

Department of Social Welfare and Development
FIELD OFFICE I NARRATIVE PERFORMANCE REPORT
CY 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

DSWD FO1 considered CY 2015 as a crucial year for the attainment of the Region's Strategic Goals which embody the mandates and aspirations of the Department for the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors of the society. As the primary implementer of one of the Government's flagship programs and lead shepherd of poverty eradication movement in the Region, the Field Office focused its resources and energies towards ensuring that the current socio-economic status of Pantawid Pamilya has improved from survival and subsistence to self-sufficiency level of well-being. This year also happened to be the second round of assessment of households to identify who and where the poor are in the region. Convergence within the various delivery units and programs offices as well as with external stakeholders paved the way for the overall outstanding performance of the Field Office.

There were many changes and improvements in organizational processes introduced throughout the year in order to cope with the "new normal". As the Office is gearing towards ISO-Certification, necessary preparations had been undertaken to facilitate the implementation and delivery of different programs and services. Institutional capacities of the Residential Facilities and Centers, Provincial Operations Offices, and the Regional Field Office had been undergoing upgrades. Technical assistance had been intensified to strengthen the City/Municipal Action Teams. DSWD Staff continued to cater to sectoral issues and concerns and the Management never failed to provide guidance and inspiration so that the Staff meet the standards for compliance to good governance conditions and excellent social protection service delivery.

The year 2016 ushers in positive outlook for the Field Office to continuously innovate and improve on its internal processes that will hopefully radiate towards the people whose lives it hopes to change for the better. The results of a year-long collective commitment and effort are discussed in detail below. This Report is our attempt to capture a year's worth of our labor. It presents our major outputs and describes the outcomes that we have achieved so far. We also identify institutional gaps and signify actions that we will undertake to address these areas of improvement.

II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS ALONG MAJOR FINAL OUTPUTS (MFOs)/OPERATIONAL INDICATORS (PIs) AND REGULAR/LOCALLY FUNDED PROGRAMS/PROJECTS

MFO 1 – SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY SERVICES

Social Protection and Development Report

The CY 2015 Regional Social Protection and Development Report (SPDR) is the consolidation of all the data and SPDR provided by a total of 33 LGUs since CY 2012. Updates to this 2015 report came from Gregorio Del Pilar in Ilocos Sur and Aguilar, Manaoag, Mangaldan, San Quintin, and Villasis in Pangasinan. Due to the limited number of LGU submissions, the data gathered for this report hardly represent the status of social protection in Region 1.

Given the roll-out of Social Protection Handbook as well as intervention workshops conducted to assist LGUs prepare their local SPDRs, a number of LGUs have started to embark on their Social Protection Vulnerability Assessment in CY 2015. This entails the conduct of Family Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (FRVA) survey in at least 10 percent of families in all barangays. The Municipality of Alcala in Pangasinan submitted preliminary result of the FRVA Survey, however this was not included in the Regional SPDR due to incomplete data and analysis. The Planning Unit will continue to provide technical assistance for LGUs to complete the survey to serve as input in the preparation of their SPDR.

Moreover, advocacy measures will have to be intensified among stakeholders in the LGUs for them to consolidate their own SPDR. Aggregation of city and municipality reports at the provincial level is crucial towards the creation of a complete and comprehensive SPDR that depicts a better picture of social protection at the regional level.

Policy Advocacy Activities

As the Chairperson on the Regional Social Development Committee (RSDC) as well as the RSDC Subcommittee on Social Protection, DSWD FO1 performed lead role in convening the regional line agencies and providing them with technical and secretariat assistance as DSWD's main contribution to the Regional Development Council. FO1 channels its policy advocacies on social protection with development stakeholder in Region 1 through the RSDC.

A total of four (4) RSDC meetings were conducted in collaboration with NEDA, DOH, DEPED, DOLE, and HUDCC. Such meetings were a venue for inter-agency discussion of social development issues in the region. Salient discussions during the meetings include the monitoring of the major programs and projects of the Subsectors on Health, Nutrition and Population, Education and Manpower

Development, and Housing. Policy issues in the area of Migration and Development issues will have to be paid more attention to in 2016.

There were also four (4) interagency meetings conducted for the Subcommittee on Social Protection. These provided venue for presenting DSWD's sectoral efforts in coordination with other agencies. DSWD sponsored one (1) Policy Resolution during the year: RSDC No.4 *Requesting the RDC ExCom to Support the Creation of the Regional Child Protection Working Group under the Regional Committee for the Welfare of Children*. Through the RSDC, DSWD FO1 was able to gather support for a joint undertaking with the Department of the Interior and Local Government Regional Office 1 to constitute an interagency team to monitor the implementation of the Social Protection mainstreaming action plans of pilot LGUs in CY 2016.

The Regional Inter-agency Committees chaired by DSWD FO1 regularly reported to the RSDC Sub-committee on Social Protection to promote and/or update on existing programs and projects of DSWD for the various vulnerable sectors of the society. These inter-agency committees include:

- Regional Committee for the Protection of Children
- Regional Inter-agency Committee Against Trafficking and Violence Against Women
- Regional Council on Disability Affairs (RCDA)
- Regional Inter-agency Committee for Philippine Plan of Action for Senior Citizens (RIAC-PPASC)
- Regional Juvenile Justice and Welfare Committee (RJJWC)
- Regional Advisory Committee on Pantawid Pamilya Program
- Regional Inter-agency Committee on Filipino Family

To monitor the implementation status of DSWD Programs which were supported by the RDC, FO1 presented program updates to the RSDC Proper Meetings. The status of Listahanan implementation in Region 1 as well as the Roll-out of Social Protection Handbook in selected LGUs was presented in September 2015. Implementation status updates of KALAHI-CIDSS-NCDDP will also be regularly reported to the RSDC as the Sectoral Committee agreed to be the regional counterpart of the Program's National Steering Committee.

Aside from these regional Inter-agency mechanisms, delivery units also perform policy advocacy activities as they implement programs and projects at the local level.

Monitoring of National Legislations

National Laws/SWD Legislations relating to the welfare of the different sectors is very important to protect their well-being. For CY 2015, from the fifteen (15) National Laws monitored by the Field Office, there are 7 SWD Legislations complied by 1 City and 22 Municipalities in the Region.

The following are the National Laws monitored as complied with by the LGUs:

1. RA 10165 (2012) - Foster Care Act
2. RA 7877 - Anti -Sexual Harrassment Act of 1995
3. RA 9442 - An Act Amending the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons
4. RA 9262 - Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children
5. RA 9442 - An Act Amending the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons
6. RA 9994 - Expanded Senior Citizens Act
7. RA 8504 - Aids Prevention and Control Act

Researches Approved and Undertaken

Several proposals for academic and professional studies were submitted to the DSWD Field Office in 2015. The Planning Unit provided technical review of these research proposals to ensure alignment with the knowledge management needs of the department and compliance with applicable guidelines on data sharing and usage. These researches include researches conducted in the University of Northern Philippines entitled “Values Development of 4Ps Beneficiaries in the Intermediate Grades in the First District of Ilocos Sur”, and “The Political, Economic, and Socio-cultural development of the Province of Ilocos Sur: Inputs and Contributions of the University of Northern Philippines”. Researcher from Baguio Benguet Christian College was also assisted in the conduct of study entitled “Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency of children in Conflict with the Law in RRCY, Bauang, La Union”.

In the Third Quarter of 2015, The Planning Unit also attended the Regional Research Colloquium initiated by the RDC-1 and the Commission on Higher Education.

SWD/Policy/Research Fora Conducted

The Planning Unit spearheaded the conduct of SWD Fora in 2015. There were three (3) Social Welfare and Development Fora conducted to cover the following topics:

- 1) Memorandum Circular No. 16: Standards for the Functionality of Local Social Welfare and Development Offices. Two fora were conducted: one for Pangasinan and one for La Union and Pangasinan. There were a total of 59 participants from 48 LGUs Pangasinan attended the SWD Forum while 27 participants from 27 LGUs in Ilocos Sur and La Union attended the SWD Forum for the area.
- 2) Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) for Indigenous Peoples (IP) for LGUs that have IP populations in their localities. A total of 29 LSWDOs attended the forum. The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer of La Union

also attended the Forum. The forum was conducted in collaboration with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples and the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program Regional Project Management Office.

These fora served as venue for policy advocacy for DSWD FO1. The LSWDOs, on the other hand, took these as opportunity for knowledge sharing of good local practices. They also took the chance to voice out their concerns and level off with the Department on salient programs and projects.

The Planning Unit applied Art of Hosting, specifically World Café and Open Space Technology during the workshop sessions of the fora to provide a different experience for information sharing and processing of salient lessons learned from the SWD Forum.

Implementation of Completed Social Technologies

In CY 2015, a total of six (6) LGUs have adopted various DSWD Social Technologies. The Field Office forged Memoranda of Agreement with Badoc and Nueva Era in Ilocos Norte, Candon City, and Suyo in Ilocos Sur, San Gabriel in La Union, and San Nicolas in Pangasinan to replicate and adopt Gender Responsive Case Management. Badoc and Nueva Era also adopted Aruga at Kalinga sa mga Bata sa Barangay Social Technology, while Suyo, Ilocos Sur also adopted the Comprehensive Intervention Against Gender Violence.

