

**Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS**

YEAR 2013 SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. POLICY ADVOCACY

Providing a continuing study and review of the economic, social, legal, and administrative environment that have a bearing on the status of overseas Filipinos.

1. Policy Review and Formulation

An important mandate of CFO is the provision of advice and assistance to the executive and legislative branches of the government on matters pertaining to the political, economic and social concerns, rights and obligations of overseas Filipinos.

For 2013, CFO prepared and provided the following researches, studies, policy inputs and position papers:

- Compendium of CFO International Statistics
- Inputs to the Presidential Human Rights Committee report on migration
- Philippine country migration report with IOM, POEA, SMC
- New migration and development researches in partnership with other institutions
- Draft reaction paper in Participatory Research on International Migration in the Health Sector (5th National Human Resources for Health (HRH) Policy Forum)
- Paper on 'Remittance Linked Investments and Migrant Workers' Welfare': Policy & Regulatory Perspective From The Philippines'
- Inputs for the Pangasinan Migration Situationer
- Inputs to the Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster Human Capital Investment Subgroup Matrix
- Inputs to the post event report on the Government Migration field trip of the World Social Forum on Migration
- Stock Estimate as of December 2012
- Policy paper: Sub-committee on Migration and Development
- Policy paper: Overseas Voting
- Policy paper: Reaction on the Health and Human Resource
- Policy paper: Remittance Linked Investments and Migrant Workers Rights
- Policy paper: Philippine Migration Data Collection and Analysis – CFO Stock Estimate
- Inputs (UN High Level Dialogue) on "Strengthening Partnerships and Cooperation on International Migration"
- Policy paper: Great Expectations – Migration, Development and the Second UN High Level Dialogue

- Policy paper: The Value of International Migration to the Philippines and Canada
- Policy paper: Prospects and Proposals for Moving Forward with the Inclusion of Financial Literacy
- Policy paper: Creating a Better Future Back Home
- Policy paper: Reflection on ADB Study
- Policy paper: Migration Phenomenon Changing the Landscape of Philippine Society
- Policy paper: The Philippine Experience and Perspective on Diaspora and Development
- Policy paper: The Gender Dimension of the Philippine International Migration
- Policy paper: Matching Economic Migration with Labor Market Needs The Philippine Experience
- Policy paper: How European Countries and the Philippines can Strengthen Their Ties and Cooperation Towards Forthcoming Challenges of Migration
- Policy paper: Inputs to the PDP Mid-term Review and Update
- Policy paper: GFMD Thematic Survey Response from CFO
- Policy paper: Toolkit M&D
- Policy paper: Role of CFO in Institutionalizing Economic Growth
- Policy paper: Engaging the Global Filipino Diaspora
- Inputs for the IRR of Overseas Voting Act of 2013
- Policy inputs to Labour Priority Issues (Requiring Presidential Actions)
- CFO's Policy inputs to the IRR of the Expanded Anti-trafficking act
- Policy inputs Regional Cooperation on International Migration, Mobility and Best Practices on Migration
- Policy inputs Network of South East Asia on Migration (N-SEAM) Concept Note
- Research on Plight of Filipino Nurses
- Research Paper: The Effect of Education on International Labor
- To write an article about Filipino community in France
- 2010 Census-Based Population Projections
- Research: Source Country's Perspectives on Migration of Health Professionals
- Policy Paper: Brain Drain: Focusing on Teachers Going Abroad
- Questionnaire on International Travel and Migration Statistics
- Research on Socioeconomic Impact of Migration and Education, Asian Institute of Management Policy Center
- Research on Filipino Permanent Migrants to Japan, Precious Bernardo, US Embassy- Political Assistant
- Research on Filipino Migrant Health Workers, Health Futures Foundation, Inc.
- Philippine Country Migration Report: 2013- IOM, DOLE, POEA, CFO
- Inputs to Immigration of Science and Technology Workers – DOST
- Research on Transnational Filipinos: Building Community Resilience
- Workshop on "Making Ends Meet: Migrant Economic Transnationalism Between Canada and the Philippines"
- Migration on the Philippines from 1988 to 2012: An Analysis
- Research on Remittance Investment Climate Analysis in Rural Hometowns (RICART)
- Study on Migrant's Profiling (project with AIM)

