



TARGETING PARTICULAR BENEFICIARY GROUPS WITHIN THE PROPOSED EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN THE PHILIPPINES

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PARA. 5.14.2 TARGETING BARANGAYS AND CHILDREN BENEFICIARIES The targeting mechanism is designed to achieve optimum impact in a short time, hence barangays assessed to have the largest number of needy and at-risk children based on ECD indicators are given top priority in the deployment of ECD service providers to be added to the system, or in the identification of existing ECD services to be upgraded or improved. Within the identified priority barangays, needy and at-risk children and mothers are given top priority in the delivery of services. These include all pregnant and lactating women assessed to be malnourished and high-risk using HBMR indicators, low birth weight infants, growth falterers, neglected and abused children, children with disabilities, and children in poverty situations, among others.

PARA. 5.14.3 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM An electronically linked management information system is proposed to be set up in the targeted municipalities, cities, provinces, and regions to take advantage of available information and network technology and improve the processing and tracking of essential information on the progress of project implementation at all levels and on the pace of delivery of essential services to targeted children and mothers. The system shall be designed such that optimum use of information is achieved at the point where data are collected, and access to information by other certified users can be facilitated while at the same time protecting data security. Data to be collected include those needed for local planning, as well as those needed to track the delivery and consumption of project inputs, implementation of project activities and milestones, and disbursement of project funds. A central information network system linked to the worldwide web and a website shall be set up at the CWC. A sentinel system shall be set up to track progress in achieving project goals and impact. The project shall provide computer hardware and software system for all participating agencies and LGUs. Training shall also be provided on the operation and maintenance of the system.

6.0 TARGETS AND SERVICES

6.1 The project support for the province-wide ECD programs is expected to contribute to the provision of a full range of ECD services to approximately 2.7 million children per year in the targeted regions through the delivery of developmentally-appropriate ECD services. An estimated 2.4 million school entrants are also expected to benefit from the school-based ECD interventions for the 6 years of project implementation. By end of the project, a cohort of approximately 100,000 children shall have benefited from integrated ECD services from birth to Grade 1. Another 100,000 children shall have benefited from the same services from birth up to entry in the day care program, and a third batch shall have been exposed to integrated ECD services from birth to two years.

6.2 An estimated 85%-90% of infants under 1 year old are targeted for full immunization in the provinces and regions covered by the project. In support of this effort the project shall provide the needed cold chain facilities to ensure that national investments in vaccines and local investment in syringes and needles will not be wasted from improper storage and distribution of heat-sensitive vaccines. The targeted regional distribution of cold chain facilities is shown below:

EQUIPMENT/FACILITY	REGION 6	REGION 7	REGION 12
AT PHO AND CHO LEVEL			
Freezer, 170 li.	14	13	6
Refrigerator, Ice Lined, 170 li.	6	10	4
Refrigerator, Ice Lined, 60 li.	24	13	9
Freezer for Icepacks	14	13	6
Voltage Regulator	35	29	14
Cold Box, 20 li.	29	27	12
Ice packs	1,392	1,296	576
Thermometer	88	72	38
AT RHO LEVEL			
Cold Room, 20 cu.m.	1	1	1
AT RHU LEVEL			
Refrigerator	4	12	7
Transport Box	38	21	35
Vaccine Carrier	670	233	300
Ice Pack	4,737	1,816	2,426
Thermometer	16	14	21
Voltage Regulator	72	31	43

6.3 Iron supplementation to prevent anemia shall be targeted to the most vulnerable population groups, namely pregnant and lactating women, low birth weight infants, all other infants, and school entrants. The number of children and pregnant lactating women targeted for iron supplementation and deworming is summarized below:

SERVICE/TARGET POPULATION	REGION 6	REGION 7	REGION 12
IRON SUPPLEMENTATION			
Pregnant Lactating Women	210,700	186,300	83,700
Low Birth Weight Infants	27,000	23,900	10,700
Other Infants	180,600	159,700	71,700
School Entrants	186,500	149,100	66,900
DEWORMING			
2-6 year old children	602,000	532,500	239,000

6.4 Under the food fortification support activity, the project target is to conduct a series of public-private planning workshops and industry fora in each pilot region and province at least once a year starting in year 1. The target is to increase the number of food producers and/or food dealers and distributors shifting to fortified products every year until the desired market saturation point is reached. Simultaneously, the project also aims to strengthen the regulatory, quality assurance and monitoring capacity of BFAD through procurement and installation of needed testing facilities. At the grassroots level, the project shall support the provision of salt-testing kits to monitor the availability and use of iodized salt at household and community/market levels. Salt-testing kits shall be distributed yearly to 11,410 Grade 1 teachers, 7,716 midwives, and 2,115 sanitary inspectors in the three pilot regions.

