

**Czech University of Life Sciences Prague**  
**Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences**  
**Department of Economic Development**



**DIPLOMA THESIS**

**Impact of Rural-Urban Migration in Cordillera Administrative  
Region Philippines**

**Vliv migrace z venkova do měst v Administrativní oblasti Cordillera  
Filipíny**



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**Vliv migrace z venkova do měst v Administrativní oblasti Cordillera Filipíny**

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**Prague**

**2014**



## **DECLARATION**

I declare that the diploma thesis entitled “Impact of Rural-Urban Migration in Cordillera Administrative Region, Philippines” is an original work done by myself, using only the listed bibliography under the guidance of Ing. Jana Mazancová, Ph.D. Institute of Tropics and Subtropics as a partial fulfillment of the requirements of the award of Master’s degree of Czech University of Life Sciences Prague.

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## ABSTRACT

The study investigated the factors that influenced the movement of rural people (Cordillera Region) to urban (Metro Manila). The underlying factor is socio-economic. The author used different theories and determinants to explain the causes of rural and urban migration in the Philippines. Data were collected from the respondents using interview schedule. The results of the survey revealed that most of the respondents left Cordillera to find a better life and employment opportunity in Metro Manila. Lee “push and pull factors” of migration is used to have a deeper understanding of this migration trend. The survey also reflected that most of the respondents have improved their quality of life after migration. Migrant remittances represent the largest direct positive impact of migration on migrant sending area. Resource transfers have positive impact on the living conditions of receiving households in terms of education, health and food consumption, housing and enhancing their livelihood by investing in small enterprises or business, expansion of farm etc.

Migration has an impact on the place that has been left behind (rural) as well as on the place that is being migrated to (place of destination). This impact can be both positive and negative effect on socio-economic household and livelihood of the migrants. In the structuralistic view on migration, migration causes a lot of negative impact on *socio-economical* (inequalities, rural underdevelopment, brain-drain, abandonment of agricultural sector) and negative impact on *socio-cultural* (weaker family structure, lost of interest in Farming sector, inequalities between rural folks, environmental issues). In this light, it is recommended that the government should correct the rural and urban economic disparity by providing education, social and physical infrastructure. The government should also support the agricultural based business. Rural development is needed so that the rural community will stay in the countryside and be a part of the national development.

**Key words:** Internal migration, rural migration, rural development, remittances

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Throughout my time as a graduate student I have been fortunate in the guidance and support I have received from my supervisor Ing. Jana Mazancová, Ph.D. I would like to thank her for the past few months, for always being there when I needed help, for her patience, time, and effort. I also extend my gratitude to other members of the Institute Tropics and Subtropics at the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague who have also contributed much to my thesis. I am really blessed to have them all as my professors.

I would like to thank all the people who contributed and participated in my research project. Firstly, all the Cordilleran people who had supported me especially in the participation in the research study, for their time and effort in participation and the hospitality they have shown me; secondly, to my relatives who provided us accommodation, food and transportation during the research study and lastly to my sisters, Martha Quiller, Frances Quiller and her boyfriend Mark Calulo who participated as a research team, that helped me in realization and implementation of the research project.

Thanks to my girlfriend, Svetlana Letyagina, who spent her whole summer in the Philippines and helped me a lot with my research study. I thank her for being so supportive and patient during the research study period.

Special thanks to my family for their love and support, especially to my mother Gloria Quiller for being the best mother in the whole world.

Lastly, I offer my regards and blessings to all of those who supported me in any respect during the completion of my thesis.

## **AUTHORIZATION TO LEND THE THESIS**

As the sole author of this thesis, I authorize Czech University of Life Sciences Prague to lend it to other institutions or individuals for the purpose of scholarly research.

Date:.....

Michael Angelo Quiller, Author

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATION**

ADB	: Asian Development Bank
CAR	: Cordillera Administrative Region
FAO	: Food and Agricultural Organization
FAOSTAT	: Food and Agriculture Organization statistical database
IFAD	:International Fund of Agricultural Development
NEDA	: National Economic Development Authority
NSCB	: National Statistic of Census Bureau
NCR	: National Capita Region
P	: Philippines peso
USD	: United State Dollar
WB	: World bank

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Migration is an important strategy in the Philippines it can be viewed as part of Filipinos family or household strategy. The direction and magnitude of migration streams in the Philippines has been influenced by the existence of regional inequalities in socio-economic development, employment and related opportunities. The disparities between the rural and urban areas in the Philippines have caused the movement of people from one place to another. The economic factor are the most important factor why Filipinos tend to move, to a place where they expect potential employment and income generating opportunities to be greater than in their area of origin. Rural – urban differential in terms poverty incident motivate rural to urban migration. The most prevalent movement pattern is toward the Metropolitan cities - Metro Manila.

Migration has been an interesting topic for me. In my home country, the Philippines, rural-urban migration is a big obstacle to rural development. One of its problems, among many others, is the increase economic gap between rural and urban regions. The first part of the paper described the meaning of migration and its causes. The economic factor is the major cause of migration. The author applied Todaro and Harris Neoclassical theory which explains migration by eco-geographical differences wherein the urban area has higher wages than the rural area. In a broader perspective, the paper illustrated the migration trends in Asia. Asian migration distinctive features are its decreasing rural to rural migration, increasing rural to urban migration and temporary or circular movements. The author also mentioned the negative and positive impacts of migration.

In studying migration trends in the Philippines, it is vital to know the demographic, socio-economic and social background of the country. The socio-economic factor influenced greatly in the rural to urban drift. The succeeding section discussed the history of migration in the Philippines. The economic disparity, specifically the employment opportunities and wage differentials, between rural and urban regions has influenced the rural to urban migration. To fully understand the in-migration, the author distinguished the features of urban and rural regions i.e. poverty level, accessibility to government services, job availability, population density, etc.

The following chapter explained the different theories of migration, namely Neo-classical developmentalist optimism (Lewis Dual Sector Model of Developments and Lee Push and Pull Factor), Neo-Marxist or Structuralized Pessimism, Pluralist Models – New Economies of Labor and Livelihood Approach. These theories elucidated in different lights the causes of in-migration. The push and pull factor of Lee is used in the next section. Looking in a general sense, this paper also expounds the determinants of migration specifically economic determinant (income generating opportunities) and socio-cultural determinant (societal expectations).

The author looked closer to Metro Manila – the major urban area in the Philippines and Cordillera Autonomous Region – a predominantly agricultural region in the Philippines. The causes and factors of migration from Cordillera to Metro Manila are thoroughly studied by applying the Push and Pull theory of migration. This paper systematically studied the “push factors” that influence the people of Cordillera to move to Metro Manila. These “push factors” are income and unemployment, issues in peace and security, land ownership, poverty, education, frequency of natural disaster and accessibility of destination to the origin area. On the other hand, the “pull factors” (factors that encourages Cordillera people to move to Metro Manila) are also analyzed. These pull factors are better economic opportunities, social and political stable, center for education, modern infrastructure and amenities and better living standard and government center of development.

To deepen my study of migration, this paper looked into Cordillera’s demography, culture, economic standing and migration history. A survey has been done to understand the reason why Cordillera people migrate to Metro Manila. The survey indicated that poverty is the major cause of migration. The survey also reflected that migrating to Manila doesn’t guarantee a better life as some of the respondents didn’t escape poverty and would want to come back to Cordillera given the chance.

The impact of migration is thoroughly studied. Both rural and urban regions are affected negatively by migration. The urban areas are faced with poverty as the increase number of unemployed and underemployed migrated from the rural areas. Aside from poverty, the environment is degraded because of increased number of slum polluting areas. This paper also showed that rural areas are also affected by migration. Rural to urban migration caused negative

impacts on agricultural production because rural people became less interested in the farming sector. This impact eventually causes rural underdevelopment and brain drain to urban regions. The author also cited the ignored impact of rural drift which is the socio-cultural effects on household. Given the above-mentioned negative impacts to both rural and urban areas, the author recommends that the government must improve the quality of life of the rural people so they will not think of migrating. Rural development through improved housing, infrastructure, education and skill development must be addressed by the government.



## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Why do people move? Theories and appropriate or correlated literature have been made, reviewed and formulated to understand and to come up with various scientific study. The topic of migration may be tackled in different lights. Useful models and frameworks are designed to further analyze and illustrate the basic concept of human movement from one area to another or mobility. Migration Theories are formulated using different aspects of academic disciplines such as economic, sociology, geography, cultural and political. These theories are studied to both understand the causes and impacts or implications of rural-urban migration.

### **2.1 What is Migration?**

Migration is defined as the physical movement from one area to another in large or small groups. This spatial or geographical change of location or mobility may involve long but temporary or permanent change of a natural environment or locality/residency. Geographical change of location must be distinctively defined territories and geographical units. This change in location must result to change of society and or social ties or social groups. Migration is more precise in meaning than mobility which is rather more general term that covers all types of territorial movements of whatever distance, duration or degree of permanence.

Since history began, people have already been migrating from different parts of the world to another because of the factor such as climate and the scarcity of resources. In other words, migrants are discontent of where they are living in the sense that certain places don't really satisfy the wants and needs of certain people.

*“United Nations defines internal migration as a permanent change in residence from one geographical unit to another within a social system of a particular country.”*

Migration is defined broadly, by many specialists, as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence of an individual or group of people. This change of residence necessitates a voluntary or involuntary movement through socio-cultural space and in a certain minimum period of time. People may be induced or compelled to move as a result cultural, demographic, socio-economic,

environmental and or political factors (Zoomers 2010). These factors influence migrants in their decision making process.

Internal migration may involve a change in residence from rural area to a city, from one city to another, or from one region of a country to another. From the perspective of the destination or receiving area, an individual making such move is an “*in migrant*”, while that same individual is an “*out-migrant*” from the sending area (UNESCO 2000). Migration can be categorized into inter (intra) municipal, inter (intra) provincial or inter (intra) regional (Pascual 1978).

*“Internal Migration is a fundamental part of rural livelihood strategies and rural transformation –not simply a way to escape rural areas” (Quisumbing 2005).*

Migration can be viewed as part of a family or household strategy. In an economic situation where families do not have sufficient income for their maintenance and survival, movement of a number of family members to urban areas is one way to obtain additional resources. The remittances that a migrant send to his/her family who are left behind in rural areas are being use as an investment in education and agricultural production (Tragerllian 1983).

The economic factor is of major importance for many voluntary migrations, people tend to move to a place where they expect potential income generating opportunities to be greater than in their area of origin (Zoomers 2010). People are expected to move from low-income to high-income areas, has remained dominant in migration based on early studies “*Law of Migration*” by Ravenstein (1885).

Migration is primarily as a function of geographical differences (*Urban x Rural*) in the relatively scarcity (*supply x demand*) of labor as opposed to capital. The differential in wages (*income*) causes people to move from low wage; labor surplus regions to high wage; labor-scarce regions, this movement incorporate cost and risks of migration (Harris and Todaro 1970).

Based on Todaro’s “*Neo-classical migration theory*” at Macro-level, theory explains migration by geographical differences in the supply and demand for labor. The model stated that a scarcity of labor in comparison with accessible capital will result in high wages causing a flow of labor forces. For example, the growing industrial sector in urban cities and demand for labor forces, labor-surplus from rural workers are common solution. And at Micro-level, theory views

migrants as individual, searching for higher incomes, who decide to move on the basis of Cost-benefit calculation. The most important motivating factor for migrants' rational choices to move is the "expected better salaries/ income stability' in urban sector. (De Haan 2008).

*"There are definite, patterned regularities in the growth of personal mobility through space-time during recent history and these regularities comprises an essential component of the modernization trends" (Zelinsky 1971).*

Migration may be characterized and differentiated in various ways. One is according to the reason or caused of migration. Migration may be a life or death situation, it may be produced under strain for reasons of political or of safety precautions. It may also be voluntary migration, which may be initiated by economic reasons or needs that are unattainable on their area of origin. Unlike the migrants who are moved by force these migrants opted to live or transfer in a different location for the hope of a better life.

Migration may also be either temporary or permanent. Temporary migration may not be a long-term change of residency. The reason for this migration is only to obtain jobs or better source of living to help improve their lives from the place where they are originally from. Permanent migrants on the other hand have no intention of coming back and are settled to making their destination their new home. In some cases, temporary migrants may opt to seek permanent residency and those who are initially planning to stay for good may also decide to go back to the places they once belonged. Many factors may affect such change in plans and intention of return.

## **2.2 ANALYTICAL APPROACH**

### **2.2.1 Migration Theories**

Through years of research and theoretical studies, many factors have been seen and considered to further understand the true nature of migration, its causes, determinants and implications to both abandoning area and destination of occupancy. The complexity of this researches and studies gave way to the continuous birth of different theories discussing migration. Debates and

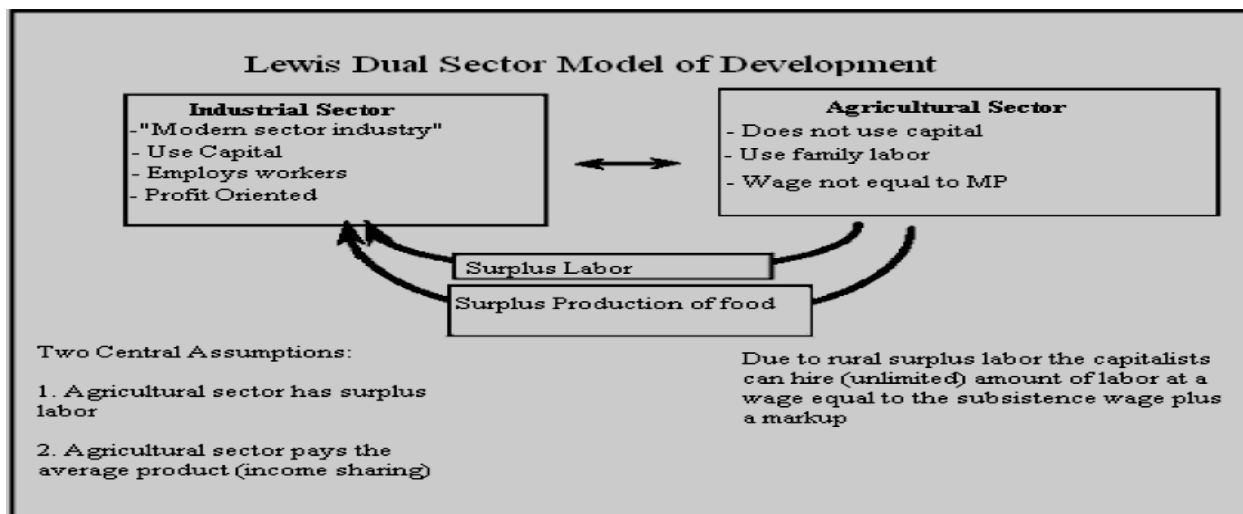
thorough investigation and observations of conflicting minds made switch to one form of theory to another.

### **2.2.2 Neo-classical Developmentalist Optimism**

The Neo-classical Developmentalist theory is divided into three different approaches. This theory is basically based on the direct implication of the raging differences of the supply and demand of labor between varying areas. The massive flow and alarming shortage of labor forces and livelihood may result into a huge difference in wages and compensations. Macro-economic theories regarded urban sectors to offer better salaries, which become a motivational encouragement for migration.

The first theory is the Lewis Model of Development that was born in 1954. This theory explains the mechanism of the changing characteristics or structure between a more urbanized and modern economy and an underdeveloped economy from an existing agricultural livelihood. The “*Lewis’ surplus of labor theory model* or Lewis dual Sector model, draw the difference in employment distribution and employment opportunities between the urban and the rural areas. The model regards the rural area to have lesser job opportunities and higher rate of underemployment. While, due to modernization and fast growing industrial development within the urbanized area, overflowing jobs and employments are being offered and distributed that causes labor deficiency. It assumes that when the developing capitalist sector continues to expand, it extracts or takes labor from the subsistence sector. This need for labor forces drives rural-urban migration. Such migration drawn from labor force demands and need for human capital causes low population density in rural areas and high growing population density in the urban areas (Mutandwa et all, 2011).

According to Lewis, rural-urban migration is the central part of dualistic model that allows the flow of labor from agricultural sector to the industrial sector and lead to its development. In figure 1, it shows the illustration of flow of labor in Lewis dual sector model of development.



**Figure 1: Lewis 1960**

In the late 1960s, Lewis theory of labor surplus was started to be questioned, by many scientists, because it did not corresponded well with the arising problems of urbanization on most developing countries. The continued over flow of the large population of migrants from the rural area, who are supposed to be working for agricultural development, to the urban sector resulted to low productivity in agriculture and increase of unemployment in the cities.

In 1970s, Michael Todaro discussed the implications of the rural urban migration. The rural sector being the source of human capital for the urban sector, continue to overflow the population in the urban areas. Because the urban sector failed to absorb the high supply of human resources coming into the city from the rural sector, growth of unemployment and underemployment increases. Rural-urban migration still persists in number even if poverty and growth of unemployment is expected in the urban sector. Nevertheless, the migrants still keep their aspirations and optimism of getting better compensation from a much better occupation than they previously have before migration will compensate with their other expenses during migration. Even if they later on do not fulfill their initial plan and end up unemployed, migrants continue to hope and wait for their right opportunity to come in the future.

