

Province of Albay (The Philippines) | PROFILE 2022

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE INDICATORS LOCAL



IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

While efforts have been taken to verify the accuracy of this information, neither Economist Impact nor its affiliates can accept any responsibility or liability for reliance by any person on this information.

Publisher: International Organization for Migration
17 route des Morillons
1211 Geneva 19
P.O. Box 17
Switzerland
Tel.: +41.22.717 91 11
Fax: +41.22.798 61 50
Email: hq@iom.int
Internet: www.iom.int

With research and analysis by

**ECONOMIST
IMPACT**

Required citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2022. *Migration Governance Indicators Local Profile 2022 – Province of Albay (The Philippines)*. IOM, Geneva.

ISBN 978-92-9268-537-9 (PDF)

© IOM 2023



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 IGO License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/legalcode) (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0 IGO).*

For further specifications please see the [Copyright and Terms of Use](#).

This publication should not be used, published or redistributed for purposes primarily intended for or directed towards commercial advantage or monetary compensation, with the exception of educational purposes, e.g. to be included in textbooks.

Permissions: Requests for commercial use or further rights and licensing should be submitted to publications@iom.int.

* <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/igo/legalcode>

Province of Albay (The Philippines) | PROFILE 2022

MIGRATION
GOVERNANCE
INDICATORS
LOCAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBJECTIVES // 6

INTRODUCTION // 7

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK // 10

CONTEXT // 11

KEY FINDINGS // 16

AFTER THE MGI ASSESSMENT // 30

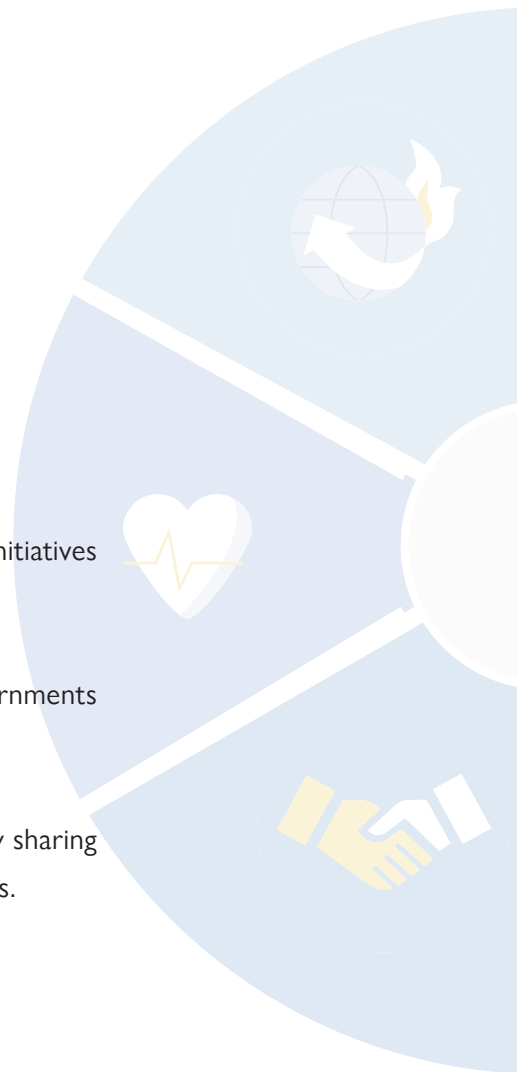
COVID-19 ANALYSIS // 31

KEY SOURCES // 33

ANNEX // 36

OBJECTIVES

- 1 Help local authorities take stock of the migration initiatives they have in place.
- 2 Foster dialogue on migration between national governments and local authorities.
- 3 Enable local authorities to learn from one another by sharing common challenges and identifying potential solutions.



“Rapid urbanization continues to transform the demographic landscape of many countries around the world. Cities are already home to the majority of international migrants, driven by opportunity as well as necessity, and local authorities are becoming leaders in finding creative solutions for rapid social change, supporting communities through innovation.”¹

¹ António Vitorino, IOM Director General, [Report to the 109th Session of the IOM Council](#) (November 2018).

INTRODUCTION

The Migration Governance Indicators

The need to maximize the opportunities and face the challenges that mobility brings has been recognized with the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.² The incorporation of target 10.7 into the 2030 Agenda created the need to define “planned and well-managed migration policies”. This is why, in 2015, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). This Framework offers a concise view of an ideal approach that allows a State to determine what it might need to govern migration well and in a way that suits its circumstances. That same year, IOM in collaboration with Economist Impact developed the Migration Governance Indicators (MGIs), a set of almost 100 indicators that help States assess the comprehensiveness of their migration governance structures.

The indicators constitute a starting point to engage governments in a consultative process that allows them to identify areas that are well-developed and others that would benefit from further development, and most importantly, priorities that are in line with the specific challenges and opportunities that a given country is facing.

The MGIs are characterized by three main fundamental attributes:

1. The MGI process is a **voluntary** exercise: The MGIs are conducted in countries that have requested to be part of the process.
2. The MGIs are **sensitive to national** specificities: The MGIs recognize the different challenges and opportunities of each context, and therefore, do not propose a one-size-fits-all solution, but rather aim to spark a discussion on what well-governed migration can mean.
3. The MGIs constitute a **process**: The MGI process is not a static tool to collect data on countries' migration frameworks. It is rather the first step of a dynamic exercise that can enable governments to identify areas of their migration policy in need of further development, or that could benefit from capacity-building.

Migration Governance Indicators: From national to local

The role of cities and municipalities in migration governance³ has grown significantly in recent decades, given the rapid pace of urbanization and the importance of cities as destinations for all forms of migration and displacement. Researchers, policymakers and international development agencies have all highlighted the crucial role of cities and municipalities in both accommodating migrants and formulating sustainable responses to migration-related matters.

The role of local governments, not only in the management of migration at the local level, but also in realizing the urban dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, has been recognized in the New Urban Agenda at the Habitat III Conference in Quito (Ecuador), the Global Compact for Migration, and the Call to Local Action, to mention a few.

² “The Global Compact is the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, covering all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. It is a non-binding document that respects States' sovereign right to determine who enters and stays in their territory and demonstrates commitment to international cooperation on migration. It presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.” More information is available [here](#).

³ “Migration governance” refers to the system of institutions, legal frameworks, mechanisms and practices aimed at regulating migration and protecting migrants. It is used almost synonymously with the term “migration management”, although the latter is also sometimes used to refer to the narrow act of regulating cross-border movement at the State level.

To support the discussion between levels of governments on migration governance, IOM has adapted the MGIs⁴ to the local level. The Local MGIs seek to offer a more comprehensive picture of a country's migration governance landscape by juxtaposing a local dimension to MGI national assessments. The Local MGIs⁵ are based on a set of about 80 indicators helping local authorities take stock of local migration strategies or initiatives in place and identify good practices as well as areas with potential for further development.