- From Change-seeker to Change-maker: Engaging Filipinos in the Diaspora towards Development to Create a Better Future Back Home article contributed by Secretary Imelda M. Nicolas to the Development Policy Forum, a global partnership that serves as a platform for debate and analysis of development policy issues (March 2013)
- CFO inputs for the 22nd ASEAN Summit submitted to the HDPR Secretariat (March 21, 2013)
- CFO inputs for Labor Day submitted to Presidential Management Staff Security and Governance Policy Office (April 5, 2013)
- The Quest for Inclusive Growth: What Role for Migration - Contribution of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas to the NEDA Mid-Term Review of the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016 submitted to NEDA (May 3, 2013)
- THE PHILIPPINES - Gender Dimensions of our International Migration: The Impact on Our Women, Children & Families ESCAP Roundtable Discussion II Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting, Bangkok May 30, 2013
- CFO consolidated inputs to the UN General Assembly Resolution 66/128 on Violence Against Women Migrant Workers (transmitted to DFA UNIO 23 July 2013)
- CFO response to the GFMD Thematic Survey – for GFMD Government Focal Points (submitted to DFA OUMWA 24 July 2013)
- Great Expectations: Migration, Development and the 2nd UN High-Level Dialogue (CFO contribution to IOM publication August 2013)
- Presentation on the Proposed Creation of the Sub-Committee on Migration and Development during the NEDA Social Development Committee Technical Board Meeting (August 15, 2013)
- Local M&D Mainstreaming Toolkit (September 2013)
- Pangasinan Migration Situation as input to their updated PDPFP (September 2013)
- Brief on the Proposal of Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino Chairman Virgilio Almario EO 335 submitted to the Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster Secretariat October 3, 2013
- Creating a Sub-Committee on Migration and Development Rationale and Proposed Steps Forward (Concept Paper drafted by CFO and submitted to NEDA December 13, 2013)
- CFO Inputs to the Philippine Development Plan Mid-term Review and Update (submitted to NEDA December 17, 2013)
- CFO Inputs to the Draft Concept Note on Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative (submitted to the US State Department, December 27, 2013)
- Au Pair Challenges and Safe Migration by the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Person
- Research on Filipino Korean Intermarriages , Philippine Normal University
- Filipino Emigration in Europe , Filipino –Czech Association
- Proposed referral flow of Au Pair cases with the DFA, IACAT and the Netherlands Embassy
- Inputs on Professor Wako's proposal for Pre-departure and post-arrival services for Filipino migrants to Japan
- Harnessing the development benefits of International Migration
- Filipino Migration Research with University of Washington and UCLA
- Philippine Development Plan February 26-27

- Provided inputs on Guidelines On Departure Formalities For International-Bound Passengers In All Airports And Seaports In The Country 2013
- Comparative Studies on Legal Systems related to International Marriage in Asia on April 22-25 in IOM-MRTC in South Korea
- Inputs to the ASEAN Inter-governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) Regional Workshop on Human Rights-based Approach to Combat Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children

CFO prepared/drafted/amended the following bills / Executive Order / Resolutions relevant to the welfare of overseas Filipinos and Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals:

- Inputs to the legislative agenda for women by the Phil Commission on Women
- Inputs to the legislative agenda for children by the Council for the Welfare of Children
- Amendments to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (RA 9802) to Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012 (RA 10364)
- Provided inputs on the drafting of the Expanded Anti-Trafficking Law and its Implementing Rules and Guidelines
- Amendments to the Overseas Absentee Voting Act RA 9189 to Overseas Voting Law
- Executive Order on the Institutionalization of the Remittance for Development Council (ReDC)
- Amendment of Anti-Mail-Order-Act RA 6955
- Au pair visa holders' exemption from travel tax, an on-going EO request with the DFA
- Inputs to the Memorandum of Understanding on Law Enforcement Coordination and /or Cooperation to Address the Issue of Foreign Nationals Violating Philippine Laws and Special Laws, or other Related Issuances
- Inputs to the drafting of the Human Smuggling Bill
- House Bill 2892 filed by Representative Alfred Vargas on the proposed amendments on Republic Act 6955 or the Anti-Mail Order Bride Act
- Amendments to the House Bill on Solo Parents Welfare Act
- House Bill on Crisis Assistance Centers for Women and Children
- Senate Bill on Crisis Assistance Centers for Women and Children
- Inputs to the legislative agenda for women by the Phil Commission on Women
- Inputs on the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 9208, as amended by RA 10364
- Participation in Round Table Discussions on Bills (Senate Bill No. 3382, House Bill No. 6815) concerning Family Relations and Women for the Women's Legislative Agenda (WLA) organized by PCW
- Participation in the Administrative Order No. 02 Series of 2006 (Omnibus Guidelines for Minors). An Inter-agency consultation Dialogue –June 26, 2013

