of the time and effort that he put into making sure that all the students were able to enjoy a productive, informative, and safe stay in the Philippines. Finally, I would like to thank those students who used their own contacts to arrange meetings and field site visits for the entire group during our stay. Without these people, and many others, and their effort this trip would not have been able to be as smooth and, therefore, as educational as it was for all of us who were able to participate.

In the limited length here I would like to focus on what I thought were two key points that I believe appeared frequently in my thoughts the experiences of this trip to the Philippines. The first point was mentioned often by the people and development organizations which we met with, and is a key target for the country in combating poverty. This is the extreme income gap, and rising rate of poverty, which has a visible face in Manila beyond just the numbers and charts in publications in the form of squatter settlements and the significant differences between wealthy and poorer neighborhoods. The second point of interest for me was one which received less direct attention in some of the discussions we took part in, but which is an underlying truth for almost all future development in this country; the interaction between society and the natural environment. I

want to look beyond just the environmental dangers that the Philippines faces from pollution, and include the threat of overuse of its natural resources and the dangers the country faces from natural disasters, including those which can be linked to climate change.

The wide gap between economic classes in the Philippines can be seen first hand in Manila simply by riding the elevated train system that serves as one aspect of the city's mass transit system. As the train travels between the stops that are located at shopping malls and business centers one can see in the spaces between these wealthy zones the low-income area housing and squatter towns of the impoverished. It seems hard to believe when walking around certain parts of Manila, such as Makati where our hotel was located, that you are not in any other developed country. However, when you see how the majority of the people of the Philippines must live based on their incomes, it then becomes hard to believe that these expensive shopping malls and business buildings are really part of this same country. Looking forward, this is a distinct problem for the country because, in fact, this wealthy class really is not part of the same country as the majority of Filipinos. The poor development results, corruption, and misguided direction of the government of the country can be directly attributed to the real separation that exists between the wealthy, and politically powerful, elite and the majority of Filipinos who live on much closer to the realities of growing poverty.

In looking ahead to the future of socio-economic development in the Philippines it becomes clear that the state of the environment will have a larger impact on the lives of Filipinos. The wide geographic spread of the country has resulted in less large-scale concentrated pollution, but the effects of more concentrated pollution can be seen in places like the Pasig River and the air quality in Manila. We were able to learn about a project that JICA was involved with to build water taxi stations along the river. This is part of a wider movement from the people of Manila to bring the polluted to the point of being unsafe and unusable river back into

usefulness. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is currently organizing, along with several NGOs, a project to rehabilitate the river and its environs. Looking over the statements of the involved groups they describe their goals and the constraints of the budget in relation to the scope of the tasks ahead. However, as one of my fellow students would have noticed immediately, there is no plan in place for what do to regarding the relocation of the significant population of squatters along the banks of the river.

The unique interests of all the participating students on this trip played a helpful role by giving me insights from their perspectives on this which extend beyond just the environmental aspects. Each student came to this trip with differing backgrounds, experiences, and research interests. This multi-disciplinary group made the questions asked at any given meeting quite varied, and I think gave everyone attending a wider understanding of development issues in the Philippines. I think this kind of experience is an excellent opportunity for all of us as students to see what is happening in other research interests and to look beyond the narrowing view of our own perspectives.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to the university students we were able to meet at various institutions in Manila during this trip. They provided a refreshingly reality-based opinion about the modern Philippines. There concerns about the state of corruption in their country echo my own concerns from all the facts we heard during our more official meetings. However, they still harbor hope in the future of the socio-economic development and governance of their country. I can see the opportunity for these hopes to become real in the growing decentralization of the government and the increasing focus on locally motivated development, including that which is outside of official development organizations. This experience showed me that the future of the Philippines is undecided, but that the official development organizations we visited and the students we met are all committed to meeting the challenges of the future in the hopes of improving the lives of Filipinos.

4.5. Mikiko Saito

Looking back on the 13-day Field Trip to the Philippines

Our field trip spanned from the 8th to the 21st of February 2009. It was sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Education, as well as being under the cooperation and arrangement by the JICA Philippines Office and Waseda University. The content of the fieldwork was focused on how ODA is being implemented in various development projects in the



Philippines. There were seven students in this field trip project. I had a great experience in the field trip visit to the Philippines rather than just reading publications about development programs. This report is about my own observations, experiences, impressions and knowledge that I gained from the field trip to the Philippines. My report is divided into three parts; one is related with the field trip members, the second is related with my own observations and knowledge that I gained from the field trip to the Philippines and the last is related with my memories from when we visited a slum area on the 15th.

