

24673

intouch



A Newsletter of the World Bank
Country Office Manila

June 2002 Volume 7 No.4

WB Launches New Country Assistance Strategy for RP

US\$1 Billion in Loans for Poverty-Reduction Programs in 3 Years

The World Bank has reaffirmed its support to the development of the Philippines through its new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS), which provides for a three-year development program (July 1, 2002-June 30, 2005) that will help the country grow rapidly and reduce poverty.

The new CAS, which the Bank's Executive Board recently approved, will help the government re-establish rapid and sustained poverty-reducing growth and ensure that the poor participate in and benefit fully from development.

Poverty-Reducing Growth

The Bank will provide about US\$1 billion in loans to the Philippines over the next three years to support measures that will increase economic growth and programs that will



Education for young children remains a top priority of the Philippines CAS

Knowledge for Development Center: Better, More Accessible



The Public Information Center (PIC) of the World Bank Office Manila has been renamed Knowledge for Development Center (KDC) and is now located at the ground floor of The Taipan Place, the Bank's office building. It is open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10am to 6:30pm.

The KDC is more user-friendly and more accessible to the public and has a much wider range of development literature. It is open to researchers, students, government employees, development workers from NGOs who want to know more about the Bank's activities in the Philippines and global development issues.

The center offers the following services for free:

- Access to WB project documents, publications, and other development-related publications.
- Access to development sites in the Internet
- Special collection of CDs and videotapes on development
- On-line access to WB projects, documents and reports
- Global Jolis cataloguing system that allows users to see the collection of around 60 WB PICs around the world.

In This Issue

- GEF Grants for RP Projects **p2**
- WB's KDCs & Depository Libraries **p3**
- Top Proposals to SGP **p3**
- Know the Bank's New Staff **p4-5**
- WB Approves Loan for SEMP II **p6**
- Grant for Poverty Reduction Program **p6**
- New Publications **p8**

GEF Council OKs US\$11.95M Grants For 2 RP Projects

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council has approved two new environment projects in the Philippines with a combined grant of US\$11.95 million.

These are the coastal and biodiversity project of the Asian Conservation Foundation (\$1.6 million), and the promotion of renewable energy technologies (RETs) under the Bank's rural power-renewable energy component (\$10.35 million).

With these two projects, the total GEF grant to the Philippines amounts to US\$109.55 million for 26 projects. Created in 1991, the GEF channels multilateral funds into projects initiated by people in developing nations to create local and global environmental benefits

The GEF, which is administered by the Bank, aims to conserve biodiversity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions that lead to climate change, protect the ozone layer, clean up international waters, stop land degradation, and eliminate persistent organic pollutants.

Coastal, Marine Biodiversity

The first project, which will cost US\$16.4 million, aims to conserve significant coastal and marine biodiversity through a unique partnership between a private equity investment company, Asian Conservation Company (ACC), and a conservation foundation, Asian Conservation Foundation (ACF).

During the project's initial years, ACF will channel GEF grant funds and other donor funds to local entities such as non-government organizations and local governments to carry out conservation activities.

The activities will include conservation management, marine enforcement, information-education-communication, sustainable livelihood, biodiversity research and monitoring, and development of institutional and financial sustainability mechanisms.

Moreover, ACC investee companies will channel some of their revenues into an endowment fund to be managed by ACF. After the grant funds are fully utilized, ACF will sustain the conservation activities through ongoing contributions from ACC investee companies – additional contributions will be catalyzed from other private sector operators – and proceeds from the endowment.



The GEF supports projects that aim to conserve coastal and marine biodiversity for future generations

The ACC/ACF model is highly innovative because it engages a private equity company to leverage long-term biodiversity support and conservation finance from investee companies.

By combining the investment skills of professional fund managers with the biodiversity-related expertise of experienced conservation practitioners, the project presents a promising and highly replicable approach to achieving sustained conservation gains affecting global biodiversity.

Renewable Energy for Rural Areas

The rural power-renewable energy project, with a total cost of US\$36.85 million, will help mitigate climate change caused by greenhouse gas emissions through wider use of clean, renewable energy technologies (RETs) in power generation.