In August 2015, Social Technology Unit developed the concept paper of the Child Rights Advocates for Leadership, Development and Empowerment (CRADLE) that seeks to strengthen linkages and partnerships between communities and the formal health and child protection systems to decrease vulnerabilities of disadvantaged children and youth to teenage pregnancy and other related problems such as but not limited to child labor, drug abuse, and commercial sexual exploitation and sexually transmitted diseases. This was submitted for the approval of the Social Technology Bureau.

The Agsugpon Tayo Project had seen continuous implementation in the previous year. The Project TWG, LGU Officials and host parents conducted the midterm evaluation of the project to gather inputs on the implementation status and gaps. Stakeholders are the local level committed continuing support to assist the children of Pantawid Pamilya Beneficiaries.

The Social Technology Unit also conducted and facilitated a workshop on Empowerment and Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities (ERPAT) in Badoc, Ilocos Norte in the last quarter of 2015. Deepening Orientations on several social technologies were also conducted in Region 1 in collaboration with the Social Technology Bureau, to wit:

1. Sheltered Workshop for Older Person and Persons with Disabilities;

2. Strengthening and Empowerment of OFW Families Towards Family Preservation;
3. Information Technology Literacy Program for Out of School Youth and Youth with Disability (SCALA); and,
4. Aruga at Kalinga sa mga Bata sa Barangay (Foster Care in the Community).

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Listahanan and the System for Monitoring the Access of Poor Households to at least Two SWD Interventions

The last quarter of 2015 was the most challenging period for the Listahanan Project. The Validation and Finalization Phase in Region 1 started on 12 October and Field Validation was completed on 31 December 2015. However, verification and encoding for the validation activities carried on until 2016. While struggling to complete the verifying activity of the regular assessment, encoding of Family Assessment Forms (FAF) in the Validation activity was simultaneously done. There remained 113, 628 FAFs for verification due to data inconsistencies that need to be validated back at the field. To date, of the 493 hired encoders, only 83 were left to complete the activity. Sanitation of data inconsistencies found in the system is also being done. The project hired 13 Job Order workers to help in the data sanitation to ensure that all households encoded will run thru Proxy Means Test (PMT). The following are the data inconsistencies found in the system:

1. Duplicate HH ID/Numbers – 9,526
2. Duplicate HH members/roster – 25,779
3. No Roster – 2,214
4. No Household Head - 75

PROVINCE/ MUNICIPALITY/ CITY	TARGET HHS	NUMBER OF HHS ASSESSED	NUMBER OF REFUSAL	ASSESSED + REFUSAL	TOTAL FAFS ENCODED / SYNCHRONIZED
ILOCOS NORTE	111,464	100,918	62	100,980	96,819
ILOCOS SUR	138,769	126,540	163	126,703	125,031
LA UNION	143,262	142,804	296	143,100	142,561
PANGASINAN	535,138	493,911	679	494,582	495,934

Grand Total	928,633	864,173	1,200	865,365	860,345
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A total of 860,345 HHs or 99.56% were already encoded from the total assessed HHs of 864,173 as of 31 December 2015. For the Validation and Finalization activity, a total of 110,806 complaints were received from the indicative target of 190,118 (20% of the total assessed during the regular assessment). Out of the 10 data-users target for the year for data utilization monitoring, only 20% or 2 LGUs submitted their reports on how the data requested were utilized.

In 2015, massive information dissemination for the Listahanan 2nd Round was conducted and strengthened particularly during the conduct of the Validation and Finalization Phase to ensure that the right information is being circulated and conveyed properly.

Different Activities of the SWD Sectors

The Field Office continued to provide technical assistance to the different vulnerable sectors through the inter-agency committees and strengthening of people's organizations. These committees and organizations such as the Regional Council for the Welfare of Children (RCWC), Regional Pag-asa Youth Association of the Philippines (RPYAP), Region I Advocates for Gender Equality (RAGE-I), the Region I Chapter of the Kalipunan ng Liping Pilipina, Nasyonal (KALIPI), Regional Council for Disability Affairs (RCDA), Regional Inter-Agency Committee for Older Persons/Senior Citizens (RIAC-OP/SC), Regional Inter-Agency Committee for the Filipino Family (RIACFF), and the Regional Coordination and Monitoring Board (RCMB) were provided technical assistance through conduct of meetings.

The Field Offices' Accomplishments has shown rigorous efforts together with the Regional Inter-Agency in achieving its goals. Some of the major programs/projects of the Department such as Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, Sustainable Livelihood Program, Supplementary Feeding Program, Social Pension Program, and Disaster Relief are a great help to improve and sustain the well-being of the different sectors.

For the year Calendar Year 2015, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program was able to provide benefits to 204,515 households/families or 100.47 % of its target for the Filipino Family; 108.5% was achieved through the implementation of the Sustainable Livelihood Program for 22,908 families from the 21,109 target. For the 5th cycle of the Supplementary Feeding Program, there are 18, 877 day care/school children or 82.30% were served from the 2,33 day care centers or 77.01% from the 99,485 target. Also, the Department was able to serve 141,964 families or 709,820 individual victims of calamities. For the Social Pension Program, there are 66,658

served for the Calendar Year 2015; there are also 125 PWDs served at the AVRC I and 540 children with disabilities served in 5 LGU STAC.

Under Goal 5 or Expand early intervention and education on CWDs, there are 2,214 SPED teachers trained on the enhancement skills training of SPED teachers, school administrators and parents in handling special children, where 290 CWDs parents attended and 292 CWDs attended; and Goal 3 Promote gender equality and empower women, series of activities/trainings and livelihood assistance were provided to them by the Sustainable Livelihood Program, AICs, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, and other programs from their locality to promote women empowerment.

A low performance on the different program is noted due to the delayed submission of liquidation reports from the LGUs. Also, delayed procurement process on the implementation of the Supplementary Feeding Program and the Bottom-Up Budgeting and some LGUs with inactive focal persons.

With these accomplishments, the Department together with the partner agencies continues to provided technical assistance, social welfare assistance, monitoring, and advocate the rights of the different sectors in the community to lead them in attaining their goals and alleviating them from extreme poverty. The policies formulated, programs, activities and projects for the vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors are strengthened to provide them with a more responsive environment for more opportunities and improve their well-being.

MFO 2 – SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES

Residential-based Services

Haven for Children

The Center served a total of 41 children who were aged 7-13 in 2015. 17 of whom has been discharged in the same year. Most (32) of whom were neglected; seven (7) were physically abused; five (5) were street children; and (two) 2 were abandoned. The 17 discharged children in 2015 had been reintegrated into their families and relatives. 94.56 percent fund utilization was recorded for the Center in 2015.

The Center achieved a milestone on its 9th year of operation. The Standards Bureau confirmed the Level 1 Accreditation of the Haven for Children last 6 December 2015 after a rigorous assessment process. To improve the delivery of services to the children residents, the Center underwent major facility and equipment upgrades which include expansion of several service rooms such as the medical clinic, kitchen and restrooms. Replacement of old implements and fabrication of new fixtures in these facilities were also undertaken during the year.

By the 3rd Quarter of 2015, 10 children residents of the Center have attended formal schooling and some of them have shown excellent academic performance. In the 1st Quarter and 2nd Quarter, respectively, 16 and 8 children attended to nearby public elementary schools. Twenty children have been referred for psychological testing units in Baguio City throughout 2015. Medical services provided to the children have continued through the whole year. Haven for Children referred the clients to Region 1 Medical Center for regular medical check-ups.

The Center carried out various child development activities throughout the year as part of the Rehabilitation Treatment Plan for the children. Celebration Programs have been conducted to highlight monthly themes, such as the Love Month in February, Nutrition Month in July, *Buwan ng Wika* in August, and Family Day in September. The celebrations focus on the value of character-building among children. Other fun educational activities (educational tours, regular sports activities such as basketball, martial arts activities such as Tae Kwon Do, swimming, etc) were also conducted to enhance the learning activities of children. Creative, social, and leadership skills enhancements for children were incorporated into the programs of the Center through trainings on Practical Skills, Basic Painting, First Aid, group therapy sessions. These are collaborative activities that Haven for Children conducted with the help of YMCA Pangasinan, Bureau of Fire Protection, Rural Health Unit, and technical staff of the Field Office.

Haven for Women

The Haven for Women in Region I served a total of 84 clients this year. Majority (63.10 percent) or 53 of whom were children and most of them were from Pangasinan. On the other hand, 36.90 percent or 32 were women aged 18-59 years. About 40 percent of these clients were discharged from the Center in 2015. Women clients discharged total to 33; 16 of whom were children while 17 were women. In 2015, nineteen (19) clients were rehabilitated.

