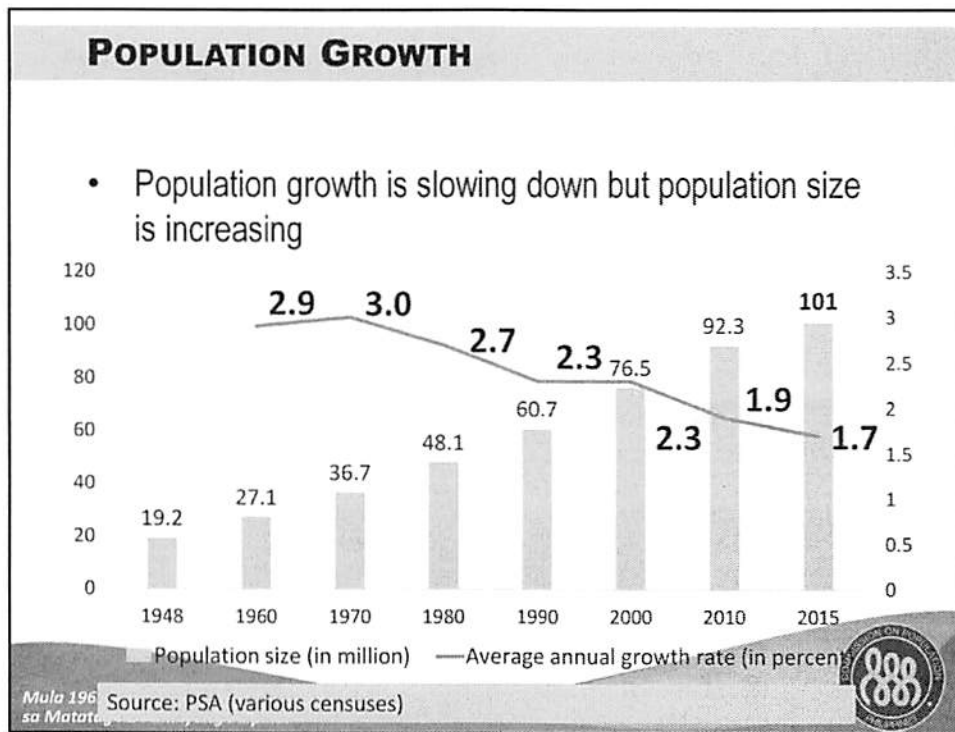
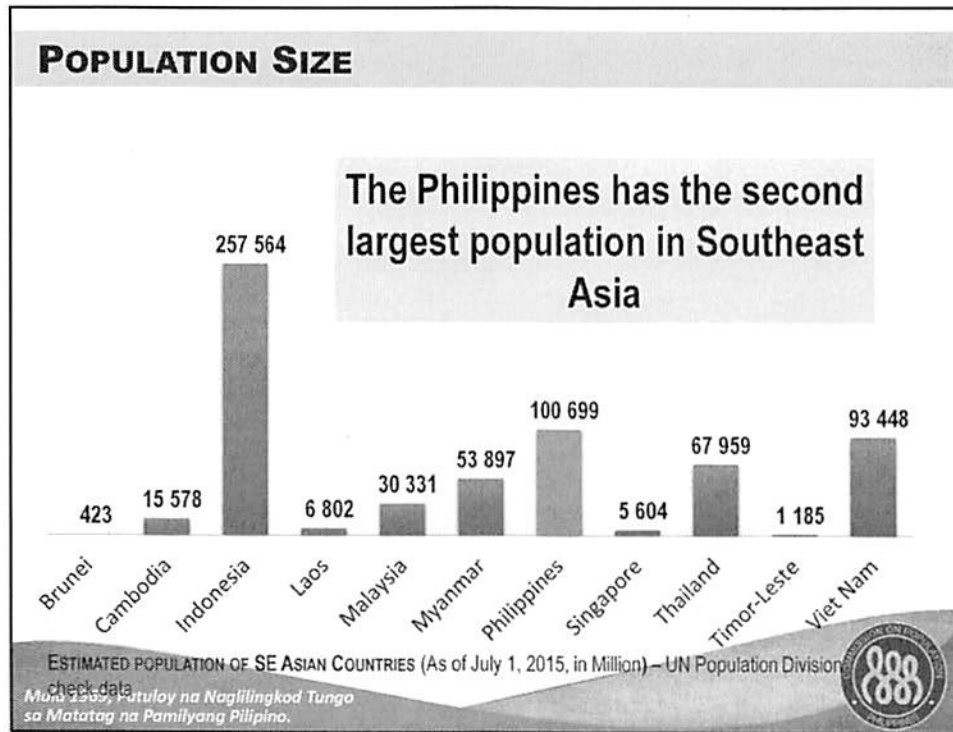