First of all, I would like to say thank to all the members on the field trip. I was impressed by the diversity of members' backgrounds; different nationalities, ages, academic fields, former experiences, etc. Even if we have the same experience, what we feel and think is slightly different for each identity. We discussed about what we experienced while comparing it with our mother country. Such an experience is very valuable in Japan. What I know is only the conditions surrounding Japan. But I could understand the conditions of Argentina, Hungary, Australia, U.S.A., Cambodia, and Russia by talking with other members.

And I could think back about my identity, current Japanese situation, culture and history. I came to have a new understanding of my identity during this field trip. I have never experienced a field trip which was such a valuable experience, so much fun and made me to think before.

I really heartily thank such splendid members for letting me have a valuable experience. It was a great honor for me to join such a great field trip.

Second, I want to describe my own observations and the learning that I gained from the field trip to the Philippines. My observations and learning are based on what I saw, discussed with people and heard during our visit. I was so surprised to see inequality in people's lives in the Philippines. You can see this big income gap easily when you are on the way to Central City of Manila from Ninoy Aquino International Airport. It's true that the middle-income group is increasing in Philippines recently. But there is a big income gap which you can't imagine in Japan. Only a handful of people enjoy the benefits of the Philippines' economy. The income of 75% of the population is 500yen a day. Income of a position such as manager is 20-40 thousand yen a month. The survey of the Institute of Developing Economies shows almost 20% every Filipino household has experienced starvation. The Filipino population living in poverty is 30% according to Philippines' government statistics.

I arrived at Manila, and this is when I immediately doubted whether this country is really an impoverished country. I certainly saw a big income gap on the way to central area of Manila from Ninoy Aquino International Airport. But, where we stayed was such a developed area. We stayed in Makati City, which is the greater metropolitan area of the national capital of the Philippines. It is the major financial, commercial and economic hub in the Philippines. There are not only many global company's offices, but also bigger shopping malls consisting of many shops and restaurants there. Many people have lunch or dinner in the restaurants and can enjoy shopping. This part of town is excellently developed and is completely constructed from modern architectural structures that I have never seen in any country until then. Despite the fact that the price of commodities in the Philippines is one-sixth of those in Japan, prices of commodities of this area differ little from Japan.

But the people inside of the shopping malls are quite different from those outside of the shopping mall in living standards and incomes. When we stayed in Makati City, it was around Valentine's Day. Many children aged about 5 or 6 were selling roses for 50 pesos (about 100yen) each in the dark alley just outside the shopping mall a little. Maybe they can not enter the area. They were selling roses even if it was past 11 o'clock in the evening.

5 minutes from Makati City by car there are slum areas. This huge gap in people's lives is very easy to see in the Philippines. Slum areas are often neighboring high-class residential areas. I can't believe this scene no matter how many times I saw it. I am deeply concerned with this scene. High-class residential areas are shut with a gate and separate the community with a gate. This type of community completely separates the people of an upper-class residential area and the slums and you can't see the slum dwellers in an upper-class residential area. This will be a new part of the scenery of the global city. The Filipino problem of the social stratification and exclusion will grow bigger in this way.

Even if not everyone is affected, the only help is that even street children have an opportunity to get an education. We visited a school in Manila for slum and street children which JICA supports. But, I wonder if they can get adequate jobs even if they get an education with much effort. After graduating from school, many children will go abroad to work in automobile industries in, for example, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Australia.



In Philippines, many citizens are going abroad to work. The Central Bank of the Philippines reports that remittances into the country from oversea Filipino workers in 2006 reached \$12.7 billion. The number of oversea Filipino workers is more than 8

million people according to data from the Philippines Overseas Employment Development Board in 2006. This number is nearly equivalent to 10% of the population. The Philippines has become the country which sends the second largest number of workers overseas, after Mexico. About 2,500 Filipinos leave the country on average every day, excluding the number of illegal workers. I can clearly understand well how the Filipino economy is supported by remittances into the country from oversea Filipino workers.

