

Editor's Notes

Redistributing social welfare has been undertaken in nearly all countries. This issue of the journal explains some examples of social amelioration strategies targeting groups such as the youth, overseas workers etc. It also gives interesting insights on public accountability in Papua New Guinea and in Nigeria.

Edna E.A. Co and Arthur Neame tackle issues concerning out-of-school children and youth in "Heterogeneity and Cooperation: Youth and Social Engagement in the Philippines." The authors stress that youth and youth development form a nexus around which differing sectors and agencies identify a shared platform on social development. Another fascinating dimension of social cooperation is heterogeneity, described as the respect for differences and acceptance of differing motives. Youth development and service are the goals placed above any differences; they eventually bind the key players in a social engagement.

Overseas employment has been visualized then and now as a national development platform by past and present administration. "Social Development and Philippine Overseas Employment Policy (1975-1997): Issues, Problems and Prospects" by Jorge Tigno, Ranjit Singh Rye and Teofino Macabiog details how policies relating to overseas employment promotion and deployment have affected the country's social development concerns and outlook. It also suggests certain operational parameters by which overseas labor migration and phenomena may be assessed especially as regards the more substantive concerns for social development. What is being undertaken here is an attempt to use qualitative social data to validate and substantiate the more quantifiable economic information. The study asserts that economic and non-economic indicators complement one another to give a more extensive and comprehensive perspective of the social development impacts of an equally extensive phenomenon such as overseas employment.

Kwon-Leung Tang and Sun-Woo Lee discuss welfare state development in "Explaining Social Welfare Expansion in Hong Kong and South Korea: The Relevance of Comparative Policy Paradigms of Industrialization and Labor Mobilization." This article zeroes in on two theoretical approaches: industrial society perspective and the labor mobilization model. Debates between the former and the latter assume either of these theories could offer adequate explanations of social welfare spending and development in the world. The study tests the applicability of these two comparative policy theories in the developing world and identified structural determinants of social welfare institutions in Hong Kong and South Korea.

Since the inception of Weberian bureaucracy, varied attempts and measures have been done to make it accountable vis-à-vis its publics. The last two articles in this issue are concerned with such undertaking. In "Public Service Accountability and Control Mechanisms in Papua New Guinea," Hengene Payani illustrates the numerous checks and balances in ensuring that the actions or behavior of

bureaucrats conform to the general norms and practice of the civil service. Notwithstanding however the existence of appropriate regulations, inadequate accountability still remains the biggest problem within the Papua New Guinean bureaucracy.

In "Appraisal of the Code of Conduct for Public Officers in Nigeria," A.A. Idowu gives a historical analysis of said statute together with an examination of the constitutional provisions relevant to it. Problems in implementation are also presented for perspective. In retrospect, lack of probity has remained the major shortcoming in Nigerian public administration.