For an archipelago like the Philippines, decentralized systems are expected to be the least cost solution for many barangays that still do not have electricity. It is also expected that if market barriers to the adoption of RETs are reduced, photovoltaic systems (solar power), small hydros, and biomass power systems will be competitive as power sources.

Since a significant component of the project entails the establishment of small independent grids, opportunities for the feasible use and demonstration of stand alone RETs or diesel/hybrid RETs in minigrid situations will be sought.

RETs in minigrid systems currently suffer the vicious cycle of persistent high cost and consequently few applications worldwide. Promoting photovoltaic systems builds on successful experiences in other countries.

The two projects are part of the approved global work program that includes 20 environmental projects with total grants of \$113.7 million. Many of the projects provide opportunities for the private sector to participate by supplying technology or making investments.

“Co-financing of GEF projects is critical because it brings additional resources to the goal of obtaining global environmental benefits,” said Mohamed T. El-Ashry, chief executive officer and chairman of GEF Council. He said the projects in the work program attracted an additional US\$497.2 million in funding from other sources. This co-financing brings the value of the portfolio reflected in the work program to US\$610.9 million.”

The work program also involves significant amount of policy support being committed by governments for projects in their countries. GEF's operational policy states that projects should be country-driven and based on national priorities designed to support sustainable development.



WB Partners with University Libraries in Mindanao

Selected World Bank publications and documents are now available in the Bank's Knowledge for Development Centers (KDCs) in three universities in Mindanao.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has each been signed between the Bank and Notre Dame University in Cotabato City, University of Southeastern Philippines in Davao City, and Western Mindanao State University in Zamboanga City.

The Bank designates the library of each university as a depository for documents, print publications, and CD-ROM products published by the Bank.

"As a knowledge bank, it is important for the World Bank to reach out to the regions and provinces, where information about the Bank and its activities through publications and reports are made available," Country Director Robert Vance Pulley said.

The Bank now has 10 KDCs and depository libraries in the Philippines—5 in Luzon, 2 in Visayas and 3 in Mindanao.

At the same time, the Bank and the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) have agreed to establish and operate the AIM-WB Development Resource Center.

The Development Resource Center aims to provide the public, particularly policy makers, facilities and services that will inspire advocacy and action through the latest knowledge and information on development, as well as through videoconferencing and other distance learning initiatives.

AIM has been an active strategic partner



The new Knowledge for Development Center at The Taipan Place is open from 10am to 6.30pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays

of the Bank through its Global Development Learning Network and various programs for the past two years. Since June 2001, for instance, AIM has served as a site host for 20 videoconferences.

WB's KDCs and Depository Libraries in the Philippines

**University of the Philippines
Los Banos**
University Library
College, Laguna 4031
Contact Person: Ms Leonor Gregorio
lbg@mudspring.uplb.edu.ph

University of Philippines Diliman
School of Economics Library
Diliman, Quezon City
Philippines 1101
(632) 927-2044
Contact Person: Ms. Rosemarie Rosalie
fv@nicole.upd.edu.ph

**National Economic and Development Authority
Library**
Development Information Staff
Amber Avenue, Pasig City 1600
(632) 631-0945 to 56 loc 111
Contact Person: Flor Don-Santos
FDGdonsantos@neda.gov.ph

Asian Institute of Management
Development Resource Center-
Knowledge for Development Center
Joseph R. McMicking Campus
123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
(632) 892-4011 loc. 296
Contact Person: Ms. Kookie Kapulungan
kookie@aim.edu.ph

Saint Mary's University
University Library
Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Contact Person: Mr Enrique Cayaban
library@smu.edu.ph

Panay State Polytechnic College
Department of Library Services
Mambusao, Capiz 5807
Contact Person: Ms Aurea G Bernabe

University of San Carlos
P. Del Rosario Street, Cebu 6000
Contact Person: Dr Marilou Tadlip

Western Mindanao State University
College of Public Administration & Development
Studies
Normal Road, Baliwasan, Zamboanga City
(062) 993-0944
Contact Person: Ms Salud Laguio

Notre Dame University
University Data Resource Center
Notre Dame Avenue, Cotabato City
(064) 421-2698 loc. 325
Contact Person: Ms Sonia de la Cruz

University of Southeastern Philippines
Obrero, Davao City
(082) 221-7741
Contact Person: Ms. Teresita Eco



7 NGOs Get Funds from Small Grants Program

The World Bank Small Grants Program (SGP) has selected for fiscal year 2002 the top seven proposals from various non-government organizations (NGOs) that are mostly based and operating in the provinces.

