

Office of the President of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS
PHYSICAL REPORT OF OPERATION FOR THE YEAR 2008

PROGRAM/ ACTIVITY/ PROJECT	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	PHYSICAL TARGET	ACCOMPLISHMENT	VARIANCE	REMARKS
MFO: Migrant Cultural, Social, Economic, Educational and Policy Formulation Services					
Migrant Social and Economic Integration					
Pre-Departure Services (Registration, PDOS, Guidance Counseling, Peer Counseling)	Number of Filipino emigrants registered and provided with pre-departure services	83,999 (Registration)	70,579	-16%	Breakdown of registration: 53,950 (76.44%) at CFO Manila; 6,354 (9%) at CFO Cebu; 2,599 (3.68%) at CFO NAIA, and 7,676 (10.88%) at CFO-SMEF-COW. The top destination countries of emigrants are USA, Canada, Japan, Australia, Germany, New Zealand, Italy, United Kingdom, Spain and South Korea. The low registration of departing Filipinos overseas is attributed to the retrogression in the issuance of visa especially for family based petitions and more intensive counseling interventions for Filipino spouses/fiance(e)s of foreign nationals.
		31,646 (PDOS)	24,912	-21%	CFO registers Filipino emigrants prior to their departure. The data gathered serve as resource for policy formulation and program development. Breakdown of PDOS attendees: 22,970 (92.20%) at CFO Manila & 1,942 (7.8%) at CFO Cebu.
		11,588 (Peer counseling)	9,068	-22%	PDOS facilitates Filipino emigrants' adjustment concerns (travel regulations, immigration procedures, cultural differences, settlement concerns, employment and security benefits, and rights and obligations of Filipino migrants) in their destination countries. Breakdown of peer counselees: 8,330 (91.86%) at CFO Manila & 738 (8.14%) at CFO Cebu.
		25,425 (Guidance counseling)	20,946	-18%	Peer counseling aims to respond to the needs of young Filipino emigrants aged 13-19 by providing them with information that will facilitate their adjustment in their new environment and prepare them for possible pressures which could result from migration. Breakdown of guidance counselees: 8,870 (42.35%) at SMEF-COW QC; 3,646 (17.40%) at SMEF-COW Cebu and 8,430 (40.25%) at PRISM.
	Number of blacklisted foreign nationals	0	2	0%	The guidance and counseling program discusses the realities of inter-marriage and migration, rights and obligations of Filipino migrants, support network for women migrants in distress, and socio-cultural realities overseas, among others. The guidance and counseling sessions are country-specific. The CFO guidance and counseling program was devolved to SMEF-COW effective April 4, 2005 in Quezon City, and May 2, 2005 in Cebu. In May 2, 2006, it was also devolved to the People's Reform Initiative for Social Mobilization, Inc. CFO also continues to provide in-depth counseling for some of the counselees. In 2008, CFO included names of two (2) foreign nationals in the CFO Watchlist. As of December 2008, there are 240 names of foreign nationals and 58 Filipino spouses and other partners in the CFO Watchlist (with derogatory record).

