



Philippine Institute for  
Development Studies

# Philippine labor market information system and TESDA's skills needs anticipation

*Connie Bayudan-Dacuycuy, Ma. Christina  
Epetia, Anna Rita Vargas, and John  
Joseph Ocbina*



October 17, 2024 1:30PM  
PIDS Webinar

# Research Objectives

*The study focuses on recommending inputs to the **Skills anticipation and prioritization of skills requirements (SAPSR) Framework** and is guided by the following research questions:*

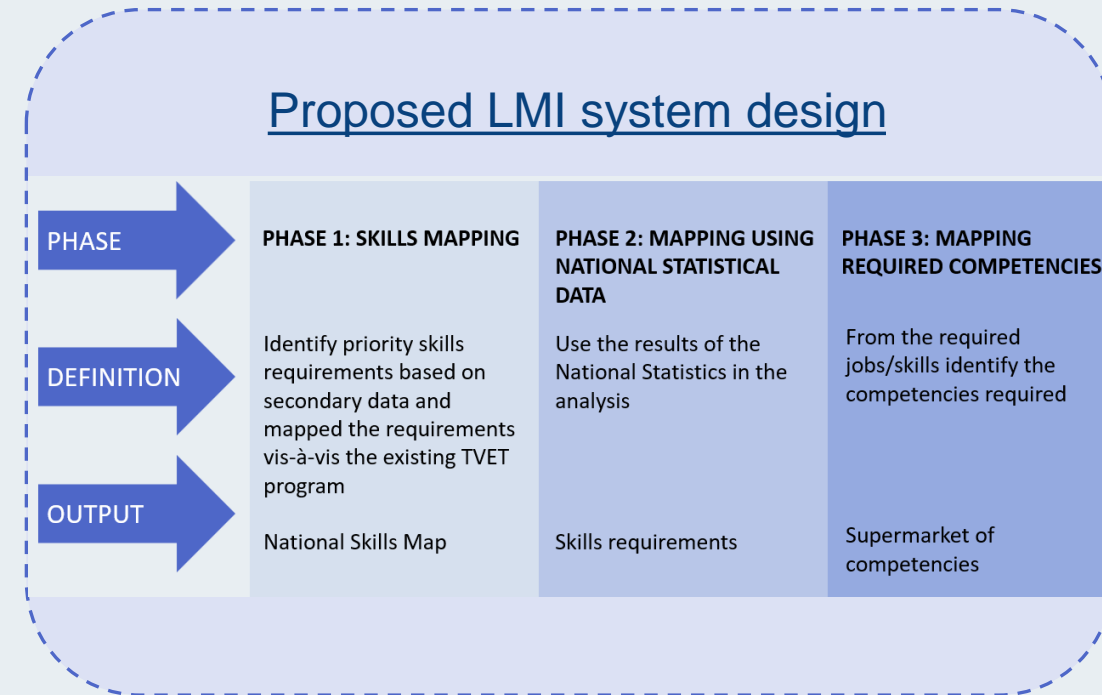
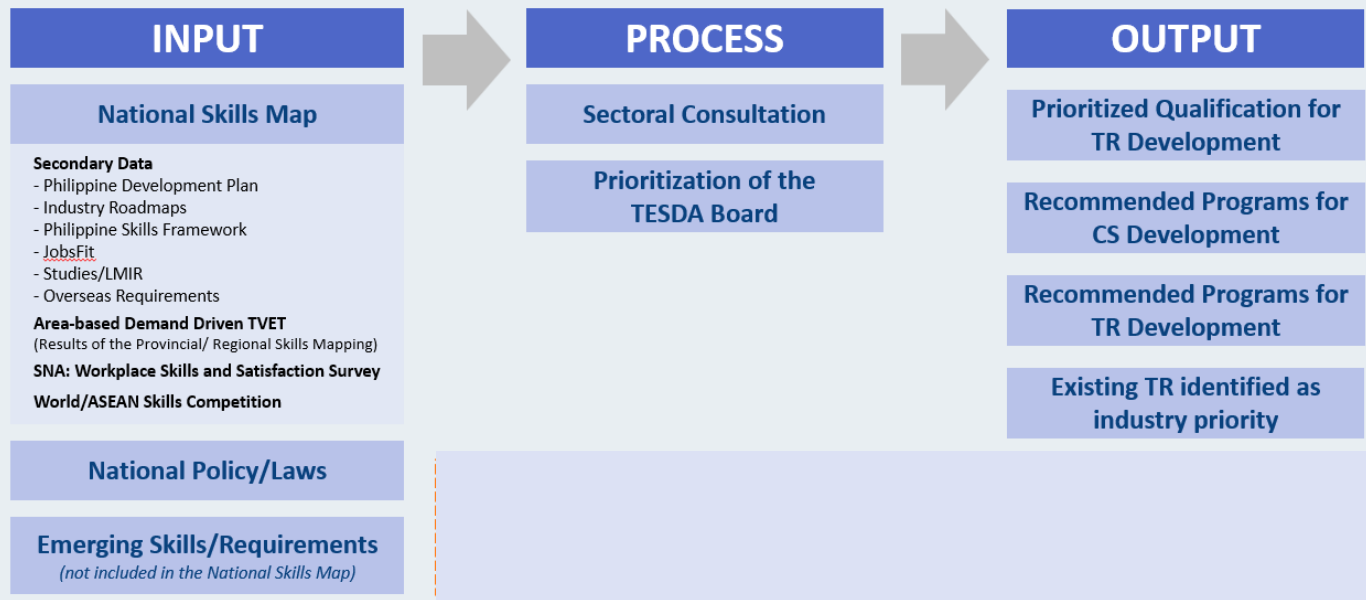


