



**FROM BUILDING CAPACITIES TO
PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY:**

**A COMPENDIUM OF DSWD FO8'S GOOD PRACTICE
DOCUMENTATIONS ALONG SWD
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES IMPLEMENTATION TO
INTERMEDIARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS**

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**FROM BUILDING CAPACITIES TO PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY:
A COMPENDIUM OF DSWD FO 8's GOOD PRACTICE
DOCUMENTATION ALONG SWD PROGRAM AND SERVICE
IMPLEMENTATION TO INTERMEDIARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS**

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III. PRODUCTION TEAM



VISION

An empowered society where the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged sectors have immediate and equitable access to opportunities for an improved quality of life

2028 VISION BASECAMP

DSWD is a leader in transformative social protection and social welfare systems in the Indo-Pacific region.



MISSION

As the authority in the Social Welfare and Development sector, the DSWD develops, implements, enables, and coordinates SWD policies and programs for and with the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged.

CORE VALUES



MAAGAP AT MAPAGKALINGA

MATAPAT



MAHUSAY

QUALITY POLICY



We, at the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), commit to:



Deliver, coordinate, and monitor social protection programs and services to the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged population towards a fair, just, and peaceful society;



Sustain a culture of excellence through continual improvement of systems, mechanisms, and procedures in the delivery of programs and services;



Work with integrity and adhere to ethical standards for customer satisfaction and quality service by complying with the DSWD mandates, and other pertinent laws; and



Demonstrate genuine concern for the poor, prompt compassion service, and free from any form of corruption.

Message from the Regional Director



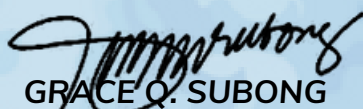
Over the years, the Department of Social Welfare and Development is taking the lead role in Social Protection and Social Welfare and Development. It remained committed in responding to the needs of the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged sectors towards an improved quality of life and sustainable future.

Amidst the many progressions and priorities of the department, it never stops its pursuit to deliver the basic services needed by the different sectors it caters.

This manual, entitled “From Building Capacities to Promoting Sustainability: A Compendium of DSWD FO “Good Practice Documentations along SWD Programs and Service Implementation to Intermediaries and Stakeholders”, is a tangible output that relays the several initiatives of the Field Office 8 and its partners. The good practices documented revolves on how the different DSWD programs and services reinforces the improvement of an individual or an organization in performing the tasks beyond regular routines thereby becoming productive, eventually achieving a satisfying life.

Notable by their significant support and devoted collaboration, this compilation also recognizes and promotes the Local Government Units and other intermediaries and stakeholders as our partners in implementing the different SWD programs and services on the ground. This book also highlights the Field Office’s good practice in Disaster Response and Preparedness. In 2021, Nang Dahil sa Kahon, a narrative of how the production of family food packs with efficiency and quality transcends the use of plastic bags during FO 8’s relief operation, was awarded as the DSWD Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE) - Best Knowledge Management Initiative at the National Level.

With this, I would like to congratulate the Capacity Building Section in coming up with their 1st publication of these good practices. This milestone takes precedence in binding together the unique dynamics of the field office, that in the middle of all intricacies of its operations, there lies the good practices and innovations born out of the need to pursue excellence in our services. It is high time we share them. Let’s continue to capture and share stories that serves as an encouragement and brings impact to the Filipino people.


GRACE Q. SUBONG
Regional Director

Message from the OIC-Assistant Regional Director for Operations



DSWD is very rich in knowledge gathered from its decades of experience being the lead in the social protection arena. In this context, this knowledge is a mixture of practice and experiences, values, contextual information, and expert insights on the development and implementation of programs and services and its impact to the life of the poor and vulnerable sectors of the society.

DSWD's leadership in the Social Welfare and Development (SWD) sector, having both the steering and rowing roles, was magnified by Executive Order No. 221 series of 2003. The EO directs the department to provide assistance to the Local Government Units in implementing programs and services that alleviates poverty and empower disadvantaged individuals, families, and communities and to implement statutory specialized programs which are directly lodged with the DSWD and/or not yet devolved to the LGU.

The effective and efficient achievement of these development objectives depends on the capabilities of the multi-stakeholders. Capability building of DSWD intermediaries and stakeholders is viewed as important for the SP development network to perform its expected roles and functions and contribute to the overall societal outcomes of community empowerment, improve governance, reduce poverty, and reduce the risks of the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged members of the society.

Needless to say, the Department through its various programs and services has stayed true to its mandate – its transformative role as it builds communities of champions through viable and advantageous collaborations with various stakeholders such as the Local Government Units (LGUs), National Government Agencies, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Academes, Business Sector, among others.

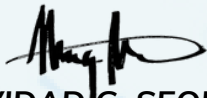
This compendium depicts how the DSWD capitalized on its distinct knowledge in seeking to continually improve capacities especially in the context of the new normal. As we move forward toward a more Maagap at Mapakalingang Serbisyo, DSWD Field Office VIII is called to be stronger and steadfast to face the challenges of the new era and to meet the demands of various transitions and enhancement of our processes and mechanisms.

Documentations of DSWD's initiatives, partnership-led interventions, and activities served as the best examples for us to appreciate each other's efforts and celebrate the gains, dreams, hopes, and reckoning of our dear program stakeholders. We are reminded that it is not only DSWD who has the full responsibility of empowering our communities and developing the capacity of marginalized individuals, but each societal facet plays a fundamental role in their own journey to self-sufficiency. Highlighting good practices in an organization like DSWD has provided possibility for us to improve our organizational performance by getting the right knowledge to the right people at the right time and helping people transform information into productive action and unbiased decision-making process.

This collection of stories does not only become a solid platform but an opportunity for change-makers alike. It has truly become one of DSWD's venue to recognition of notable efforts, generous contributions, and numerous manifestations of genuine service.

Through these narratives, we would also like to emphasize that in the endeavors of the DSWD, with all our developmental partners – the Local Government Units, together we are a strong force. And as partners, we are the positive enablers of change in the achievement of our shared goals and values fostering transparency and accountability.

Hence, the DSWD in Eastern Visayas continues its commitment and dedication to the people who deserves our efficient service and collective action; Serbisyong may Puso. To the DSWD Angels in Red Vest behind this Good Practice Compendium, Congratulations and Padayon Sinirangan Bisayas!



NATIVIDAD G. SEQUITO

SWO V/OIC-Assistant Regional Director for Operations

Message from the Division Chief - Protective Services Division



True to its mission, the Department of Social Welfare and Development has continuously been formulating, implementing, and coordinating social welfare and development policies and programs for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged. As the departments' mandate revolves different policies standards, programs, and innovations on Social Protection and Social Welfare were also established and aligned.

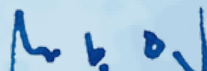
Now, at the effect of devolution as provided for in Republic Act 7160 also known as Local Government Code of 1991, the Local Government Units shall discharge the stirring functions and responsibilities of national agencies and offices devolved to them including the social welfare programs and services specifically the frontline services delivery.

The department, having very rich experience and wisdom in social protection and social welfare programs and in order for the LGU to consistently deliver quality SWD services to the poor, vulnerable, and disadvantaged sectors, and also recognizing the importance of building their capacities, various interventions such as training, other capability building services and augmentation support were strengthened.

This compendium narrates the different initiatives and good practices along several SWD programs and service delivery which also fosters better engagement and partnership with the LGU and other stakeholders.

This book also reflects strategies and provides learning opportunities that may be adopted by partners and intermediaries to showcase the best practices that can be replicated at the LGU level as DSWD demonstrates the social laboratory efforts.

Most importantly, these good practices documented recognizes and appreciates the agency's intermediaries and stakeholders for extending their efforts and valuable support along delivery of SWD programs and services to the different sectors, to make way for their sustainability.


GINA D. OGAY
SWO V/DC, PSD

Acknowledgement



The stories inside this compendium are evident of the Field Office 8's good practices in the implementation of its different Social Welfare and Development programs and services. However, this book came into realization with the efforts of different staff who indulge their brilliant minds in writing their inspiring stories along SWD undertakings. This was also made possible because of the support of the following:

- The DSWD FO 8's Executive Committee headed by Regional Director Grace Q. Subong, together with Assistant Regional Director for Administration Clarito T. Logronio and OIC - Assistant Regional Director for Operation Natividad G. Sequito, for their leadership and supervision;
- The Division Chiefs and the Regional Program Coordinators for their supervision, monitoring, and provision of technical assistance in the implementation of their respective programs;
- The Local Chief Executives and all the staff in their Local Government Units who are our partners in the implementation of various programs and services and who are also the main contributors or actors of the documented stories;
- The clients or beneficiaries who gave their testimonial of the significant effect brought about by the different DSWD programs and services;
- The Social Welfare Institutional Development Bureau for the additional inputs necessary to improve the documentation;
- The Regional Information and Communications Technology Section and the Social Marketing Unit for their technical expertise and for the assistance in circulating this manual. The publication of this compendium is likewise a result of collaboration and brainstorming of the Knowledge Management Team who deliberately assessed and provided inputs to come up with a quality Good Practice Documentations that is worth sharing and replicating.


MYRLINA G. PASCUAL
Training Specialist II/KM Focal Person
Head, Capacity Building Section



DSWD FIELD OFFICE VIII

GOOD PRACTICE DOCUMENTATIONS

REDIRECTING THE WRETCHED HEARTS OF SAKA MEMBERS TO RISE UP AND CONTINUOUSLY DREAM

*Good Practice Documentation on the Livelihood Intervention
provided to Samahang Kaunlaran SLPA in Brgy. Tabunan, Almeria, Biliran*

SAKA (a local term which means “rise up” in English), is how the Samahang Kaunlaran Sustainable Livelihood Program Association members in Brgy. Tabunan, Almeria, Biliran call themselves. True to their story on how they have risen and have expanded their wings as one of the biggest stores in their municipality.



Jobelle Tabunan, a hog raiser feeds her pigs.

Brgy. Tabunan is a community where most livelihood is hog and poultry raising. Most of the people living here rely on farming except for those Persons with Disabilities (PWD) who had no job. With the limitations in their ability to work, these PWDs were hindered to help in providing their families’ needs.

Apart from the PWDs, there are vulnerable or marginalized families who also lived in this village. They had no source of income aside from the cash assistance received from the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) of the DSWD. These group of people were dependent on the support of their relatives and government assistance.

Implementation

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) aims to help our vulnerable members of the society alleviate poverty. With this, several programs are implemented to aid those vulnerable members of the society. One of these programs is the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), which is intended to provide livelihood assistance, prioritizing Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) beneficiaries and other marginalized sectors. Through Mrs. Ofelia Gahera, the focal person for Persons with Disabilities in Almeria, Biliran, she has seen the capabilities of the PWDs in Brgy. Tabunan to build their dreams in ways they can. Her desire was to help these people be assisted not just the needs in their condition but also on how they can be an asset in their families.

This assistance is provided after the groups has formed a Sustainable Livelihood Program Association (SLPA), in which they have elected officers such as President, Secretary and Treasurer. From there, the officers of SAKA led in producing a project proposal of Rice and Agrivet Supplies. This is a part of the micro-enterprise track wherein the members are entitled for a Php 7,000.00 each which summed up to Php140,000.00 for the whole association.



**Life was very difficult especially for those families who have children.
We had to borrow money to supply the needs of our families**



-Bernardo Docallos, SAKA President



Bernardo Docallos, SAKA President, prepares the pellets to be sold.



Description of the Project

As per assessment conducted in Brgy. Tabunan these 20 families qualified to receive a capital through the Super Typhoon Yolanda Fund of SLP for a business start-up.

This assistance is provided after the groups has formed a Sustainable Livelihood Program Association (SLPA), in which they have elected officers such as President, Secretary and Treasurer. From there, the officers of SAKA led in producing a project proposal of Rice and Agrivet Supplies. This is a part of the micro-enterprise track wherein the members are entitled for a Php 7,000.00 each which summed up to Php140,000.00 for the whole association.

“ I went to Naval to canvass the amount of the agrivet supplies so that we can provide precise budgetary requirement to justify the amount that will be given us ”

Emalinda del Rosario, SAKA Treasurer

They have enrolled the association for a savings account in Metro Ormoc Community Cooperative (OCCCI), wherein their money will be deposited, and they will manage their future income and savings.

The DSWD, in partnership with CARE, a non-government organization, provided Entrepreneurship Training and Financial Literacy Training to SAKA to aid them in building and running their business. Through this, they were taught on how they can choose the right business for them. They were also taught how to manage the money they will earn to avoid debts and bankruptcy.

By April 15, 2016, the check for the Samahang Kaunlaran (SAKA) was released.

Methodology and Strategies

Having been provided with Php 140,000.00, SAKA members did not withdraw the whole amount. Instead, they left half of it in their account as part of the savings which they can use in case emergency arises. They have invested Php 20,000.00 in building their store to safe keep their products. The Php 50,000.00 was spent to purchase the goods (rice and agrivet supplies).

Results and Impact

SAKA has the cheapest price across their community. This has been their asset and has been gaining lots of customers. It has also helped the consumer to save money as the price is as much as 30% lower than the other stores in their town.

From zero to now thousands of money, Samahang Kaunlaran (SAKA) continuously grow and earn in their business because of their well implemented rules and strategies.

At first, they were earning approximately Php 3,000.00 per day from the agrivet business alone. A month after their cheque has been released, the association decided to start expanding to a sari-sari store and earns a minimum of Php 10,000.00 per day.

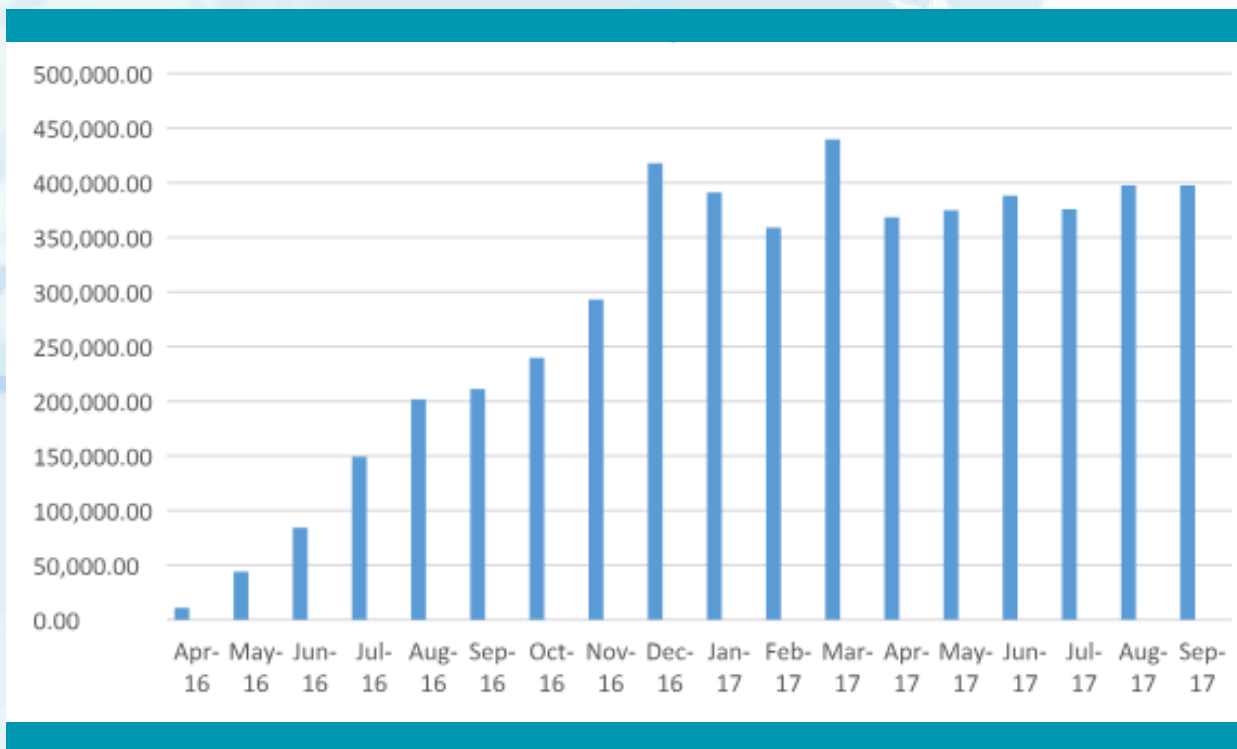


Emalinda del Rosario conducts the Entrepreneurship and Financial Training to newly formed SLPA in Brgy. Pili, Almeria, Biliran.

There are times especially during peak seasons like fiestas and Christmas that we make Php 30,000.00 in a day. It quite challenging such amount of money that we immediately deposit it to our account

Emalinda del Rosario, SAKA Treasurer

SAKA MONTHLY INCOME



Because of the growth of the association’s income, the families of its members have improved their lives. They are now able to supply their needs without crunching themselves in a very limited income.

