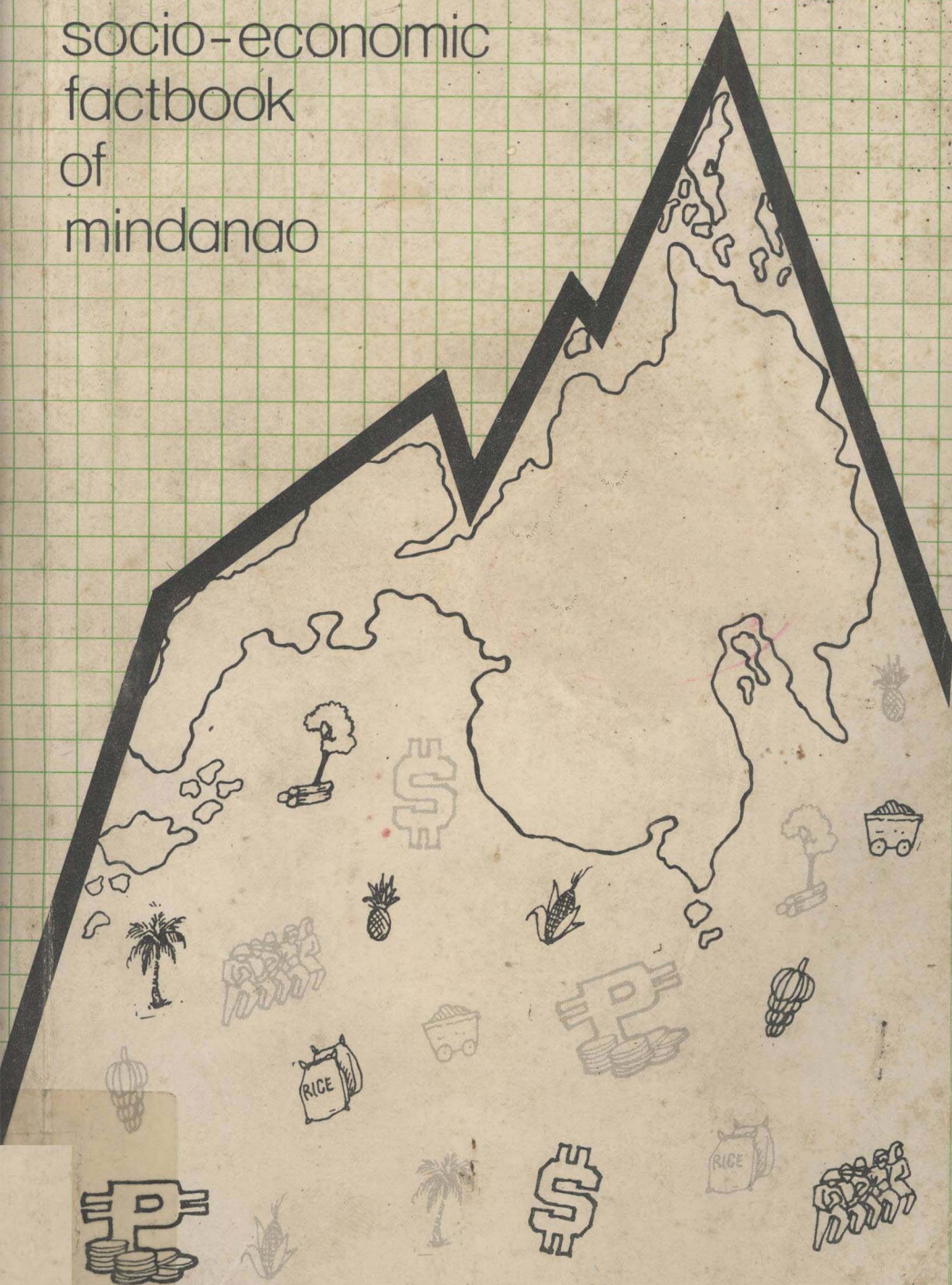


socio-economic
factbook
of
mindanao



Socio Economic Factbook of Mindanao

FOREWORD

This factbook was born out of a need to compile socio-economic data on Mindanao in a form readily accessible to lay users. The rationale behind this need is simple: most of the (secondary) data are available only in Metro Manila, i.e., in central offices of government ministries, statistical institutions and private companies. A researcher based in Mindanao therefore, has to spend a considerable amount of money and time in order to get the necessary data series and set of information vital in the completion of his work.

Cognizant of this information gap, the Alternate Resource Center of Davao City, embarked on a modest project to make a socio-economic factbook on Mindanao. Essentially, the factbook is a compilation of data series that would help describe the level of socio-economic development in the island. Included in the compilation, however, are brief introductions explaining the data contained per section, the importance of these set of data, their sources, and the limitations inherent in the series. In at least two sections (e.g. Income Distribution and Employment), a review of literature is given to show that extreme caution should be exercised before using the data for deriving conclusions.

This factbook contains eight main groups of data series describing major aspects of Mindanao's socio-economic situation: income and production, population, employment, income distribution, public investments, prices, and natural resource endowments and utilization. The main sources of these data series are ministries, statistical agencies and data gathering institutions of the government (e.g. the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the National Census and Statistics Office (NCSO), the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (BAEcon), the Ministry of Agrarian Reform (MAR), etc.). In each of the tables in the report, the main source of information is indicated for the reader.

