



KYUDAI NOW & Field Work in the Philippines



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Republic of the Philippines



Area : 298,178km²(80% of Japan)

Island : 7641

Population : 112,729,484 people

Capital : Manila

Social Issues : Industry that cannot keep up with rapid economic growth, frequent natural disasters, a cycle of poverty

参照 : フィリピン基礎データ | 外務省



Purpose

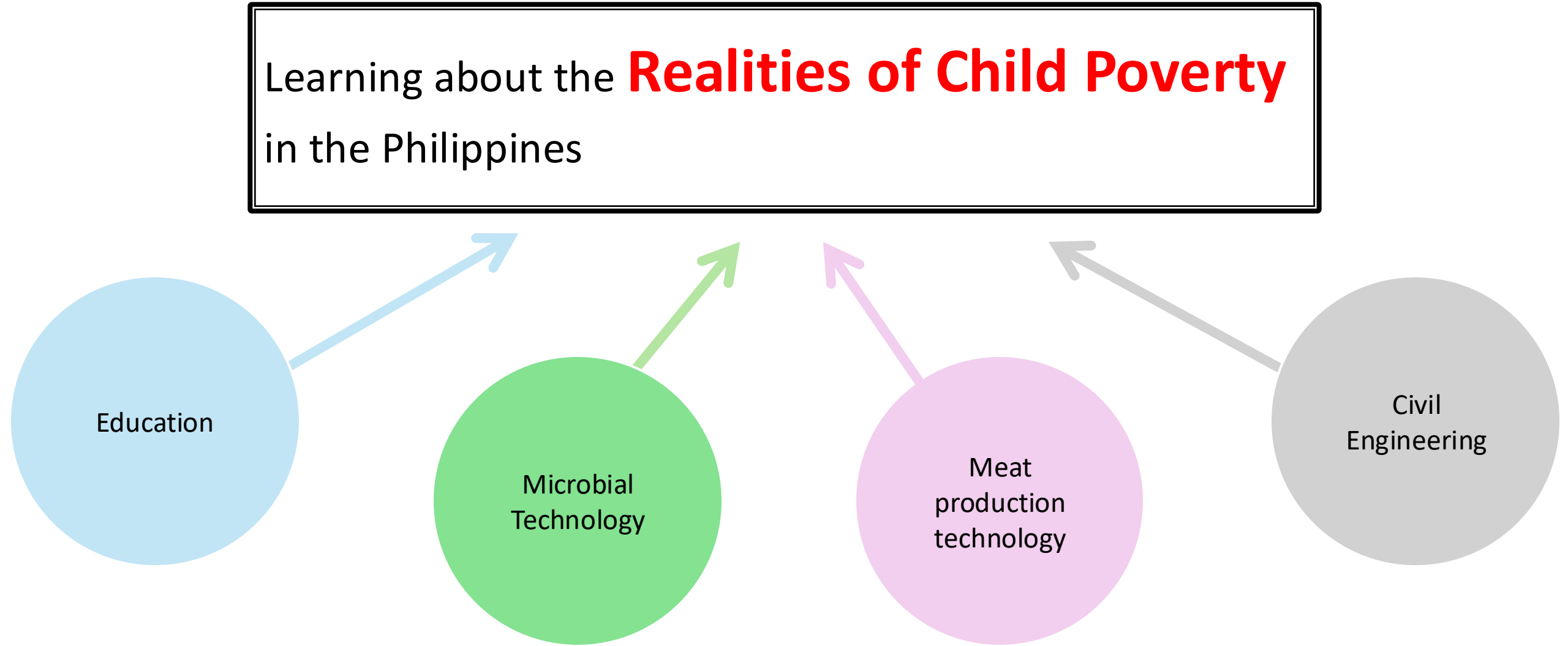
Learning about the **Realities of Child Poverty**
in the Philippines

Education

Microbial
Technology

Meat
production
technology

Civil
Engineering



Schedule

Date	Activity
8 February 2026	Arrival in the Philippines
9 February 2026	Visited Kanlungan Sa ERMA (Interview)
	Courtesy visit to the College of Nursing, University of the Philippines, Manila
	Visited KYUDAI NOW venue for initial preparation
10 February 2026	Courtesy visit to University of the Philippines
	Courtesy visit to Ateneo de Manila University
11 February 2026	KYUDAI NOW Manila
12 February 2026	Visited Philippines General Hospital, Child Protection Unit
	Visited Kanlungan Sa ERMA (Played with children)
13 February 2026	Happy Land and Smokey Mountain tour
	Visited Asian Development Bank
14 February 2026	Departed from the Philippines

