Filipino youth leaders from the US, Australia, the Netherlands rediscover their roots through the YouLeaD program

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“This trip was eye-opening for me, a trip I will honestly remember for a lifetime. Thank you Philippines for being the Motherland. I could not be more proud to call myself Pinoy.” - Veronica Garrick, participant from Michigan

“This immersion program allowed me to challenge my vulnerabilities with my culture and heritage as a Filipino. I am grateful to the many friends that I was privileged to meet and become my family away from home.” - Everett Francis Icao, participant from Illinois

These are just some of the comments and reflections of 14 Filipino youth from the Midwest of the United States, Australia, and the Netherlands who participated in the Youth Leaders in the Diaspora (YouLeaD) Immersion Program held on 3-9 January 2019 by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) in partnership with the Philippine Consulate General (PCG) in Chicago. The 7-day immersion module comprised of lectures on migration, basic conversational Filipino, and Filipino values. It also included a courtesy call to the Department of Foreign Affairs’ (DFA) Secretary, a visit to the Malacañang Museum, immersion at a Gawad Kalinga village in Cavite, and a tour to Corregidor Island and Taal Volcano.

The program officially started on January 3 with Director Marita del Rosario-Apattad of the CFO’s Project Management Division welcoming the participants. Ms. Carmencita Castro of TalkShop conducted a workshop on basic conversational Filipino. With flash card games and role-playing activities, the students learned basic expressions and self-introduction using the local language. The afternoon session began with getting-to-know-you games, which were followed by a presentation by Mr. Manuel Arbues, Regional Head of the Ayala Land International Sales, Inc. As the representative of one of the YouLeaD program sponsors, Mr. Arbues shared information about the Philippine real estate and tourism industries, then introduced Ayala’s major products and services.

The second day (January 4) began with a lecture on migration and diaspora by Director Maria Regina Angela Galias of the CFO’s Administrative and Finance Division. Her talk was about CFO services and programs, the Filipino diaspora, citizenship, and identity. The icebreaker game at the beginning also taught the participants how to count in Tagalog, as well as trivia about the Philippines. Afterwards, Professor Felipe de Leon of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) talked about Filipino culture, values,
and philosophy. The lecture was followed by an interactive discussion with the participants.

At around 1 pm, the group travelled to Malacañang Palace for a guided tour to the Presidential Museum and Library. The participants were also scheduled for a courtesy call to then Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ernesto Abella. Mr. Abella talked about the Filipino diaspora and governance, and entertained questions about national security issues and community involvement. Also at the DFA, Ms. Sandra Therese Christine Guiang of the Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs (OUMWA) gave the students a brief overview of DFA functions.

The succeeding activities were held outside Metro Manila, such as Corregidor Island, which the participants visited on Day 3 (January 5) of the program. The day started with a boat ride from Seaside Terminal in Pasay to the historic island. To get around the area, the participants boarded a tram with a tour guide sharing information and anecdotes about World War II. They stopped at the most notable landmarks and ruins including the Malinta Tunnel and the Pacific War Memorial Museum.

On January 6-7, the group immersed at a Gawad Kalinga village in Dasmarinas, Cavite. They stayed in pairs with host families in the community. The first day was allotted for house building activities and the Bayanihan Race, a teambuilding game that requires patience and cooperation and promotes the culture of “walang iwanan” (leaving no one behind). The day ended with participants and locals having a boodle fight dinner, performing in groups, and gathering around a bonfire for songs. The next morning, they had an opportunity to play traditional Filipino games like patintero. Before heading to their accommodation in Tagaytay, the group distributed reading materials to preschoolers in the village. The books were donated by Rex Bookstore International, Inc.

From Tagaytay, the participants travelled to Talisay, Batangas on Day 6 (January 8). They rode a boat across Taal Lake to the base of one of the volcanoes in the caldera. They were accompanied by tour guides to reach the top. Some of them trekked for 45 minutes while others went on horseback.
The US Midwest YouLeaD program ended on January 9 with remarks from CFO Sec. Francisco P. Acosta and Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, and reflections from the participants. Throughout the program, the group was escorted by Ms. Anna Liza Alcantara of PCG Chicago and the YouLeaD Secretariat composed of Ms. Mayumi Kaye Peralta, Ms. Jenina Danielle Melchor, and Mr. Jovian Louis Bulawan.