Victims of incest composed the highest number in terms of case category with a total of thirteen (13) equivalent to 23.21% of the total number of women served. In most of these cases, the biological fathers, uncles and/or cousins of the victims were the perpetrators. This was identified by the Center as a cause for alarm as it was found out that the victims have been abused for years yet kept undisclosed to others who may have intervened to stop the abuse. Perpetrators engaged in low income jobs, had vices (i.e., alcoholism), and their partners/wives were away as domestic helpers or house helpers in Manila or in other distant places. Victims were usually the eldest in the family who are being left at home performing home chores and taking care of their younger siblings. There were 20 victims who have filed cases against their perpetrators.

To help the clients cope with the impacts of abuse on their wellbeing, regular programs and services were provided. Medical, legal, educational, social, home life, psychological and spiritual services have been covered throughout 2015. Services provided were based on curative, preventive, and restorative aspects which are focused on the physical injuries and emotional trauma as a corollary of the abuse/crime perpetrated. Added to these were the productivity skills as well as the needed counseling sessions. Every month, the clients were given capacity building activities to enhance their knowledge and rebuild their confidence. These training and lecture sessions include vermiculture, cosmetology, and various food processing methods that the clients may apply once they leave the center and are fully integrated into the community. Some of the clients still pursue their formal education. Three (3) women were attending college; five (5) were in high school; and two (2) were enrolled in the elementary level. Five (5) women were into Alternative Learning System (ALS) and one (1) student was a Special Education (SpEd) learner. Activities aimed at enhancing functional literacy of all clients in the Haven were undertaken.

Social workers and house parents closely monitored their clients and provided care and protection needed to the vulnerable and abused women and their dependents. Partnerships with external stakeholders had been instrumental in providing such services. Among these were the Japanese Social Work students from Caring for the Future Foundation, and Jollibee Food Chain Staff with sponsorship from the Auto Limits, Pangasinan Group.

Home for Girls

In the Home for Girls, fifty-six (56) girls were served in 2015. Twenty-three (23) or 41.07 percent of them were rehabilitated. There was a total occupancy rate of 91.35 percent which means that the center was not overcrowded with clients. However, overcapacity has been apparent over the months of January to April due to the pending discharge of carry-over cases from previous year.

The basic needs as well as psychosocial services were provided to the girls, along with capability building activities that help them enhance their life skills. Practical skills development sessions that include cosmetology and hair trimming, and food processing were conducted. Medical, psychological and dental services were also provided to the 56 girls. Group dynamics activities were undertaken on a regular basis with all the residents. The educational needs of the children were supported as they attended formal schooling.

In terms of the attainment of rehabilitation goals of the clients, non-participation of some social workers in the LGUs as well as the lack of cooperation from the clients' families remained to be the bottleneck. These result to low percentage of rehabilitated cases/reintegrations as well as high percentage of long-staying clients at the HFG. The delay of submission of the Parenting Capability Assessment Report

on from the LGUs was identified to be the main factor leading to pending cases. HFG looks at this as an opportunity to “champion partnership with LGUs and other stakeholders as part of intensified case management”.

Appropriate action of DSWD FO1 Management as to the long-standing need for vertical expansion of the Home’s dormitory is urgently sought. This is to avoid the recurring issues of overcrowding and to meet the standards for a fully-functional facility. . . in the future. Psychosocial services were provided to them, along with capability building activities that help them enhance their social functioning. The Home provided basic needs of the girls as well as opportunities to boost their confidence. The Center Staff extended to residents practical skills development sessions like cosmetology and hair trimming, candle making, and food/longganisa processing. These activities equip them with basic skills that would help them in the future. Other services conducted such as medical and dental services to 54 girl-children and psychological tests/evaluation of 8 girl-children contributed to the improvement of behavior of the residents. The Home also conducted Group dynamics activities regularly with all the residents, educational services to children attending schools, socialization as well as outdoor games along with the conduct of special events and regular counseling and case conferences. All this contributed to the rehabilitation of 24 (35%) of clients and their reintegration to their own families and relatives.

Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth

The Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) in Urayong, Bauang, La Union served one hundred and forty six (146) children and youth in conflict with the law with the necessary social services and programs. As the clients entered the Center, they were provided with Residents Program Orientation (RePO) to ensure that they abide by the rules and policies. Thirty five (35) of the children clients have been rehabilitated in 2015.

Several activities, programs and services have been undertaken with the aim of providing holistic rehabilitation for the children. As the final quarter came to an end, there were 8 A total of 23 RePOs were conducted throughout the year. The Center also conducted Character Building Program (CBP) for residents wherein fifteen (15) sessions were conducted and seventy-four (74) clients were rewarded based on the Reward System established. In the management of cases, fifty-six (56) case conferences were called for to address issues and concerns in the implementation of the residents’ rehabilitation plan. In addition, forty-four (44) home visits were conducted by the social workers to determine and ensure capability of parents/relatives in the eventual reintegration of the children. Further, medical/health services were provided to twenty-four (24) clients as well as educational assistance to thirty-three (33) high school students, eight (8) elementary pupils, 3 college students and 33 children enrolled in the alternative learning system of DepED. Thirty (30) residents also attended Shoes and Umbrella Repair skills training; eighteen (18)

completed Bread and Cake Baking; sixteen (16) learned Hair Cutting and Hairstyling; twenty-eight (28) were trained on welding; and twenty-five provided with Carpentry skills training.

Special events were also celebrated in RRCY where lectures and other socialization activities were conducted. Fire drills, crime prevention lectures, and the like were provided to residents to increase their awareness on issues affecting them. Birthdays and special holidays were also celebrated. Groups of students from Lorma Colleges and Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU) also conducted socialization activities at the Center that contributed to the achievement of improved positive behavior of residents.

One project that was being started in RRCY was the Bio-Gas Project in collaboration with the Bacnotan Senior Citizens Association, Incorporated (BASCAI). Materials for the Bio-Gas production are being procured at present. In relation to the residents' productivity/livelihood project, they are raising goats and ducks at present and will be raising pigs and cultivating fish in the future.

Psychological assessments were provided to forty-five (45) clients that resulted to referral of seventeen (17) residents for further evaluation. Fifteen (15) individual therapy and eight (8) group therapy sessions were also conducted to monitor social functioning of these children. These services resulted to the reintegration of one hundred five (105) clients to their families and relatives. Of the discharged, 31 (23.31%) were rehabilitated.

Community-Based Services

Area – I Vocational Rehabilitation Center

The total number persons with disabilities (PWDs) from Regions I, II, III, and CAR who were served in 2015 at the AVRC was 125. From this total number, 46.4 percent or 58 graduated from the trainings provided to them and/or employed after their graduation. Crucial to the attainment of the milestones that AVRC had set for this year were the collaborations with internal and external stakeholders. These partnerships enriched the overall experience of the clients as well as the AVRC staff tasked to deliver rehabilitative programs and services for persons with disabilities.

The Center provided a social adjustment services to prepare them for their chosen vocational trainings that match their capabilities. The Social Adjustment Service of the Center, co-facilitated socialization activities conducted by various non-government organizations and private individuals who had chosen to share their blessings to the AVRC I trainees. Activities such as the "Date with Friends" in partnership with Colegio de Dagupan, during which the PWDs celebrated Valentine's Day with fun activities, games and trainings formed part of these social adjustment services. Also part of these services was the training to mainstream

disability into Disaster Risk Reduction and Management raised awareness and aimed to support an enabling environment to ensure the inclusion of Disability Perspectives in Disaster Preparedness and Management. The Center staff and the clients jointly hold monthly celebrations, birthdays, and educational field trips on top of their trainings.

Included in these services were the conduct of various the socialization activities to enhance their self- confidence as a person. Various events like Disaster Preparedness Month, National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week, Nutrition Month, “Kakayahan 2014”, Lenten Recollection, Birthday Celebrations, Educational Field Trips, Summer Camp, PWD Summit, Sportsfest, and White Cane and Safety Day were conducted to provide opportunities to PWDs to learn and increase their awareness and at the same time get to know other people. “Lakas ng Karakter” program was continuously conducted at the Center to help clients behave positively.

Medical and dental services were also provided to clients in the form of consultation, health monitoring, and referrals to facilities/clinics. Regular body mass index and vital signs monitoring as well as lectures on oral hygiene, basic first aid, rabies and diarrhea were undertaken.

The AVRC-1 had been active in inter-regional efforts on disability affairs. There were fifty (57) participants who attended the joint meeting of the On the Regional Committee on Disability Affairs (RCDA) and the Regional Association of PWDs and Women With Disabilities (RAPWDs/ RAWWDs). National government agency representatives, NGOs, DPOs and LGUs participated on the said meeting in the Second Quarter of 2015. The 2016 RCDA 1 Plan of Action was presented and the sub-committees on accessibility, training and employment, advocacy and social protection were expected to be created. The RAPWD Federation President was also designated as the co-chair who will be presiding during meetings of RCDA in the absence of the Regional Director - Chair person.

