

Paths & Crossroads: Moving People, Changing Places



Responsibilities of Migrant Sending States and their Migrants Abroad

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The Brookings Institution

Independent research shaping the future

Resources of Migrants and their Sending States



- Resources of the Migrant:
 - Remittances
 - Returns



- Resources of the Sending State:
 - Recruitment
 - Representation

Philippines as the "Model" Migrant-Sending State



State Management of:

1. Recruitment: Philippine Overseas Employment Administration



2. Representation: Legal Assistance Abroad
Absentee Voting Law of 2003
Dual Citizenship Law of 2003

3. Remittances:



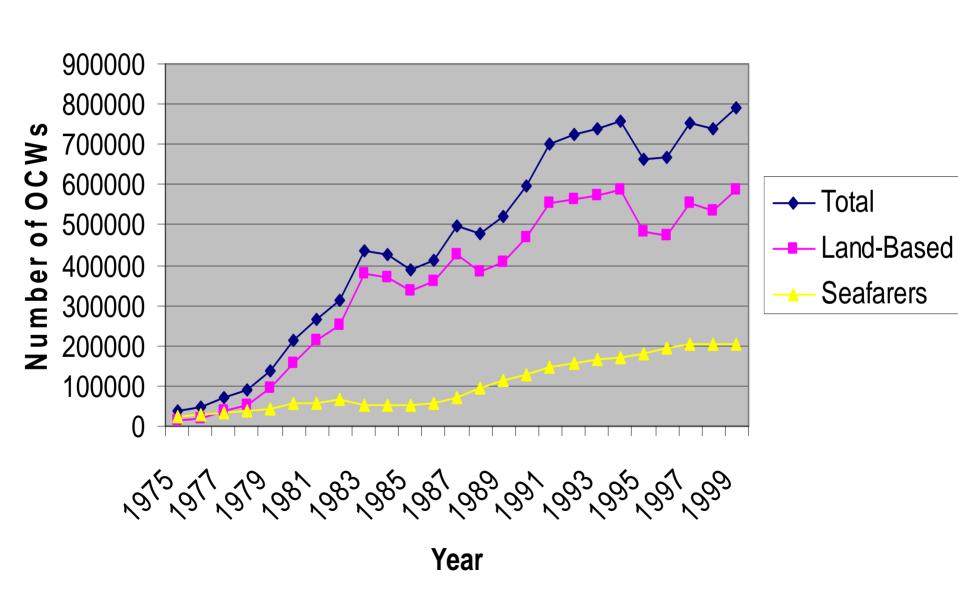


4. Returns:

Overseas Workers Welfare Administration

Overseas Filipino Workers Deployed

(for every OFW, about 5 are waiting to be deployed)



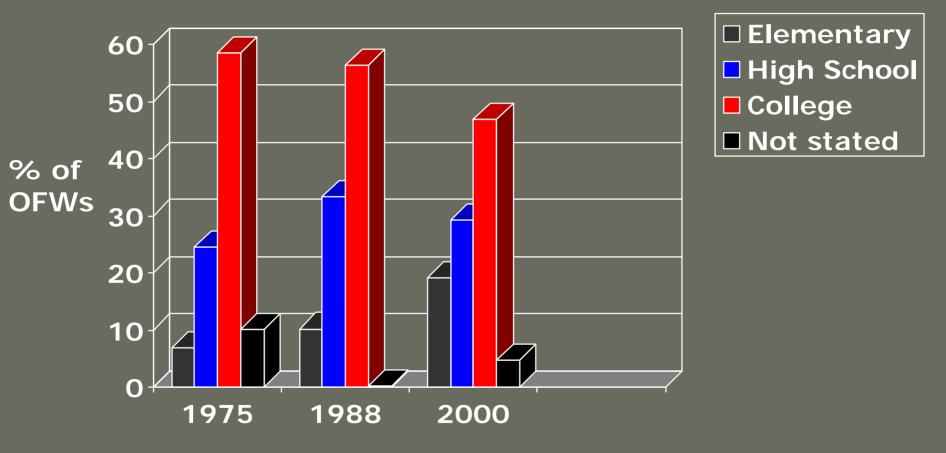
"Emigration" Keeping the Country under "Life Support"