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Assistance to Nationals (ATN)	Number of ATN cases responded and attended to	0	105	0%	The 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 the Watchlist, CFO counselors can extend appropriate counseling intervention to Filipino nationals they may sponsor for travel overseas. Of this number, 16 cases were resolved and the rest are on-going. These cases dealt with location of whereabouts, overseas labor disputes, domestic violence, fraud, trafficking, violation of anti-mail order bride and trafficking laws, travel documents fraud, document requests and financial assistance, among others.
	Number of human trafficking related cases handled	0	104	0%	CFO handled 104 trafficking and other related cases that were referred to the DFA/PECs, NBI-AHTRAD, PNP-CIDG, POEA, OWWA and LGUs of Pangasinan and Misamis Oriental. CFO provided assistance to 182 victims, of this number 93 were repatriated. Attended 11 court hearings of assisted trafficking victims. Among the services provided were preparation of legal documents, provision of legal advice and court representatives, assistance in conduct of investigation, surveillance and entrapment, filing of cases, financial support, temporary shelter, and repatriation.
Post-Arrival Services	Number of overseas-based NGOs which are providing post arrival services	10	12	20%	At present, there are 12 post-arrival service providers actively coordinating with CFO, namely: Intercede, Catholic Community Services of York Region (CCSYR), Family Christian Church (FCC), Filipino Korean Spouses Association (FKSA), Filipinos Married to Taiwanese Association (FMTA), Multi-Cultural Helping House Society, Philippine Australian Community Services Inc., Center for Philippine Concerns Australia, Filipino Community Council of Victoria, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Filipino Settlement Coordinating Council of South Australia, Centre for Education and Training, and PCG-Los Angeles.
Community Education Program (CEP)	Number of provinces and where CEPs were conducted	Conduct CEP in 26 provinces and eight (8) cities in Metro Manila	Conducted CEP in 27 provinces, 59 municipalities and six (6) cities in Metro Manila	4%	The CEP seeks to assist prospective migrants in making informed decisions regarding working or settling abroad, as well as generate 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. CFO has conducted CEP in the provinces of South Cotabato, Compostella Valley, Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Batangas, Laguna, Oriental Mindoro, Romblon, Capiz, Negros Occidental, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, Davao Oriental, Compostela Valley, Ifugao, Abra, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino Province, Palawan, Mindoro Occidental, Leyte, Western Samar, Manila, Pasay City, Mandaluyong City, San Juan City, Las Piñas City, and Paranaque City.
Filipino Education and Heritage Program					
Educational and Heritage Programs	No. of educational and heritage programs developed/ implemented	3 (<i>Lakbay-Aral sa Pilipinas</i> , Guide to Learning Filipino, Philippine Schools Overseas)	2	-33%	The <i>Lakbay-Aral</i> is in line with the provision of quality cultural education to Filipinos, specifically the Filipino youth overseas. Established in 1983, the <i>Lakbay-Aral</i> program is an intensive two-week study visit and cultural immersion program in the Philippines, involving lectures on Philippine culture and Filipino language, visits to historical, cultural and tourist landmarks, personal interaction with peers, and participation in local festivals, among others. For the first semester, CFO has coordinated with Iligan Tourism Council and proposed a Lakbay-Aral itinerary for Mindanao tour. CFO has also sent invitations to forty-two (42) Philippine schools overseas to participate in the program. As of third quarter, CFO finalized the itinerary for a group from San Francisco for Lakbay-Aral 2009.