“ I am very happy because I am able to help my husband in providing our needs at home. I earn as much as Php 9,000.00 per month from tending the store, aside from what I receive during our annual shareout. This is a big help especially for the education of my children ”

Anabel Sumaya

The success of the association was not just in improving the members’ financial needs. They have learned a lot from the whole process they have been through that has helped them earn more knowledge and enhance their personalities.

The growth of SAKA has become an attention getter to the Local Government of Almeria. They are very proud to have such hardworking constituents. They have invited the SAKA members to conduct Entrepreneurship and Financial Training to two newly formed SLPAs in Brgy. Pili and Brgy. Caucab last August 2017.

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION

INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

*Kalahi-CIDSS Capability Building Activity for Administration Staff
anchored on Personal and Career Development*

It is in 2018 that number of Field Office VIII Kalahi CIDSS staff has downsized for the program already undertakes LGU-led implementation. Along with this downscaling of staff is the experiential decrease of motivation among staff as tardiness has been pervasive. The worker commitment's neglected aspect is punctuality. When you come late in the office, it makes a poor interpersonal relationship with co-workers and it loses your individual productivity. Tardiness or lateness can be linked to absenteeism. According to The Determinants of Lateness: Evidence From British Workers, late arrival can also be called "withdrawal behavior", as it suggests precursor to absenteeism or turnover. This behavior is determined by attitude and the performance. According to open.lib.umn.edu, we should keep track of attitudes because they are often associated with importance outcomes such as performance, helping tardiness.

The concern on staff personal and professional development is within the function of the Capability Building Unit. CBU is handling range of activities by which individuals, groups, and organizations improve their capability to achieve their goals. The unit helps in influencing attitude of employees necessary to achieve organizational goals. Achieving goals does not only mean focusing on accomplishment of targets but equally important is the emphasis on the attitudinal aspect.

Kalahi-CIDSS meetings and tactic sessions is crucial to one's organization so that common understanding and levelling of certain issues and concerns is achieved and be understood by all. But meetings and tactic session should not be all milestone-based but also involved with Personal and Professional/ Career development. Attitude is its forgetting ingredient. In this way, it responds to achieving plans and directions. It has been also observed for the Admin Tactic Session in Kalahi to combine it with Team Building to also ensure harmonization among staff in the workplace to kindle good relationships and help build effective team for achieving common objectives.

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

Implementation

Admin tactic session is a Capability Building Activity by which Admin is the proponent. It is in its first instance that the modules on Professionalism and Personhood were developed for the Administration Staff. The objectives of the two modules are the following; to open awareness on the importance of integrity and identity of self, develop one's coping capacities, to create professionalism in the workplace, to establish personal accountabilities, to build trust, camaraderie and cooperation among group and to talk concerns, issues and corresponding recommendations.

It was all conceptualized by OIC Division Chief of Promotive Services Natividad G. Sequito. She called for a meeting with the CapBuild Unit staff on April 12, 2018 and talked about the direction for the Tactic Session. According to DC/RPC Natividad G. Sequito, Kalahi CIDSS envisions staff to develop their technical and interpersonal skills. She formulated advisers to take in charge for the sharing of experiences.

The session itself aims to enhance one's capacities, create professionalism in the workplace and establish individual capabilities and accountabilities of employees. Equally important to this is the work ethics; to be more cooperative and trustworthy among group members.

The activity was conducted April 17-20, 2018 at Caluwayan Palm Island Resort and Restaurant. DC Natividad G. Sequito was the Resource Person throughout the 2 modules. DC Sequito put emphasis that it is necessary to keep track the state of being. She further reminded the participants to prioritize growth in terms of Personhood and Professionalism.



Participants were asked to close their eyes for reflection on what has changed about them throughout the years



AA Kinneth Cayubit shared of what he sees of himself.

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

Implementation

Our pursuit for Personal development and growth is rooted in the fundamental core of self awareness. DC Sequito reminded the participants that one's knowledge of self is rooted on one's self-awareness. She also discussed about the four self-awareness archetypes.

Weakness of one's self is also important to be aware of. For change can either be positive or negative; some gets stuck and some grows. Dc Sequito had the participants answered, "What keep you moving forward?" Also with this, the Admin staff were asked to fill in the Personal Development Plan to be accomplished and shared in the session with Advisors. DC Sequito acknowledged that individual growth is hindered due to many factors. Motivating factor is still at play in achieving our own goals. In the third table are the interventions to make this motivating factor possible to achieve. The participants were asked to keep this Personal Development Plan as they will get back to it after 3 months if progress is realized.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
April- July 2018

In order to be inspired to continue to keep growing, we have to be open to change. Change could be hard but progress is impossible without it.

Below is the table for *Hindering factors* or the difficulties which prevent you from growing, *Motivating Factors* are the driving forces through which you strive to achieve your goals and *Interventions* suggest things to do in order to achieve your identified motivating factors.

Feel free to fill in the tables. Use another sheet if you must.

HINDERING FACTORS/ CHALLENGES	MOTIVATING FACTORS	INTERVENTIONS

Prepared by: _____ Advisor: _____

Personal Development Plan conceptualized by DC Sequito and the CapBuild Unit

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

Implementation

A good place to start developing personhood is one to become aware of how s/he thinks and how s/he feels. In lieu to this, 9 advisers including RPC Sequito, DRPM Gerry Peneda, AO V Athena Flores, RCIS Betsy Estorninos, M & E III Mariano Noel, SMO Jennifer Caspe-Paa and 2 Social Worker Officers from CSWOs of Tacloban Melinda Segudallas and Fe Chona Bahin were there to listen to personal life stories of participants. Participants put trust to their advisers in sharing their stories. In return, advisers took insights from their advisees. Before this sharing, DC Sequito gave the advisers briefing the do's and don'ts in sharing as it remained confidential. Both advisers and advisee signed a confidentiality clause in relation to the activity.

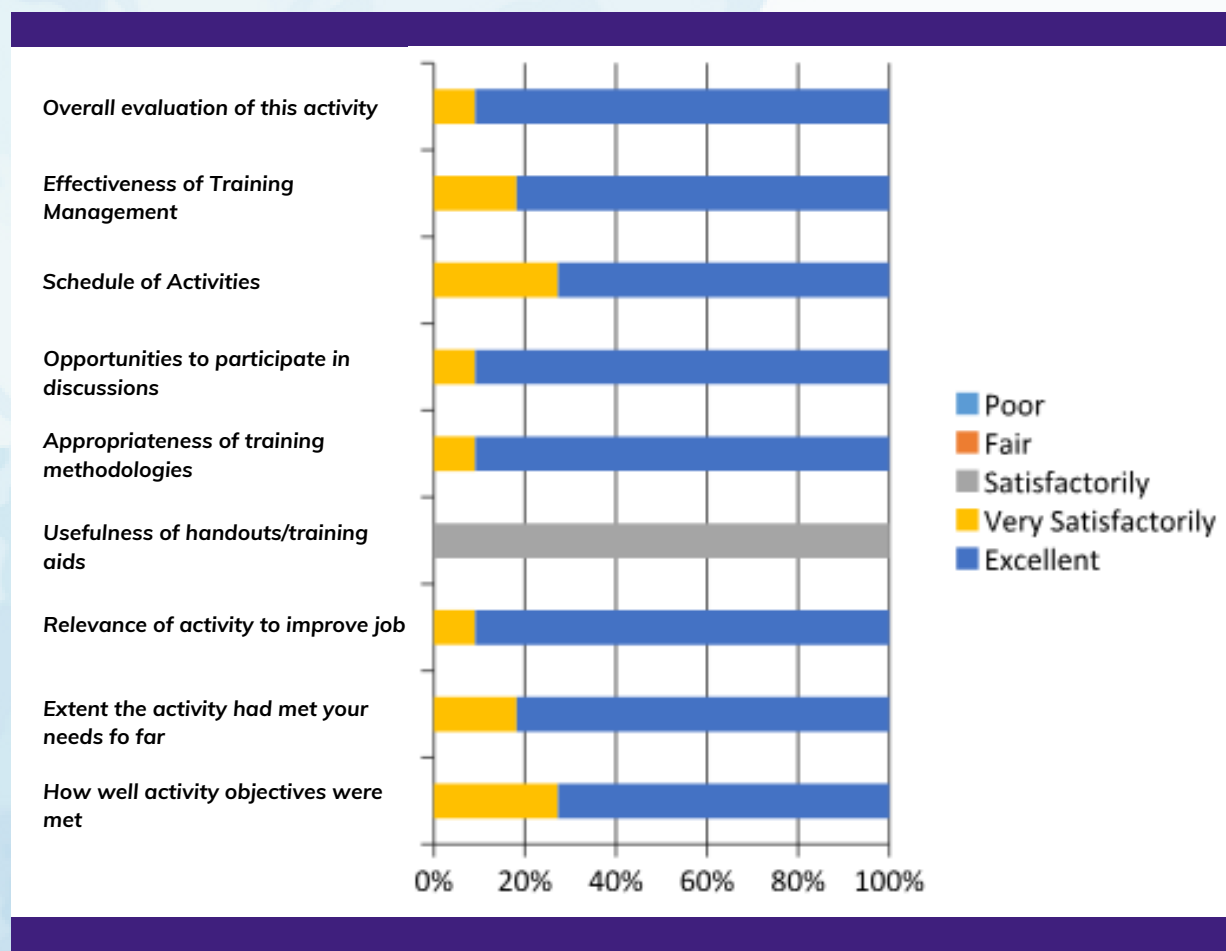


On professionalism, an activity was set for each unit to play out the picked paper containing emotions. They will act a depicting certain emotions commonly observed in workplace. After the activity, DC Sequito emphasized the need of coping or handling emotions quickly so that it will not produce another negative feeling, rather productivity. DC Sequito recommended that communicating feelings in the workplace is vital. She emphasized the importance of our acknowledgement of our emotion, its causes, its effects to the behavior, how you accept and learn from it and snap back to reality.

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

Results / Impact

Based from the evaluation (2nd Level) collated after the activity, majority of the participants (91%) rated the activity as “Excellent”. The remaining 8% rated the activity as “Very Satisfactorily”. All participants consider the activity having the high relevance in improving their job functions. Particularly, 91% rated this as “Excellent” and 8% “Very Satisfactorily”. One participant highlighted the learning gain from the activity: “Know the worth of one’s self, learn to cope with personal awareness and professionalism and how to become more self-aware as the more you know about yourself the better you are at adopting life changes especially in your job functions”. Another participant pointed out the facilitating factor that contributed the success of the activity: “The advisers giving advise to the participants made us understand in situations that can apply to ourselves and work”.



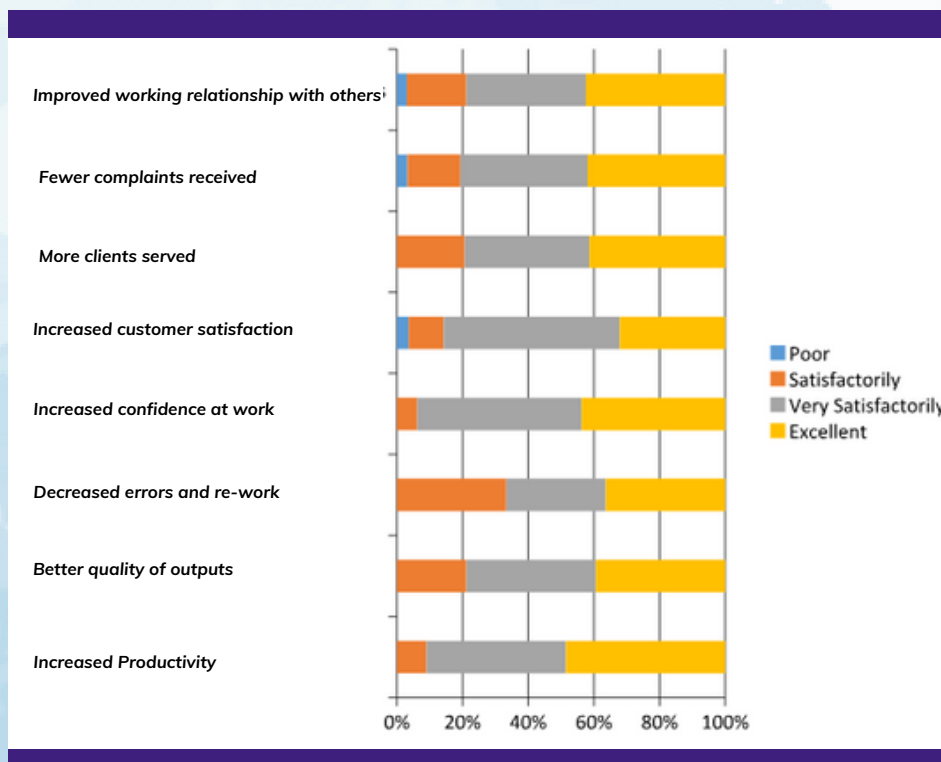
2nd Level Evaluation after the activity

ADMIN TACTIC SESSION INVESTING ON PERSONHOOD AND PROFESSIONALISM

Results / Impact

Another round of evaluation was conducted among participants 5 months after the conduct of the intervention. The 3rd Level Evaluation is designed to assess the effectiveness of the interventions. It aims to measure how the knowledge, skills and attitude gained by the participants from the learning intervention are translated into personal efficiency, improved behaviour and better job performance. Based from the evaluation, all staff improved their productivity as assessed by their superior, peers and subordinates. Particularly, there are 48% staff increased their productivity who received the rating of Excellent (4), the highest from the scale. Their increased in productivity refers to an increase number of tasks accomplished as per standards within the prescribed timeframe. This is the indicator where most number of staff garnered the highest rate of Excellent (4).

While the indicator on Improved Working Relationship with Others and Fewer Complaints Received observed a significant behavioral change where it received a 42% rating each as being Excellent (4). Majority of the Key Performance Indicator rating were above the Satisfactorily rating which translates to an overall improved Staff performance brought by the learning interventions.



3rd Level Evaluation after the activity

GAMBLING TO GARDENING

*Good Practice on Communal Gardening
in Barangay Tagnate, Hilongos, Leyte*



Malungkot ang buhay ko,” shared Arceña Pedere, 48 years old, a Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) grantee. Arceña then disclosed that she was one of the program beneficiaries who engaged in gambling activities in their barangay. In truth, sometimes we do not know what we are doing. At times we think we are doing enough and what is right. Sometimes, even our norms mislead us and our hardships blind us.

GAMBLING TO GARDENING

Pre-Implementation

Because of the report regarding the said gambling issue involving Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries, the Municipal Action Team (MAT) members during their meeting, decided to initiate a case conference to resolve the problem. During the first counselling with the concerned beneficiaries, it had been noted that most members of the community had too much spare time being housewives.

So a case conference was scheduled and attended by the Municipal Inter-agency Committee (MIAC) members including members of the local government unit headed by Mayor Albert Villahermosa and some barangay officials, focal persons from the Department of Agriculture (DA), Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), Department of Education (DEPED), DSWD staff from the 4Ps and Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), together with the beneficiaries of Barangay Tagnate.



GAMBLING TO GARDENING

In truth, sometimes we do not know what we are doing. At times we think we are doing enough and what is right. Sometimes, even our norms mislead us and our hardships blind us. Nevertheless, miracles happen that even an empty plot could reap hope.

Hilongos, Leyte has 51 barangays, one of which is Barangay Tagnate, an upland barangay. The implementation of the program started last 2011, the municipality is a set 4D municipality of the Pantawid Pamilya. The barangay started with more than sixty beneficiaries who have been mostly compliant with the conditions of the program. Came four years in the implementation of the program, it had been noted that the existing and pressing problem of some of the members continued. What caught the attention of the implementers is that the gambling members of these barangay shamelessly display their gambling activities along the road.

The barangay officials had submitted their complaint to the office and the concerned individuals were reminded of the program policies and encouraged to change their lazy ways. Later on, the same names were reported to the office for gambling and not only that, they had been encouraging other members of the barangay to join their gambling sessions.

Implementation

So immediately after the meeting, the group made schedules to plow the plots and get the site ready. After the preparations, the Department of Agriculture constantly visited the group and had taught them the proper gardening techniques especially bio-intensive gardening.



They had been learning and some sessions were held during Family Development Sessions (FDS). The group was gradually being organized successfully.

GAMBLING TO GARDENING

Implementation



4Ps Municipal Link Rani Acenas said that they aim to manage and inspire beneficiaries, instill discipline and let them see the value of time and money, and enhance convergence strategies among all stakeholders and partners beneficiaries.

Currently, the beneficiaries had already been briefed and taught by the DA on the proper gardening procedures and they have started cleaning and making plots. Also, a garden nursery is in the making. The SLP had also organized two groups who submitted their proposal in order to avail of the benefits.

The committee had decided that DEPED and DA would help focus and monitor the progress of the project. Also, a close monitoring would be done by the involved programs guided by the MSWDO and the 4Ps Municipal staff.

