

2012 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)

The APR is a self-assessment exercise by the project management that serves as the basis for assessing the performance of UNDP programmes and projects and their contributions to the intended CPAP outcome through outputs. The APR should provide an accurate update on project results, identify major constraints and propose future directions. It should also provide information to assess the financial performance of the project: budget utilization, remaining funds, explanation of the discrepancies between financial and physical delivery based on the comparison between budget requested for the activities reflected in the AWP and the final cost of the activities implemented (if relevant). It should also reflect the actions taken to address the NIM/NGO Audit findings and Spot Check observations.

For project: Overseas Filipinos Diaspora Remittances for Development: *Building a Future Back Home* (OFs-ReD Project)

Period covered: January 1-December 31, 2012

1. PROJECT PERFORMANCE – CONTRIBUTION TO THE CPAP OUTCOMES:

[The table below briefly analyses the contribution of the project during the period of review towards the attainment of the respective CPAP outcome. The report should concentrate on the “Update on outputs” column, but may also have inputs or views for the column “Update on outcome”]

CPAP Outcome 1	Update on outcome	Annual Outputs	Update on Outputs	Reasons if progress below target	Update on partnership strategies	Recommendations and proposed actions
The poor and vulnerable will have improved access to and utilization of quality social services, with focus on the Millennium Development Goals least likely to be achieved.	At least 15 OFs associations are engaged in small business enterprises in Ilocos Norte (all women) These initial 15 are the target group for further capacity development to strengthen their business	Presidential Executive Order (E.O.) setting up the Remittances for Development Council (RedC); Policies that harness OFs remittances for savings and investments for economic development Campaign plan and	ReD C established functioning 3 clusters organized: Improving access to remittance services Financial literacy campaigns Improving business environment for OFs EXECUTIVE ORDER (submitted) Match fund (1 M php)	Unstable political landscape (historical in nature), unqualified coordinator Selection of sites that did not qualify in the guidelines set	ReD Council: multi stakeholders (government partners, dialogue partners, strategic partners, development) an advisory and policy-recommending body that will provide direction to and catalyze the channeling of individual and collective remittances	Strict implementation of the selection guidelines (not compromised) Strict screening of future coordinators (those who have the eyes and ears of the highest government official)

	<p>skills and expertise and leadership skills</p>	<p>materials on Collective Remittances for Development in chosen corridors</p> <p>Collective remittance model piloted and documented</p> <p>Evaluation and documentation of the collective remittance model; lessons learned</p>	<p>from Coop Bank of Ilocos Norte and PGIN</p> <p>3 M OFs-ReD project ilocos norte fund available</p> <p>SP ordinance creating Migration and Development Council of Ilocos Norte</p> <p>Collective Remittance models in the Philippines identified (microfinance, cooperative, rural bank MSAI)</p> <p>Channels for investment identified Banks, microfinance institutions and cooperatives, Co-investor in Existing enterprises, Direct investment (agriculture, eco-tourism etc)</p>		<p>for development and as a consultative forum to discuss issues, concerns about remittances</p> <p>Bayanihan for Development: Upscaling Remittances in Local Level/LGU (URL) Inspired by the lessons learned from the OFs-ReD Project implementation, the CFO in partnership with LBC Inc, is piloting URL Project in the Province of Pangasinan. The MOA with LBC Inc was signed in August and the partnership with the Province of Pangasinan through its Governor, a pilot site on November 15. The project provides a strategic opportunity to fully engage local government</p>	
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		<p>Modes of Investments for OFs identified</p> <p>Loans, Equity, Venture Capital, Social Venture Capital, Philanthropic Investments</p> <p>Channels for communication identified</p> <p>Downloadable AVP, LGU website, Provincial overseas missions or road shows, Local campaigns, Fiestas, alumni homecoming, Christmas and other social gatherings, Brochure, Training on financial literacy/education</p> <p>Identified and addressed the following: Cap Dev- Fin Lit)</p> <p>Information Constraints</p>	<p>t units (LGUs), the migrants themselves and overseas Filipino families in leveraging remittances for more productive uses and in focusing on migration and development and part and parcel of the decision and policy making processes of the LGUs</p> <p>The CFO in partnership with Western Union and UNDP has verbally agreed in implementing a Financial Education project using the emerging technology: web based technology for the remitters and print brochure for the receivers.</p> <p>The Western Union believes in the power of technology and maximizing it making it easier and accessible</p>
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			<p>Lack of information about which projects to invest in</p> <p>Lack of information about how to manage their investments</p> <p>Capacity Constraints</p> <p>Lack of know-how to save and invest</p> <p>Lack of know-how to identify projects to invest in</p> <p>Lack of know-how to monitor investments</p> <p>Lack of know-how to productively use funds remitted for investment</p> <p>Institutional Constraints</p> <p>Lack of suitable investment vehicles</p> <p>Lack of effective risk-mitigation mechanisms for investments</p>		<p>for the beneficiaries within their comfort zone, just like their remittance services in the Philippines, with 85,000 outlets.</p> <p>BALINKBAY AN Web Portal: One-stop Online Portal for OF Diaspora Engagements</p> <p>As a portal for diaspora engagements, it seeks to bring together 9.5 million Filipinos in the diaspora into an integrated platform that taps into their knowledge, expertise and financial resources to contribute to the development of the Philippines. It works at two levels, first, it links OFs to development oriented diaspora initiatives in the Philippines and second,</p>	
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				<p>it provides options for business and investment opportunities at the hometown linking it to automated transactional processes at the LGU level. Pilot partners: Laoag City and Naga City</p> <p>New and/or innovative initiatives: South-South Cooperation- World Bank supported/ funded exchange exposure trip to Mexico in August 2012 (CFO POEA DSWD OWWA) Research on remittances: ADB funded with CFO and CBMS</p>	
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2. PROJECT PERFORMANCE – IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES:

