

Bridging Recruitment to Reintegration in Migration Governance: Philippines (BRIDGE)

Terms of Reference

Consultant to develop Technical Note on the impact of migration on OFWs and families, esp. children, recommending inputs on recruitment-reintegration practices

I. BACKGROUND

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is currently collaborating with Yale University, with support from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and the Department of Education (DepEd) through the Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) for a research titled “The impact of migration on educational outcomes of left-behind children: Evidence from the Philippines”.

The research aims to understand the impact of labour migration on the educational outcomes of children of migrant workers. To answer the research question, a non-linear child age-specific model of the causal relationship between the educational outcomes of the child and the parental time and monetary investments will be estimated from a retrospective panel data set (from 2015-2022) that is currently being collected. Identification of the parameters in the model will rely on family fixed effects and instrumental variables. The estimated parameters will then be used to simulate counterfactual scenarios for migration decisions made by the parents. The simulations will be sensitive to nuances such as whether the father or mother migrated, the country of destination, the occupation of the migrant, and the presence of other potential caretakers and siblings within the household the child is raised in. The specific educational outcomes of interest in this study are (1) the academic achievements (measured by test scores) of the children, (2) the educational access and schooling attendance of the children, and (3) the impacts of COVID-19 on the educational access and academic achievements. The outcomes are studied over the course of the child’s most formative years of development, 6-18 years of age. Educational access is considered at both the extensive (enrollment/non-enrollment of a child in school) and the intensive margin (quality of education). The analysis of the impacts of COVID-19 on left-behind children is made feasible through the retrospective nature of the panel data being collected. They will be detected and quantified with structural break data analysis. As the health of the child is crucial to educational success, key health indicators will also be a variable of interest in this study.

The single most important advantage of the research approach is the ability to provide easily interpretable policy evaluation that is based on rigorous empirical evidence. Variables within the model can be shifted in counterfactual scenarios to simulate the impact of (potential) policies and their respective costs and benefits. Within these simulations, nuances in the household characteristics and migration decisions can be taken into account to further allow (potential) policy evaluations to be targeted so that the impact, efficacy and efficiency of a potential policy can be maximized.

The ILO has worked closely with the Researcher from Yale University in conceptualizing the research and securing the support from relevant government agencies such as the OWWA and the POEA. The ILO has also engaged the IPA as an implementing partner to lead the data collection as part of its support to the study. Throughout the partnership, survey tools (chatbot survey and SurveyCTO for phone survey) were developed, finalized and pilot-tested

considering the inputs of OWWA, POEA and migration projects; enumerators were trained, and main survey was launched to reach at least 4,000 migrants and households.

The data collection being done with the IPA as overseen by Yale University has three parts:

- **Chatbot Survey:** A short 3-5 minute participant recruitment survey will be conducted via a chatbot survey in order to gather a huge number of responses using official social media pages and databases. This stage will provide a nationally representative sample of OFWs from which eligible respondents will be drawn.
- **Migrant phone survey:** From the pool of eligible migrants, which will be a subset of the initial sample of migrants, the researcher will then randomly select 4,000 migrants and households. The ILO will support the survey among 520 migrants. These migrant households will be contacted and interviewed via a 20 to 30 minutes phone survey using the contact information obtained in the initial recruitment survey. This first phone survey with the migrant will collect retrospective panel of data on; the migrants employment and migration history, costs to migration trips, remittances, and networks at migration destinations. Part of the study is obtaining personally identifying information on the child of the migrant.
- **Household survey:** Following the phone interview with the migrant, permission will be sought from the migrant to conduct another 20-30 minute phone interview with the household to collect detailed data on the household itself. The ILO funds will support survey with 520 migrant households. The household phone interview will gather a retrospective panel of data on; the employment and migration history of the spouse or other parent of the child, household expenditures, household roster, financial aid and other government benefits received by the household.

Administrative data is also being collected from the Department of Education through a Data Sharing Agreement between IPA and the DepEd. This process is also being supervised by Yale University.

Complementary to the partnership with IPA and to continuously support the implementation of the study, this Terms of Reference sets out the responsibilities of a Consultant towards development of a technical paper analysing the impact of migration on OFWs and families, esp. children, and recommending inputs on recruitment-reintegration practices.

II. RATIONALE

Migrant workers have been an essential part of the economy and have continued to prove so despite the drop in remittances come the pandemic. Cash remittances of OFWs to the Philippines reached USD 29.9 Billion for the full year of 2020, only USD 230 million short USD 30.13 Billion, when the global economy was not affected yet by the pandemic in 2019¹. The 2018 National Migration Survey by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) – the first nationwide survey on migration – showed that employment was the main (89%) driver of international migration.

¹ B. Cuaresma: “Remittances down only slightly in 2020,” *Business Mirror*, 16 February 2021

Labour migration affects the development of human capital concerning both the migrant workers and their families. Migrant workers acquire new skills from work experiences and/or trainings which they can use upon return in their country of origin; on the other hand, the remittances sent back to the countries imply that family members have a means to afford better basic needs and social services, including education of children. Related studies also recognize that international migration as a strategy for family survival, through remittances, and social mobility. Migration affects not only the migrant workers but also their families and/or children who remain in the country of origin. The impact of migration on family members, especially the children, has only been given attention and most of which lacked academic rigor; therefore, studies as such deserve the attention of the public, researchers and even policy-makers².