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Study Visits and Fact Finding Mission	Number of countries and territories where cultural immersion was conducted	0	7	0%	<p>The Guide to Learning Filipino was developed in 2002 to promote the teaching of Filipino language among Filipino youth overseas. Accompanied with a musical tape, lessons in the book are culture-based to pave the way for a better understanding of the Filipino language and culture of the Philippines. The book is distributed to Filipino associations overseas which conduct Filipino language classes. CFO launched on December 7, 2006, the first internet-based teaching of the Filipino language, the Learn Filipino Program. Designed to target a wider audience of overseas Filipinos throughout the world, the course allows enrollees to learn Filipino at their own pace and at a very minimal cost.</p> <p>For the year 2008, CFO distributed Guide to Learning Filipino books to 40 individuals and organizations overseas. Out of this number, 2 books each were given to the US Library of Congress and Centre for Philippine Concerns Australia and 1 book for the Singaporean Embassy in Manila. As of December 2008, 542 participants registered for the online Learn Filipino Program from forty-one (46) countries.</p> <p>The PSOs are established to provide expatriate Filipino youth with affordable quality education in the elementary and high school levels so that they can readily be reintegrated into the Philippine educational system upon their return. The CFO serves as the Secretariat to the Inter-Agency Committee (IAC) on PSOs. It is tasked to coordinate matters pertaining to the operation and management of PSOs. In January 2008, the CFO Chairman conducted an ocular inspection to ten (10) qualified schools applying for accreditation in Saudi Arabia and UAE. The 7th PSO Conference was held in Dubai, UAE in May 2008, organized by the CFO. The conference aimed at refocusing the roles of the governing council and further discussed education development programs anchored on the national competency-based teachers standards. The Conference was attended by 46 representatives from 22 schools.</p> <p>The PSO website was launched on 2 August 2008. The website is one of the major output of the PSO conference in order to strengthen collaboration and networking among PSOs. The CFO also launched a literary contest on 5 August 2008 in time for the Buwan ng Wika. 136 entries in all categories were submitted from Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and United Arab Emirates. The Contest aims to harness the potentials of the educators and the school community in raising the standards of Philippine education.</p> <p>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 2008, CFO officers conducted study visits in the following countries and territories, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Singapore, Qatar, Hongkong and Macau.</p>
Filipino Unity and National Development					
Lingkod sa Kapwa Filipino Program (LINKAPIL)	Amount and types of donations from overseas Filipinos and estimated beneficiaries	P110,000,000.00	P144,345,844.26	31%	<p>The LINKAPIL or Link for Philippine Development program is an effective tool in creating jobs, providing livelihood programs, and giving loans to small and medium scale entrepreneurs to several communities all over the Philippines. Donations coursed through the LINKAPIL program are for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Health related and medical missions (P126,729,875.48) Education and scholarship program (P1,248,340.29) Infrastructure projects (P2,149,494.65) Livelihood projects (P163,000.00) Skills transfer and training projects (P13,459,340.97) Others (P595,792.87)

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Exchange Visitor Program	Number of EVP participants registered and provided with assistance	598 (Registration)	1,034	73%	Among the projects supported are the following: a. Conduct of 15 medical missions to 48,490 beneficiaries and donated medical equipment worth P153,800.00. Provided supplemental feeding to 548 malnourished children in Negros Occidental, Albay, and various provinces in Mindanao. b. Grant of scholarship assistance to 18 students through the Adopt-a-Scholar and donated 62,938 books to different schools in Luzon and Visayas. c. Construction of twelve (12) classrooms in Catanduanes, Isabela, Albay, Sorsogon and Camarines Sur. d. Construction of a communal water system and two (2) water well projects in Lower Paknaan and Madaue City, Cebu worth P58,560.00 The EVP was established in 1956 to promote cultural exchange between the Philippines and the U.S. for the purpose of strengthening the educational, scientific, and technological capabilities of both countries. The CFO provides technical and secretariat support to the EVP Committee.
		380 (NTC Endorsements)	290	-24%	The NTC is issued by the Department of Health of the Philippines confirming that there exists a need in the country for practitioners in the field of specialization of a particular EVP doctor-participant, and verifying that said participant has filed a written assurance with the Philippine government that he/she will return to the country after the completion of his/her training program under the EVP.
		100 (NOS Endorsements)	193	93%	The NOS is issued by the Philippine government declaring that it has no objection on the application of a particular EVP participant to the waiver of the two-year home residency requirement of the EVP.
Publications and Information Materials	Number of transfer of skills projects of EVP participants reviewed and monitored; and estimated number of beneficiaries		128 transfer of skills projects benefitting 3,915 teachers and participants		Among the projects implemented, the following subjects are included: a. Special Education b. Mathematics and its fields (Geometry, Algebra, Statistics, Trigonometry, Calculus, etc.) c. English (including strategies in reading and language) d. Science and its various fields (Biology, Physics, Chemistry and General Science, etc.) e. Conduct of research f. Use of new equipment such as graphing calculators, interactive modules and writing pads.
	Number of publications and information materials published and distributed	13	11	-15%	Among the information materials published are the following: a. One (1) issue Filipino Ties, the official newsletter of the CFO. b. 400 pcs. of Lakbay-Aral brochures c. 40 pcs. Of Teaching of Filipino Language books d. 500 copies of posters on the Guide in Assessing Services for Victims of Trafficking e. 5,000 copies of posters on anti-human trafficking f. 30,000 copies of SOS SMS Brochure g. 15,000 stickers on Stop Human Trafficking h. 20,000 copies of the Complaint Standard Reporting Format i. 3,000 pcs. Of A Guide for Filipinos Migrating to the United States j. 500 copies of the Investment and Business Guide for Overseas Filipino k. 350 pcs. 2008 Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas Souvenir Book