- Greetings to the panel
- The Philippines is grateful for the privilege of sharing to you our country's experience and emerging issues in line with the thematic concern of changing age structure and sustainable development. We hope that our experience can contribute to deeper understanding of the impact of changing age structure on sustainable development particularly within the context of a middle-income country such as the Philippines.
- We also hope to gain some technical inputs from the distinguished members of the panel and from other countries in analyzing our population situation and developing interventions that responds to population issues related to changing age structure particularly in reaching and optimizing the window of demographic dividend.



Let me first discuss with you some current demographic scenario in the Philippines. As of out 2015 Population Census, Filipinos already numbers to 101 million and growing at an annual rate of 1.7%.



This makes the Philippines the second most populated country in Southeast Asia and the twelfth in the world.

REGIONAL POPULATION

Region	2010	2015
NCR	11,855,975	12,877,253
CAR	1,616,867	1,722,006
Ilocos Region (I)	4,748,372	5,026,128
Cagayan Valley (II)	3,229,163	3,451,410
Central Luzon (III)	10,137,737	11,218,177
CALABARZON (IVA)	12,609,803	14,414,774
MIMAROPA (IVB)	2,744,671	2,963,360
Bicol Region (V)	5,420,411	5,796,989
Western Visayas (VI)	7,102,438	4,477,247
Central Visayas (VII)	6,800,180	6,041,903
Negros Island Region		4,414,131
Eastern Visayas (VIII)	4,101,322	4,440,150
Zamboanga Peninsula	3,407,353	3,629,783
Northern Mindanao (X)	4,297,323	4,689,302
Davao Region (XI)	4,468,563	4,893,318
SOCCSKSARGEN (XII)	4,109,571	4,545,276
ARMM	3,256,140	3,781,387
CARAGA (XIII)	2,429,224	2,596,709

- In 2015, one in three (38%) Filipinos was living in Metro Manila, CALABARZON, and Central Luzon (mega-regions in the country)

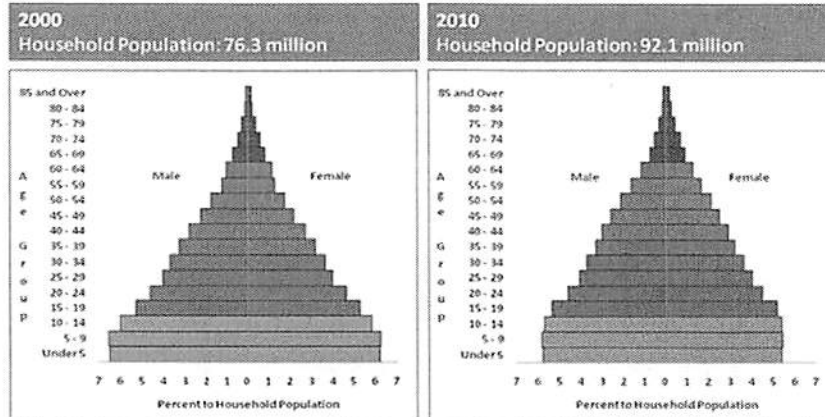
Mula 1969, Patulay na Naglililingkod Tunga sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.

Source: PSA (2010 and 2015 Census)

Filipinos are distributed unevenly across its sub-national administrative regions. In 2015, about one in three (38%) Filipinos was living in the three regions (out of 17 regions) urbanized regions.

CHANGE IN AGE STRUCTURE

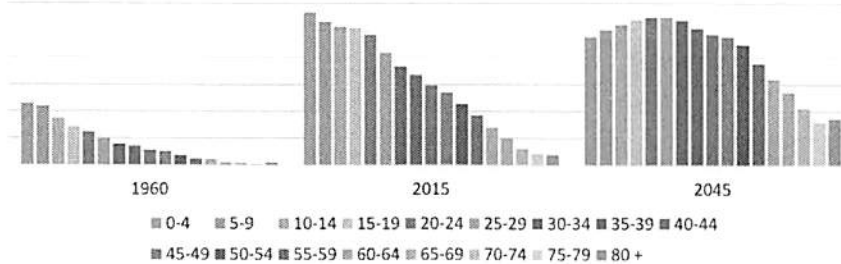
- Population base (0-14) is slowly constricting/declining
- Working age and older population is gradually increasing



The age structure of the Philippine population remains relatively young with 33% of the population belonging to age group 0-14 years (children) and 63% to working age population. Over the years, the population base of the country is slowly constricting while the youth and the working age population is expanding.