### **2.2.3 Neo Marxist or Structuralized Pessimism**

In response to the highly criticized optimistic views on migration, more scientists focused on studying and understanding the negative impact of migration in terms of underdevelopment of the rural sector or the migrants' point of origin. The migration pessimists pointed out that migration would eventually cause economic instability. The migration results to increase on the shortage of human labor forces of the sending areas. The migration pessimists were not convinced and are doubtful of the positive effects of the money/compensation sent or remittances on the migrants' household and communities. Remittances were considered unstable and very temporary source of income. The shortage of human labor forces as a result of migration causes "brain drain" in which educated/skilled young people migrate to seek better for a economic opportunity and job stability (De Haas 2007). Remittances from migration were seen as causes of inequality within the sending communities and migration pessimist were skeptical on it positive impact on receiving household (Lipton 1980). In a structuralistic view on migration, migration cause a lot of negative impact in the sending household in terms of the increasing inequalities among the migrant sending communities through remittances (de Haas 2007).

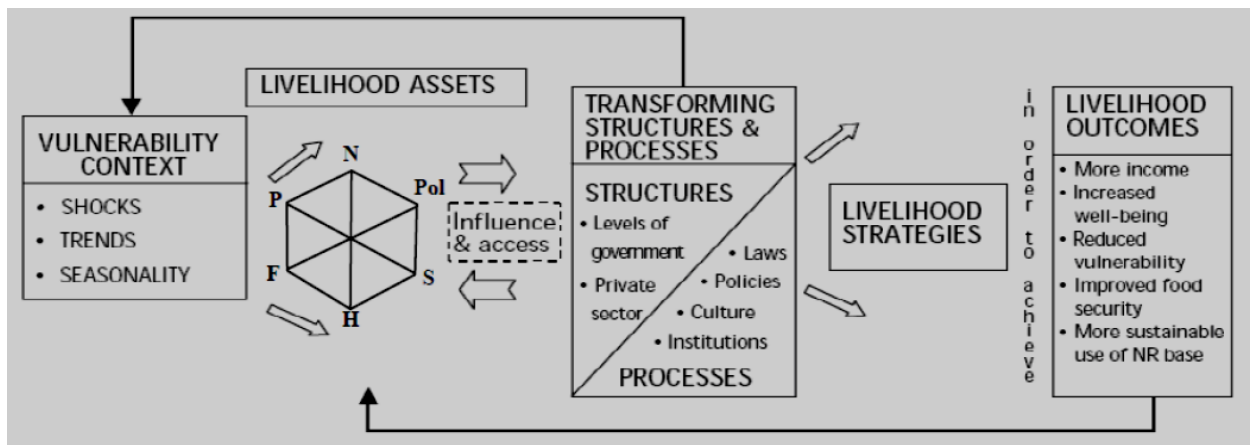
### **2.2.4 Pluralistic Models: New Economics of Labor and Livelihood Approach**

The New Economics of Labor Migration Model or NELM considers migration as an answer for every household and has been a strategy to somehow sustain their livelihood that has both positive and negative effect in the analytical approach (De Haan 2007). The Economics of Labor and Migration view that migration is a rarely an individual decision rather it is a decision undertake within a larger social units/household (immediate and extended family) play an important role when making the decision to migrate in order to diversify the income sources and to have less vulnerable to shock (risk and cost). Typically migration posed the decision terms of the "*cost and benefits*" to the individual migrants and sending family and emphasize the role of migration as a family strategy (Sjaastad 1962). According to Sjaastad's *human capital theory* or (theory of investment in man), considered migration decision as an investment one involving costs and returns distributed over time. In deciding to move, the migrants seek to maximize their net life span income. The pluralistic model paid an important role of remittances in the

development of migrant sending family household. The remittances they receive from the migrant are being use in the diversification of their livelihood (livelihood approach). The remittances they receive can be use as capital to improve livelihood so they can reduce the vulnerability of shocks and stresses (Ellis 2003). As the result of livelihood diversification, household became stable and sustainable thus contributing to poverty reduction (Stifel 2010).

Livelihood asset can be considered as the stock of capital that can be use to improve household welfare and development of existing livelihood. Based on figure 2, livelihood framework can be divided into five different livelihood assets: natural capital, human capital, financial capital, social capital and physical capital. (Note: the initial letters from the graph are the initial of livelihood assets (natural, social, human, financial, physical capital)).

### Livelihood Framework



**Figure 2: FAO, Analysing local institutions and livelihood 2005**

Sjaastad’s Micro-Economic Theory of Migration (Human Capital Theory) is the most relevant migration theory in Developing countries especially in the case of the study paper. According to Sjaastad, the general hypothesis regarding the causes of human migration is –

*“Migration results from the differences in rural-urban expected earnings not necessarily wage differential”.*

### 2.2.5 Push and Pull Factor

Movement is purposeful. There are reasons behind every incidence of movement. The push – pull hypothesis suggest that the movement of a person from one place to another is regulated by several factors, whether personal choice or the decision is affected by the other people. These factors are identified as the “push and pull” factors (Plameras 1977).

The mentioned hypothesis is said to be consequential from the factors of areas of origin and factors of areas of destination. Basically, negative characteristics push the migrants out of the origin area while the positive aspects of the destination area pull the migrants towards direction. Factors that influence people’s desire to migrate are both economic, such as employment opportunities, non-economic, such as security (Skeldon 1990). Other unfavorable situations in the area of origin like family conflicts, political unrest, war, natural disaster, land disputes etc., could be a big factor for people to move.

The ability to migrate is affected by the distances to potential destinations (which affect cost), communications and transportation connections, education levels (which affect access to information) and national policies (Massey et al. 1993). According to Lee, migrations are the result of combination of push and pull factors and based on individual rational decisions of migrants. The people choose to migrate if they expect a positive net impact in terms of economic progress (de Haas 2008).

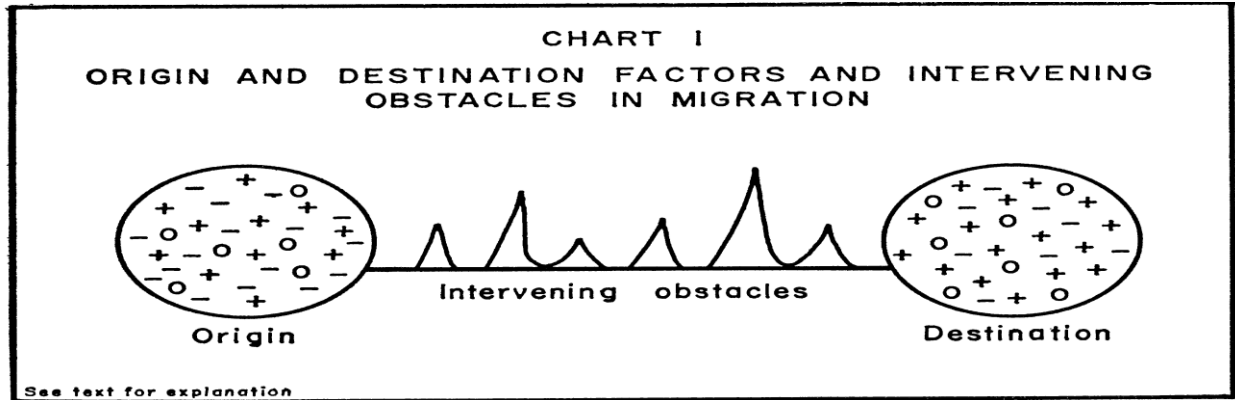
The movement of people is dependent on the numerous factors that influence the decision-making capability of an individual or a group of individuals. Everett Lee summarized these Factors in his work “A Theory of Migration”. He categorized them into four parts:

1. Factor associated with the area of the origin(push factor),
2. Factor associated with the area of destination (pull factor),
3. Intervening obstacles and
4. Personal factors (and biases)

Lee indicated schematically the first three factors. The (+) signs in the chart stand for the pull factors of an area which act to hold people within the area or attract people to it, and (-) signs



stand for the push factors in an area which tend to repel people, there are 0's to which people are essentially indifferent. These intervening obstacles may be factors such as all these factors work with the personal factors together to determine the decision making of migration. (Lee 1966).



**Figure 3: Lee’s Migration factors chart (Lee, 1966)**

Push factor refer to a condition in a particular area which causes people to migrate to other places. Economic, social, political, religious, and educational factors in a given area push people to leave. A high rate of unemployment in one’s hometown may force a new college graduate to leave and move to a place where chances of employment are high. A warm and humid climate may drive people out of a particular area and stop others from coming in. Geographical barriers like mountains, deserts, and big rivers may push people to go to other places.

The peace and order situation in some places like the constant battle between the government troops and the rebel may cause people to leave their homes and discourage others for moving in. Absence of modern infrastructure like hospitals, schools, roads etc. may push people to transfer to other places. Focusing with the push factors, these factors repel people and make them leave a place no matter where one decides to move to. In many cases, push factor are based in economics, socio-cultural, environmental, demographic and political aspect and most often complex and inter-related.

Pull factors are those factors which encourage people to stay in a place and attract others to move in? A favorable climate is an attractive come on for many people. Economic advantages being offered by a certain regions cause people to move there. There are more chances of employment

in the urban areas and more opportunities to land good paying jobs in industrialized urban areas. Educational facilities offerings are greater in urban areas than in the rural areas. For many years, Metro Manila has been the magnet of internal migratory movement.

### **2.3 Migration in the Philippines**

The direction and magnitude of migration streams in the Philippines has been influenced drastically by the existence of regional inequalities in socio-economic development and employment and related opportunities (Caldwell 1969). The disparities between the rural and urban areas in the Philippines have caused the movement of people from one place to another. The in-migration towards Metro Manila and other major urban cities like Metro Cebu and Metro Davao was the dominant pattern, in-migrants mainly coming from Visayas areas, Northern Luzon in our case, Cordillera Administrative region and Mindanao areas, while out-migration are usually coming from less developed/poorer regions in the Philippines. During the past few decades, migration from rural areas to urban cities accounted more than half of all urban growths in the Philippines during 1960s and 1970s and about 25 percent of urban growth in the 1980s and 1990s (Brokerhoff 1995).

Urban Migration is not an unheard term in the Philippines context because it is a well-recognized phenomenon. The Economic development brought by the expansion of urbanization process has shifted the structural change to an agricultural based economy to a more industrial based economy with a bigger demand in labor market (Lewis 1954). Recent migration flow is interprovincial, typically in the directions of Metro Manila and the surrounding areas. Rural to urban migrations comprises the bulk of all migrations, accounting for 40.7 percent, while urban to urban migration is in second, accounting for 37.2 percent of all migration in year 2000, these are the two main forms of migrations in the Philippines, while rural to rural migration accounted for 18.2 percent and urban to rural migrations for only 4 percent. This indicates that internal migration flows are quite heterogeneous (Quisumbing 2005). Figure 4 shows the level of urbanization from 1960 to 2000 of Philippines geographical regions. As shown in the figure 4, Metro Manila was almost 100 percent urban, while nearby regions around National Capital

Region, Region III and IV, Central Luzon and Southern Tagalog, respectively, became the most urbanized regions in the country and the rest of the regions are less urbanized.

### Urban Growth in Philippines Region 1960 - 2000

Urban Growth in Philippine Regions						
Region		Level of Urbanization				
		1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
<b>Philippines</b>		<b>29.8</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>48.0</b>
NCR	National Capital Region	98.1	100	100	100	100
CAR	Cordillera Administrative Region	-	-	20.1	30.1	35.6
I	Ilocos	17.6	19.4	23.6	32.3	38.2
II	Cagayan Valley	14.1	14.1	17.7	21.5	22.2
III	Central Luzon	26.5	30.2	41.8	54.3	60.5
IV	Southern Tagalog	26.8	30.6	37.1	53	58.2
V	Bicol	21.9	19.2	21.9	26.8	27.6
VI	Western Visayas	30.5	26.7	28.4	37.1	30.3
VII	Central Visayas	22.2	27.9	32.1	42.5	46.4
VIII	Eastern Visayas	18.9	19.4	21.8	28.1	19.5
IX	Western Mindanao	16.8	15.8	17.6	31.5	26
X	Northern Mindanao	20.2	20.9	25.6	42.3	40.5
XI	Southern Mindanao	20.9	26.6	34.3	38.4	38
XII	Central Mindanao	-	15.6	24.3	32.8	32.7
ARMM	Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao	-	-	11.8	22	21.2
XIII	Caraga	-	-	30	36	27.2

**Figure 4: National Statistic Office in the Philippines, 2001**

Most Filipinos coming from the provinces often tend to migrate to Metro Manila or the nearest urban cities because of said opportunities awaiting them there and freedom from the place they have been living. Because it is the capital region of the country, most services, amenities and prospect can be found in Metro Manila as contrary to what its provincial counterparts can offer. The big disparities between urban and rural socio-economic development is the key aspect why people tend to move from one point (origin) to another (destination) and unemployment rate and wage differentials between the rural and the urban sectors are the key element of the migration (Harris and Todaro 1970).

Individual's decision to migrate because of the attraction of "bright light" of the city that assure in the long term, to offer better economic opportunities compare to rural areas. Cities have more to offer than simply employment and higher wages; cultural events, night time entertainment, relaxation and leisure and other wellbeing services offer everywhere within the city (Chen and Coulson 2002). The big demands for Labor force in both formal and informal sector in urban cities are the biggest magnet for urban in-migration.

### **2.3.1 Rural and Urban differentiation**

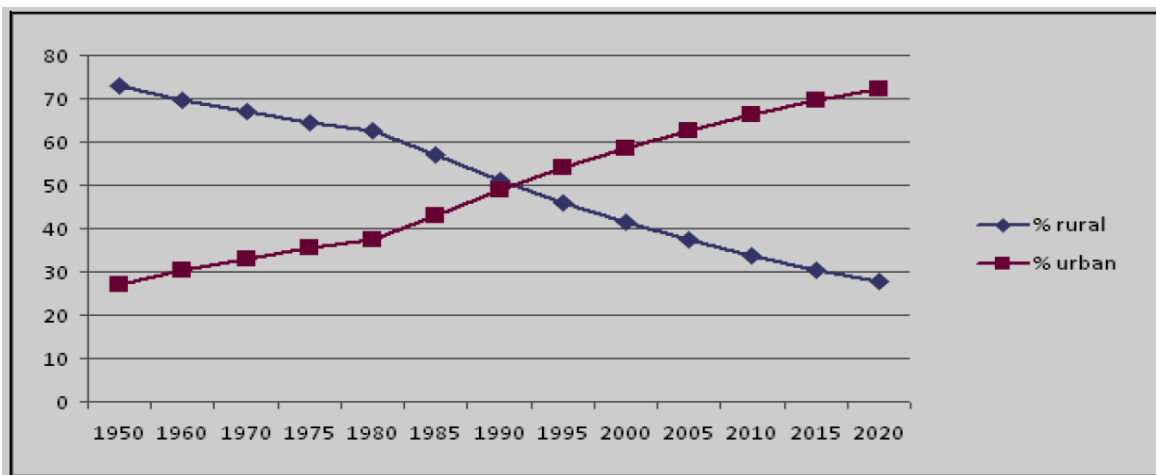
To fully understand the reason behind the rural-urban migration we should characterize and distinguish urban from rural communities in the Philippines based on the study are the following:

- More freedom for the individual and more opportunities for self-expression
- Concentration of museums, universities, and medical facilities
- A great variety of occupation (job opportunities and job availability)
- Administrative offices of the government agencies and other institutions
- Varied forms of recreation and entertainment
- Highly specialized services of many types
- Wide differences in social values and manner of living
- Wide social and economic differences
- Usually a variety of racial and religious groups
- Special problems of the government, health, housing, transportation, education, recreation and crime
- Population density

In the Philippines, most communities are classified as rural communities. Most of the people from the rural areas derive their livelihood from farming, fishing and mining. Philippines are blessed with wide plains and large forests where people derive their means of living. For the reason, Philippine is primarily an agricultural country. In 1980, nearly *six of every ten* Filipinos live in a village or rural areas. As agriculture is the primary source of employment and livelihood for majority of rural population, providing more than 75 percent of labor force. But in 2010 the total rural population in the Philippines declined to 33.6 percent and the urban population was at

66.4 percent (NSCB 2010). The declining population of rural areas is the cause of rural- urban migration and urban growth (urbanization). By 2020, urban population in the Philippines is expected to have more than 70 percent of the Philippine population (Figure 5).

However, employment in the agricultural sector provide minimal or insufficient source of income for most of rural farmers. Rural farmers are considered as the poorest of the poor in the Philippines (NSCB 2010). Because of inability to provide at least basics needs to their family, farmer tend to seek for a much more stable income in nearby urban cities.



**Figure 5: NSCB 2010 ; Percentage of rural and urban population 1950-2020**

Rural-urban differential in poverty motivate migration. In the Philippines the incidence of poverty level are much higher in rural areas than in urban areas. The differential levels of poverty over time and across area/groups reflect the quality of life and standard of living enjoy by rural/urban citizen. Table 1 shows that the incidence of poverty in the urban areas is declining by 14% from 33.6 to 19.9 percent, while the incidence of poverty in rural areas merely with no changes (- 4%) 50.7 to 46.9 percent. The urban areas had far better than their rural counterpart, the big disparities causes' social and economic inequalities and development. Comparing poverty level by regions of the country, those who live in a more urbanized region has definitely are better off than the less urbanized area (rural).