This work is a product of six months of intensive data gathering and compilation, involving at least eight persons working in different phases of the project. However, it is by no means complete. Improvisations and updating would have to be done in order to improve it. Nevertheless, may this effort serve as a first step towards a more comprehensive monitoring of data that will help Mindanao people and Mindanao observers understand the island's current situation.

As a rule, the project team avoided giving their own conclusions and/or interpretations on the trends that could be derived from the data. We feel this is a task for the reader to do or for other project teams to consider. Nevertheless, we invoke the users of this factbook to make use of the data presented here for noble purposes, that is, towards greater understanding and service for the people of Mindanao.

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Chapter 1

INCOME AND PRODUCTION

The economic accounts presented in this section quantify the magnitude of transactions taking place in the economy of the various regions of Mindanao especially those related to the production of goods and services. The diverse products and services can not be added up directly. Hence, there is a common denominator used — money. The total value of all goods and services produced by a region in a year constitute the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP). It is a commonly used measure of a region's overall level of economic activity.

The regional income statistics provide a comprehensive description of a region's economic performance during a given period. These statistics provide a measure of economic growth for a particular period and the rate of such growth, both in money and in real terms. They portray whether the region's economic structure is predominantly agricultural or industrial and which sector is making good contribution to the region's income. They present a whole macroeconomic set of indicators essential in planning. They also indicate the various recipients of the region's output by sector, industries and households, the distribution of the social income by source of income, and the distribution of expenditures of such items by sector. Hence, regional income statistics present insights on the aggregative and the sectoral performance of a region's economy for a given period as needed for public planning and analytical purposes.

Data on this section includes GRDP (in million pesos at constant 1972 prices and in current prices) of the 4 regions, gross value added (GVA) by the conventional sectoral divisions of agriculture, industry and service sectors and the per capita regional domestic product's growth rates.

Fishery statistics on the quantity and value of production of commercial vessels (capacity of more than 3 tons), of fishponds and data from municipal or sustenance fishing were collected from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (formerly Philippine Fisheries Commission) annual publication Fisheries Statistics of the Philippines. Fishpond production was estimated based on a regional yearly average yield

by fishery district offices, and applied to the total land area of fishponds in operation. Estimates of production from municipal or sustenance fishing used to be derived by multiplying one-fifth of the total population by the average production per capita of two pre-determined towns. In 1980, a survey of fish landing centers was started to obtain production data.

Statistics on forestry are compiled by the Bureau of Forest Development (formerly Bureau of Forestry) and published annually in the Philippine Forestry Statistics. Data published include forestry inventory, area under exploitation, and value of production of timber. These data are by-products of the administrative and regulatory functions of the Bureau. Through its programs of surveys using aerial photogrammetry (where airstrips are used for estimation purposes), the Bureau updates the inventory of forest resources. Production data are obtained from monthly reports of district forestry offices, forest concessionaires and sawmill operators.

Statistics on Minerals are gathered through surveys conducted by the Bureau of Mines and Geo-Sciences and private mining companies.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics (BAEcon) is the primary source of various data on agricultural production. Until crop year 1975 (July 1, 1974 to June 30, 1975), the Bureau gathered information on agricultural aspects with emphasis on rice and corn hectareage, quantity and value of crop production, number and value of livestock and poultry through its Integrated Agricultural Surveys (IAS). In 1976, the IAS was divided into two components: Rice and Corn Surveys (RCS) and Livestock and Poultry Surveys (LPS). These two surveys have been conducted independently using the interview method with sample households throughout the country. Until July of crop year 1980, the RCS was conducted 5 times a year. Starting October of crop year 1980, the RCS has been conducted quarterly.

The Gross Regional Domestic Product per capita is often used as a summary index of the relative economic well-being of people in different regions of the country. The GVA of a sector is simply the market value of a commodity or service contributed by land, labor and capital employed in the sector producing that commodity. It excludes payments to factors of production employed to produce the commodity in other sectors.

The inclusion of a regional dimension to the current economic systems is fairly recent. The institution of regional development planning as an integral part of the overall development program called for the prioritization of regional accounts in data development. This was one of the resolutions agreed upon by the Workshop on Philippine National and Regional Accounts participated in by Inter-Agency Committee in

the Philippine System of National Accounts in 1977.

The National Accounts Staff (NAS), Statistical Coordination Office of NEDA, launched in 1974 however, the Regional Income Accounts Project aimed mainly to compile income and product accounts for the different regions in accordance with and as an integral part in the current national income series. Effective 1975, regional income estimate work has been made a regular function of NAS.

As most researchers and economists know, regional accounts, just like national accounts, are estimates. Standards of the present system of economic accounts have been said to reach a high level that can compare with the standards of most developing countries. But like most estimates, the basic shortcoming of regional accounts is the deficiency of raw data on which estimates are based. The problems of coverage, sampling design, understatement problem of time lag between field collection and availability of results, are some basic data deficiencies. (See critique and recommended improvements to improve the income accounts in "Proceedings on Workshop on the Philippine National and Regional Accounts". *Journal of Philippine Development* Vol. IV, No. 1, 1977 and "Puzzling Questions re The National Accounts." *Analysis of the Philippine Economic Crisis*, edited by E. de Dios, UP Press, 1984).