How can the TESDA LMI Framework be validated to be consistent with the Philippine context and its relation to other government initiatives?

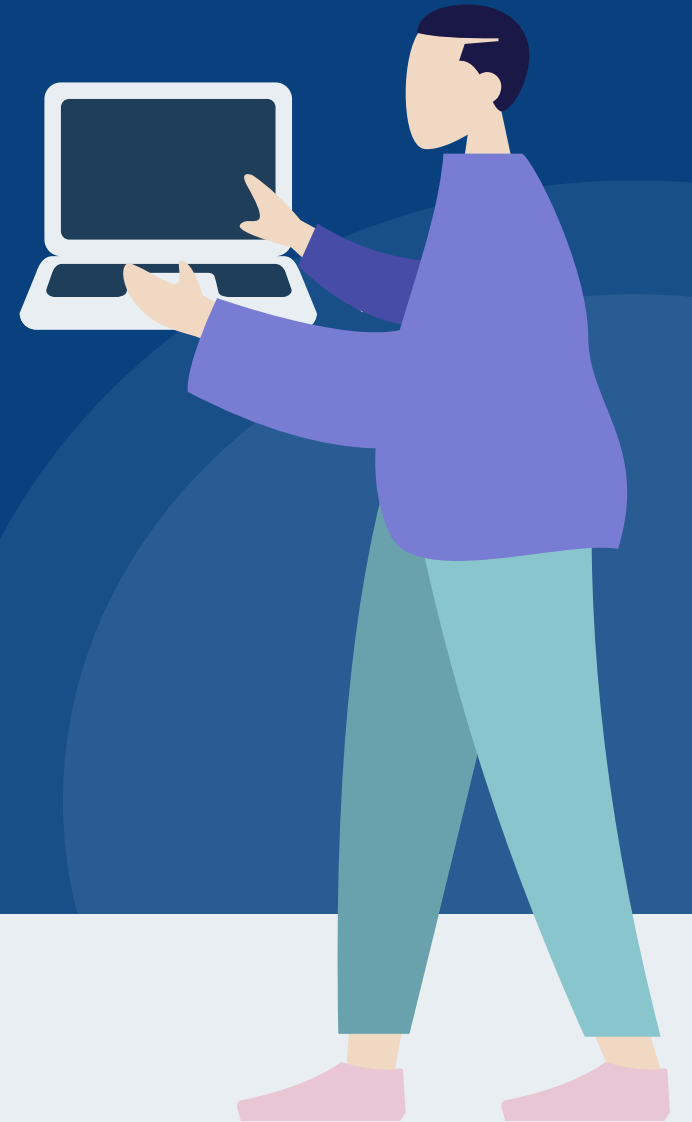
What LMI indicators can be included in the LMI Framework?

What inputs can be recommended in the development of the LMIS?