CFO conducts capacity building on crisis management in the context of migration for Bicol LGUs, stakeholders

LEGAZPI CITY – On March 4-6, 2019, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) led the capacity building workshop for the local government authorities and stakeholders of the Bicol Region on crisis preparedness, response, and recovery involving migrants at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Region V Office in Legazpi City, Albay.

The workshop was implemented in partnership with the Regional Development Council 5
Committee on Migration and Development, City of Legazpi, and UP-CIFAL Philippines. It was attended by 94 local government officials and personnel from 11 cities and provinces of Bicol, representatives of various regional government agencies, members of migrant and family associations, members of the academe, faith-based organizations, and private sectors from the region.

The 3-day workshop was aimed at reviewing the crisis management program of the local government units using a migration lens in order to strengthen the capacities of the local government and stakeholders on integrating migrants in their local crisis preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for more targeted assistance and services.

Joining the CFO in the capacity building workshop was a pool of resource persons from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Region V and UP-CIFAL Philippines. The workshop involved discussions and exercises on crises, vulnerabilities of migrants, relevant actors on migration crisis management, and key measures on the inclusion of migrants in all the phases of crisis actions. The discussions were anchored on the Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Guidelines for Protecting
Participants identify their data needs to better map out and profile their OF constituents and foreign residents.

Participants analyze the alert level of a given crisis using the Philippines’ crisis alert level system.

Participants present their Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans with targeted actions towards migrants.

Migrants in Countries Experiencing Natural Disaster and Conflict, as well as the Philippines’ practices in responding to overseas Filipinos in distress. Discussions on migration within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration were also covered during the workshop.

At the end of the capacity building workshop, all local government units were able to propose action plans towards integrating overseas Filipino constituents and foreign nationals residing in their area of jurisdiction in their respective local disaster risk reduction and management plans.

Some of the proposed action plans were: a) the integration of local migrant data in climate and disaster risk assessment, b) customized information and education materials and orientation courses for migrants on early warning system and communication protocol, and c) provision of migrant-targeted psycho-social intervention services and financial assistance.

The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) took an active part in the launching of the National-level Review Process of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action +25 Philippine Progress Report on January 30, 2019. The kick-off activity was led by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) and was held at the DILG-NAPOLCOM Center in Quezon City. It was attended by representatives of various government agencies and civil society organizations.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) was forged during the 4th World Conference on Women in 1995 in Beijing, China, and is considered as a landmark document for advancing the rights of women and gender
equality worldwide. BPfA is also regarded as a comprehensive blueprint of commitments by United Nations (UN) member states, including the Philippines, towards realizing women's full development and their equality with men.

In anticipation of the Platform’s 25th anniversary of passage next year, the Philippines is set to submit the BPfA +25 Philippine Progress Report to the UN this year. The progress report will include a comprehensive national review of the achievements and challenges in the implementation of the Platform in the country from 2014 to 2019.

Every five years, the UN member states voluntarily report to the UN the progress in the implementation of their commitments in the areas of concern enshrined in the Platform. This year, the UN Women identified the following six overarching dimensions and corresponding critical areas of concern for the national-level review process of the states:

1. Inclusive development, shared prosperity, and decent work;
2. Poverty eradication, social protection, and social services;
3. Freedom from violence, stigma, and stereotypes;
4. Participation, accountability, and gender-responsive institutions;
5. Peaceful and inclusive societies; and

The CFO committed to take part in providing related inputs and reports on (a) inclusive development, shared prosperity, and decent work; and (b) freedom from violence, stigma, and stereotypes.

As part of the participatory process in drafting the progress report, a series of sub-national consultation workshops were undertaken on March 6-7, March 11-12, and March 14-15 of the current year in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, respectively.

After the scheduled National Level Consultation on March 29, the Philippine Progress Report was submitted to UN Women on May 1, and will be officially launched thereafter in August 2019, in time for the 10th anniversary of the passage of the Magna Carta of Women.