2. Community Education Program (CEP)

The CEP is an annual information campaign conducted nationwide by the CFO in coordination with various government agencies, non-government organizations, local government units and academic institutions.

The CEP seeks to assist prospective migrants in making informed decisions regarding working or settling abroad, as well as in generating community involvement on migration concerns. It also aims to raise public awareness about issues concerning migration, inter-marriages, and existing government policies and programs directed against illegal recruitment, documentation fraud and trafficking, among others.

In 2013, CFO conducted the CEP in the provinces, cities, and municipalities of Davao del Sur, South Cotabato, Nueva Ecija, National Capital Region, Pangasinan, Zambales, Mt. Province, Ifugao, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Cebu, Cavite, Laguna, Palawan, Oriental, Bulacan, Pampanga, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Camarines Sur, Albay, Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Norte, Isabela, Cagayan, Misamis Oriental and Camiguin

3. Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking – Advocacy and Communications Committee (IACAT-ADVOCOM)

In December 2010, the CFO became an ex-officio member of the IACAT and was delegated to head the Advocacy and Communications Committee (ADVOCOM) because of its experience in handling the Presidential Task Force Against Human Trafficking (TFHT). CFO-TFHT implemented its anti-trafficking programs from March 2007 to March 2010, covering the four areas of prevention, protection, prosecution and reintegration.

The primary role of the ADVOCOM is to work in conjunction with its members and of the IACAT, in the initiation, implementation and evaluation of an effective communications program for the Council. The ADVOCOM will specifically oversee and monitor the implementation of the communications and information campaign and will update the IACAT with any significant development vis-à-vis the campaign.

The creation of the ADVOCOM is in line with some of the functions of the IACAT as stipulated in the Section 21 (e) of RA 9208 which is to coordinate the conduct of massive information dissemination and campaign on the existence of the law and the various issues and problems attendant to trafficking through the local government units, concerned agencies, and NGOs. The Article V, Section 16 (c) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the RA 9208 also stipulated that one of the roles and responsibilities of the IACAT is to undertake information, education and advocacy campaigns against trafficking in persons.

Representatives from Department of Justice, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Council for the Welfare of Children, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor and Employment, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, Presidential Communications

Operations Office, Philippine Commission on Women, Philippine National Police, Philippine Information Agency, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, Bureau of Immigration, International Justice Mission, Ople Policy Center and Visayan Forum Foundation comprise the members of the Committee.

One of the important accomplishments of CFO-ADVOCOM is the launching of the text line for Globe and Touch Mobile networks last January 15, 2013. The Inter-agency also signed a MOA with provinces and municipalities towards intensifying activities against TIP with POEA on convergence.

The IACAT-ADVOCOM has also provided the following outputs:

- Participation in Freedom ride (Manila and Zamboanga)
- Launched Global Action lines against TIP with the DOS 1 and IACAT February 26, 2013
- Finalized and launched of Global lines video for TIP
- Partnership with the Philippine Ballet Theatre (PBT) for the production of "Le Corsaire", an anti-trafficking ballet production
- Participation in the anti-trafficking cinema plug screening organized by the DSWD
- Submitted ADVOCOM Accomplishments for GTIP Report
- Exhibit during the production of Le Corsaire at the Cultural Center of the Philippines
- Orientation session on RA 10364 for 1343 case officers
- Shelter visit to the Center of Hope through the Visayan Forum
- Production of information and educational materials
- Seminar-workshop on Anti-Trafficking Law, Magna Carta of Women, Related Laws and Gender-Sensitive Reporting of Trafficking Cases
- Re-airing of the 1343 Actionline infomercials produced by the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas (KBP)

B. SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Provision of mechanisms for the assistance in the form of resources, knowledge, skills and technology from overseas Filipinos that will be strategic and responsive to existing development issues and needs of the country.