# TESDA's Skills Anticipation and Prioritization of Skills Requirements (SAPSR)



# Skills needs anticipation and labor market information system



# WHAT IS SKILLS MISMATCH?

**Definition:** “discrepancy between the available skills and the skills sought by employers or firms (e.g., *skills gaps, skills obsolescence, skills shortages, vertical mismatch, and horizontal mismatch*)” – ILO, 2020



## At the individual level

overqualification is associated with wage penalties and lower job satisfaction



## At the firm level

result in lower firm productivity, underinvestment in innovation, and higher employee turnover rates



## Whole economy

lower economy-wide productivity, lower national competitiveness, and higher unemployment and underemployment rates

**Reason:** Incomplete and imperfect information

**Solution:** Government’s intervention (since market failure)

**Requires:** Participation of the industry, private sector

# In the Philippines, skills mismatch has been a persistent issue for decades

As early as the 1970s, the Philippine higher education system was producing a supply of college graduates higher than the economy's capacity to absorb highly educated workers (Perlman, 1978, as cited by Epetia (2018))

Around one-third of college graduates considered overeducated (Epetia, 2018), and around 20% of workers w/ college degrees employed in jobs using basic skills only (Bayudan-Dacuycuy and Dacuycuy, 2021).

65% of graduates not getting jobs from the sector of their choice due to a lack of skills (Aspiring Minds, 2017)

Around two-thirds of TVET graduates are mismatched with their occupations (ADB, 2021)

Mismatch can be mitigated by a well-functioning labor market information (LMI) system

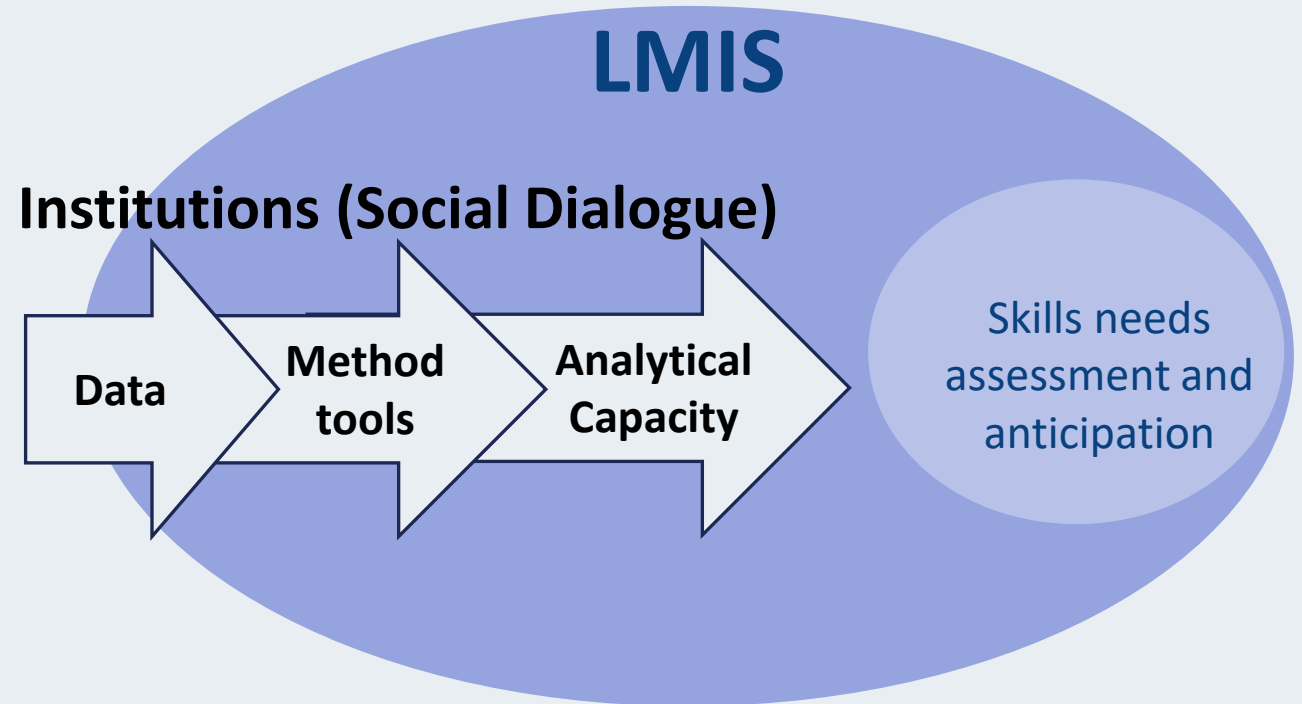
# LABOR MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEM (LMIS)

