

## MA.ELLA C. OPLAS

7495 Bagtikan St. San Antonio Village

Makati City, 0905-351-8648

[Ma.ella.oplas@dlsu.edu.ph](mailto:Ma.ella.oplas@dlsu.edu.ph)

[Ma.Ella.oplas@gmail.com](mailto:Ma.Ella.oplas@gmail.com)

### EDUCATION BACKGROUND

PhD in Development Studies (units), De La Salle University

Masters in Applied Economics, De La Salle University

BS Applied Economics, De La Salle University

### CONSULTANCIES

Monitoring, Evaluation and Adaptation Learning Consultant. **Political Participation for Greater Electoral Integrity (PARTICIPATE) Project.** DLSU-Jesse M Robredo Institute of Governance project. March –July 2021. Design the overall Monitoring, Evaluation, and Adaptive Learning (MEAL) Framework for activities of DLSU-JRIG under the Participate Project. Conduct capacity building workshop with the training team on Monitoring and Evaluation.

Co-Researcher, **The Project for Industrial Competitive Enhancement through Industrial Human Resource Development and Supply Value Chain Development for the Automotive Industry.** TESDA and JICA project; November 2019 – December 2020. Development and design of research instruments for Key Informant Interview (KII), and Focus Group Discussion (FGD); Training of local research team on the conduct of data gathering in five regions. Management of Point persons for KIIs and FGDs. Analysis and report writing.

Research Objectives: to determine the training needs of the Automotive Industry and discern whether they have the capacity and resources to provide the training internally. If ever they choose to outsource, what are the challenges that are confronting them.

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, **Evaluation of the Technical Education and Skills Development Project (TESDP),** De La Salle University – Angelo King Institute with funding support from the National Economic Development Agency. March 2019 – August 2019. Development and design of research instruments for Key Informant Interview (KII), and Focus Group Discussion (FGD); Training of local research team on the conduct of data gathering in five regions. Management of Point persons for KIIs and FGDs. Analysis and report writing.

Research Objectives: To enhance competitiveness of the Philippines through the improved quality and relevance of its TESD system; and to enable TESDA to perform its function more effectively as an oversight agency to better respond to market demand for highly skilled workers

*Ms. Ella C Oplas*

Co-Researcher, **Agricultural Credit Markets in the Philippines and their Competitive Landscapes**, Philippine Institute of Development; August 2018 – August 2019. Conduct of Focus Group Discussion. Analysis, issue paper and policy note writing (for publication).

Co-Researcher, **Philippine Baked Goods and Its Competitive Landscapes**, Philippine Competition Commission; March 2018 – August 2019. Conduct of Focus Group Discussion. Analysis and report writing.

Team Member, **Review and Economic Assessment of the Five Mines in Dinagat Islands**, National Economic Development Authority under the team of Economic Expert; May 2018 – October 2019. Conduct of Focus Group Discussion. Analysis, and report writing.

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, **Mid-term Evaluation of DOLE Kto12 Adjustment Measure Program (AMP)**, SSA Consultancies, Inc. October 2018 – March 2019. Development of evaluation framework for the AMP including the research instruments for KII and FGD; Conduct of KII and FGD in three regions – 3, 4a and NCR; and evaluation, analysis and report writing.

Project Director, **Evaluating the National Volunteering through Bayanihang Bayan Program**, De La Salle University – Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance project with funding support from the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) October 2017-December 2017. Set the overall direction of the project. Manages a pool of Research Assistant and Case Writers; Development of research instruments for KII and FGD; Design and conduct of pilot KIIs and FGDs; and Analysis, report and case study writing.

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, **Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA) Program Midterm Review**, De La Salle University – Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance project with funding support from the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Peace Process (OPAPP). April 2016-July 2017. Development of research instruments for KII and FGD; Design and training of local research team on the conduct of data gathering; Conduct of pilot KIIs, FGDs and survey; Component Holder – Quezon Province; and Analysis and report writing.

Consultant (Governance Component Holder), **Effect of Devolution on Local Health Expenditure and Delivery of Health Services**, under the De La Salle University – Social Development Research Center with funding support from Department of Health. August 2016 – April 2017. Development of research instruments for KII, FGD and Survey; Training of local research team on the conduct data gathering; Overseeing the conduct of data gathering in 3 provinces (Negros Occidental, Benguet and Ifugao with 3 municipalities respectively; and Conduct of validation in 3 provinces (Capiz, Antique and Kalibo with 3 municipalities each).