During the field trip, I heard the news that 560 Filipino male nurses were recruited to work in Japan. And when I talked with a waiter, he said his sister is “Japayuki-san”. So many Filipino women boarded an airplane between Philippines and Japan. When I came back to Japan, I talked with a Filipino woman in the seat next to mine. She has a baby and has lived in Tokyo for 3 years. She bought toys for children as souvenirs in Philippines. As soon as she arrived in Narita Airport, she worriedly called and confirmed her baby of her safety. Japan is currently dependent on Filipino workers and this trend will become bigger and bigger in the future. So it is an important Japanese responsibility to improve working conditions for these workers.

Despite the fact that industries and services of the Philippines is developing rapidly, the income gap of Philippines is huge still and the Philippines has not overcome poverty. In 2008, the ADB pointed out that the spread of corruption; uneasy political situation and lack of yield of taxes are the main factors why the Philippines has not been able to overcome poverty. The insufficient results on the governance side, such as corruption or the uneasy political situation and lowers investor confidence. Therefore, public works spending and private investment is reduced, and maintenance of the infrastructure becomes insufficient. It becomes a vicious circle. Education alone isn't enough to reduce the income gap and overcome poverty in the Philippines where corruption thrives. You must create productive employment opportunities where all social hierarchies can benefit. I thought that this was the first problem of this country. In

Japan's case, more than one million people also went overseas as an emigrant and a migrant worker in Meiji period. After the Meiji era, how did Japan accomplish economic growth? I may be able to find a small beginning of the solution for conquest of Philippine poverty by comparing the current Philippine development course, an enforcement policy, and use as a basic base Japan after the Meiji era.

Third, I want to describe my memory from when we visited the slum areas. I can't forget the smiles of the children in the slum. The smiles of children of the slums were smiles that were carefree with simplicity. They were so sweet. When I climbed the cliff along the riverbank, the small girls cared about me and lent their hands. I was really glad for the small handle. And it was really pleasant to play volleyball with the children of the slums. I felt that they accepted us. We didn't do anything for them. We only visited there. However, they accepted us even as people who would be one time visitors. I think I couldn't accept such a one time visitor if I were them.

The children saw us off on our return path to the gated neighbourhood which completely distinguishes the upper-class residential



area and the slums. The girls told me that they wanted me to come back next Sunday. I told them I can't come back next Sunday. So they asked me, "when will you come again?" I was very glad because of their feeling

though we did nothing for them. When I parted from them, one girl told me that she wanted my watch. When I hesitated about what to do, her friend said to me that I didn't have to give her it. As for me, the words of the girl affected my heart very much and the expression of the girls still

appears in my mind. If I was in the same situation, would I say the same words? Perhaps I might not.

Will these children have the chance to get appropriate work in the future? If they were no born in the slums, their chances would be innumerably wider. Everyone has equal ability. What bring about economic differences are acquired things such as education, experience, and opportunity. I can get various chances relatively easily simply because I was born in modern Japan. I always have to recognize that my rich life without any inconvenience is being supported by the people of many developing countries. I make use of given innumerable chances to the maximum and do not want to be ashamed for them. I was able to realize my original intention from when I first entered graduate school again thanks to this field trip.

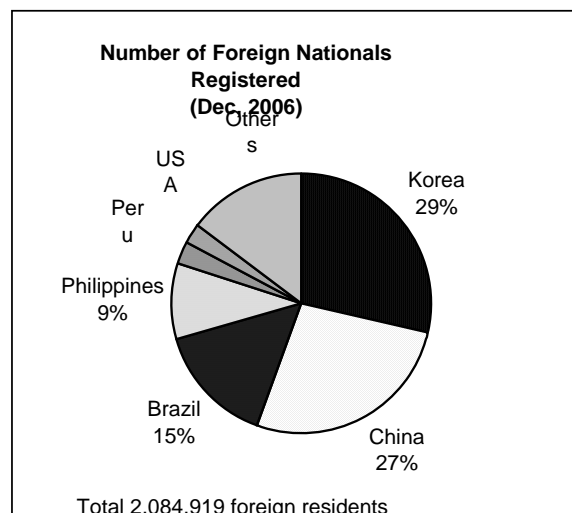
In the end, I want to address my thanks to Prof. Kikuchi, JICA Philippines office, GSAPS office, and other people who were concerned with this trip and my good fellow participants. I hope that splendid field trips like this one can continue in the future.