### Poverty incidence in the Philippines (Urban x Rural)

Year	Philippines	Urban	rural
1990	40.2	33.6	50.7
1995	39.9	31.1	48.6
2000	35.5	24	47
2005	31.8	17.9	44.4
2010	33.7	19.9	46.9

**Table 1: National Statistic Office of the Philippines (NSO) 2011**

### Philippine poverty incidence by region

Region	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
Philippines	40.2	39.9	35.5	31.8	33.7
NCR (Metro Manila)	14.5	13.2	8	6.4	8.7
CAR (Cordillera Administrative Region)	39.2	41.6	40.5	37.5	37.3

**Table 2: National Statistic Office of the Philippines (NSO) 2011**

The occurrences of poverty incidence are most likely high in less urbanized areas or rural areas while more urbanized areas has lesser incidence of poverty. The differences in poverty level of both rural and urban areas are mainly due to the socio-economic prosperity of urban centers in terms of high level of living standard, penetration of industries and business sectors, more job opportunities, higher income, better social and health cares, modern infrastructure and transportation, high level of educational system etc. From 1990 till 2010 National Capital Region (Metro Manila) had an average of 11.6 incident of poverty while Cordillera Region had 38.25 percent of poverty incident. Income disparities are the main factor why rural people motivate to migrate.

## 2.4 Determinants of Migration

Given the general importance of internal migration to urban and rural development, it is also important to observe determinants of the migration decision. Understanding determinants and selectivity of migration is important for a number of reasons. Migrants' individual and household characteristics can shape migrants success at their destination and has strong impact on migrants' family and potential benefits that they can avail from the family member who migrated. Since migration is a selective process, individual and family characteristics of those who choose to migrate and those who stay behind are different. Migration decisions are taken by families or group of individuals rather than by a single individual in the case of the Philippine rural migration (Mincer 1978). The collective decision not only maximizes the expected income but minimizes the risk (Carrington 1996). The idea is that migrants create networks in the destination place, which reduce the migrant costs for new migrants with the help/assist of the family member, relatives and friends who are already migrated or have been living in the destination area. To review the determinants of migration, many theoretical approaches explicate these determinants as economic and socio-cultural factors. The discussion and evidence are understood primarily in terms of rural-urban migration in the developing countries which is relevant in the case of Philippines.

1). *Economic Determinant* – the most important traditional determinant for people migrating from rural to urban areas is the search for better economic opportunities (Todaro 1976). People tend to move to a place where they expect potential income generating opportunities to be greater than in their area of origin. Metro Manila has been the main venue for the Diaspora of migrants coming from the provinces of the Philippines. This is because majority of the services and opportunities sought by most Filipinos can only be found within the locality of the country's capital or urban cities. A high economic prosperity means more jobs opportunities, higher income, work stability and demand for labor and service market (Borjas 1995). The poor condition in rural areas is key factor why people lured to move for example; unemployment, very low income, lack of rural job opportunities, landlessness, low productivity, environment/resource degradation and bad living condition in rural areas in the Philippines. Most voluntary migrants tend to move to a place where they expect potential income generating opportunities to be

greater than in their area of origin .The income differentials are the key driver in decision making process. In A large disparity of urban income \$4,978 USD (P204, 977) which is double compare to \$2073 USD (P85, 373) average income in rural areas in year 2000(NSCB 2005).

2). *Socio-cultural Determinant* – current trend in migration in the Philippines has a significant socio-cultural effect on migrant’s decision. The difference between the socio-cultural structure between the urban and rural areas are the key factor why people tend to move. Mostly people tend to move because of the socio-cultural challenges they encountered in the place of origin for example; gender inequality (discrimination towards the women); ethnic and religious conflict; natural disaster; social and cultural imprisonment in homogenous rural areas; rural violence (armed conflict) and political instability causing civil unrest and war; poverty and other social problems (Zoomers 2010). Such problems/issues push them to move voluntarily or involuntarily depending in the seriousness of the situation. A key socio-cultural factor used to explain migration from rural to urban areas in most developing countries is the societal expectation on how people should function in a given society based on their culture, religion, customary belief and gender role (male x female) for example, men “*The breadwinner*” should work and provide for their family while women often expected to be left home to attend and take care of children, household works and other duties at home and family farm (Little 1973).

In addition, other important determinants that influence decision making to migrate are to improve their *educational skills, to join family and friends* (Todaro 1976) and to search for better entertainment or “*bright city life*” (Findley 1977). In general, People may be induced or compelled to move as a result of cultural, demographic, socio-economic, environmental and political factor. The discontentment of individual in the current place of origin helped them to decide whether to stay or move out in a better place/condition that will suit their needs, safeness, stability, freedom and comfort in life.

## **2.5 Migration Pattern in the Philippines**

Migration is not a new phenomenon among Filipinos. It is a very important livelihood strategy among Filipino people. Since 1948 a very significant pattern of internal migration has developed within the Philippines which are reflected in the statistics of the 1948 and 1960 censuses. This



pattern of regional redistribution of the rural population towards the urban cities will continue for a significant period of time (1950s till 1990s). The major patterns since 1948 have been twofold: frontier migration primarily to Mindanao until 1960, the in-migration center shifted to Metro Manila and the surrounding provinces.

While migration to urban areas has been particularly pronounced since 1960s, movement to frontier and upland areas is still continuing, as the work of Cruz et al. (1986) has demonstrate. In fact, between 1975 and 1980, almost one quarter of all interregional migrants had the uplands as their destination (Cruz and Zosa-Feranil 1988). Overall, the major receiving areas have been Mindanao and the Metro Manila Area. There were two significant migration trends that affected population number in the 1970s and the 1980s.

The *first* was a trend of migration from small villages in rural areas to the chartered cities within the region and after a while to more developed cities like Metro Manila or the surrounding provinces and cities near the Capital City (Manila).

The *second* major migration pattern consisted of the resettlement from the more densely to the less densely populated regions but accounted small portion of migration trend in the Philippines.

*“Rural –urban migration has been fueled by the lack of opportunities, worsening peace and order, and the lack of infrastructural development and basic services in rural areas, and the subsequent urban bias in investments and inputs to development”*

The major pull factors of these areas have been available land and jobs respectively (Herrin 1985). The major sending areas have been the Visayas, the Bicol, Ilocos and Cordillera Regions of Luzon. In general, migration has been to the more developed regions of the Philippines (Perez 1985) and migration has come more and more to be dominated by rural-to-urban and urban-to-urban flows as opposed to the rural-rural flows in the 1950s. Between 1980 and 1990 the numbers of people living in Metro Manila have increased to 5.9 million to 7.9 million people (Flieger 1995). Since 1970, the in-migration center of the Philippines has moved from Mindanao to Metro Manila and the surrounding provinces. Although Metro Manila is an attractive destination for rural folks and the percentage of the urban population have increased drastically, nearest suburban or neighboring provinces had a higher increased in in-migration. Up to the

1990s, rural-urban migration to Metro Manila and the major urban cities was the dominant pattern and by the late 1990s, there was a shift of migration to highly urbanized cities in which the main destination was only to Metro Manila. The most current census in the Philippines was done in year 2000 but doesn't provide an urban-rural classification of population but instead they classified population by "highly urbanized areas" and "less urbanized areas". The most recent significant changes in the pattern of internal movement of Filipino population throughout the years are:

- Migration of women (*feminization*) – Strong dominance of female over males;
- Migration of youth (*professionals, skilled*) – Dominance of young over old age grouping;
- Increase in temporary migration, especially those *commuting*;
- The emergence of more Accumulative kinds of migration which can contribute to the reduction of poverty.

In addition, an emerging new trend in migration (2000 – present) called "*Circular Migration*". Circular Migration or "*Floating population*" is the movement of people temporary and usually repetitive movement from one place to another (origin to destination or vice versa) and typically for the purpose of employment. Zelinsky (1971) defined it as "*A great variety of movement, usually short-term, repetitive, or cyclical in character, but having in common the lack or long lasting change in residence*". The circular nature allows migrant worker to take advantage of employment opportunities in both places (origin, destination). It is influenced by labor market segmentation, where low-wages and low status jobs are offered to migrants in Contractual period (weekly, monthly). In Southeast Asia especially in the case of the Philippines, temporary migration is increasingly important particularly in movement to larger cities (Guest 2003). It accounted for one-third of all migration in the Philippines.

The general pattern of internal migration was one of long distance movement. The movement of people between provinces was 1.5 % higher than the movement within the provinces. The trend of internal migration was one movement between regions (interregional migration) and a limited number of intra province movements. A majority of these people migrate to Metro Manila, a region noted for education, cultural, and economical opportunities. Of the three major island groups, Luzon ranks first in the numbers of immigrants; Mindanao, second; Visayas, third.

During the past few decades, internal migration has been and still continues to be considerable in scale in number and the migration rates appear not slowing down and the most prominent one is rural-urban movement while rural to rural are more common for poorer migrants. The complexity of migration direction and duration is matched by that of the composition of the flow (Tacoli 1998). The relationship between migration decision and an individual's demographic characteristics (*Sex, marital status, level of education, household characteristics, family etc.*) are the factors that influenced the migrant decision in regards to the duration and destination of migration (*Permanent, temporary, rural-urban, rural-rural, urban-rural etc*). Migration has been as a response of individuals to better economic and non-economic opportunities (socio-cultural) and expectation of increased economic and social welfare and better in a “*promising urban cities*” (Mazumdar 1987).

## **2.6 Causes of Migration (Cordillera Administrative Region – Metro Manila)**

To gain a better foothold and understanding about migration patterns and its causes, one must not just look on the element of the certain spaces which tend to pull and attract people. Instead, the push factors which trigger or induce movement in the first place must be taken into consideration. The place of origin of migrants must have undesirable which, in turn, invoke migration. In the case of Cordillera Region, there must be certain factors such as which contribute to the movement of people to Manila. Factors which tend to push away Cordilleran from their homeland to the Metropolitan Manila area.

Metro Manila has been the main venue for the Diaspora of migrants coming from the provinces of the Philippines. This is because majority of the services and opportunities sought by most Filipinos can only be found within the locality of the country's Capital. In fact, according to some researches, migration by the people living in provinces to cities is more evident in the developing countries. Manila has experienced many urban development mainly brought about by migration. These developments can be from the economic to social aspects and all of these delivered an impact on the entire condition of not just manila but also the provinces vacated by migrants.

This study specially generalizes the factors which trigger migration to and from Manila and Cordillera Region respectively. In order to give a scrutinized overview of the said migration phenomena, the following questions must be address: (formulated from author's objective).

1. What are the different factors which induces the movement of people from Cordillera Administrative Region to Metro Manila or nearby Urban Cities?
2. What are the different elements present and existing in Metro Manila which attracts the migration of people from Cordillera?
3. What are the implication/impact of the migration factors to both Cordillera Administrative Region and Metro Manila and are the effects brought about by this phenomenon significant?

## **2.7 Push and Pull factors affecting migration from Cordillera Administrative Region to Metro Manila**

### ***PUSH (Cordillera Administrative Region 1960s –present)***

The Cordillera Administrative Region is located in a vast mass of mountain ranges located in the central portion of northern Luzon in the Philippines. Located in this Administrative region are the provinces of Apayao, Kalinga, Abra, Mountain Province, Ifugao and Benguet, plus the chartered city of Baguio (located entirely within Benguet). Cordillera Region is rich in natural resources but in spite of natural wealth and tremendous potential of the region, it is characterized by high incidence of poverty, high unequal distribution of income, low functional adult literacy and low young population. The region also receives the lowest budget from the government, for the reason the development of Cordillera region never gone to its potential and still behind compare to other regions in the Philippines.

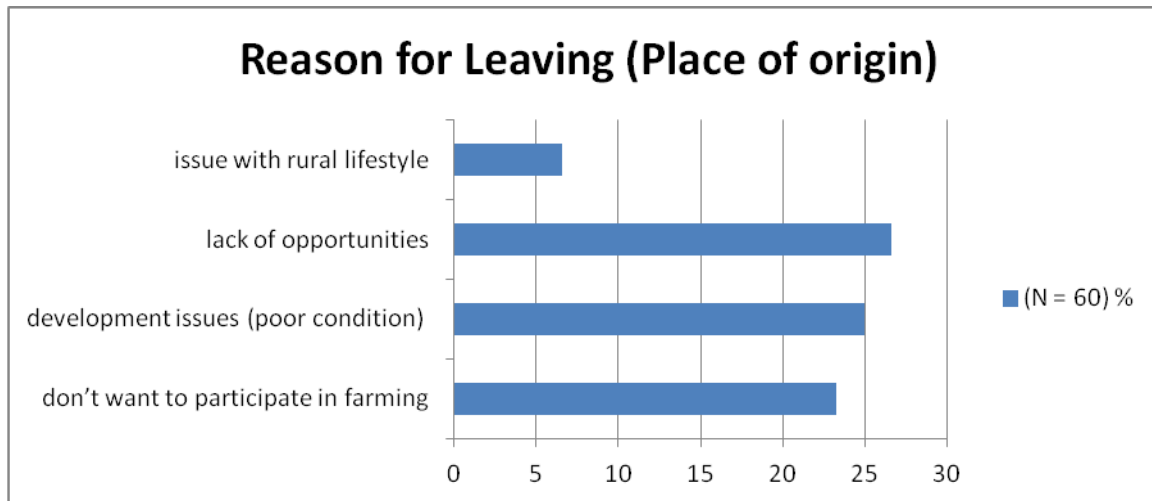
Security and peace keeping was a big issue in Cordillera Region during the 1960s till 1980s. Armed rebels were living and camping in the Mountain of Cordillera. The rebels were fighting for their right as the rightful owner of their ancestral land who mostly owned by big companies and few rich land owners. Most of the indigenous people living in their ancestral land were evicted to give way to development of the regions in terms of building infrastructure like roads, building, agricultural plantation, national park, recreational areas and widening of restricted

forest area. This conflict caused death and uncertainty within cordillera region. Due to its persisting poverty, insecurity and unstableness, out migration became a trend in Cordillera till present time. Out migration in Cordillera started during the late 1950s till 1980s.

Most of the people from Cordillera move out going to the nearest urban cities but mostly to Metro Manila and its suburban cities surrounds it. Cordillera Region is considered as one of the poorest region in the Philippines for having low HDI (Human Development Index) and high in HPI (Human Poverty Index), from 1970 till 1980s Cordillera Administrative region was averaging 0.482 which is fairly low HDI and With high HPI(Worldbank). The poverty incidence among Cordilleran families within 1970s – 1980s was 37.3 percent (NSCB). According to National Statistic Coordination Board of the Philippines (NSCB), statistic indicated that 28.8 percent of the region's total number of families is living under the poverty threshold in 2006. Poverty in the rural areas in the Cordillera provinces was cause by the dependencies of rural folks to its abundant natural resources as mean of their livelihood, mostly based on farming, small-scale production, fishing, hunting, mining and food gathering in forest within the region. The primary and often the only sources of income for Cordilleran rural people are based primarily on Agriculture (subsistence farming, fishing, livestock, poultry etc.).

Based on the survey, we have asked the respondent why they have chosen to leave their rural hometown and these are the answers:

- 23.3 percent (14) of respondents answered that Farming was not for them.
- 25 percent (15) of respondents believed that there is no future in their homeland and would like to venture on other fields.
- 26.6 percent (16) of respondents taught of their homeland as too poor and would like to look for more opportunities to assist with family expenditures.
- 6.6 percent (4) of respondents don't like rural life-style and preferred to enjoy city life
- 18.3 percent (11) of respondents saw many other villagers were working well in the city and would like to try.



**Table 3: Source: Survey 2012**

The incidences of poverty are mostly higher among indigenous people living in mountainous areas of Cordillera. In 2009 according to National Statistic Coordination Board (NSCB), poverty incidence of Families in Cordillera was 17.1 % compare to Metro Manila with 4% poverty incidence, Abra, Apayao and Mountain Province had more than 50 % of poverty incidence in 2009. The poorest of the poor are the indigenous people because of illiteracy, unemployment, no access to development (modern infrastructures and technology), lack of access to microfinance services, low productivity and profitability in farming activities (small scale farmer), few income generating activities etc.. High rate of illiteracy are the main reason why indigenous people cannot escape from poverty, skills are primitive and mostly based on traditional way of life. Lack of access in education is the main reason people are illiterate and has affected the poor more severely when there was only low paying job (informal sector) available because of its illiteracy and being unskilled, most of the rural folks are underemployed and unemployment are common in rural areas. Their traditional norms, traditional way of life and practices hold down the indigenous people and remain poorest among the poor. Rural areas in Cordillera region lag behind economic growth and having very high rate of unemployment and underemployment because poor people in particular indigenous people have little access to productive assets and business opportunities (IFAD 2005).

Out-migration is mostly motivated by socio-economic disparities between Cordillera region and its provinces and Metro Manila. The big gap between rural and urban living standard created

inequality and disparities that boost the out-migration toward the more developed and stable urban cities. The levels of absolute poverty are estimated to be much higher in rural areas than in urban areas the same in the case of Cordillera Region compared to National Capital Region. The economic factor, political/ethnic conflicts and insecurities in peace and safety are the important factors that push cordilleran people to move out. Push factors are mainly for economic reasons, the greater the differences in economic opportunities between rural and urban areas, the greater the movement of people to more economically oriented areas like urban cities.