CHANGE IN AGE STRUCTURE

Total Population in 1960 and Projected Population in 2015 and 2045 by Age Group



Age group	1960	2015	2045
0-14	46%	32%	21%
15-64	52%	63%	67%
65 +	3%	5%	11%
Population	7,087,685	101,562,300	142,095,100

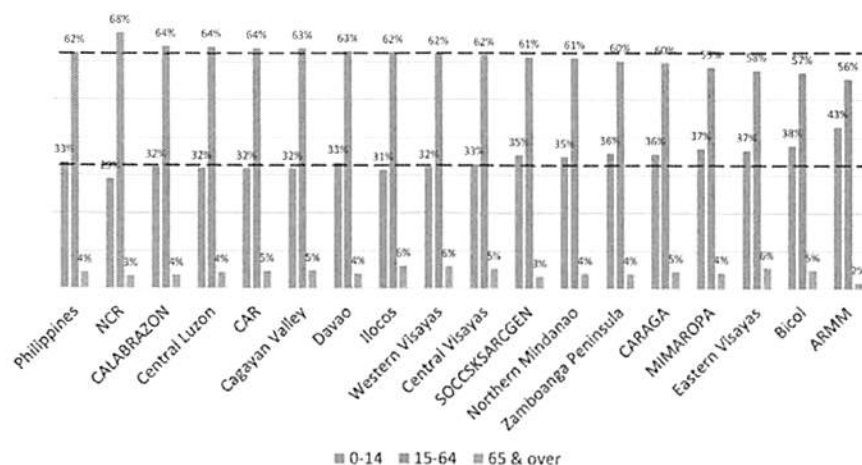
Mula 1960
sa Matatag

Source: PSA (2010 CPH and Population Projections, Medium Assumptions)



By the year 2045, it is projected that the percentage of 15-64 years old will reach around 67% from 52% in the 1960's. Moreover, the proportion of children (0-14) will drop to 21% from 46% in the 1960's. Older population (65 years and over) is likewise projected to increase to 11% in 2045 from 3% in 1960.

Percent Distribution of Population by Broad Age Groups and by Region, 2010



Herrin Final Report December 2015

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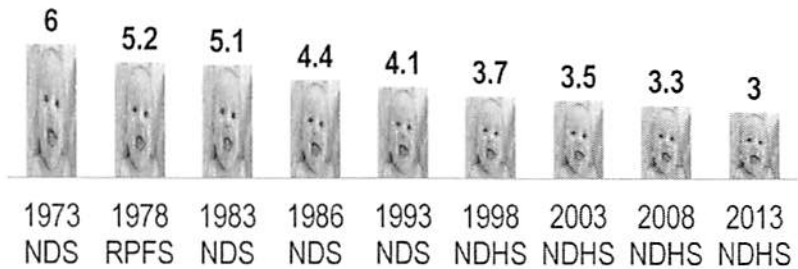
By sub-national or regional population age structures, our highly urbanized regions are now experiencing youth bulge as young members of the labor force continue to move to urban areas. For example, Metro Manila, our premier capital region and 100% urban, has already 68% of population aged 15-64 years. Other two highly urbanized regions – Regions 3 and 4 – has 64% of their population belonging to the working age.

MAJOR CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

*Mula 1969, Patuloy na Naglilingkod Tunga
sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.*



The slow decline in age 0-14 is because of prevailing high fertility among women

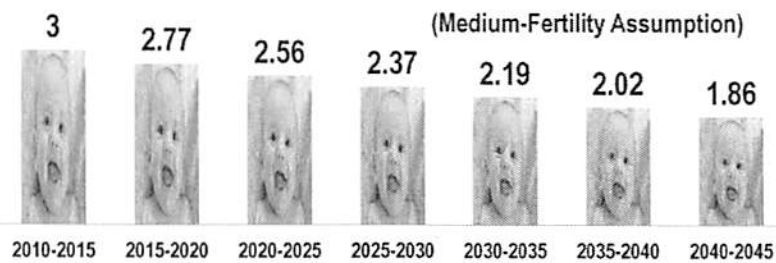


- The Philippines has a TFR of 3 children – 2013 NDHS
- The TFR was reduced by 2 children in the earlier two decades (1973-1993) and only 1 child in the recent two decades (1993-2013)

Mula 1960s, nagkaroon ng pagpapaligay sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.