The Center, through the Vocational Training Service, had sustained linkages with both government and private organizations for the continuous support in providing relevant OJT experiences to the trainees. OJT outlets for CY 2015 include, among others, the following:

- Elwin’s Needlecraft
- Refine Square, Dagupan City
- VISMA Massage and Accutherapy, Manila
- VIBES Massage Clinic, Manila
- JRMC Massage, Dagupan City
- United Blind Massage
- New Vision Massage, Parañaque
- AVIMMS Massage, Cavite
- Kohyenu Barber Shop, Dagupan City

- Z-XWITCH Salon and Barbershop, Lingayen & San Fabian

Partnership with the following agencies was sustained in 2015:

- National Council for Disability Affairs
- Department of Health, Central Office
- Resources for the Blind, Inc.
- Department of Education
- TESDA-PSAT
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Department of Labor and Employment
- Provincial Employment Services Office, Lingayen, Pangasinan
- MHU, LGU, Mangaldan, Pangasinan
- Rotary Club of Uptown Dagupan
- Collegio de Dagupan
- Lyceum Northwestern University

A 10-day Android Accessibility Training for the VIPs was conducted in the third quarter and attended by 27 participants including the 3 Vocational Training Instructors. This activity was conducted relative to the upgrading of training curricula to enable PWDs to achieve equal opportunities and relate themselves with the rapidly changing economic and social conditions, likewise in the advancement of technology especially along computer operations and Android gadgets thus enabling them to a barrier-free information society. This is part of the partnership with Adaptive Technology for Rehabilitation, Integration and Empowerment of the Visually Impaired (ATRIEV) was forged in 2013.

Five decades since its establishment, the Area I Vocational Rehabilitation Center has transformed the lives of countless PWDs from being passive recipient of social protection services to active partners in the development efforts. To continuously provide and advocate a better, smarter and faster delivery of services in the ensuing years, the relocation of AVRC 1 to Bonuan Binloc, Dagupan City should be of utmost priority by the DSWD FO1 Management.

Children and Youth in Need of Special Protection

The Field Office has served a total of 383 children and youth in need of special protection (C/YNSP) in 2015 through the implementation of Community-Based Social Services. These children were assisted by the Social Welfare Officers (SWOs) assigned in the provinces. Most of them were provided assistance in the 1st and 2nd Quarter of the year (278 and 234 respectively) broken down as follows: surrendered (145); abandoned (116); and neglected (106). Some were sexually abused (14) and physically abused/maltreated (2). They were provided with counseling, referred to other partners that could best respond to their needs, assessed for adoption, and were facilitated certification for them to be legally available for adoption.

On the other hand, 1,928 children were issued with certificates of travel clearance. Most of these children are within 14-18 years old (668), and most of them were residing in Pangasinan. The major reasons of going abroad were they have been petitioned by their parents/relatives, and to visit their parents/relatives abroad. There were also those who go on pleasure/leisure trip and others for scholarship and academic competitions. The countries most of these children go are Canada, Hongkong, Singapore and USA.

Fifty-four (54) children were also served through Child Placement services. Eleven (11) were for local adoption, nineteen (19) were for inter-country adoption, seven (7) for foster care, and seventeen (17) of these children were issued with certification that they are legally free for adoption.

Women in Especially Difficult Circumstances

Only six (6) women in especially difficult circumstances (WEDC) were served in 2015 and two of them were sexually abused while four were emotionally battered. Counseling, referral for psychological and psychiatric evaluation, and legal services were extended to these women.

Families Served

A total of 118 families were also served through child placement services. Four of them were foster families and one hundred thirteen (113) were adoptive families. Of the number of adoptive families, 92 were with approved adoption and 21 were applicants for adoption. In addition, one needy family head was also provided with counseling.

Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation

The bulk of clients served through community-based services were the individuals in crisis situation. A total of 19,607 clients were served and accessed the crisis intervention services of the Field Office. Most of these clients were served in the third quarter of the year. With the implementation of the Expanded Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (e-AICS), most clients were provided with educational and medical assistance. Other services provided were transportation, burial and food assistance. The Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) Staff and Social Welfare and Development (SWAD) Social Workers worked collaboratively to ensure that these clients accessed adequate assistance to help them rise up above the critical situation. Indigent families were assisted as they send their children to school. Those who were sick were provided cash assistance to buy medicines.

Services implemented through LGU Partnerships

Supplementary Feeding Program

The Field Office for the year has implemented the 3rd and 4th cycles of Supplementary Feeding Program(SFP). Early in the first quarter, the 3rd cycle was completed with 123 LGUs implementing the project that benefitted 89,724 day care children enrolled in. On the other hand, the 4th cycle implementation was done with ninety-eight (98) LGUs implementing SFP while twenty-six (26) are still on the process of procurement in accordance to the Procurement Law (RA9184). A total of 84,280 day care children in 2,498 DCCs were served during this cycle. Also, 26,714 school children were served through the implementation of the same project by the Department of Education (DepED) Regional Office.

Series of consultation dialogues with LSWDOs and Finance personnel, Commission on Audit Regional Director, and Local Chief Executives were done to address issues affecting the implementation of the SFP particularly on procurement. Regional Monitoring Teams continuously conduct field visits to LGUs particularly in areas where implementation issues were encountered. Regional Program Implementation Review (PIR) was also conducted to assess the program implementation as well as to further address issues and concerns that could not be addressed at the local level.

One equally significant activity conducted was the Catch-Up Planning Workshop that was participated by the LSWDOs, MNAOs, and BAC Chairpersons of the LGUs. This was done to address procurement issues in the implementation of the SFP. LGUs craft catch-up plans to ensure that the 120 feeding days are completed.

Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons

Fifty-one (51)Trafficked Persons (TP) were served this 2015. They were provided with counseling, temporary shelter at the Haven for Women, livelihood and employment opportunities, financial assistance for their families, financial support for witnesses, and transportation assistance. Augmentation funds were also provided to LGUs implementing psychosocial services to TPs. In addition, home visits were also conducted to provide after care services to these clients.

Regular meetings with the Regional Inter-Agency Committee against Trafficking – Violence Against Women and their Children (RIACT – VAWC) were conducted to discuss the National Recovery and Reintegration Database (NRRD), Plan of Action of the RIACAT-VAWC, and the activities in line with the International Day Against Trafficking on 12 December 2015. In addition, advocacy fora were also conducted to increase awareness of the public on the Republic Act 9208, Republic Act 9262 and other trafficking related laws were conducted. Roll-out Training on the Psychosocial

Recovery, Social and Economic Reintegration for Trafficked Persons and R.A. 9775 (Child Pornography) was also conducted and attended by local social welfare and development officers of Ilocos Norte and PNP WCPD Officers.

Social Pension for Indigent Senior Citizens

Province	Target	# of Paid Beneficiaries	# of Unpaid Beneficiaries	% of Accomplishment
Pangasinan	21,191	21,191	0	100%
La Union	6,541	6,541	0	100%
Ilocos Sur	7,092	7,092	0	100%
Ilocos Norte	4,939	4,939	0	100%
TOTAL	39,763	39,763	0	100%

There were 39,763 target beneficiaries for CY 2014. As of 07 October 2015, the number of paid beneficiaries is 39,763 which means that 100 percent accomplishment was registered during the year.

The distribution of stipend for the 1st quarter, 2015 started in May 2015 until August 2015 (except for unreleased stipends).

Province	Target	# of Paid Beneficiaries	# of Unpaid Beneficiaries	% of Accomplishment
Pangasinan	34,731	31,761	2,970	91.44%
La Union	10,857	10,800	57	99.48%
Ilocos Sur	12,945	12,812	133	98.97%
Ilocos Norte	8,125	7,980	145	98.22%
TOTAL	66,658	63,353	3,305	95%

There were 66,658 target beneficiaries for CY 2015. The number of paid beneficiaries is 63,353 or equivalent to 95 percent accomplishment. On the other hand, the unpaid beneficiaries are 3,305.

The distribution of stipend for the 2nd quarter, 2015 started in August 2015 and ended in September 2015.

Province	Target	# of Paid Beneficiaries	# of Unpaid Beneficiaries	% of Accomplishment
Pangasinan	34,731	32,322	2,409	93.06%
La Union	10,857	10,700	157	98.55%
Ilocos Sur	12,945	11,705	1,240	90.42%
Ilocos Norte	8,125	7,787	338	95.84%
TOTAL	66,658	62,514	4,144	94%

The number of paid beneficiaries for the 2nd quarter 2015 was 62,514 or 94 percent accomplished. There remained 4,144 senior citizens who were not able to receive their stipend during the quarter.

Province	Target	# of Paid Beneficiaries	# of Unpaid Beneficiaries	% of Accomplishment
Pangasinan	34,731	33,077	1,654	95%
La Union	10,857	10,498	359	97%
Ilocos Sur	12,945	12,729	216	98%
Ilocos Norte	8,125	8,062	63	99%
TOTAL	66,658	64,366	2,292	97%

From the 66,658 target beneficiaries for CY 2015, the number of paid beneficiaries for the 3rd and 4th quarters 2015 was 64,366 or 97 percent. On the other hand, the unpaid beneficiaries total to 2,292.

There are two sources of fund for the Social Pension Program for Indigent Senior Citizens: Direct Release (DR) and Centrally Managed Fund (CMF). From the total amount of allotment for CY 2015 which was P405,729,605.10, P383,675,751.1 came from Direct Release and P22,053,854.00 from CMF. P403,461,284.5 or 99 percent of the total fund from DR and CMF was obligated as of 23 December 2015 leaving a balance of P2,268,320.58. The remaining balance will be obligated and utilized in the first semester 2016.