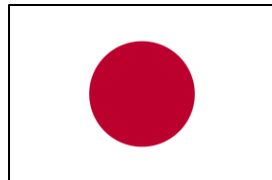
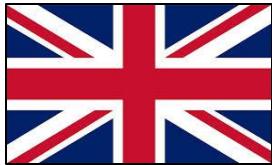
Kanlungan Sa ERMA (Center for Children In-need)



Kanlungan → “refuge” in Tagalog

NGO → child-caring agency that provides protection and temporary shelter for children in need

This organization is not funded by the government and primarily receives funds from overseas donations and partnerships with other NGOs



Entrance to Kanlungan Sa ERMA

Kanlungan Sa ERMA

The facility can accommodate up to **15 children** → **6 children**

Currently

The children are survivors of various forms of abuse:

- Abandonment
- Domestic violence
- Sexual abuse

Referred to the organization by:

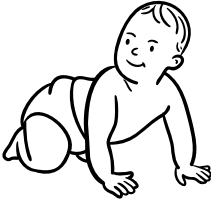
- Police
- National Bureau of Investigations
- Law enforcement agencies
- Child protection units in hospitals
- Faith-based organizations



Activities with the children

Kanlungan Sa ERMA

The facility is not equipped to care for very young children aged 0–6 years.



6-11 years old



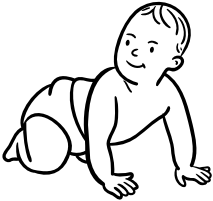
6-14 years old



Interviewed the staffs at Kanlungan Sa ERMA

Kanlungan Sa ERMA

The facility is not equipped to care for very young children aged 0–6 years.



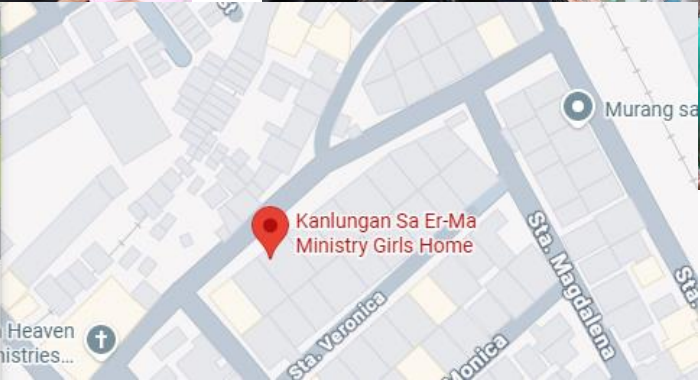
Dorcas Farm and Development Center



6-11 years old



Kanlungan Sa Er-Ma Ministry Girls Home



6-14 years old

ERMA

Kanlungan Sa ERMA

Upon admission, the children undergo:

- Medical examination
- Dental examination
- Psychological assessments
- Orientation session

Education



Necessities

Health



Nutrition



Philippine General Hospital

The child protection network foundation(CPN)

a non-government organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse in the Philippines

- The general hospital-child protection unit alone has treated over 30,000 children.

VISION

All children in the Philippines are protected from abuse and neglect

MISSION

All child protection units serve every abused child with compassion and competence ensuring that all abused children and children at risk are safe, healthy and developing to the best of their potential within a nurturing family environment



The hospital staff and us

Philippine General Hospital

- The number of patients has increased
- Physical abuse >>> boys
Sexual abuse >>> girls
- Most perpetrators of sexual abuse are known to the children.
(Neighbors, the mother's partner, sometimes the father or cousins)
- The spread of inappropriate images online has become serious
- in exchange for money



The examination room



Lecture

What the staffs are considering

- Importance of communication during examinations
Examinations and education for victims too young to fully understand require especially careful treatment
- Speak one-on-one with the children
- Creating a warm atmosphere
- They always ask questions
“What do you want to be when you grow up?”

Happy Land and Smokey Mountain



Happy Land

- The name originates from the Visayan word "Hapilan," meaning "garbage dump."
- Most of the residents are people displaced from the former Smokey Mountain or those who migrated from rural areas to search for work.
- It is one of the most densely populated and impoverished districts in Manila.



<https://loobinc.exblog.jp/20772611/>



Smokey Mountain

- This area was originally a fishing village, but this became a massive dumpsite for Manila's waste.
- A lot of 'scavengers' (people who search for recyclables to sell) gathered here.
- The area earned its name from the constant smoke emitted by methane gas produced by decomposing garbage.
- Although officially closed in 1995, it remains a residential area for many today.