The increasing population and specifically slow decline in age 0-14 is because of the prevailing high fertility among Filipino women. The country's total fertility rate has stagnated to 3 children since 2003 from 4 children in 1993.

REPLACEMENT FERTILITY IS PROJECTED TO BE REACHED IN 2035



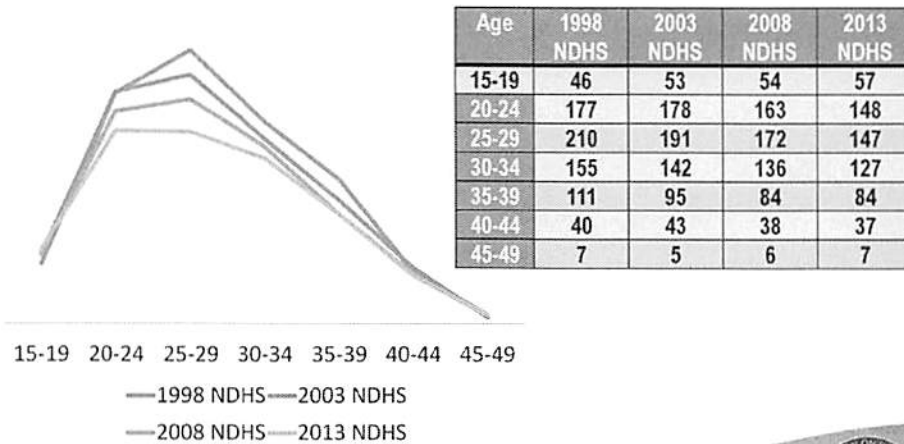
- With high fertility, the Philippines remain in second phase of demographic dividend

Mula 1969, Patuloy na Naglilingkod Tunga sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.



Given the current level and trend of fertility in the country, it is expected that replacement fertility level will be reached in the Philippines starting 2035.

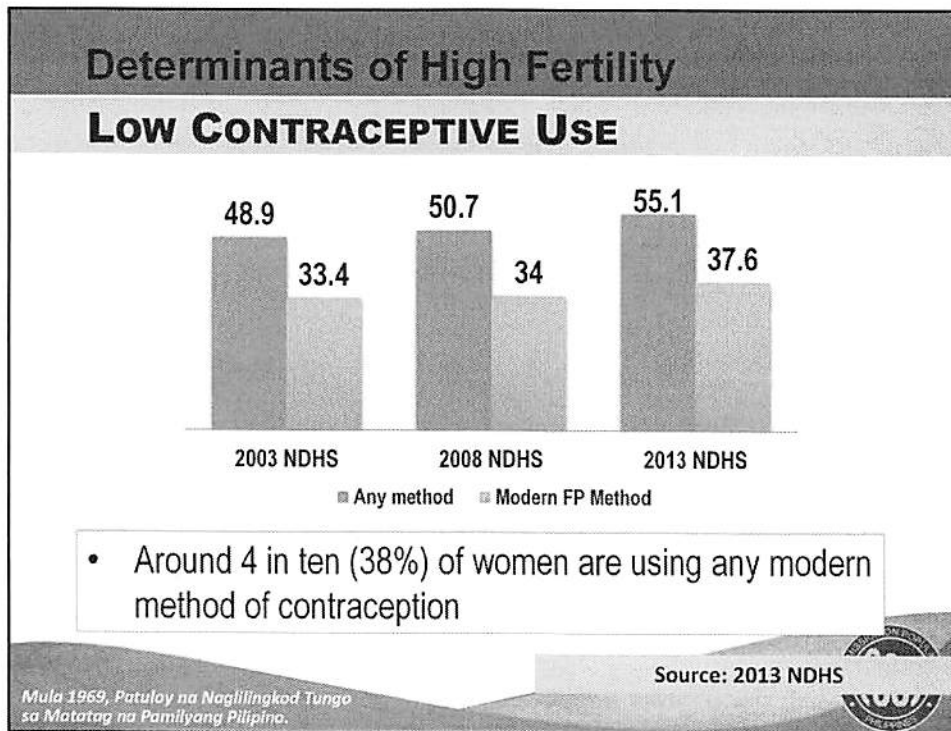
High fertility is sustained by increasing births among adolescents



