

Trends since the 1995 Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development in economic and social policies and their impact on social development in the Philippines

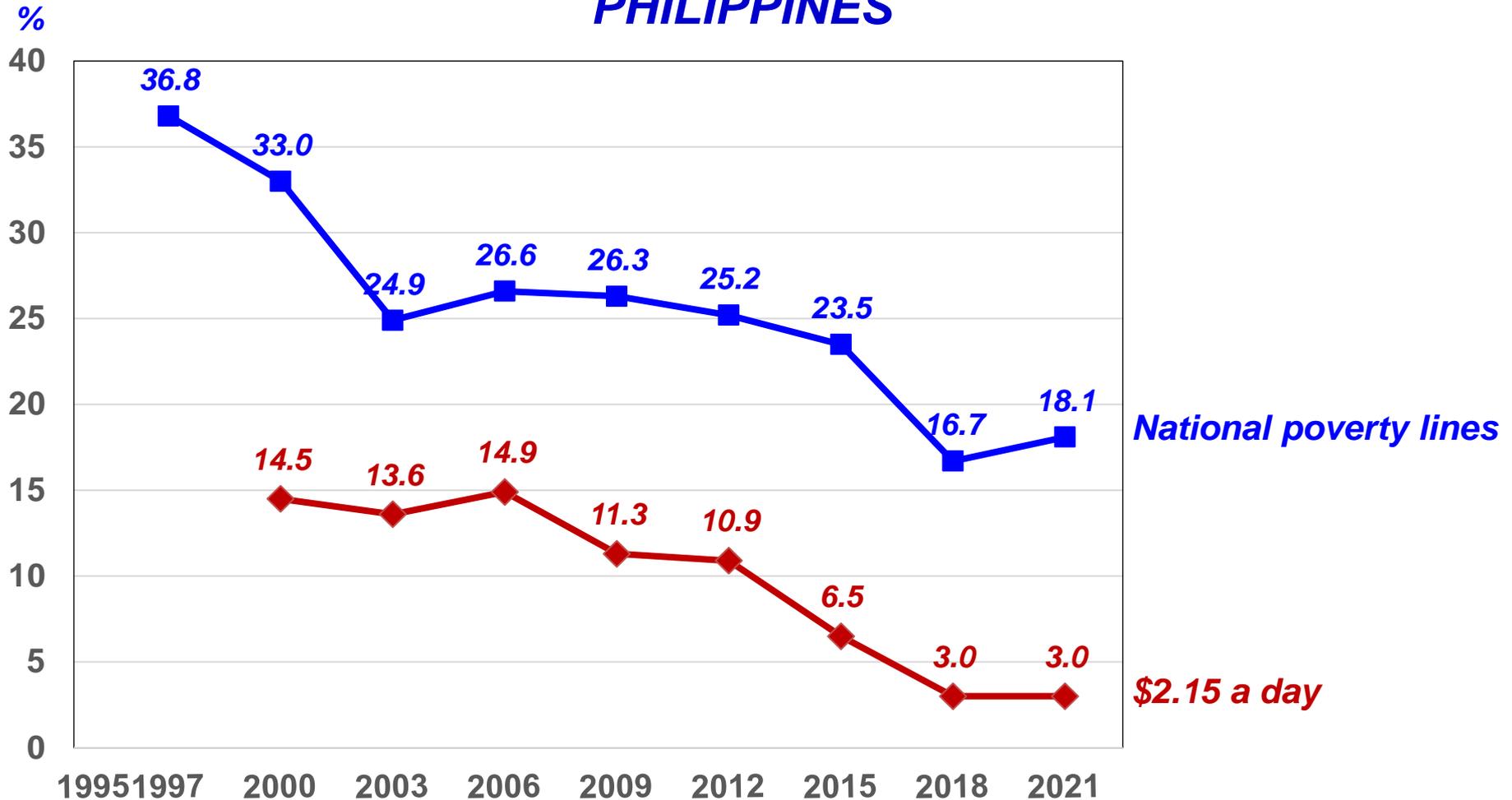
Steven Rood

***Fellow, Social Weather Stations (Philippines);
Visiting Fellow, the Australian National University***

***Division for Inclusive Social Development,
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
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POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATIO AT NATIONAL POVERTY LINES AND AT \$2.15 A DAY (2017 PPP) (% OF POPULATION): PHILIPPINES