The aim of the exercise is to foster dialogue on migration between national governments and local authorities and enable local authorities to learn from one another by discussing common challenges and identifying potential solutions.

While the Local MGIs retain the attributes of the National MGIs, they are also anchored in the notion that cities and local authorities have different capacities, competencies and added value when it comes to governing migration. Therefore, the methodology has been adapted to reflect the fact that the degree of fiscal and political autonomy of participating cities influences the kind of migration governance they can practically and legally engage in. Furthermore, new indicators of the level of autonomy and capacities have been added to give some context to the results of the assessment.

Given the differences outlined between the MGIs at the national and local levels, the purpose of the Local MGIs is to be a tool for government authorities to use in taking an introspective look at the measures they have in place to manage migration, as well as to share their experiences. Furthermore, the Local MGIs recognize that good practices can take different forms depending on the division of competencies between local and national authorities. Therefore, the Local MGI analysis should not be interpreted as an invitation to change the division of competencies, but rather be understood as a catalyst to open dialogues on what cities can do with regard to migration within the scope of their mandate. A comprehensive picture of migration governance can be captured only by looking at the different levels of government.

This report is the result of the implementation of the Local MGIs in the province of Albay (the Philippines). This profile summarizes key examples of well-developed areas as well as areas with potential for further development of local migration governance.

⁴ The Migration Governance Indicators were developed in 2015 by IOM in collaboration with Economist Impact. More information is available [here](#).

⁵ More information is available [here](#).

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

MiGOF

IOM's MiGOF sets out the essential elements to support planned and well-managed migration. It seeks to present, in a consolidated, coherent and comprehensive way, a set of three principles and three objectives which, if respected and fulfilled, would ensure that migration is humane and orderly, and benefits migrants and society.

PRINCIPLES

1. **Adhere** to international standards and fulfil migrants' rights.
2. **Formulate** policy using evidence and a whole-of-government approach.
3. **Engage** with partners to address migration and related issues.

OBJECTIVES

1. **Advance** the socioeconomic well-being of migrants and society.
2. **Effectively address** the mobility dimensions of crises.
3. **Ensure** that migration takes place in a safe, orderly and dignified manner.

At the basis of

MGIs

WHAT THEY ARE



A set of indicators that offers insights on policy levers that countries can use to strengthen their migration governance structures



A tool that identifies good practices and areas that could be further developed



A consultative process that advances dialogues on migration governance by clarifying what "well-governed migration" might look like in the context of SDG target 10.7 and the Global Compact for Migration implementation*

Which support the measurement of

WHAT THEY ARE NOT



Not a ranking of countries



Not an assessment of policy impacts



Not prescriptive



Note: "The Global Compact for Migration is framed in a way consistent with target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which Member States committed to cooperate internationally to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration." More information is available [here](#).



CONTEXT

Migration trends

As of midyear 2020, the Philippines had 0.2 per cent international migrant stock.^{6,7} According to United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs data, in the five years prior to 2019, the net migration of the Philippines was -335,800, being a predominantly migrant-sending country. As of midyear 2020, there were 225,500 total international migrants in the Philippines (of which 48.1% were female) and 6.1 million total emigrants.⁸ International migrants 19 years old and younger made up 29.2 per cent of those residing in the country, while international migrants 65 years and older made up 10.7 per cent.⁹

As a result of the 2015 Census of Population and Housing, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) (2018) reported that there were 13,387 overseas Filipino workers/emigrants from Albay. Of these, half (49.9%) had academic degrees, a quarter (25.8%) had high school education, 12 per cent were college undergraduates, 9.9 per cent had post-secondary education, 2.2 per cent had elementary education, and 0.3 per cent had post-baccalaureate education (PSA, 2018).

The province of Albay is one of the most vulnerable regions in the country in terms of natural hazards given its geographical location and geological features. Located in the south-eastern peninsula of Luzon, Albay faces both geophysical and climatic hazards¹⁰ such as typhoons, monsoon rains and thunderstorms. For instance, in November 2020, Super Typhoon Goni (Rolly)¹¹ made landfall in Bicol Region and caused the most amount of damage in Albay. The province is also situated along the Pacific Ring of Fire, and the highly active Mayon Volcano makes it vulnerable to earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic hazards. The combination and intensity of these natural hazards have affected the migration trends in the province and even the country, such as the displacement of hundreds of thousands of residents and the paralysis of all forms of major regional transportation systems during calamities. As a response, Albay established the country's first dedicated provincial institution for local disaster management in 1995, making the province a model in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation within the country and across the Pacific region.

Bicol Region has a total population of more than 6 million, and Albay is the province with the second-largest population of about 1.3 million people.¹² According to the National Migration Survey conducted by PSA in 2018, Bicol Region is one of the regions with the highest intraregional migration flows, with at least 2 million lifetime migrants.¹³ Bicol Region also has one of the largest numbers of lifetime outmigrants in the Philippines (PSA and UPPI, 2019),¹⁴ as well as the second-highest percentage of forced migration among the household population due to natural (and human-made) calamities.¹⁵ Meanwhile, Bicol Region sits at the median for the total number of households with overseas Filipinos.¹⁶

⁶ Defined as the proportion of the total migrant population of the country.

⁷ United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, [Philippines Key Migration Statistics](#) (2021).

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ In the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP) (2011–2016), the province is described to be “subjected to the pressures and consequent effects of the Pacific Jinx” because of its geographic location along the Western Pacific Basin, which makes it vulnerable to both geographical and climatic hazards. For more information, see the [Bicol Regional Development Plan 2017–2022](#).

¹¹ Estimates on the loss of life and damage to property done by the typhoon are available in the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' report (2020).

¹² This is according to the [2020 Census of Population and Housing](#) by PSA.

¹³ A person whose area of residence at the time of the census or survey date differs from his area of birth is considered to be a lifetime migrant.

¹⁴ “Outmigrants” here refers to people who have moved internally from one region to another in the same country.

¹⁵ Bicol Region is tied with MIMAROPA Region with 1 per cent of total households having an internally displaced member, trailing SOCCSKSARGEN Region at 2 per cent, as per the [2018 National Migration Survey](#).

¹⁶ In Bicol Region, 4.6 per cent of total households have an overseas Filipino, lower than the urban and rural averages of 9 and 8.3 per cent, respectively, as per the [2018 National Migration Survey](#).

Administrative structure

There are 18 regions, 81 provinces, and 145 major cities, towns and barangays in the Philippines.^{17,18} The barangays are under the jurisdiction of municipalities or cities, which are in turn under the jurisdiction of provinces. Albay is a province in Bicol Region, south-east of Luzon Island in the Philippines. It is composed of 15 municipalities, 720 barangays and 3 cities.