For fiscal year 2002 (July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002), the SGP focused on supporting activities for the empowerment of marginalized and vulnerable groups.

The top 7 proposals, whose total requested budget amounts to US\$63,682, are as follows:

1. **Women's Forum of Region IX**, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights, \$10,000
2. **Samahan ng Katutubong Ayta sa Pastolan**, Development of an Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan for the Pastolan

Aetas, \$10,000.

3. **Balay Alternative Legal Advocates for Development in Mindanao**, Strengthening of Barangay Justice Systems in 11 Barangays in Northern Mindanao, \$10,312
4. **Nazareth Street Home, Inc.**, Increasing the Participation of Children in Local Governance, \$10,000.
5. **ABS-CBN Foundation Inc.**, Production of a Video Documentary on the Peace-Building Efforts in Central Mindanao, \$6,246
6. **Institute for the Development of Educational and Ecological Alternatives**, Community-Based Ecological Waste Management Program, \$10,625

7. **Misamis Occidental Development Institute for Community Empowerment**, Empowering People to Uplift Human Dignity and Participate in Transforming Their Communities, \$7,436

The maximum amount approved for each proponent is \$10,000. The proponent is expected to cover for the amount in excess of the grant ceiling

The SGP supports activities that promote networking, dialogue and dissemination of information and enhance partnership among various stakeholders.

Such activities may include, but not limited to, workshops, seminars, publication or production of audio-visual materials, information dissemination, dialogue and other innovative networking efforts



Get to Know the Bank's New Staff

The past fiscal year (July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002) has seen a number of new faces in the Bank. We introduce some of them to you. -EDITOR



(seated) Monchette Balce, (standing) Cielo Sy and Joe Tuyor

CONSUELO "CIELO" AMORANTO SY
Office Assistant

"Now, with financial institutions like the World Bank really trying to help the government implement much needed reforms and providing loans and grants, maybe, just maybe, we have hope."

She's called Cielo, the tall and fair lady at the Bank's reception desk, who smiles and greets every visitor, "Good morning Sir. What can I do for you?" She's the first person you get to see when you enter the Bank's lobby on the 23rd floor.

Cielo has been working with the Bank for 13 months – nine months as a contractual employee and four months as a regular employee effective January 24, 2002. She said she joined the Bank because of the working hours and proximity of the Bank to her home. "Not to forget of course, that you have the privilege of working for a very prestigious financial institution."

She described working for the Bank as "an awakening of some sort." "I used to be

oblivious and indifferent to the things happening around me. I even stopped reading the newspaper to keep me from getting depressed with the news," she said. "Now, with financial institutions like the World Bank really trying to help the government implement much needed reforms and providing loans and grants, maybe, just maybe, we have hope."

About her co-workers, she doesn't have any complaints. "They are very nice and easy to get along with, owing to the fact that they work in a multi-cultural environment. They are used to dealing with different types of people of different cultures. Personal differences are accepted and handled maturely," she said. "I also treasure my new-found friends."

Cielo enjoys watching movies, going out with friends, and doing crossword puzzles. She's also into bowling now because of the upcoming yearly Bank tournament. "Weekends, I spend with my family; going to theme parks, and visiting relatives."

MONSERRAT "MONCHETTE" BALCE
Team Assistant

"It's funny when some people learn that I work at the World Bank, I inevitably get questions like "May I take out a loan?" or "How's the banking industry?" I have to explain to them that we're a different kind of bank."

Monchette joined the Bank in March 2002 as a team assistant. She provides administrative support to the Program Officer, as well as to the Country Director in the absence of the Executive Assistant. A graduate of BS in Hotel and Restaurant Administration, Monchette worked for a pharmaceutical firm for 12 years and had been in "semi-retirement" for four months before joining the Bank.