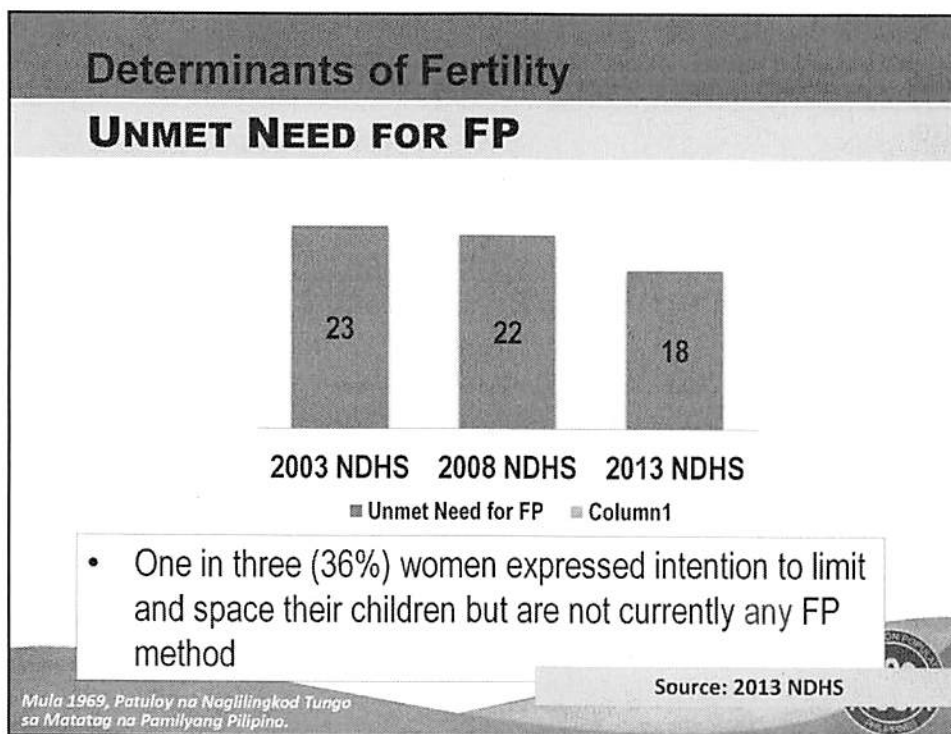
Mula 1969, Patuloy na Naglilingkod Tunga sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.



Such high total fertility rate is basically sustained by increasing births among adolescents (15-19). Age specific fertility rate among women 15-19 has been increasing from 46 births per 1000 livebirths in 1993 to 57births/1,000 livebirths in 2013.



High fertility is likewise caused by low level of modern contraceptive use. In 2013, only about 4 in 10 (38%) of women were using any modern method of contraception.



As such, unmet need for family planning remains high. One in five (18%) Filipino women expressed intention to limit and space their children but are not currently using any modern method of family planning.

Demographic Impact to Economic Development

- The country's gross domestic product grew at an average of 6.1 percent during the period 2010-2016, the fastest 6-year moving average since 1978
- The more serious criticism against the Philippines' growth profile is the stark inequality in development
 - The per capita Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) in the National Capital Region more than twice that in CALABARZON (Region 4A), and more than twelve times that in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao MM (lowest per capita GRDP).

While the country is experiencing gradual change in its population structure that may render a window of demographic dividend in the coming years, the capacity of the country to achieve and optimize the benefit from this demographic phenomenon is likewise defined by important socio-economic preconditions. In terms of the economic situation in the country, our gross domestic product grew at an average of 6.1% during the period 2010-2016 – the fastest 6-year moving average since the 1978. However, the more serious concern in terms of economic growth in the country is the inequitable distribution of income across regions. The per capita gross regional domestic product in the National Capital Region (the capital region in the country) is more than twice that in Region 4 – the second most urbanized region – and more than twelve times that in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, which has the lowest per capital GRDP. It is relevant to note that the level of GRDP across regions increases with the number of population.