4.6. Sarah Jane Edwards

E-learning to overcome the Japanese language barrier: e-Government web based support system

Proposal

Japanese Government to provide web based support for Japanese language learning in the form of an e-learning resource and information sharing infrastructure in-line.



Case Study - Philippines

To date, Japan and the Philippines have been economically and socially interlinked with a strong interest from Filipinos on working opportunities in Japan. In 2005, the number of Philippine nationals residing in Japan far out numbered Japanese nationals living in the Philippines with 187,261 versus 12,913 (MoFA, 2008). Indeed, Filipinos rank as the fourth largest component of foreign residents at 193,483 living in Japan as of 2006 (MOJ, 2006) despite this large number of foreign residents Filipinos are under represented in Universities reflecting that they have unequal access to education. With the top five sources of students were China (71,277), Republic of Korea (17,277), Taiwan (4,686), Vietnam (2,582) and Malaysia (2,146) (Japan Student Services Organization, December 14, 2007).

This case study is based on data collected over two weeks in the Philippines during February 2009. The Philippines has two official languages Filipino (Tagalog) and English (Gov.Ph, 2009). I have focused my initial case study on the Philippines for three main reasons, firstly, the generally high English abilities when compared to other Asian countries. This is important because I am limited to researching in Japanese and English and the fact that the initial translated language for the Japanese language support web portal is English. Secondly, the recent signing of the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) foreshadows an increase in the number of professional Filipino workers in Japan. The last reason is the high level of mobile phone saturation, which indicates a positive attitude towards technology. This case study is divided into two sections: potential JICA trainees and IT professionals.

Potential JICA Trainees

The Philippines as a developing country receives aid from the Japanese Government through JICA. JICA provides aid through several methods; Training program, training programme for young leaders, individual expert dispatch program, technical cooperation project, development study project and local development study project, general grant aid, yen loan program, NGO program and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV.)

While in the Philippines I interviewed four staff from the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA). The sample method was snowballing through a JICA contact. The respondents had all participated in JICA funded training, three on short-term training and one on a long-term post-graduate basis, Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) Project. I conducted qualitative interviews. The aim of the interviews were to discover whether the respondents would have learnt Japanese via e-learning before conducting training in Japan if the service had been available.

Results

Despite all the respondents training being conducted in English they all replied that they would have been interested in studying Japanese prior to studying in Japan. One respondent indicated that they took part in the optional afternoon Japanese classes during their training, which is a reflection of the desire to learn Japanese. Overall the motivation to learn Japanese was to communicate with JICA staff both in the Philippines and in Japan. Specific interest was mentioned for learning Japanese development field terminology. The respondents were willing to contribute to the web portal content as well as to recommend the web portal to other potential JICA trainees.

On the one hand a respondent replied they were interested but limited by time but another replied they were willing to devote up to 3hours per day, one month before going to Japan. NEDA staffs have internet access at work and the respondents I interviewed also have internet access at home, mainly broadband. The Philippines has a high mobile phone saturation rate and at least two of the respondents stated they have internet access on their mobile phones. Japan has developed mobile phone based e-learning such as alc.co.jp/elearning but the limitation in Manila is that it is not safe to use your mobile phone for long amounts of time during commuting to work.

IT professionals

During the field trip I visited the JICA project that focused on upgrading the IT professional human resources in the Philippines. The project-funded organization is called University of the Philippines Information Technology Training Center (UPITTC). The center is situated on University of the Philippines campus and runs both short and long term year long IT courses. To date there have been four batches of long-term students. The requirements for students to enter the program are proficiency in written and spoken English, a University degree in IT or able to show high aptitude in IT. To date 29.17% of students graduated from IT related fields and 70.83% from non-IT fields. This means that the program is targeting the elite University graduates, but, there are scholarships available and the entrance 2009 the entrance exams will be held in nine locations.

The data obtained from UPITTC shows that 60.42% of students come from Manila and 39.58% from the rest of the Philippines. These figures are quite low on regional diversity especially since a large percentage of the students (46%) graduated from the three top prestigious Universities: UP, De Ateneo and De La Salle. The cost of the long-term course is 21,000 pesos per year plus an additional 12,000 pesos miscellaneous fee such as

textbooks; this comes to a total of 33,000 pesos or around 66,000 yen. Student numbers have increased from 38 in the first year, 75, 86 and now 96 students. Overall the majority of students are male at 61.5% versus female 38.5%. These figures are not in-line with World Bank research that promotes women's' education for economic growth, there should be effort made by JICA to increase the percentage of female students.