She remembered how she found her first job. "While waiting for hotel jobs, I applied as a sales assistant in a pharmaceutical firm located about 10 minutes from where I lived. I was accepted. After a year, I became an administrative assistant. I stayed in the company

for 12 years, going through two mergers in the process. By the third merger, I decided to leave the company when a redundancy package was offered." At the time, she was a field support specialist who took care of the procurement of promotional materials, incentive program management, and competitive intelligence database.

During her "semi-retirement" – which she enjoyed because she spent more time with her family – she set two conditions before applying again for a job. First, she wanted to join another multinational company. Second, the office should be close to home so she could spend more time with her family. Then the Bank was looking for a temporary personnel in June 2001. "I took that job at the Bank, which again was about 10 minutes away from home. My initial contract was for a month, but it was extended for several months until a permanent position was opened late last year and I applied for it."

"I enjoy working at the Bank. It's a whole new experience for me after working in the pharmaceutical industry for 12 years," she said. "It's funny when some people learn that I work at the World Bank, I inevitably get questions like "May I take out a loan?" or "How's the banking industry?" I have to explain to them that we're a different kind of bank."

Born and raised in Zamboanga City, Monchette is married, and has a five-year-old son. "I enjoy cooking, baking, knitting and ribbon embroidery, trying out new restaurants, and going to the bookstore with my family on weekends."

JOE TUYOR
Operations Officer-Environment

"I find the job meaningful and rewarding not only because of my personal contribution towards sustainable development, but also because I am able to influence a great deal of stakeholders towards achieving that goal."

Joe Tuyor joined the bank on May 2, 2002 as

Operations Officer -Environment. Prior to joining the Bank, he was an Environmental Technical Services Specialist at the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) -Energy Development Corporation, where he worked for seven years.

"It is both an honor and a privilege to be working with the Bank," he said. "My greatest challenge as Operations Officer for the Environment is to ensure that the Bank's policies on environmental safeguards are in place both in the design and implementation phases of the projects and subprojects."

Joe explained that this would mean working closely and patiently with both the Bank's task teams and the borrowers, other concerned agencies, and even civil society. "I find the job meaningful and rewarding, not only because of my personal contribution towards sustainable development, but also because I am able to influence a great deal of stakeholders towards achieving that goal."

Joe is a devoted family man. "After work, I go straight home. I enjoy playing with my kids. I love mountain climbing, bird watching, and scuba diving."

KEITH OBLITAS
Lead Operations Officer and
Team Leader
Rural Development and
Natural Resources Sector Team



Keith Oblitas recently joined the Bank's Manila Office as the Team Leader of the Rural Development and Natural Resources Management Team, which promotes sustained agricultural development, investment in rural infrastructure, research and extension programs, and natural resource management.

His team has 10 ongoing projects in varying stages of implementation. Some of these projects are Rural Finance III, Water Resources Development, Community-Based Resource Management, Mindanao Rural Development,

SZOPAD Social Fund, Land Administration and Management, and Agrarian Reform Communities Development (ARCDP).

Projects under preparation include ARMM Social Fund for Peace and Development, ARCDP II, Diversified Farm Income and Market Development, and River Basin and Watershed Development.

Keith is an agricultural economist who has worked primarily in Africa and South Asia on rural development and water resources management. His last assignment was as Team Leader of the India Water Team, handling water resources management, irrigation and rural water supply, and sanitation projects. He believes that water is both an economic and social good and that water is best managed at the lowest appropriate level. Recent publications include a report on the state of water resource management in India and co-authorship of a Bank Technical Paper entitled, *Transferring Irrigation Management to Farmers in Andhra, Pradesh, India*.

He likes the decentralized and community-driven development approaches being developed in the Philippines, commenting that "this is likely the best way to go if the country's natural resources are to be protected and for rural development to effectively reach the poor."

SUSAN HUME

Country Program Coordinator for the Philippines

"I'm especially excited about working on the Philippines. From what I've heard and seen so far, this is one of the best jobs in the Bank."

Susan Hume recently joined the World Bank's team in the Philippines as the Country Program Coordinator based in Washington, DC. She replaces Heidi Hennrich-Hanson, who has moved to another position and region. Her job involves working closely with the Bank Country Director and staff in Manila and Washington, as well as the Government, to ensure that the Bank's program is coordinated and effectively implemented.