Some of the facilitating factors in the implementation of the project include good working relationship between and among the RSPS Staff, supportive partners (senior citizen organizations and LGUs), home visitation and assessment of LGUs to the potential beneficiaries and the strategy on door-to-door delivery of stipend by the paymasters if time warrants. On the other hand, delays in pay-out implementation were the impact of late submission of reports and updates by the LGUs as well as the lack of IT equipment, manpower, and paymasters at the regional level.

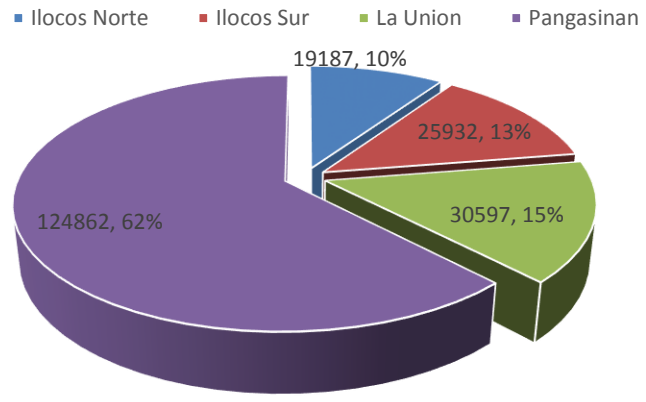
Core Social Protection Programs

Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program

As of 29 December 2015, there were 217,962 registered households in the Pantawid Pamilya Program out of the 249,883 households identified as poor based on the NHTS-PR database. The Field Office had served 200,578 households, a 0.6 percent increase from third quarter's 199,399 households. This was due to reactivation of inactive and registration of Set 8 households.

Of the four provinces in the Region, Pangasinan had the most number of active households with 124,862 households from 44 municipalities and 4 cities. The Province of La Union has 30,597 Households from 19 municipalities and 1 city,

Ilocos Norte has 19,187 households from 21 municipalities and 2 cities while Ilocos Sur has 25,932 households from 32 municipalities and 2 cities.



To ensure continuous monitoring and adherence to program policies despite the fast pace of implementation, Pantawid Pamilya operates through three (3) major systems, the Compliance Verification System, Beneficiary Update System and the Grievance Redress System. Most important of which is the Compliance Monitoring System that serve as the sole basis for the cash grant received by the beneficiaries.

Considering the seven (7) categories monitored by the Compliance Verification System, namely, Education of 3-5 years old children, Education of 6-14 years old children, Education of 15-18 years old children, Health of 0-5 years old children, Pregnant, Deworming of 6-14 years old children, and Family Development Session, the compliance of children beneficiaries on the Family Development Session had the lowest compliance turnout at 93.21%. Deworming of 6-14 years old had the highest rate at 97.76%.

In terms of geographic coverage, only Barangay Pannaratan in Paoay, Ilocos Norte was not targeted as Pantawid area. Based on the NHTS-PR PMT result, there were no households identified as poor in the area.

Modified Conditional Cash Transfer

Social preparation activities were conducted in the 2nd quarter of the year for the target beneficiaries of the Modified Conditional Cash Transfer (MCCT) which is designed for IP households that are not beneficiaries of the regular PantawidPamilya program and are residing in the identified geographically isolated and depressed areas (GIDA). Two thousand eight hundred twenty (2,820) households were registered and orientation about the program components. Community facilitators have been conducting baseline data gathering and community profiling.

Beneficiaries in Barangay Fianza, San Nicolas, Pangasinan participated in the validation of organizational structure and indigenous practices of Iwak Tribe conducted by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The beneficiaries demonstrated the practices of the Iwak tribe while the researchers took note of the activities conducted during the validation period on 1-4 December 2014.

Expanded Students Grant-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation

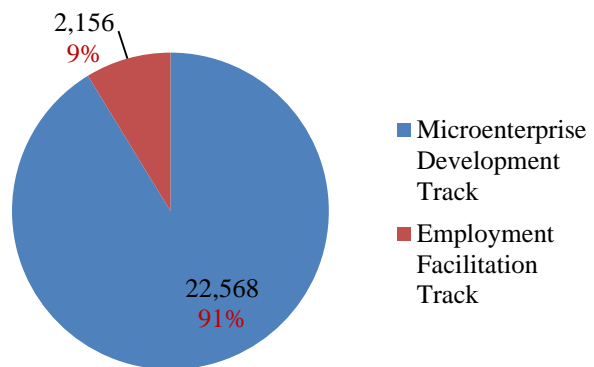
Another accomplishment is the implementation of the Expanded Students Grant-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA) in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) where two thousand five hundred three (2,503) ESGP-PA grantees were served in 2014. These students were enrolled in the Universities and Colleges identified by the CHED such as the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU), Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), University of Northern Philippines (UNP), Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC), Northern Luzon Polytechnic State College (NLPSC) and Pangasinan State University (PSU). These students will receive a total amount of Php60,000.00 per academic year. Among the grantees, seven (7) graduated last March 2015 and two of them passed the licensure examination for Teachers on 14 August 2015. These two students were hired as encoders of the Regional Program Management Office (RPMO).

In addition, a Youth Summit of the Nasgat Cluster (student grantees of Adams, Pagudpud, Dumalneg, Bangui, Burgos, and Pasuquin in Ilocos Norte) was held on 24 October 2015 to ensure that the students are encouraged to do their best and finish their studies. This was hosted by the Municipality of Bangui, Ilocos Norte and will be conducted every semester with different LGU Hosts.

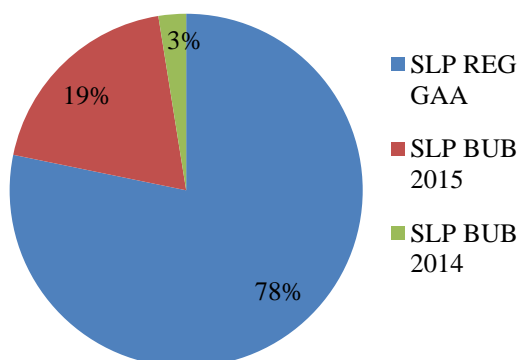
Sustainable Livelihood Program

As of the 4th Quarter, 2015, the region has served a total of **24,724 HHs or 117% of the 21,109 target** consisting of 22,568 HHs through Micro-Enterprise Development Track (119 percent of 18,988 target HHs), and 2,156 HHs for Employment Facilitation Track (102 percent of 2,121 target HHs). From this number, 22,928 HHs belong to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino

FAMILIES SERVED



FINANCIAL ALLOTMENT



Program, while 1,816 HHs are Non-Pantawid.

It can be noted that all of the Provinces were able to achieve their target. Pangasinan has the highest percentage of accomplishment

followed by Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte and La Union respectively.

A total of Php 238,102,814.00 budget allocation was made available in the region for CY 2015 implementation from the General Appropriations for SLP, BUB 2014 and BUB 2015 wherein Php 238,096,449.64 or 99.99 percent has been obligated and Php 184,728,920.64 or 77.58 percent was disbursed. BUB 2014 and 2015 funds were already 100 percent obligated following the directive of the Central Office to fast track the disbursement of these funds to efficiently implement the program.

On fund utilization, BUB 2015 has a low utilization of 52.62 percent which was attributed to the delayed compliance of LGUs in submitting their respective proposals and other pertinent documents to facilitate project implementation. Conversely, our field Project Development Officers exerted efforts in providing technical assistance to the LGUs to ensure that BUB projects are submitted and implemented.

FUND SOURCE	ALLOCATION	OBLIGATED	UTILIZED	% OF OBLIGATION	% OF UTILIZATION
SLP REG GAA 2015	186,247,086.00	186,240,721.64	154,599,097.64	99.997%	83.008%
BUB 2015	45,846,000.00	45,846,000.00	24,126,000.00	100.000%	52.624%
BUB 2014	6,009,728.00	6,009,728.00	6,003,823.00	100.000%	99.902%
TOTAL	238,102,814.00	238,096,449.64	184,728,920.64	99.997%	77.584%

In terms of the physical accomplishment under the ME Track, a total of 22,568 HHs were served or 119 percent of the total target for Track 1 comprising of 20,938 Pantawid and 1,630 Non-Pantawid HHs. During the 4th quarter, there was a total of 11,410 HHs served or 300 percent of the 3,808 target HHs for the quarter. Pangasinan has the highest outreach of 2,417 beneficiaries or 32 percent, while La Union has the least outreach of 296 beneficiaries or 6 percent.

Pangasinan had the most number of served beneficiaries with 1,499 HHs while Ilocos Sur has the lowest served beneficiaries of 239 HHs. It can be noted that employment facilitation remains to be a challenge in the region because of the limited partners for employment especially in the province of Ilocos Sur and Ilocos Norte, hence, the low accomplishment. Meanwhile, Pangasinan reported the highest accomplishment which was facilitated by the conduct of skills training leading to employment to Sy-on, Golden Bay, Panasonic and different Security Agencies.

