

# International Forum on Microfinance, Remittances and Social Impact of Migration

*"Leveraging Migrants' Remittances for Development: Practices, Lessons Learned and Trends"*  
Theme

## Programme

Organized by:



in partnership with



### Day One      October 24

8:00–8:30	Registration	
8:30–8:45	Welcome Remarks	<b>Klaus Preschle</b> <i>Country Director</i> <i>Konrad Adenauer Stiftung</i>
8:45–9:00	Opening Remarks	<b>Soukeyna Ndiaye Ba</b> <i>Executive Director, INAFI International</i>
9:00–9:30	Keynote Address	<b>Amando Tetangco</b> <i>Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas</i>
9:30–9:40	Intermission	Harana ng Kasarinlan
9:40–9:50	Overview of the Conference	<b>Marlon P. Palomo</b> <i>Executive Director, INAFI Philippines</i>
9:50–10:00	Break	



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Venue: Asian Institute of Management  
Conference Center Manila  
Benavidez cor. Traslerra St.  
Legaspi Village, Makati City  
1260 Philippines  
Date: October 24–25, 2008

**1st Session** : *Remittances, Microfinance and Social Impact: Practices, Lessons Learned and Trends*

Chair : **Ruth Callanta**  
*BOT Member, INAFI Philippines and President, Center for Community Transformation (CCT)*

*Remittances have exceeded the global official development assistance as well as capital flows to the developing countries. Facts and figures have shown that remittances have greatly contributed to the improved economic condition of the migrants, their families and communities. Top remittance receiving countries have recognized the role of remittances in making their economy afloat. Microfinance has proven its worth in improving the lives of the marginalized sectors. How remittances and microfinance are linked to migration and development? Are there any social impact ever created? What are evolving models and practices? What are lessons learned? With the current state of things, where are these going? Are there relevant policies that have to be formulated and advocated for to ensure utilization of remittances for development.*

*The first session will feature emerging innovative practices in terms of models, mechanisms and schemes; lessons learned in developing and evolving these models and practices; and the current evolving trends, trajectory and challenges related to the aspects of remittances, microfinance and social impact creation in migration and development.*

*Closer to Home: Galing ng Pinoy, Galing sa Pinoy*

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10:00-10:20	Remittances, Microfinance and Social Impact	<b>Manuel Orozco, Ph.D.</b> <i>Senior Associate/Director Remittances and Development Inter-American Dialogue</i>
10:20-10:40	Financing Facility on Remittances	<b>Pedro de Vasconcelos</b> <i>Remittances Program Coordinator International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</i>
10:40-11:00	Leveraging Migrant Resources for Effective Development	<b>Thomas Debass</b> <i>Senior Advisor for Remittances and Diaspora USAID</i>
11:00-11:20	Institutional Support for Productive Utilisation of Migrant Workers' Remittances: Bangladesh	<b>Atiqun Nabi</b> <i>Executive Director INAFI Asia/Bangladesh</i>
11:20-11:40	Fostering Links between Microfinance & Remittances: Africa	<i>INAFI Africa Trust</i>
11:40-12:00	Microfinance as a Framework for Utilizing Remittances for Local Development	<b>Aristotle Alip, Ph.D.</b> <i>Managing Director Center for Agriculture and Rural Development-Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD-MRI) 2008 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee</i>
12:00-12:30	Open Forum	
12:30-1:30	Lunch	

**2nd Session** : *Harnessing the Development Potentials of  
Migrant Philanthropy/Diaspora*

Chair : **Jeremiah Opiniano**  
*Executive Director, Institute on Migration and Development Issues  
(IMDI)*

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*The growing practice of migrant philanthropy/diaspora giving has undeniably contributed to development. Are there sustainable mechanisms or practices already existing that have been harnessed for development? Or they remain one “shot deals”?*

*The second session will provide answer to some doubts on the possibilities of harnessing development potentials of diaspora giving. Concrete and actual experiences will be shared on how development potentials of migrant philanthropy have been harnessed.*

1:30–1:50	Mobilizing Resources for Development: Latin America	<b>Efrain Jiménez</b> <i>Director for Remittances Project Federación de Clubes de Zacatecanos del sur de California</i>
1:50–2:10	RemittancePlus™ Helping Senders and Receivers Make Their Money Create Jobs in Africa	<b>Chukwu-Emeka Chikizie</b> <i>AFFORD, United Kingdom</i>
2:10–2:30	Mobilising Remittances for Development: Experience in Europe	<b>Doris Alfara</b> <i>Secretary, Habagat Foundation</i>
2:30–2:50	Overseas Filipino Workers Remittance Program	<b>Engr. Irene Bringas</b> <i>Manager Abra Development Cooperative</i>
2:50–3:10	Coffee Break	
3:10–3:30	Oxfam Novib: Engaging Diasporas in Development	<b>Leila Rispens-Noel</b> <i>Program Officer, Linkis Oxfam Novib</i>
3:30–4:00	Open Forum	
4:00–4:30	Closing Message	
	Empowering Migrants as Agents of Development	<b>Hon. Francis Joseph. G. Escudero</b> <i>Senator, Republic of the Philippine</i>
4:30–4:45	Synthesis of the Forum	<b>Prof. Ronald Chua</b> <i>Professor, Asian Institute of Mangement</i>
7:00	Cultural Program	<b>Rebecca Malay, PRRM</b> Emcee