CFO hosts Zimbabwean delegation on study tour to the PH

The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) hosted a delegation from the Zimbabwe Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Affairs on March 27, 2019. The delegation was on an official visit to the Philippines to learn about the country’s policies and platforms in enhancing diaspora engagement.

CFO Secretary Francisco P. Acosta and Undersecretary Astravel Pimentel-Naik received the delegation headed by Mr. Thando Madzvamuse, the Principal Director of the Zimbabwe Economic Cooperation Trade and Tourism Directorate.
Of particular interest to the delegation were the CFO’s various migration and development programs, as well as its platforms for engaging the Filipino diaspora. The delegation also took notice of the mainstreaming of migration in the Philippines’ development plan and the efforts to engage the local government units in the process.

After a fruitful discussion and substantive discourse, the Zimbabwean delegation expressed their interest to further maintain dialogue with their Philippine counterparts.

Moreover, the delegation also visited migrant-serving agencies and organizations that include the International Organization for Migration, Overseas Workers Welfare Association, Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency.

Diaspora engagements are gradually increasing in Zimbabwe, and as such, the Zimbabwean government is working vigorously to promote their interests and welfare, and has taken an initiative to ensure that they become an integral part of their country’s national development.

“May I Help You” corner in NAIA Terminal 3 launched

As part of the celebration of the International Women’s Month, the “May I Help You” corner was unveiled on March 28, 2019 at the 2nd floor of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 3. At the same time, the program Safe and Fair: Realizing Women Migrant Workers’ Rights and Opportunities in the ASEAN region was launched to the public.

Present at the event were representatives from various Philippine government agencies, namely, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), and the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), as well as international organizations such as, UN Women, International Labor Organization (ILO) Philippines, and the European Union Delegation in the Philippines.

The launching was hosted by Mr. Rex Varona of ILO and Ms. Charisse Jordan of UN Women. They shared to the public what the Safe and Fair Programme in the Philippines was all about, and the value of the “May I Help You” corner for women migrants—especially as they face challenges and opportunities in their migration journey.
Welcome remarks were given by NAIA Terminal 3’s Manager Dante Basanta, followed by keynote messages from OWWA Administrator Hans Leo Cacdac, Chair of the Safe and Fair National Project Advisory Committee; Cecile Gutierrez, Deputy Director of the PCW and Vice-Chair of National Project Advisory Committee (NPAC); Diana Van Daele, Programme Health Manager of the EU Delegation in the Philippines; and Novelita Palisoc, President of the United Domestic Workers of the Philippines.

The services that may be availed by women migrants at the corner include assistance for the following:

1. Navigating the airport;
2. Understanding one’s work contract;
3. Dealing with issues in a foreign country;
4. Ensuring safe and legal recruitment;
5. Filing cases and complaints;
6. Receiving counselling and legal advice; and
7. Contacting 911, the national emergency hotline.

During the event, the CFO provided information materials and souvenirs concerning migration and development and the prevention of human trafficking, among others.

The “May I Help You” corner complements the one-stop-shop desk at the airport staffed by CFO, OWWA, and POEA. It will be further developed as an interactive kiosk to serve as an information hub for migrants.

**PH shares Migration and Development expertise with Ugandan officials**

The Ugandan delegation together with CFO Sec. Francisco P. Acosta, Usec. Astravel Pimentel-Naik, PPRD’s Rodrigo V. Garcia, and MIED’s Janet Ramos, posing for a picture after the meeting.
On February 14, 2019, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) hosted nine (9) officials from the Ugandan Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, led by Permanent Secretary Pius Bigirimana. The delegation was on an official visit to the Philippines to learn about the country’s migration governance and help them craft their own labor migration policies.

As part of their study tour, they visited the CFO to pay a courtesy call to Chairperson Justice Francisco P. Acosta (Ret.) and Executive Director Astravel Pimentel-Naik to be familiarized with the Philippines’ programs and services on migration and development and its anti-human trafficking initiatives.