Sources:

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.NAHC?end=2021&locations=PH&start=1995>

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY?end=2022&start=1995>

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL BACKDROP

- Finally recovered 1983 real GDP/capita in 2002
- After that, steady economic growth
 - Poverty was flat for the decade after 2002 (see chart, above); implies inequality
 - Post-2012 economic growth above 4% per capita; poverty dropping
- Tax Revenue (% of GDP) steady decline after 1997
“Comprehensive Tax Reform Package” (see chart)
 - Political decisions up through 2004 kept driving it down
 - Brief recovery after 2005 financial straits, but steady increase only after 2012 (including “Sin” taxes [“Health” taxes: Bhorat & Rooney, p. 13])
 - So, taxes back up to late 1990s percentage of GDP

Fiscal Space is utilized by social spending (see chart)

TAX REVENUE (% OF GDP) - PHILIPPINES

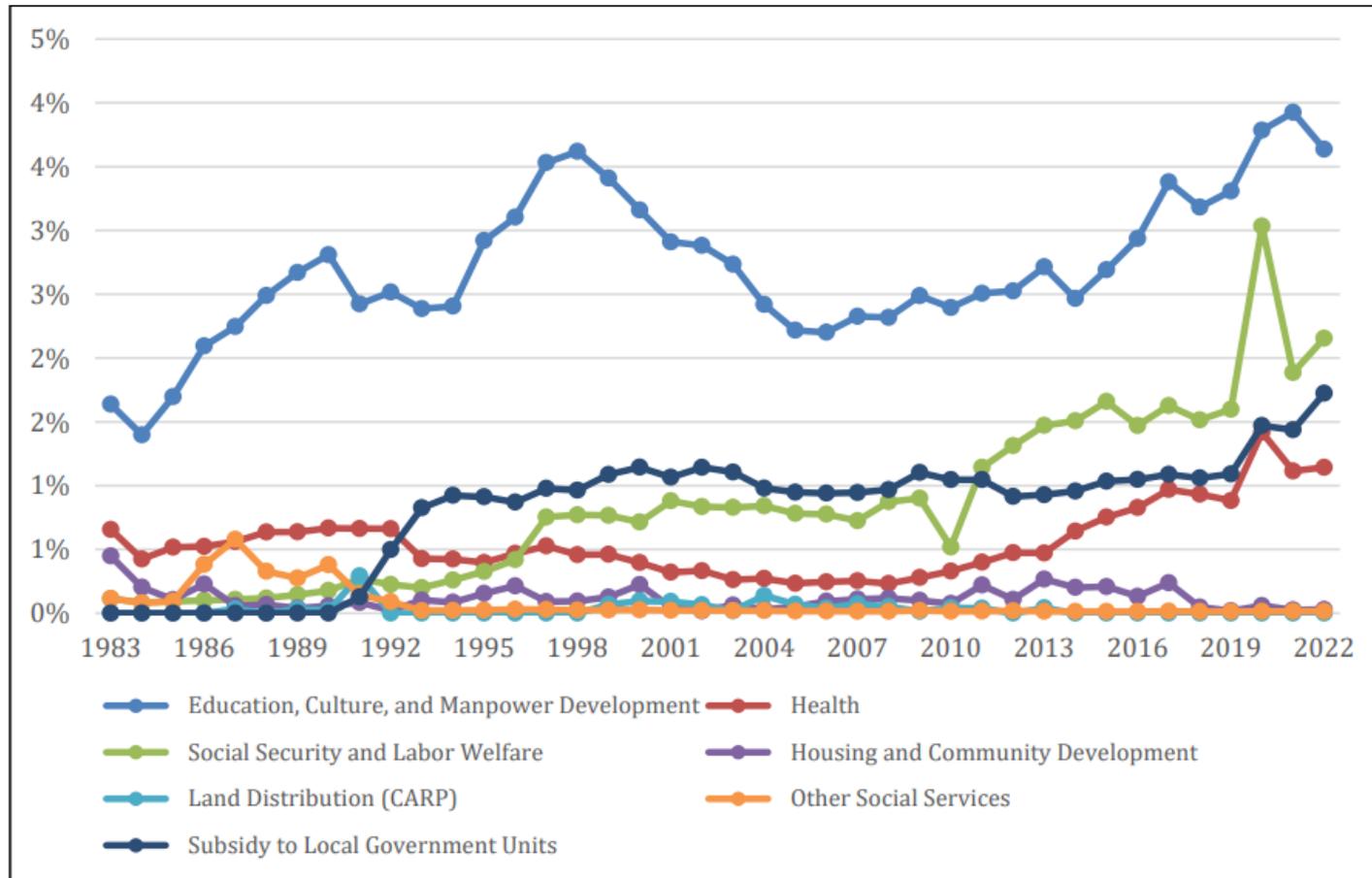
International Monetary Fund, Government Finance Statistics Yearbook and data files, and World Bank and OECD GDP estimates.