Municipal Links conduct continuous spot check on the progress of the communal garden. In coordination with the Local Government Unit, Department of Agriculture, DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Program, Municipal Social Welfare, and the Barangay Officials the communal gardening of barangay Tagnate is finally taking shape. Deped Tagnante Elementary School Head Teacher I Marvin Broñola shared that their school supports parents and gardening and they are also to provide area or lot. He added that 4Ps help minimize dropout rates. "With the strong collaboration of DSWD, DA, DEPED, LGU, through 4PS, lihok, wa nila buhata sa una, karon gibuhat nanira. Municipal Agriculturist Elma Oja then shared that gardening helps in food sufficiency and there are less idle men and women since they work instead and devote their time to gardening.

GAMBLING TO GARDENING



Post -Implementation

The barangay, known for an unfavorable reputation, is now a good example to other communities especially when all the members had been encouraged to have gardens for the rice subsidy. Before, even the memorandum on backyard gardening was given, this barangay had been doing well with this activity.

At present, they have three kinds of plants in the nursery and had grown five kinds of crops in their plots, and earn their living. The members vowed to continue such humble beginnings as they have seen the positive impact of their image in the community due to this activity. Consequently, the incidence of gambling in the barangay was eradicated.

GAMBLING TO GARDENING



Results / Impact

Arceña, a housewife, with three children, 16 -year-old Ronelo Grade 6, 15-year- old Juliet Grade 8, nine-year-old Danilo Jr. Grade 3, later has become so active in the said gardening activity and has forgotten about gambling. She poses in the middle together with other program beneficiaries, DSWD and DEPED staff in the photo below.

Indeed, based on research studies, diet and body weight are related to our health status such that good nutrition is important to the growth and development of children. Healthy diet due to consumption of fresh vegetables, fruits, and other produce, helps prevent malnutrition, overweight, obesity, underweight cases, iron-deficiency anemia, heart disease, high blood pressure, some cancers, among others.

Because weight is influenced by energy (calories) consumed and expended, interventions to improve weight can support changes in diet or physical activity. They can help change individuals' knowledge and skills, reduce exposure to foods low in nutritional value and high in calories, or increase opportunities for physical activity.

Gradually, the realization of the said activity has positively contributed to the overall health and nutrition of the community. As shown in the succeeding tabular data from the said municipality, in the year 2017, 80.49 % of the children population aged 0-71 months have normal weight, 3.10% overweight, 12.09 % underweight, and 4.33% are severely underweight.

GAMBLING TO GARDENING

Results / Impact

Currently for year 2018, data shows the increase of rate of the children population aged 0-71 months with normal weight to 87.8 %, while overweight cases down to 1.7%, underweight 9.1%, and severely underweight at 1.5 %.

2017

Municipality/City: **HILONGOS** Coverage: 0-71 mos: **0.0%** Number of Barangays with OPT: **11** PSC Code: **[REDACTED]** # of Children Measured: **0-59 mos: [REDACTED] 0-71 mos: [REDACTED]**

Province: **LEYTE** Region: **8** Total Number of Barangays: **0** Estimated No. of Preschoolers 0-59 mos.: **0** Estimated No. of Preschoolers 0-71 mos.: **0**

	0-5 Months			6-11 Months			12-23 Months			24-35 Months			36-47 Months			48-59 Months			60-71 Months			0-59 Months		0-71 Months	
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Total	Prev	Total	Prev			
Weight for Age - Normal	216	189	405	186	190	376	445	514	959	451	472	923	495	435	930	495	454	949	427	405	832	4522	81.13%	5356	85.49%
Weight for Age - Overweight	70	66	136	6	7	13	7	8	15	4	6	10	6	6	12	8	6	12	6	2	8	240	3.53%	206	3.10%
Weight for Age - Underweight	11	7	18	30	15	45	64	88	152	69	62	131	81	75	156	78	86	164	100	88	188	618	11.09%	804	12.09%
Weight for Age - Severely Underweight	6	11	17	21	21	42	34	20	54	19	19	38	24	18	42	18	19	37	30	22	52	236	4.13%	288	4.13%
Weight for Age - Normal	168	152	320	156	151	307	229	290	519	319	314	633	331	313	644	350	329	679	360	381	741	3541	61.5%	4261	64.06%
Weight for Age - Tall	8	8	16	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	8	0.15%	8	0.15%
Weight for Age - Severely Stunted	22	22	44	39	41	80	112	84	196	87	57	144	97	91	188	74	67	141	61	48	109	697	12.50%	806	12.12%
Weight for Length - Normal	216	189	405	200	202	402	476	511	987	489	502	991	539	456	995	531	523	1054	513	467	980	4843	86.89%	5213	87.54%
Weight/Length for Weight - Overweight	24	26	50	12	7	19	15	23	38	14	17	31	11	13	24	21	13	34	11	11	22	290	3.52%	218	3.28%
Weight/Length for Weight - Obese	31	18	49	11	11	24	12	12	24	5	11	16	12	10	22	11	5	16	11	8	19	131	2.71%	170	2.56%
Weight/Length for Weight - Wasted	12	16	28	12	8	20	19	19	37	11	22	33	11	26	37	17	17	34	21	21	42	252	4.70%	304	4.57%
Weight/Length for Weight - Severely Wasted	20	15	35	8	3	11	14	15	29	4	7	11	11	5	20	11	5	16	7	8	15	122	2.19%	137	2.06%
Grand Total	303	272	576	243	233	476	550	580	1130	543	558	1102	608	510	1118	609	563	1172	563	515	1078	5574	66.52	6452	

2018

Municipality/City: **HILONGOS** Coverage: 0-71 mos: **0.0%** Number of Barangays with OPT Plus: **11** PSC Code: **[REDACTED]** # of Children Measured: **0-59 mos: [REDACTED] 0-71 mos: [REDACTED]**

Province: **LEYTE** Region: **8** Total Number of Barangays: **0** Estimated No. of Preschoolers 0-59 mos.: **0** Estimated No. of Preschoolers 0-71 mos.: **0**

	0-5 Months			6-11 Months			12-23 Months			24-35 Months			36-47 Months			48-59 Months			60-71 Months			0-59 Months		0-71 Months		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Total	Prev	Total	Prev				
Weight for Age - Normal	290	309	599	275	278	553	480	496	976	492	488	980	474	496	970	437	437	874	409	409	818	4,083	88.9%	5,008	87.8%	
Weight for Age - Overweight	17	17	34	5	4	9	11	8	19	5	4	9	7	5	12	9	14	23	6	3	9	46	1.0%	217	3.7%	
Weight for Age - Underweight	9	4	13	15	7	22	50	50	100	53	50	103	47	47	94	55	68	123	69	69	138	461	8.1%	575	9.1%	
Weight for Age - Severely Underweight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weight for Age - Normal	240	245	485	240	240	480	396	396	792	399	399	798	387	437	824	388	388	776	427	427	854	4,081	74.4%	4,754	74.4%	
Weight for Age - Tall	48	47	95	14	14	28	15	14	29	14	14	28	14	14	28	14	14	28	14	14	28	142	2.5%	142	2.5%	
Weight for Age - Stunted	42	37	79	27	19	46	108	90	198	111	88	199	86	100	186	85	100	185	90	90	180	909	16.5%	1,090	17.1%	
Weight for Length - Normal	11	11	22	9	9	18	17	17	34	17	17	34	16	16	32	15	15	30	15	15	30	377	6.6%	374	5.9%	
Weight/Length for Weight - Normal	262	275	537	257	259	516	432	432	864	436	436	872	434	434	868	421	421	842	399	399	798	4,090	89.5%	5,718	89.5%	
Weight/Length for Weight - Overweight	23	18	41	5	4	9	14	12	26	14	13	27	8	15	23	9	9	18	10	10	20	109	2.0%	125	2.0%	
Weight/Length for Weight - Obese	11	11	22	15	9	24	23	28	51	28	24	52	20	17	37	18	14	32	14	10	24	218	4.0%	217	4.0%	
Weight/Length for Weight - Wasted	8	5	13	8	5	13	14	13	27	11	11	22	5	4	9	2	2	4	4	4	8	48	0.9%	57	0.9%	
Grand Total	328	274	602	287	282	569	568	557	1,125	542	539	1,081	536	558	1,094	498	495	993	495	492	987	5,430	8.9%	5,927	8.9%	

Together with husband Danilo, 45 years old, a farmer and labourer, they learned to strive hard for their family.

“ Ang sugal pala ay hindi tama. Ang kita dapat para sa mga kabataan at sa mga kailangan ng pamilya ”

-Arceña

She explained that indeed FDS, not just the cash grants, changed her heart and helped her realize to save up for her children and their family's future. This has been true to the other beneficiaries of the program.

LGU BASEY'S RECEPTIVE CO-IMPLEMENTER: ENRICHING SWD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



MSWDO Staff together with DSWD FO VIII Personnel during one collaborative activity in the municipality



Mr. Leo Nito Caliba, SWO II and Head of Social Technology Unit of DSWD FO VIII during TA session with MSWDO Personnel

The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) is the heart of the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Basey, Samar whose primary mandate is to uplift the well-being of the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable sectors as enshrined by the R.A 7160 or the Local Government Code of the Philippines.

The Local Government of Basey through the Local Social Welfare and Development is always receptive to innovation to become more strategic and responsive in so far as the service delivery is concerned. The office has employed several models of intervention such as case management, community development, social action, and participatory community empowerment to intervene in social problems involving social injustice, economic hardship, political humiliation, and the inter-generational cycle of poverty.

Despite the limitation due to the low absorptive capacity of the office attributed to a lack of manpower and equipment, limited office space (no counseling room for confidential cases, no breastfeeding rooms, no partitions, limited space for incoming clients seeking assistance), low computer literacy skills with limited IT equipment that deter an optimum provision of social services. The head of MSWDO, Ms. Welma Bacayo- Sacres has sought technical assistance and also sustained her active involvement in the Executive and Legislative activities to lobby and ensure sufficient allocation for the office's administrative and operational functions and creation of plantilla positions for its staffing.

LGU BASEY'S RECEPTIVE CO-IMPLEMENTER: ENRICHING SWD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

TESTIMONIAL

The Service Delivery Capacity Assessment Tool served as a guide for the MSWDO on how to navigate the whole operation of the office.

“The SDCA Tool plays a critical role in the improvement of our overall operations and is our guide in the operations of our office in delivering social services to the clients. It also complements all the necessary documents which can be used for the SGLG and CFLGA assessment of DILG. It has paved the way in catering to more clients with ease and comfort as we have competent and highly technical staff, sufficient funds, and a physical structure that can foster confidentiality and provide dignified assistance.”

LESSONS LEARNED

With the collaborative technical assistance provided by the different divisions, units, sections, programs, and TARA Focal of DSWD Field Office VIII particularly on the compliance of the Devolution Transition Plan (DTP) emphasizing the standard organizational structure of the office, Disaster Risk Reduction Management Training, assistance in the accreditation of 1 Social Worker managing court-related cases, Pre-marriage Counseling Team, and Day Care Centers & Workers has catapulted the office to gain level 3 from Level 2 status in the Service Delivery Capacity Assessment conducted last 2022. The significant improvements worth noting are discussed and highlighted below:

The MSWDO has successfully requested and created four (4) plantilla positions to augment the human resources with a total number of seven (7) social workers who are performing highly technical tasks in the delivery of social welfare programs and services and Five (5) Administrative employees to assist the clerical and logistical functions of the office. Further, the office caters to a wide array of services to intervene in the economic and psycho-social needs of disadvantaged children, youths, persons with Disabilities, the elderly, families, communities, and special groups.

LGU BASEY'S RECEPTIVE CO-IMPLEMENTER: ENRICHING SWD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



The huge support of the LGU to the office has increased the motivation of the MSWDO staff to discharge its social welfare functions towards a satisfying life for its varied clients. For Fiscal Year 2023, the office allocates a total fund of Php 14, 581, 643.72 from Php 9,000,000.00 to perform its administrative and operational functions in the municipality.

PHYSICAL STRUCTURES

Seeing the high demand for implementing social protection programs and services, the LCE has expanded the MSWDO office space that includes a client's receiving area with a comfortable sala set, social services office, counseling room, and a breastfeeding area. It also has separate facilities for the staff of Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Programs (4Ps), Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) and KALAHI CIDSS. Further, the office established a Senior Citizens Building and Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office Building to ensure the participation of vulnerable sectors in the decision-making activities and provision of services.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The MSWDO works closely with the DSWD Field Office VIII to ask for technical assistance to ensure the SWD implementation following the standards of the following retained and devolved programs and services for various sectors, to wit: a. Family - Disaster Risk Reduction; b. Women - Issuance of Solo Parents ID and Case Management of WEDC; c. Children - Child Development Program, Case Management on CEDC, and Supplementary Feeding Program; d. Youth - Unlad Kabataan Program (Pag-asa Youths Associations of the Philippines (PYAP), Scholarship Program for the Youths, ALAY LAKAD Scholarship, and Issuance of PYAP ID; e. Persons with Disabilities - Issuance of PWD ID, Provision of Assistive Device, Advocacy Campaign on Magna Carta of PWD, and Training on Early Detection and Prevention of Disabilities; and f. Older Persons - Localized Pension Program, Provision of Senior Citizens ID, and Provision of Assistive Devices.

LGU BASEY'S RECEPTIVE CO-IMPLEMENTER: ENRICHING SWD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



Moreover, the MSWDO has a sufficient allocation or more than the required percentage in the implementation of Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) to respond to the financial burden of clients involving food, medical, educational, transportation and funeral concerns. The program is implemented through outright cash to provide the immediate needs of the clients.

SENSITIVITY TO THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE SECTORS

The MSWDO Basey ensures its coordination with other departments of the LGU headed by the Local Chief Executive to come up with collaborative efforts toward the implementation of social welfare programs and services. The office interfaces with the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (LDRRMO) during the disaster to provide social protection intervention for disaster-stricken individuals, groups, families and communities. This is done through the provision of relief goods, psycho-social supports and child/women-friendly spaces. Further, the MSWDO sustains its active involvement in planning and budgeting to ensure the social protection of various sectors. The office is the lead department in the formulation of the Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC) Plan and Gender and Development (GAD) Plan which both documents are incorporated in the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) of the LGU toward the attainment of its Vision. These efforts have brought the MSWDO to victorious recognition because of having been awarded the Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA) and Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) for three consecutive years. Consequently, these accolades have made the LGU enjoy National Funded Projects such as Sanitary Landfill, Sea Wall and Balay Silangan. The office also gains credibility in performing Case Management and Pre-Marriage Counseling because it creates a Pool of Accredited Counselors and Social Workers handling court cases. Currently, the office has endeavored for the accreditation of its Child Development Centers and Workers to obtain quality services to its Child Development Programs. Lastly, the achievements and the accomplishments of MSWDO Basey Samar are made possible by the strong support of the different offices in the LGU headed by the Local Chief Executive with close coordination of Field Office VIII.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

*Good Practice on Basic Literacy among Pantawid Pamilya Beneficiaries
in Calbayog City, Samar, Philippines*



Time will tell that literacy is the path from slavery to freedom. According to Kofi Annan, a human rights advocate, “Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. It is a tool for daily life in modern society. It is a bulwark against poverty, and a building block of development, an essential complement to investments in roads, dams, clinics and factories. Literacy is a platform for democratization, and a vehicle for the promotion of cultural and national identity. Especially for girls and women, it is an agent of family health and nutrition. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right.... Literacy is, finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

Meanwhile, the Family Development Session (FDS) is considered to be the very heart of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps). Different lessons on financial education, Livelihood Seminars, Spiritual Enhancement, Moral Recovery, Disaster Preparedness, Health and Wellness, Responsible Parenting and many others are discussed. Grantee's can comprehend and understand what they are being taught but some felt the dilemma because they cannot take notes on the important points given because some of our parents literally cannot read and write. During the monthly sessions, the 4Ps staff encounter the same situations.

Hearts are broken seeing some of the parent grantees find it hard to write their names on the attendance sheet, some seems afraid to hold a pen and even feel shiver when writing their names. For those who really can't write, stamping pad is their best friend.



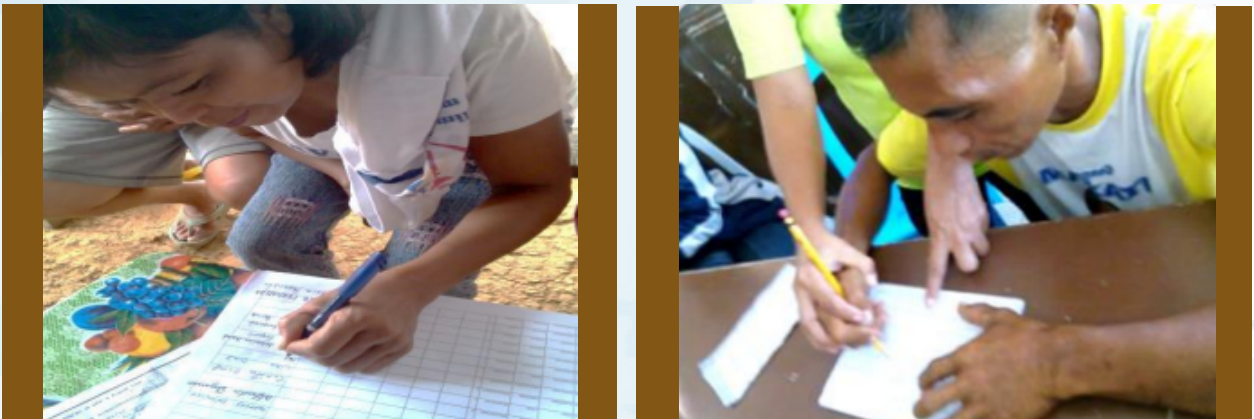
Merlita M. Caber, 47 years old, a parent leader from Brgy. Bayo, Oquendo District, Calbayog City knew the feeling of having scarce knowledge and education. She only finished Grade 3 because of hardships in life. Being an elementary undergraduate caused her to experience the difficulty of finding a job that can sustain the needs of their family, since her husband was also not able to finish his studies. She then realized that opportunities are rare and seems so far away from those who lack education.