In addition to economic motives to move, other key factors that cause migration are: to improve educational skills level; to escape from rural violence and political instability; to escape social and cultural imprisonment in homogeneous rural areas; to search for better infrastructure like modern buildings, malls, restaurants etc., entertainment and leisure or the “City life” and lastly to join family and friends. Key migration factors in Cordillera Regions are unemployment, very low incomes, lack of rural job opportunities, landlessness, insecurity/civil unrest and conflict, poverty and bad living conditions in the Region.

These are the major factors that push people of Cordillera Region to leave their place of origins:

### **2.7.1 Income and Unemployment**

Migrants tend to move from low-income to high-income areas. Income greatly affects the decision of Cordilleran migrants since they are searching for a place that can provide better welfare for themselves and their families. The cordilleran people base their income and livelihood mostly in primary in nature, for instance, farming, lumbering, fishing, pasturing, quarrying and other seasonal off-farm activities and for the most part farmers unable to produce enough for their family consumption for the year. About 49.9 percent of the region’s total employment is absorbed by the agriculture sector based on National Statistical Office of the Philippines (NSO 2011).

#### **1. Income Gap (Rural – Urban)**

The income generation from these activities is quite low that allows farmers or rural folk just to provide basic necessities for their family and sometimes is barely enough, farming alone is not

sufficient to maintain a family. The daily minimum wage in Cordillera region is \$5.6 dollars (P230 pesos) in formal sector and in informal sector is just \$1.2 - 2 dollar (P50-85pesos) a day, while Metro Manila has \$12.2 dollars a day (DOLE 2012). Most of the Cordilleran especially in the Provinces of Apayao, Abra and Mountain Province are working in informal sector and its current family income base in these three provinces is \$1-5 USD (P50-250 pesos a day), 80-100% of their family income is spent in food (NSCB 2009).

Based on 2006 and 2009 average income and expenditure of families by region, National capital Region (Metro Manila) had an average of \$5427 USD and Cordillera Administrative Region had \$3296USD (Figure 6). Urban household has almost twofold income advantage over rural household. Urban-rural income gap however, decline substantially over the years due to the development of some provinces in Cordillera Region especially Ifugao province, Benguet province and it chartered city Baguio. Income disparities between the regions in Cordillera Region have the biggest income gap in the country.

<b>Average Income and Expenditure of Families by Region, at 2000 Prices: 2006 and 2009 (in thousand PhP)</b>				
<b>Region</b>	<b>2006</b>		<b>2009</b>	
	<b>Average Income</b>	<b>Average Expenditure</b>	<b>Average Income</b>	<b>Average Expenditure</b>
<b>Philippines</b>	125	107	129	110
NCR	221	183	227	197
CAR	137	108	136	108

**Figure 6: National Statistic Coordination Board (NSCB) 2009**

Since the available occupations in the rural areas are mostly primary, they offer a low profit capital and the seasonality of the agricultural activities leaves the farmers unemployed in most part of the year. Income generation from off farm activities or part time jobs provides farmers minimal or merely nothing that only provide foods for the family. The extreme physical condition as aridity, mountains and prone to natural disaster make it more difficult for farmers to sustain their livelihood income and daily needs. Lack of government supports like agricultural subsidies, support on rural enterprises/cooperative, access to credit, rural product access to



national market, land ownership and poor rural development programs/policies are the reason why rural development are left behind.

## **2. Unemployment in Rural Areas**

Most of the farmers are mainly traditional small scale producer; other farmers are working in big agricultural plantation mostly owned by big corporation or rich individual that offer below minimum wage to their employee. Because of limitation in job opportunities available, unemployment are rampant in rural areas. Income goes hand in hand with unemployment. The search for higher income also means a search for better jobs. The unavailability of job at origin and the prospect of employment of finding a job at destination are motivating factors for migration. Greater out-migration is expected when the origin area has higher unemployment rate thus, lesser job opportunities offered.

### **2.7.2 Issues in Peace and Security and Land Ownership**

Issues in land ownership and peace and security in Cordillera Region are somewhat inter-related. People are provoked to join rebellious group because of land issues, indigenous people are evicted in their ancestral lands, farmer's untitled land and were claimed by the government, big corporation or few rich individuals. The indigenous people were force evicted in their ancestral land to give way to the development of the region (for example; the establishment of building for industries, roads, social amenities, malls, recreational areas, national parks etc.). This development forced the indigenous people to move out from their more traditional way of life in rural areas to a more developed place like urban and force to adjust in a more modern way of life. This movement creates cultural shock to indigenous people and made their life more miserable because of the discrimination they are facing against urban folks. Other land conflict confronting Cordilleran people brought by the continuous restriction being levied on the use of forests, large areas have been declared as forest reserves, watershed reserves, national park and military base. Indigenous people who were evicted in their land revolted against corrupt government officials and big companies that own big agricultural plantations. Conflict with land ownership provokes indigenous people to join militant armed group.

Most of the farmers are tenant of big agricultural corporation or own by rich individual who owns hacienda (agricultural plantation). Large companies own the majority of farming land and they offer no benefits, low wage and long hours of work to their employee (farmers). Because of the unfair treatment given to farmers, farmers join militant rebel group. The rebels were fighting for their right of ownership to their land and its freedom to use their own customary law.

Most of the rebels try to pressure farmers to join their group and fight against the government, big companies and rich land owners that own big plantation and majority of the agricultural land area to fight for their rights as the rightful owner of their ancestral land. The rebels try to stop the operations of big plantation by scaring farmers, imposing their terror by using force and violence. The fear that the rebels inflicted to other farmers put pressure for them to join the rebel group or to run away toward the city. To ensure their families security and safeness, farmers don't have a choice but to move, the only solution is to escape from rural violence and political instability so most of the Cordilleran people move to more secure place like Metro Manila due to the deteriorating peace and order in Cordillera's problematic areas. Armed conflict can result in large-scale and often sudden movement of people, like what happened to Cordillera Region during the 1960s till 1980s.

### **2.7.3 Poverty**

Cordillera Region is considered as one of the poorest region in the Philippines for having low HDI (Human Development Index) and high in HPI (Human Poverty Index), from 2005 till 2010 Cordillera Administrative region was averaging 0.482 which is fairly low HDI and With high HPI. The poverty incidence among Cordilleran families within 2005 till 2010 was 37.3 percent (NSCB). According to National Statistic Coordination Board of the Philippines (NSCB), statistic indicated that 28.8 percent of the region's total number of families is living under the poverty threshold in 2010. The Cordillera poverty threshold is pegged at \$412 USD (P16, 810) income per person annually, one of the highest in the country (NSCB 2010).

NSCB defines "poverty threshold" as the computed amount needed by a person or family in order to meet basic food and non-food needs. Two Cordillera's provinces, Apayao, which recorded 78.5 percent poverty incidence, and Abra which had 50.1 partly incidence, were

included in the list of 10 poorest provinces in the Philippines. On the contrary Benguet province ranked the second richest province in the Philippines outside Metro Manila. The big disparities between Benguet province and other 5 provinces in Cordillera Administrative have the biggest gap in terms of development and poverty level. For example, the annual per capita in poverty threshold in Benguet in year 2010, was 14.1 percent while the rest of Cordillera provinces had more than 30 – 50 percent (NSCD 2010).

Most of the people in Cordillera barely live with a \$1.2 USD a day which is not enough for a decent food to feed the whole family in a day. According to some research and studies done in Cordillera, family should have at least 2 USD dollars a day to have basic necessities like food for the family. With the current income of Cordilleran \$1-5 USD (P50-250 pesos a day), 80-100% of their family income is spent in food. Poverty is worsening because of the high inflation rate of 11.4 percent that made the prices of food specially rice (which is the staple food for Filipinos) more than 60 percent higher (NSCB 2010). The high poverty incidence in Cordillera rural areas causes hunger, malnutrition and illiteracy of young generation because parents cannot afford to send their children to school. To overcome poverty, Cordilleran people look for a better source of living in other areas aiming to earn higher and to uplift the poor living standard of their families. This incidence may also act as a push factor for the migration of Cordilleran people to other more developed areas like urban cities.

#### **2.7.4 Education**

Education plays a major role in determining the level of household income inequality and poverty. Educated individuals can find a more decent job with high income wage compare to unskilled individual who could only work mostly in informal sector with very low income wage generated from work. With the increasing demand for skills and higher education, households tend to invest more in human resources like education (Estudillo 1997). Filipinos literacy rate is quite high for example in Cordillera Region the basic literary rate is 95.2 percent while the functional literary rate is 89 percent and in Metro Manila has 99.2 and 94 percent functional literacy rate (NSO 2010). Most of the Filipinos have basic and secondary school attainment but unfortunately after secondary school, especially in the case of Cordillera region, younger

individuals are not given the chance to continue in higher level of education (universities, Colleges, vocational courses) but instead they start working with their families especially in agricultural sector.

Filipinos have a deep regards to education, which they view as a primary avenue for upward social and economical mobility. Most of Filipinos parent invest money to their children by mean of sending them to school. Rural parents make tremendous sacrifices in order to provide secondary and higher education for their children. Parents consider education as a long term investment that in the near future, they could benefit from it or at least for their children. Education has a very strong link with poverty alleviation and economic development.

Education creates greater opportunities for the youth in terms of finding a more decent job in urban cities (formal sector); higher income that could uplift the socio-economic situation of the family who were left behind in the rural areas by means of migrant's sending/remitting money. Through education, migrants are able to remit money to their parent, who uses the money in improvement of their house, expansion of agricultural assets (land, machinery, livestock, manpower etc), tuition fees for their younger siblings and uses as an investment (businesses). Education is a driver of growth and an important route out of poverty with significant positive impacts on people's livelihood and wellbeing.

About 80 percent of poor people living in Cordillera regions are living in a town located in deep mountains, remote, isolated and difficult areas (IFAD 2012). The population density in the rural part is low and there is a corresponding deficiency in school, classrooms, school facilities/materials and teachers. Transportation is an issue for most students who need to travel by foot for more than an hour just to go to the nearest school in their district. The poor condition and inaccessibility of public school to rural children became a hindrance for them to attend school and to attain proper education. Quality of education is another critical issue for the most disadvantaged children who live in rural and remote and difficult areas. Because of the poor condition in rural public schools, parents send their children or young people tend to continue their studies in urban cities where they can gain proper education that could help them after in finding a decent job.

This is another factor that pushes cordilleran people to move to urban cities to find better opportunities and education for their future plans. Better educated individuals tend to explore more of their capabilities and try these on an area with a lot of job opportunities and educational development. Most educated rural youth lose their interest in participation of farming activities which generate low income but instead tend to migrate to urban cities to find more decent jobs (white collar jobs) that provide stable and high income generation.

### **2.7.5 Frequency of Natural disaster**

One of the most disaster prone areas in the Philippines is the Cordillera Administrative Region. Because of its geographical location and topology (high elevation (5,000 ft. above sea level), rugged mountain terrains and steep slopes etc.), Cordillera region is prone to natural disaster like typhoons, cyclones and prone to earthquake because it is within the Philippines fault line. As typhoon always struck the northern part of Luzon where Cordillera region is located, it causes floods, landslides, destruction of agricultural crops and sometimes infrastructure (roads, establishment and light material houses). The excessive cutting of trees (illegal logging) causes landslides and floods because there are no trees to absorb/hold rain water and to prevent soil to erode. The excessive use of natural resources causing deforestation that also can lead to landslide and soil erosion. Other supernatural phenomenon like *El Nino* (high humidity and hot temperature 35 to 40°C), that causes drought, infertile land and low productivity; and *La Nina* (Excessive raining, heavy rain showers, windy), causes crops destructions, flooding, landslide etc. This phenomenon takes five to six months and happens at least once in five years.

Earthquake is very common in Cordillera regions because it lies in the Philippine fault line. The 1990 Luzon earthquakes with a magnitude of 7.8ms claimed more than 1600 lives and destroying many infrastructures like buildings, establishment and roads and it devastated the whole Cordilleran region especially Baguio City. The earthquakes caused 28 collapsed building including hotel, factories, government and universities building, as well as homes and establishment. It also destroyed electricity, water and communication lines in the region. Cordillera region was not accessible for two weeks because of the heavy landslide cause by the

quake (PHIVOLC 1990). The rehabilitation of the affected areas took more than two years to recover.

The frequency exposures to natural disaster affect the productivity of the regions. Majority of the industries in CAR is agricultural based or nature-dependent, so when disaster hits, many people will suffer and their income sources will be damaged or destroyed. With all this concern, some resident of Cordillera region choose to transfer to a place where lesser disaster will be experienced. They will choose an area which is less vulnerable to natural disaster.

### 2.7.6 Distance

The accessibility of the destination area to the origin area of migrant also affects decision of migrating. The smaller the distance between the destination area and the origin, the higher the number of people migrating. Both Cordillera region and Metro Manila is located in Luzon Island where Cordillera Region is located in the northern Luzon while Metro Manila is in Central part of Luzon. Cordillera region is very accessible to Metro Manila by land and air. Cordillera Administrative region is 240 kilometer away from Manila that takes 7 hours by public transportation (buses), 4-5 hours by private vehicles (cars) and 20 minutes thru air (Airplane). Connection with special highway and road made it more convenient to go there without traffic incident.

<b>Distance from rural area to place of destination of Respondent (Km)</b>	<b>(N =60)</b>
1 – 100 km	10
101 – 200 km	13
201 – 300 km	26
301 – 400 km	11
>401 km	0

**Table 4: Source: Survey 2012**

### 2.7.7 PULL (Metro Manila)

Metro Manila or the National Capital Region is the metropolitan region composed of the city of Manila and the sub-cities of Caloocan, Makati, Madaluyong, Marikina, Muntinlupa, Las Pinas, Malabon, Navotas, Pasay, Paranaque, Pasig, Quezon City, San Juan, Taguig, Valenzuela and municipalities of Pateros. It is the only region without any provinces, instead being sub-divided into 17 local government units: 16 cities and one municipality. It is the administrative region in which the city of Manila is the national capital of the Philippines and serves as the seat of government. The Region is the political, economic, social, cultural and educational center in the Philippines. It is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> wealthiest urban agglomeration in Southeast Asia and 28<sup>th</sup> in the world (PricewaterhouseCooper 2011). The gross regional product is estimated \$149 billion USD and account of 37 percent of national GDP (NSCB 2009).

The Metropolitan Manila stands out as the focal center of urbanism within the Philippines. The urban region includes the political and administrative district of the Philippines, center for entertainment and leisure, center for business and commerce and the Hubs for International companies and major industries etc. The top universities and hospitals, major institutions, jobs, and business districts can be found in Metro Manila or urban cities around the Philippines. It is in essence an agglomerated region of most of the services the country can offer.

The movement of people to the urban cities is more of a livelihood strategy for the Filipinos, where rural people move to a more developed city that offers “*better quality of life*”, meaning access to social amenities, improvement of living standard (jobs, income, housing, health care etc.), wide variety of goods and services, modern infrastructure (roads, buildings, hospital, schools/universities, malls, restaurant etc.), entertainment and leisure, quality of education and better economic opportunities in which rural areas are lacking or behind. The region’s supremacy amongst other regions can be explained not only because of statute but also partly by its being an economic and political super power.

Metro Manila has the highest household income and expenditure and has the lowest incidence of poverty in the Philippines of 4 % (NSCB 2009). National Capital Region has the highest GRDP (Gross regional domestic product) real per capita of 992 USD (40,838 pesos) and it is almost

three times higher than national GRDP per capita 377 USD (15,528 pesos). As of 2009, the GRDP of NCR (National Capital Region) was 37 percent of the national GDP of the Philippines and on the other hand, Cordillera Administrative Region has only contributed 1.9 percent (NSCB 2009). The contribution of Metro Manila to the National GDP of the country is extremely high considering that Metro Manila makes up only small part of the national territory. Being the financial, commercial and industrialized center of the Philippines, Metro Manila became a migration hot spot among Filipinos living in other places. For many years, Metro Manila has been the magnet of internal migratory movement. Because of the socio-economic prosperity and the demand for labor capital, many people from rural areas especially in our case, Cordillera region are lured to move-in to Metro Manila.

### **2.7.8 Migration Intervening Obstacles**

The intervening obstacles produce many risks to the individual migrant. “*Social network*” from friends, family and relatives at the area of destination are very important in reducing the risks. Example of intervening obstacles are; cost of the movement (travel cost, living cost, rent cost etc.), distance from place of origin to place of destination (lack of transportation), cultural/ethnic conflicts (ethnic discrimination), government restriction, distance to the family, higher living standard and difficulties in finding jobs in urban centers. These kind of intervening obstacles are commonly encountered by unskilled poor rural people of Cordillera Region, who seek for economic opportunities in urban cities (Metro Manila, Baguio city) but lack of education/skills, social networks and lack of money to finance the migration cost. The constraints can lead to migrants’ failure to move/stay in place of destination and eventually will go back to place of origin or end up working in informal sectors and worst scenario is their involvement in illegal activities (Prostitutions, drugs, stealing (pickpockets), robbery, gambling etc).