1. *Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino (LINKAPIL) Program*

Recognizing the vast potentials of Filipinos overseas as partners in nation-building, CFO developed the LINKAPIL or Link for Philippine Development Program as a mechanism for transferring financial, material, and technical assistance from Filipinos overseas to beneficiaries in the Philippines. This assistance may be in the form of medical missions and volunteer programs, funding support to livelihood projects, scholarship grants, infrastructure projects, skills transfer and training projects, and provision of relief and rehabilitation items/equipment.

In 2013, CFO processed, monitored and distributed material and financial donations, approximately worth P 186,509,982.07 since its inception. from overseas donor organizations/ individuals to 179,709 beneficiaries from 41 provinces, including Metro Manila.

Among the projects under the LINKAPIL are the following:

- 7 feeding programs
- 2 gift-giving activities
- 28 undergraduate and 166 post-graduate scholars
- 3 livelihood projects
- 2 book donations
- School supplies donation
- 22 classrooms and 1 repair of old unit
- 2 water systems
- 14 medical missions

2. Overseas Filipinos-Remittances for Development (OFs-RED)

The CFO, in partnership with the National Economic Development Authority, is implementing the Overseas Filipinos Remittances for Development (OFs-RED) Project: Building a Future Back Home. It is spearheaded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and sponsored by Western Union's philanthropy arm – The Western Union Foundation (WUF).

The project addresses the goal of harnessing the potential of overseas remittances for poverty reduction and consequently, local economic development. The expected output of the OFs-RED is the build-up of a viable collective remittances fund and investments in viable remittances-funded job creating projects. The pilot area is the province of Ilocos Norte.

A Collective Remittance Fund had been setup to finance the credit needs of new or existing migrant -owned enterprises in the area. The fund came about when the Provincial government of Ilocos Norte, the Western Union Foundation and the Cooperative Bank of Ilocos Norte, which is also the depository bank, pooled in P1 million each to jumpstart the fund. The project would like overseas -based Ilocanos to donate to the fund and this is what we are going to do in the next few months.

The fund is limited to former or active overseas Filipino or their dependents with new or existing income generating enterprise. The minimum loan that can be availed is P15,000 with the maximum at half a million pesos. The special interest rate is 12% per annum.

In 2013, there were 46 loan applications filed. Of this number, 14 applications were approved amounting to Php 1.28 million. Loans went to fund micro-small enterprises such as dragon fruit planting, bagnet making, rice trading, hog breeding, sari-sari (retail) stores etc. There are 14 loan applications currently under review for the year (2014).

3. Remittance for Development Council (ReDC)

ReDC is a consultative forum to discuss issues and concerns about remittances. It is an advisory and policy-recommending body for channeling of individual and collective remittances for both the local and national.

In 2013, ReDC conducted meeting, dialogue and presentation.

4. Financial Literacy (FinLit) Campaign

The CFO in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was launched. It was funded by the Western Union Foundation with the amount of USD 220,000, the philanthropic arm of the Western Union Company and retail Agents Petnet and E-Business.

The campaign with modules scalable for all Filipino citizens but especially overseas Filipinos and their families will be implemented by the CFO. It will be overseen by the United Nations Development Programmed (UNDP). The "Peso-Sense Philippine Financial Freedom Campaign" aims to enhance basic financial acumen and will target students, young adults, business owners, employed, home-makers, and retirees. The program commenced with a general Peso-Sense at Christmas 2013 providing practical tips for Christmas cheer all year through.