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Source: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/GC.TAX.TOTL.GD.ZS?end=2021&locations=PH&start=1995&view=chart> (accessed August 10, 2023)

SOCIAL SECTOR (% OF GDP), 1983-2022



Source: DBM (various years)

Source: <https://pidswebs.pids.gov.ph/CDN/PUBLICATIONS/pidsdps2124.pdf> (accessed August 10 2023)

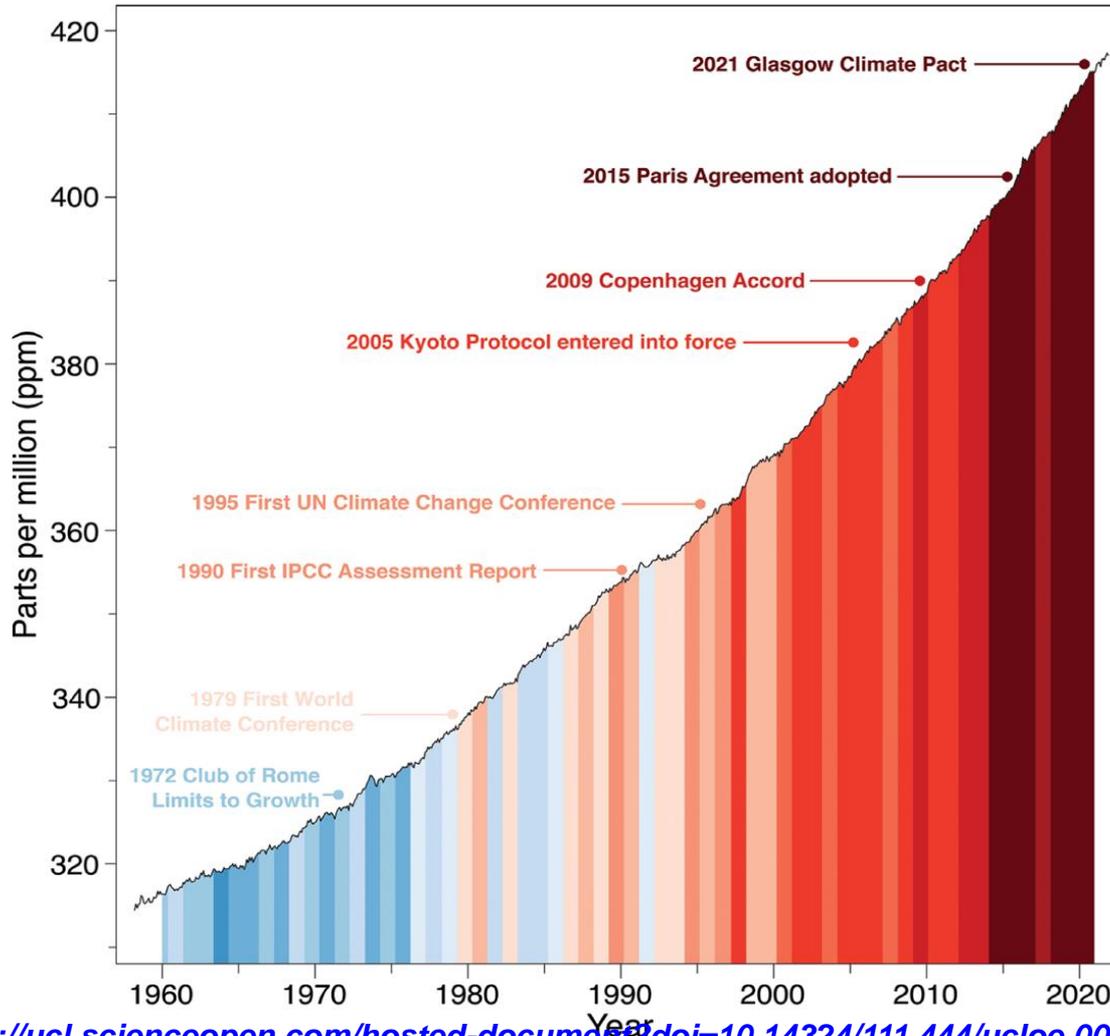
SOCIAL POLICY ARENAS

- Gender Gap is one of the lowest globally; active women’s movement led to numerous policy initiatives
 - More female than male doctors, lawyers, and judges; almost parity in senior management positions
 - Largest gap is “political empowerment” (office-holding) – less than one-third female (generally filling in gaps in clan dominance of offices)
 - 2012 “Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act” increased access (but see high Adolescent Fertility Rate)
- Due to increased resources, Universal Health Coverage index “on track” for SDG goal
 - Gaps, including continued problem with childhood stunting (roughly 30%) – Feeding programs fragmented
- Education highly valued, priority in funding, continued controversy about quality

CLIMATE, INEQUALITY AND TRUST, INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- Climate Change keeping pace with efforts in Social Development and Sustainable Development (see figure)
 - In the Philippines, campaigners focus on the green transition; “adaptation and mitigation” is mostly reactive post-disaster assistance
- In any discussion of social contracts (agreements between citizens and the state on their mutual roles and responsibilities) trust is an important variable
 - Inequality associated with lower trust; health and social protection coverage with higher trust (see graph)
- eCommerce makes possible new economic activity (Business Process Outsourcing; digital platforms for retail commerce)
 - Social media can breed polarization and fake news; connectivity facilitates criminal activity such as Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children