### **2.7.9 Migration as a Family Livelihood Strategy and Social Network**

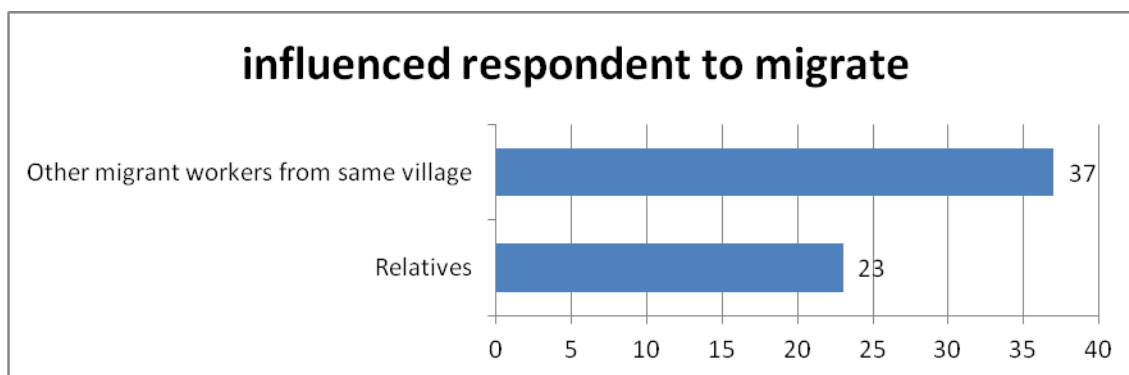
Migration is a livelihood strategy of poor households which help them to earn extra cash for example seasonal farmers working temporarily in nearby city during off-season farming activities. A significant numbers of old unskilled rural people (mostly farmers of 35-50 years of



age) from Cordillera region go temporarily to urban cities to seek/work in a labor intensive jobs in formal and informal sector. Migration is use as a livelihood strategy as a result of inadequate income from agriculture that lead on migrants livelihood diversification strategies to migrate in a much more economic enrich urban areas and to improve Family household income. It is broadly agreed that the ability to diversify livelihood is more beneficial for rural households because it contribute to the sustainability of rural livelihood, by improving its flexibility in the pace of adverse economic trends.

Migration may offer route out of poverty for migrants and the improvement of their income, assets, well-being and as well as their living standard. In the case of Cordillera Region, Parents mostly invest to their children education by sending their children to urban cities. Parents provide/finance for their kids till they finish school (higher degree) and eventually migrant children can find job and settle in urban cities. Once settled the migrant supports their family by sending remittances (money) and also by sending their younger sibling to school (higher education).

Social network is very important for helping a migrant get settled into a new community. Network can be defined as set of interpersonal ties that connect migrants and settled migrant, former migrant and non-migrant in origin and destination areas through their relationship (families, relatives), friends and shared community origin. The social network help migrant to avoid shock (risk and cost) in the destination area by means of assisting them to adjust/assimilate on the ways of life in the urban cities.



**Table 5: Source: survey 2012**

## Summary of factors that influences Respondent decision making to migrate

Case Study (Cordillera Administrative Region)	
Push Factors (Cordillera Administrative Region)	Pull Factors (Metro Manila)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Lack of employment opportunities in rural provinces of Cordillera region.</li> <li>2). insecurity/civil unrest and conflict (armed civil rebellions).</li> <li>3). High unemployment and underemployment in rural areas particularly in Apayao, Abra and Mountain provinces.</li> <li>4). Poor access to quality of education</li> <li>5). Land conflict (issues in land ownership and Ancestral domain of indigenous people).</li> <li>6). Inadequate/poor infrastructure (social amenities, schools and universities, establishments, roads, hospitals etc.)</li> <li>7). Natural and man-made disaster (drought, landslides, typhoons, cyclones, illegal logging causing flood, deforestation, environmental degradation cause by man over excessive use of resources(unsustainable) etc.)</li> <li>8). Poor living quality and shortage of services (poor housing, water, electricity, employment, food scarcity, welfare, health care etc.).</li> <li>9). Lack of investment and ineffective development programs from the government.</li> <li>10). High incidence of "POVERTY".</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1). Economic opportunities are better in Metro manila (employment opportunities, demand for labor market, wide variation of jobs availability etc.).</li> <li>2). Social and political stable (peace and order; public safety and security).</li> <li>3). Center for education (top universities, colleges, public and private schools and universities, offers more variety of courses and training, high standard and quality of education (the highest in the country)).</li> <li>4). Modern infrastructure, access to social amenities, better housing system and wide variety of goods and services.</li> <li>5). "City life "(entertainment and leisure; shopping center, malls, bar &amp;restaurant, night life, amusement centers, tall buildings, modern infrastructure, recreational facilities and more freedom of expression.</li> <li>6). Better living standard (housing, water, electricity, health care, food security and better income (higher salary), welfare etc.).</li> <li>7). Government center for development (concentration of different kind of industries, business, investment and development programs/policies), Metro manila receives the biggest budget in the Philippines.</li> <li>8). Reuniting with family who already migrated.</li> </ol>

Figure 7: Source: Survey, interview 2012

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

1. To identify the issues/problems in the rural areas in the Philippines particularly in Cordillera Administrative Region.
2. To analyze the underlying determinants and existing factors in both rural and urban areas that motivate migrants' decision making process in rural-urban migration in Cordillera Administrative Region.
3. To analyze the impact of rural – urban migration in rural development in Cordillera Administrative region.

#### **3.1 Hypothesis:**

- Rural - urban migration offers benefit of income growth for rural households but little significant effect (less effective) in reducing inequality and relative poverty in rural areas.
- Remittances play a vital role in the development of migrant's household living standard.
- The Education is a driver of growth and an important route out of poverty with significant positive impact on people's livelihood and well-being.

## 4. METHODOLOGY

### Case Study: Cordillera Administrative Region

#### 4.1 Study area description

The Cordillera Region is located in a vast mass of mountain ranges located in the central portion of northern Luzon in the Philippines. Luzon is one of the main islands of the archipelago of the Philippines (on which the capital Metro Manila is situated). It is the Country's only land-locked region. The row of mountain ranges occupying half of northern Luzon is under the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). It lies between the narrow Ilocos Region Coastal Plains and the Cagayan Valley. Located in this Administrative region are the provinces of Apayao, Kalinga, Abra, Mountain Province, Ifugao and Benguet, plus the chartered city of Baguio (located entirely within Benguet) (refer to figure 8). In the north, it terminates at Pasaleng Bay, Ilocos Norte, where the coastal bridge Patapat Viaduct winds through. It is link with the Sierra Madre Mountains through the Caraballo Mountains in Nueva Viscaya.

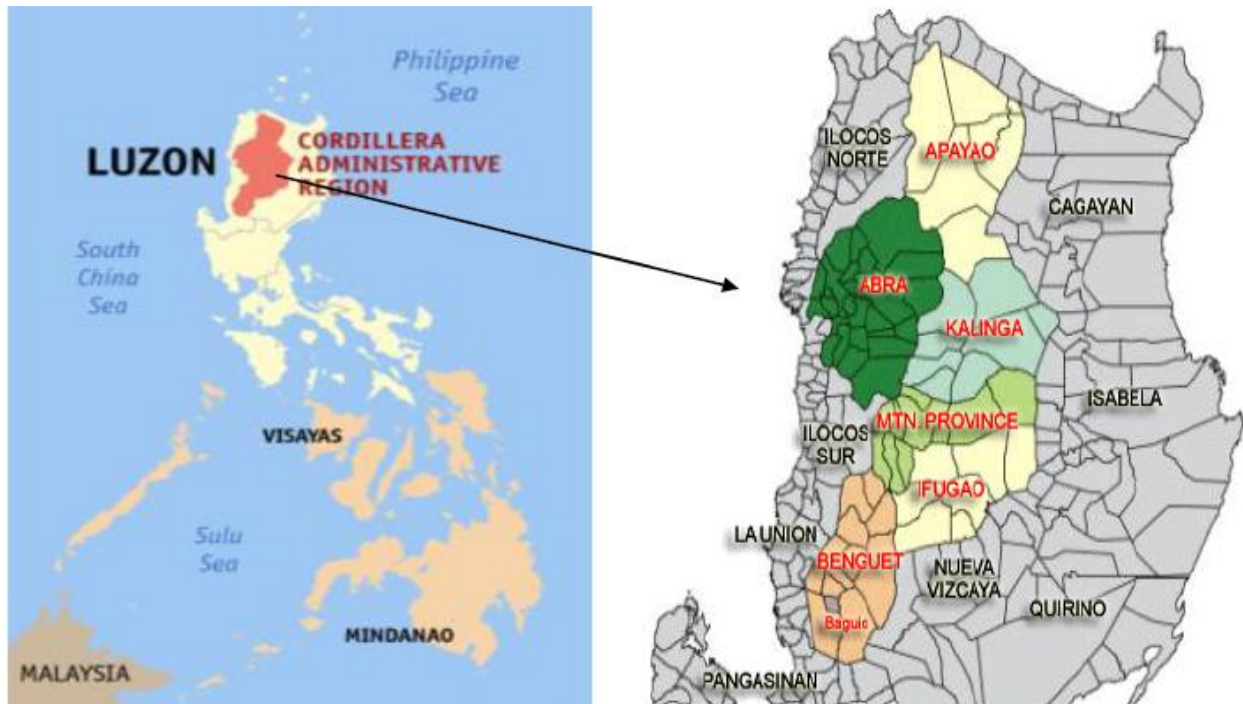


Figure 8: Map of Cordillera Administrative Region

The whole Cordillera area comprises 1/6 of the total land area of the Island of Luzon with a total area of 18,300 km<sup>2</sup>. The region is predominantly characterized by steep, mountainous and high elevation terrain (figure 9). The rugged mountainous areas contain many peaks which exceed more than 2,000 meters in heights, with rolling hills and stretches of river valleys along its flanks. The Gran Cordillera is the highest and largest mountain range in the Philippines. It has 239 mountains which includes Mt. Pulag, the second highest mountain in the Philippines. Its inhabitants are loosely-connected federation of tribes belonging to the mountains of Cordillera. The region is home to numerous indigenous tribes collectively called Igorot.

#### **4.1.1 Topography of Cordillera Administrative Region**

The topography in CAR is unique within the Philippines. More than 70 percent of the land area is comprised of steep slopes within inclines of more than 30 percent which often result in geo-hazard situation such as landslides and extension erosion (figure 9). The mountain supports 13 river basins, which is primary watersheds for northern Luzon. The high rainfall supplies water downstream for thousands of hectares of agriculture and hydro power, making CAR the largest contributor to the Luzon Power Grid. The steep topography has led to distinctly different farming systems, livelihood and settlement patterns compared to other areas of the Philippines. Available farm land consist of only 19 percent of the total regional land area and remaining land are declared forest lands about 81 percent. Of the forest land, 50 percent are declared forest reservation. The Cordillera Region is endowed with rich natural resources like vast forest, mineral reserves such as gold, silver and copper, Zinc and non-metallic mineral like sand, gravel and sulfur; geo-thermal and hydro energy, rich soils and water resources that have enable its people to sustain agriculture on mountainside rice terraces. Cordillera is ideal for agricultural production because of its high elevation with cool weather and a lot of rainfalls.



**Figure 9: Mountainous terrain of Cordillera Region**

#### **4.1.2 Climate**

The Region is known for its very cool climate which is mainly due to its high mean elevation. Cordillera is the only part in the Philippines that has cool weather all year round. Average Temperature is from 15-26°C, which can drop to as low as 8°C from December to early February. The Climate compose of Dry and wet season. The weather in Cordillera is ideal for Agricultural cultivation and pastureland.

#### **4.1.3 People**

The population of Cordillera is about 1.6 million in 2010 (figure 10), the smallest among the 16 regions of the Philippines and comprises only 1.7 percent of total population in the country. It is

the ancestral domain of the Cordillerans (people from the mountains). It is divided into six provinces and seven main ethno-linguistic groups are Abra (Tinggian), Apayao (Isneg), Benguet (kankanaey and Ibaloi), Ifugao (Ifugao), Kalinga (Kalinga, Isneg), and Mountain Province (Kankanaey). All Tribe or ethno groups are closely related indigenous people, collectively known as the Igorot. Other small ethnic groups are Gadang, Applai, Bontoc, Bago, I-Lagod, Balangao, Ilongot and other smaller groups which their identity are closely related to other ethnic groups. The majority of the population is engaged in farming, pasturing, and other small-scale production and side occupation. The low income generated to these activities made the people of Cordillera living under poverty thresholds which pegged at \$ 412 USD (P16,810) income per person annually and one of the highest in the country(NSCB 2010).

**Region: CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region**

<b>Code</b>	140000000						
<b>Registered Voters (2010)</b>	840,145						
<b>Population (as of May 1, 2010):</b>	1,616,867						
<b>Number of provinces</b>	6	<b>No. of Cities</b>	2	<b>Number of municipalities</b>	75	<b>Number of barangays</b>	1,176
PROVINCES							
Province	Code	Income Class	Info	Registered Voters <sup>1</sup> (2010)	Population (as of May 1, 2010)		
<a href="#">ABRA</a>	140100000	3rd Class	27 Mun. 303 Bgys	133,124	234,733		
<a href="#">APAYAO</a>	148100000	3rd Class	7 Mun. 133 Bgys	51,289	112,636		
<a href="#">BENGUET</a>	141100000	2nd Class	13 Mun. 1 City 269 Bgys	303,610	403,944		
<a href="#">IFUGAO</a>	142700000	3rd Class	11 Mun. 175 Bgys	89,864	191,078		
<a href="#">KALINGA</a>	143200000	3rd Class	7 Mun. 1 City 152 Bgys	102,985	201,613		
<a href="#">MOUNTAIN PROVINCE</a>	144400000	4th Class	10 Mun. 144 Bgys	81,396	154,187		

**Figure 10: Cordillera Administrative Region (information; provinces, populations, income class etc.) NSCB 2010**

#### **4.1.4 Culture and Language**

The Cordillera Region is culturally rich with diverse ethno-linguistic groups. Each of the major ethno-linguistic groups has its own family languages and own culture. The Cordillera region is the most diversified ethno-linguistic region in the Philippines with its major languages having sub-dialect variation. The topography formation of Cordillera mountain range brought the development or creation of various dialects within the region and its unique lifestyle and culture. The economic language used throughout Cordillera is Ilocano. Regardless of the differences in their traditions and language, the indigenous people of cordillera share a common cultural identity among tribes. The rich cultural traditions of cordilleran people are among the oldest in the Philippines that dates back more than 2,000 years ago. Cordillerans are well known for their folklore, traditional clothes, dances, rituals, festivals and unique musical instrument. For more than 2,000 years Cordilleran still practice their traditional way of life. Cordillerans are group of indigenous people, recognized as such by Republic law, with their own set of customary laws. Customary law takes precedence over Republic law.

The rice terraces of the Philippines Cordillera is an outstanding example of an evolved, living cultural landscape that can be traced back 2,000 years ago in the pre-colonial Philippines. The terraces are located approximately 1,500 meters above sea level and cover 4,000 miles of mountain side. They are fed by ancient irrigation system from the rain forest above the terraces.

#### **4.1.5 Economy**

The Cordillera Autonomous Region is one of the country's richest regions in terms of natural resources. It is the major resource base of the Philippines. It contributed 2.07 percent to the country's Gross Domestic Product (2011). Regional economy of the Cordilleras is diverse from mining, agriculture, export processing zone, tourism are among economic activities in the region. Cordillera Region is the country's top producer of fresh flowers, agricultural crops like, rice, corn, vegetables, and livestock and poultry. Agriculture remains to be the primary preoccupation which employs more than half of the regions workforce.



The region is abundant with mineral reserves. These includes metallic ores such as Gold, copper, silver, zinc and non-metallic minerals like gravel, sands and sulfur, Mineral reserves are found in all provinces. The mining industry in Cordillera has the highest contributor to the total gross value added of mining and quarrying in the country, in which 80 Percent of gold production in the Philippines comes from Cordillera Region.

Baguio city and La Trinidad are considered as the industrial centers in the region. The Baguio City hosts the Baguio Export processing Zone where operations of big local and foreign companies are located. The Cordillera's economy is propelled by manufacturing activities based at the Baguio City Economic Zone. Most of the manufacturing output is attributed to electronic products. Baguio city also hosts offshore and outsourcing companies operating call center. The industry sector has dominated the regional economy contributing 53%, followed by Services 36.5% and Agriculture 10.6 % of gross regional domestic product in Cordillera region. Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in Cordillera that generates income and employment among people.

## **4.2 DATA COLLECTION**

### **4.2.1 Data Collection and Analysis**

The study used qualitative and quantitative research methods. The study used a qualitative research technique by using survey questionnaires, in-depth interviews and observation of the focus group and area. The survey questionnaires had 15 main questions with open-ended questions; a semi-structured interview to compliment the questionnaire survey and to deepen the research results. Participatory method was used to have the opportunity to observe and experience the actual day to day life of focus group in focus area. The research duration took two months period from November till January 2012. Combined sampling strategies (randomly, nonrandom) were used in distribution of questionnaires and selection of participants. Questionnaires were distributed to 100 initial respondent and 60 out of those participated in research project.

The study also used/utilized secondary data that was collected from books, academic works, articles, journals, document and reports from authors, international organization (FAO, IFAD, OECD, WBG etc.), NGOs and government reports on migration, rural development and related topics that were found in the libraries of University of Life and Science Prague, University of the Philippine, University of Baguio Philippines. Other important sources of articles, documents, census, data and rural development project reports are from the Regional and local Government offices of Cordillera Autonomous Region, National Statistic Office of the Philippines (NSO), National Statistic Coordination Board. Census and statistical data were largely based from National Statistic Coordination Board (NSCB) Philippines. The data was coded and analyzed largely in Microsoft Excel 2007 and Gretl. Qualitative and quantitative data was analyzed by the used of statistical significance tests.