Provision of Skills Training was the top modality for implementation followed by the Provision of Capital Assistance. Skills training included Hog, Goat and Chicken raising, Micro-enterprise development leading to creation of mini-grocery, cosmetology, shielded metal arc welding, pre-licensing course for security guards, hilot wellness massage and many others.

As of the last quarter, the SLP REG 2015 GAA was almost 100 percent obligated. The obligation of fund was facilitated by using different approaches of fund

disbursement especially the use of Cash Assistance Payroll thru cash advances by the Special Disbursing Officers and Direct Payment to beneficiaries. From the above table, it can be noted that La Union exceeded from its total allocation by almost 33 percent while the other 3 provinces were not able to utilize all of its fund allocation.

As of December 2015, there were 27 completed projects and 21 on-going projects. There were 3,680 Pantawid and Non-Pantawid SLP partner-beneficiaries served by the completed projects while 147 participants expected that on-going projects will be completed on or before the first quarter of 2016. Activities for the 21 on-going projects included the conduct of SEA-K Mandatory Training, formation of SLPAs and procurement process for the LGU-Led Skills Training projects.

CY 2014 was a productive year for SLP as we have different Livelihood Models implemented. The Anda KLAP SEA-K Multi-purpose Cooperative and LGU Anda, Pangasinan was among the National Finalist of the Bangon Kabuhayan held on 12-13 November 2015 in Manila. Anda KLAP as the Regional Entry on the Microenterprise and LGU Anda as Best LGU Partner of the Region on SLP Implementation.

Documentation of the Anda Pantawid Bakeshop was conducted to capture the good practices on the implementation of SLP BUB projects. This microenterprise was presently managed by 30 officers and members of the Pantawid Pamilya Bakeshop KLAP SKA. The Association started its business operation on 17 Sept. 2015 and now producing more than 10 kinds of bread for 11 barangays of Anda. Aside from the members, the Association also hired three bakers who earned Php4,000.00 per month for the Head Baker and Php3,000.00 per month for the two Assistant Bakers. DSWD provided Seed Capital Assistance amounting to Php300,000.00 while the LGU provided lot for the construction of the Bakery. As to date, the Association earned gross sales of Php 164,019.00 including sales during PaskuJuan Trade Fair in Bauang and in Araneta Coliseum, Metro Manila last 29 Nov. 2015.

The “SLP Product of the Week” was also launched at Field Office 1. SLP Products were showcased every after Monday Program in order to promote and market the locally-made products of the SLP partner-beneficiaries. Members of five SKAs/SLPAs in La Union and Pangasinan personally sold their SLP products such as Beads Accessories, Bangus Tinapa, Peanut Butter, Puto Cochinta, Tupig, Vinegar, Pillow Case and Rugs. Three F/PDOs and other RRPMO-based Staff assisted some Associations from far Municipalities to showcase/ sell SLP product for the week such as Organic and Salted Eggs, Bamboo Novelty items, Danggit and Chicacorn.

Likewise, members of the Regional Inter-Agency Committee (RIAC) partner NGAs conducted Quarterly Meeting on 3-4 December 2015. Part of the activity included the site monitoring and provision of technical assistance to the Convergence Project on Coffee Plantation in Piddig, Ilocos Norte. The members visited the nurseries of coffee seedlings production and vermi-composting in Piddig. The Committee also inspected the 500-hectare coffee plantation in Sitio Lammin (highest mountain in

Ilocos Norte). The area was planted with Arabica while other areas were planted with other varieties of coffee like Robusta, Liberica and Excelsa. The project started in 2014 with around 500 participating families. The coffee plantation in Sitio Lammin is expected to produce 2,000 tons of coffee valued at Php 157 million per year. The managing and marketing of the coffee plantation is presently handled by the Piddig Farmers' Cooperative.

For this year, there were 19 Developing Microenterprise Models identified throughout the region. These include the following:

- La Union (3) - San Isidro Agoon Tinapa and Bagoong Makers's SLPA; 24k Peanut Butter Processor SLPA; and BUCASEDU Pantawid SKA
- Pangasinan (10) – Anda Pantawid Bakeshop KLAP SKA; Alaminos Women's Handicraft SLPA; Out-of-School Youth SKA 1 & 2; Aliguas Poblacion Catering Service SLPA; Olo Cagarlitan Organic Vegetable Farming SLPA; Umingan Veggie Processors SLPA; Fabric Remnants of Laoac SKA; Urdaneta City ASAPP-SLPA; Asingan Hilot Wellness Massage SLPA and Fianza Mountain Side SLPA
- Ilocos Sur(3) – Sto. Rosario Coffee Growers Association; Pantay Pantawid Pandesal and other Pastries Making SLPA and Dardarat Malaga Growers SLPA
- Ilocos Norte (3) – Sitio Abkir Mushroom Production Center SLPA; Rang-ay ti Libnaoan SKA and Sumader Organic Farmers SKA

From the above-mentioned developing microenterprise models, four were documented including the three approved for publication at the Regional and National Level for the last quarter. These include the Asingan Hilot Wellness Massage SLPA; BUCASEDU Pantawid SKA, Out-of-School Yout SKA 1 & 2 and Anda Pantawid Bakeshop KLAP SKA.

In terms of Employment Facilitation, the Field Office continuously facilitated employment through the partnership with SLP's external partners. A very good example of this is the provision of employment to the partner-beneficiaries who graduated from the Skills Training on Hilot Wellness and Spa in the City of San Fernando, La Union. The Gifted Learning Center who conducted the said training employed 5 partner-beneficiaries to its affiliated Company, the Spa de Iloco. Another partner which is the Luzon Training and Skills Development Center Inc. (LTSDCI) from the Province of Pangasinan, facilitates employment to partner-beneficiaries who finished Skills Training in Dressmaking in Sy-On, Cavite. Other partner-beneficiaries, who do not want to be deployed in Cavite, are being hired by LSTDCI as sewers and/or dressmakers in Pangasinan.

One of the employment facilitation highlights for the year is the promotion of Mr. Bernardo Baustista de Vera III, a Pantawid Pamilya partner-beneficiary of Brgy. Bucayab, Bauang, La Union, from Professional Forecourt Attendant (PFA) to Area Manager for Easy Life Manpower Services, an outsourcing company for Centrum Fuel in La Union and Ilocos Sur. Mr. de Vera was the official entry of the Region for the Best Employment Facilitation under Major Awards Category. Another Pantawid

Pamilya partner-beneficiary from Payocpoc Norte-Este, Bauang, La Union in the name of Mr. Larry Nisperos, undergone Skills Training on Hair Straightening with Haircutting leading to Hair Dressing NC II, is now currently employed in JINROD Barber Shop in their Municipality. He is earning an average amount of Php200-300 per day. Further, he is now currently affiliated as Trainer to Great Provider Educational Center for Northern Luzon Inc, a DSWD-SLP partner.

DSWD FO1 prioritized the facilitation of employment to qualified Pantawid Pamilya partner-beneficiaries. For CY 2015, there are 6 Pantawid Pamilya partner-beneficiaries who were hired as DSWD Staff, 3 Social Welfare Assistants (SWA) and 3 MCCT Community Facilitator Aides under the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.

KALAHI CIDSS - National Community Driven Development Program

The Kapit-Bisig Laban Sa Kahirapan Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services - National Community Driven Development Program (KALAHI CIDSS - NCDDP) had started social preparation activities in eleven (11) municipalities in Region I. Series of trainings of Area Coordinating Teams (ACTs) were conducted. The first Community Empowerment Activity Cycle (CEAC) had been started and Barangay Assemblies were called to discuss poverty situations and identify possible sub-projects that would respond to poverty issues.

Convergence Strategy

To ensure the implementation of convergence as a strategy at the city/municipal level, Municipal Action Teams (C/MATs) were strengthened. Crafting and implementation of 125 C/MAT plans and the conduct of cluster and regular MAT meetings were venue for collaboration, communication and coordination among MAT members. Also, the Unified Regional Program Management Team (URPMT) conducted bi-monthly meetings to monitor status of convergence strategy and project implementation. Issues and concerns that could not be resolved at the C/MAT level were discussed and resolved at the URPMT level. Likewise, Provincial Action Teams collaborated to assist C/MATs by providing them technical assistance in the implementation of programs, projects and activities throughout the year.

The Regional Directors' Consultation Workshop (RDCW) also served as venue in addressing issues and concerns raised to the Directors' level as well as to come-up with agreements to facilitate/enhance the external convergence. This activity caused the strengthening of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), Regional Inter-agency Committees (RIACs), Provincial Inter-agency Committees (PIAC), and City/Municipal Inter-Agency Committees (C/MIACs). Concerns on data sharing, representatives to the different committees, funding of the programs including counterpart of LGUs, target beneficiaries and issuance of resolution/policies to

support the implementation of programs/projects were discussed and resolved during the committee meetings.