ILO, through the Bridging Recruitment to Reintegration in Migration Governance (BRIDGE) Programme, supports the research data collection in partnership with the Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) given its expertise in delivering quantitative research for policy guidance. The data collection done by IPA utilizes unique data collection methodologies and cutting-edge statistical methods that would enable analysis of the causal relationship between cognitive development and parental time and monetary investments—the first investment, as framed in the study, will be synonymous with the migration decision of the parent, which significantly relies on migration policies that affect the likelihood of a parent to migrate such as recruitment policies. The data will help assess, refine and develop policies, programs and practices on recruitment and reintegration being implemented primarily by the POEA and OWWA drawing from their mandates.³

Analysis of the data collected is now critical to surface policy recommendations especially in the light of the new migration governance framework in the Philippines with the establishment of the Department of Migrant Workers.

A Consultant will be engaged as an External Collaborator to prepare a technical paper analysing the impact of migration on OFWs and families, esp. children, and recommending inputs on recruitment-reintegration practices.

III. PURPOSE

The Consultant will be engaged to:

1. Conduct an analysis of the data vis-à-vis labour migration and child development literatures and Philippine labour migration policies and practices, including gender dimensions; and
2. Prepare a Technical Note on the impact of migration on OFWs and families, esp. children, and recommending inputs on recruitment-reintegration practices, including
 - establishing the influence of existing labour migration policies on potential migrants' decision to migrate or to return/reintegrate back in the Philippines; and

² ADB, ILO and OECD: *Building human capital through labor migration in Asia*, 2015

³ Wong, S.Y. Concept Note: *The impact of migration on educational outcomes of children left behind*

- determining the impact of labour migration on families in the Philippines — especially children —where studies have only been limited.

IV. DELIVERABLES AND RELATED TASKS

The main deliverables of the Lead Researcher are:

1. Detailed implementation plan
2. Report on data collected from the Department of Education as of 30 June 2022
 - Oversee the collection of administrative data from DepEd
3. Preliminary descriptive data analysis and initial results
 - Collate and analyse data from the chatbot survey and phone surveys with migrants and their household
 - Present preliminary data analysis and initial results based on the data collected as of 30 June 2022 to ILO, OWWA, POEA and other partners
4. Draft technical note on preliminary findings based on data collected as of 30 June 2022 with policy recommendations on recruitment and reintegration
 - Prepare draft technical paper
 - Lead the presentation during the validation workshop with relevant stakeholders and partners
5. Final technical note on findings with policy recommendations on recruitment and reintegration
 - Revise and finalise of technical paper with policy recommendations recruitment and reintegration, incorporating feedback from relevant stakeholders, ILO, and partners

V. SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES

Deliverables	Full-time Equivalent Days	Timeline
Deliverable 1: Detailed implementation plan	3	02 May 2022
Deliverable 2: Report on data collected from the Department of Education as of 30 June 2022	71	02 May – 11 June 2022
Deliverable 3: Report on data analysis and initial results - Collate and analyze data from the surveys.	10	06 July 2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PowerPoint presentation on preliminary data analysis and initial results based on the data collected as of 30 June 2022 and present to ILO, OWWA, POEA and other partners <p><i>Discussion/revision and approval by ILO</i></p>		
<p>Deliverable 4: Draft technical note on preliminary findings, with policy recommendations on recruitment and reintegration, plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (a) Presentation material during the validation workshop with relevant stakeholders and partners - (b) Report on the validation workshop 	15	1-30 August
<p>Deliverable 5: Final technical note on preliminary findings with <i>policy recommendations on recruitment and reintegration based on data collected as of 30 June 2022</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise and finalize the technical paper with preliminary findings with preliminary policy recommendations on recruitment and reintegration, incorporating feedback from relevant stakeholders, ILO, and partners. <p><i>Note: A subsequent technical note can be provided upon the completion of the data collection with confirmations and revisions of the preliminary findings. This will be provided after the final technical note on the preliminary findings when data collection has been completed.</i></p>	7	03 October 2022

<i>Discussion/revision and approval by ILO of validated concept paper of the Advisor</i>		
<i>Turnover of outputs to ILO</i>		
<i>Submission of completion report</i>		
TOTAL	106 days	Spread over 5 months

VI. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Intellectual property rights of the knowledge products delivered under this contract shall be owned by ILO.

VII. PAYMENT TERMS

The consultant shall be paid based on the agreed daily rate and the total full-time equivalent (FTE) workdays specified above.

The resulting total amount represents the total contract price and the ILO's maximum financial liability under this Contract. Payment will be paid based on the prevailing UN rate and will be transferred to the consultant's bank account, following the transmittal schedules below:

Payment terms and schedule:

Payment	Schedule
1 st tranche (50%)	Upon signing of contract and completion of Deliverable 1 to the satisfaction of ILO on 02 May 2022
2 nd tranche (30%)	Upon completion of Deliverables 2 to 3 to the satisfaction of ILO on 31 July 2022
3 rd tranche (15%)	Upon completion of Deliverables 4 to 5 the satisfaction of ILO on 03 October 2022
Final tranche (5%)	Per para 4.3 and 4.4 of the terms of contract, the 5% retention fee will be paid in full after satisfactory compliance of all outputs as approved by ILO.
Total Payment	

VIII. Required skills and experience

- A university degree in the field of social development or related areas
- Relevant experience in research esp. labour migration esp.
- Excellent drafting and report writing skills
- Ability to present information in readily understandable forms.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing
- Ability to work on own initiative as well as a member of a team

IX. Expression of Interest

The interested candidates must submit: i) letter of intent and ii) qualifications and relevant experience of consultant/s and/or institution (include detailed CV/s as annex) iii) proposed work plan with budget.

The documents must be submitted to Ms Marie Allyssa Dacasin, National Project Coordinator for BRIDGE Programme (dacasin@ilo.org), with copy to Ms Katrina Pascasio, Programme and Administrative Assistant, at pascasio@ilo.org, on or before **21 April 2022, 4:00 pm**, Manila Time.

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.