Competencies of the province

<p>Level of decentralization of local authorities</p>	<p>The Local Government Code of the Philippines (1991) states that local government units (LGUs) may “group themselves, consolidate or coordinate their efforts, services, and recourses for purposes commonly beneficial to them” and shall “share with the national government the responsibility in the management and maintenance of ecological balance within their territorial jurisdiction”. With regard to the provision of basic services and facilities, LGUs shall “endeavor to be self-reliant and shall continue exercising the powers and discharging the duties and functions currently vested upon them”.</p>
<p>The competencies of cities in relation to migration</p>	<p>In the Philippines, the Department of Justice acts on immigration matters and handles extradition processes. Through the Bureau of Immigration, it provides immigration and naturalization regulatory services, and implements laws regarding migration. The Department of Foreign Affairs is in charge of diplomatic affairs and foreign policy, and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) develops labour migration policies.^{19, 20}</p> <p>DOLE’s Public Employment Service Office (PESO) is established in all LGUs, including the province of Albay. PESO facilitates placement of job applicants, provides counselling for jobseekers, registers manpower, and conducts pre-employment orientation seminars for prospective Filipino migrant workers.²¹ The Albay PESO provides employment services to citizens and migrants alike.²²</p> <p>In 2010, the Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) also established the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRPMC) in accordance with the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act (2010). PDRPMC is responsible at the local level for disaster preparedness, prevention, and mitigation and rescue operations. Its functions include recommending the implementation of forced or pre-emptive evacuation of residents in times of disasters.</p> <p>Except for labour migration related to Filipino migrants and disaster management, PGA does not have other delegated authority relating to migration.</p>

¹⁷ More information is available at [here](#).

¹⁸ The Local Government Code of the Philippines (1991) states that the barangay/village is the basic political unit and serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programmes, projects and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people may be expressed, crystallized and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled.

¹⁹ More information on Philippine immigration laws and other related laws is available [here](#).

²⁰ More information on the Department of Justice’s vision, mission, mandate and functions is available [here](#).

²¹ More information on Public Employment Services is available [here](#).

²² In practice, the services cover mainly overseas employment and reintegration services for returning overseas Filipino migrants. More information is available [here](#).

Local financing mechanisms and the restrictions on their use

Historically, the main mechanisms to finance local programmes are taxes (income tax, estate and donor taxes, value-added tax, other percentage taxes, excise taxes and documentary stamp taxes) imposed and collected by the Bureau of Internal Revenue (1997). Local governments in general receive 25 per cent of internal revenues (tax), of which 10 per cent is allocated to the province and 15 per cent is accrued to the municipalities depending on their population size (Diokno-Sicat and Maddawin, 2018).

Local governments finance their programmes through the General Fund (consisting of monies and resources of the local government which are available for payment of expenditures, obligation or purposes not specifically declared by law as accruing and chargeable to, or payable from, any other fund), the Special Education Fund (which consists of monies and resources of the local government specifically for the purpose of special education), and the Trust Fund (which consists of properties, especially money and securities, held or settled in trust) (DOF, 2015). The funds are allocated for general public services; education, culture and sports/manpower development; health, nutrition and population control; labour and employment; housing and community development; social services and social welfare; economic services; and debt service (DOF, 2021).

As of December 2022, the national budgeting scheme is transitioning to provide LGUs with greater autonomy and resources from the National Government. In 2018, the Supreme Court granted the Mandanas–Garcia ruling,²³ which states that the determination of the “just share” of LGUs should not be based solely on national internal revenue taxes but on all national taxes.²⁴ This significantly increases the tax base²⁵ from which the share of LGUs is computed, and thus, strengthens fiscal decentralization. The transition to enhanced LGU budgeting required an examination of programmes, activities and projects to be devolved. In line with Article 10 of the Constitution (1987), Executive Order No. 138 of 2021 on the Full Devolution of Certain Functions of the Executive Branch to Local Governments sets that certain national government services must be fully devolved to LGUs by 2024. The Order also mandates national and local government agencies to prepare Devolution Transition Plans to identify the services that will be devolved to LGUs, as well as the creation of the Committee on Devolution to oversee the full implementation of said transition plans. According to the Local Government Code, LGUs’ budget is based on the revenue of the National Government three fiscal years prior. Therefore, 2022 is the first fiscal year when LGUs received the increased budget following the finality of the Mandanas–Garcia ruling in 2019.

²³ According to the General Backgrounder of the Department of Budget and Management, the Mandanas–Garcia Case Supreme Court Ruling (Government of the Republic of the Philippines, 2021) refers to the Supreme Court’s final decision on these two separate (consolidated on 22 October 2013) petitions filed before the Supreme Court: (a) the petition filed by Congressman Hermilando I. Mandanas and other local officials vs. Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa Jr. et al. (G.R. No. 199802); and (b) Congressman Enrique T. Garcia Jr. vs. Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa Jr. et al. (G.R. No. 208488).

²⁴ The ruling on all national taxes as the base for LGU budget now includes taxes collected from the Bureau of Customs, for example, not just from the Bureau of Internal Revenue. See: Diaz-Manalo et al., 2021.

²⁵ The estimated increase of the LGU budget ranges from 15 to 27 per cent, according to the World Bank and the Department of the Interior and Local Government, respectively.

Local participation in the formulation of migration policy

PGA is divided into three legislative districts, with each having a representative in the country's House of Representatives – the lower house of the Philippine Congress. While there is no overall national migration strategy in the Philippines, the three district representatives of Albay Province have participated in the formulation of migration-related legislation, such as the following: An Act Providing for Protection of the Remittances of Overseas Filipino Workers (2020), An Act Enhancing the Financial Literacy of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and for Other Purposes (2019), An Act Creating the Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment (2020), An Act Creating the Overseas Filipino Workers Sovereign Fund (2019), and An Act Establishing an Overseas Filipino Worker Investor Advocate in the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (2020).²⁶

²⁶ Republic of the Philippines, House of Representatives, [Eighteenth Congress](#), House Members of Albay's Third District.



KEY FINDINGS

The Local MGIs are composed of approximately 80 indicators grouped under the six different dimensions of migration governance that draw upon the MiGOF categories:



MIGRANTS' RIGHTS
PAGE 17

Indicators in this category look at the extent to which migrants have access to certain social services such as health, education and social security. They also examine measures to ensure integration and access to work.



WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT
APPROACH
PAGE 19

Indicators in this category assess the institutional frameworks of cities, municipalities or states for migration. This area also examines the existence of migration strategies consistent with development objectives, as well as institutional transparency and coherence in migration management.



PARTNERSHIPS
PAGE 21

Indicators in this category focus on cities', municipalities' or states' efforts to cooperate on migration issues with the national government as well as other cities and relevant non-governmental actors, including civil society organizations and the private sector.