As of 2013, the CFO has launched the PESO SENSE website. Among the projects under the FinLit are the following:

- Information dissemination campaign regarding PESO SENSE amongst various stakeholders
- Installed PESO SENSE Christmas Trees at the NAIA, POEA, OWWA, and MIAA
- Developed, Printed and Distributed Additional leaflets for distribution
- KKISS Program Launching for PSOs
- 1 Financial Literacy Trainers' Training for Filipino Community leaders in Tokyo, March 23, 2013 Embassy of the Philippines, Tokyo, Japan
- 1 Financial Literacy training & counseling for Filipinos in Ibaraki detention center, March 25, 2013, Ibaraki, Japan
- Conduct of financial literacy in Pangasinan
- 2 Financial Literacy Training in Rosales
- 1 Financial Literacy Training in Tayug
- 1 Financial Literacy Training in Natividad

C. INTEGRATION AND REINTEGRATION

Ensuring that all Filipino emigrants are adequately prepared to meet the practical and psychological challenges attendant to international migration; and for the productive and seamless reintegration of returning overseas Filipinos and their families in the country.

1. Pre-Departure Registration

CFO registers Filipino emigrants or permanent residents prior to their departure. Data gathered during the registration process serve as a resource for policy formulation and program development.

In 2013, CFO registered 81,240 Filipino emigrants. The top destination countries of emigrants are USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, United Kingdom, Italy, Germany, Singapore, Malaysia, and New Zealand.

2. Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar (PDOS)

CFO conducts PDOS to departing Filipino emigrants to facilitate their adjustment concerns in their destination countries. In these seminars, various topics are discussed such as travel regulations, immigration procedures, cultural differences, settlement concerns, employment and social security benefits, and rights and obligations of Filipino migrants overseas. Country-specific orientation seminars are conducted for emigrants bound for USA, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, and European countries.

3. Peer Counseling

Peer counseling aims to respond to the needs of young Filipino emigrants aged 13-19 by providing them with information that will help facilitate their adjustment in their new environment and prepare them for possible pressures which could result from migration.

In 2013, CFO conducted peer counseling sessions to more than 10,000 Filipino youth emigrants.

4. Guidance and Counseling Services

The guidance and counseling program aims to provide Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals a venue to gain adequate information and advice on the realities of inter-marriage and migration, rights and obligations of Filipino migrants overseas, available support network for women migrants in distress, and socio-cultural realities overseas, among others. The guidance and counseling sessions are country-specific. The CFO also continues to provide in-depth counseling for some counselees.

In 2013, CFO administered, through its service providers, guidance and counseling sessions to 27,748 Filipino spouses and other partners of foreign nationals.

5. CFO Watchlist and Multiple Sponsors Database

To supplement the guidance counseling program, CFO maintains a CFO Watchlist which contains information on foreign nationals who had a history of domestic violence or involvement in trafficking, serial

sponsorship, bigamy, adultery, child abuse, deception and fraud. Through this Watchlist, CFO counselors can extend appropriate counseling intervention to Filipino nationals they may sponsor for travel overseas. CFO also maintains a Multiple Sponsors Database which records the names of foreign nationals who have sponsored more than one Filipino spouse and other partners, but without any record of violation or abuse.

6. Assistance to Nationals (ATN) Services

CFO respond to or refer ATN cases related to domestic violence, verification of records, request for financial support from foreign spouse, violation of work contracts and inclusion in the Bureau of Immigration blacklist and CFO Watchlist, abandonment of foreign spouse, and suspected trafficking, among others, to appropriate government agencies. CFO also assist in and refer cases involving violations of R.A. 6955 (Mail Order Bride Law), R.A. 9208 (Anti-Trafficking Law) and other related laws.

In 2013, CFO responded to 50 ATN cases. All cases were referred to appropriate agencies and are still on-going. These cases dealt with location of whereabouts, overseas labor disputes, domestic violence, fraud, trafficking, mail order bride scheme and request for financial assistance.

Aside from the ATN cases, CFO also handles cases that were received from the 1343 Actionline. There were 67 human trafficking and other related cases. Other services that were provided include the preparation of legal documents, provision of legal advice and court representatives, assistance in the conduct of investigation, filing of cases, financial support, and temporary shelter.