- **LMI:** includes any quantitative or qualitative information and intelligence on the labor market that can assist labor market agents in making informed plans, choices, and decisions (Schmillen, 2019)
- **LMIS:** institutional arrangements and procedures that coordinate collection, processing, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of LMI (European Training Foundation, 2017)

# Labor Market Information System and Skills Need Anticipation

## Functions of LMIS (Sparreboom, 2013)

1. tool for labor market analysis
2. tool to aid monitoring and reporting on employment and labor policies
3. a mechanism that facilitates information exchange and coordination among stakeholders/institutions



**SNA:** activities that assess current and future skills needs in the labor market



# Good practices in SNA and the LMIS (1/3)

## DATA

### Graduate tracer study for higher education and vocational courses

Aims to benchmark institutional performance, check the employment outcomes of students, and improve curriculum responsiveness to labor market demand

### Public and private employment services

Provides job matching assistance to jobseekers and employers.

## BIG DATA ANALYTICS AND NON-TRADITIONAL DATA COLLECTION STRATEGIES

### Can supplement traditional data

Traditional data sources, though representative, lack necessary granularity and fail to offer real-time updates.

e.g., online job vacancies (OJV) and jobseekers' credentials

### **Require analytical and technical skills**

**Disadvantages: postings from the formal sector only, multiple postings**

# Good practices in SNA and the LMIS (2/3)

## COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENTS

Stakeholder and expert consultations

Sectoral involvement

Boundary setting

## DISSEMINATION PRACTICES

Leverage dashboards and visualization tools

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABILITY

Adequate Funding

Partnerships and strategic financial planning

# Good practices in SNA and the LMIS (3/3)

## SKILLS TAXONOMY AND SKILLS-OCCUPATION MAPPING

**Skills taxonomy:** System to classify skills, provides structures to data collection and perspectives in discussion, forum

- Basic skills? cross-functional skills?

### Skills-occupation mapping

Skills mapped with 4- or 5-digit PSOC

- Importance of each skill in each occupational code

### Example: Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) dashboard

- Contains comprehensive information useful in charting career pathways, such as occupational, career, and hot technologies
- Uses standard occupational classification, facilitates the crosswalking of the O\*NET data with survey datasets produced by other countries

Find Occupations ▾	Advanced Searches ▾ O*N	O*NET Data ▾ Crosswalk	Crosswalks ▾
Bright Outlook	Job Duties	Abilities	Military
Career Cluster	Professional Associations	Interests	Education
Hot Technology	Related Activities •	Knowledge	Occupation Handbook
Industry	Soft Skills	Skills (Basic)	SOC
Job Family	Technology Skills	Skills (Cross-Functional)	DOT
Job Zone		Work Activities	RAPIDS
STEM		Work Context	ESCO
All Occupations		Work Styles	
		Work Values	

- **ESCO:** used O\*NET, using big data
- **Canada:** linking its NOC to skills and competencies developed by ESDC
- **National Skills Commission Australia:** leveraging OJV in the Australian Skills Classification (ASC) and mapping skills with the Australian and New SOC

# Existing LMI/LMIS initiatives in the Philippines

## DOLE Labor Market Reports

DOLE's Labor Market Profile (LMP) uses data from LFS, PEIS, PhilJobNet, PRC, and TESDA to provide a macro view of labor and demand situations.

DOLE-BLE's Jobs and Labor Market Forecast (formerly JobsFit LMI) is a leading report on emerging industries, key sectors, and in-demand occupations.

## PhilJobNet and PEIS

PhilJobNet, facilitates online job matching and serves as the platform for PESO employment IS.

PEIS data is locality-specific and provides an opportunity to understand local skills and guide upskilling initiatives.

**Issues: The representativeness of the demand for skills, limited capability to provide information (low coverage, issue on the quality of services in PESO)**

## TESDA

TESDA's LMI report focuses on key sectors, providing trends and issues in labor supply and demand, guiding the development of Training Regulations and TVET programs.