#### **4.2.2 Limitation and Challenges**

Initial plan was to undertake research involving about 100 participants within the focus area. However, this was not achieved because of lack of participation of rural people in focus area. Author was able to conduct a survey and interview for a total of 60 respondents. Time has also been constraints due to its limitation; survey, interviews, and observation of the focus area and groups were realized within 2 months period (November till December 2012) and mostly only on Sunday due to time availability of respondents (Participants). The author attempted to organize Focus group discussions but was not successful due to a lack of participation of participants and people didn't want to open up their problems as a group.

Inadequate and limited statistics about inter migration in the Philippines, in which were taken only in a general perspective making it hard to extract exclusive number from our chosen area. Most of the migrants are mostly temporary migrants so most of the movement are not recorded and people who migrated more than 5 years to Metro Manila is still registered as a resident in previous rural area.

In this study, although it was relatively easy to find respondents with the help of Social network (relatives), the challenges to pin down some respondents, as most of them are living in rural

areas (farms) they leave home early in the morning and return late in the afternoon and urban respondents are having double jobs or stay in work in their current job. In order to compensate this challenge, most of the interviews were conducted every Sunday afternoon.

Another big challenge had to do with language(s), the language differences presented a specific challenge for the author and the respondent because it was conducted in a cross cultural context. As the author speak only English, Spanish tagalog (language spoken in Metro Manila) and little Ilocano (Native language in focus area), the difficulties in finding comparable terms were, however, worked out.

## **5. RESULT**

### **5.1 An in-depth Understanding of the Cordillera's Rural Area Migrants**

(A Survey on the growing Rural-Urban Migration)

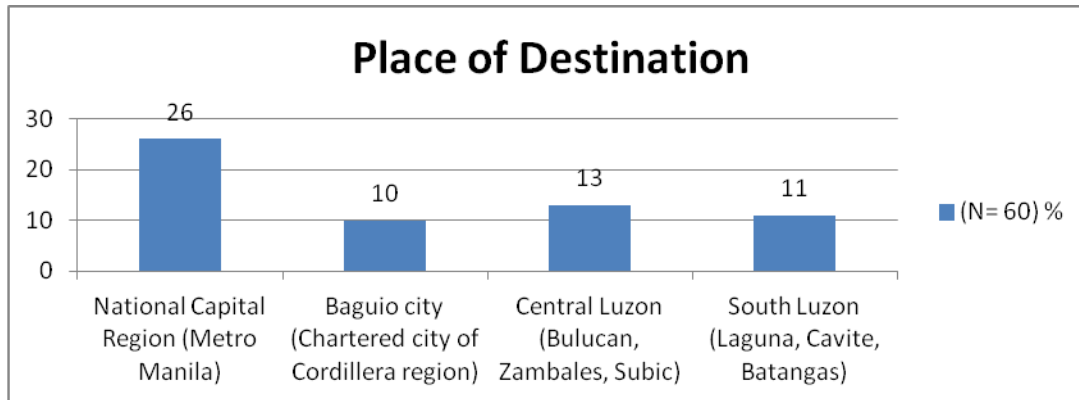
The research study was conducted in Cordillera Administrative region. The Cordillera Administrative Region is located in a vast mass of mountain ranges located in the central portion of northern Luzon in the Philippines. Located in this Administrative region are the provinces of Apayao, Kalinga, Abra, Mountain Province, Ifugao and Benguet, plus the chartered city of Baguio (located entirely within Benguet). Cordillera Region is rich in natural resources but in spite of natural wealth and tremendous potential of the region, it is characterized by high incidence of poverty, high unequal distribution of income, low functional adult literacy and low young population. The region also receives the lowest budget from the government, for the reason the development of Cordillera region never gone to its potential and still behind compare to other regions in the Philippines.

In order for study to address the research problems in the most comprehensive way, the study was organized into 4 methodological components involving a Questionnaire survey, in-depth interviews, observation and participatory methods. The research duration took two months period from November till January 2012. Combined Sampling techniques were used in selecting samples by non-randomly selection of focus areas in the provinces of Cordillera region with the help of key informants and relatives (social network and referrals) and randomly selected participants in each selected areas. Then initial participants were 100 but only 60 respondents participated in research study.

### **5.2 Demographic characteristic of the respondent**

Respondents of this survey include sixty (60) urban residents that originally rooted from the Rural Areas of the Cordillera Autonomous Region specifically those from the Mountain Province. 43.3 percent (26) of the respondent from different cities with in Central Luzon or Metropolitan Manila being the center of trade and commerce of the country. 16.6 percent (10)

respondents from Baguio City, Cordillera Autonomous Region’s most sought after city. 21.6 percent (13) from neighboring cities down CAR in Northern Luzon including Bulacan, Subic in Zambales, Marikina City, etc. 18.3 percent (11) respondents from cities in South Luzon (Calabarzon) like Cavite City and Batangas City.



**Table 6: Source: Survey 2012**

Migration Pattern	N=60	%
Rural to urban	36	60
Rural to rural	24	40
Permanent	38	63.3
Temporary or seasonal	22	36.7

**Table 7: Source: Survey 2012**

Most of the respondent (60 %) migrated to urban cities mostly in Metro Manila, Baguio city and Subic city while 40 % of the respondent migrated to nearby rural areas that have better job opportunities. Most migrant who migrated to urban cities had decided to stay and the one who move to rural areas have a seasonal and temporary work (maximum 6 months).

Metro Manila has been the main venue for diaspora of migrants coming from Cordillera provinces. This is because majority of the services and opportunities can be found within the locality of the country’s capital. All respondent migrated because of the existing employment opportunities and presence of relatives and friends in place of destination. The income

differential between places of origin (rural) and place of destination (urban) were the main factor reason why respondent migrate.

<b>Reason for migration by the migrants (N=60)%</b>	
Education pursuit	15
Employment opportunities	100
Presence of urban friends and or relatives	100
Migrant is bored of rural life	46.7
Rural-urban wage differential	100
To supply seasonal labour	31.7
Marriage	3.3

**Table 8: Source: Survey 2012**

### **5.3 Respondent profile**

Based on the survey result, the table 9 shows that 60 respondent shows that 60% of the migrants are male while the remaining 40 percent are females. This implies that in the study area, male migrates to urban centers more that the female counterparts. Most of the migrants are married (63.3%) while single migrants are only 36.7 percent. Majority of the household (43.3 %) are made up of more than 7 individuals while 23.4 percent of them are made up of less 5 family members and the remaining 33.3 percent are with 5 to 6 members. Rural household are much bigger than it urban household counterpart. The average family size of the respondent is from 6 – 8 family members. Majority (53.3%) of the participants are within the age of 26 to 45 years which belong to young and productive age, only 30 percent of them are below the age of 26 years while the remaining 16.7 percent are above 46 of age.

<b>Characteristics of migrant</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Gender of the migrants</b>	
Male	60
Female	40
	52

<b>Civil status</b>	
Single	36,7
Married	63.3
<b>Household size</b>	
1 – 4	23.4
5 -6	33.3
>7	43.3
<b>Number of children</b>	
None	36.7
1 – 2	23.3
3 – 4	20
>5	18.3
<b>Age distribution of the migrants</b>	
15 – 25	30
26 – 45	53.3
46 – 65	16.7

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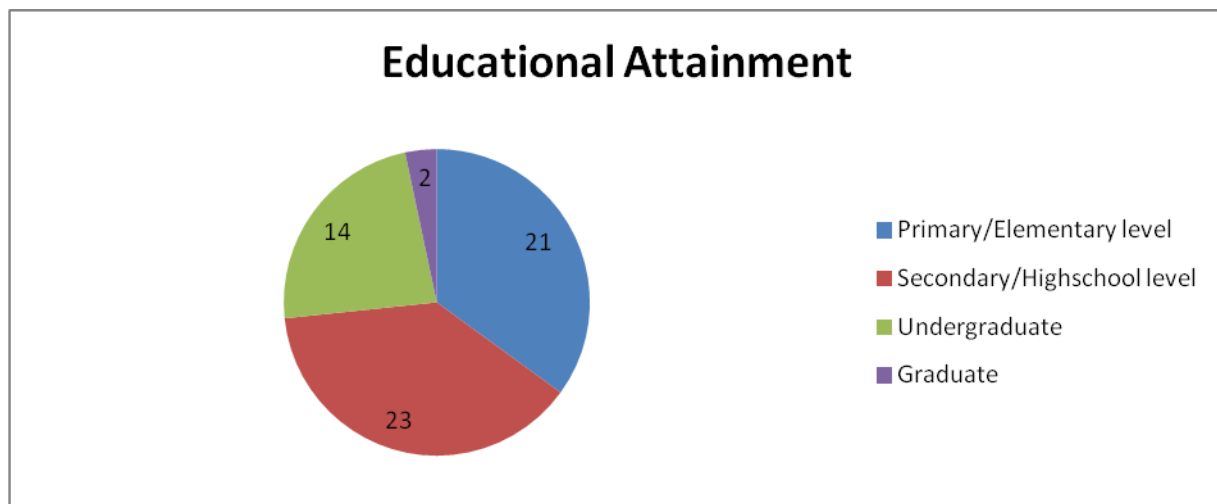
**Table 9: Source: survey 2012**

### **5.3.1 Educational Attainment**

The result from the survey showed a positive situation of education of respondents that all participants are literate. The literacy rate in Cordillera Region is quite high for example the basic literary rate is 95.2 percent while the functional literary rate is 89 percent (NSO 2008). Most of the respondents have basic and secondary school attainment but unfortunately after secondary school, especially in the case of Cordillera region, younger individuals are not given the chance to continue in higher level of education (universities, Colleges, vocational courses) but instead they start working with their families especially in agricultural sector. Based on the survey result only 3.3 percent of the respondent was able to finish a degree and 23.3 percent was under graduate. The main reason for not attaining higher education degree of the respondent could be the poverty or household economic situation in the past. Most of the older respondents (40 -60 years and above) have only reach primary level of education.

<b>Education status of the migrants (N=60) %</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Primary/ Elementary level	35.1
Secondary / High school level	38.3
Tertiary/ College Level (Undergraduate)	23.3
Tertiary/ College Level (Graduate)	3.3

**Table 10: Source: Survey 2012**



**Table 11: percentage of educational attainment**

### **5.3.2 Respondent Occupation**

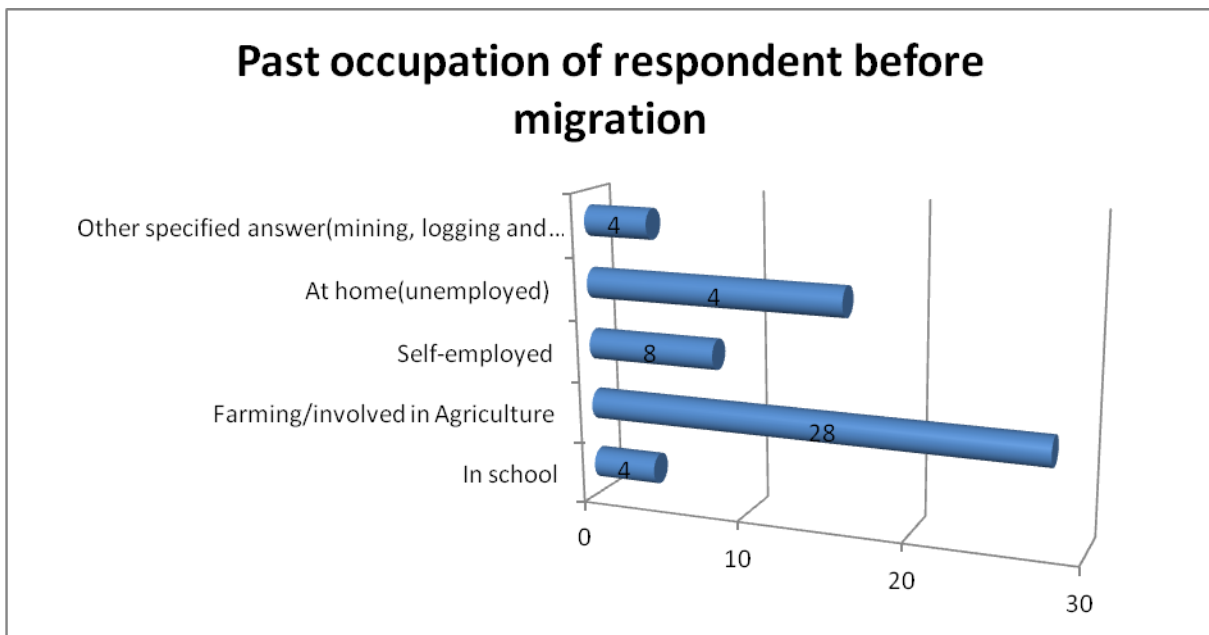
#### **Past Occupation** (before migration)

The cordilleran people based their income and livelihood mostly in primary in nature, for instance, farming, lumbering, fishing, pasturing, quarrying and other seasonal off-farm activities and for the most part farmers unable to produce enough for their family consumption for the



year. About 49.9 percent of the region’s total employment is absorbed by the agriculture sector based on National Statistic Office of the Philippines (NSO 2011). Based on the survey, Majority (46.9) of the respondent was involved in agriculture or farming while 26.6 percent were unemployed which is predominant women who stayed at home and helped out the head of the household in other activities and household chores. 13.3 percent of respondent were self-employed, 6.6 percent were studying and the other specified answer (mining, logging, fishing etc.).

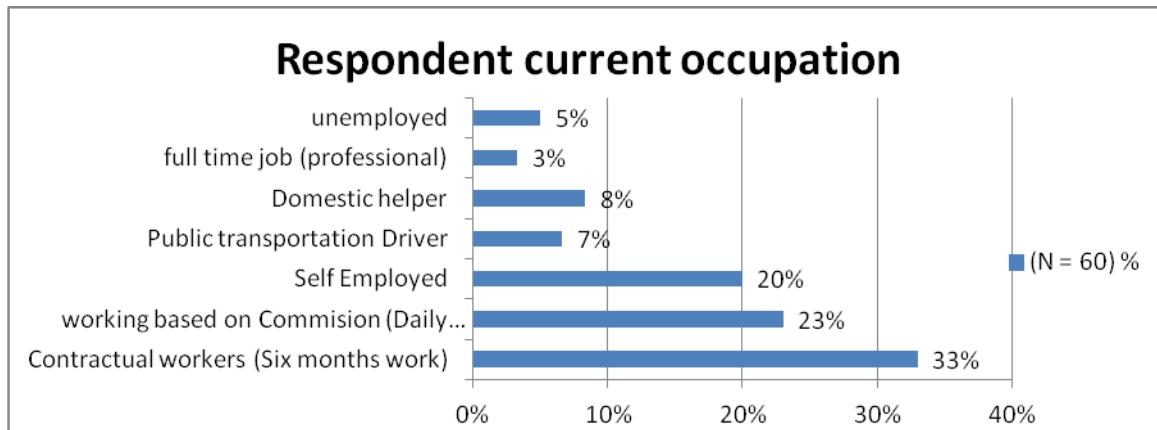
Past occupation	Percentage
In School	6.6
Farming/involved in Agriculture	46.9
Self-employed	13.3
At Home (unemployed)	26.6
Other specified answer (mining, logging and fishing)	6.6



**Table 12: past occupation**

### **Current Occupation**

33 percent of respondents are contractual workers or works under an employment agency for establishments like restaurants, hotels, shopping malls, stores and factories compensating not more than the minimum wage as staff/crew, waiter, security guard, cook, bell boy, janitor and cashier. 23.3 percent of respondents work on companies that pay them with commission and operational expenses on a project basis as tour guide, driver, helper, construction worker, sewer and other skilled works. 20 percent of the respondents are self-employed and freelance workers as automotive mechanic, electrician, plumber, tour sites' photographer and small time street vendors of home-made snacks, candies, cigarettes and other portable goodies. 6.6 percent of respondents are Public Utility Vehicle (tricycle, pedicab and jeepney) drivers who are given commissions depending on the passengers' fare rate by the owners of the vehicle they drive. 8.3 percent of respondents are stay-in domestic helpers who receive a salary of tree thousand five hundred to five thousand Philippine Peso (PhP 3,500-5,000). Only 3.3 percent of respondents earn more than the minimum wage employed as Call-Center Agents working on flexible hours including grave-yard shifts. 5 percent of respondents are unemployed- a senior citizen, a house wife who had an unwanted pregnancy and eventually got married immediately after migration and one who unluckily still cannot find a job after years of venturing into the city and have already lost means of going back. Majority of the respondents are under-employed because of their educational attainment, most of them have only primary and secondary school so they usually end up in low paying jobs and labor intensive work within a contractual period of time.