Merlita is experienced the times when her children asked help regarding their homework, but she can't give help since she do not know the topic and even can't understand well the given assignment. She felt miserable and wished she will be given the chance to study again. These circumstances made a turning point on thinking and going out of the box from the usual FDS topics.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

The birth of Basic Literacy during Family Development Session arose. Barangay Canhumadac in Calbayog City belongs to the Upper Happy Valley Villages; they are the first recipients of the Basic Literacy topic that was given during FDS which made a very good turning point on the lives of the grantee's in that Barangay. The good effect on these was replicated to all our Non-formal education parents in Pantawid, Calbayog city.

A legacy that cannot be stolen from them for the rest of their lives.



Actual photos taken: Basic Literacy lesson given during Family Development Sessions.

Pre-Implementation

It took a long process until this good practice was realized. It started during a Calbayog City Interagency Committee Meeting wherein the results of the 5th wave Social Welfare and Development Indicator Assessment administered to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program household beneficiaries was presented by the Pantawid Pamilya staff and the former's level of education was discussed. These showed the low rate in educational attainment and how such factor affects the totality of status or level of well-being.

Indeed, literacy connotes poverty. It was as if stated in the modality in the environment and community, that the higher a person's educational degree is, the more chance of finding a regular and sustainable source of income or better employment, which leads to a more satisfying life. This has been one of the reasons of why 4Ps staff aimed to promote literacy in the community.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

Implementation

The program which started in year 2017 is through the partnership with the Department of Education- Alternative Learning System (ALS) of Calbayog City, Samar, who served around 61 4Ps Parent Leaders willing to be trained about the module of ALS-Basic Literacy by their ALS-mobile teachers and coordinators in order to equip them with techniques and knowledge which they could share with other individuals willing to learn and complete basic literacy modules in their respective barangays.



After the lectures carried out were grand demonstrations of Parent Leaders for them to be assessed if they can already serve as volunteers in teaching those other interested individuals, especially 4Ps beneficiaries, who are willing to learn basic literacy such as writing, counting and reading from their respective barangays.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

Post-Implementation

After the trainings conducted to all 4Ps Parent Leaders, they are all equipped with the knowledge, techniques and come up with the strategies in saturating beneficiaries with no completed grade level or those who were interested to attend their proposed teaching service in their areas.

Merlita, one of the beneficiaries who underwent the said literacy training shared that she feels valued and wants to share her leanings with other beneficiaries.

Also she expressed, “An pinakaimportante na ak nahibaruan an pakipag-kapwa ngan pakihalubilo. Ngan dapat mag-aram. Bisan kun may edad na diri dapat ikaawod nga nag aaram kapa.”

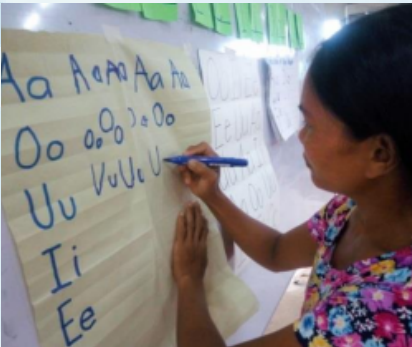
After series of classes and demonstration conducted, the graduation rites for Parent Leaders were set. All the parent leaders who completed the modules received a certificate of appreciation in honor for their valuable effort exerted to make one’s vision successfully and able to serve their fellow beneficiaries.

Eventually, after listing down their respective target beneficiaries for the mentoring and teaching, they were able to start the regular classes set respectively per district with corresponding venues. This time, around 40 Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries were served.

The activity has been through a lot of obstacles before it lead to more concrete designs of practice-Basic Literacy Program which is an activity initiated to answer one of the low points in the level of well-being of the beneficiaries and that is Literacy.

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program supported the ALS Basic Literacy Program which is intended to promote literacy among people who have had very little in schooling, regardless of age, status and highest level of educational attainment; if interested and willing to participate; all were welcome-and the goal is to achieve basic literacy.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD



Results / Impact

The program activity results were very impressive that many of the parent leaders are now asking for the 2nd batch of the ALS – BLP activities. Aside from the very productive outcome were parent with non-education were able to write and read now, they also are expressing their interests in sharing the knowledge they gained from the program and their experiences to their co-pantawid beneficiaries.

Attaining great impact like these doesn't come without hardships and huge trials. To mention with are the venue's for every sessions, the financial matter (fare, snacks, meals, supplies and likes), the weather, and the man power; because ALS facilitators and mobile teachers have their limitations also juggling their regular hours between their classrooms and with ALS-BLP participants but it does not become hindrances to attain the goal of the activity. Having the heart to serve, nothing is impossible.

Gaps were also addressed during CIAC meetings and it is with thankful heart that the city government of Calbayog is very responsive on these issues. City-Inter Agency Committee members all together work for the progress of this program. Suggestions, donations (from the local government office, Lion's and giving a more effective strategy are only few of the team effort exerted just to materialize the said program and that the intervention provided will be successful.

GOODBYE STAMPING PAD

Last May 24, 2019, the 61 ALS – BLP completers were given their recognition for giving such noble act in serving their fellow Pantawid members including our ALS implementers and mobile teachers. It was a day full of inspirations and aspirations hearing all the messages coming from Ms. Betty Jane V. Arnejo (CSWD Officer) in lieu of Mayor Ronaldo P. Aquino (who have equally important activity to attend), Mr. Fernando P. Medrano in lieu of Dr. Gorgonio G. Diaz, Jr. from DepEd Division of Calbayog, and Ms. Manneth C. Lagaras (Provincial Link, Pantawid Samar).

Glimpse during the completion rites:



NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND: FEDERATING 82 SLP ASSOCIATIONS TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS

Good Practice of SLP Association Sustainability in Ormoc City



Ormoc City, a coastal city surrounded by a vast of agricultural land (56.64% of the total land area), started its partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) thru its Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) in 2016 (see attached Memorandum Of Agreement) with the objective of reducing poverty in the city. Since its implementation, DSWD-SLP has already given over a hundred micro-enterprise projects managed by various SLP Associations in Ormoc. This intervention is a capacity-building program that aims to improve the socio-economic condition of the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized households.

The beneficiaries were capacitated through trainings, the associations' financial status are also monitored until they achieve sustainability and self-sufficiency.

NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND

Forming the SLPAs and capacitating the program participants are tasks that are quite challenging. But according to Nelia Oledan, the Implementing Project Development Officer (IPDO) assigned in Ormoc, the most difficult part in implementing the program is to help and train these associations on how to achieve sustainability of the livelihood assistance given to them.

On June 2018, under Memorandum Circular No. 12 (MC12) “Guidelines on the Implementation of the Sustainable Livelihood Program”, the Program Participant Mainstreaming Stage was enforced to strengthen monitoring of livelihood projects and ensure that the SLPAs or program participants are continuously capacitated and that the operations of the established micro-enterprises are sustained after the provision of capital assistance.

But even before MC 12, IPDO Nelia Oledan and the Local Government Unit (LGU) Livelihood Focal Nenita Ceniza have already envisioned a new strategy to accomplish the goal of having sustainable livelihood projects in Ormoc City. In 2017, Oledan initiated an innovative strategy to achieve sustainability of the formed SLPAs. The SLP has established 82 SLPAs in Ormoc City, a total of P19, 151, 000.00 grant from DSWD were given to these associations; all associations are under Enterprise Capital Assistance. The SLP PDOs and the LGU Livelihood Focal were tasked to monitor these 82 associations. In 2018, the SLP assigned two MPDOs to assume the tracking and monitoring of these associations and other SLP-funded projects in line with MC 12. But the IPDO and LGU Livelihood focal realized that even their combined efforts can never be enough to provide technical assistance to maintain sustainability of each association, thus they innovated to federate the 82 associations which is now called Ormoc Federation Of Sustainable Livelihood Program.

Pre-Implementation

The federation of 82 associations increased the level of participation among members and strengthened their linkages to other institutions and funding agencies. Unity among the SLPAs through federation also ensures that all associations receive the provision of technical assistance that can create a more skilled and organized SLPA members. This strategy contributes to the SLP’s mission for the program beneficiaries to maintain thriving livelihoods and achieve sustainability.

NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND

The word Federation is defined as “an organization comprised of a set of smaller groups, which seeks to bring attention to issues that are of importance to its members. Each organization that comprises the federation maintains control over its own operations.” In community-driven context and livelihood framework, this means a group of community associations uniting to achieve a common goal (thriving, sustainable livelihoods) while harnessing a deeper sense of ownership of their development.

The key elements of this innovative practice are:

- Resource Mobilization
- Community Organizing (Election of Officers)
- Partnership with LGU
- Initiative and Cooperation of SLPAs
- Provision of Technical Assistance and Financial Support
- Project Management

1. Consultative planning and meeting with Social Welfare Focals of LGU includes these activities:

- Consultation with LGU Ormoc represented by CSWDO Delia Corbes and LGU Livelihood Focal, acknowledging external partnership’s role in optimizing resources and interventions
- Approval of LGU and their commitment to support the proposed strategy of SLP IPDO

Implementation

2. Association members agreed to the idea through election of officers:

- Orientation on the idea of Federation method with association officers
- Consultation meeting with association officers and members; presentation of the objectives and advantages of federating their associations
- SLP PDO with the assistance of CSWDO and LGU Livelihood Focal gathered the associations to elect officers
- Oath-taking of Federation Officers (see Appendix A)

NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND

3. The support of LGU includes:

- Funding and attending the 1st Federation General Assembly on April 27, 2017 (Appendix B)
- Funding and attending the Mid-Year evaluation on May 16, 2018 (Appendix C)
- Funding and attending the Pre-Evaluation Conference
- Funding and Organizing the Year-End Evaluation cum Christmas Party for the Federation on December 7, 2017
- In the year-end gathering, the LGU invited DSWD Regional Director Restituto Macuto to lead the induction of Federation Officers
- LGU awarded DSWD a certificate of recognition in appreciation for the support given to the city's constituents
- LGU Livelihood Focal attends consultative meetings and monitoring activities
- SLP activities and events are included in the Annual Investment Plan (Appendix D)

4. Federation officers initiate steps/activities to improve their organization:

- Contribution of P500 from each association to process SEC registration in Cebu, City (Appendix E)
- BIR registration and acquiring Tax Identification Number (Appendix F)
- Registration of SSS and PHILHEALTH, acquisition of Employer number (Appendix G)
- Officers observe transparency in transaction through an updated income/financial statement (see Appendix H)
- On-going process of City accreditation with the assistance of IPDO and Livelihood Focal

5. Provision of Technical and Financial Assistance:

- LGU and SLP tap services of other agencies to provide trainings (see Appendix I)
- Planned and proposed trainings on Simplified Bookkeeping, Digital Marketing and Product Development (DTI)

6. Project Management includes the following activities (see Appendix J):

- Monthly meeting to discuss updates, short-term goals, and long-term plans of the Federation
- Coordination and Consultation meetings
- Regular Monitoring of projects to provide TA and additional interventions
- Mid-year evaluation to check status of livelihood projects and success rate of SLPAs
- Year-end evaluation of livelihood projects and sharing of lessons and experiences from which success stories will surface and plan for replication will be made

NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND

Post -Implementation

The SLP IPDO and LGU Livelihood Focal presented the benefits of Ormoc Federation to each association:

(1) Through Federation, the association will have a legal personality, as their application to the Security Exchange Commission (SEC) will form them as a registered corporation.

(2) By being a registered corporation, this will help them access additional assistance from funding agencies and increase their social assets through linkages.

(3) As a Federation, the LGU can easily monitor them and provide immediate interventions.

(4) Sustainability. The main goal of federating the associations is for them to achieve sustainability of their livelihood projects with the assistance and support of the LGU. To ensure that even after years of implementation, the associations are still existing and income generating.

(5) Once approved as CSO-accredited beneficiary, the Federation will be able to receive faster delivery of DSWD projects and/or programs in coordination with association members and LGU, the SLP facilitator officially gathered all SLPAs to formalize the federation of the 82 SLPAs.

Having understood the strategy and its objectives, the responsive and cooperative SLPA members agreed to the idea by electing their Federation officers.

To strengthen monitoring of SLPAs, the SLP facilitator and LGU Livelihood Focal proposed to the SLPAs the conduct of regular evaluation of their financial statement. The SLPAs agreed to present to the LGU their income statement during their mid-year and year-end evaluation activities.

NO SLPA LEFT BEHIND

Results / Impact

In April 2018, the importance of federating the 82 associations was proven when an issue regarding Metro Ormoc Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative (OCCCI), one the partners of SLP, circulated in the city. A news about OCCCI's management conflict and issues was published in Eastern Visayas (EV) Mail and posted on social media. This issue alarmed and even discouraged the SLPA members as people already spread the negative information in the barangays. Some SLPA officers coordinated with CSWD Office. Immediate intervention was granted through consultative dialogue, as it was easier to gather the SLPAs now that they are already federated. Since each association is represented in every activity, members are always informed with the issues and solutions. (See Appendix K) In the meeting, OCCCI even gave a commitment to continue to provide trainings on financial management and simple bookkeeping to SLPAs of Ormoc.

In conducting mid-year and year-end evaluation, each SLPA is given the chance to present their financial statement. In this way, DSWD-SLP and LGU can come up with a strategy to help improve those associations that are not performing well and to replicate those SLPAs that are successful.

No.	Name of Association	Amount	Balance	Remarks
1	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
2	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
3	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
4	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
5	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
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8	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
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60	Agri-Visayas Livelihood Assoc.	200,000.00	180,000.00	
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Livelihood Focal Nenita Ceniza testified that federating the associations has a great impact.

“As Livelihood Focal, the SLP federation helped us in monitoring the implementation and operations of livelihood projects through a monthly federation meeting that could easily address the problems of the associations,” she said.

She added that federating the 82 associations lessens her burden in doing her task as Livelihood Focal.

REACHING THE LAST MILE

*Enhancing the People's Participation on Kalahi-CIDSS
Implementation of Mayorga, Leyte through the Barangay Welfare
Affairs and its Radio System*

Mayorga is a 5th class municipality in the province of Leyte in Eastern Visayas, Philippines. It faces the Pacific Ocean and is forty (43) kilometers south of the provincial capital, the City of Tacloban.

Based on the August 1, 2015 National Statistics Authority Census of Population, Mayorga has a total population of 17,161.

Municipality of Mayorga is subdivided into 16 Barangays composed of the following: Burgos, Bonifacio, Camansi, Calipayan, Gen. A. Luna, Liberty, Mabini, San Roque, Sta. Cruz, Wilson, Ormocay, Union, Talisay, Poblacion Zone I, Poblacion Zone II and Poblacion Zone III. Its Municipal Offices are located at Brgy. Poblacion Zone I.

The town of Mayorga is relatively small compared to its neighboring municipalities. It is endowed with rolling plains ideal for rice production. Its public transport system is comprised of jeepneys and vans plying the route of Mayorga and Tacloban while single motorcycle passenger vehicles, "motorpots", and pedicabs are plying intra- municipal routes and along barangay roads.

Mayorga is basically an agricultural municipality. Most of its residents are into farming and fishing as its primary sources of livelihood. There are 1,716 total number of rice farmers organized into 26 associations. Moreover, there are 202 farmers yielding in high value crops (HVC) farming, 118 of these HVC farmers are land tenants, while 85 are owners of their tilled lands. On the other hand, there are 154 who are cropping on corn plants. Meanwhile, livestock and poultry meat industry are also one of the economic activities in the municipality. There are 1,412 swine raisers; 131 cattle raisers, 454 carabao raisers, 49 goat raisers and 1,373 chicken raisers. Whereas, there are 865 total number of fisherfolks in the locality. 640 of which are males and 225 are females. These fisherfolks employ hook and line, timing and gillnets as their fishing methods.

REACHING THE LAST MILE

There are various National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) that had come to the community such as Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi CIDSS) which has been implemented for many years now in the municipality. Kalahi CIDSS is one of the core programs of the Department of Social Welfare and Development which aims to alleviate poverty, along with Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino and Sustainable Livelihood Programs.