WELL-BEING
OF MIGRANTS
PAGE 22

Indicators in this category assess cities', municipalities' or states' initiatives in terms of international student mobility, access to the labour market and decent working conditions for migrant workers. Aspects related to diaspora engagement and migrant remittances are also included in this domain.



MOBILITY DIMENSION
OF CRISES
PAGE 24

Indicators in this category examine the type and level of readiness of cities, municipalities or states to deal with aspects of mobility crises. The questions focus on the processes in place for citizens and non-citizens in relation to disasters and climate change, especially whether humanitarian assistance is available for migrants and citizens.



SAFE, ORDERLY AND
REGULAR MIGRATION
PAGE 27

Indicators in this category look at the cities', municipalities' or states' approaches to migrant safety as well as return and reintegration policies and the fight against trafficking in persons.



1

ADHERE TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND FULFIL MIGRANTS' RIGHTS

1.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) provides access to Government-funded health services for all its residents, including migrants who contribute to the national social health insurance benefits scheme of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), through public hospitals²⁷ managed by the Albay Provincial Health Office. Albay's public hospitals adhere to national-level health-care guidelines, as provided by the Universal Health Care Act (2019). According to Executive Order No. 851 on Reorganizing the Ministry of Health, Integrating the Components of Health Care Delivery into Its Field Operations, and for Other Purposes (1982), public hospitals are jointly mandated to integrate “promotive, preventive, curative, and rehabilitative components of health care delivery within the province, as provided by the National Government”.

The Philippines also institutionalized PhilHealth, a Government-owned-and-controlled corporation implementing the National Health Insurance Programme, which covers access to cost-effective and quality health-care services. Migrants working and/or residing in the Philippines as well as their dependants may register for membership with PhilHealth provided they have a valid working permit and/or an Alien Certificate of Registration, obtained from the Philippine Bureau of Immigration.

The Department of Education (DepEd) Schools Division Office (SDO) of Albay adheres to the national-level mandate for education, and it applies the same admissions standard for migrants and Filipino nationals enrolling in public primary and secondary schools through a valid Special Study Permit issued to all international students up to the age of 18 by the Bureau of Immigration. The DepEd SDO of Albay adheres to the national mandate under the Enhanced Basic Education Act (2013) to provide Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education to both Filipino and foreign students in primary and secondary education, enabling migrant students to receive the necessary language education for their integration into the public education system. Migrants with irregular status also have access to public education through DepEd's Basic Education Enrollment Policy (2018), which provides for the admission of undocumented (and stateless) minors. Additionally, the Albay Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office and the Albay Public Employment Service Office jointly provide technical and vocational training to nationals and migrants in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

PGA provides cultural mediation services to help resolve disputes among its residents, including migrants. According to the Local Government Code of the Philippines (1991), disputes should be handled in the first instance²⁸ at the barangay level, through the Barangay Justice System, rather than at the provincial level. When disputes are left unsettled, the barangay is mandated to escalate the matter to the municipal or city level, and ultimately the provincial government if required.

1.2. Areas with potential for further development

PGA does not have orientation programmes for migrants. However, the national Bureau of Immigration provides easily accessible information on procedures, requirements and other details about the Alien Certificate of Registration Identity Card, which allows migrants to obtain a work permit and

²⁷ Albay has nine provincial public hospitals, with three located in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas.

²⁸ In the Philippines, the barangay is the basic political unit which “serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community”.

secure employment, as well as apply for public health insurance coverage. Meanwhile, pre-departure and reintegration orientations and programmes for overseas Filipino workers²⁹ are provided by various national government agencies.

While there is no specific policy or strategy to combat discrimination against migrants, the Anti-Discrimination Act (2019) prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression and imposes penalties for such, but it makes no specific reference to migrants or nationality. Furthermore, the national Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) is mandated “to develop comprehensive and integrated programmes to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons, establish the necessary institutional mechanism for the protection and support of trafficked persons, and ensure the timely, coordinated, and effective response to cases of trafficking in persons, particularly in the investigation and prosecution of trafficking persons cases”. In 2018, PGA partnered with the Department of Social Welfare and Development Bicol Regional Office and IACAT to conduct the Albay Youth Summit on Human Trafficking, where security issues and legal frameworks in relation to counter-trafficking were discussed.

²⁹ The 2018 *National Migration Survey* defines an “overseas Filipino worker” as a Filipino who is engaged in or has been engaged (in the past 12 months) in a remunerated activity in a State of which they are not a legal resident, or on board a vessel navigating the foreign seas other than a government ship used for military or noncommercial purposes, or in an installation located offshore or on the high seas.



2

FORMULATE POLICY USING EVIDENCE AND WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

2.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office (PCEDO), in partnership with national government agencies such as the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, is the provincial-level office responsible for designing and implementing migration policies and strategic plans, as well as coordinating the implementation and management of services for migrant workers. PCEDO extends support services to cooperative groups, provides technical and vocational education, and establishes employment facilities and services. The Public Employment Service Office (PESO), which operates at the local level and in Albay Province, designs migration policies and strategic plans for public employment and services, including vocational education and entrepreneurship initiatives for migrants. As a combined organization, PCEDO/PESO offers labour market information, referral and placement, employment coaching, and career counselling to stakeholders such as jobseekers, employers, out-of-school youth, migrant workers, returning overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), or displaced workers.³⁰ PCEDO/PESO also coordinates with licensed employment agencies locally and abroad to facilitate job fairs and employment coaching for overseas employment.

Local authorities of the Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) have taken steps to enhance vertical policy coherence on migration-related issues. PCEDO/PESO cooperates with DOLE to address employment and livelihood issues for both citizens and migrants.

2.2. Areas with potential for further development

There is no overall provincial-level migration strategy in Albay, nor are migration issues integrated into local development or disaster risk reduction and climate change policies. At the national level, there are several laws that regulate migration issues, such as the Labor Code of the Philippines (2017), the Immigration Act (1940), and the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act (1995). The different provincial departments, particularly the Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office, and PCEDO/PESO, have their own or collaborated programmes to assist all residents regardless of nationality or migratory status. However, Albay does not have a single coordination mechanism for addressing migration issues.

PGA does not regularly collect and publish data related to migration, neither on Filipino migrant workers, internally displaced populations during disasters, nor foreign nationals, such as the number of foreign retirees or businesspersons in the province. Republic Act No. 11315 on Establishing a Community-Based Monitoring System and Appropriating Funds Therefor (2019) mandates the adoption of the Philippines' Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS), implemented by the Philippine Statistics Authority in coordination with selected local government units, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Department of Information and Communications Technology. CBMS “generates updated disaggregated data necessary in targeting beneficiaries; [conducts] more comprehensive poverty analysis and needs prioritization; [designs] appropriate policies and interventions; [and monitors] impact ... over time”.