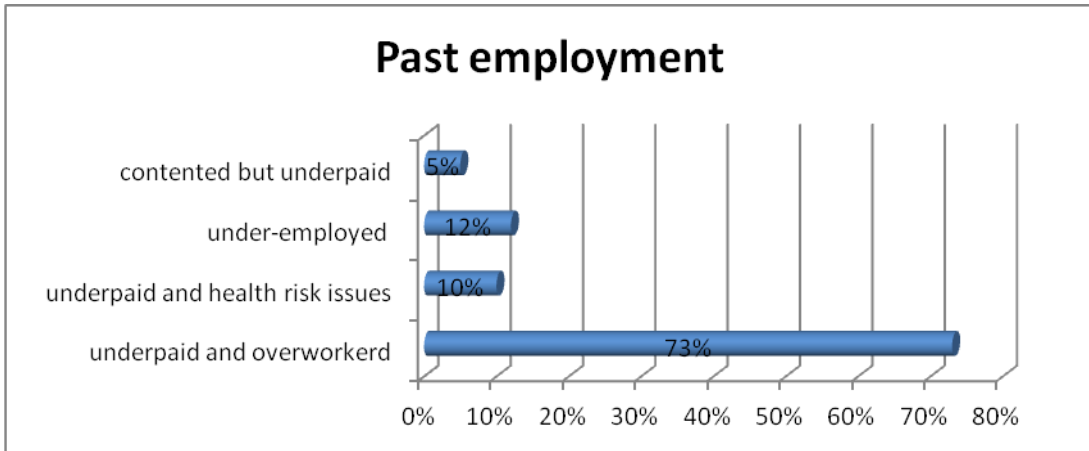


**Table 13: Respondent current occupation**

### 5.3.3 Employment

#### Past employment

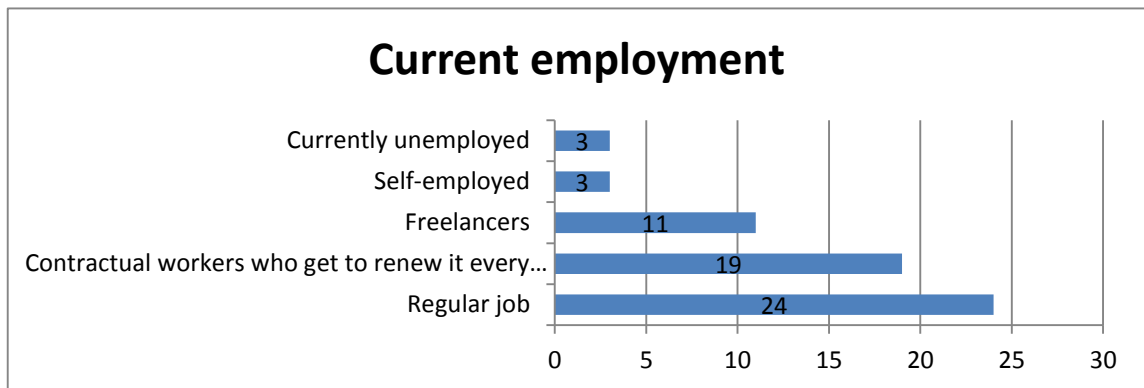
Most of the respondents 73% of which describe the jobs in their hometown as under compensated. They got overworked especially those who were engaged in Farming but paid unfairly. According to them, the land owners were the only ones who profited with their hard work. 10 % of the respondents said that Jobs offers too little compensation including the ones they were in considering its health and life threats. More or less 12% said that they didn't saw any available job suited to their qualifications that will give them reasonable compensation. The remaining 5% of the respondents liked their job but simply not contented with the pay they were getting. Since the available occupations in the rural areas are mostly primary, they offer a low profit capital and the seasonality of the agricultural activities leaves the farmers unemployed in most part of the year. Income generation from off farm activities or part time jobs provides farmers minimal or merely nothing that only provide foods for the family.



**Table 14: Past employment**

**Current employment**

24 respondents have regular job, 19 respondents are contractual workers who get to renew it every 6 months after work quality and performance evaluation, 11 respondents are free lancers some get works on a project basis depending on demands, 3 are self-employed getting enough profit with extra hard work and luck, 3 respondents are currently unemployed. In comparison with their previous employment, respondent have more stability in terms of period of employment. 40 percent of the respondent have regular job, while 31.6 percent are contractual workers which could be renew depending of work performance and quality. Almost 95 percent of the respondent work all year round.



**Table 15: Current employment**

### Monthly income generated from employment

The income gap between the past and previous employment of the respondent are quite visible. As you can see, the average income in the past was between 48 – 122 USD (60%), 30 percent of which were less than 48 USD and only 10 percent had more than 123 USD incomes per month. Income of the respondent has almost twofold more in the present compare to the past income in which 50 percent of the respondent generate 123 – 244 USD income per month. The reason for the income gap is widely because of the rural and urban wage gap. The daily minimum wage in Cordillera region is \$5.6 dollars (P230 pesos) in formal sector and in informal sector is just \$1.2 - 2 dollar (P50-85pesos) a day, while Metro Manila has \$12.2 dollars a day (DOLE 2012). Most of the Cordilleran especially in the Provinces of Apayao, Abra and Mountain Province are working in informal sector and its current family income base in these three provinces is \$1-5 USD (P50-250 pesos a day), 80-100% of their family income is spent in food (NSCB 2012). Urban household has almost twofold income advantage over rural household.

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#### Monthly income of respondent (before and after migration)

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Monthly income	past	present	(N =60) %
Less than 48 USD	30	3.3	
48 – 122 USD	60	43.3	
123 – 244 USD	10	50	
245 – 365 USD	0	3.4	

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**Table 16: Source: Survey 2012**

### 5.3.4 Living Standard of the Respondent before and after migration

#### Living condition (before migration)

##### Housing

18 respondents (30%) resided in their own house mostly Nipa huts that stands with in the land inherited by their ancestors. 25 respondents (41.6 %) lived with their relatives and some with friends. 14 respondents (23.3 %) rented their house and paid through either cash, bounty or

exchanged labour. 3 (5%) others lived in a free housing provided by the *hacien*deros or Land/Farm owners from which they worked for. Only 23 percent of the respondents have to pay for their housing. Most of the respondent lived with their relatives because rural people have strong tie with the family.

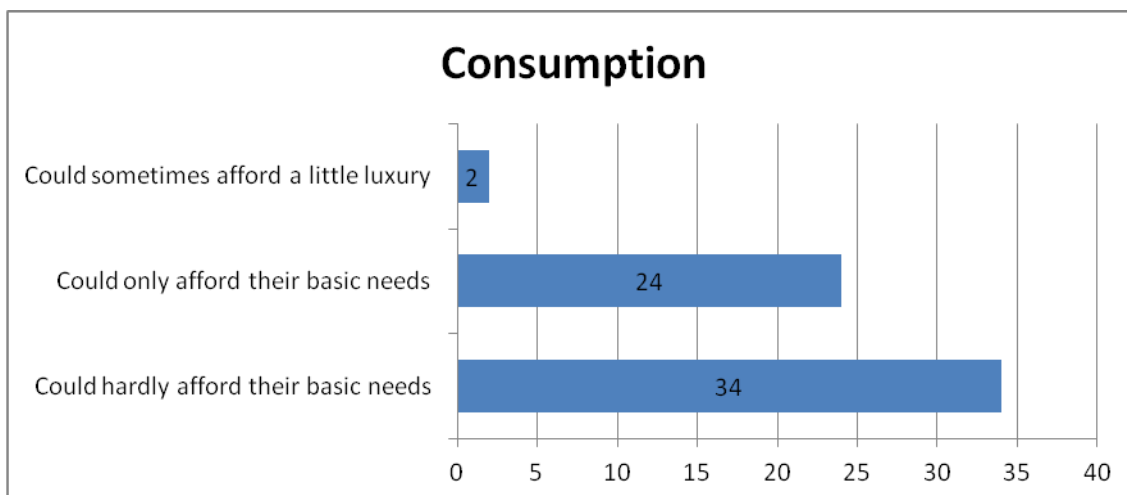
Majorities (90 %) of the respondents have basic household facilities (primitive kitchen, basic sanitary equipment, electricity, water supply etc.) and simple appliances like, electric fan and radio. Only 10 percent of the respondents have access to modern facilities and appliances.

<b>Housing</b>	<b>N- 60</b>	<b>%</b>
Free housing provided by farm owner	3	5
Rented their house	23.3	14
Lived with their relatives	41.6	25
Own house	30	18

**Table 17: Housing**

### **Consumption**

34 respondents could hardly afford their basic needs, 24 respondents could only afford their basic needs including household expenses (electricity, sanitary needs, clothing etc.) and the remaining 2 respondents could sometimes afford a little luxury. Majority of the respondent (56%) could hardly afford basic needs because of the low income generated in their household and only 3.3 percent could afford a bit of luxury in life.



**Table 18: Consumption**

### **Access to health and social security**

Only 13.3 percent of the respondent had access to health and social security while 86.6 percent of the respondent did not have much access to health and social benefits. Majority of the respondents have little chances of getting ready access to efficient health service, most of them will have to try their luck on medical missions for free check-ups and other medical attentions or would have to suffer long lines in order to risk on services with incomplete facilities in public hospital and clinic that are not updated. The government only pays social support for people who pay taxes in which most of the respondent was not able to fulfill.

### **Education and qualification**

Most of the respondents have basic and secondary school attainment. All of the respondents are literate but only 26.6 were able to attend higher education in which only 3.3 percent were able to finish. In terms of agricultural qualification, 46.6 percent of respondents are highly qualified in terms of agricultural activities and know-how while 26.6 percent are familiar with agricultural activities or how it works.

<b>Years of schooling by respondent</b>	<b>%</b>
1 – 6	35
7 – 10	38.8
11 – 14	23.3
>15	3.3

**Table 19: Years of schooling by respondent**

Some of respondent with children invests money to their children by mean of sending them to school. Rural parents make tremendous sacrifices in order to provide secondary and higher education for their children but because of poverty they were not able to send all their children to school so some of the children or siblings help the head of the household in agricultural activities.

<b>Education of children or siblings</b>	<b>(N=60)</b>	<b>%</b>
All were studying	9	15
Some were studying	26	43.3
No one was studying	23	38.3
Not applicable	2	3.3

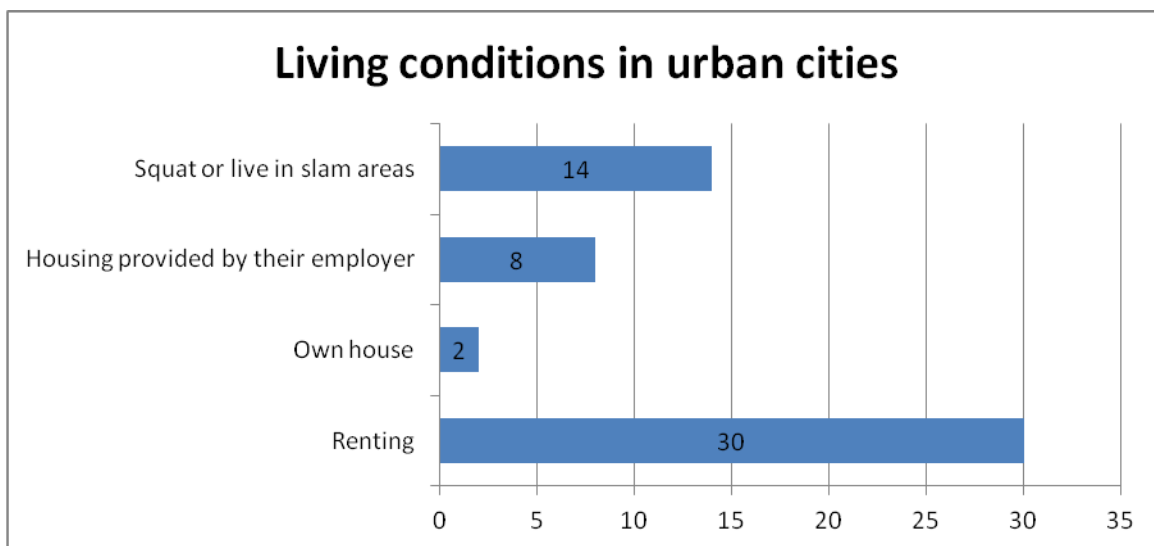
**Table 20: Source: Survey 2012**

### **Living condition (after migration)**

#### **Housing (place of destination)**

30 (50 %) respondents rent (including those in dormitory, occupying a bed-space or a small portion of a house), some of which sometimes go back during long vacation to their family's own house in their hometown. 2 (3.3) respondents have their own house. 6 (10%) respondents live with their relatives or friends. 8 (13.3 %) respondents live in a housing provided by their employer or are stay-in workers. 14 (23.3 %) respondents squat or live in slam areas. Majority of the respondent are renting because their permanent home are still in Cordillera Region.





**Table 21: Living conditions in urban cities**

### Housing (place of origin)

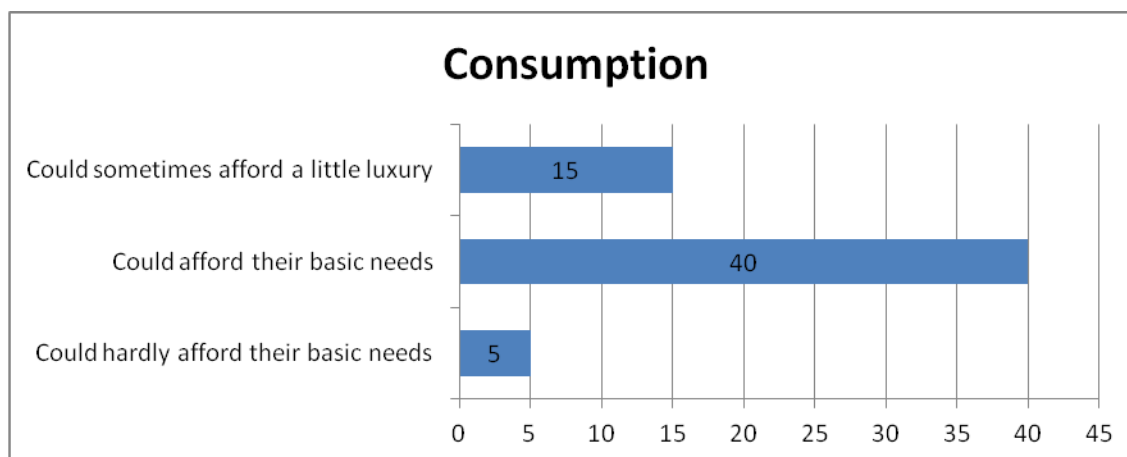
There are big improvements of housing and household facilities of the respondent rural domain. 38.3 percent of them are able to improve and expand their houses in terms of modernizing the household facilities by mean of improvement of modernization of house, supply of water, sanitary equipment, energy, kitchen and room facilities and modern appliances like computer, television, telephone etc. 25 percent of them were able to open small investment within house vicinity (small stores, shop etc.). 28.3 percent of the respondents said what they had before were somehow exactly what they still current have or just slight improvement and 8.3 percent of the respondent are worsen because they had to sell their belonging to be able to afford the cost of migration. Remittance from the respondent is the major factor for the improvement of living condition of their families in rural areas.

Housing (place of origin)	N-60	%
Improved	23	38.3
Improved with small investment (small stores etc.)	15	25
Slightly improved or no improvement	17	28.3
Worsen	5	8.3

**Table 22: Source: survey 2012**

### Consumption (after migration)

8.3 percent of the respondents could hardly afford their basic needs, 66.7 percent respondents could afford their basic needs including household expenses (electricity, sanitary needs, clothing etc.) and the remaining 25 percent respondents could sometimes afford a little luxury. Majority of the respondent could afford their basic need after migration.



**Table 23: Consumption**

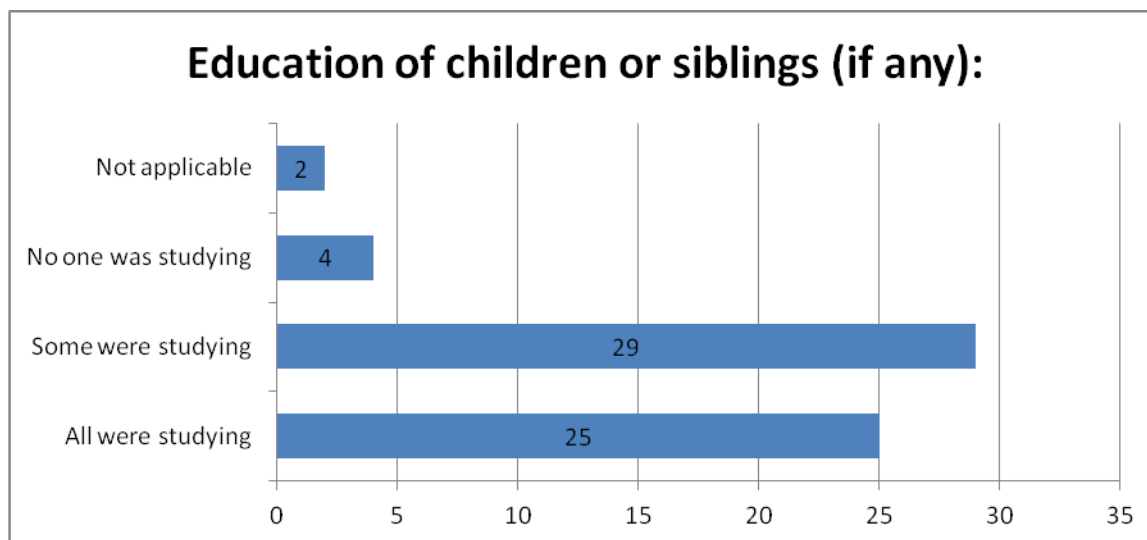
### Access to health and social security

Majority of the respondent (71.6 %) have access to health and social security while 28.4 percent of the respondent did not have much access to health and social benefits. Majority of the respondents have health insurance provided by their employer and because they are paying taxes to the government, they are entitle for social security when something happened to them (accidents, injuries, etc.) or when they will retire.