"I feel very privileged to have a career with the World Bank Group. Not only because of the challenging and interesting work, but the opportunity to learn about different



countries and cultures. For this reason, I'm especially excited about working on the Philippines. From what I've heard and seen so far, this is one of the best jobs in the Bank."

Since joining the Bank Group in the mid-1980s, Susan has held a variety of positions. Before joining the Philippines team, Susan was a member of the Bank's Private Sector Advisory Services Department, where she was involved in promoting private participation in infrastructure. She has also

worked on telecommunications projects in East and South Asia and Latin America.

In addition, Susan acquired several years of experience in the Caribbean and Latin America, including taking a leave of absence from the Bank to work with non-government organizations in Nicaragua. Earlier in her career, Susan worked in the Bank's economic research complex and also in the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), a Bank affiliate.

Susan earned economic degrees from Georgetown University (BS) and Johns Hopkins University (MA). She also attended Stanford University Graduate Business School for an executive development program.

Susan commutes to work from Virginia, where she lives with her journalist husband and 14-year-old daughter. Any spare time that she has is spent on house and garden projects, her daughter's activities, her book club, and family outings.



WB Approves US\$100 Million Loan for SEMP II

The World Bank has approved a US\$100-million loan for the Philippine government's Second Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP II).

The approval of the loan was consistent with the Bank's new Country Assistance Strategy, which focuses on improving the quality of and efficiency of basic education, public health, and social services in the Philippines.

The new project follows the first SEMP, which has been supported by the Bank with US\$100-million loan. The first SEMP has led to systemic reforms and resulted in a net budget savings of US\$20 million to the Department of Education.

The second SEMP aims to improve basic services by enhancing performance and governance in three social sector departments – education, health, and social welfare. It will also support the

school building system program being implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

Task Team Leader Jayshree Balachander said the poor, who rely heavily on publicly-provided basic social services, will benefit most from this project.

"The project will increase the availability of textbooks, new and improved classrooms, and drugs for key public health programs. It will also support barangay-centered activities for social services in poor municipalities," she said.

The second SEMP also aims to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of public social sector agencies through strengthened procurement and financial management,



More textbooks, more classrooms for school children

improved allocation and utilization of resources, improvements in the work environment of the relevant agencies, and increased transparency, accountability, and responsiveness through public expenditure tracking.



Grant for RP's Poverty Reduction Program

The World Bank has approved a US\$294,000 ASEM Grant for Poverty Reduction through Community Empowerment for the Philippines.

The grant came from the ASEM Asian Financial Crisis Response Fund, which is administered by the World Bank. ASEM stands for Asia-Europe Meeting.

It aims to help the Philippine government strengthen and expand its Kalahi Program, a pilot community-driven poverty reduction program which will be supported by the Bank with a proposed US\$100-million loan. Kalahi stands for Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan or "linking hands in the fight against poverty."

The grant will be used to finance activities related to technical assistance from poverty experts and systematic client feedback. Specifically, poverty experts will review and recommend improvements to the Kalahi Program and will help do the following:

- Design, institutional delivery mechanism monitoring and evaluation systems;
- Measure the impact of the Kalahi Program on poverty; and
- Track the flow of funds under the Kalahi Program from the central government to local communities.

The grant will also be used in disseminating

the results of the surveys through technical assistance and workshops. The activities, which will be carried out by the Bank on behalf of the Philippine government, are expected to be completed by August 31, 2002.

The Kalahi Program will be the flagship national anti-poverty program of the Arroyo Administration.

The program aims to improve the ongoing Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDSS), which has been one of the government's most successful anti-poverty programs.

The Kalahi Program will be built on the following five pillars:

- Asset reform – redistributing physical and resource assets to the poor
- Human development services – access to basic education, health and nutrition, shelter, potable water, sanitation and electricity
- Employment and livelihood activities – boosting agriculture and fisheries activities and providing seed capital to micro and small businesses of the poor
- Participation in governance of basic sectors – strengthening political participation and cultural expression
- Social protection and security against violence by reducing the risk and vulnerability of the poor to the immediate effects of economic

shocks and disasters

The Kalahi Program will differ from the CIDSS as it will introduce the following innovations:

- An open menu for selection of project activities
- Selection of proposals through an inter-barangay competitive forum
- Community management of project funds, including community contracting
- Deepening of facilitation and broadening of transparency requirements

CIDSS is one of the social services programs being supported by the Bank's ongoing Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP). It aims to reduce the unmet minimum basic needs of disadvantaged families within poor communities. It is implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and Development and local government units.