Mr. Rodrigo V. Garcia of the Policy Planning and Research Division and Ms. Janet Ramos of the Migrant Integration and Education Division gave a presentation covering CFO’s pre-departure services for migrants, assistance to distressed nationals, Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino (Linkapil) Program, and 1343 Actionline Against Trafficking, among others.

The Ugandan delegation also visited other migration-related agencies that include the Department of Labor and Employment, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration.

CFO releases special e-publication for 2019 Women’s Month celebration

In commemoration of the 2019 Women’s Month, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) has launched a special e-publication entitled “Women Beyond Borders: The stories of women recipients of the 2018 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas (PAFIOO),” which aims to give due recognition and tribute to the nine (9) women recipients of the 2018 PAFIOO, highlighting their significant accomplishments and contributions.

In the most recent Presidential Awards, half of the winners in the individual category are women, further emphasizing the persevering nature of women to grow where they are planted, and in this case of the Awards, how these nine outstanding women were able to flourish in their own professions, take part in development efforts in their home country, and advance the cause of the community of Filipinos overseas.

The Ugandan delegation was welcomed by CFO Secretary Acosta and Undersecretary Naik
The e-publication contains brief biographies of these nine outstanding women and their invaluable contributions to the Filipino people. By emphasizing their distinction, it is hoped that they also become examples for many Filipino women of their limitless potential in achieving their own dreams and giving back to the Motherland where they came from.

“To all the Filipino women and girls, we hope that this e-publication will motivate you to pursue your dreams and passions. Do not be afraid to break barriers and unleash your potentials and talents,” said CFO Undersecretary Astravel Pimentel-Naik.

Secretary Francisco P. Acosta, meanwhile, reiterated CFO’s unwavering support to gender and development. “We at the CFO will continuously promote and deliver gender-responsive policies, programs, and services. We pledge to alleviate the social costs of gender disparity brought by migration, and protect and promote the rights, welfare, and interests of overseas Filipinos in every possible way,” he said.

The Women Beyond Borders: The stories of women recipients of the 2018 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas (PAFIOO) e-publication is one of the undertakings of the CFO for the 2019 Women’s Month Celebration. It is available for download at www.cfo.gov.ph.
Painting the town purple: CFO celebrates International Women’s Month

“Girls are one of the most powerful forces for change in the world. When their rights are recognized, their needs are met, and their voices are heard, they drive positive change in their families, their communities, and the world.”
- Kathy Calvin, United Nations Foundation President and CEO

The International Women’s Month, celebrated annually every March, is dedicated to women, girls, and children around the world. It recognizes their significant contributions that have brought a positive impact in the community. Truly, it is a festive month as not only does it celebrate and empower women but also aims to educate the community on gender issues and establish safe spaces for them.

As a gender-responsive government agency, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) presented its steadfast commitment and support to this endeavor by lining up month-long activities and services for its women clients and employees.

Uploading of the Women’s Month Banner in CFO Website and Social Media Platforms
Wearing of Purple Ribbon and Purple Shirts

The celebration kick started on March 4, 2019 during the CFO’s first flag ceremony for the month. On March 8, 2019 (International Women’s Day), the CFO was painted purple as it gave out ribbon pins to all CFO employees to signify women’s rights. Aside from the ribbon, they were also encouraged to wear purple.

Distribution of Tokens for Women Clients

Frontline officers greeted female clients and handed over light snacks as tokens. The CFO offices in Cebu, Davao, and Clark also participated in the month-long celebration.
#CFOJuanaSays: Daily Dose of Inspirational Quotes from CFO Women

The CFO also took advantage of social media and posted in its PESO Sense Facebook page women and women empowerment quotations from CFO women employees. This month-long series was entitled #CFOJuanaSays. This initiative was inspired by the Philippine Commission on Women’s #JuanaSays, which features inspirational quotations of Filipino women from different fields or professions around the globe.