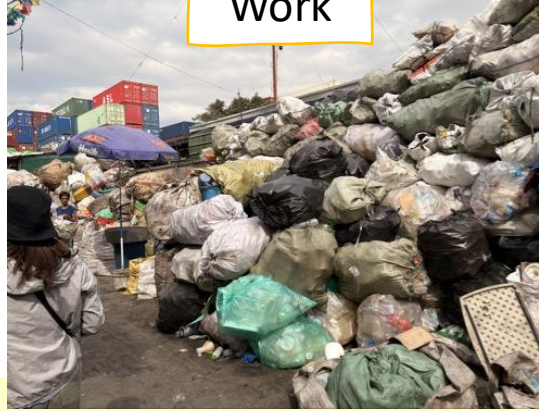
Happy Land and Smokey Mountain

Food



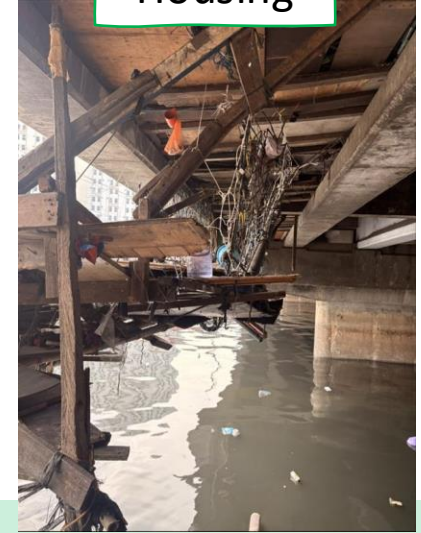
Pagpag (Recycled leftovers)
— 20 pesos

Work



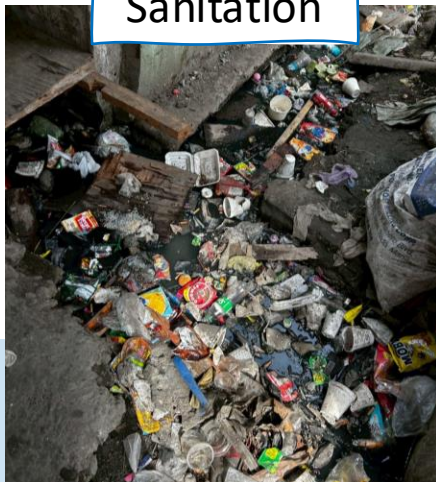
Scavenging
— 3 pesos/kg (Max 600/day)

Housing



Happy Land: 1,500 pesos/month
Under the bridge: Free

Sanitation



Life in the Slums

1 pesos = 2.66 yen (2026.03.10)

Entertainment



Wi-Fi: 5 pesos / 3h
PC: 1 peso / 6h

- Scattered waste
- Polluted rivers
- Bagged human waste disposal

Happy Land and Smokey Mountain



Education

Children in Slums



NGO Support:

BYSMP Bless the Children Foundation

- Tuition is free, but uniforms and meals are not.
- Work (scavenging) is prioritized over school in some cases.
- Some students successfully reach university level.

- Monitoring children's growth and providing daily meal programs.
- Offering vocational training for mothers to provide stable, alternative livelihoods.
- Operating "Smokey Tours" and reinvesting the revenue into community support.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a major **multilateral development bank** that supports inclusive, resilient, and sustainable growth throughout the **Asia-Pacific region**.

ADB's roles as an international development agency:

- provide development funds (finance)
- knowledge bank (research function)
- honest broker (regional cooperation)
- policy dialogue and advisory function

Example of projects:

- Linking ADB's Horticulture Project and National Free Nutritious Meals Program (Indonesia-School meals + Markets)



Asian Development Bank (ADB)

* Interview with two Japanese female employees *

- Feature of the project in Manila

—The government is not proactive, and ADB often has to make proposals itself.

- five-year projects. However, continuity is the most important for problem-solving.

"Education is essential for improving hygiene conditions"

* The magnitude of Japan's assistance in Asia

* Collect and utilize data based on evidence

* The importance of building good relationships with the government and companies



What we learn(Ayuri)

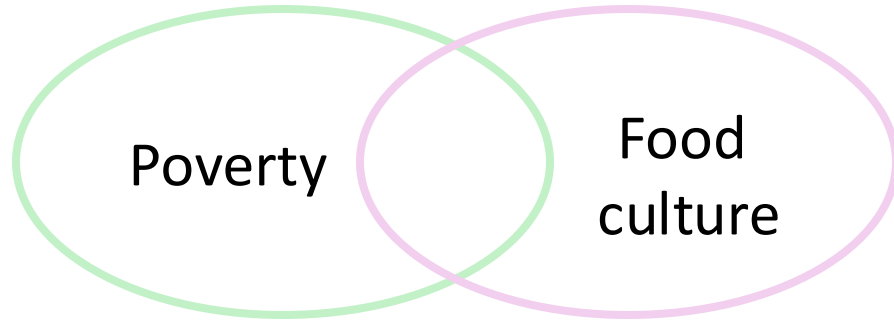
- In the Philippines, where infrastructure and the economy are lagging behind, unlike in Japan, welfare is carried out mainly by NGOs rather than the government. There is a need to connect activities at the international organization level with activities at the NGO level.
- Even in Japan, it is possible to consider being aware of not only domestic but also global human resource education in educational settings, not only providing knowledge but also allowing actual various experience, and to export educational techniques such as Japan's food education and cleaning activities.