The institution is qualification orientated with students being coached for the PhilNITS Fundamental Engineer (FE) examination and also offers Japanese Language training as an option with the aim to pass the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) levels three and four. One batch of students created online resources utilising moodle a free e-learning system. This system is closed non-UPITTC students. Upon interview the Japanese language instructor replied that the students use online Japanese language learning resources and the instructor stated permission and interest in the UPITTC students participating in usability testing of the web portal during the development stages. There is also a web page available that provided IT terminology language learning.

Notably a recent IT Human Needs Survey conducted by JICA Project Team in March 2008 showed that the Japanese skills of graduates were "slightly lower than expected." This shows that there is room for improvement at least on the speed of language learning of students. E-learning is a good method to practice concepts that have previously been learnt and is therefore is suited to learning vocabulary and Japanese Kanji characters (Dodigovic, 2005;Yoshii, 2003; Yoshii & Flaitz 2003) (Stockwell, 2007). Therefore there is room to explore the potential benefits of a web portal for Japanese language learning support.

To conclude as outlined in the Potential JICA Trainees and IT Professionals section of this case study, there is both interest and demand for a web-based solution to some of the difficulties of learning Japanese.

The NEDA case showed that employees have both access and needs for learning Japanese, in the case that, they are selected to go on JICA training or when dealing directly with JICA officials. The UPITTC case shows that there is demand for Japanese skills among Japanese company sponsors of UPITTC such as Fujitsu and budding IT Professionals and that these students have the motivation to learn Japanese. In fact both of the sections explored demand among the elite of the Philippines, Government officials and University Graduates. These sections of society are not limited by English language ability or access to technology especially computer based internet connection, and so e-learning has great potential among this section of the Philippines. However during the field trip to Manila I observed numerous internet cafes and a highly developed text based mobile phone culture. Indeed, some examples include, the ability to order strawberries via text messaging, receiving overseas remittances via mobile phone credit and texting in your opinion to the local student newspaper. As mobile phones become cheaper this text-based culture could potentially swap to internet based mobile phone culture and thus mobile phone based learning may be a potential path towards education and knowledge by those who currently lack adequate access.

4.7. Viviana Malvina Sosa

My Personal Background

My research interest lays on the role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), especially mobile telephony, in socio-economic development. Through previous research I came to realize that success in this field highly depends on the ability of the public and private sectors to partner in the regions that lack access to communications. The last necessary element to achieve success is the so called “good governance and sound institutions”. Having these ideas in mind I went on this trip.

Our main host: the JICA office

We started and finished our field trip with them. Firstly, we had a briefing on overall JICA activities in the Philippines explained by Kurisu Masanori, Chief and Representative Administration Section, and then an orientation on the JICA-NGO activities provided by Eloisa Romero. At the end of the first week, we visited three sites where JICA provides funds.

One of them was the “Packing Research and Development Center” and it was the most business oriented organization that we visited. There we learn how The Philippines is adopting Japanese technology and know how to improve packaging in their local production and therefore be able to improve its exports. By doing so, not only The Philippines but also Japan benefit from having higher quality products from abroad since they cannot be produced in Japan. We also went to Dr. José Falabella Memorial Hospital where we talked with Ms. Murakami Izumi, Chief Adviser of Mortality and Child Health project, and she explained about the trend on services delivery of maternal and child health. She gave an update on their plan and highlighted the current situation in developing countries relating it with the Millennium Development Goals. Also, she detailed the change in the paradigm of safe motherhood programs between mid 90`s and after. The Japanese technical assistance in this field focuses on the “Mother and child book approach” providing skills training approach to doctors, nurses and midwives and emergency obstetric care approach. The JICA project is called “Philippine Maternal and Child Health Project” which runs from 2006 to 2010. Its supply side goes from communities to Health Service, its budget is \$10.000.000 and the target are the Department of Health of the Provinces Ifugao and Biliran.

Then we visited the Tuloy Foundation where ex street children get the opportunity to study, live and learn professions such as mechanics, reparation of refrigerators, cooking and technology.



Based on international cooperation and local personnel Dr. José Falabella Memorial Hospital sells breast milk.

In our last day in Manila we attended a workshop with JICA experts in infrastructure, forest conservation and disable people. In this meeting I learn

more about the situation of farmers and their relation with the market.