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Presidential Awards for Filipino Individuals and Organizations Overseas	Number of Filipino and foreign individuals and organizations overseas conferred with the award	0	31	0%	In 10 December 2008, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo honored 31 distinguished Filipino and foreign individuals and organizations overseas in for their efforts in assisting in national development efforts, for advancing the cause of Filipino communities abroad, and for excelling in their fields of expertise or profession at the Rizal Hall of Malacanang. Four (4) recipients of the 2008 Presidential Awards conducted transfer of skills and knowledge thru workshops and consultations with the government, NGOs and schools in the Philippines.
Policy Development and Data banking					
Researches and Studies	No. of bills proposed and policies implemented	3	3	0%	Drafted a bill on <i>Vat Exemptions on Donations</i> and amendments to <i>Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003</i> . Revised and implemented EVP alternative arrangement in lieu of the two year home residency required.
	No. of bills and orders proposed relevant to human trafficking	2	2	0%	Drafted policy proposals such as <i>Instituting Mechanisms for the Creation of Temporary Shelter Program for Trafficked Persons</i> and <i>Mandating Pre-Marriage Counseling Program for Filipino Fiance(e)s and Other Partners of Foreign Nationals</i> .
	Number of researches and studies prepared or updated relevant to overseas Filipinos	16	16	0%	Prepared a concept paper on implementing a <i>Specialized Pre-Employment and Pre-Departure Orientation Program for Migrating Filipino Nurses, The 2008 Philippine Nursing Competitiveness Conference, and Respiratory Therapy Bill</i> . The latter provides for the creation of the Board of Examiners for Respiratory Therapists and a licensure examination, registration and licensure of respiratory therapy practitioners. Prepared and submitted inputs to the <i>3rd RP-KSA Joint Commission Meeting, RP-Bahrain Memorandum of Agreement in health services, Human Resource for Health Technical Working Group on Exit, Symposium on "Managing Temporary Migration: Lessons from the Philippine Model", Conference on Circular Migration - a 'New Guest Worker Policy' or Development Cooperation, and Proposed Operational Framework on International Migration</i> .
	Number of researches relevant to human trafficking	8	2	-75%	Prepared the agency proposal for the Philippine delegation to the 2nd Global Forum in Migration and Development (GFMD) and CFO's abstract for the Filipino as Global Language Conference. Prepared position paper and resolution on the <i>Migrant Workers Hospital Act of 2007</i> and amendments to <i>Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003</i> . Prepared an appeal for the immediate passage of the <i>Respiratory Therapy Bill</i> . Prepared two (2) concept papers on <i>Opposing the Liberalization and Acceleration of the Processing and Deployment of Overseas Filipino Contract Workers</i> and <i>Proposal for the Installation of Computers to Selected LGU-PNP Offices for the Use of the Philippine Information System on Trafficking</i> .
Conferences, Linkages and Fora.	Number of conferences and forum relevant to international migration and overseas Filipinos organized	5	4	-20%	The <i>First Philippine Nursing Competitiveness Conference</i> held on 26 September 2008 gathered more than 200 nursing industry stakeholders. The Conference opened into discussion and explored the possibility of influencing the healthcare policy environment to maintain and further promote Filipino nurses' global competitiveness.