Consultant for Governance, **Effect of Devolution on Local Health Expenditure and Delivery of Health Services**, under the De La Salle University – Social Development Research Center with funding support from PCHRD. August 2016 – April 2017. Development of research instruments for KII, FGD and Survey; Training of local research team on the conduct data gathering;

*Ms. Ella C. Oplan*

Overseeing the conduct of data gathering in 3 provinces (Negros Occidental, Benguet and Ifugao with 3 municipalities respectively; and Conduct of validation in 3 provinces (Capiz, Antique and Kalibo with 3 municipalities each).

Consultant for Policy Research, **Boys Out of School Program**. Coalitions for Change in Basic Education, The Asian Foundation project. October 2015 – May 2016. Review of Related Literature on the state of the Philippine education focusing on the 4Ps and boys leaving school; Methodological assessment of the 4Ps database: What research questions can be addressed and methods of analysis can be employed with the database?; Development of Research paper on the state of the poor boys in the Philippines to be presented in roundtable discussions; and Conduct of policy review on the state of the poor boys in the Philippines.

Component Holder for Governance, **How Universal Health Care is Closing the Gap in Health Outcome Disparities among Local Government Units**, De La Salle University – Social Development Research Center project funded by The European Union. March 2014 – May 2016. Development of research instruments for KII, FGD and Survey; Training of local research team on the conduct and implementation of data gathering; and Conduct pilot KIIs and overseeing of data gathering in 3 provinces (Davao Oriental, Davao and Misamis Oriental).

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, **Disaster Risk Reduction through Local Collaboration**, a De La Salle University – Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance (DLSU-JRIG) in partnership with Commission on Higher Education Philippine Higher Education Research Network (CHED PherNet) project. June 2015 – June 2016. Development of research instruments for Survey; and training of local research team on the conduct and implementation of data gathering; Facilitated data gathering in Bulacan and Misamis Occidental province

Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, **Empowered Participatory Governance Towards Progress in North Cotabato Communities**, a De La Salle University – Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance (DLSU-JRIG) in partnership with Fundacion Accion Contra el Hambre (ACF) Project. October 2014 – May 2015. Design and development of monitoring and evaluation e-database system (excel-based) for the monitoring of North Cotabato local government compliance to the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG); Development of Users' Guide for the M&E E-database system; and Conduct of capacity building and one-on-one on-site mentoring with five local governments in North Cotabato.

Stocktaking Consultant, **Institutionalizing Civil Society Monitoring and Assessment of Public Service Delivery to the Poor**, a World Bank-De La Salle University International Development Fund Project. August 2011 – August 2012. Review of relevant literature and come up with a summarized categories and description of service delivery monitoring tools, methods and approaches; Undertook the rapid review and assessment of relevant existing tools and organizations involved in monitoring and evaluating the delivery of public services by LGUs and national sector agencies and at the local level; Coordination of Local Field Consultants to include existing local service delivery monitoring and evaluation tools and approaches in the Stocktaking

Ms. Ella C. Oplan

Report; Information dissemination of relevant findings in 10 sites during scheduled workshops and solicit feedback to validate findings; Preparation of Stocktaking Report that contain tools, methods, and approaches to track public service delivery based on a literature review, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews; and Preparation of “Monitoring Social Accountability: Stocktaking Report” published by De La Salle University.

## **TRAININGS CONDUCTED**

Economic Perspective for the Local Government Executive and Manager Training. December 2020 (two sessions) Organized by Development Academy of the Philippines and participated by LGU representatives

Conducting Feasibility Study for Public-Private Partnership Projects. January 2019 (one week) Organized by DILG-NCR and participated by NCR LGU representatives

Public Policy Training for Bangsamoro Development Authority Personnel. April 2019 (2 batches, 4 days each) Organized by Bangsamoro Development Agency in partnership with DLSU and the Hague University

Conducting Feasibility Study for Public-Private Partnership Projects. December 2018 (one week) Organized by DILG-NCR and participated by NCR LGU representatives

Writing Terms of References conducted during the Impact Evaluation Workshop (batch 2). August 2018

Writing Terms of References conducted during the Impact Evaluation Workshop (batch 1). June 2018. Organized by DLSU-Angelo King Institute and participated by NEDA representatives

Organized by DLSU-Angelo King Institute and participated by NEDA representatives (batch 1). June 2018. Organized by DLSU-Angelo King Institute and participated by NEDA representatives

Mainstreaming Gender in Monitoring and Evaluation conducted during the Impact Evaluation Workshop. June 2018 Organized by DLSU-Angelo King Institute and participated by NEDA representatives