7. Linkage with Overseas Filipino Community for Post Arrival Services

In order to facilitate the adjustment and integration of newly-arrived migrants in their host communities, CFO has partnered with Filipino associations overseas mostly from major countries of destination of emigrants in the conduct of post arrival orientation and other services. Through the service, newly arrived Filipinos in the host countries are linked with migrant resource centers, support groups, and Filipino associations in their areas of settlement. They are also advised on employment potentials and opportunities. Participation in post arrival services is voluntary.

D. CULTURE AND EDUCATION

Promoting Filipino education programs overseas, and providing younger generations of overseas Filipinos with opportunities to learn Philippine history, culture, language and institutions.

1. Lakbay-Aral sa Pilipinas Program

The *Lakbay-Aral sa Pilipinas* program is a cultural immersion/study tour program established in 1983. It offers an opportunity for Filipino youth overseas to learn more about their Filipino heritage and culture through an intensive two-week study visit of historical, cultural and natural sites in the Philippines. The program also includes lectures on Philippine culture and Filipino language, personal interaction with peers and participation in local festivals, among others.

In 2013, CFO accomplished the following: (1) YouLead Organizational meeting during the 2nd Global Summit; (2) 2nd YouLead in PSO on 15-17 May 2013.

2. Philippine Schools Overseas (PSO)

CFO serves as Secretariat and member of the Inter-Agency Committee on PSO. It is tasked to coordinate policies and initiatives in the establishment, operation, and management of PSOs. The Inter-Agency Committee (IAC) ensures that PSOs provide expatriate Filipino youth with affordable quality education in the elementary and high school levels with a curriculum that would support their reintegration into the Philippine educational system and preserve their Filipino identity and character.

In 2013, CFO provides administrative and technical support to 41 PSOs requesting for permits to operate, special order and other pertinent documents related to PSO management and operations.

The IAC on PSO accomplished the following: (1) 11th Conference of PSOs; (2) Ocular inspection of 5 PSOs in the Middle East

4. Exchange Visitor Program (EVP)

Established in 1956, the EVP promotes inter-country exchange of knowledge and expertise between the U.S. and the Philippines to strengthen educational, scientific, and technological capabilities of both countries. The EVP Committee was reconstituted by former President Fidel V. Ramos in January 1996 to enhance Philippine participation in the EVP. CFO provides technical and secretariat support to the EVP Committee.

In 2013, CFO issued 194 Need for Training Certificate (NTC) endorsements. The NTC is issued by the Department of Health confirming that there is a need for medical practitioners in the specialty of a particular EVP doctor-participant and verifying that said participant has filed a written assurance with the Philippine government that he will return to the country after the completion of his training in the US.

CFO also issued 71 No Objection Statement (NOS) endorsements. The NOS is issued by the Philippine government declaring that it has no objection on the application of a particular EVP participant to waive the two-year home residency requirement of the EVP.

CFO also reviewed and monitored 4 transfer-of-skills projects implemented by EVP participants, serving as an alternative arrangement in lieu of the two-year residency requirement. The projects are foundations of Neuro-rehabilitation, Pathology, synthesis of Carbohydrates, and SPED – Visual Impairment

CFO conducted PDOS sessions to 3,879 EVP participants. The PDOS gives an overview of the program, its objectives, background and legal bases. It also discusses the different categories of exchange visitors and their corresponding training periods, as well as their obligations as participants of the program.

E. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Promotion and enhancement of CFO's institutional capabilities for policy formulation and lobbying; generation of comprehensive data on international migration; and mobilizing stakeholders in the migration and development sector.

1. Development and Publication of Information Materials

In 2013, CFO published, printed and distributed the following information materials to Philippine embassies and consulates, Filipino associations overseas, local government officials and other partners:

- Inputs to the legislative agenda for women by the Phil Commission on Women
- Inputs to the legislative agenda for children by the Council for the Welfare of Children
- Amendments to the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (RA 9802) to Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012 (RA 10364)
- Amendments to the Overseas Absentee Voting Act RA 9189 to Overseas Voting Law
- EO on the ReDC (OP)
- EO on Mandatory pre-marriage counseling (OP)
- Amendment of Anti-Mail-Order-Act RA 6955
- Compendium of CFO Statistics
- Compendium of CFO International Statistics

2. Conferences/ Fora

In 2013, CFO organized the following conferences/fora:

- 15th Sustainable Shared Growth Seminar
- Small and Medium Enterprises Briefing sessions/ Seminar
- Pag-IBIG Fund Seminar/Orientation
- Workshop on Interrelations Between Public Policies, Migration And Development In The Philippines
- Drafting of the report of the Task Force DST on Remittances
- The Brown Bag Session on the Shift to Balance of Payments Manual 6

- Plenary speaker during the 9th CBMS National Conference
- Workshop on the Legislative Agenda for Women by the Philippine Commission on Women
- Workshop on the Legislative Agenda for Children by the Council for the Welfare of Children
- CWC workshop
- GFDC Meet and Greet with Senators Loren Legarda and Pimentel
- GFDC Meeting with COMELCE Chairman Brillantes – re-enfranchisement of delisted overseas voters
- OECD consultative meeting on July 1, 2013
- Seminar/Conference at the Ateneo De Manila – University regarding the Foreign Policy Issues and Stand of the Philippines
- National Conference on Remittance For Development in Nepal (held on 28 November 2013)
- Joint Migration and Development Initiative Phase 2 project
- Jakarta Conference
- Vietnam Conference
- Regional Forum in Davao
- Regional Forum in La Union
- MOF December 18 event/National Forum

3. Stock Estimation of Overseas Filipinos

The Stock Estimate of Filipinos Overseas is the aggregate of all Philippine-born Filipinos, residing or working overseas. It categorizes overseas Filipinos into permanent, temporary and irregular migrants.

Per Foreign Service Circular No. 08-03, CFO was delegated by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to consolidate the data of overseas Filipinos for stock estimation. In 2013, CFO coordinated with the DFA and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration for the collection of data and publication of the stock estimates of overseas Filipinos as of December 2012.

4. Technical and Secretariat Support to Inter-Agency Activities

CFO continued to strengthen its linkages with relevant agencies in the Philippines and host countries to enhance programs and services for Filipino migrants, and to ensure accessibility in addressing specific needs and interests.

In 2013, CFO provided technical assistance and secretariat support to the following inter-agency committees:

- Month of Overseas Filipinos Inter-Agency Committee
- Remittance for Development Council (ReDC)-Clusters 1-3
- Task Force on Documentary Stamp Tax
- Human Resources for Health Network (HRHN)
- Small Working Group on Migration Data (SWG) in cooperation with OSEC
- Technical Working Group (TWG) on Migration Statistics

- Overseas Landbased Tripartite Consultative Council
- IACAT-ADVOCOM
- Stock Estimate of Filipinos Overseas- Coordinate with relevant agencies for the compilation of data
- Small Working Group on Migration meeting at UPPI.
- Small working groups on the drafting of IRR re: Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012 (R.A. 10364)
- Technical working groups on the drafting of proposed bill on Anti Human Smuggling
- Small working group on the 16th Congress legislative agenda of PCW
- Joint bicameral committees on both houses on the amendment of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (R.A. 9208)

5. Inter-Agency Partnerships

In 2013, CFO has established partnerships with various government and non-government agencies either by entering into an Agreement and/or collaboration of relevant activities.

CFO has established new partnerships with the following agencies:

- MOA with Management and Labor Sector creating Landbased Tripartite Consultative Council
- TESDA on South Korea-English course for South Korean spouses
- Ateneo de Manila University for online counseling MOA
- Babaylan MOU for au pairs
- Ateneo de Davao COPERS (Center of Psychological Extension and Research Services)
- DSWD for 1343 Actionline management funding
- PIA on Radyo -CFO
- Partnership with DAKILA Philippines
- Entertainment Gateway Group (EGG) for 1343 Textline
- Dutch Embassy on Au pair and cases handled by the CFO July 2013
- AIM on MIED PDOS enhancement
- National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee (NALECC) – Sub-committees on Organized Crime and Illegal Recruitment

6. Study Visit / Fact-Finding Mission

Cultural immersion studies allow CFO personnel to experience first hand the culture and way of life in other countries to enhance the pre-departure services for Filipino emigrants and concretize solutions for human trafficking related cases.