ONE OF MOST EDUCATED LABOR FORCES BUT: Unemployment rate Highest among the "educated"

Unemployment Rate by Educational Attainment, 1980-1983 average

| Total | 5.4 |
|--------------------|-----|
| No grade completed | 2.8 |
| Elementary | 2.7 |
| High School | 7.5 |
| College | 9.3 |
| Not Reported | 6.3 |

Educational Attainment of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) (as percentage of total OFWs)



Source: Philippine Statistical Yearbooks 1975-2000

Incentives for Managing Emigration was an Outcome of Development Failure

Inability of State to Control:

- Private Higher Education and Make use of Human Capital
- Educated Unemployment
- Land Reform/agricultural resources
- BusinessConglomerates/Landed Elite

Politically Bad for a
Developing Democracy to
Have the Middle Class Grow
Abroad



Efforts by Migrants/Diasporas Abroad

Brain Circulation

AnnaLee Saxenian, The New Argonauts:
 Regional Advantage in a Global Economy
 (Harvard University Press, 2006)

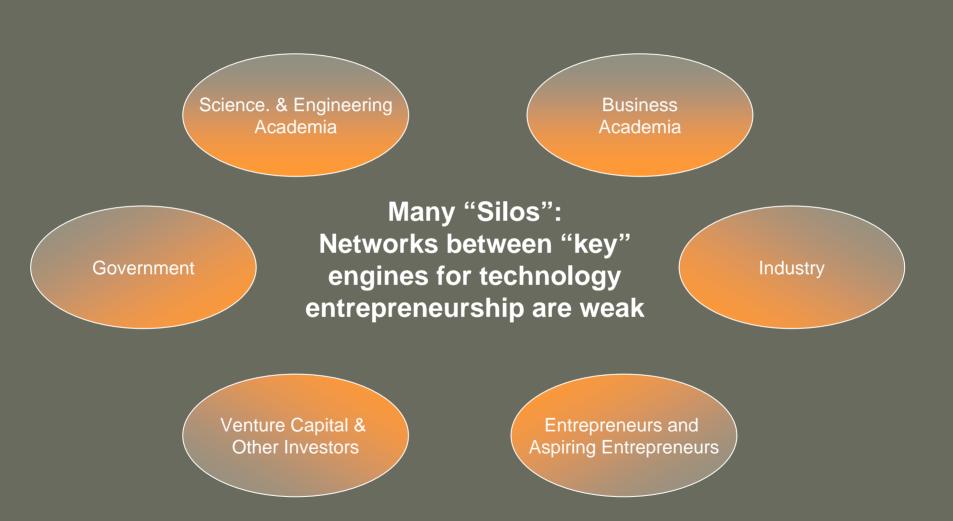




- Brain Gain Project I was Involved in:
 - MIT and Silicon Valley Filipino/Filipino-Americans created:
 Philippine Emerging Startups Open Incorporated



The Problem: Philippine entrepreneurial environment



Our Solution: Creating the PESO Environment



How it Works: Connecting High-Skilled Filipino Diaspora with Local Aspiring Technology Entrepreneurs

Connect

- Networking/KnowledgeTransfer
- Mentoring

Create

- Business Plan Basics
- Business Plan Competition with Funding/Support

Catalyze

 Post-Competition Support to make plan a real business venture



Website: http://web.mit.edu/peso



Expose Aspiring Entrepreneurs within and outside of the Philippines





Helped launched and find startup capital for 10 tech companies and received key partnerships and funding from prominent businesses & government agencies



Diaspora Efforts Still Limited: Rooted in Development Policy

This experience has shown that many policies within the Philippines are NOT friendly to "local" entrepreneurs

KEY LESSON:

Laws and policies must be friendly to local entrepreneurs in order to make use of Migrant "Returns" and to help businesses flourish



Development Policy Still Matters More than leveraging "migration" Alone

Government must deal with "Development" Issues in order to Leverage Migration



"If a government cannot even leverage its own human capital for economic development, how can we expect it to leverage the human capital from its emigrants abroad?"



Obrigado!! Thank You!!

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