

MIGRATION PROFILE: THE CONCEPT

Migration profiles were initially introduced by the European Commission in 2005, to address the lack of evidence in migratory processes and their impact in countries targeted by EU external aid programmes. The country migration profiles on migration were intended to support the Global Approach to Migration (GAM) as documents, prepared in cooperation with governments, that “would bring together all information relevant to migration and development, thus allowing for a more appropriate policy approach and contributing to a better understanding of the results of policies implemented” (Commission of the European Communities, 2005).

Where evidence is incomplete, scattered around, or not regularly compiled, organizations and agencies are increasingly producing country profiles designed to bring together all the available relevant facts and information for easier reference.

Country profiles should, however, be distinguished from the kind of data ‘profiling’ used in applied areas such as criminal investigation (psychological profiling) or medicine (DNA profiling). They are produced with the primary goal of supporting the public policy development, in such diverse areas as the environment, health and business.

Profiling is an appropriate way of describing and assessing the extent, impact and governance of migration, given the complexity and variability involved. Due to the multifaceted nature of migration, tools of analysis must be complex yet targeted to ensure comprehensiveness and practicality. Preparing a country profile is one such approach.

ABOUT IOM

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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ABOUT SMC

Established in Manila, Philippines in 1987, the Scalabrini Migration Center (SMC) is dedicated to the promotion of the interdisciplinary study of international migration, with a specific focus on migration questions in the Asia-Pacific region. Aside from research, SMC maintains a resource center specializing in migration literature, publishes the academic quarterly *Asian and Pacific Migration Journal*, and organizes workshops and conferences on migration in Asia.

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Country Migration Report The Philippines 2013



ABOUT THE COUNTRY MIGRATION REPORT

Produced within the framework of the Migration Profile Development Project for the Philippines, the **Country Migration Report: The Philippines** provides a comprehensive evidence-based account of the country's migration experience in a single, concise document to serve as a tool for policy-making.

The CMR was initiated by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in response to the Philippine Government's interest to take stock of the country's international migration experience and to harmonize migration data management system within a shared framework. This immediately emerged after the 2011 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) conference on Migration Profiles co-chaired by the Philippines with Switzerland in Manila.

The CMR was prepared in cooperation with Scalabrini Migration Center (SMC) with support from the IOM Development Fund and implemented with its key partners: the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

In addition to summarizing readily available migration data sets and statistics, the CMR aims to:

- identify and analyze the challenges and critical areas surrounding migration data management;
- help narrow existing gaps by bringing to light stakeholder observations of the Philippines' current migration experience;
- emphasize the connection between migration and development and its significance in the country's migration governance framework.

THE PROCESS

The CMR is a result of a series of consultations, which included:

- technical working group meetings;
- meetings of six thematic clusters;
- national workshops and conferences; and
- numerous one-on-one institutional meetings involving more than 30 government agencies, civil society organizations and private sector representatives over a period of nearly 20 months.

These consultations undertook a comprehensive mapping of migration data sets, analyzed gaps and challenges, and outlined a number of recommendations. The SMC, applying inputs from previous consultations, desk researches and review of existing literature, produced the preliminary draft of the report following the National Conference on International Migration Data and the High-level Round Table Discussion on Migration Policies. A Validation Workshop followed where government and non-government partners shared their inputs on how to improve the initial draft.



THE MAIN PARTS

Part A: **Becoming a country of migration**

- Discusses the social and economic context and the historical development of migration in the Philippines.

Part B: **Migration trends and characteristics**

- Highlights developments in overseas employment, emigration from and immigration to the Philippines.

Part C: **Impact of migration**

- Discusses the impacts of migration on migrants, households and the country (remittances, education, culture and others).

Part D. **Governance of migration**

- Discusses the laws and regulations on migration, the government administrative structure, and national policies and programme in various stages and aspects of migration.

Part E: **Main findings, challenges and recommendations**

- Summarizes the main findings, challenges and recommendations found in the CMR.

Annexes:

- International glossary
- Philippine glossary
- Laws, Presidential Decrees, Executive Orders related to migration
- Initiatives on remittances
- Migration data issues and recommendations