[Constraints in progress towards results, that is, issues, risks and reasons behind the constraints. Please fill out the “top three” such challenges. More can be added if considered necessary.]

List the three main challenges experienced during implementation AND propose a way forward. Note any steps already taken to solve the problems.

Taguig City as a pilot site was a BIG challenge from the very start of the project implementation. The following three challenges were all integrated:

- 1. Unstable political landscape (historical in nature)
- 2. Unsupportive Mayor (due to 2012 election results-pending COMELEC intervention)
- 3. Unqualified coordinator assigned by the Mayor

3. RATING ON PROGRESS TOWARDS RESULTS:

FOR OUTCOMES:

- Positive (Ilocos Norte)
- Unchanged (Taguig City)

FOR OUTPUTS: Applied to each output target

- **YES**
Presidential Executive Order (E.O.) setting up the Remittances for Development Council (RedC); Policies that harness OFs remittances for savings and investments for economic development
- **PARTIAL**
Campaign plan and materials on Collective Remittances for Development in chosen corridors
- **PARTIAL**
Collective remittance model piloted and documented
- **NO**
Evaluation and documentation of the collective remittance model; lessons learned

4. SOFT ASSISTANCE NOT PROVIDED THROUGH PROJECTS OR PROGRAMMES:

[Soft assistance contributes to the outcome and/or outputs. This section is to provide information about any activities conducted that were not envisaged in the work plan or have yet to produce concrete results. It aims to identify additional or specific activities that are required to ensure progress towards the outcome. It allows the country office and the project to work in the same direction advocacy and dialogue. If soft assistance is not an issue for the project this section may be left empty.]

What are the key activities (if any) of soft assistance undertaken by the project?

What are the main constraints in progress towards outcome that require additional soft assistance?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

3. _____

Please propose elements for soft assistance strategy for the next year: _____

5. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

[Provide information on budget utilization, remaining funds if any, explanation of the discrepancies between financial and physical delivery based on the comparison between the budget requested for the activities reflected in the AWP and the final cost of the activities implemented (which often results in either over or under budgeting).

- There were there (3) changes in the total amount of the project budget (from USD\$ (91, 837 to USD\$ 86,036 to USD\$ 61,035), hence the original targets (activities) per quarter (activities) were not completely achieved.
- For Q1: the desired quality of the target AVP for Ilocos Norte and Taguig City were not met due to the limited budget produced.
- For Q3 Q4 : the targeted capacity building for Ilocos Norte MnD Council was partially conducted due to limited budget
- For Q4: the targeted road show designed for campaign, awareness and fund raising in Hawaii did not happen due to limited funds

Note: Since January 2012, an additional USD\$ 78,000 was requested to achieve the original set of activities of the project.

The USD\$ 25,000 allocated amount for Taguig City remained exclusive until further notice.

6. NIM/NGO AUDIT FINDINGS AND SPOT CHECK RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Projects should ensure compliance to ALL audit findings from 2008, 2009 and 2010 NIM/NGO Audit exercise, as well as spot check observations. Describe briefly the actions taken to address the audit findings and improve the programme management results, challenges and lesson learned, pending actions if any and justification]

7. LESSONS LEARNED:

Describe briefly key lessons learned during the year:

1. The significance of political will and its support in the form of MOA signed and approved provincial ordinances ensuring sustainability of the project beyond the term of office
2. Strict compliance to the guidelines set should be strictly followed to ensure success and sustainability. This was not followed in the selection of Taguig City as one pilot site
3. Never select a pilot project site with unstable political landscape

8. KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND DISSEMINATION PLAN:

Audio Visual Presentation (AVP)

- 3 minute describing OFs –ReD Project (Taguig City and Ilocos Norte)
- Linked in the websites of Ilocos Norte and Northwestern University
- Shown during provincial/municipal fiestas, alumni homecoming and holidays

Roadshow (international) in the pipeline-when fund becomes available



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[Note: Since reporting should as much as possible be electronic for efficiency, signature is not required. The Project Director can transmit it in an Email, through a website or through a computer programme.]