Kalahi CIDSS influenced the Municipal Local Government Unit (MLGU) in enhancing its Transparency, Accountability and its Participation to the community. Despite of embracing the core values of Kalahi CIDSS and other NGO's, there are still gaps that have not been addressed; some members of the community could not participate because they are not informed that there are such activity like Barangay Assembly of Kalahi CIDSS so that not all sectors are well represented in the conduct of the said activity. Also, there are some of the vulnerable sectors who are left behind in all the development activities of the communities while others would not be able to avail any services because going to LGU Office is costly and time consuming. Another issue that the MLGU had seen is the inconsistency/ unavailability of the first and secondary data in the community. This is due to the absence of barangay record as a result of the change of leadership or absence of turn-over of records. With these, data generated from different NGOs and NGAs are unreliable and inconsistent.

The MLGU had develop a strategy to address these gaps. They had foreseen that there should be a focal person aside from the Barangay Officials who would assist to its people in the community. They are called as the Barangay Welfare Affairs which are directly employed by the municipality to assist its people in the community to easily communicate to the municipal offices if ever they have concerns or they have needs to be attended and to help the Barangay officials in data gathering and consolidation and in the Kalahi CIDSS implementation, they are being used for wide dissemination of information and for transparency purposes. The BWA is equipped with radio base to be better effective.

The Barangay Welfare Affairs was conceptualized on August 1, 2016 and the Radio Station was installed last quarter of 2017. It was the idea of former Mayor Valente Adolfo to give the government services closer to the community residents thru the Barangay Welfare Affairs and Radio program. The BWAs are job order employees in the municipality, their Terms of Reference (TOR) include being the focal for the needs and queries of the residents. They are assigned in the barangay where they live. (see appendices Figure 6 for Contract of Service)

For example, if residents are in need of registration forms or medicines from Rural Health Unit and the like, the residents will no longer travel to the town proper to get their needs. It is the Barangay Welfare Affairs which will deliver it for them. It saves money and time for the residents.

Relative to the accessibility to the DSWD services and programs, the residents have easier access to it through the Barangay Health Workers (BHW) and radio base. Moreover, the fund for the Radio base and equipment's were allotted thru Mayor's budget.

REACHING THE LAST MILE

Implementation

In the course of devising the strategy, it is not a sudden decision or just a snap of fingers. It took several studies and consultations. It was conceptualized by the Municipal Mayor himself and was supported by the different Department Heads.

This strategy is just one of the plans for comprehensively responding to the development issues and challenges confronting the municipality. It begins from the discussion of the municipality's Vision – the “future state”, that its citizens and leaders aspire for Mayorga to become in the near future. The gaps between the desired vision and current realities are then identified. The development indicators described, and the main themes that emerged are summarized– the so-called cross-sectoral challenges- within the planning period.

The actual target is to reach more constituents of Mayorga Leyte, enhancing its Transparency and Accountability mechanisms in the MLGU side and increase the participation of the people especially the most vulnerable ones.

In the implementation of this strategy, the MLGU created Barangay Welfare Affair in the community and there are 5-7 personnel and the Radio base per Barangay was installed.

Then later on they trained the BWA on how to use the radio in terms of transmitting information, and also its protocol. Since it is a community based, people in the community could easily access important information and updates. The usual use of the radio and the BWA are; MLGU would transmit information such as conduct of meeting at the community or someone will visit the community. The BWA upon receiving the information, would immediately tell the Barangay officials and the persons concerned in that particular meeting/visits. Prior the conduct of the activity, the people are already informed and have more time to prepare.



Information dissemination through the Municipal-run Radio Station reaching barangays with poor Cellular Signal

REACHING THE LAST MILE

Results / Impact

Although the strategy has yet to be improved to be more effective, it does give Mayorga greater impact especially to its people. Communication between MLGU and community became fast and easy and transparency has been promoted. Data in the barangay level has been readily accessible to all. It brings MLGU closer to the vulnerable sectors in the community.

Another effect that the BWA and radio base brought was that the services and information from the LGU was effortlessly transported to the people in the community particularly the most vulnerable ones.

One obvious result is the high participation rate during conduct of Kalahi CIDSS' Barangay Assembly in all barangays in Mayorga which is above 82% mark for 4 Cycles implementation. The intervention was introduced as a result of the declining Participation Rate from Cycle 1 to 3 but still above the minimum target which is at 80%. The 4th Cycle Participation jumps to 85.41% rate, a 3.01% difference from the 3rd Cycle and represents a total of 3,796 household attendance.

The Local Government Unit of Mayorga is supporting the thrust and priorities of DSWD's first organizational outcome in improving the well-being of the poor families thru informing the beneficiaries for the development in the programs of DSWD that concern them, report anomalies and complaints.

This strategy is also a support to their municipal's executive legislative agenda 2015- 2018 which is to intensify and provide Barangay Welfare Assistance programs to the local residents.

A total of 10 out of 16 Barangays shows an increasing trend of the Barangay Assemblies participation rate from Cycle 1 to Cycle 4 with the highest recorded rate of 92.14% in Barangay General Antonio Luna. (See appendices figures 1 thru 3)

Also, vulnerable sector such as Senior Citizens are represented during the Assemblies posting an increased participation of 16.98% of the total attendees in the last Cycle implementation. (See appendices Figure 4)

Perception among 420 community members randomly selected in 16 barangays shows awareness of the communities of the interaction and dealing of the local officials. It also shows that a majority of the community are able to participate in the different Kalahi-CIDSS activities. This is due to the coordination with the Barangay Welfare Affairs using the enhanced communication system. (See appendices Figure 5)

BUNTIS BABY BANK: PARA SA KALIGTASAN NI NANAY AT BABY

A Good Practice on the convergence of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program and the Local Government Unit of Limasawa, Southern Leyte, for pregnant women



H health care is among the forefront demand for most of the Filipinos. It has direct impact to the well-being of every family and thus it has the same weight as poverty. Amongst the Filipino sectors, marginalized sectors are the ones vulnerable and are greatly affected when health care system is impaired. It is believed that since poverty is a multifaceted problem it is linked to various societal problems most especially in the field of health.

Empirically poverty is vitally related and associated to health problem.

With the demand brought by the poverty which can be associated with health problem. The government created various platforms to improve the health situation in the Philippines. The challenge in improving health care system in the country continues to be on the top list of the governments work to be accomplished.

Although there is a significant improvement in the health care system, issues on maternal and child health continues to leave trail of concern and improvement. In one of the surveys of Philippine Statistics Authority it shows that there are 114 deaths/100,000 live births recorded, which is a significant figure to ponder on.

BUNTIS BABY BANK: PARA SA KALIGTASAN NI NANAY AT BABY

Implementation

Buntis Baby Bank is one of the programs for pregnant women in the island. Aside from the pre-natal care program and services offered by the Rural Health Unit, this Buntis Baby Bank is being implemented to help pregnant women and family defray the impending expenses before, during and after mother's delivery. The scheme of this Buntis Baby Bank is same as with other saving practices but has no interest. One is given the chance to put any amount in a box assigned to a pregnant mother and they are encouraged to deposit any amount to it. And when the estimated date of confinement arrives the family will withdraw the money they saved in.

As this innovation became a good practice in the island every barangay health center adopted and implemented this to ensure that every family with pregnant woman will be equipped financially for the upcoming delivery. The engagement of the family in the program is so easy. All they have to do is to deposit any amount in the assigned box. Perhaps this Buntis Baby Bank has to be sustainable for it has brought milestone in maternal and child health.



The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) staff realized the significance of the Buntis Baby Bank and its sustainability for the nutrition and health of beneficiaries, especially the pregnant mothers. Hence, they coordinated and collaborated with the Municipal Inter-Agency Committee, to incorporate such practice in the implementation of 4Ps.

Approximately there are 2-4 pregnant mothers who are registered and monitored by the program every month. Since March 2019 all these pregnant mothers enrolled and engaged in Buntis Baby Bank with the supervision of the Rural Health Midwives managing the health center. So far all pregnant mothers who engaged in this practice had reaped remarkable benefits of the said practice.

BUNTIS BABY BANK: PARA SA KALIGTASAN NI NANAY AT BABY

Implementation

The inception of the Buntis Baby Bank started on year 2009. The program has been long run practiced in the island. On its first 3 years of implementation the program garnered awards by the National Nutrition Council as this promotes well-being to the pregnant woman and the baby being born. Much of the award, the practice also soars as more and more pregnant women responsibly engage in it.



In year 2019, with the concern of having effective programs on health to the Pantawid Beneficiaries the Municipal Inter-agency committee adopted the Buntis Baby Bank encouraging and requiring all pregnant mothers under Pantawid program to engage and enter into the said practice. The adoption of the said practice also includes its implementing mechanism.

Part of the engagement process is the municipal-wide advocacy information drive which encourages all families with pregnant mothers to engage to the said practice. The advocacy is done during various activity such as Family Development Sessions and even during barangay assembly. The barangay health center staff also headed by midwife track all pregnant mothers living in their respective barangay and once tracking is done, pregnant mothers are invited to attend mothers' class where initial engagement takes off. The initial engagement does not only focus on enrolling the pregnant mothers to Buntis Baby Bank this also serves as the avenue to discuss the emergency or birth plan.



Mothers who attended the mothers' class who were informed with the Buntis Baby Bank and Birth plan are expected to discuss these to their husband/partner. After a week the couple is expected to return to health center and be given with supplemental knowledge on Birth Plan and Buntis Baby Bank through the midwife and nurse on duty. As both parties agree to engage the said practice they will affix their signature to Buntis Baby Bank agreement form and likewise accomplish the birth plan.

BUNTIS BABY BANK: PARA SA KALIGTASAN NI NANAY AT BABY

Once engagement becomes formal the staff of health center will introduce and assign a box to the pregnant mothers. This box will serve as their piggy bank where they are encourage to put any amount. When estimated date of confinement arrives the family is now authorize to withdraw the said money they saved through the course of pregnancy and use it for the delivery expenses. Implementation, Monitoring and securing the integrity of the Buntis Baby Bank will be done by the Rural Health Unit and the barangay health center staff.

Participants:

- Local Health Board members
- Pregnant and her family
- Municipal Inter-agency Committee
- Stakeholders and other Civil Society organization

Time Frame and Initiative of Implementation:

As soon as the pregnant mother and her family engaged and committed to join the said practice the activity takes off.

Activity	Timeline	Responsible
Recognition and adoption of Buntis Baby Bank as one good practice to be incorporated to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program implementation.	During Municipal Inter-agency committee meeting	MIAC members
Information drive as advocacy of the Buntis Baby bank through FDS and barangay assembly	Conduct of information drive will take place once every semester	RHU staff
Identification and tracking of pregnant mothers.	Monthly	Barangay Health Worker Volunteer under the supervision of Rural Health Midwife.
Mother's Class	Monthly	RHU staff
Engagement of practice and counselling		

SERVICE DELIVERY ASSESSMENT

brings positive impact in improving the delivery of social welfare and development programs of the Local Government Units

V

alentin Escabillas, Municipal Social Welfare Development Officer of Libagon, Southern Leyte in Region VIII, happily and proudly shared to the TARA Focal – Ma. Joyce A. Flora how grateful he is on the result of the Service Delivery Assessment administered by the Regional Monitoring Team from the Province of Southern Leyte – Riza A. Basalio, SWO III/Provincial Link, Jonnalyn G. Ichon SWO II and Juvemar Pedalino, CDA II.

The exit conference with the Local Chief Executive Hon. Sabina B. Ranque in the presence of other department heads paved the way to hiring 1 (one) additional Registered Social Worker to be trained and assigned as Case Manager holding a Social Welfare Officer (SWO) II position since January 2, 2020 under Job Order employment status for six months. And by June 2020 a plantilla position shall be created for SWO II mainly in-charge as Case Manager.

Another breakthrough is the compliance for the provision of Benefits for Public Social Workers – subsistence allowance and hazard pay shall be received starting year 2021 has been concurred by the LCE and Budget Officer as it is provided by law. This development under Administration & Organization work area of functionality by the LGUs through the LSWDO shall redound to quality case management, work productivity and effectiveness. Moreover, giving rewards and privileges to employees shall boast the morale to strive more and continuously improve their craft beyond limit.



Photos taken during Service Delivery Assessment in Libagon, Southern Leyte last September 11, 2019



L-R: Juvemar Pedalino (CDA II), Jonnalyn Ichon (SWO II), Riza Basalio (SWO III/PL), Mayor Sabina B. Ranque, MSWDO Valentin Escabillas, and LGU Heads of Libagon, So. Leyte during SDA Exit Conference, Sept. 11, 2019

4PS SUMMER SESSIONS KEEPING YOUTH IN SCHOOL

*A Good Practice on Youth Development Session (YDS)
conducted in the barangay level during summer vacation of
Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program children beneficiaries in Basey, Samar*



Education is necessary so that one will be able to graduate and find a job. Education facilitates learning, knowledge and skills are necessary to become competitive in life. It is the key to success and a door to several opportunities.

4PS SUMMER SESSIONS KEEPING YOUTH IN SCHOOL

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program is the flagship program of the national government on poverty reduction and social development. It provides cash grants to extremely poor households to improve their health and avail education. It invests in human capital to break the inter-generational cycle of poverty among poor households. The program seeks to answer The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in which to achieve universal primary education.

It also answers the Sustainable Development Goals to have quality education. Thus, education is a worldwide goal that needs to be achieved.

In the Municipality of Basey, there were children beneficiaries who were found out to be not attending school upon monitoring and they were targeted to go back to schooling. Based on the data, Basey ranked as the 4th among the Municipalities in the Province of Samar with large number of not attending children. In Basey, far-flung barangays have the most numbered of not attending children. Barangay Palaypay which is located in Poblacion ranked as the 8th among the 51 barangays with highest number of not attending children.

The numbers were alarming, thus interventions are needed in order to address the issue. Albert Luel Estojero was among the not attending children from Barangay Palaypay, Basey, Samar. Since his parents were not around to attend to him, he turned to his peers and was later stop his studies. Albert is the youngest child of Dominica and Anito Estojero. Dominica is determined that the only treasure they can give to their children is education, that is why Dominica and her husband are working hard and doing their best to sustain the needs of their children. Anito is a “pedicab” driver and a fisherman while Dominica sells the fish caught by her husband and also she accepts orders of “puto” since she knows how to cook “kakanin”.

Albert was a regular student/pupil in 2015; however he stopped from school during the time that his father became sick. Both parents went to Manila for the medication of the head of the family that took them more than a year staying there and leaving the child in the custody of their relatives. With this situation, Albert became one of the out of school youth in the community. He is oftentimes with his friends roaming around the area and doing not so productive activities. Meanwhile, Albert’s father was not cured in Manila, thus they decided to go back in Basey and seek help from a quack doctor and found out that such illness was caused by so called “kulam” or balck magic. It was difficult for the family to encounter such experience. They are drained financially considering that they cannot longer work and they can’t provide the needs of Albert. Adding up to their concern was Albert’s being dropped out from school. They have so many dreams for Albert but feel hopeless because of unexpected circumstances.

4PS SUMMER SESSIONS KEEPING YOUTH IN SCHOOL

Pre-Implementation

The record was alarming considering the number of not attending children in the Municipality. Based on the Pantawid Pamilya database, there were about 8,030 eligible beneficiaries for education grant and yet around 10% of these children are not attending school. During the Family Development Session (FDS) planning, it was brought out that a separate session must be enforced to the children beneficiaries during summer break. A Youth Development Session (YDS) to be attended by children beneficiaries during summer break is necessary in order to encourage them to go back to school.

Implementation

A Youth Development Session on the barangay level was conducted on the summer of 2017 and 2018 to children beneficiaries. The importance of education was discussed during the YDS. Children participated in the workshops in which they were the one who identified the reasons of not attending, absences and drop outs as well as the importance of education. Among the reasons cited were peer pressure, early marriage, lack of attention/support from parents and lack/lost interest. The facilitators were the Municipal Links in which they process the answers from the children by giving emphasis to the importance of education.

Barangay Palaypay on May 9, 2018. One of the attendees was Albert Estojero who is under the SI Target. He was among those who promised to enrol who later on continued his studies. He enrolled in June 2018 in Basey National High School as a Grade 8 student.



4PS SUMMER SESSIONS KEEPING YOUTH IN SCHOOL



Albert Luel from Brgy. Palaypay affirming his promise to enroll and be good in school (left) and Brgy. Sugponon (right) brainstorming during the workshop.

Post-Implementation

After each session, each child signed their commitment to continue their studies. Beneficiaries who were not attending were encouraged to continue their studies and submit Update Form with school certification. Those households with not attending children were constantly reminded to send their children back to school and submit Update Form.

A Youth Development Session (YDS) was also conducted in high school facilities upon resume of classes. After the conduct of the activity, there were some who returned to school on 2018. Though the percentage is minimal, the activity in one way or another is a positive intervention that encouraged some children to continue their studies.

