

PIDS now a Knowledge for Development Center of the World Bank

State think tank Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) and the World Bank (WB) formalized their development partnership last March 18, 2014 through the signing of an agreement that made PIDS a Knowledge for Development Center (KDC) of the Bank.

The KDC program aims to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration with the academe, government, civil society, media, and other development stakeholders in the country through joint organization and conduct of dialogues and consultations on topics of mutual interest. As a KDC, the PIDS library will also make WB's online publications, reports, project documents, and other development-related materials available to its clients. WB materials may be accessed for free through its Open Data site at <http://data.worldbank.org/>.



PIDS, represented by its president Dr. Gilberto Llanto, and World Bank Philippines, represented by its country director Mr. Motoo Konishi, sign the memorandums of agreement on the Knowledge for Development Center (KDC) Program and the SocioEconomic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P) Project on March 18 in Makati City. Witnessing the signing of the agreements are from L-R, PIDS Librarian Rosanna Cleofas, SERP-P Coordinator Kristine Carla Oteyza, PIDS Research Information Director Sheila Siar, World Bank Senior Communications Officer Nor Gonzales, and World Bank Senior Country Economist Karl Kendrick Chua.

During the March signing, another agreement was formalized—the membership of WB-Philippines in the SocioEconomic Research Portal for the Philippines (SERP-P), an online knowledge resource of development-oriented studies and materials contributed by PIDS and 50 other member-institutions of the SERP-P Network. WB materials in the SERP-P may be accessed at <http://serp-p.pids.gov.ph/>.

The signing of the two agreements was followed by a seminar on the WB's latest *Philippine Economic Update* (PEU) presented by Senior Country Economist Karl Kendrick Chua. A short open forum participated by some PIDS research fellows and other KDC representatives capped the event. The PEU highlighted the need for "an action-oriented, coalition-supported program on generating more and better jobs" and a proactive risk management strategy given the country's increasing vulnerability to disasters. A copy of the PEU is available at the WB website (<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/philippines>).

In 2013, PIDS and WB co-organized the **Dialogue for Creating More and Better Jobs** under the KDC platform. Held on September 13 and attended by a multistakeholder audience, the dialogue was intended to provide a venue for in-depth discussion on strategies to address the challenges of creating more and better jobs and the need for different stakeholders to work together to support the jobs agenda. Visit <http://www.pids.gov.ph/index3.php?pr=211> for more details.

For more information about PIDS' involvement in the KDC program, contact the following:

Sheila Siar

Director for Research Information and

KDC Coordinator of PIDS

Email: ssiar@mail.pids.gov.ph

Rosanna Cleofas (for WB materials)

PIDS librarian

Email: rcleofas@mail.pids.gov.ph