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Aug 2016 – present    **ASSISTANT PROFESSORIAL LECTURER**  
Economics Department, De La Salle University  
Courses handled: Introduction to Microeconomics, Introduction to Macroeconomics, Political Economy, Management Economics, and Fundamentals of Economics

*Ma. Ella C. Oplar*

Shared courses handled (with International Studies Department): International Economics, International Political Economy, European Economics (undergraduate and graduate level), Southeast Asian Economics, USA Economics (undergraduate), China Business and Economy, Japan Business and Economy, and US Business and Economy. Shared courses handled (with Political Science Department): Monitoring and Evaluation; Gender and Development, Genders, Citizenship and Governance, and Development Economics

Concurrent post as faculty member:

**PRACTICUM COORDINATOR**, School of Economics. Jan 2019 – present

**FACULTY ADVISER** for ARCHERS for UNICEF, a professional student organization affiliated with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), August 2017 – present

Aug 2014 – Aug 2016 **ASSISTANT PROFESSORIAL LECTURER**

Political Science Department, De La Salle University

Courses handled: Monitoring and Evaluation; Gender and Development, Genders, Citizenship and Governance, and Development Economics

Shared courses handled (with Behavioral Science Department): Sports and Politics

Shared courses handled (with International Studies Department): International Political Economy, European Economics (undergraduate and graduate level), USA Economics (undergraduate)

May 2012 – Aug 2014 **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

Political Science Department, De La Salle University

Courses handled: Development Economics, Senior Research Paper for Development Studies Majors, Research Methods, Gender and Development, Monitoring and Evaluation, Introduction to Political Science, Society and Technology and Citizenship and Governance

Shared courses handled (with Behavioral Science Department): Sports and Politics

Concurrent posts as faculty member:

**DEPARTMENT VICE CHAIR** for Political Science and Development Studies Program. May 2013 – April 2014

Ms. Ella C. Oplan

**PRACTICUM COORDINATOR** for Political Science and Development Studies Program. May 2013 – April 2015

**KAPATIRAN NG KABATAAN PARA SA KAUNLARAN (KKK) FACULTY ADVISER**, a professional student organization for Development Studies program, May 2013 – August 2016

Oct 2011 - 2012

**PROJECT MANAGER**, Promoting Integrity and Accountability in Business, Hills Program, Ramon V. del Rosario, Sr. – CV Starr Center for Corporate Governance (RVR-CV Starr Center), Asian Institute of Management (AIM)

Management of the team in conducting research, roundtable discussions with key government officials and stakeholders and organizing Promoting Integrity in Business Conference; development of content for the anti-corruption training of trainers for business support organizations, Resource Person for the Training of Trainers on Anti-Corruption Workshops for SMEs in Manila, Cebu and Davao; and Supervision of the conduct of public-private dialogues with Bureau of Customs, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Bureau of Fire Protection and Department of Interior and Local Government.

Mar – Oct 2011

**DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**, Philippine Franchise Association, Management and organization of the first Franchise Asia Conference (3-day) in the Philippines. Supervised the development of website and social media accounts. Management and organization of Franchise Excellence Awards Night, the annual awarding event for the franchising sector in the Philippines. Oversaw the conduct of the selection, deliberation of awards.

Sept 2009 – Aug 2010 **CHIEF-MONITORING AND EVALUATION DIVISION**, Philippine Commission on Women, Management of the Monitoring and Evaluation Division and overseeing of 6 Planning Officers and 1 Administrative Staff; Management of the provision of Pro-active Technical Assistance Package to 8 economic-focused National Government Agencies; Served as a member of the Technical Working Group to draft the economic-related items of the Implementing Rules and Regulation of the Magna Carta of Women; and served as the component holder for the implementation of the GREAT Women project.

June 2004 – Aug 2008 **MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICER**, Private Enterprise Accelerating Resource Linkages Project 2 (PEARL2), Executed by AGRITeam, Inc. (Canadian consultancy firm) with funding support from the Canadian International Development Agency. Monitoring and evaluation of PEARL2 project following the Results-Based Management

*Ms. Ella C. Oplan*

framework; development of the Terms of Reference, supervised the internal and third-party evaluation of PEARL2 Project; Preparation of Project Quarterly and Semi-Annual Report and other reports as requested; Conceptualization and management of the Monitoring and Evaluation Database of PEARL2; and Management of the implementation of Partnership Development Facility, a component of PEARL2 Project with twenty two (22) sub-projects in partnership with Business Support Organizations (BSOs)