We also visited Institute of Philippine Culture of Ateneo de Manila University, the Asian Centre of University of the Philippines (UP) and Yuchengco Research Center in De La Salle University. In each one of them we discuss several aspects of development in the country with highly educated counterparts. The presentation of Professor Mary Racelis deserves special mention since she provided us with the first insight of Filipino sociological and anthropological characteristics.

Apart from the group visit to UP, I got the chance to visit the “UP Information Technology Training Center”, supported by JICA, which provides courses to certificate students in IT skills and Japanese language. Even though the course is actually expensive there are 40 scholarships available. Once graduated, the students as well as the members of the Tuloy Foundation, get the chance to work at The Philippines factories and offices of Japanese companies. I found out that students of this program excel in IT skills but need to improve their Japanese language to better fit in the Japanese market. According to the statistics none of the graduates is unemployed.

Other development-related offices visited

When visiting UNICEF I inquired about their partnerships with the private sector. Vanessa Tobin, UNICEF Representative, replied that they

used to consider the private sector always as a donor but recently they are also considering them in non-financial terms as well. She also mentioned that in The Philippines local governments are more effective than the national one in implementing development programs.

Among the national agencies, we visited the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) which works linking domestic



governmental offices and international donor agencies. There I learned that infrastructure is the sector that receives more investments and one of their major challenges there is to conduct proper settlement relocation in urban poor areas.

NEDA staff members explained to us that the feasibility study and evaluation of the projects are done by the same implementing agency.

At the Tuloy Foundation, Inc (JOCV site) we saw how the ex street children are learning not only technical matters but also discipline. There I was really amazed by how community institutions can totally shift a situation from hopelessness to real education and job opportunities.

The debate then was concentrated in the fairness and counter balance of the projects since there is no third party involve. This

institutional framework influences they way politics develop in the country. For instance, currently there is a corruption scandal related to the Department of Public Work and Highways, The World Bank and the First Gentlemen.

NEDA developed ICT Infrastructure Projects before such as: modernization of governmental TV network, transport card and ICT based car registration. Mobile based utilities include reporting driving crimes to the police by SMS. At this office was also really interesting to hear and compare the Chinese and Japanese ODA performance.

At the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRI) I found the publication “Towards Better Enterprises” which tackles how small business (such as the one run by most small farmers in less developed countries) can develop through marketing and microfinance practices. One more time I confirm that agro business have a crucial role for development.

Sonomi Tanaka, Principal Social Development Specialist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) presented the "Social Dimensions in ADB Operations". She explained that a key document called “Strategy 2020” reaffirms the idea that economic growth alone cannot



International Institute for Rural Reconstruction

achieve poverty reduction. In the ADB documents "Social Dimensions" include the following: participation of stakeholders, gender, social safeguards and management of other social risks and vulnerabilities. Afterwards, Rita Festin mentioned that the Philippines has the second most expensive energy in Asia after Japan. Regarding my research interest she mentioned the strategic private sector partnership for urban poverty reduction “Strategic Private Sector Partnerships for Urban Poverty Reduction in Metro Manila (STEP-UP)”. I learned some ideas from this project and I am looking for further information relating this type of partnership and ICT.

At the Japanese Embassy I inquired Professor Katayama Yukata about the public private partnerships and he replied that the Japanese private sector do not expect anything from Embassies. It seems there is a gap in between the two sectors then. The Professor also explained that Japanese businessman do not see the Philippines as an attractive destination in contrast with China and Vietnam.

At the office of the World Bank we met Lani Azaron, Operations Officer, who explained that the Philippines is a country with great opportunities due to its entrepreneurial, highly educated people; the burst natural resources base and that access to new opportunities in the world economy. However its economic performance provides modest outcomes and it appears to be a failure of many public institutions to work for the common good. Weak governance, capture, corruption and inefficiency seem to be the reason of the poor performance of the Philippines economy leading to a poor socio-economic condition for its population. This situation helps to demonstrate that people are the most important element in a society and I came to understand that this is the reason why anthropology, furthermore development anthropology, is vital to conduct any development project. When inquired about why there are low investments in governance, although recognizing that these is the main issue to develop the Philippines, Azaron replied that governance efficiency and returns of investment are difficult to measure. This is why the Bank's members are not interested enough in investing in the area. As far as I know, the World Bank call itself a "development" bank but having the mention attitude shows that they actually work with a business and profit framework. Regarding the Bank's national platform to improve governance and financing priority items within the existing budgets, the officer commented that there was a project for publishing textbooks for school and makes the items cheaper, therefore available for wider publics. Later on, they use SMS to check the delivery.