Me Time for CFO Juana

Recognizing that time is the most precious commodity for any individual, the CFO management granted one optional day off to all women personnel of the CFO for the whole month of March. The management believes in the importance of taking care of oneself to improve work productivity, especially among women employees. This special privilege allowed women employees of the CFO to spend much-needed time for themselves.
Development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Materials

Apart from the said activities, the CFO also developed several information, education and communication materials uploaded in CFO’s website and Facebook pages. These include a special e-publication entitled “Women Beyond Borders: The stories of women recipients of the 2018 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas (PAFIOO),” which was dedicated to the nine women winners of the 2018 Presidential Awards. Moreover, an infographic on the salient features of the Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710) was also released. It intends to inform and remind site visitors about women’s rights. Lastly, the CFO prepared an infographic outlining the sex disaggregated data of CFO clients from 2007 to 2017. It shows that through the years, majority of migrants are women.

The culmination of the CFO’s month-long activities were two audio-visual presentations that were uploaded both in CFO’s website and Facebook page. The first video highlighted the role of women in CFO’s everyday functions, and the second one contained a heartwarming message from CFO’s very own Secretary Francisco P. Acosta, as well as important lessons from Undersecretary Astravel Pimentel-Naik, one of the many inspiring women in government service.
On December 3, 2018, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) proudly relaunched the new interactive website (www.cfo-linkapil.org.ph) of the Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino (LINKAPIL), CFO’s flagship program that facilitates the transfer of various forms of assistance from Filipinos or other donors overseas to support projects in livelihood development, education, health related activities, and small-scale infrastructure back here in the home country. The new feature of the website was launched during the Pre-Awards Testimonial Dinner of the 2018 Presidential Awards in Manila Hotel.

CFO Secretary Francisco Acosta and Undersecretary Astravel Pimentel-Naik expressed enthusiasm as they unveiled the LINKAPIL online remittance system. Usec. Naik, in her speech, praised the overseas Filipinos who have contributed towards Philippine development assistance. “Through the years, we at the CFO have witnessed as you sponsored one scholar at a time, built one classroom at a time, fed one undernourished child at a time, and rebuilt the lives of those affected by natural calamities through relief and livelihood assistance. We have personally seen the smiles that light up their faces whenever we deliver your assistance to them,” she said.

Following the remarks was a short audio-visual presentation of how LINKAPIL has helped beneficiary Ella Yadao, a Grade 8 student from Carlos P. Garcia High School, with her academics, which, in turn, has positively impacted her family’s life.

With the new and improved website, LINKAPIL hopes to provide donors with an easier
platform to contribute towards developmental assistance, as well as establish an avenue to expand its network. Since 1990, the program has facilitated approximately Php 3.3 billion worth of assistance from overseas Filipinos and organizations. An estimate of 15.7 million Filipinos from 81 provinces of the Philippines, including the National Capital Region, have benefitted from the program since its inception.

CFO, DepEd conduct physical, online inspections of Philippine Schools Overseas in the Middle East, Europe, Southeast Asia

As part of the Inter-Agency Committee on Philippine Schools Overseas (IACPSO)’s mandate to evaluate and validate applications, and ensure compliance of Philippine Schools Overseas (PSOs) with the requirements of the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) and DepEd conducted physical ocular inspections in PSOs in Greece, Italy, Kuwait, and Oman in October 2018, and online ocular inspections in PSOs in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Libya, and Timor-Leste in February and March 2019.

Physical Ocular Inspections

The first physical inspection team, composed of Dr. Enrique Palacio and Mr. John Kelvin R. Briones of the DepEd, and Mr. Manolo V. Tibe of the CFO, visited the New Kuwait Philippines International School (NKPIS) and the Philippine International English School (PIES) in Kuwait, as well as the Philippine School in Oman on October 20-26, 2018. Meanwhile, the second physical inspection team, composed of DepEd Undersecretary Lorna Dig-Dino and Director Jocelyn Andaya, together with CFO Undersecretary Astravel Pimentel-Naik and Director Marita Apattad, visited the Philippine School in Greece (formerly KAPHILCA) and the International Migrants School (IMS) in Italy on October 23-26, 2018. PSOs that have never been visited before, have relocated to a new school site, or are new applicants for DepEd accreditation are required to be physically inspected by the IACPSO.