³⁰ “Displaced workers” is a term used by DOLE when referring to individuals who have become involuntarily unemployed due to economic force majeure reasons.

All CBMS respondents are Filipino citizens, but income and employment indicators capture data on OFWs as well.³¹ Data at the local level help to target households in the planning, budgeting and implementation of government programmes on poverty alleviation and economic development. Data collection for the first CBMS took place between July and September 2022, with the report due to be released in April 2023. However, CBMS does not collect primary or secondary data on migrants.

³¹ The CBMS key development indicators are (a) health, (b) nutrition, (c) housing, (d) water and sanitation, (e) basic education, (f) income, (g) employment and (h) peace and order.

3

ENGAGE WITH PARTNERS TO ADDRESS MIGRATION AND RELATED ISSUES

3.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

The Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) cooperates with United Nations organizations, including IOM, to provide humanitarian assistance, particularly in the aftermath of typhoons, which can cause significant displacement. In 2020, the United Nations Country Team in the Philippines³² provided life-saving support that combined cash assistance, shelter repair, and water and sanitation facilities and improvements to help displaced families in Albay affected by Typhoons Rolly (Goni) and Ulysses (Vamco). Additionally, in 2021, IOM implemented a shelter assistance project for internally displaced persons due to Typhoon Goni and relocated some households from geologically hazardous areas to safe areas in the municipality of Malilipot, Albay.

Atikha Overseas Workers and Communities Initiative, a non-governmental organization (NGO) that provides economic and social services to overseas Filipinos and their families in the Philippines, recognizes Albay as one of their provincial partners.³³ Together, they implemented social enterprise and livelihood development projects such as Ekolife and Balikabayanihan in the province.

3.2. Areas with potential for further development

Albay engages with civil society organizations in agenda-setting and the implementation of migration-related policies and programmes on an ad hoc basis. Local authorities of the province of Albay also cooperated with NGOs to provide ad hoc trainings on migration issues. For instance, the Center for Migrant Advocacy – Philippines, an NGO that works for the rights and welfare of overseas Filipino workers, engages with the regional office of the Department of Education and, separately, the Committee on Migration and Development of the National Economic and Development Authority to provide trainings on migration issues, such as migrants' rights and gender-responsiveness. However, these engagements are in cooperation and coordination with the regional offices with jurisdiction over PGA, and not directly with its local authorities.

There is no formal engagement with the academia to inform migration policies and programmes. However, Bicol University and PGA collaborate on non-migration-related issues. For example, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office of Albay involved students from Bicol University in its 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women in 2021.

The province also does not have any bilateral programmes or “sisterhood pacts”³⁴ for province-to-province cooperation within the Philippines or internationally on migration-related issues.

³² This effort was a collaborative initiative between the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Philippines, the Canadian Embassy in the Philippines, the German Embassy in the Philippines, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and IOM.

³³ See [Atikha's full list of national, provincial and NGO partners](#).

³⁴ A sisterhood pact is a form of cooperative agreement between local authorities, within a country or internationally, to pursue common development agendas such as tourism or job generation. Albay has sisterhood pacts with a few local and foreign cities but not for migration-related issues.



4

ADVANCE THE SOCIOECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF MIGRANTS AND SOCIETY

4.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

There are measures to promote gender equality in the labour force, which are applicable to migrants as well. The Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) allocates 25 per cent of its budget to gender and development programmes, mainstreamed across various departments and offices. These programmes are also intended for female Filipino migrants and returning overseas Filipino workers (OFWs). For example, PGA held a summit in 2020 on the Orientation of the Gender Mainstreaming Evaluation Framework – an evaluation tool to determine the level of gender mainstreaming in local government units. Overall, PGA as an institution has been recognized by the Commission on Audit in 2019 as gender-responsive, with 40 per cent of gender and development programmes, activities and projects mainstreamed in its various departments and offices.

PGA has developed some measures that promote the ethical recruitment of migrant workers. The Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office (PCEDO) and the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) regularly coordinate with licensed recruitment agencies and upload employment opportunities to the PESO Employment Information System – a database of active manpower supply with the profiles of prospective employees and employers. PCEDO/PESO also connects jobseekers to licensed recruitment agencies. Measures to promote ethical recruitment are mainly under the jurisdiction of national government agencies such as the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency (POEA). The POEA Satellite Office Region 5 – Bicol provides grievance mechanisms for concerns about exorbitant fees, contract violations, abuse and labour exploitation, with the office mainly serving as a referral system to the POEA national office.

There are some measures at the local level to promote and facilitate the inclusion of migrant workers in the workforce. For instance, PCEDO/PESO conducts the Special Recruitment Activity, which notifies jobseekers, including college graduates, undergraduates and senior high school graduates, regarding available career opportunities in the province. PCEDO/PESO also has the Special Program for Employment of Students, a youth employment-bridging programme that aims to provide temporary employment to poor but deserving students, out-of-school youth, and dependants of displaced workers. Both programmes are available to migrants regardless of their migratory status.

4.2. Areas with potential for further development

There is no provincial-level assessment for monitoring the local labour market demand for immigrants or the local labour supply and the effects of emigration on the labour market. However, PGA can connect jobseekers to potential employers through the PCEDO/PESO Employment Information System.

There are no specific measures to help foreign residents access private-sector employment or to assist employers in hiring foreign residents. Migrants seeking admission to the Philippines for employment purposes are required to obtain the Alien Employment Permit, under the condition that there are no Filipino citizens who are competent, able and willing at the time of application to perform the job. Furthermore, only Filipino nationals have access to public-sector jobs in Albay. The Revised Administrative Code of 1987 on the Civil Service Commission states that “opportunity for government employment shall be open to all qualified citizens”.

There are no provincial-level programmes to reduce the cost of sending and receiving remittances or to promote the financial inclusion of migrants and their families, including OFWs. At the national level, the National Strategy for Financial Inclusion (NSFI) (2022–2028) now includes Filipino “migrant workers and

their families” and “forcibly displaced persons” as target populations for financial inclusion. The NSFI aims to ensure that all Filipinos, especially vulnerable populations, have effective access to a wide range of financial services. In the 2015 NSFI, financial inclusion is defined as “a state wherein there is effective access to a wide range of financial products and services by all”, with emphasis on its importance “for every household and business as access to basic financial services such as savings, payments, credit and investments makes a substantially positive difference in people’s lives”. However, the Strategy does not make specific reference to migrants or nationality in this regard.

The province carries out programmes on financial literacy for all jobseekers during the Department of Labor and Employment Region 5 – Bicol job fairs over the course of the year. The financial literacy programme includes modules on personal money management, workers’ rights and business start-ups, but it does not specifically target migrant workers. At the national level, the 2015 NSFI states that “[f]inancial education and consumer protection are a fundamental complement to financial inclusion”.



