present a seminar on

“Optimal Investment in Preparedness of Farm and Non-Farm Households”

By

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26 February, Friday
4:00-5:00 p.m. – Room 303

Abstract:
This paper provides an initial framework regarding priorities for government programs to reduce the natural-disaster vulnerability of farm households in the Philippines. The study begins with the likelihood that climate change will increase the probability of flooding, since rainfall is expected to both increase and be more concentrated (more storms). Then turn to a conceptual framework for understanding resilience at the household level and evidence from the PCED Social Protection Survey about coping strategies of farm households. The framework can be used to shed light on pros and cons of alternative public policies to reduce household vulnerability. In particular, the limited coping tools available to low-income households are highlighted. This helps to strengthen the case for preventative polices that lower the probability and/or severity of damages. Inasmuch as disaster risk management policies at the national level are typically without coherent foundations, tentative indications of how the farm level risk-management framework can be expanded to the national level are provided.

About the speaker:
Majah-Leah Ravago is Assistant Professor at the University of the Philippines School of Economics. She is also the Program Director of the USAID grant – Energy Policy and Development Program (EPDP) at the UPecon Foundation, Inc. She is a Member of the Board and Secretary of the Philippine Economic Society (PES). Her research interests include resource economics, energy economics, development economics, and economics of natural disaster. She has published papers on resource management and sustainability, climate change, agriculture, and experimental games. She has received research grants from the University of the Philippines, East-West Center, and the Metrobank Foundation. She obtained her BS Business Economics and MA Economics from the University of the Philippines and received her PhD in Economics from the University of Hawaii.

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