In 2013, CFO Officers conducted a study visit in the following countries:

- South Korea for Workshop for PDOS program (two counselors)
- ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organization Malaysia (two case officers)

- Kyoto University sponsored Cultural Immersion Program

7. Databanking and Computerization

In 2013, through its in-house capability, CFO developed, implemented and enhanced 8 information and database systems that facilitate the effective delivery of its services and programs, and technical support to all CFO divisions. These are:

- Administrative Requests Information System
 - *Requisition Issuance Slip*
 - *Purchase Request*
 - *Emergency Supply Request*
 - *Administrative and Finance Record Request*
 - *General Service Request*
 - *Equipments Borrowers Request*
 - *Passenger/Service Vehicle Request*
 - *Messengerial and Courier Services*
 - *Reproduction Request*
- Balinkbayan Web Portal
 - *Online Forum*
 - *Interactive Products Map*
 - *Interactive Needs Map*
 - *Interactive Donate Map*
- Exchange Visitor Program NOS (Web App)
- Philippine School Overseas Info System
- I.C.T. Support Information System
- Presidential Awards Info System

(ENHANCED/MAINTAINED)

- Filipinos Overseas Information System (FOIS)
- Guidance and Counseling Information System (GCIS)
- Au Pair Information System (APIS)
- Exchange Visitor Program Information System (EVPS)
- Time Monitoring System
- Emigrant Sticker Printing (Web App)
- Certificate Printing (Web App)
- Online Official Receipt Printing (Web App)
- Last Reference Update (Web App)
- 1343 Actionline Info System
- Filipino Associations Overseas System (FAOS)
- LINKAPIL Information System
- Supplies Inventory Information System (SIIS)
- I.T. Equipment Monitoring System
- Arts and Culture Exchange Profiling
- Document Monitoring System
- Feedback Information System

- Personnel Data Sheet Information System

8. Statistical Reports

CFO transmits a monthly master list of Filipino emigrants to Philippine embassies and consulates. CFO generated at least 224 statistical reports and other data/information on registered Filipino emigrants and spouses and other partners of foreign nationals, and stock estimate of overseas Filipinos in 2013. The reports were provided to Philippine embassies and consulates, as well as requesting government agencies, private organizations, NGOs and individuals.

9. Other Relevant Activities

CFO has conducted two (2) other activities relevant to migration.

During the first semester of 2013, CFO has conducted the Anti-Mail Order Bride Poster Making Contest to promote the campaign against mail order bride schemes. CFO has awarded four (4) entries which were chosen among 22 entries received from various areas in the Philippines.

Another activity that was conducted was the Migration Advocacy and Media (MAM) Awards. The Awards was conceived in 2011 for the Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos and International Migrants Day in the Philippines. MAM Awards aim to recognize the significant role of the media in the promotion and advocacy of migration and development.

Eligible for the Awards are works by any individual, government and private media outlets, institutions and practitioners in the fields of print, radio, movie and television, advertising and internet based in the Philippines and abroad. Entries must have raised public awareness on issues on Filipino migration, advocated the cause of Filipinos overseas, or/and promoted a positive image of Filipinos overseas, and migration and development.

The recipients of the third MAM Awards include Maid in Hong Kong, Made for Discrimination by Atty. Rodel Rodis (Article/Essay), Kalatas Australia by Ms. Millie Marcial-Phillips (Newspaper), Sindi ng Lampara (OFW Stories) by Ms. Raquel Padilla and Ms. Jovelyn Revilla (Book), Art as Reality: The Transition of Filipino Migrant Children in the Middle East by Philippine Embassy-Muscat (Oman) (Book), The Legal Pinoy by Atty. Lourdes Tancinco and Mr. Eric Quizon (TV-Regular), Reporter's Notebook: Paglalayag sa Sabah, Backdoor at Halau by Mr. Jiggy Manicad and Ms. Maki Pulido (TV-Episodic), Ilo-Ilo by Mr. Anthony Chen (Film), ABS-CBNNews.com (Global Filipino) by Ms. Cathy Rose Garcia (Website), OFW sa Disyerto by Mr. James Dela Cruz, Jr. (Blog) and Isang Katuparan ng Pangarap, ABS-CBN, The Filipino Channel by Mr. Chester Fabian (Advertisement).