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Philippines RSAC Office and Clinic Open – Baguio City

Baguio City, May 9, 2016 — [The RINJ Foundation](#) has opened its first clinic in The Republic of The Philippines. **RSAC Baguio** will also serve as the Philippines HQ office as the planned Manila and Davao clinics begin to take form.

Current official estimates following the 2015 census indicate a population in excess of 105 million. The country has had a declining total fertility rate from 4,8 in 1980 to 3.6 in 1998 to an estimated 3.2 in 2016. We await the census results from 2015.



Population				
	1991	1995	1999	2002
Total (millions)	65,789	71,717	78,134	82,995
% < 5 years	14.5	14.2	13.4	12.8
% 5-14 years	25.3	24.5	23.1	23.7
% > 14 years	60.2	61.3	63.5	63.5
Population Growth Rate	1970-1990		1990-2000	
	2.6		2.1	
TFR (Total Fertility Rate)	1980		1998	
	4.8		3.6	
Under- five Mortality Rate	1980		2000	
	81		39	
IMR (Infant Mortality Rate)	1980		1998	
	52		32	
MMR (deaths per 100,000 live births)	170			
% Pregnant Women Immunized against Tetanus	1998			
DPT Immunization (% < 12 mths)	1990	1995	2001	
	88	70	79	
Measles Immunization (% < 12mths)	85	72	71	

Every 53 minutes a woman or child is raped in the Philippines. In mid-April, 2016, [The RINJ Foundation](#) from its Baguio City [RSAC](#) filed a total of five charges in Pasay City, Manila and in Lagawe, Ifugao with more to come. The travel time was over 32 hours and the processes themselves took many days and more than a few legal arguments. The Foundation has thus far prevailed.

Rape is one of the most prevalent forms of violence against women (VAW) in the Philippines. The Greater Manila Metropolitan region has a population of around 16 million and is the rape capital of the region.

The RINJ Foundation has adopted a mission in the Philippines while supporting and caring for survivors, to also gather and compile detailed information on parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence. Needless to say our work brings us to the Mindanao region as well as Manila.

The RSACs offer free medical care to women and children and their families. Community related services such as victim advocacy, crisis hotlines, community outreach, & education programs are provided based on each RSAC's resources at the discretion of the local RSAC nurse-led team.

This will not be our typical public health clinic but a full service metro-center rape clinic capable of full forensic evidence collection and health care for rape and gender-based violence survivors.



Street children in Manila where the next RSAC Opens



Jhen, Regional Manager – RSAC Philippines

Panoramic View of Baguio City From the North Looking South



The mountain under the setting sun is the location of the clinic.



Some of our friends here: Muslim ladies selling their merchandise at the night market.



The neighbors behind the clinic on the mountain side along Marcos Highway (to Manila).

Background:

The state of health in the Philippines has greatly improved over the past 20 years. This has been achieved through mass immunization plans, health education, vector control, and the provision of potable water. The Filipino government allocates 3% of its public expenditure for the health sector. On average, this provides US\$4.10 for each Filipino. The Filipino government works in collaboration with WHO on number of programs. These include: strengthening traditional medicine approaches, action programs on essential drugs,

occupational health, and improving health technology. Infant mortality rates in 1998 were 32/1000, down from 52/1000 in 1980. Maternal mortality rate is 170/100,000. The leading cause of mortality is heart disease, causing 77 deaths/100,000 people. Although mortality rates have decreased, the incidence of infectious diseases has increased. Malaria, filariasis, dengue, Japanese encephalitis are endemic to the region. In 2001, an estimated 0.07% of the population was living with HIV/AIDS. Measles and DPT immunization rates have improved in past five years, yet they are still lower than rates in 1980. As of 2001, 79% of the population was immunized against DPT, and 71% against measles. Currently, expanding the national immunization programs is a priority among the government's public health programs. Another priority is to ensure safe water and improved sanitation to the population. Approximately 86% of the population has access to improved sanitation, and 83% has access to improved water (2000). The Philippines has a large health workforce, with 123 doctors and 418 nurses for every 100,000 people. Even so, only 56% of all deliveries are attended by trained personnel and 86% of pregnant women receive ante-natal care.