TESDA's skills map incorporates data from various sources, mapping training regulations and identifying emerging and soft skills.

**Issue: jobs, broad occupation categories, knowledge, work activities as skills**

## DTI: Philippine Skills Framework (PSF) Initiative

PSF aims to develop skills frameworks for priority sectors, offering skills maps and technical skills/competencies.

**Issues: needs PSOC alignment, dissemination can be improved for better accessibility.**


# Inputs to the TESDA's Skills anticipation and prioritization of skills requirements (SAPSR) framework





Elements of the LMIS/SAPSR	Inputs
Data and data sources:	Standard statistics and data sources, Development Plans/Sectoral Roadmaps and Policies/Laws, Skills-specific data sources, Qualitative data sources, Big data
Tools and analytical capacity	Skills foresight, Skills forecast
Institutional arrangements and collaboration	Collaborative Data Collection, Skills-Occupation Mapping, Capacity Building, Real-Time Data Solutions, Communication of Results

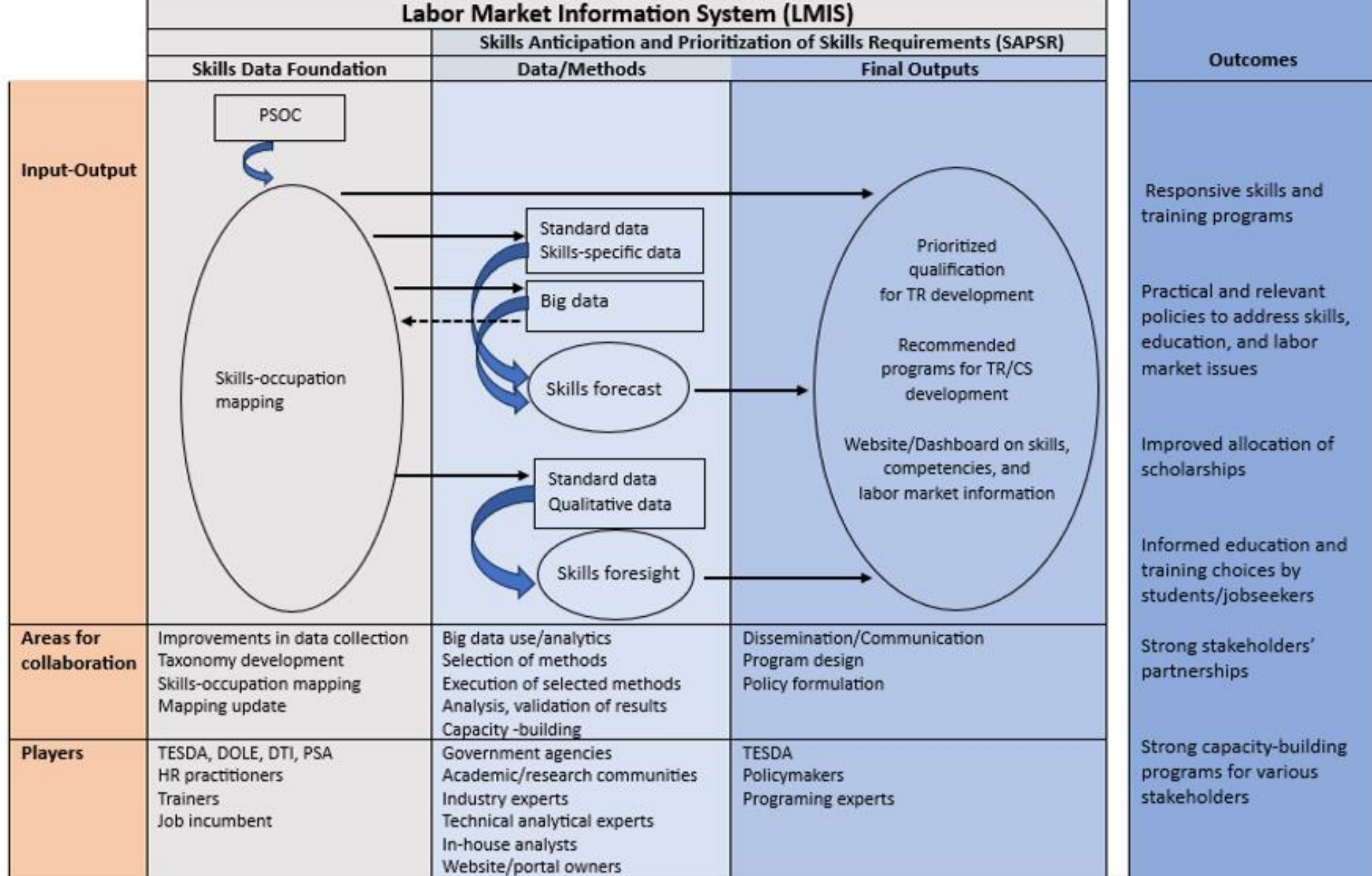
# Inputs to the TESDA's skills anticipation and prioritization of skills requirements