Generally, the inspection team was pleased with the preparations made by the PSOs for the inspections. Out of the five PSOs inspected in Kuwait, Oman, Greece, and Italy, two schools were granted government recognition for adequately satisfying the DepEd’s minimum standards needed in operating a PSO. One school was issued a provisional government
permit. The issuance of recognitions for the other two schools were deferred pending validation of certain concerns and submission of additional documentary requirements.

Ultimately, the IACPSO recommended and suggested to the PSOs to provide an avenue for assisting students in taking Philippine college entrance examinations, continue to improve their facilities and services in order to deliver more conducive learning environments for the students, organize Parent Teacher Associations, and strengthen the teaching and use of the Filipino language as the mother tongue.

**Online Ocular Inspections**

The online ocular inspection team, on the other hand, conducted inspections from February 7, 2019 to March 7, 2019, of Waha Al Andalus International School and International Philippine School in Al-Khobar (IPSA) in Saudi Arabia; Al Alfiah Filipino Private School (AAFPS) and Philippine Emirates Private School (PEPS) in UAE; Philippine Cooperative Academy (PCAL) and Philippine Community School (PCS) in Libya; and Maharlika International School (MIS) in Timor-Leste. The team was composed of Dr. Riza C. Gusano and Dr. Enrique S. Palacio of the DepEd, and Ms. Benilda Pereyra, Mr. Manolo Tibe and Ms. Rowena Jubinal of the CFO. The online ocular inspection was conceptualized and implemented by the IACPSO in 2016 as an efficient way to validate PSOs that are renewing their permits to operate and have been previously visited and physically inspected.

The online ocular inspections were conducted through a video conference call with representatives from the DepEd and the CFO constituting the inspection team on one end,
and school officials and representatives from the Philippine Embassy on the other end. Just like in the physical ocular inspection, the inspection team members were toured around the schools in the presence of DFA representatives, and conducted interviews and verification of information from school officials, teachers, non-teaching personnel, parents, and the students. The inspection team also validated the school documents and facilities required to operate a PSO.

Out of the seven PSOs inspected, two schools were granted government permits for satisfying the DepEd requirements to offer Philippine Basic Education Curriculum, one school was issued a provisional government permit, while one was also issued a provisional permit to offer the General Academic Strand (GAS) in Senior High School. The issuance of permits for the other three schools were deferred pending submission of additional documentary requirements.

A government permit to operate is issued to a PSO that has complied with the DepEd policies, standards and regulations. The permit is valid for a period of three years upon issuance and can be renewed for a maximum period of twelve years.

A provisional permit to operate is issued to schools that are required to comply with additional requirements. A provisional permit expires after two years from the date of issuance and cannot be renewed after its expiration.

In the coming months, a number of PSOs renewing their permits have also been lined up by the IACPSO for online ocular inspection. In addition, PSOs are encouraged to immediately apply for school IDs and Learner’s Reference Numbers (LRN) once they have renewed their permits. A valid permit to operate is a prerequisite for this.
The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) is extending the deadline of submission of entries to the biennial Migration Advocacy and Media (MAM) Awards until September 15, 2019. This is in consideration of those submitting media works from overseas.

Now on its 9th year, the biennial MAM Awards recognizes the significant role of media in the promotion and advocacy of various issues on migration and development. It was conceived in 2011 by the CFO and the Inter-Agency Committee for the December Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos (IAC-MOF) and International Migrants Day in the Philippines.

Eligible for the Awards are works by government and private media outlets, institutions and practitioners in the fields of print, radio, movie and television, advertising and interactive media. The entries must have raised public awareness on issues on Filipino migration, advocated the cause of overseas Filipinos and/or promoted a positive image of overseas Filipinos. Nominees may be based in the Philippines or outside the country.

The MAM Awards consists of six categories: Print Journalism Award, Radio Journalism, Television Journalism Award, Film Media Award, Interactive Media Award and Advertisement Award. Since 2011, this recognition has been conferred on 60 awardees from the Philippines and 17 other countries, namely Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, UAE, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

All entries must be released or published from January 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019. To download the primer and nomination form, please visit www.cfo.gov.ph.

For more information about the MAM Awards, please contact:

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