

2012 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR)

Project	:	Accelerating Progress on the MDGs (TRAC and Non-TRAC)
Project ID No.	:	81841
Period Covered	:	February – December 2012
Implementing Partner	:	National Economic and Development Authority - Social Development Staff (NEDA-SDS)
Responsible Partners	:	Asia Pacific Policy Center (APPC) CBMS Network Coordinating Team Dr. Rosario G. Manasan (Consultant) Dr. Marilen J. Danguilan (Consultant) In coordination with the following Provincial/Local Governments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ilocos Norte- Pasig City- Benguet- Oriental Mindoro- Occidental Mindoro- Tabaco City- Pasay City- Ifugao- Southern Leyte- Surigao del Sur- Puerto Princesa- Kalinga

PROJECT PERFORMANCE – CONTRIBUTION TO THE CPAP OUTCOMES:

CP/UNDAF Outcome 1: 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.

A. TRAC

- 1. Activity : Achieving Sustained Growth and Reducing Poverty Towards Meeting the MDGs in Ilocos Norte: Development and Installation of a Provincial MDG Tracking System and Formulation of an MDG Progress Report (Component 3)**

RP : APPC

The primary objective of the project is to improve the capacity of the LGU of Ilocos Norte for development monitoring and generation of provincial income estimates to come up with relevant and timely information on MDG indicators and provincial growth to enhance policy and programs development as well as track development progress.

The APPC, in close coordination with the LGU of Ilocos Norte, formulated the Provincial MDG Progress Report of Ilocos Norte which contains the status of each municipality on the relevant MDG indicators (based on the developed Provincial MDG Tracking System) and highlights the progress of the province in achieving the targets under each goal and the key interventions needed to ensure that targets are met.

2. Activity : Formulation of Ten Local MDG Progress Reports Using CBMS Data

RP : CBMS Network Coordinating Team

With only three (3) years left before the MDG timeline of 2015, the preparation of the 2012 Provincial MDG Reports is considered critical in showcasing MDG localization as it relates to local development planning and budgeting and in proving an evidence-based mechanism of measuring LGU progress towards the attainment of the MDGs.

The MDG Progress Reports are intended to provide more transparency and accountability among local government units and government agencies in pushing for reforms in governance that would redound to faster and better delivery of MDG interventions to the target sectors.

The ten (10) provincial governments of Benguet, Oriental Mindoro, Occidental Mindoro, Tabaco City, Pasay City, Ifugao, Southern Leyte, Surigao del Sur, Puerto Princesa, and Kalinga are being assisted and capacitated to systematically measure, monitor and report progress towards the attainment of the MDGs.

For 2012, the CBMS Network Coordinating Team and the 10 LGUs achieved the following:

- Developed a Manual on Processing CBMS data to Monitor the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) using CBMS StatSim;
- Conducted Workshop 1: Generating MDG Indicators using CBMS Data and Preparation of First Draft of 10 LGU MDG Reports last 4-6 December 2012; and
- Formulated and submitted the 10 draft MDG Progress Reports.

Next Step (carry-over to 1st Quarter of 2013): Finalization, Publication and Dissemination of 10 Local MDG Reports

The Local MDG Reports of the 10 LGUs will be published and disseminated to help raise awareness, facilitate discussion about the feasibility of attaining the goals as well as identification of possible steps to meet these and help attract donor funding to MDG-responsive development projects that they have identified.

3. Activity : Pilot-testing of the Costing Templates for the MDG Menu of Options in Addressing the MDGs

RP : Dr. Rosario G. Manasan (Consultant)

Under Phase 1 of the Project, the Consultant, Dr. Rosario G. Manasan, developed a Manual that is meant to help local government units (LGUs) navigate the spreadsheet models/templates for the costing of the LGU menu of options for addressing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These templates are aimed at assisting LGUs in the integration of MDGs in local development plans and in ensuring budget allocation for MDG-related programs and projects.

The pilot-testing of the costing templates for MDG localization aims to:

- i. Further refine the costing templates given the availability of data at the local level;
- ii. Identify supplementary information from the National Statistics Office (NSO) surveys that may be generated for LGUs; and
- iii. Demonstrate to LGUs the usefulness of the templates

The MDG costing templates on early childhood care and development (ECCD), education, health, and water and sanitation were piloted in the city of Laoag (9-12 July 2012), municipality of San Nicolas (16-18 July 2012), and province of Ilocos Norte (23-26 July 2012) through one-on-one coaching and mentoring sessions with concerned local officials and department heads.

The LGU participants presented the results of the coaching and mentoring sessions last 27 July 2012. The participants of the sessions found that the challenging part is obtaining or preparing the data needed for the MDG costing templates. They emphasized that the templates are user-friendly and relevant in LGU work especially for coming up with evidence-based programme/project planning and budgeting.

Dr. Rosario G. Manasan presented the results and recommendations on the pilot-testing of the LGU costing templates last 17 October 2012 based on the documentation of the coaching and mentoring sessions done in the selected LGUs. Concerned NGAs e.g. DOH, DepEd, DSWD, DILG, NSO and DBM provided their inputs and comments to enhance the Costing Templates. The Final Report together with the Annexes have already been submitted and accepted by the NEDA-Social Development Staff (NEDA-SDS). Possible roll-out of revised LGU Costing Templates to other areas will be worked on in partnership with DILG for better program planning and budgeting of local government units.