Demographic Impact to Economic Development

- Youth unemployment rate was reduced from 16.6% in 2010 to 11.6% in 2016
 - Continuing surplus of labor facilitating international labor migration
- Overall poverty rate is at 21.6% in 2016
- At the elementary level, net enrolment rate (NER) reached 91 percent in school year (SY) 2015-2016
- NER at the secondary level increased from 64.70 percent in 2010 to 68.15 percent in 2015

The country's capacity to reach the opportunity of demographic dividend is likewise challenged by the rate by which the country is utilizing its labor force. Overall, jobs and economic opportunities have not paced with the increase in young population in the country. Because of the rapid increase in the new entrants to the labor force, unemployment remains high among the youth although youth unemployment was already reduced from 17% in 2010 to 12% in 2016. This is primarily because of the lack of available jobs for the new entrants to the labor force resulting to high surplus of labor which further facilitates international labor migration.

The overall poverty rate is also a remaining challenge as it stands at 22% in 2016. Nonetheless, some human capital development situation provides some bright prospects as net enrollment rate at the elementary level is at high 91% and NER at the secondary level has increased from 65% in 2010 to 68% in 2015. The overall health conditions in the country is likewise improving as the life expectancy at birth for both females and males in the Philippines was higher by 4.5 years from the world average's life expectancy at birth of 67.2 years.

Challenges in Population Policy

- Prevailing legal barrier to the full implementation of the RH law in the country (i.e. issuance of temporary restraining order for the distribution and dispensing of subdermal implants and issuance of certificate of product registration for modern contraceptive products)
- Dwindling financial support for RH from development partners and international communities

In terms of demographic intervention, one of the greatest challenge our country is facing right now is its limited capacity to fully implement the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law (RA 10354) which aims to provide universal reproductive health care. As of now, the Supreme Court has a prevailing temporary restraining order for the distribution and provision by the Department of Health of subdermal implants and for the issuance or renewal of certificate of product registration for modern contraceptive products. Starting 2018, if the legal barrier will not be resolved immediately, all existing CPRs will expire, thus, rendering the unavailability of many family planning methods especially among the poor.

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

*Mula 1969, Patuloy na Naglilingkod Tunga
sa Matatag na Pamilyang Pilipino.*



Key Actions Done

- New Administration issued policy statement and Executive Order for the attainment of zero unmet need for modern family planning and full implementation of the RPRH law
- Integrated the full implementation of the RH law as one of the socio-economic agenda of the new administration
- Explicitly included in the Philippine Development Plan for 2017-2022 policies and actions towards achieving and optimizing demographic dividend as a result of changing age structure

In the light of these demographic and socio-economic prospects and challenges, the Philippine government is taking actions to accelerate the opportunity for demographic dividend as an imminent prospect due to changing age structure in the country. From its demographic component, the new administration has issued necessary policies through executive order mandating all government agencies and stakeholders in fully implementing the reproductive health law. Recognizing the changing age structure as a potential driver of economic growth in the country, the new administration has likewise explicitly included strategies and key actions towards achieving and optimizing demographic dividend in the Philippine Development Plan for 2017-2022, which is the national blueprint for development in the country.

Key Actions Done

- Intensified policies and programs for Human Capital Development:
 - Continuing implementation of educational reforms (e.g. K12, free college/tertiary education)
 - Intensified implementation of the Philippine Health Agenda (universal health care)
- Initiatives in improving the quality of human capital is aimed at preparing the human resource for the optimization of demographic dividend

Key strategies for achieving demographic dividend includes interventions in improving the human capital formation such as continuing implementation of educational reforms (Kto12 initiatives and free college or tertiary education) and intensified implementation of the Philippine Health Agenda which aims to provide universal health care (All for Health towards Health for All). As a strategy, the country shall invest in human capital development to prepare the population towards optimizing fully the demographic dividend as soon as the opportunity comes in.

Key Actions Done

- Improving mechanisms for optimizing the use of human capital
 - Continuing job creation and employment/livelihood programs
 - Interdependent urban-rural development
 - Pursuing economic reforms (e.g. investments in infrastructures) through the Philippine Development Agenda

To prepare for the full optimization and use of human capital, initiatives in creating job and economic opportunities is being intensified in partnership with the private sector along with economic reforms which is geared towards creating equitable distribution of income and resources across regions.

TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING THE ICPD AND SDGs

- The country's initiatives to reach the demographic dividend as a result of changing age structure are all towards the implementation of the ICPD and SDGs in the country
- RH initiatives aims to enable women to improve their reproductive rights and contribute to economic and sustainable development/reduce poverty
- Human capital development interventions aim to optimize population dynamics towards sustained economic growth and development

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