The closest to the field: IDENTITE

Personally I consider this visit as the most unique one. I come from an upper middle income country, so I saw poverty and lack of basic needs several times before. However in the last years my surroundings in my home country improved a lot meaning then that little by little poverty and misery was further away. While living in Japan there are almost no chances to see people lacking basic needs so lately I became aware of

poverty as a field of study, a phenomena and I learn about its background and ways to overcome it. However I was forgetting how it looks to be poor; too many books and no real experience. That is why I was eager to go and visit the field. Being at IDENTTE was a unique experience not only for the chance to go and see the field but also because of the great people working or volunteering there. Their special sensitivity towards social issues deserves special recognition.

Last remarks regarding my research

I learned that the Philippines is “the text capital of the world” so it could be a good idea to include this country as my case study in my MA thesis. Filipinos experienced “People Power” I in 1986 and a second one in 2001 that led to the overthrow of the National Presidents and the use of SMS had a large impact on the process.



Site visit guided by IDENTTE community members on Sunday February 15th 2009.

In a daily basis I saw Filipinos texting all the time and I was asking around and observing their behavior. Unfortunately I could not find the way to measure the impacts of the usage since sometimes it is difficult to differentiate personal and professional usage.

In the several agencies that we visited I inquire about the coordination of projects among the different agencies. They told me then that once a year they meet at the “Philippines development forum”. I was pleased to learn that the Philippines took some successful stories from Latin America regarding development and poverty reduction programs such as the conditional cash transfers.

I cannot finish this report without thanking one more time to the Japanese Ministry of Education which financed this field trip; JICA Philippines Office that provided support in the organization and

management; each one of the organizations and people in The Philippines that in one way or another welcome us and help us understand the country situation; Waseda University for giving its student (both Japanese and foreigners) the opportunity to go abroad to learn and see in reality what they professors teach us in the classroom every day. A very special thank to Doctor Kikuchi for allowing me to take this unique opportunity and who contributed to our debate with very distinctive insights in the Filipino society.

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Professors and Students at De La Salle University. Manila, February 20th 2009.

5. Annex

5.1. List of Presenters

Name	Institution
Mr. Kurisu Masanori	JICA
Ms. Eloisa A. Romero	JICA
Mr. Masahiro Hasegawa	JICA
Mr. Kensei Oda	JICA
Mr. Hitoshi Sanada	JICA
Ms. Ito Naoko	JICA
Dr. Trinidad S. Osteria	De La Salle University
Ms. Susan Hooper	ADB
Ms. Sonami Tanaka	ADB
Ms. Vanessa Tobin	UNICEF
Dr. Marry Grace C. Agcaoili	UNICEF
Mr. Robert Solar	IIRR
Ms. Lani J. Azarcon	WB
Sr. Pilar Martin	Identé Mission
Ms. Daisy E. Tanafranca	Dost
Dr. Czarina Saloma-Akpedonu	Ateneo University
Ms. Izumi Murakami	JICA/JOCV

5.2. List of Abbreviations

ADB	: Asian Development Bank
DOST	: Department of Science and Technology
FE	: Fundamental Engineer
Gov.Ph	: Government of The Philippines
ICT	: Information and Communication Technologies
IIRR	: International Institute for Rural Reconstruction
IPC	: Institute of Philippine Culture
IT	: Information Technology
JDS	: Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship
JICA	: Japan International Cooperation Agency
JLPT	: Japanese Language Proficiency Test
JOCV	: Japan Oversea Cooperation Volunteers
JPEPA	: Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement
MoFA	: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
MOJ	: Ministry of Justice
NEDA	: National Economic Development Agency
NGO	: Non-Government Organizations
ODA	: Official Development Assistance
STEP-UP	: Strategic Private Sector Partnerships for Urban Poverty Reduction in Metro Manila
UNICEF	: The United Nations Children's Fund
UPITTC	: University of the Philippines Information Technology Training Center
UP	: University of the Philippines
WB	: The World Bank

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Japanese ODA policy : is it “Human Oriented or not?”

平成20年度大学教育改革支援プログラム

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