

FILIPINOS OVERSEAS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

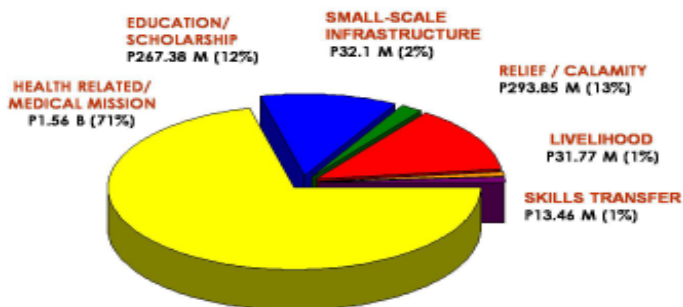


The Commission on Filipinos Overseas estimates that as of December 2008, there were 8.18 million Filipinos living or working abroad. The number is nearly 8.3 % in relation to the country's population of 92.23 million.

Of the 8.18 million overseas Filipinos, roughly 3.62 million are overseas Filipino workers, 3.90 million are permanent residents, and 0.65 million are classified as irregular. The top 5 countries of destination for overseas Filipino workers are the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Japan, Hong Kong, United Arab Emirates, and Taiwan. For the emigrants or permanent residents (including spouses and other partners of foreign nationals), the United States of America, Canada, Australia, Japan, United Kingdom, and Guam are the major destination countries.

Filipinos living and working abroad have been a major source of contributions and assistance. They have provided donations to various communities in the Philippines and have infused capital to the country through remittances, investments, and other forms of contributions.

SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF LINKAPIL ASSISTANCE (1990-2008)



TOTAL AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE = P2.294B

REMITTANCES

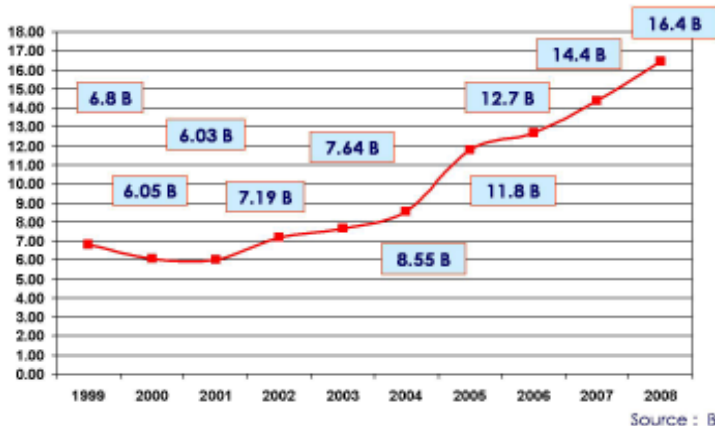
The remittances of overseas Filipinos have contributed significantly in keeping the current account deficit manageable and in stabilizing the economy. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) reported that Filipinos overseas remitted US\$16.4 billion in 2008. Major sources of remittance are the United States of America, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai, Germany, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi.

From 1999 to 2008, remittances of Filipinos overseas have reached a total of US\$97.56 billion.

DONATIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE

Overseas Filipinos also send financial and material assistance to the country through government agencies and NGOs for less privileged groups and individuals, as well as underserved communities. The donations fund and support activities for relief and rehabilitation, education and scholarships, health equipment/facilities and medical missions, water and sanitation facilities, and livelihood assistance.

**REMITTANCES/TRANSFERS FROM FILIPINOS OVERSEAS
THRU FORMAL BANKING CHANNELS
1999 – 2008 (in billion US dollars)**



Through the efforts of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, an estimated P2.33 billion in donations have been sent by overseas Filipino groups through the *Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino* (service to fellow Filipinos) or LINKAPIL program from 1990 to the first semester of 2009 for projects in 85 provinces.

Major sources of these donations include Filipinos in the United States, Germany, Canada, Australia, and Japan.

Please refer to the section on LINKAPIL for more information on the program.

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

The support of overseas Filipinos is not limited to material/financial assistance. They also facilitate the transfer of information and technology to the country. Various opportunities are available for Filipinos overseas to visit the Philippines and share expertise with local counterparts through lectures, workshops, and other volunteer

work. These avenues include the Balik-Scientist Program of the Department of Science and Technology, Exchange Visitor Program of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, and other exchange programs conducted by Filipino associations overseas in the Philippines. Aside from these activities, partnerships for research or special projects are being encouraged between Filipinos overseas and local counterparts to pass on new knowledge or develop indigenous technology.