What we learn (Lisa)

- In the Philippines, **fresh food is often less affordable** than fast and processed food. As a result, many lower-income families rely on **inexpensive processed animal products** such as *pagpag*, which refers to leftover food that is washed and then fried.
- Poverty and limited access to education among these families place **hygiene at a very low priority**.
- Many families are primarily focused on meeting their immediate needs for survival, which often leads to **hygiene and sanitation being overlooked** despite their importance for maintaining good health.
- Through this experience, it became clear that **malnutrition is closely associated with poverty, health awareness, and access to education**.
- This fieldwork highlighted that improving nutrition and health outcomes requires **coordinated efforts in policy, education, agriculture, and infrastructure development**.

Understanding the **gut microbiota in individuals with malnutrition** can help in **future intervention strategies** and **realize SDG number 3** (Good Health and Wellbeing).

What we learn (Hana)



- Poverty and food culture are closely linked
- Food culture has significant impact to nutrition
- Culture is deeply deeply rooted, making it difficult to change eating habits.

People want to fill their stomach cheaply

>Meat is cheaper and also more filling

>They are at higher risk for lifestyle-related diseases and other illnesses

>The healthcare system is underdeveloped, few people have access to adequate medical care

This is a complex problem related to culture, industry, food, health, and poverty

⇒Education (food education) and technology(Cultured meat) can be the solution

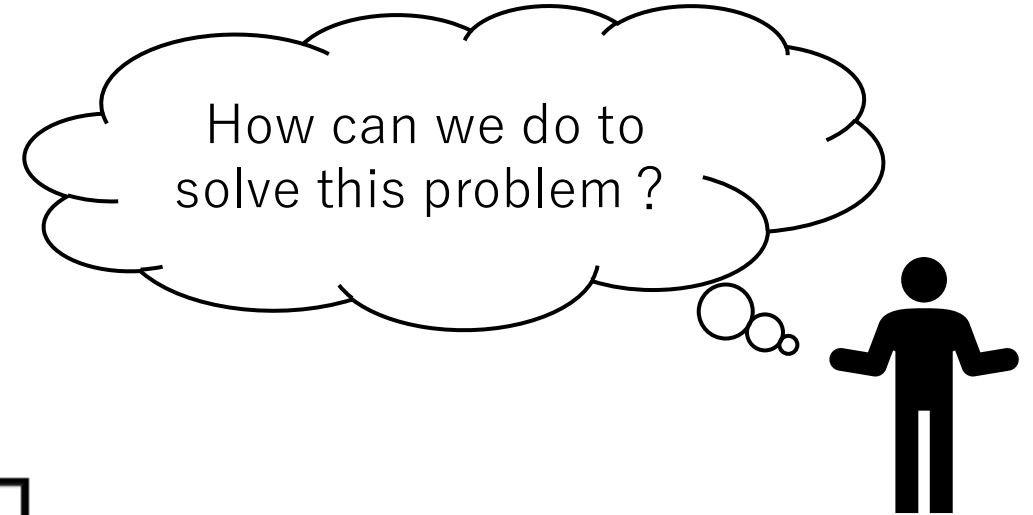
Cultured meat: a technology that produces meat by cultivating cells taken from animals

By developing cultured meat enriched with nutrients often lacking in the diet like vitamins, we could address the Philippines' severe nutritional imbalances while supporting their meat-centric food culture.

What we learn (Otoha)

Poor Sanitation → Stunting & Diseases → Perpetuating Child Poverty

- Scattered waste on streets
- Polluted rivers
- Exhaust fumes
- Recycled leftovers

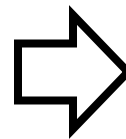


↓
Education

Japanese Education: A Foundation for Hygiene

- Anti-littering rules
- Daily cleaning habits
- Importance of hygiene

⇒ Everyone understands the importance of a sanitary environment.



- Teaching children the importance of cleanliness.
 - Extending education to adults and parents.
- ⇒ A key solution to the "Poor Sanitation" crisis in the Philippines.

Conclusion

During this fieldwork, we visited various places, including **children shelters, hospitals, NGOs, and banks**. We learned that each institution has its own unique way of fighting child poverty.

Education

Acquiring the ability to utilize evidence-based data and collaborate with other fields.

Microbial Technology

Understanding the factors driving the change in gut microbiota can aid in future intervention strategies.

Meat production technology

Developing cultured meat enriched with nutrients often lacking in the diet.

Civil Engineering

Providing hygiene education for both children and adults is the key to solving sanitary problems.

Interdisciplinary collaboration is the key to solving child poverty.