## **RESEARCH ENGAGEMENTS**

Co-Chair – “The Importance of Public-Private Partnership in Education to Address Job Mismatch”, under the Research Program Workshop (RPW) of the University Research Coordination Office, De La Salle University

Co-Chair – “Experimental and Non-Experimental Approaches in Economics for Impact Evaluation Studies”, under the College Research Program of the University Research Coordination Office, De La Salle University

Consultant – “Philippines Alternative Learning System Survey”, an externally-funded project under the University Research Coordination Office, De La Salle University

## **SELECTED PAPER PRESENTATION AND PUBLICATIONS**

“Effect of Devolution on Local Health Expenditure and Delivery of Health Services” presented during the 3rd PhilHealth Studies Forum on November 27-28, 2019

An Evaluation of the Impact of Peace-Building Initiatives on Socio-Economic Conditions in Conflict Affected Areas in Mindanao by Marites Tiongco, Reynaldo Bautista, Jr. and Ma Ella Oplas. Accepted for and Presented during the WEAI 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference. Keio University, Tokyo, 21-24 March 2019

“Policy Brief on Issue Paper on Agricultural Credit Markets and Their Competitive Landscape”, Co-authored with Dr. Marites Tiongco, Jerome Campos and Arjan Salvanera. Philippine Institute of Development Studies. Presented during the Public Consultation on Agriculture Credit Markets in the Philippines and their Competitive Landscapes on February 2019

“Issue Paper on Agricultural Credit Markets and Their Competitive Landscape”, Co-authored with Dr. Marites Tiongco, Jerome Campos and Arjan Salvanera. Philippine Institute of Development Studies (2018)

*Ma. Ella C. Oplas*



“State of the Poor Boys in Conflict Areas. The Case of 4Ps boy beneficiaries”, a policy paper presented during the Philippine Economic Society, August 2018. Co-authored with Dr. Marites Tiongco and Dr. Francisco Magno.

“State of the Poor Boys in the Philippines. The Case of 4Ps boy beneficiaries”, policy paper submitted to The Asia Foundation and presented during the Round Table Discussion Series on Boys Out of School organized by DLU-Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance, March 2016

“Review of Related Literature on the State of the Poor Boys in the Philippines”, research paper submitted to The Asia Foundation and presented during the Round Table Discussion Series on Boys Out of School organized by DLU-Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance, October 2015

Oplas, Ma. Ella (2015) After the Welfare State by Tom Palmer, a book review. Philippine Political Science Journal

“How are the Poor Boys in the Philippines”, research paper submitted to The Asia Foundation, October 2015

Rethinking the State of the Poor Boys in the Philippines. Presented during the DLSU School of Economics Brown Bag Seminar Series July 2016, Manila

Rethinking the State of the Poor Boys in the Philippines. Presented during the Philippine Political Science Association International Conference, May 2016, Legaspi City

Inter-LGU Collaboration on Disaster Risk Management towards Community Resilience. Presented during the DLSU-Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance Roundtable Discussion Series, July 13, 2015, Manila

Measuring Local Government Unit’s Business Friendliness. Presented during the DLSU-Jesse M. Robredo Institute of Governance Roundtable Discussion Series, July 6, 2015, Manila

Towards Women Empowerment in the Philippine Private Higher Education A Policy Assessment on the Institutionalization of the “Magna Carta of Women” on the Manual of Regulation for Private Higher Education” Presented during the Philippine Political Science Association International Conference, April 2015, Dipolog City

When Business Sector Come Together: An Analysis of Social Accountability Initiatives by the Philippine Business Sector towards Integrity and Accountability. Abstract submitted and accepted for presentation during Asian Political and International Studies Association Conference, October 2013, Turkey

Collective Action: The Case of Promoting Integrity and Accountability in Small and Medium Enterprises. Published in The Role of Educators and Students in Building Integrity. Tiri-Integrity

Ma. Ella C. Oplas



Action. Presented during, the Role of Educators and Students in Building Integrity Conference, April 2-3, 2013, Jakarta

La Salle Institute of Governance (2011) “Monitoring Social Accountability: Stocktaking Report” published by De La Salle University.

## **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

Ilongga and fluent in Ilonggo dialect. Can understand and speak Bisaya. Married to Bienvenido Oplas Jr. with two daughters. Passionate, innovative and is always open to learning new things. Social media savvy and believes in the use of technology for efficiency.

Ms. Ella C Oplas