Results / Impact

Participation from different agencies could have brought a huge positive impact for those not attending children. Thus, convergence strategy needs to be fully executed to achieve a positive result. Youth Development Session (YDS) in the barangay level gains positive impact and ensures active participation from the children. Though, YDS in schools is necessary, children are more open in sharing their views and aspirations when YDS is conducted in their own barangay. Thus, Youth Development Session (YDS) must also be implemented during summer breaks in the barangay level.

FROM HUB TO HOME

DSWD's direct-to-beneficiary Disaster Operations



According to Wikipedia, approximately twenty tropical cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility every year. Out of these, ten will make landfall and five are considered destructive. These weather disturbances result in flooding, storm surges and landslides which in turn result to loss of life and property.

FROM HUB TO HOME

In fact, the Philippines has been ranked as the 3rd most exposed country in terms of disaster risk (based on the 2016 World Risk Report). Due to its unique location inside the Pacific Typhoon Belt, the Philippines, especially Eastern Visayas, has always been prone to such disasters. Therefore, the Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office VIII has always been active in disaster response.

Last October, President Rodrigo Duterte named Philippine Army Chief Lieutenant General Rolando Joselito D. Bautista as the new DSWD secretary. His appointment took effect on October 17.

With this new leadership came a new direction for the Department.

Based on a memorandum from the Secretary dated October 23rd 2018, all DSWD field offices shall no longer preposition goods at the Local Government Unit (LGU) level. This has been implemented January 2019 to ensure that DSWD has full control over its relief goods.

Aside from prepositioned goods, this directive also limits LGU involvement and changes how DSWD delivers its relief goods to disaster-stricken municipalities. Following this directive, DSWD FO VIII decided that moving forward; all relief operations will be conducted by DSWD staff, both from the Regional Office and from the Provincial and Municipal Action Teams. DSWD started this practice of conducting its own relief operations directly during the response to Typhoon Samuel.

Originally implemented in line with Secretary's directives, DSWD Field Office VIII staff began to see the advantages of a direct-to-beneficiary mode of relief distribution. These advantages will be discussed in the Results/Impact section.

Prior to this directive, DSWD had encountered several problems during disaster relief operations. The most common are bloated reports, where due to inaccuracies or duplications, more relief items are required than are actually needed, political partiality, where several affected families complain that they are not listed/given relief items because of their political affiliations, delayed distribution due to a longer timeframe between submission of reports and validation.

This directive provided a window of opportunity for DSWD to address these previously-encountered recurring issues.

Implementation

The Secretary's new directives were carried out by FO VIII staff during the relief operations for tropical depression Samuel.

On November 20, 2018, Tropical Depression Samuel made its first landfall at Eastern Samar. The heavy rains brought by the storm caused massive flooding and landslides in the province.

Less than a day later, DSWD responded to these LGUs' request for assistance.

Oras, Eastern Samar

On November 20, 2018, DSWD received a request from the LGU from Oras, Eastern Samar for family food packs. The storm had caused the Oras River to overflow, flooding several barangays located upstream.

True to its commitment to efficient public service, DSWD initially dispatched 1,450 family food packs to the LGU with the help of the Philippine Army on November 21, 2018. These FFPs were loaded into 1 Elf-type truck (codenamed "Botswana") and 1 Wing Van from DSWD, while the rest were divided and loaded into Army trucks. These FFPs were escorted by three DSWD staff – one from the DRMD, two from the Quick Response Team.



In accordance with the new directive to limit LGU involvement, the relief distribution itself would be carried out by DSWD staff, both from the Regional Office and from the Provincial Operations Office.

FROM HUB TO HOME

Since the barangays affected by the flooding were located upstream, the Family Food Packs had to be loaded on boats for delivery. On December 22, 2018, the relief goods were loaded with the help of the Philippine Army. From the docks it would take 2 to 4 hours to reach the upstream barangays.

There were 9 target barangays. These barangays were prioritized because these were the most badly affected and because these barangays were isolated because of flooding. DSWD staff split up into teams to cover each target barangay.



DSWD staff had to conduct the distribution straight from the boats to the beneficiaries, since there was no area where DSWD could offload and store the FFPs due to flooding. From the boats, DSWD staff coordinated with the barangay officials who already had a masterlist of beneficiaries.

If a beneficiary is absent and is unable to claim the FFPs, the barangay official would call on relatives or neighbors to receive the FFPs and to sign the distribution sheet in behalf of the absent beneficiary.

Distribution was fast and efficient due to the participation of the beneficiaries and their barangay officials. Minimum crowd control was required since the beneficiaries lined up to receive the FFPs.

Over-all, DSWD was successfully able to distribute relief goods to beneficiaries from 9 upstream barangays on November 22, 2018. Based on DROMIC reports, a total of 2,000 FFPs, worth Php 720,000 were allocated for Oras.



FROM HUB TO HOME

Jipapad, Eastern Samar (First Wave)

On November 23, 2018, after confirming reports that the road to Jipapad, Eastern Samar was passable, DSWD staff immediately proceeded to the municipality, after wrapping up the relief operations in Oras. The relief goods and distribution for unclaimed FFPs in Oras were entrusted and continued by the Provincial Operations Office staff.

Similar to Oras, Jipapad was also heavily affected by TD Samuel. The heavy rains brought by Samuel caused the river to overflow. According to the residents, it only took 2 hours for the water to rise to the second-storey level of most houses. It has generally been described by the residents as the worst case of flooding in the towns' history.

Upon arrival at Jipapad past 12 noon, DSWD staff immediately began to set up tables to start the distribution of relief goods. Since 4-wheeled vehicles were not allowed to cross the wooden bridge leading to the town proper, DSWD staff set up the distribution area right next to the highway.

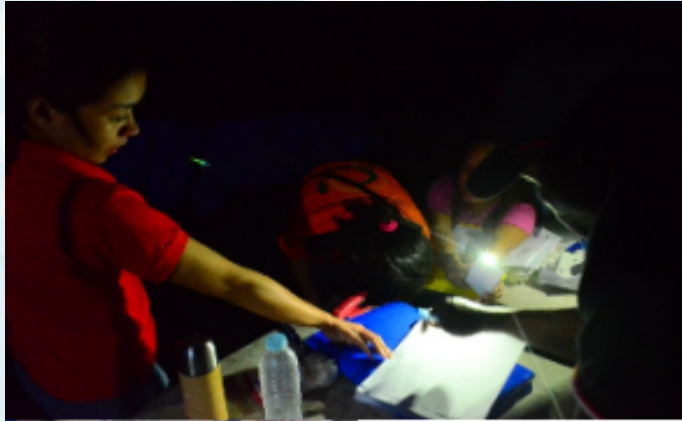


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Also, since the flood damaged the local cell tower, communication through commercial networks was not possible. There was no signal available. To be able to communicate, DSWD-RICTMU staff set up the Cobham Explorer 710 Broadband Global Area Network (BGAN) and the satellite phones.

FROM HUB TO HOME

With these satellite equipment, communication and internet connectivity became possible (see left). A beneficiary was able to call her relatives to tell them that she was okay using these satellite equipment.



Beneficiaries from the four Poblacion barangays lined up beside the highway to receive relief items. Due to the large number of beneficiaries, DSWD staff had to forego taking a lunch break and had to work into the night.

Also, due to minimized involvement from the LGU, DSWD staff had to perform multiple duties in unloading the relief goods, crowd-control, validation of beneficiaries, and distribution.

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Initially, DSWD arrived with a limited number of family food packs. In order to provide enough relief goods for a target of 2,448 families, DSWD coordinated with Philippine Army using satellite equipment. The Army transported the additional relief goods from Tacloban to Hinabangan. From Hinabangan, the relief goods were cross-loaded into DSWD trucks and into a truck lent by the Department of Public Works and Highways (see left). From there, these trucks proceeded to Jipapad to augment the disaster operations.



FROM HUB TO HOME

DSWD also had to set up make-shift tents in the distribution area to minimize the usage of LGU facilities. Using the winged van, poles, tarpaulins, ropes and all available resources on hand, DSWD staff were able to set up temporary shelter against the sunlight and occasional rainshowers during relief distribution.

The first wave of relief operations in Jipapad concluded on November 25, 2018, after a three-day relief distribution. As of November 25, 1,334 families have been served. It gave DSWD staff a lot of insight and experience, which were immediately put into use during the second wave of relief operations.

Jipapad, Eastern Samar (Second Wave)

On December 4, 2018, DSWD staff planned for the second wave of distributions during a training held at Tanauan, Leyte. Among the items the various needs, strengths, opportunities and challenges of the team – including accommodations, food and logistics. Due to thorough planning, DSWD was able to prepare for the second wave of distributions at Jipapad.

On December 9, 2018 DSWD staff returned to Jipapad. This time, owing to the experiences gained during the first wave of distribution, DSWD was more prepared.

Upon arrival, DSWD immediately set up tents at the distribution area. Compared with the makeshift tents during the first wave, these tents were more organized.



FROM HUB TO HOME

There were designated tents for the FFPs, tents for the distribution team, and tents for the beneficiaries. Since there was no electricity at the distribution area, there was also a designated area for the generator.

Also, DSWD laid brown mats on the ground to cover up the mud. This ensured that the distribution area was dry and provided traction for the vehicles which otherwise sank in the mud.

Also, DSWD had designated staff, equipment and an area for the preparation of food. Meals would be carried from this area to the distribution area during breaks. Since LGU involvement was limited, DSWD staff had to contribute a small amount daily to purchase food items.

DSWD staff would call the beneficiaries' names, organize them into groups of 20 and direct them into lines at the distribution center. This made the distribution organized, fast and more efficient. This also made crowd-control easier, ensuring that the distribution area was not overcrowded.



DSWD staff were also well-prepared for any emergencies. During the distribution, one beneficiary sustained an injury to the foot after accidentally tripping over a rope barrier. Fortunately, DSWD staff were trained in basic first-aid. Also, several project development officers who were licensed nurses were standing by as medics. They immediately provided first aid to the injured beneficiary. (see left)



Over-all the distribution was successful and was more organized. This was due to experiences gained during the recent round of distributions not only in Jipapad, but as well as in Oras and Arteche. As of December 13, 2018, based on DROMIC reports, 2,359 families have been served.

FROM HUB TO HOME

As a result of Secretary Bautista's new directive, DSWD staff now deliver the relief goods directly to the beneficiaries. This is reflected in the sustainability mechanism, the Disaster Response Management Division's Response Operations Manual (see Annex C).

Since this limits the involvement of the LGU, this improves DSWD's control over the relief goods and minimizes the involvement of local politicians. This in turn leads to less politicizing and less complaints about beneficiaries who do not receive relief goods because they have different political affiliations. This leads to impartiality with the distribution of relief goods; a fairer system of distribution to the families who really need the relief assistance.

Further, this builds a connection between DSWD and its beneficiaries. This directive connects DSWD staff from the Regional Office with the beneficiaries, especially those located in far-flung areas. For example, the beneficiaries at Jipapad and Oras expressed their gratitude that the representatives from DSWD came all the way from the regional office to distribute the relief goods personally. This humanizes DSWD as a caring and compassionate agency. This also allows the DSWD staff to see the reality of the situation on the ground, thus allowing for a much more realistic needs assessment. And since DSWD staff are already on the ground, they were able to conduct onsite validation without having to rely wholly on the LGUs reports.



After receiving a report from the MSWDO, DSWD staff proceeded from Oras to Jipapad. Arriving onsite, DSWD staff immediately conducted a visual inspection of the area. Since they were on the ground, DSWD staff were able to conduct validation simultaneously while distributing relief goods.

This also improves DSWD's response time, which is in line with DSWD's 3rd Organizational Outcome, which is the immediate relief and early recovery of Disaster Victims.

This was made evident during the response to Samuel.

FROM HUB TO HOME

The typhoon made landfall November 20, 2018. DSWD was able to respond in just 24 hours, with the delivery of goods to Oras accomplished on November 21. Prior to this directive, initial relief operations would usually take more time. Because of the faster response time, DSWD is now more able to meet its Performance Contract Indicators to provide 80% of the severely affected households with relief within 3 days after the disaster occurred. In the case of Urduja, DSWD was able to serve 4,448 severely-affected families during the first week of operations.

This was made possible through strong coordination of the DSWD staff assigned in the area with the local MSWDOs. With DSWD staff coordinating on the ground, critical data (such as the number of affected families and the severity of the storm's damage) can be relayed to the Operations Center, from where the response is planned.

Another factor which contributed to the faster response time was the lesser turnaround time between the LGU reports to validation and to response action. Prior to this directive, during calamities, the LGUs would have to send their reports to DSWD, then DSWD would validate the reports, and then only after validation, decide on a course of action. Now that the LGU involvement has been minimized, DSWD can implement its response action and conduct validation at the same time, thus saving critical time.

According to the representatives of the LGU and the beneficiaries, both from Oras and Jipapad, DSWD was the first to respond to the typhoon. In fact, DSWD was commended by the OCD Regional Director Henry Torres for its quick response and for going “above and beyond the call of duty” during the Disaster Response Cluster Meeting, held onsite at Jipapad on November 25, 2018.



Also the additional tasks causes an interruption in the regular functions of the DSWD staff, which can only be attended to once the relief operations are finished. This would cause a delay, especially if the staff on duty during relief operations has deliverables to submit. To relieve this pressure, DSWD needs to look into the possibility of tapping into the private sector for additional manpower, to assist in relief operations (see left, DSWD staff resting after conducting a whole day of relief distribution during the first wave at Jipapad. Due to the urgency, DSWD staff had to forego lunch to start relief operations right away. The relief operations finished at around 7PM).

LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

*Kalahi-CIDSS Livelihood and Entrepreneurship Implementation in
Brgy. Himakilo, Bontoc, Southern Leyte.*

As of May 31, 2019, KALAHI-CIDSS-National Community Driven Development Program (KC-NCDDP) has funded and completed 6,171 community sub-projects (SP) in Eastern Visayas. A large percentage of these subprojects are targeted at post-typhoon restoration of community access infrastructure (e.g., roads, footbridges, trails, and footpaths), environmental protection and conservation (e.g., flood protection and sea walls), and basic social services (e.g., schools, daycare centers, health centers, and electrification). While these immediate needs are being met, communities are also planning ahead for livelihood recovery as they move into the reconstruction phase. These will include SP's that cover community production, economic support, common service facilities, and livelihood and entrepreneurial skills training.

On average, only 10% of livelihood SP's that were identified during the Participatory Situational Analysis (PSA) in Typhoon Yolanda affected areas have been funded under Kalahi CIDSS. The gap in funding for livelihood related SP's is expected to increase given the unmet community livelihood needs in Cycles 1 and 2 of KC-NCDDP in Yolanda affected areas. At the same time, the lack of jobs continues to be a key challenge in affected communities. Therefore, it is crucial for KC-NCDDP to be able to focus additional resources on the livelihood SP's. Income poverty is the most serious manifestation of poverty. Without sufficient income, the poor will not be able to afford or have access to their basic needs (Balisacan 2008). Thus, although poverty is multi-dimensional, income generation is an essential element of any poverty reduction strategy (Songco 2010).

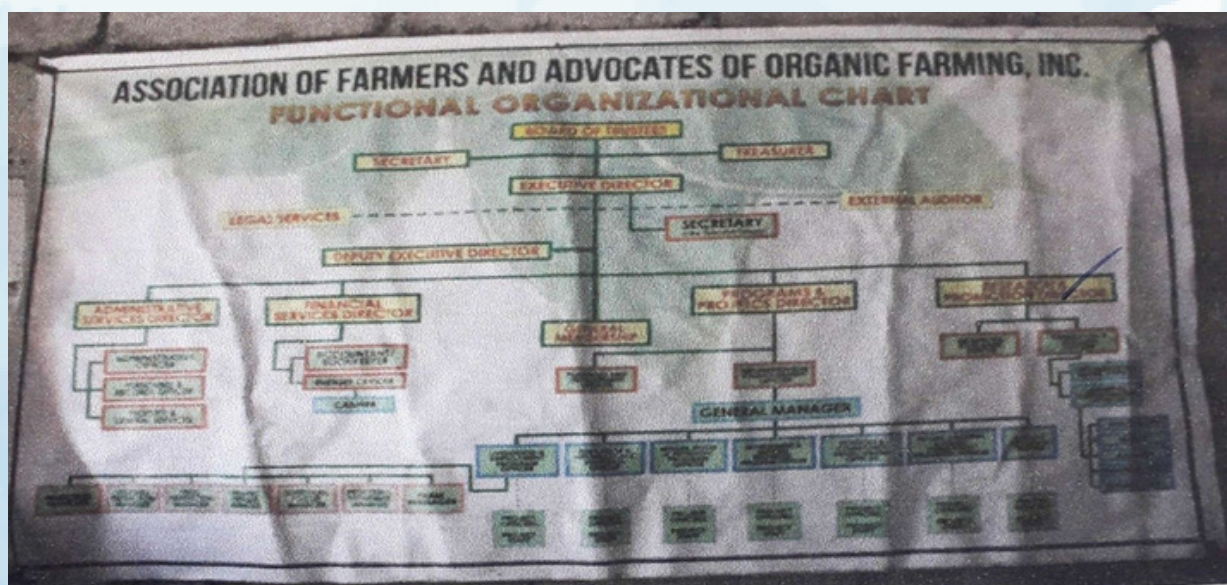
LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) have partnered to implement additional financing to restore livelihoods of Typhoon Yolanda victims through a Typhoon Yolanda Multi-Donor Trust Fund (TYMTF).