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	Number of trainings relevant to Human Trafficking conducted and organized				<p>Organized the <i>First Philippine Nursing Competitiveness Pre- and Post-Conference Workshop</i> which laid down short and long term initiatives for nursing industry and professional development.</p> <p>Conducted the <i>Post- GFMD Forum</i> in line with the 2008 Month of Overseas Filipinos Celebration, which provided a venue for those who were not able to participate or attend the GFMD, listen to reports of both government and civil society sectors, and participate in future programs of action as a result of GFMD.</p> <p>Conducted the Cineforum series in line with the 2008 Month of Overseas Filipinos Celebration, from November to December. Participating institutions were Scalabrini Center for People on the Move, University of Nueva Caceres, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Batangas State University, University of San Carlos and Cebu Normal University.</p> <p>CFO also hosted orientation programs for seven (7) foreign delegations on study tour: Japanese – Filipino Children and Filipino Global Associates College Foundation, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (US-ICE), US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Canadian Embassy Officers, Japanese College University Students, Department of Immigration and Citizenship Australia (DIAC) and the Geongsang-do, South Korea local government officials</p> <p>Conducted <i>Advocacy Training for Youth in Anti-Trafficking of Women and Children for Labor and Sexual Exploitation</i> in the cities of Davao, Baguio and Legazpi.</p> <p>Conducted trainings on the implementation of the Philippine Information System on Trafficking (PHILIST) training to about 500 social workers, law enforcement agencies, NGOs and front-line service providers for trafficking to 8 areas: Cebu City covering Visayas Region, Davao City covering Mindanao Region, San Fernando City covering Luzon, Albay, Misamis Occidental, Bukidnon, Lanao Del Norte and Provincial Women's Council. In 2008, CFO encoded 381 trafficking cases. Of this number 189 from CFO, 23 from PNP, 111 from TUCP and 32 from DSWD.</p> <p>□</p>
Technical and Secretariat Support to Inter-Agency Activities	Number of linkages with relevant agencies in the Philippines and host countries to enhance	8	8	0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Human Resource for Health Network (with DOH) b. 13th National Seafarer's Day Committee (with AOS) - Chair, OSYA c. Stock Estimation of the Filipinos Overseas (with NSCB) d. Anti-Trafficking initiatives with the USAID/Solidarity Center/TUCP Anti-Trafficking Project e. Inter-Agency Committee on Philippine Schools Overseas f. Inter-Agency Committee on Exchange Visitor Program g. National Anti-Poverty Commission Cabinet Group h. Inter-Agency Committee on the Celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos
Databanking and Computerization	Number of databases and information systems developed.	9	9	0%	<p>Developed and implemented the Filipino Associations and Organizations Database which serves as a databank of information on different Filipino groups abroad and the Trafficking Information System. CFO has also initially implemented the Lingkod sa Kapwa Pilipino Monitoring System. The Overseas-based Filipino Emigrants Registration System, EVP Information System, Communications and Services Tracking System, Filipinos Marrying Foreign Nationals Registration System, Filipino Overseas Information System, and the Bills Indexing and Monitoring System are for implementation.</p>

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	Number of statistical reports generated	0	141	0%	<p>The Philippine Information System on Trafficking (PHILIST) is a database program that compiles, generate, monitor and keep track of all reported incidents of trafficking in person. The program intends to provide consolidated information regarding trafficking incidents and cases collected by various agencies and sectors.</p> <p>CFO released the 2007 stock estimate of Filipinos overseas and also generates statistical reports on emigrants and other partners of foreign nationals.</p> <p>In 2008, CFO generated at least 141 statistical reports and other data/ information on registered Filipino emigrants and spouses and other partners of foreign nationals, and stock estimate of Filipinos overseas. The reports were provided to Philippine embassies and consulates, as well as requesting government agencies, private organizations, NGOs and individuals.</p>

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