B. Non-TRAC

Activity : Formulation of the MDG Acceleration Plan for Maternal Health

RP : Dr. Marilen J. Danguilan (Consultant)

The objective of this activity is to generate a National Action Plan and Local Action Plans for Occidental Mindoro and Pasig City (selected project sites) for Maternal Health from the series of consultations and field validation visits. These Acceleration Plans are intended to contain the analyses of the bottlenecks and the focused interventions that would address maternal mortality in the country.

The Action Plans on Maternal Health are also expected to be the basis for resource allocation at the local level particularly when LGUs start preparing their annual investment program (AIP). This will ensure financing and implementation at the local level. In addition, the MAF Action Plans may also be utilized by LGUs to supplement their local development plans, and in accessing MNCHN-related grants

The National Agenda to Accelerate the Achievement of MDG 5 provided an assessment of the country's progress and difficulties encountered in terms of implementation of programs and services in the past two years of DOH administration using the MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF).

The National Agenda was presented and disseminated at the following meetings:

NEDA-Social Development Committee (SDC) Technical Board	11 October 2012
Joint SDC-Cabinet Level and Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster (HDPR)	19 October 2012
SDC National-Regional Consultative meeting	12-13 December 2012

The Joint SDC-HDPR recommended for the creation of a TWG which will be convened by the DOH to map out and identify concrete steps and actions to improve maternal health in the country based on the recommendations from the National Agenda.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE – IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES:

Issues/Concerns	Recommended Actions	Actions Taken
Delay in the commencement of project activities due to	As early as December of the preceding year, the UNDP should finalize and approve	The AP-MDGs 2013 Project Unit proactively pursued the initial

Issues/Concerns	Recommended Actions	Actions Taken
late approval of the 2012 AWP	the funding allocation for the succeeding year to avoid delays in the implementation or commencement of project activities. Ideally, all AWP's should be finalized not later than 2 nd week of January of year and submitted to UNDP.	activities of the 2012 AWP pending the final approval of the 2012 AWP.
Delayed release/downloading of funds from UNDP	Whenever there is a new Programme cycle, we recommend that a mobilization fund be set-aside so that implementation of initial project activities will not be hampered or delayed.	Project Unit used personal funds pending the release of funds from UNDP to support project activities (e.g., meals and logistics for meetings, procurement of office supplies and other miscellaneous expenses).
Delayed submission of RP's outputs which affects the project's delivery rate	Include a "sanction/penalty" clause in the MOA indicating a percentage reduction charged to the RP's funds/payment for every day of delay.	Made constant follow-ups and reminders to the RPs through official letters, e-mail, calls, and text messages.

SOFT ASSISTANCE NOT PROVIDED THROUGH PROJECTS OR PROGRAMMES¹:

Activity : PHL Post-2015 Agenda: The Future We Want

Activities Undertaken:

1. Conducted the following focus group discussions (FGDs) with poverty groups:

FGD	DATE
NAPC Basic Sectors	November 19
CCT Beneficiaries (Luzon)	November 16
CCT Beneficiaries (Visayas)	November 21
CCT Beneficiaries (Mindanao)	November 22

¹ [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.

2. Conducted Post-2015 Agenda Survey to various sectors i.e. government, civil society, youth, academe, LGU, private sector, donors, among others. A total of 263 responses were gathered.
3. Formulated the *Lessons Learned in Achieving the MDGs: The Philippine Experience*.
4. Conducted the First National Consultation on the post 2015 development agenda which was participated by officials and representatives from various NGAs, civil society groups, donor organizations, and the private sector. The First National Consultation produced the proposed building blocks for a post 2015 development framework and emerging development themes.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

BUDGET IN AWP (in PhP)	EXPENDITURES (in PhP)	DELIVERY RATE
7,512,700.00	6,608,747.31	88 percent

LESSONS LEARNED:

Challenges	Future Actions
Challenge on how to advocate and operationalize the use of the MDG Costing Templates to other LGUs	Work with DILG on the possible issuance of a DILG MC enjoining LGUs to use and adopt the LGU Costing Templates. Capacity building/coaching-mentoring session of LGUs will operationalize the utilization of the costing templates
Challenge on how the TWG to be led by DOH will operationalize/act on the recommendations from the National Agenda to Accelerate the Achievement of MDG 5	Continue to assist the DOH in facilitating the activities of the TWG and implementation of the recommended actions in the National Agenda
How recommendations generated from the National Agenda can influence policy (e.g., proposed Universal Health Care bill) and transform to desired health outcomes	Advocate to relevant bodies (e.g., Joint SDC-HDPR) and Congressional Committees to strongly support/endorse legislative measures on maternal health

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND DISSEMINATION PLAN:

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCT	RECIPIENTS
National Agenda to Accelerate the Achievement of MDG 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NEDA Regional Offices/Regional Development Councils (RDCs)• DOH• Multisectoral Committee on International Human Development Commitments• Social Development Committee• Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster• Development Partners
MDG Costing Templates and User's Guide/Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DILG• Other Concerned NGAS• LGUs
MDG Progress Report of Ilocos Norte	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte

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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.]