5

EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE MOBILITY DIMENSIONS OF CRISES

5.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Being located in a disaster-prone region, the province established the country's first dedicated provincial institution for local disaster management – the Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office (APSEMO). It is an independent and permanent provincial department that elevated the disaster resiliency and response of the province through stringent proactive measures. The establishment of APSEMO set a culture of preparedness among the authorities and residents of the province. Albay, primarily through APSEMO and the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO), has existing structures to provide indiscriminate humanitarian assistance during times of crises, regardless of nationality or migratory status. APSEMO, along with the Philippine National Police in Albay, also acts as the focal point of embassies and consulates in checking the welfare of their nationals, both in regular circumstances and during times of crises.

Alongside APSEMO, the Albay Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRRMC) is composed of government and non-government stakeholders that are trained in and responsible for disaster preparedness, prevention, and mitigation and rescue operations. It supervises disaster response training, builds the capabilities of respondents and staff, manages rescue operations, and purchases rescue equipment and food supplies for relief operations. The Council implements the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan (NDRRMP) (2011–2028) and the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) (2011–2028), which include specific provisions for preventing and addressing the displacement impacts of disasters.

The NDRRMP establishes a Protection Camp Coordination and Management Cluster under the Department of Social Welfare and Development, which is tasked with providing “assistance and augment[ing] all requirements for the management and evacuation of individuals’ families affected by disasters”. The updated NDRRMP 2020–2030 – developed in collaboration with the provinces, including the Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) – specifically states that leaders have a commitment to “[f]ully respect the rights of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons regardless of their migration status”.

The NCCAP contains contingency plans for large-scale population movements arising from wars or other conflicts, as well as environmental crises. In 2022, the Albay Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council Operation Center Building was established to create a well-equipped and disaster-prepared community, and to enhance the response capacity and disaster management of the province. PDRRMC holds quarterly meetings with national agencies that support Albay in its specific vulnerabilities, such as PHIVOLCS and PAGASA,³⁵ to brief the executive committee and the provincial departments on possible calamities in the province. Albay strategically focuses on proactive measures, with 70 per cent of its 2021 Local Disaster Risk Reduction Fund (LDRRF)³⁶ allotted for disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation. Albay develops disaster preparedness measures among the people through investments in a decentralized system of rain gauges, warning systems and networked radio communications across barangays. APSEMO actively designates zones of high-risk areas from volcanic activity and typhoon effects to establish permanent prohibited zones and safe zones.

³⁵ PHIVOLCS stands for Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, while PAGASA is short for Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

³⁶ The LDRRF for 2021 was PHP 121,400,000, with 30 per cent allocation for relief and recovery programmes.

PGA has two-way communication systems in place for emergency response. The public can receive information and communicate their needs through the website of PGA, as well as through the hotlines and emails of APSEMO and the Offices of the Governor and the Vice Governor. APSEMO has established and institutionalized an early warning system, a communication protocol, pre-emptive evacuation procedures, and post-disaster damage assessment and needs analysis in order to protect and empower the people of Albay in times of disaster. During disasters, APSEMO relays public service announcements to several radio stations in the province and releases disaster- and emergency-related information through an information board. The Office of the Governor of the province of Albay also uses social media for two-way communication with Albay residents on emergency-related issues, such as COVID-19, typhoons, vaccination, medical and dental missions, cash transfers, and relief operations. These communication systems consider the specific vulnerabilities that migrants face, and information is communicated in the English and Bicolano languages. To maintain communication systems during and in the aftermath of natural calamities, APSEMO partners with private national telecommunication companies to provide enhanced satellite coverage as well as free call usage and free mobile charging stations across the province.

Albay implements measures aimed at ensuring the protection of migrant children, unaccompanied minors and children left behind in times of crisis, set out in the NDRRMP and the NCCAP. These include establishing child-friendly spaces and other learning areas in evacuation centres or temporary shelters, or the provision of basic social services, such as medical consultation and nutritional assessment. Furthermore, the NDRRMP outlines the need to address the psychosocial needs of affected populations, including children, through psychosocial programmes and referral systems, as well as facilitating traumatic and/or psychological stress debriefings. The NCCAP states that “adaptation measures should be based on equity and is in accordance with differentiated responsibility, and accords special attention for the protection of the poor, women, children, and other vulnerable groups”. It also states that its strategic priority is to reduce the risks to men and women and other vulnerable groups, including children, elderly people and persons with disability, from climate change events and disasters.

As one of the major tourist destinations in the country, Albay institutionalized the Provincial Tourism and Cultural Affairs Office (PTCAO) to extend assistance and provide information to short-term visitors in the province. PTCAO in partnership with APSEMO has special orientations for foreign tourists on disaster awareness and preparedness, along with established hotlines that can be used by families or embassies to check on the status of foreign nationals during emergencies.

5.2. Areas with potential for further development

PGA partners with key actors in the event of an emergency only on an ad hoc basis. For instance, in May 2022, PGA partnered with the Philippine Red Cross to turn over Certificates of Occupancy to 165 new homes for displaced families made homeless by *lahar*³⁷ flooding in Daraga and Guinobatan, Albay. Additionally, the Department of Foreign Affairs has a consular office in Legazpi City, Albay, which provides services to the entire Bicol Region. In 2013 and 2014, the consular office conducted humanitarian missions and had volunteer programmes in place.

There is no contingency plan in place to manage large-scale population movements in times of crisis. However, the Albay Provincial Campsite and Evacuation Center, established by the Provincial Engineers’ Office and the Department of Public Works and Highways, serves as a temporary shelter for displaced populations, including migrants. PSWDO provides shelter assistance for families requiring permanent relocation or housing repair. The Albay Provincial Housing Settlement Office also provides temporary housing to displaced residents affected by natural hazards, such as typhoons and volcanic eruptions, but this is available only to nationals.

³⁷ *Lahar* refers to the destructive mudflow from volcanoes. *Lahar* flooding is common in Albay due to the volcanic activity of the famous Mayon Volcano as well as non-volcanic activities such as typhoons that spread *lahar* across Bicol.

Migration issues are not explicitly included in Albay's recovery strategies. However, one of the objectives of the NDRRMP is to “[r]estore and improve facilities, livelihood and living conditions and organizational capacities of affected communities, and [reduce] disaster risks in accordance with the ‘building back better’ principle”.