A total of 55 livelihood and entrepreneurship sub-projects have been prioritized by communities in Region VIII. Particularly, Barangay Himakilo in Southern Leyte implemented the Expansion of Accelerated Vinegar Production with the provision of purchasing production equipment and vehicle amounting to PHP 983,000.00 grant. The sub-project is being implemented by the Association of Farmers and Advocates of Organic Farming, Inc. (AFAOFI) to supply the consumer with sufficient quantity and high quality vinegar, which will sell lower than the market price in the present situation.

The community decided through the result of the (PSA) to expand the accelerated vinegar and other variety of products. The AFAOFI organization is composed of 58 members who represent 78% of the 81 total households in Barangay Himakilo.

Vinegar is considered as one of the most needed product in the market due to its affordability and economically viable. Sogod and nearby Municipalities in Southern Leyte are considered primary markets for the said product knowing that vinegar is one of the basic household commodities.



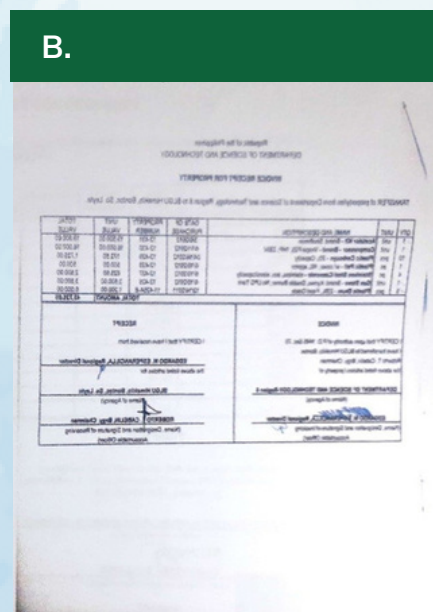
LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

Implementation

The Sustainability Evaluation Test (SET) was conducted on April 4, 2019 in Barangay Hall of Himakilo, Bontoc 13 months after the sub-project was completed in May 31, 2019. The Sustainability Evaluation is a mechanism which determines functionality of completed subprojects and resulting benefits derived from this. It assesses the sustainability performance, actual utilization, and evaluates the quality of community sustainability program. This will be the basis in providing Technical Assistance to the O&M Groups.



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One of the components in the conduct of SET is the Institutional Linkages which comprise of 20% of the overall rating. The Expanded Vinegar Production sub-project garnered 4.27 rating on Institutional Linkages Rating and an overall SET rating of 4.49 (5.00 is the highest rating). The Institutional Linkage and Support component of SET measure the provision of support by the National Agencies, Local Government and other organization in the Operation and Maintenance group which in this case, the AFAOFI organization. The high rating indicates a very satisfactorily assessment on its networking capabilities with different stakeholders.

The Department of Trade and Industry Southern Leyte Provincial Office assisted the AFAOFI in the packaging of the Vinegar product and providing additional materials to improve the production. Total assistance is worth Php 8,014.25

LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

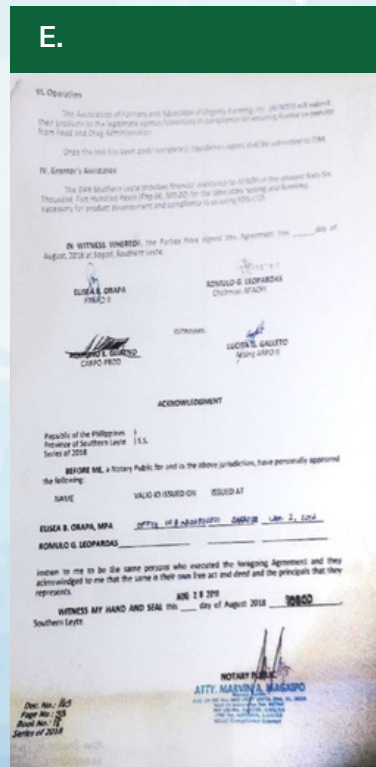
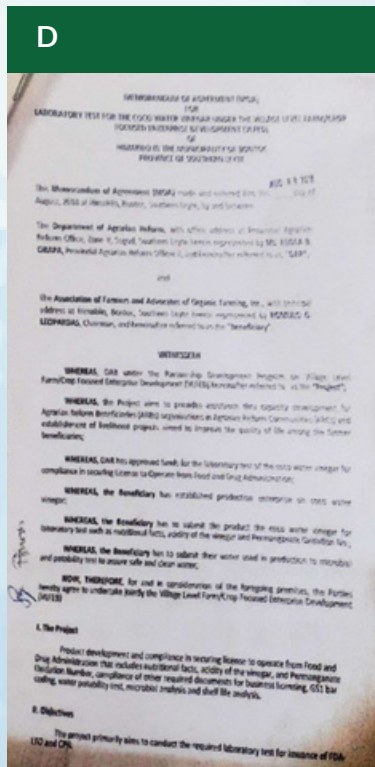
Implementation



The latest assistance that AFAOFI was able to secure is from the Department of Agrarian Reform Provincial Office in Southern Leyte. The assistance amounting to PHP 66,500.00 is for the laboratory testing and licensing necessary for the product development and in compliance in securing permit from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for its planned large scale production.

Some of the equipments/materials purchased from grants from different partner agencies

MOA between DAR and AFAOFI

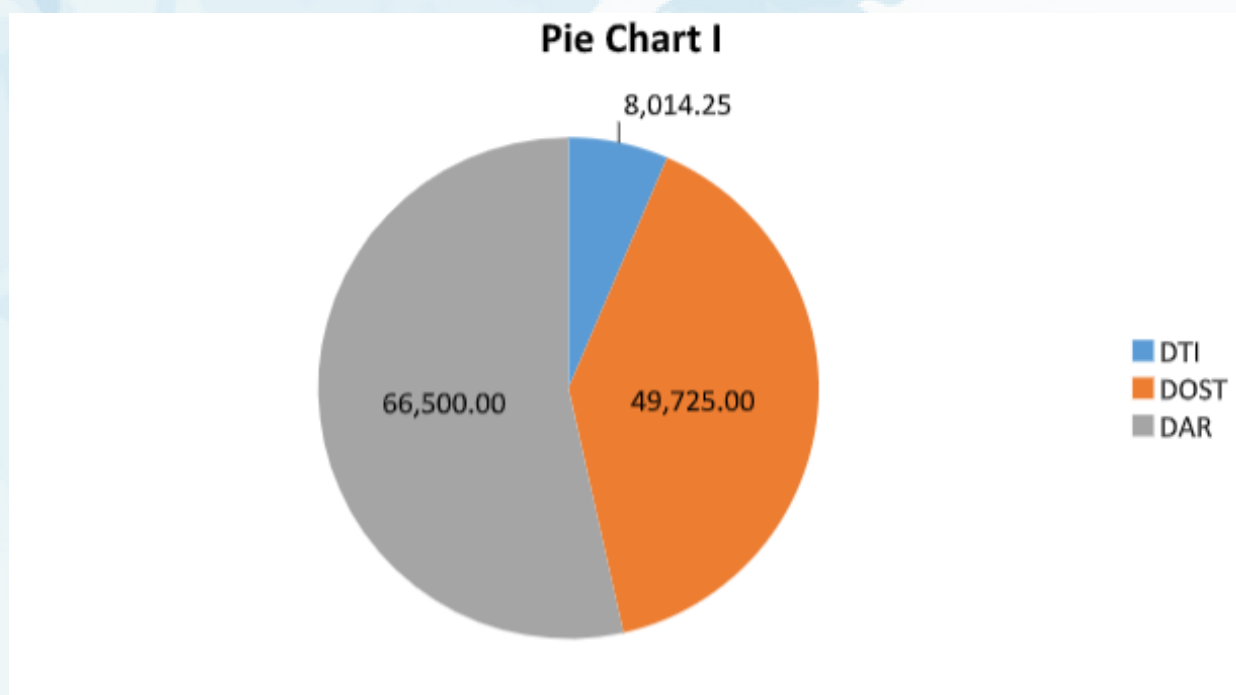


LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

Results / Impact

Innovating for a greater purpose

The innovation in strengthening the linkages of the stakeholders beyond the minimum requirement of the program secure the sub-project's sustainability to strive. This generated a total amount of Php 124,239.25 grant from DOST, DTI and DAR



The amount equates to boost the vinegar production which is expected at 1,000 liters a day. At PhP 15.00 for 330 mL ordinary vinegar will generate an income of PhP 45,454.50 per day while PhP 20.00 for 330 mL spiced vinegar will generate an income of PhP 60,606.00 per day.



Two variety of Vinegar Products (Ordinary and Spiced)

LINKING TIES BEYOND KALAHI-CIDSS

Reaping the Reward

The association of Farmers and Advocates of Organic Farming, Inc. (AFOAFI) reaped its success for its initiative in collaborating with other agencies as they received an award last August 9, 2019 from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Regional Office VIII for its entry, Expansion of Accelerated Vinegar.

It won the 2019 Best Science and Technology Livelihood Project, besting other entries in demonstrating high receptivity to science, technology and innovation leading to inclusive and sustainable growth and development for members of the organization and the community.

Also, they are heralded as the 6th Regional Bayani Ka! Winner for Sustained Community Volunteer's Group on November 29, 2019 in Tacloban City.

This only tells that communities most especially the poor, vulnerable and marginalized sectors can be a huge asset and partner of change.



AFOAFI members receiving the award from DOST Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña , Governor Leopoldo Dominic L. Petilla and DOST 8 Regional Director Edgardo M. Esperancilla last August 9, 2019 at Robinsons' Place , Marasbaras Tacloban City



The AFOAFI members receiving the award as the bayani ka!winner for Sustained Community Volunteers' Group from DSWD Regional Director Marie Angela Gopalan, OIC-DC Natividad Sequito, DRPM Gerardo Peneda and RCIS Betsy Estorninos

PAGSURUMPAY

DSWD-DILG Collaboration:

Paving the way towards participatory governance

Ensuring people-centered, clean and efficient governance is one of the pillars to attaining the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2020. The PDP sees that the cornerstone of a high-trust society is the trust in government and can be achieved through ‘engaging and empowering citizens and providing enabling mechanisms to improve access to public goods and services. The DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS’ overarching objectives to empower citizen and improve its local governance is anchored on the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2020 through its use of the Community-Driven Development (CDD).

Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (Kalahi-CIDSS), is one of the poverty alleviation programs being implemented by Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). It uses the CDD approach, a globally recognized strategy for achieving service delivery, poverty reduction, and good governance outcomes.

Since its inception in 2003, Kalahi-CIDSS has significantly improved people’s lives through better access to basic services; assisted local government structures particularly the local development councils at the municipal and barangay levels to be more functional and responsive to the needs of the communities; accelerated people’s involvement in barangay governance; and promotes community engagement through sustained volunteerism in development efforts in hundreds of municipalities and thousands of barangays in the Philippines Experience shows that CDD helps accelerate effective participation in local development planning;

builds the capacity of both state the local governments and civil society stakeholders to provide assistance and respond to call for support from poor communities as they implement development initiatives; improves local governments' responsiveness in the delivery of much-needed social services; and promotes fiscal efficiency in addressing community needs as it relates to local government budgets. CDD, therefore, strengthens the links between community needs and government's development priorities at the grassroots level.

DSWD as the lead responsible agency supported by other NGAs to ensure complementation and avoid competition and disparate investment planning and program implementation. Technical assistance under the KC-NCDDP will explore mechanisms by which the Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC), particularly the Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA), a tool of the program whereby communities undertake community-level research; identify key factors causing poverty in the community and determines intervention to address the problems and incorporate it to the Local Government Units. It is imperative to have a complementation of DSWD and DILG, both agencies explored capacity building activities in mainstreaming CDD into the processes and structures of the LGUs. The DSWD made it work with the DILG since the latter is the executive department which has general supervision over local government units (LGUs).

The primary responsibility for the provision of basic services and poverty reduction programs were decentralized to the local government units (LGUs) under the 1991 Local Government Code (LGC). The LGC aimed to promote citizen participation in LGUs' planning, budgeting and service delivery. For this purpose, the LGC created institutions such as local development councils and barangay assemblies with the aim to, among others, strengthen the relationship between citizens and the state, and improve the Government's accountability in service delivery. However, LGUs had historically struggled to fulfill their mandates as stipulated in the LGC due to a combination of factors such as: (i) entrenched patronage politics; (ii) limited technical capacity; (iii) the failure of mechanisms in the LGC to fully engage citizens in local development processes; and (iv) an inter-governmental fiscal framework that promotes vertical and horizontal inequities and has no link to either performance or poverty.

PAGSURUMPAY

Further, barangay development planning is the most relevant and practical means of empowering communities, barangay governments have yet to fulfil their devolved governmental functions in a more effective, efficient, and sustainable manner. One area for complementation of both agencies to attain the vision of more inclusive development to make an evidence-based pro-poor Barangay Development Plan. Here are the following options:

Option 1: The Barangay Development Council (BDC) conducts Participatory Situation Analysis to identify and prioritize community needs, problems, strategies and necessary interventions with the active participation for the community residents. BDC, together with community members, embark on action planning activities on project development and /or proposal writing to jointly or collectively develop the PPAs of barangay's BDP/Annual Investment Plan (AIP).

Option 2: Using the of the PSA, BDC with the community members hold community planning activities to diagnose and prioritize critical issues and pressing problems that have the greatest impact in the future development of the communities in the barangay.

Public presentation of the priority projects/activities with their corresponding budgets to a wider audience through barangay assemblies or community dialogues for feedback or concurrence by community members.

Option 3: BDC conducts community validation events or activities to present the priority issues or projects to be included in the BDP to a broad range of community members for feedback and approval. These could include LGU to LGU consultations, conduct of sectoral dialogues in the community, holding of barangay assemblies with community members and field and ocular visits to affected communities.

Option 4: Prior or during the budget authorization and /or budget review , the BDC and the community volunteers conduct the consultative sessions with other barangay governments or higher local government units to establish partnerships in the implementation of AIP, which may be endorsed to Sangguniang Barangay, Secure potential support for other community priority solutions that cannot be funded by internal Revenue Allotment, Ensure the alignment of barangay priority projects with the goals and targets set by the next higher LGUs.

Option 5: Apply /adopt CDD tools on RA 9184 (Philippine Procurement Act) and Financial Management Systems into the BDP/AIP

Option 6: In the budget accountability phase, BDC members, barangay officials and community volunteers conduct community monitoring and/or install Grievance Redress Systems to determine the status of the project /activity implementation in relation to barangay's budget performance. In 2018, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in the national level, launched the capability building initiative called “Makilahok” also known as the Strengthening Capacity Enhancement Initiative in collaboration with DILG (Department of Interior and Local Government) and ADB (Asian Development Bank).

The said project was implemented across 58 LGUs in Eastern Visayas alone. It has an aim to systematize guidelines on barangay development planning and management, also targets to strengthen local capacities on participatory governance to promote meaningful participation of citizens in local government affairs and by way of institutionalizing the Community-Driven Development approach at the local level with the following CDD components and supporting Thematic Modules such as:

- Participatory Situational Analysis**
- Community Procurement**
- Community Finance; and**
- Community Monitoring**

In the Makilahok, the participants are the barangay local officials and members of the civil society organizations, they have to present their Barangay Development Planning process and activities, then harmonized these to Kalahi-CIDSS'. The integration should be put into their Barangay Action Plan from Pre-Formulation/Social Preparation Stage, formulation and community planning and project proposal development stage to budgeting /community-managed implementation & community monitoring stage.

PAGSURUMPAY



BLGUs and CSOs in Capoocan, Leyte, work hand-in-hand during the training workshop on Makilahok

The Makilahok was not an initiative of the Field Office 8 but it was the first step towards the operational link of the program with the barangay local government units.

Since 2019, the track for institutionalizing CDD to become a law has been intensified. As to date, there are 32 representatives from the Congress who supported the CDD Bill.

The said bill envisions communities at the center of all development plans, budgets and strategies by mandating all national government agencies and departments, including the attached agencies, offices and bureaus, local government units, and other government instrumentalities.

This is also in support to the mandate of DSWD to develop, implement, and coordinate social protection and poverty-reduction solutions for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors in the communities.

The Field Office 8 conducted initiatives to support this bill through sustaining the partnership with DILG and other NGAs, NGOs and CSOs. Thus, the DSWD Kalahi- CIDSS office conducted series of forum and consultation meeting most especially with the DILG.

PAGSURUMPAY

Implementation

Pre-implementation Phase

Through Makilahok, it was the start of the operational link of the program to the barangay LGU Through Makilahok, it was the start of the operational link of the program to the barangay LGUs in terms of enhancing their Barangay Development Plan (BDP) with the integration of Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA).s in terms of enhancing their Barangay Development Plan (BDP) with the integration of Participatory Situation Analysis (PSA).