These basic needs include health, food and nutrition, clothing, water and sanitation, income and livelihood, shelter, peace and order, public safety, basic education and literacy, family care, and people's participation in community affairs.

After eight years of implementation, CIDSS now covers 1,084 municipalities and 3,893 barangays.





WB Launches New Country Assistance Strategy for RP

improve the access of the poor to basic services such as health, education, electricity, water and roads, as well as to productive assets like land and credit.

But the amount of lending could go as high as US\$1.7 billion depending on how the government could quickly initiate policy and institutional reforms, mobilize revenues and budget management, and improve performance of programs and projects assisted by the Bank.

Further, the Bank will provide analysis and technical assistance to improve the delivery of services to the poor, strengthen the business environment, and support peace and development in Mindanao.

"As the Philippines emerges from a period of modest economic growth and persistent poverty, it is more important than ever that the Bank support programs that improve the lives of Filipinos, especially the poor," said Country Director for the Philippines Robert Vance Pulley.

Mr. Pulley emphasized that priority would be given to spurring investment, creating jobs, and mobilizing adequate public resources for education, health, rural infrastructure, and agricultural modernization.

He also cited the recent government actions to restore fiscal discipline by meeting its 2002 deficit target and commitment to fiscal consolidation by 2006; implement key structural reforms such as the passage of the Power Restructuring Bill and the enactment of the Anti-Money Laundering Law; and continue initiatives to achieve peace and development in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao.

'Fuller Participation in Development'

The Bank's Executive Board also agreed with the strategy's key objectives of sustained growth and fuller participation of the poor in development.

The Directors also noted that the new CAS was built on the government's Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP), which identifies poverty and unemployment as the country's serious economic problems.

The MTPDP, which outlines the Arroyo government's development program from 2001-2004, believes that if the government is

to win the war against poverty at the end of the decade, the economy must grow on a sustained basis and across all sectors while generating the greatest employment.

Further, the Directors were pleased to see that the strategic objectives were consistent with the Millennium Development Goals, which were endorsed by the member countries of the United Nations in September 2000. The goals are mutually reinforcing and are directed at reducing poverty in all its forms.

One of the goals, for instance, is to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the number of poor people whose income is less than US\$1 a day. Today, 1.2 billion people exist on less than US\$1 a day and about 3 billion survive on less than US\$2 a day.

Multi-stakeholder Consultations

The Bank's Directors also noted that the preparation of the Bank's strategy benefited from government inputs and broad multistakeholder consultations, and that the strategy builds on partnerships with other

donors.

The new CAS was prepared in consultation with the government, private sector, academic institutions, non-government organizations (NGOs) and civil society across the country. A series of multi-stakeholder consultations were held during the last quarter of 2001 to review the Bank's past CAS for the Philippines (July 1999 to June 2002) and prepare the new CAS.

The CAS for the Philippines is reviewed every three years to ensure that it remain responsive to the development needs of the country. The resulting assistance program is then reflected in a new CAS.

The Bank's mission is to help countries fight poverty by providing member-countries with loans and policy advice, technical assistance and other non-lending services. Its assistance to the Philippines is governed by the Country Assistance Strategy, which identifies and specifies various development objectives and priorities for the member-country.



Growth to Benefit the Poor

Through its new Country Assistance Strategy for the Philippines (July 2002-June 2005), the World Bank will help the government re-establish rapid and sustained poverty reduction by achieving poverty-reducing growth and ensuring that the poor participate in and benefit fully from development.

The Bank will assist the government achieve poverty-reducing growth by:

- Strengthening fiscal policy by improving the tax collection efforts and containing contingent liabilities.
- Addressing banking vulnerabilities and deepen the capital markets.
- Enhancing competitiveness through trade and regulatory reforms, especially in agriculture, services, and small-and - medium enterprise development.
- Raising productivity by addressing infrastructure bottlenecks.