6.5 As regards IMCI, the ARI/CDD Training Unit in Cebu will be converted into an IMCI Training Unit and two new MCI Training Units will be established in Regions 6 and 12. A total of 1,400 health providers (physicians, nurses, and midwives) will participate in the IMCI in-service training course. Planning and orientation seminars and workshops shall also be conducted for hospital staff, and staff of schools of medicine, nursing, and midwifery in the three target regions. An estimated 100 IMCI trainers shall likewise be trained.

6.6 The strengthening of ECE in Grade 1 shall focus on the training of teachers and their trainers and supervisors, the provision of teaching and learning materials designed to improve the child-readiness of schools. A total of 33 trainers shall be trained in year 1 to facilitate the training of the targeted 8,757 in year 2, 2,012 in year 3, and 641 in year 4. By year 4, a total of 11,410 Grade 1 teachers shall have been trained and provided appropriate teaching and learning materials to implement the child-friendly Grade 1 curriculum in the elementary schools in Regions 6, 7, and 12. By Year 3, the first round of follow-up training for trainers, supervisors and teachers shall be initiated to ensure that improvements in their practices will be sustained .

6.7 The total number of focus-targeted cities and municipalities for the ECD financing facility is 169. Of these, 5 are expected to serve as pilot sites to implement the project interventions in year 1 in order to test the mechanisms and processes involved and to identify potential bottlenecks and problems in implementation so that appropriate remedial measures can be adopted prior to their full and wider scale operation. Social and technical preparations and planning in the pilot sites shall be done prior to project effectiveness (target date of completion of planning is October 1997). For year 2, the targeted number of LGUs implementing ECD sub-project proposals is 45, including the 5 pilot LGUs. Social preparation and planning for the 40 new LGUs targeted in year 2 shall begin in year 1. An additional 60 LGUs are targeted for year 3, followed by a

final batch of 64 LGUs in year 4. All LGUs who enrol in the project shall implement their respective ECD plans and avail of ECD financing for 3 years. The actual number of new and improved ECD services to be implemented by the targeted LGUs will depend on their assessed service delivery gaps and plans to fill those gaps. The overall target during the life of the project is to fill an average of at least 50% of the gaps in the targeted LGUs.

6.8 Training targets are linked to the LGU sub-project plans and are likewise based on service gaps. Training targets include both new ECD service providers that LGUs may hire as well as existing rural health midwives and day care workers identified by LGUs as needing training in order to improve the quality of services rendered to children.

6.9 Targets for planning assistance and MIS support are linked to the number and phasing of LGUs targeted for financing support. Planning assistance precedes the financing support by 1 year. MIS support follows approval of LGU sub-project and will be provided simultaneously with the provision of financing support.

6.10 Under management support, the central project management office (CPMO) and the three regional project management offices (RPMOs) shall be set up in the first quarter of 1998 to help prepare for the full-scale implementation of the project beginning in April 1998. The proposed staffing pattern for the PMO presented in the original project proposal shall be followed, but the actual number of contractual personnel to be hired will be limited to what is allowed by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). The DSWD shall deploy seconded and/or detailed personnel to take on the tasks of needed personnel beyond that approved by DBM. Other tasks that cannot be absorbed by contracted and seconded/detailed personnel shall be performed by consultants to be hired on fixed time or output basis as the need arises. The CPMO shall be provided with appropriate office equipment and furniture, including 2 vehicles for staff and management use. Each RPMO shall likewise be provided appropriate office equipment, furniture, and 1 vehicle for use in monitoring and supervision. Each participating province shall also be provided with appropriate office and communication equipment, 1 utility vehicle or 2-4 motorcycles for use in field monitoring and supervision.

Excerpt from an unpublished proposal for a government sponsored, country-wide ECD program in the Philippines. Provided for use here by Feny de Los Angeles Bautista.