The Makilahok was being monitored particularly by the Social Development Unit (SDU) and Capability Building Unit (CBU) of the Kalahi-CIDSS office.

In second quarter of year 2018, Before the Makilahok roll-out training, the service providers hired were capacitated and trained to give technical assistance, training and coaching sessions to the barangay LGUs and civil society organizations (CSOs)

After the training of trainers, in last quarter of 2018, the DSWD conducted a three-day proper training and three-day coaching; on-site coaching sessions were conducted within the barangay through the aid of hired service providers and members of the MIAC.

The participants for this roll-out training as a capability building initiative are the Municipal and Barangay Local Government, the Civil Society Organization representatives in the Barangay Development Council and the MLGOO of DILG.

The benefiting municipalities are the following;

Among these recipient barangay, there are 1452 Brgys that were trained with barangay action plan integrated with Kalahi-CIDSS process to be more participatory.

Provinces						
	Leyte	Southern Leyte	Biliran	Samar	Eastern Samar	Northern Samar
M	Alangalang	Bontoc	Almeria	Almagro	Balangkayan	Allen
U	Barugo	Liloan	Biliran	Hinabangan	General MacArthur	Biri
N	Burauen	Limasawa	Cabucgayan	Pagsanghan	Llorente	Catarman
I	Capoocan	Padre Burgos	Kawayan	Paranas	MacArthur	Catubig
C	Hindang	Pintuyan	Naval	San Sebastian	Oras	Gamay
	Javier			Talarora	Quinapondan	Laoang
I	Julita			Zumaraga	Salcedo	Lapinig
P	La Paz				Sulat	Lope De Vega
	Leyte					Mapanas
A	Mahaplag					Mondragon
	Matag-ob					Pambujan
L	Mayorga					San Antonio
I	Pastrana					San Isidro
	San Isidro					San Roque
T	San Miguel					San Vicente
I	Tabango					
	Tabontabon					
E	Tomas					
S	Oppus					

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RROS' evolution did not happen overnight. Rather it was gradual, with improvements being implemented in stages. However, it is certain that all of the RROS' improvements started with a simple box, and that all of these improvements were made without spending a single peso.



Aside from the Red Vest, another object that people readily identify with DSWD is its Family Food Packs (FFPs). During emergency situations such as disasters, the FFPs become a common sight to affected families, who often depend on these boxes for their survival, as these boxes contain enough food to feed a family of five for two to three days. As the chair of the Food and Non-Food Item (FNFI) Cluster of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), DSWD is responsible for the production, storage and the distribution of these FFPs.

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And true to its commitment, DSWD has indeed produced and distributed these relief items where they are needed – from the Yolanda- ravaged communities in 2012, to the highlands of San Jose de Buan in 2019 and even to the locked-down municipality of Burauen during the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, the humble, yet essential FFP has made an appearance. And where do these FFPs come from? How are they produced?



Inside DSWD's brand new warehouse in Pawing, Palo

Enter DSWD's Regional Resource Operations Section (RROS) under the Disaster Response Management Division (DRMD).

Based on DSWD's Administrative Order 01, Series of 2018, the RROS' responsibility is to ensure the availability, accessibility and readiness of resources, food and non-food items, and the administration of necessary support before and during disaster operations. The RROS is further subdivided into the Warehousing and the Donations Unit. (https://www.dswd.gov.ph/issuances/AOs/AO_2018-001.pdf). This Best practices Document will examine the various innovations that the RROS has implemented over the years.

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PRE IMPLEMENTATION:

Prior to these innovations, the production of FFPs was less streamlined. All raw materials (canned goods, rice, coffee, etc.) would be placed on low tables. The volunteer repackers and DSWD staff would then gather around the tables and repack these raw materials into FFP plastic bags marked with the DSWD logo.

After repacking the food items into FFPs, these plastic bags would then be placed inside sacks and then stacked on top of pallets and on top of each other. Each sack was then marked with the Production Date and the Expiration Date. The Expiration date was based on the food item with the nearest expiration date. Using this information, it became easier to plan which sacks should first be distributed.



Left, volunteers and repackers finish repacking the food items into FFP plastic bags top right, volunteers and repackers gather around a table to repack raw materials into FFPs bottom right, FFP sack marked with PD (Production Date) and EX (Expiration) below, FFP sacks in storage. The FFP sacks are stacked on pallets and then stacked on top of each other

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IMPLEMENTATION:

RROS' evolution did not happen overnight. Rather it was gradual, with improvements being implemented in stages. However, it is certain that all of the RROS' improvements started with a simple box, and that all of these improvements were made without spending a single peso.

Stage 1: Transition from Plastic Bags to Boxes (2017)

During 2017, DSWD FO VIII staff headed by RROS OIC Orville "Billy" Berino left Tacloban to provide augmentation to the ongoing relief efforts conducted by DSWD FO X. This was in response to the Marawi Siege, a five-month long conflict between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and several terrorist groups, including ISIS and the Maute group. At the conclusion of their augmentation, Mr. Berino noticed several unused DSWD boxes in the FO X warehouse. Seeing an opportunity to improve the packaging of the FFPs, he asked permission from DSWD FO X Regional Director Nestor B. Ramos to acquire the boxes. And so, the augmentation team returned from Marawi with truckloads of boxes. Since then, DSWD FO VIII has packaged the FFPs in these boxes.

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What's in the box? DSWD FFPs usually contains six kilos of rice, assorted canned goods, six sachets of coffee, and cereal drink

Stage 2: Installation of Racking System (2018)



Having improved the packaging of the FFPs from plastic bags to boxes, another opportunity presented itself for the improvement of the RROS. By mid-2018, DSWD was able to procure a racking system, which was acquired when the local branch of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) shut down its office. With the installation of this racking system, it became easier for RROS to organize all the relief items as well as save on space. Instead of stacking all the FFPs and raw materials on the ground, it became possible to stack them vertically, thus clearing floor space. And with this extra space, it became possible for RROS to store more FFPs and raw materials.

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Before the installation of the racking system, all goods were stacked on the floor. Due to this system, the storage area was often crowded, with limited space available for DSWD staff to walk in for the inspection of goods. In contrast, when the racking system was installed, organization of goods became easier. More space also became available, since the goods were stored vertically.



Stage 3: Assembly Line Method and Rollers (2018-2019)

Although the packaging and the storage of the FFPs had already been improved, FFP production remained largely unchanged. The raw materials were placed on tables, and the volunteers and repackers would have to repack each item into the FFP boxes.

Taking inspiration from the National Resource Operations Center (NROC) in the National Capital Region and the Visayas Disaster Resource Center (VDRC) in Cebu, RROS implemented an assembly line method to make FFP production more efficient.

Using this method, the repackers would stand alongside the table, and the FFPs would be pushed from one end of the table to the other, making small stops along the way. The repackers then put in relief items as the FFPs stop in front of them. Each repacker put in a specific food item inside the box. One was assigned to put in rice, the other was assigned to put in canned goods, and another would put in coffee. Eventually, once the FFPs reach the

other end of the table, it would be sealed by another staff whose main function was to tape up the boxes. This method sped up the process of FFP production, enabling DSWD to produce more FFPs.

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The assembly line method. Each repacker stood alongside the table and put in food items as the FFP box was moved from one end of the table to another. The repacker on the right, (in gray) would put rice in, the second (in black) would put in corned beef. They would then push the box along to the next repacker (in blue) who would put in beef loaf, and then push it along for the next repacker (in white) to put in coffee. The boxes would be moved to the other end of the table, where it would be sealed with tape (DSWD staff in red and green), stacked in pallets, and then carried by a forklift to the storage area.

However, this method had one challenge. The repackers would have to extend more effort in pushing the boxes along the table. This was a challenge, especially for repackers who would have to push the boxes along for hours. It is said that need is the mother of invention, and true enough to this saying, RROS had to invent something to overcome this challenge.

Enter Robertlee Davocol.

Robertlee, or more affectionately known as Betlee by his peers, works as a driver and a jack- of-all-trades under RROS. Using ingenuity and a few pieces of PVC pipe, ball bearings, found steel, and nuts and bolts, he was able to craft a fully functional Do-It-Yourself (DIY) roller system.

This effectively reduced strain on the part of the repackers, while simultaneously making the process smoother.

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RROS' roller system, crafted using PVC pipes, ball bearings, found steel, nuts and bolts, and Filipino creativity. With this roller system, repackers are able to produce more FFPs without expending extra effort in pushing the boxes from one station to the next.

RESULTS/IMPACT



These innovations implemented by RROS have resulted in the more efficient production, storage and delivery of the FFPs, with each innovation from various partners contributing to the over-all performance of DSWD.

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These partners include DSWD FO X, for initially supplying the FFP boxes to FO VIII, DSWD's NDRMC and VDRC for providing technical assistance and IOM, for donating the racking system. Of course, these innovations would not have been completed without the ingenuity of DSWD FO VIII's staff.

1. More environmentally-friendly – due to the switch from plastic bags to boxes, DSWD was able to reduce the usage of plastic. The boxes themselves are stackable, thus also reducing the need for sacks, which were previously used to contain the plastic FFPs.
2. Easier identification of DSWD brand – beneficiaries are easily able to differentiate between relief items from the Local Government Units and DSWD through the packaging, since DSWD uses boxes, while the LGUs usually use bags.
3. Boxes are more secure – once sealed, the beneficiaries can be assured that the relief items packed at the RROS is exactly what they will receive. Boxes also prevent accidental spillage of relief items, especially due to rough handling during relief operations.
4. Easier organization and storage – the FFP box is stackable, enabling easier storage, compared to plastic bags. This also makes logistics easier as it is easier to count – one pallet equals 100 FFPs. This benefit is further increased by the usage of the racking system.
5. Vertical storage frees up floor space – due to the racking system, FFPs can now be stored vertically, thus freeing up floor space. With more floor space, DSWD can now accommodate more goods.
6. Faster production of FFPs – prior to the assembly line and the roller system, RROS can produce a maximum of 2,000 FFPs in a day. However, with the introduction of the assembly line and roller system, RROS was able to break its own record. Last July, RROS was able to produce 4,000 FFPs in a day – double what it was able to produce prior to these innovations.

IMPLICATIONS FOR REPLICATION

Currently, only the NROC and the VDRC have a fully-mechanized system for the production of FFPs. With these two as its models, RROS applied ingenuity to improve the production and storage of its relief goods without having to request for additional funding or spend a single cent, since these improvements were either requested from other agencies, or were created from scratch from available materials.

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This ingenuity has already caught the attention of several DSWD Field Offices, as well as Local Government Units.

Last July 2019, RROS staff headed by OIC Orville Berino, participated in the 2nd National Resource and Logistics Management Conference held in Cebu City. Representatives from all DSWD Field Offices across the 17 Regions in the Philippines attended the conference. One of the highlights was the presentation of each Region's best practices. With these innovations, DSWD FO VIII gained recognition when it won Over-all Winner in Good Practice Presentation on Resource and Logistics Management.



RROS was also invited last year as a resource agency by the Provincial Local Government Unit of Western Samar for a training of Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officers (MSWDOs) and Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officers (MDRRMOs) from the province. During the training, DSWD was able to impart these best practices to the LGUs, encouraging them to duplicate these practices at the local level.

The lessons learned while implanting these innovations were also put into practice during the relief operations for the families affected by the Cotabato earthquakes last October 2019. DSWD FO XII Regional Director Cezario Joel Espejo requested RROS staff from DSWD FO VIII to provide augmentation to the relief operations. RROS assisted in organizing the arrival of relief items and donations from various DSWD Field Offices and other agencies. They also assisted with the proper storage of these relief items.

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Furthermore, these innovations are continually being implemented as RROS enlarges its operations. Earlier this year, DSWD FO VIII officially started its operations at a new warehouse in Palo, Leyte. RROS immediately applied all these innovations at the new warehouse – from the racking system, the assembly line method of FFP production, to the roller system.



DSWD FO VIII's new warehouse in Palo, Leyte, where all these innovations are implemented. In recognition of the efficiency of RROS in producing FFPS, NROC itself provided a brand new roller system. Meanwhile, the old roller system is still in operation at DSWD FO VIII's old warehouse. And same as before, these innovations did not require additional spending.

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These new innovations are also incorporated in the Operations Manual for the Disaster Response Management Division. (Note: This Operations Manual is a draft and is currently undergoing review and revision. Currently, it is still pending the Regional Director's approval.)



to ensure the 24/7 operations, among others. Each member of the team is assigned in advance to a particular task during emergency so that when disaster arises the whole staff is prepared for immediate augmentation.

This operation may also be activated in the exigency of service or before/after a status alert is raised when:

- B.1. Mandated stockpile of 30,000 FFP is not readily available;
- B.2. There is a need to replenish stockpile to the minimum requirement after a disaster operation;
- B.3. Augmentation of FFPs or other relief items are not yet completed;
- B.4. And/or other case/s that is/are deemed appropriate.

IV. Facilities
The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) manages the Regional Resource Operations Center (RROC) in Brgy. Abucay Tacloban City, a facility where the FFPs and Raw Materials are processed and stored and the newly constructed warehouse located at Palo, Leyte this was planned storage for NFI.

V. Products

- a. Family Food Pack
A family food pack is a composition of:
 - 1. Four (4) Canned Sardines/Beef or Meat Loaf
 - 2. Four (4) Corned Beef
 - 3. Six (6) kilograms of bagged NFA rice and
 - 4. Six (6) sachets of coffee.Packed in one DSWD **box**.
- b. Non-Food Pack/Items
These are packed based on the demand and availability of items considering the basic necessity of affected families during disaster. Example of Non-Food packs are the hygiene kit which mostly composed of toothpaste, bath soap, shampoo, toothbrush and sanitary napkins and the sleeping kit which commonly composed of sleeping gear such as blanket/s, mosquito net, and mat and non-food item such as sacks, flashlights, blankets, etc.

PART IV – STANDARD OPERATION PROCEDURES
This part provides detailed procedures on how to manage relief goods procured and donated. This includes inventory, requisition, receiving and releasing, reverse logistics, inventory management, production and proper storage.

As stated in this Operations Manual the FFPs are packed inside the DSWD box. Included below are the instructions on the production of FFPs, which include the preparation of these boxes and the usage of the roller system

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- Count all remaining rice bags for return.
- 1.12.4 Packed rice
 - Collect all tear or punctured packed rice.
 - Place 8 6kls of punctured or improperly sealed packed rice subject for re-bagging into an empty sack.
- 1.13 Transfer all unused materials using properly completed transfer slip.
- 1.14 Update/submit inventory report.

A2 Manual Production

All raw materials were pre-inspected before the actual production to ensure that all raw materials are in good condition.

- 1.1 Place formed box on the roller table.
- 1.2 Place 6kls of rice in the middle of DSWD box.
 - 1.2.1 If the plastic bag of rice is damaged upon production, give the damage rice to the sweeper and replace it with the new one.
- 1.3 Re-inspect 2 tins of corned beef.
 - 1.3.1 If tins are in good condition, place two (2) tins one on the left upper corner and one the right corner of the DSWD box.
 - 1.3.2 If tins has/have damage/s in the can/s, place the damage tin/s in the designated box underneath the table and replace it/them with new ones.
- 1.4 Re-inspect four (4) corned beef.
 - 1.4.1 If tins are in good condition, place the four (4) tins in the right corner of the DSWD box.
 - 1.4.2 If tins has/have damage/s in the can/s, place the damage tin/s in the designated box underneath the table and replace it/them with new ones.
- 1.5 Re-inspect four (4) tins of canned tuna.
 - 1.5.1 If tins are in good condition, place the four (4) tins in the right corner of the DSWD box.
 - 1.5.2 If tins has/have damage/s in the can/s, place the damage tin/s in the designated box underneath the table and replace it/them with new ones.
- 1.6 Re-inspect four (5) sachets of coffee.
 - 1.6.1 If sachets are in good condition, place the five (5) sachets of coffee on the in the right corner of the DSWD box.
 - 1.6.2 If bundled coffees has/have defects/damaged, place the whole bundle in the designated box underneath the table and replace it with new one.
- 1.7 Re-inspect four (5) sachets of cereals.
 - 1.7.1 If sachets are in good condition, place the five (5) sachets of cereals on the left corner of the DSWD box.
 - 1.7.2 If bundled cereal has/have defects/damaged, place the whole

While DSWD FO VIII has not yet reached full mechanization in the production of FFPs, it can be assured that the FO VIII will continue to find ways to improve, to make sure that each FFP is produced with care and with efficiency and that DSWD can be relied on to provide quality relief items to families who depend on it after disasters.

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Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo!

The **DSWD Core Values** of Respect for Human Dignity, Integrity and Service Excellence:

- *Maagap at Mapagkalingang Serbisyo;*
- *Serbisyong Walang Puwang sa Katiwalian; at*
- *Patas na Pagtrato sa Komunidad*

#BawatBuhayMahalagaSaDSWD



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