- Improving governance in public and corporate sectors.

To ensure that the poor participate in and fully benefit from development, the Bank will assist in:

- Improving investments in education and health, and ensure access by the poor
- Focusing on efficient provision of other basic services such as shelter, water supply and sanitation, and rural power and other infrastructure.
- Increasing access to productive assets such as land, technical extension services and credit.
- Strengthening organizational and financial capacity of the poor to engage in local development activities.
- Improve programs to protect the environment and natural resource base.





**Global Development Finance
2002 (Analysis and Summary Tables):
Financing the Poorest Countries**

April 2002
268 pages

Due to increased global integration, the prospects for developing countries are now more closely tied to trends in global growth and trade patterns. This year's Global Development Finance (GDF) 2002 examines the current global economic slowdown and the prospects for global economic recovery.

The key themes that emerge from this report stress that further progress in poverty reduction will require improvements in the investment climate in developing countries, an increase in the financial assistance from industrial countries, and an opening of industrial country markets.

The two volumes, Analysis and Summary Tables and Country Tables, are available as a set. Both provide expert commentary and analysis on global economic growth and complete statistical data on 136 countries that report debt under the World Bank Debtor Reporting System. There are over 30 summary tables, which provide a statistical overview.

The Analysis and Summary Tables is also available separately. It offers expert commentary on prospects for global economic growth, private capital flows to developing countries, and trends in net official finance.

The Country Tables presents detailed data on 136 countries that report public and publicly guaranteed debt under the World Bank Debtor Reporting System. Internal debt stocks and flows, major economic aggregates, and debt restructuring are provided for 1970, 1980, 1990, and 1993 through 2000.

This year's edition presents an overview of developments in capital flows in 2000, along with summary tables designed to facilitate cross-country comparisons of key debt statistics and tables on debt and resource flows for selected country groups.

As in past editions, GDF 2002 is also available in CD-ROM, which contains all information in both print volumes. It lets you work interactively with data, display maps and graphs, and export data into many popular formats.



**Combating Corruption in the
Philippines: An Update**

Philippine Country Management Unit
East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
September 2001
51 pages
Available free, upon request

The report, an update of the World Bank's May 2000 report on combating corruption in the Philippines, reviews and assesses the progress of the Philippine government's anti-corruption activities during 2000-2001.

The report reviews developments related to fighting corruption in the Philippines since the last report. Further, it presents a set of updated recommendations for consideration by the government and other anti-corruption champions in the country.

The recommendations include a list of eight priority action areas where faster paced and results-oriented implementation will enhance the anti-corruption program and help improve investors confidence.

- Increase the involvement of civil society in the oversight of government activities
- Accelerate reforms in procurement, budget and finance management
- Strengthen mechanisms for the disclosure of public officials assets and liabilities
- Implement reforms in the judiciary, as outlined in the Supreme Court's Judicial Reform Action Program
- Amend bank secrecy laws, pass and implement an anti-money laundering bill, and improve the quality and transparency of bank supervision
- Introduce electoral and campaign finance reforms
- Implement corruption prevention programs for the most corrupt-prone government agencies
- Create a strong management structure to push the implementation of agency-specific corruption program

To order World Bank Group publications, contact:
International Booksources Center Inc.
1127-A Antipolo Street, Barangay Venezuela
Makati City, Tel. (632) 896-6501 / 6505 /
6507 Fax (632) 896-1741

Asian Institute of Management
Development Resource Center-
Knowledge for Development Center
Joseph R. McMicking Campus
123 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
(632) 892-4011 loc. 296

Or visit our 24-hour online website at
www.worldbank.org/publications

To borrow, contact:
Knowledge for Development Center
Ground Floor, The Taipan Place,
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel 917-3034 / 637-5855

intouch 

InTouch is a quarterly newsletter of the
World Bank Country Office Manila.

All correspondence may be addressed to:
The World Bank Country Office Manila
23/F, The Taipan Place
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. 637-5855 to 64

Editorial Staff: Robert Vance Pulley, *editorial adviser*
Leonora A. Gonzales, *editor*
Charito C. Sanalila, *production assistant*

The World Bank Country Office Manila
23/F The Taipan Place
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Place
Stamp
Here