### Education and qualification

Majority of the respondents are able to send their children/sibling to school or university. Most of respondent invest money to their children by mean of sending them to school. Rural parents make tremendous sacrifices in order to provide secondary and higher education for their children. Parents consider education as a long term investment that in the near future, they could benefit from it or at least for their children. Education has a very strong link with poverty

alleviation and economic development. Based on the graph, majority of the children and sibling are able to attend school and university.



**Table 24: Education of children or siblings**

#### 5.4 Assessment of respondent living standard

As shown in the table 25, the previous living standard of the respondent before migration was categories as low standard of living. The current living standard of the respondent is categories as mid standard of living.

##### Assessment of Respondent Living Standard (before and after migration)

Criteria	Past (N=10)	Current ((N=10)
Family income	4/10	7/10
Cash and Liquidity	3/10	5/10
Independency on resources owner	3/10	4/10
Food supply and food security	5/10	7/10
Supply of water and housing	5/10	8/10
Education and qualification	4/10	7/10
Health and social security	3/10	7/10
<b>Total assessment (rating: 0-4(low), 5-7(mid), 8-10 (high))</b>	<b>4/10 (low)</b>	<b>6/10 (mid)</b>

**Table 25: Assessment of Respondent Living Standard (before and after migration)**

The income differential and employment availability influenced the increase or improvement of the living standard of respondent household.

## 5.5 Remittance

Remittances that the respondents send to their family in rural areas play a vital role in the improvement of their living standard. The economic differences between the rural and urban areas in the Philippines are the main causes of rural to urban migration. Respondent send 67% of their total earning to their family household back in their hometown and the other 33 percent are spent in workplace. The average remittances send by the respondent are around 150 dollars (P6300 Philippines pesos).

<b>Remittances send home Monthly by the migrant</b>	<b>N = 60</b>
None	3
Less than 48 USD	0
48 – 122 USD	26
123 – 244 USD	29
245 – 365 USD	2

**Table 26: Source: survey 2012**

### 5.5.1 Allocation of Remittances

Respondent allocate their earnings for their personal expenditures in their workplace and send the rest to their family back home. Respondent sent more than 50 percent of earnings and on a regular basis (monthly). 39 percent of the respondents save for future large expenditure (education, health, etc.). The amount of remittances sent to the families left behind depends on the remuneration received by the Respondent. Migrants from Metro Manila other cities send the highest amount (about 200 USD per month) while migrants from other rural areas send the lowest remittances at least 60 USD per month.

### Percentage disbursement of remittances allocation

Items	Percentage
Food	22
Education	30
Debt Payment	10
House Construction	8
Savings	7
Health care	4
Social Obligation	4
Household expenditure (water, electricity, household supplies etc.)	15
<b>total</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 27: Percentage disbursement of remittances allocation**

Based on the study, remittances were mainly used for food and other daily expenditures (22 %), others like repaying debts, health and social support (dependents), household/agricultural inputs and children education. Once the basic needs of the household are met, construction and renovation of house, establishment of small business and saving are the most common investment. Most of the respondent, providing an education for the children/siblings they leave behind in Cordillera region is a priority. Remittances play a significant role in rural families livelihood/households, especially where opportunities for livelihood diversification and rural employment are limited in Cordillera provinces.

## 6. IMPACTS OF MIGRATION

Flow of internal migration of people can inflict major impacts on the economy and the society of both the place of destination and of origin. Internal migration or rural to urban migration has become a trend in most places in the world especially among developing countries like the Philippines. Migration has an impact on the place that has been left behind (rural) as well as on the place that is being migrated to (place of destination). This impact can be both positive and negative effect on socio-economic household and livelihood of the migrants.

Migrant remittances represent the largest direct positive impact of migration on migrant sending area. Resource transfers have positive impact on the living conditions of receiving households in terms of education, health and food consumption, housing and enhancing their livelihood by investing in small enterprises or business, expansion of farm etc.

### 6.1 Impact of migration to migrant (respondent)

#### 6.1.1 Socio-Economic Impact

Migration has a positive impact on migrant's household and livelihood in terms of economic benefits. Based on the survey, these are the positive significant impact:

- a. **Increase in income** – the income differential between the rural and urban migration has a positive significant effect on respondent receiving household in rural areas. The daily minimum wage in Cordillera region is \$5.6 dollars (P230 pesos) in formal sector and in informal sector is just \$1.2 - 2 dollar (P50-85pesos) a day, while Metro Manila has \$12.2 dollars a day. Urban income household has almost twofold income advantage over rural household.
- b. **Employment stability** – migrant employment in receiving area are more stable than their employment in rural areas in which 40 percent of them has regular jobs, 31.6 percent respondents are contractual workers who get to renew it every 6 months after work quality and performance evaluation, 11 respondents are free lancers some get works on a

project basis depending on demands, 3 are self-employed getting enough profit with extra hard work and luck and only 3 respondents are currently unemployed.

- c. Improvement of living standards** – a significant improvement in household in particular in housing, assets, water/food securities, savings, investment, access to health and social securities. Based on the assessment of living standard of the respondent household in the survey, respondent improved from low (4/10) to a mid-living (6/10) living standard.
- d. Education and Qualification** - Majority of the respondents (90 %) are able to send their children/sibling to school or university. Most of respondent invest money to their children by mean of sending them to school. Rural parents make tremendous sacrifices in order to provide secondary and higher education for their children. Parents consider education as a long term investment that in the near future, they could benefit from it or at least for their children. Education has a very strong link with poverty alleviation and economic development. The improvement of skills of migrants gain from the experience and training in urban cities.
- e. Circular migration** - The circular nature allows migrant worker to take advantage of employment opportunities in both places (origin, destination). It is influenced by labor market segmentation, where low-wages and low status jobs are offered to migrants in Contractual period (weekly, monthly). This kind of migration is good for unskilled migrants with low educational background. 31 percent of the respondents participate in circular migration as a contractual worker.

## **6.2 Impact beyond migrant household**

The impact of migration in migrants household has a positive significant in the improvement of living standard and their livelihood. Benefits from the remittances sent by the migrants only affect their household and livelihood. Migration causes a lot of negative impact in the sending household in terms of the increasing inequalities among migrant sending communities through remittances. Given the positive impact of migration on individual migrant household and livelihood, migration has more negative effect on rural livelihood and household that cause rural inequalities and underdevelopment of rural areas.

## **6.3 IMPACTS OF MIGRATION ON RURAL AREAS**

### **6.3.1 Rural Underdevelopment**

Most rural regions are source of natural resources and raw materials. Agriculture is one of the most known livelihoods and source of income in the rural areas. Most known occupation is farming. Low rural wage rates and seasonal compensations push labor forces in the provinces to shift and lose interest on farm occupation. Rural to urban migration is the result of the migrants' hope to diversify their livelihood and find a more decent paying occupation in the city. Because of this farming in the rural sector becomes less productive. Agricultural development has begun to struggle and slow down. Agricultural structures and revenues eventually die down. Due to this worsened rural income; the people strive to seek alternative solutions to their growing needs, thus the problem of migration waves continues.

The loss of human capital on the rural sector hinders development and economic growth. This shortage of manpower or human resources of rural out-migration sometimes leads to destabilizing of the traditional household and farming structures (Tacoli, 2002). According to Skeldon in 2008, that the decrease of labor force in the rural sector can be compensated by a later come back of the more skilled migrant workers or by the structural investment in the urban sector.

### **6.3.2 Brain - Drain**

Brain drain or human capital flight is one of the obvious impacts of rural to urban migration. Brain drain is the departure of highly educated and highly skilled people mostly for a better life. Most educational rural people opted to move to cities where they can earn higher salary and eventually have better career opportunities. But this is not always the case. Some of them tend to be a victim of underemployment.

### **6.3.3 Socio-Cultural Effects on Rural Household**

Rural-urban migration also has a big effect on the smallest unit of the society, which is the family. The family structure becomes weak due to the separation of each member that needs to



migrate to find a living in the urban cities. The women, which are usually left behind had to increase their workload in their household. They are left to take care of their children and at the same time to still work in agriculture to add on to the insufficient remittances being sent by the migrant family member. This increase in their household responsibility most of the time becomes a huge emotional baggage to the women specially the mothers. It may also cause negligence of some more important responsibilities like rearing of children. On the other hand, the family member that left for the city may grow distant to his/her family. Most of the time according to existing surveys and researches the fathers, who are usually the migrants due to feeling of loneliness and emptiness tend to seek comfort to other women that cause them to have a new family. Because of long-term distance and absence of one of the parent or in some cases both parents, the children grow feelings of abandonment and neglect that affect hugely on their character development and emotional stability. Family feud start to arise and the basic foundation of the society weaken.

Migration gives a false hope to the rural sector of a guaranteed better life. The bright lights, colorful cityscape and wide choices of recreational activities are pull factors that entice them to venture into the city. These misguided aspirations make the younger generation lose their interest on farming and other cultural traditional rural lifestyle. The youth becomes motivated on a different direction. Indigenous and ethnic beliefs and knowledge becomes lesser and unpopular.

#### **6.3.4 Loss of Interest in the Farming Sector**

Local rural reports and studies show that lesser farming activities and loss of interest on farming that was boosted from rural out-migration have a strong negative impact on the environment. The decrease on farming activities due to lost labor force creates a number of environmental issues because of the non-cultivation of land. The Cordillera region, where the famous Banaue Rice terraces are located, is experiencing problems on the maintenance of the UNESCO World Heritage site. The Banaue rice Terraces, ancient old agricultural scenery magnificently carved into the mountain ranges of the province is starting to experience damages. The barriers on each steps of the terraces started to fall off due to decreased planting of crops and non-cultivation. The farmers are believed to be protectors of the environment and the promoter and maintainer of

greenery. The decrease in number of farmers and aspiring farmers marks the increase in environmental issues and problems.

## **6.4 IMPACTS OF MIGRATION ON URBAN AREAS**

The destination area of the rural out-migration, which is the urban city on the other hand, also experiences a number of negative effects. Because of the massive addition on the population each year due to bulk migration the population rate of the cities continue to go higher. Because of this uneven spatial distribution between the rural and the urban areas overcrowding is becoming a huge impact of migration. The flow of population becomes overwhelming in the cities especially near the ports and drop off areas of transportation that came a long way from provinces. The city of Manila holds the title of the most densely populated city in the world.

### **6.4.1 Underemployment and Unemployment**

The continuous flow of incoming human capital also increases the demands for occupations and opportunities. This increase in demands for works develops growth of unemployment and underemployment. Wages also starts to become smaller because the supply of labor force becomes higher and higher. Even if the migrants were unfortunate in finding an occupation they still choose to stay and not to return (as my survey reflects). In some worst cases, the migrant even bring his/her whole family in the city even there is no assurance of a better life, just to keep them all intact.

### **6.4.2 Increase Urban Poverty Rate**

Poverty that rises along with the problems of rural-urban migration keep the migrants stayed buried with in the shadows of their growing financial and unsupplied household needs. Economic growth, hindered by the alarming growth of poverty within the urban area, starts to fall down in misery. The poor stay poorer and poorer each day that they try to fight and survive the blinding lights of the city.

Poverty alongside with the dilemma on spatial distribution and population density also creates the problem on the continuous development of slums. The term slum may mean unsuitable habitation. The people that reside on these slum areas are most commonly known as “squatters” in the Philippines. Squatters as the word suggests are people who squats on just about anywhere without ownership or legal permission or approval of residency. People from the slums or the squatters are illegal settlers that occupy vacant lands (private or government owned) without any rights of doing so. These usually crowded dilapidated slum areas create a non-suitable environment to live and for children to grow. Most people that came from the rural sector reside on the slums in order to reduce their household expenses and maximize the use of their small compensations or wages. Demolitions are usually exercised to stray away illegal settler. These demolitions often result into a wide rage and demonstrations that in most cases results into a violent situation. Such situations promote an unhealthy lifestyle and a very chaotic environment.

#### **6.4.3 Environmental Issues**

The growing number of slums due to high population density in the urban cities creates a connecting chain of environmental problems. Over population requires need for more basic needs and natural resources, that the rural sector is having problems of supplying. Over exploitation of natural resources in order to make the growing population survive is being abused and practiced. The transformation of cultivated lands in the city into residences, to answer the need of the growing population’s habitat is also a big threat to the environment. Slums situated along riverside and coastal area are also a huge problem in the cities especially in the Philippines. Improper disposal of trash, fecal and dumping of other waste materials make these bodies of water dirty, polluted and eventually dead.

The migration has both positive and negative impact in both sending (origin) and receiving (destination) areas. In our case, the positive impact of migration out-weigh the negative impact so it is difficult to analyze whether the said migration of migrant have significant effect in their lives. The significant effects are mostly base on the characteristic of migrant (male x female, young x old, educated/skilled, illiterate/ skilled), destination and duration of the migration movement. Temporary migration offer benefit of income growth for poor household but no significant effect (less effective) in reducing inequality and relative poverty in rural areas.

## 7. CONCLUSION

In my personal encounter of the Cordilleran migrants and upon studying and comparing the results of the conducted survey, it seems like poverty is still the major cause of their migration. At first, I couldn't understand why poverty, despite of all the resources their homeland possess, but when I get to talk to them after filed up questions of combined confusion and curiosity, I have learned that the local Cordillerans are not the one benefiting from all the wealth generating from their province. Profit-oriented land owners and capitalist get almost all earnings, leaving the labourers with unfairly distributed compensation. Foreign investors are also among the Capitalist who gets their fortune in Cordillera instead of the locals who thinks most deserve it.

The City gave the Cordilleran migrants somehow a glimpse of hope for new and more opportunities for a dream of a better future and to provide more than food to their family. They aspire for a better quality of life. A life resulted by hard work and patience. The bright lights, tall and beautiful structures and landscape of the city might have caught their eyes especially the younger ones, who thought that life in the city is much more enjoyable than the never-changing routines in their town. They knew that there is much more to dream than the life they were in to.

Migration seemed to be the most reliable solution to the respondents. It was the great turnaround of their lives. Some risk so much that they had to sell some of what was left with them, to grab what they believed was a better chance for a good future. Some took their chance without any assurance of surviving the challenge. Some were reckless but still hopeful.

Some of them were not as successful. Others even had misfortunes and had no means of turning back, what left were merely regrets. Most might not as improved compared to their rural life conditions but were given hope with the continuous education of their children which was hardly attainable in their home town. Little were fortunate enough to find what they were aspiring for.

## **8. RECOMMENDATION**

About 70 percent of Cordilleran people living in rural areas in their region and poverty incidence are most common in the rural areas. The reason behind it is the poor condition in the rural areas. Agriculture is the primary and often the only source of income for poor rural people, most of them depend on subsistence farming and fishing for their livelihood. The wide problem with unemployment and income generation made rural people poorest of the poor. Rural people migrate to search for better economic opportunity. Rural people typically migrate to cities as a result of a loss of livelihood, lack of social services or due to ethnic conflicts. Due to their limited skills and education, most of the migrants work in low wage labor or in informal sector. So instead of having a better economic opportunity, it end up being worse than before.

Rural to urban migration has negative impact towards the cities and rural areas. It usually causes socio economic inequalities in terms of its development. To avoid this problem, the government should take action to avoid the widening gap between the rural and urban development. Government policies must focus more on rural development through the development of agricultural sector, as 70 percent of rural people depend on their agricultural livelihood. Government should support the modernization of agricultural sector by means of giving importance in government development policy in the areas of health cares, housing, education, employment and modernization through infrastructure (roads, bridges, agricultural market etc.)

At present, a number of international, governmental and private institutions/agencies have launched diverse Rural Development programs for the Cordillera. Moreover, these agencies have pooled their resources together and embarked in inter-agency collaborative ventures. Such ventures include technology generation, verifications and packaging; the establishment of demonstration farms; the conduct of training programs; and other outreach services. As a whole, development in the Cordillera should not mean the transformation of the Region into a wasteland of environment degradation and socio-economic helplessness but the full realization of the potentials of the people of Cordillera for self-reliance and socio-economic prosperity.

Based on the reduction of poverty and development of rural areas, authors suggest the following:

- Expand the budget for agriculture, the governmental investment in rural infrastructure and government land-use fee allocated to rural areas
- Improvement of educational system (establishment of more public schools, universities)
- Providing farmers and indigenous people with greater access to land, credit and technology
- Modernization of agriculture and fisheries, with focus on social equity
- Macroeconomic stability, with equitable growth based on free enterprise
- Comprehensive development that includes protection for vulnerable groups such as, women, children and elderly
- Good governance and the rule of law
- Support for micro, small and medium enterprises, agribusinesses and cooperatives
- Construction of more roads and highways
- Improvement of quality of life by means of provision of basic social amenities
- Job generation (tourism sector; tour guide, tour driver, maintenance, etc).
- Government participation in promotion of its cultural heritage (tourism)

Cordillera region has big potential in tourism and other recreational activities. Because of its unique location, natural beauty and its nice cool weather, it could be promoted as a summer destination in the Philippines. The 2,000 years old terraces covers the provinces of cordillera, rain forest, mountain, recreational park and the rich cultural heritage of indigenous people who keep their tradition more 2000 years ago (festivals, rituals, traditional houses, foods etc.) will be a potential tourist destination for people who loves to travel, hike, nature, traditional way of life etc. tourism could generate employment for rural people and specially to indigenous people.

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