In addition, the Bottom-Up Budgeting (BUB) program implementation was done with convergence as its main strategy. As of December 2014, 98 projects were funded as per DBM list (21 KALAHI CIDSS scheme, 50 Protective Service Bureau scheme, and 27 SLP scheme). The total amount allocated to these projects was Php67,275,471.91.

Improved level of Well-Being of PPPP Beneficiaries

In relation to the implementation of the abovementioned programs, projects and services, the Field Office monitored their initial impact to the well-being of the Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries using the Social Welfare Indicators. Municipal Links, Provincial Links and the Monitoring and Evaluation Officers monitored the results of the interventions provided to these families. A total of 14,811 HHs moved from Survival to Subsistence level and 516 HHs moved from Subsistence to Self-sufficiency level of well-being.

MFO 3 – CAPACITY BUILDING SERVICES

As venue to resolve issues and concerns and strengthen the implementation of SWD programs and services, institutional development (ID) and capability building (CB) activities were conducted. Based on the quarterly reports of the Capability Building Unit (CBU), 34 ID activities were conducted and participated by the intermediaries. These are the following:

- Adoption and Foster Care Fora (2 fora);
- SWDL-Net Meeting;
- RFSCAP Meeting;
- Regional DCWs Federation Convention;
- RPYAP Meetings (2 meetings);
- Consultation/PIR with Intermediaries on SFP (4 activities);
- ABSNet Federation/Cluster Meetings (15 meetings);
- CSO Consultation on 2015 Budget Proposal;
- RCWC Meetings (2 meetings);
- Consultation Dialogue cum Orientation of Key Partners in the Implementation of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4 dialogues); and
- a Technical Sharing Session with LGU Partners for the 2014 GPBP were venues to discuss and resolve issues and concerns and strengthen partnership in the implementation of various programs of the Department.

In addition to these activities, the Field Office conducted twenty-nine (29) capability building activities for the intermediaries throughout the year, as stated in the report from the CBU. These are the following:

- Deepening Training on the Gender Responsive Case Management;
- Agsugpon Tayo Project Orientation for Sets 1-3 Pantawid Areas;
- Roll-out Capability Building for Parent Leaders (6 activities);
- Training for Parent Leaders as Program Advocates;
- SLP and CDED Orientation Workshop;
- CB for DCC/DCW Accreditors on Day Care Service Manual and ECCD - Information System;
- Training of DCC/DCW Volunteer Accreditors;
- Roll-out Training of ERPAT Volunteers & LGU Implementers (4 activities);
- Orientation on AO 7 s. 2012;
- Orientation on MC 16 Assessment of LSWDOs' Functionality (4 activities);
- Orientation Training for Municipal Coordinating Teams;
- Roll-out Training for the Use of the SWDI (6 activities); and
- Capability Building for the Regional ABSNet Federation.

Through these activities, 727 LGU and 140 NGO personnel were trained; and 335 LGU, 53 NGO, and 98 PO participants were provided with technical assistance and resource augmentation on capacity building services, based on the reports submitted by the CBU to the Capacity Building Bureau (CBB). Of the 129 municipalities/cites, 128 LGUs were provided with capacity building services.

MFO 4 – REGULATORY SERVICES

Social Welfare and Agencies /Development Agencies((SWA/SWDAs) Assessed and Registered

For the 4th Quarter, the Standards Unit was able to assessed 3 Social Welfare Agencies (SWAs) for licensing, 13 SWDAs monitored, and 3 SWAs pre-assessed for accreditation, 5 Stimulation Therapeutic Activity Centers & 12 Senior Citizens Centers.

There were 23 Day Care Centers (DCC) and Day Care Workers (DCW) assessed for accreditation during the quarter and 7 were issued Certificates of Accreditation (2 assessed during the quarter and 5 assessed during the previous quarter). There were 5 applicants for Public Solicitation and 2 agencies issued permit were monitored.

Eight (8) Social Workers Managing Court Cases and 5 Pre-Marriage Counselors were assessed and endorsed to the Standards Bureau for accreditation. 4 Civil Society Organizations were also assessed for accreditation. 12 Local Social Welfare

and Development Offices were also assessed using the MC 16 s. 2014 tool/guidelines.

The 4 Area-Based Standards Network Clusters and the Regional ABSNET Federation had also conducted their respective quarterly meetings and election of officers.

SWDAs/SWAs Assessed and Endorsed for Accreditation

The Bago National Cultural Society of the Philippines Inc. was provided technical assistance for the renewal of its registration which is valid until 26 December 2015 but up to this time, the application and requirements are not yet submitted.

On the other hand, Sunset Cradle of Hope Inc., Divine Mercy Charity Shelter for the Elderly, and Arise and Rebuild (ARM) -Community Outreach Inc. have applied for registration and license (all renewal). Of the 3 applicants, 1 was issued Certificate of Registration and License – ARM Community Outreach, the other 2 applicants still need to complete the other requirements.

Three (3) Social Welfare Agencies were also pre-assessed for accreditation: Haliging Bata Inc., Share An Opportunity (SAO) Philippines, and San Roque Power Foundation Inc. The pre-assessment reports were submitted to the Bureau and SAO Philippines was also assessed and accredited by the Standards Bureau.

The Regional Superior of the Missionaries of Charity, Inc. was also validated on their existence in the region.

Moreover, the ***Piddig Basi Multi-Purpose Cooperative Rice Processing Center*** in Brgy. 9 Ab-Abut, Piddig, Ilocos Norte and its extension office located at the 2nd Floor Piddig Public Market, Brgy. 2 Anao, Piddig, Ilocos Norte; ***St. Paschal Baylon Multi-Purpose Cooperative*** at Figueroa Street, Poblacion, San Quintin, Pangasinan; ***Philippine Center for Population and Development, Inc. (PCPD)***; and ***Balite Multi Purpose Cooperative*** in Brgy. San Leon, Umingan, Pangasinan were also validated on their existence in the region as Civil Society Organization (CSO) applying for accreditation.

There are also 2 SWDAs that ceased to operate in the region based on the monitoring visit and letter from the concerned SWDA: Philippine Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Inc., and Philippine Sports Association for the Differently Abled, Inc. The reports were forwarded to the Central for appropriate action; while the Field Office will delist these SWDAs in the data maintained by the Field Office.

Assessment/Accreditation of Centers and Service Providers

For the 4th quarter, there are 23 assessed Day Care Centers and Day Care Workers assessed for the quarter, wherein 2 were accredited and 21 are still held in abeyance. There are 5 Day Care Centers and Day Care Workers that were assessed in the previous quarters that were accredited during the quarter the details is broken down below:

There were five (3) Stimulation Therapeutic Activity Centers (STAC) pre-assessed for the quarter; these were located in Alcala, Asingan, Tayug, and Villasis in Pangasinan and Tubao in La Union. The STAC were managed by the Local Government Units. The areas for compliance to facilitate the accreditation were discussed and technical assistance was also provided.

There were 12 Senior Citizens Center (SCC) pre-assessed during the quarter. There were the following :

The pre-accreditation report of the first 5 SCCs assessed last October were already endorse to SB while the remaining 7 is for endorsement until the end of December 2015.

There were 13 endorsed to the Central Office during the quarter. 8 were SWMCCs and 5 PMCs.

Service Providers Assessed and Endorsed for Accreditation

The Standards Unit of the Field Office has assessed for accreditation six (6) Social Workers Managing Court Cases (SWMCCs) and twenty (20) Pre-Marriage Counselors (PMCs) this 2014. All the SWMCCs and sixteen (16) PMCs were endorsed to the Standards Bureau for further assessment and/issuance of certificates of accreditation.

DCC and DCW Assessed and Accredited

To ensure quality services to day care children, assessment for accreditation of Day Care Centers and Day Care Workers (DCC/DCW) were made. For this year, 838 DCCs/DCWs were assessed. Of this number, 631 were issued with accreditation certificates. The remaining DCCs/DCWs were provided with technical assistance to comply with all the requirements for accreditation. This was made possible through the availability and efforts of twenty-two(22) volunteer accreditors (17 from LGUs, 5 from the FO). Another factor that may have caused LGUs to comply with the accreditation was the issuance of RDC Resolution (RDC ExCom Resolution No. 72, s. 2013 approved on Oct. 22, 2013) enjoining the LGUs to support the accreditation of DCCs and DCWs and ensure quality day care service.

Aside from assessment of DCCs/DCWs, technical assistance to LGUs for the selection of three DCWs was extended. Together with the PSWDOs, MSWDOs and the MLGOOs of Dingras, Ilocos Norte and Tubao, La Union, a dialogue was

conducted with the Municipal and Barangay Officials. It was explained that training and accreditation must be given importance in the hiring and selection of DCWs. As a result, one of the three DCWs was retained.

The Regional Federation of Day Care Workers (RFDCW) was actively involved in the implementation of Day Care Service in the Region. This group has been the partner of the Field Office not only in the implementation of the program but also in advocacy for policy. In one of their meetings, they discussed the dissemination of the RDC Resolution to the LGUs of Region I along with the accomplishments they have done.

There were five (5) agencies/organizations applications assessed, processed and issued solicitation permit.