6

ENSURE THAT MIGRATION TAKES PLACE IN A SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MANNER

6.1. Migration governance: Examples of well-developed areas

Migrants can access justice through mechanisms that are mandated at the national level and also implemented at the local level, if they can secure a certificate of indigency from the embassy of their country of citizenship.³⁸ The Free Legal Assistance Act (2010) mandates the provision of free legal representation, assistance and counselling to indigent persons in criminal, civil, labour, administrative and other quasi-judicial cases through the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) under the Department of Justice. Furthermore, PAO has a designated Officer-in-Charge in Albay. Indigent migrants³⁹ have the same access to free justice services as nationals at the court and barangay levels. The Local Government Code of 1991 establishes the Barangay Justice System to decongest the courts of cases as well as to address inequalities in accessing justice. These mechanisms are available to nationals and migrants alike, ensuring access to justice for the vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society.

The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) is responsible for coordinating the implementation and management of programmes to combat trafficking in persons and violence against women and children, and promote the reintegration of migrants. PSWDO, through its Provincial Council Against Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children (PCAT-VAWC) and the Provincial Council for the Protection of Children (PCPC), holds quarterly meetings on trafficking in persons and violence against women and their children, including overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) and migrants. This is coordinated with other local agencies such as the Committee on Women, Children, Family, and Gender and Development; the Provincial Gender and Development Office; the Provincial Health Office; the Provincial Planning and Development Office; the Provincial Cooperative, Enterprise and Manpower Development Office; the Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office and the Public Employment Service Office (PCEDO/PESO); the Provincial Prosecutor of Albay; the League of Barangays; the Civil Service Commission; the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital; and the regional offices of national agencies such as the Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Education. The PCAT-VAWC and the PCPC jointly report on the anti-trafficking efforts of the province in support of PSWDO on a quarterly basis as well as annually. However, not all reports are made available online and to the public.

The Provincial Government of Albay (PGA) launched the *Albay Libreng Sakay, Balik Probinsya*⁴⁰ programme in 2020, offering free transportation to locally stranded individuals in Albay and in Metro Manila to return to their respective residences during the COVID-19 pandemic. Spearheaded by PSWDO, Albay facilitated and funded a consortium of buses and ferries to assist approximately 2,500 individuals to return to their own cities. The Provincial Youth Development Office assisted by activating the Albay Rapid Monitoring Team, which processed the applications of locally stranded Albay residents who wish to return to their places of origin.

In 2021, PSWDO conducted a training on gender and human rights, and on trafficking in persons and violence against women and children, for different stakeholders, including the Local Social Welfare and Development Offices, provincial-level focal persons on women's welfare concerns, the Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children, presidents of the League of Barangays,

³⁸ An individual's indigency is determined based on their net income, which should not exceed PHP 14,000 (USD 269) per month if residing in Metro Manila, PHP 13,000 (USD 250) per month if residing in other cities, and PHP 12,000 (USD 230) per month if residing in other places.

³⁹ Individuals that want to avail of the free legal services of PAO, whether nationals or migrants, must show evidence of indigency. Migrants must request a "certificate of indigency" from their respective embassies/consulates.

⁴⁰ This can be translated as "Free Ride to Return to the Province".

barangay officials and staff. PSWDO also provides financial assistance for the reintegration of disadvantaged groups, including trafficked persons, thereby providing them with a financial mechanism to start an economic activity, discourage remigration, and avoid increased risks of illegal recruitment and trafficking.

PGA has some measures in place to combat migrant labour exploitation. PCEDO/PESO maintains a database of licensed employment agencies and job vacancies through which PGA connects all jobseekers – both residents and migrants – with potential employers. PCEDO/PESO also joins the PCAT-VAWC and the PCPC in quarterly meetings about trafficking in persons and violence against women and their children in the province, including OFWs and migrants.

6.2. Areas with potential for further development

There is no specific policy, protocol or guideline in the province for responding to cases of disappearances or deaths that might have occurred during the migration process. However, the Albay Provincial Public Safety and Emergency Management Office has facilitated search-and-rescue operations for some cases of disappearances and deaths of migrants.

Albay does not have a health facility accredited by the Department of Health (DOH) to address the pre-departure and post-deployment medical needs of Filipino overseas workers and seafarers.⁴¹ The nearest accredited health facility is in the province of Batangas, about 380 km from Albay.

Albay has four seaports and is Bicol Region's principal trans-shipment point: Tabaco City International Seaport, Port of Legazpi City, Pio Duran Municipal Port and Pantao Port. Unlike the standard security imposed on air and land transportation across the province, security and documentation checks at seaports are not as stringent and may benefit from a process review or the standardization of security measures across all ports.

⁴¹ As of 2021, there were 159 health facilities accredited by DOH for overseas workers and seafarers. The full list is available [here](#).

After the MGI assessment

IOM would like to thank the local authorities of the province of Albay for their engagement in this process. IOM hopes that the results of this assessment can feed into the local authorities' internal reflection on migration governance and contribute to positive policy change. In particular:



The MGI report can be used to inform policy work with the support of IOM (if desired).



The findings can feed into capacity-building activities, which may connect to other IOM initiatives.



A follow-up assessment can be conducted after three years to verify progress.



Governments can exchange best practices and innovative solutions with other governments that have conducted the MGI process.



PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

This annex summarizes key local COVID-19 policy responses in Albay Province from a migration governance perspective. It is based on 11 questions that were added to the standard Migration Governance Indicators (MGIs)¹ assessment in Albay Province in order to effectively assess local migration governance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Provincial Information Office of the Provincial Government of Albay (PGA), via the official government website and its social media page, shares COVID-19-related information in English, a language that is understandable to most migrants in Albay.² The Governor's Office of the province of Albay also uses social media for two-way communication with Albay residents, including the dissemination of COVID-19-related information, in English.³ Furthermore, the public can contact the emergency hotlines of the Office of Civil Defence – Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, Albay Emergency Medical Services, and the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital Health Emergency Management Staff, which all provide COVID-19-related information in English.⁴



There are no extraordinary measures that allow migrants, such as health-care professionals or other essential workers, in Albay to contribute to the COVID-19 response.



Migratory status is not captured as a separate variable in the data collection and dissemination related to key COVID-19 health statistics or the socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 in Albay. At the provincial level, Albay has its own Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit, which conducts contact tracing, reports COVID-19 cases, and collects data on COVID-19 suspected cases, positive cases, deaths and recovered cases.⁵ However, the data are not disaggregated by migratory status.

¹ More information on the MGIs is available [here](#).

² Visit the Official Facebook Page of the Provincial Information Office of the Provincial Government of Albay.

³ Visit the Official Facebook Page of [Al Francis C. Bichara](#).

⁴ Provincial Government of Albay (PGA), [Contact page](#).

⁵ Department of Health, National Epidemiology Centre, *Manual of Procedures for the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response* (2014).



PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS ON THE RISKS OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



PGA does not have extraordinary measures to promote its diaspora's contribution to the COVID-19 response.⁶ The Public Employment Service Office also does not have any measures in place to engage with the diaspora in the province, for them to contribute to the local COVID-19 response.⁷



PGA has measures in place to support the sustainable reintegration of nationals who return to the province due to COVID-19. The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office implements the Family and Community Development Program, which includes the provision of financial assistance through cash transfers for the reintegration of returning and repatriated overseas Filipino workers.^{8,9}

⁶ PGA, Official website.

⁷ PGA, Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office (PCEDO) (2021).

⁸ PGA, Annual Budget CY 2020: General Fund (2019).

⁹ Government of the Republic of the Philippines, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration Act (2016).





KEY SOURCES

-
- Albay Provincial Housing Settlement Office
2021 [Accomplishment Report 2018–2020](#).
- Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR)
1997 [Republic Act No. 8424, National Internal Revenue Code of 1997 \(Tax Code\)](#).
- Civil Service Commission (CSC)
1987 [Revised Administrative Code of 1987 on the Civil Service Commission](#).
2013 [Hope in times of despair](#). Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office.
- Climate Change Commission (CCC)
2016 [National Climate Change Action Plan 2011–2028](#).
- Department of Education (DepEd)
2018 [Basic Education Enrollment Policy](#).
- Department of Finance
2015 [The statement of receipts and expenditures: Systems, concepts, input preparation and reporting](#). Bureau of Local Government Finance.
2021 [Statement of receipts and expenditures, Quarter 2](#). Bureau of Local Government Finance.
- Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
2010 [In Bicol, DOLE teams up with DOJ versus trafficking, illegal recruitment, child labor](#). 13 November.
2017 [The Labor Code of the Philippines – Renumbered](#). DOLE edition.
2018 [Responsive assistance for displaced workers](#). 30 May.
n.d. [About Public Employment Services \(PES\)](#).
- Diaz-Manalo, P., M.A. Estrada and D. Baluyot
2021 [Implications of the SC ruling on the Mandanas–Garcia IRA case](#). CPBRD Discussion Paper, Issue No. 2. Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department, House of Representatives.
- Diokno-Sicat, J. and R.B. Maddawin
2018 [A survey of literature on Philippine decentralization](#). Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) Discussion Paper Series No. 2018-23.
- Financial Inclusion Steering Committee (FISC)
2022 [National Strategy for Financial Inclusion 2022–2028](#).
- Government of the Republic of the Philippines
1940 [The Philippine Immigration Act of 1940](#).
1982 [Executive Order No. 851, Reorganizing the Ministry of Health, Integrating the Components of Health Care Delivery into Its Field Operations, and for Other Purposes](#).
1987 [The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines](#).
1991a [Foreign Investments Act of 1991](#).
1991b [Local Government Code of 1991](#).
1995 [Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995](#).
2006 [An Act Reorganizing and Strengthening the Public Attorney's Office \(PAO\)](#).
2010a [Free Legal Assistance Act of 2010](#).
2010b [Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010](#).
2013 [Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013](#).
2015 [National Strategy for Financial Inclusion](#). Manila.
2016a [Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act](#).
2016b [Overseas Workers Welfare Administration Act](#).
2019a [Universal Health Care Act](#).
2019b [Anti-Discrimination Act](#).
2019c [Community-Based Monitoring System Act](#).
-

-
- 2021 Executive Order No. 138, Full Devolution of Certain Functions of the Executive Branch to Local Governments, Creation of a Committee on Devolution, and for Other Purposes (Mandanas–Garcia Case Supreme Court Ruling).
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
 2013 *Country Migration Report: The Philippines 2013*. Makati City.
- National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC)
 2011 *National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan (NDRRMP) 2011–2028*.
 2020 *National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan (NDRRMP) 2020–2030*.
- National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
 2015 Bicol RDC creates Committee on Migration and Development. 15 January.
 2017 *Updated Philippine Development Plan 2017–2022*. Pasig City.
- Philippine Commission on Women (PCW)
 2014 Albay strengthens viability of women-led enterprises. 21 November.
 2022 *Updated Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Plan 2019–2025*. Manila.
- Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI)
 2019 *2018 National Migration Survey*. Quezon City.
- PSA
 2018 QuickStat Albay.
 2021 2020 Census of Population and Housing (2020 CPH) population counts declared official by the President. 7 July.
- Provincial Government of Albay (PGA)
 2019 Annual budget CY 2020: General fund.
 2020 PGA pledged to continue the advocacy on women economic empowerment and support women's human rights in the cities or municipalities of Albay. 11 February.
 2021a Provincial Cooperative and Enterprise Development Office (PCEDO).
 2021b Enhancing disaster risk reduction management. 27 May.
 2021c PGA allocates lots to typhoon victims in Guinobatan. 8 July.
 2021d PGA provides relief goods in evacuation centers of Malilipot. 29 June.
 2021e PSWDO conducts training and orientation on TIP and VAWC to LGUs. 22 November.
 2021f PSWDO distributes rice augmentation to Typhoon "Rolly" victims. 1 July.
 2021g Executive Order No. 138, Full Devolution of Certain Functions of the Executive Branch to Local Governments, Creation of a Committee on Devolution, and for Other Purposes.
 2022a Advancing medical and health services for Albayanos. 19 January.
 2022b Albay PIO–Albay Gender Office host Virtual Gender Fair Language Seminar. 4 January.
 2022c PGA monitors human settlements for displaced people of Albay. 10 January.
- Public Attorney's Office (PAO)
 2019 PAO's free legal assistance for indigent foreign nationals. 22 October.
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
 2020 Super Typhoon Goni (Rolly) humanitarian needs and priorities: Philippines. November 2020–April 2021.
 2021 UN's integrated approach to humanitarian assistance in Albay and Catanduanes is strengthening the recovery and resilience of typhoon-affected families. 9 February.
-



ANNEX

The MGI process



1 Launch of the Local MGI process

The first step of the process is to explain to key national and local government officials what the Local MGIs entail, in order to ensure full understanding of the project and complete buy-in at both levels.



2 Data collection

The second step of the process is to start the collection and analysis of data based on adapted indicators from the MGIs. A draft local migration governance profile based on analysis of the findings is then shared with the government counterparts.



3 Multi-stakeholder discussions on the results of the MGIs

The third step of the process is to convene a consultation where local and national government officials and other stakeholders discuss the good practices and main gaps identified in the draft local migration governance profile. It is also an opportunity for them to comment on and provide suggestions to the draft profile.



4 Final report

The last step is to finalize the local migration governance profile, obtain final validation from the local authorities, and publish a printed version of the report as well as an online version on the Global Migration Data Portal³⁰ and upload it on the IOM Publications Platform.³¹

³⁰ You can find the profiles [here](#).

³¹ Please visit this [link](#).



www.migrationdataportal.org/mgi

#migrationgovernance

 @IOM

 @UNmigration

 @UNmigration

 MGI@iom.int