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Day Two      October 25

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8:30–9:00

Morning Session: Seminars

Registration

9:00–12:00

Session A : **Financial Literacy**

Chair : **Rasheed Al Hassan**

*INAFI Bangladesh Remittance Programme Officer*

**Financial Literacy.** Support groups to migrant workers in host countries realize the importance of being financially aware. Cases of cyclical indebtedness remain a situation among migrant workers to the extent of zero savings or investments once they have decided to go back to their countries of origin and have reintegrated. What can be the value of savings and investments? What are the root causes of lack of savings? How financial literacy will change the practice of spending of a migrant? How simply can financial literacy be a life changing approach to migrants particularly the overseas Filipino workers (OFWs)?

The session will provide inputs on how savings generation and potentially investments can be sustained and how the root causes of lack of savings of migrants be surfaced.



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## Topics

**Financial Literacy**

**Financial Literacy:  
Addressing Root Causes  
of Lack of Savings**

Open Forum/Synthesis

## Lecturers

**Marcia Feria-Miranda**  
*Executive Director*  
*PUNLA sa Tao Foundation*

**Estrella D. Añonuevo**  
*Executive Director*  
*Overseas Workers and Community  
Initiatives, Inc. (ATIKHA)*

Session B : **Migration and Development, Social Entrepreneurship  
and Good Governance**

Chair : **M.P. Vasimalai**

*Vice-Chair, INAFI Asia and Executive Director, Dhan Foundation*

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**Migration and Development, Social Entrepreneurship and Good Governance.** SMEs provide a big portion in job generation in any economy whether they are in agriculture, service or manufacturing. Migration played a role in the decline of SMEs in the sending country (some say it, the brain-drain). An emerging concept of social entrepreneurship is getting popular recently. How this concept differs from a simple entrepreneurship or business? What are its advantages? How can this be useful to reintegrating migrants as well as those outgoing migrants? How can governance effectively provide support? What are the role of migrants to ensure success of developing social entrepreneurship? Can good governance be a framework for local economic development specially in generating space for entrepreneurship and investments linked to OFs and migrants?

## Topics

**Migration & Development  
& Social Entrepreneurship**

**Migration & Development,  
Social Entrepreneurship  
and Good Governance**

**Diaspora Savings and  
Investments**

## Lecturers

**Prof. Marie Lisa Dacanay**

*President*

*Institute for Social Entrepreneurship  
in Asia (ISEA)*

**Hon. Jesse M. Robredo**

*Mayor, Naga City*

*2001 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for  
Government Service*

## Case Presenters

MSAI member/partner (tbc)

**Nestor Duldulao**

*Overseas Filipino Worldwide-Mutual  
Benefit Corporation*

Open Forum/Synthesis

Afternoon Session

INAFI

Roundtable

Meeting

Next Steps Forward

(INAFI, Oxfam Novib and other invited participants)

**Moderators**

**Marlon P. Palomo**

*Executive Director, INAFI-Philippines  
and*

**Estrella D. Añonuevo**

*Executive Director, Átikha*

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Program

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## Presentations:

**Challenges on Remittances:  
Looking Forward** **Manuel Orozco, Ph.D.**  
*Senior Associate/Director  
Remittances and Development  
Inter-American Dialogue*

**Linkis Oxfam Novib  
Program on Remittances** **Leila Rispens-Noel**  
*Program Officer  
Linkis Oxfam Novib*

**INAFI Program on  
Microfinance, Remittances  
and Sustainable  
Development** **Soukeyna Ndiaye Ba**  
*Executive Director  
INAFI International*

Plenary Discussion

Synthesis and Recommendations

Organised by PhilComDev and co-sponsored by Oxfam Novib, AIM  
Policy Center and OFW Caucus

Launching of Search of Philippine Best Practices of Migration and  
Development Initiatives of Hometown Associations, NGOs, and LGUs  
(Galing ng Pinoy, Galing sa Pinoy)

MOA Signing with 10 Provincial Governors and City Mayors/Town  
Mayors Piloting Program on Leveraging Resources for Development