Name of Agency/Address	Projects	Remarks
1) Northern Cancer Trust Foundation DDVMH, Dagupan Gonzales	To generate funds to finance the cancer screening program, financial assistance to indigent patients for radiation and chemotherapy	Solicitation Permit was issued on 15 Oct. 2015 and to expire on 31 Oct.2015.
2.) La Union Vibrant Women Incorporated Inc. (LUVWI) /Geraldine Ortega /San Fernando City,La Union	To generate funds for LUVWI Projects such as scholarship program, Adolescent Health Seminar & Prevention of Common Childhood Diseases	Solicitation Permit was issued on 20 Nov, 2015 and will expire on Feb.19, 2016.
3). Gov. Roque B. Ablan Sr. Memorial Academy Inc. Solsona, Ilocos Norte Mr. Julio Calucag	To generate fund for the improvement of TLE/ HE and upgrading of facilities for the working area /shop of the students	Solicitation Permit was issued on 26 Nov. 2015 and will expire on 26 Feb. 2016.
4.) Parents and Guardians Association of St. Augustine's School, Inc. (PAGASA) St. Augustine's School Tagudin, Ilocos Sur	To raise funds for the construction of covered pathways.	Solicitation Permit was issued on 17 Dec. 2015 and will expire on 20 Feb.2016
5.) DMMMSU-NLUC Association Sampilang, Bacnotan, La Union	To raise funds for the construction of " Balayti Alumni"	Solicitation Permit was issued on 17 Dec. 2015 and will expire on 16 June 2016.

Monitored organizations/associations that were issued Solicitation Permit:

The Bobonan National High School in Pozorrubio, Pangasinan and Bacnotan Senior Citizens Association Inc. were also monitored with submitted post requirement report.

NGOs Endorsed for Duty Free of Foreign Donation

No application was endorsed during the quarter.

Commented Guidelines

The comments/inputs on Administrative Order No. 15 series of 2012 (Amended Administrative Order No. 11 series Of 2007 entitled Revised Standards on Residential Care Service) were submitted during the quarter.

Update on Online Data Base System

The profile of 51 Social Welfare and Development Agencies (27) and Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Center (24) were updated as of 21 December 2015.

Assessment on the Functionality of Local Social Welfare and Development Offices

Hereunder were the 11 Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDOs) assessed from 26 October to 22 December 2015:

Name of LSWDO	Date of Assessment	Status of Compliance/Total Score
MSWDO – Bauang, La Union	26-27 October	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 43 Gold – 25
MSWDO – Agoo, La Union	24-25 November	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 40 Gold – 24
MSWDO – Rosario, La Union	15-16 December	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 39 Gold – 18
MSWDO – Caba, La	17-18 December	Bronze – 90 Fully

Union		Functional Silver – 14 Gold – 6
CSWDO - Vigan City, Ilocos Sur	27-28 October	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 27 Gold – 13
MSWDO – Santiago, Ilocos Sur	3-4 December	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 17 Gold – 10
MSWDO – Magsingal, Ilocos Sur	8-9 December	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 15 Gold – 7
PSWDO – Ilocos Norte	1-2 December	Bronze – 76 Fully Functional Silver – 24 Gold – 14
CSWDO – Laoag City	3-4 December	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 36 Gold – 20
MSWDO – Nueva Era, Ilocos Norte	8-9 December	Bronze – 90 Fully Functional Silver – 31 Gold – 18
MSWDO – Pinili, Ilocos Norte	10-11 December	Bronze – 89 Functional Silver – 29 Gold – 16
PSWDO – Ilocos Sur	21-22 December	Bronze – 76 Fully Functional Silver – 27 Gold – 11

Of the 12 assessed, 11 were fully functional. MSWDO PInili is Functional and its compliance which is hiring of an Administrative Aide will be monitored in March 2016 as stated in the action plan.

The issues encountered in the implementation of the policy were: most of the LSWDOs are multi-tasked due to limited staff. They are also members to various committees and some acts as secretariat to the LCPC and DRRMC. Most of them are not only managers/supervisors but they are also the direct worker.

On the otherhand, the your recommendations for the improvement of the policy are:

- Provide clearer guideline on the computation of rating. There is a discrepancy in the total ratings under silver and gold level indicators specifically in the area of Program Management as stated in the assessment tool vis-à-vis in the manual.
- Gaps identified during the baseline assessment should have been addressed as indicated in the TARA Plan before the actual assessment. Adequate funding support must be provided to implement the TARA Plan.
- Indicators in the assessment tool should vary based on the income class of the locality. The financial capacity of a certain locality has a bearing particularly in the provision of benefits to the LSWDO staff.

The Initial impact of the policy to the LSWDOs are: For the MSWDO of Rosario, La Union; the SWO III position (of the head) was upgraded to MSWDO, bigger office will be provided to the MSWDO of Santiago and Magsingal in Ilocos Sur and Caba, La Union, and provision of the benefits as stated in the Magna Carta for Social Workers.

III. CONCLUSION

The abovementioned accomplishments are attributed to the collective efforts of the regional management and the rank and file; coupled with the support of partners and intermediaries, the implementation of convergence strategy, healthy lines of communication, collaboration within and outside the bureaucracy, and proper coordination that resulted to a very satisfactory implementation of programs, projects and activities.

Through review and consultation on the accomplishments with the officials and concerned divisions/units/sections, it could not be denied that with the accomplishments, some factors have either facilitated or hindered the accomplishment of targets for the year.

The Field Office tried to implement its own initiatives to facilitate quality implementation of its programs, projects and services. These initiatives have in a

way contributed to the attainment of the goals the FO has set for the year. Some of them are the following:

- Enhancement and utilization of the SGMSS in tracking the access of poor households to various interventions implemented. This system was based on the available databases (Pantawid, SLP and Listahanan Systems) plus other data provided by implementing units and partners. Through the SGMSS we have identified how many of the total number of poor HHs have already accessed a certain number of interventions. The FO can also identify who among the HHs have accessed the greatest number of interventions and those that have no access to even at least one intervention.
- Municipal Operations Office Information System that was originally designed to track the status of grievances filed has been modified and enhanced. The Field Staff can now access offline the Beneficiary Masterlist, SWI Result and Retro-active payments made. The staff can now access the database even if they are in the farthest areas and internet connection is not available.
- Creation of a Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Unit (DRRMU) to work solely on disaster-related activities to ensure that all incidents affecting the region were acted upon. Previously, the DRRMU functioned also as the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU). The two sections were now two separate units (CIU and DRRMU).
- The Field Office saw evidences of the success of the social and vocational rehabilitation activities provided by the AVRC. Four of its PWD trainees won in the national competition to be the Philippines' contestants to the 2016 International Day for PWDs in France.

There were also gaps affecting the accomplishments of the Field Office. Some of the gaps have been resolved and some could not be resolved at the level of the Field Office. These gaps hindered some of the units to meet its goals.

- Slow disposition of cases of RRCY and Haven for Women in some courts particularly in Pangasinan where the cases of clients at the centers were filed. This is brought about by retirement of judges.
- Some Courts directly refer clients to the RRCY without the initial intervention of the LSWDO where the child/youth resides. The law requires that community intervention must be done by the LSWDO and that the institution is the last resort.
- No capital outlay fund for needed equipment and construction/repair/relocation of facilities like the RRCY Dormitory, the AVRC and its training equipment that worn-out fast due to high salinity of its surroundings.

- Procurement processes in the implementation of SFP in some of the LGUs took a lot of time due to non-availability of suppliers and failure of bidding, even negotiated procurement has failed; some public bidding processes in LGUs do not really comply with the procurement procedures as prescribed by the law according to some LSWDOs e.g. they follow public bidding but then did cash advances to LSWDOs who in turn will give the cash to DCWs who will facilitate the procurement of goods, hence, no public bidding really occurred. This defeats the purpose of the procurement law and further delays the implementation of the program or worst was that the program was never implemented.
- Some regional line agencies that are members of the inter-agency committees did not submit their annual plans and accomplishments for the different sectors despite agreements during meetings and follow-up done by the focal persons. Some RLAs also need capability building along the conduct of monitoring of Republic Act 9994 and BP 344.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

Many of the gaps not mentioned in this report were already responded and resolved by the Field Office to the best of its abilities. However, for the gaps mentioned above, we recommend the following:

- Capital Outlay to be provided for the improvement of all FO-1 facilities;
- On SFP implementation, the PSB has to come up with supplemental guidelines along procurement procedures in the implementation of the said program to address procurement issues that has been raised in writing and in many PREWs; and
- The National Inter-Agency Committees of the different SWD sectors must provide technical assistance to strengthen regional inter-agency committees by conducting national-regional consultations and providing directions to all member agencies at the national and regional levels.

It is hoped that in the coming year, the Field Office will continue to come up with initiatives that will produce results that can best benefit the vulnerable sectors we serve. Innovations will continue to be explored to be able to provide better and faster service. Partnership with all stakeholders will also be strengthened to include the private sectors. Lastly, it is always recognized that without the technical assistance and invaluable support extended by the OBSUs and the ExeCom, the Field Office could only accomplish less. May technical assistance and support be continuously extended to the Field Office.

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