TRENDS IN ATMOSPHERIC CO₂ VS GLOBAL TEMPERATURE CHANGE

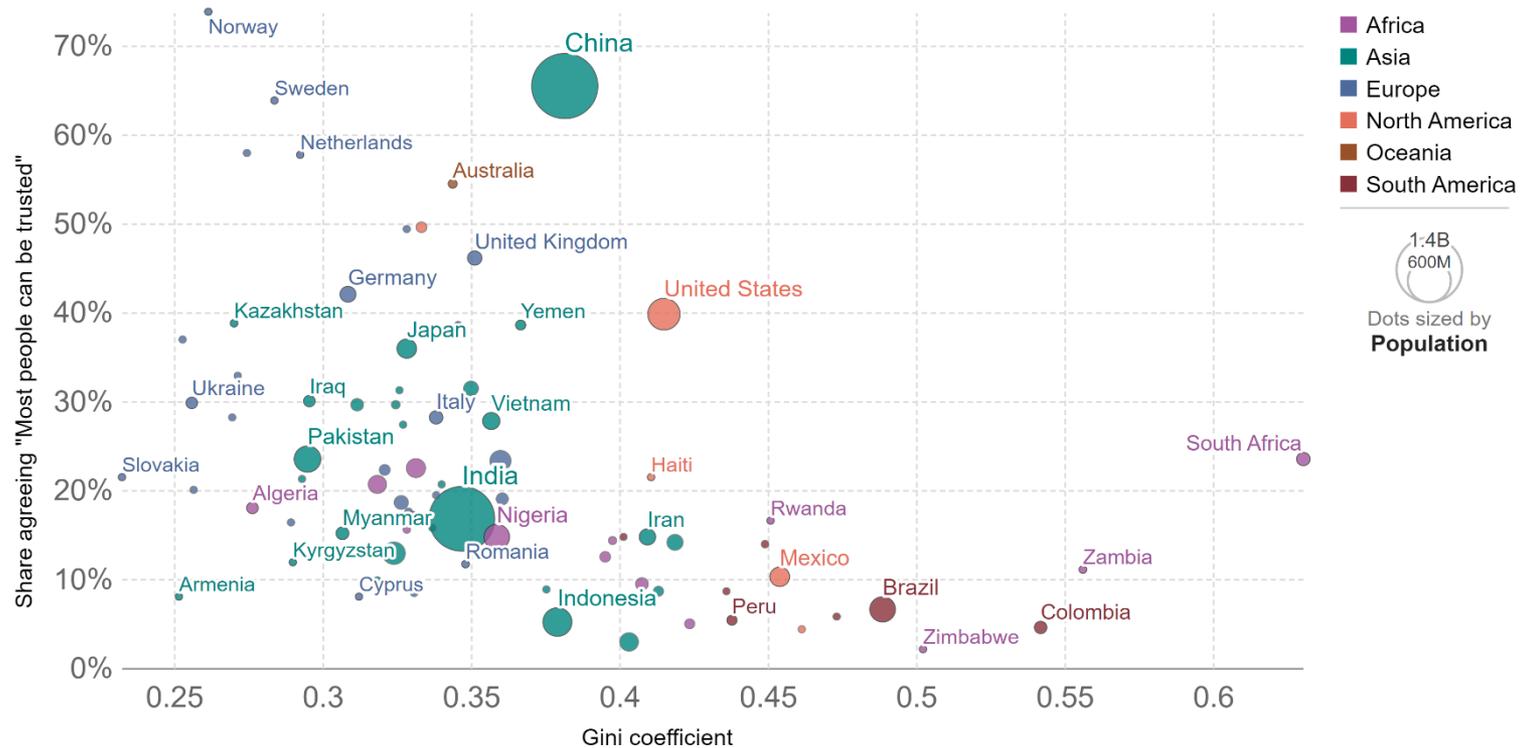


Source: <https://ucl.scienceopen.com/hosted-document?doi=10.14324/111.444/ucloe.000059> (July 2023 – accessed August 8 2023) – Figure 4

INTERPERSONAL TRUST VS INCOME INEQUALITY

Interpersonal trust vs. income inequality

Share of respondents agreeing with the statement "Most people can be trusted". The Gini coefficient¹ measures inequality on a scale from 0 to 1. Higher values indicate higher inequality.



Source: World Values Survey (2022), World Bank Poverty and Inequality Platform (2022)

Note: For each country, trust data is shown for the latest survey wave in the period 2009-2022. Depending on the country and year, inequality data relates to income measured after taxes and benefits, or to consumption, per capita².

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Source: <https://ourworldindata.org/trust#country-specific-surveys> (accessed August 5 2023)

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- The Philippines has low levels of interpersonal trust
 - The social contract is a patronage or transactional one between citizens and leaders
 - “Oligarchs and Clans” – political parties ephemeral, leftists currently 1% of seats in the House of Representatives
 - Social change does come from movements (women’s issues) or technocratic coalition-building with sympathetic insiders (sin tax; reproductive health)
- Politics is important (see fiscal backdrop, above)
 - Subject to short-term pre-election maneuvering (see Razavi (p. 12) or shoring up political support (Bhorat & Rooney, p. 11)
 - Narratives are useful to provide citizens with simple stories; “international institutions can play a crucial role” (Franzini & Sánchez-Ancochea, p. 10)
- The Philippines has much to do to achieve “No One Left Behind”
 - See adolescent fertility rate, stunting, child abuse