Note:

 Input within the column

 Input to another column

 Output



Source: Authors' representation of their inputs to the SAPSR Framework

# Summary and some insights





*While the country has good data sources relevant to an SNA initiative and several LMIs are in place, improvements are needed to ensure a relevant and sustainable SAPSR:*

- **Establish a system that organizes and classifies skills (i.e., skills taxonomy); Map this with PSOC**
- **Collection of PSOC at higher disaggregation (4 or 5 digit)** in government-initiated surveys/data collection
- **Importance of graduate tracer datasets** are useful in determining the effectiveness of training programs
- **Big data use** can enhance the timeliness and granularity of information; enrich the skills-occupation mapping.

***NOTE: Importance of stock-taking regarding available data and human resources as well as capacity-building and multi-stakeholder collaboration at all stages of the SAPSR***

# Some Insights

## INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND COLLABORATION

### DOLE

**Oversee the development of skills data foundation, LMIS**

- Forge institutional arrangements, international partnerships

### Government

**Strengthen the PESO**

**Coverage**

- PESO partnerships with HEIs in the locality can increase students' awareness of the PESO services and the PhilJobNet-PEIS platform
- LGUs to promote the PESO to businesses in their localities.

**Quality of services**

- Human resources training and development and enhanced connectivity
- Network effects

### DOLE, TESDA, NEDA, and other key agencies

**Cultivate a culture of multi stakeholders' collaboration**

- Maximize the use of resources and sustain LMIS-SAPSR updating/improvement initiatives
- Big data use: Needs institutional arrangements and drawing MOAs with partners

# Some Insights

## DATA

### DOLE, TESDA, NEDA, and other key agencies

**Develop a skills taxonomy as a tool to assign and classify skills across occupations and tasks**

- The taxonomy should be anchored to the 4- or 5-digit PSOC
- Skills-occupation mapping requires continuous updating that benefits from stakeholders' inputs.

### Agencies collecting LMI data

**Use standard classifications (i.e., 4- or 5-digit PSOC) in data collection**

- Including standard classifications in data collection initiatives complements the development of skills-occupation mapping.

### Government

**Institutionalize the collection of the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) in the administrative data**

- powerful tool to match education and employment outcomes when collected at salient entry and exit points
- reduces the need for tracer surveys

# Some Insights

## DISSEMINATION

### DOLE and TESDA

**Improve information dissemination of the LMIS and SAPSR.**

- Use website and dashboards with visualization tools and links to other knowledge-generating sources
- Learn from well-established LMIS (e.g., O\*NET, ESCO, and ASC)

Proving the usefulness of the LMIS and SAPSR to various players can lead to more support for sustaining the LMIS-SAPSR.

## SUPPORT

### Policymakers

**Provide support for capacity building** (for sponsoring scholars and bringing international experts to train local talents in using big data is important)

Capacity building is essential at all stages of the SAPSR

**Provide continuous support to sustain the LMIS and SAPSR initiative.**

- SAPSR is a continuous initiative, and its success hinges on the success of the LMIS.
- Availability of long-term funding for LMIS provides for a well-thought-out data foundation and a coordinated data collection system.

# Thank You!



WEBSITE: [www.pids.gov.ph](http://www.pids.gov.ph)

FACEBOOK: [facebook.com/PIDS.PH](https://facebook.com/PIDS.PH)

TWITTER: [twitter.com/PIDS\\_PH](https://twitter.com/PIDS_PH)

 *Service through policy research*