



MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

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SUBJECT: DSWD THRUSTS AND PRIORITIES FOR CY 2007

The **Social Welfare and Development Medium Term Development Plan 2005 – 2010** is the action plan containing the Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) programs, projects and other activities and targets for the next six years.

The plan is the DSWD's translation of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan, (MTPDP) 2004-2010 specifically its role as enumerated in Livelihood, Protection of the Vulnerable and Empowerment sections of Chapter 12, Part 3 entitled, "Responding to Basic Needs of the Poor."

Thus, in pursuit of the MTPDP, the Department's thrusts and priorities for 2007 are anchored on the following Major Final Outputs (MFOs):

- A. Services related to the formulation and advocacy of policies, plans and programs;
- B. Standard setting, licensing and accreditation services;
- C. Support services and technical assistance to intermediaries; and
- D. Services for community and center-based clients.

These MFOs will be operationalized through the following main thrusts and priorities for 2007 along the major areas of Services, Research and Training.

I. SERVICES

A. Services Related to the Formulation and Advocacy of Policies, Plans and Programs

A.1 Policy and Plans Development

- 1. Advocate key legislation in support of social welfare and development (SWD) policy reform agenda, particularly on:

1.1 Legislations with DSWD as the main proponent:

- a) An Act Providing for the Magna Carta for Social Workers and Social Welfare and Development Workers and for Other Purposes (HB 1338; SB 173)
- b) An Act Granting the Magna Carta for Day Care Workers, Providing Funds Therefor, and For Other Purposes (HB 221; SB 71)
- c) Bill Providing Special Protection to Internally Displaced Persons (HB 3334)
- d) An Act to Strengthen and Propagate Foster Care for Abandoned and Neglected Children and Other Children with Special Needs, Providing Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes (HB 515, 1385, 1082; SB 1125, 58)
- e) An Act Requiring Certification of DSWD to Declare a Child Legally Available for Adoption Proceedings Amending Republic Act (RA) No. 8552 (Domestic Adoption Act of 1998), RA 8043 (inter-Country Adoption Act), Presidential Decree (PD) No. 603 (Child and Youth Welfare Code) as the Child and Youth Welfare Code and for other Purposes (SB 2173)

1.2 Legislations where DSWD has a supporting role:

- a) An Act Granting Other Privileges and Incentives to Persons with Disability (PWDs) and Creating the Office of Persons with Disability Affairs (OPDA) Nationwide as a Mechanism to Supervise Its Implementation (HB 1214, 2810; SB 1124)
- b) An Act Seeking to Improve Child Protection Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7610, as Amended by Republic Act No. 7658, Otherwise known as the "Special Protection and Discrimination Act" (HB 1961)
- c) An Act Providing for the Magna Carta for Women (HB 3766)
- d) An Act Penalizing Prostitution, Defining the Persons Liable Therefor, Providing Measures and Support Services for Its Victims, Amending for the Purpose The Revised Penal Code and for Other Purposes (HB 520)
- e) An Act to Further Strengthen the Youth Development Program by Creating a Local Youth Development Council in Every City, Municipality and Province and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HB 3352, 516, 2038)
- f) An Act Amending Sec. 12(b) of Republic Act 4373 Entitled "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Social Work and the Operation of Social Work Agencies in the Philippines and for Other Purposes" (HB 4310)

1.3 Proposed DSWD Legislations

- a) Harmonization of Domestic and Intercountry Adoption (DIA) laws
- b) An Act Regulating the Operations of Social Welfare and Development Agencies

1.4 Conduct of policy dialogues on the following:

- a) Amendment to RA 6972 (Barangay Level Total Development and Protection of Children Act)
 - b) Decriminalizing Women and Children Engaged in Prostitution
 - c) Anti-Violence Against Older Persons
 - d) Foster Care and Adoption
2. Advocate the passage of local legislations to respond to area-based SWD issues and concerns in consonance with SWD policy reform agenda as well as international and national commitments.
 3. Formulate position papers, policy papers and policy recommendations relevant to the SWD sector
 4. Coordinate the updating/enhancement and implementation of national (as lead convenor) and Department operational and sectoral plans such as:
 - 4.1 *National Sectoral Plan/s for the Filipino Family (2005-2015) and for Senior Citizens (2006-2010)*
 - 4.2 *SWD Medium Term Development Plan and Investment Plan*
 - 4.3 *DSWD Sectoral Plans for Children, Youth, Persons with Disabilities and Gender and Development Plan*
 5. Exercise oversight functions over the attached agencies (i.e. ICAB, NCWDP, CWC) and other agencies (i.e., National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women and the National Youth Commission)
 6. Strengthen advocacy, social marketing and communication efforts on SWD issues and concerns, legislative agenda, programs, policies, plans, and social technologies

A.2 Social Technology Development

1. Develop/enhance SWD related programs in response to newly enacted laws, executive orders, international commitments and other pertinent regulations.
2. Develop new social technologies in response to emerging SWD problems/concerns.
3. Develop/enhance and implement projects and programs in response to the Philippine Population Program
4. Conduct research and development of social technologies for children, youth, women, older persons (OPs), persons with disabilities (PWDs), families and communities

5. Adopt a "program supervision" model for residential care
6. Operationalize the concept of "social laboratories" to include NGO-managed facilities

B. Enforcement of Standards and Compliance Monitoring

1. Intensify advocacy and promotion of SWD standards for effective service delivery
2. Accelerate registration, licensing and accreditation of SWD and SW agencies and service providers
3. Monitor compliance of SWD and SW agencies to SWD standards for service delivery including DSWD operated facilities
4. Accelerate action on complaints against SWD agencies/service providers
5. Sustain partnership with concerned government and non-government agencies and other sectors towards strengthening the regulatory functions of the DSWD
6. Document best practices of accredited SW agencies, LGUs and DSWD experience and service providers as inputs to institutional development and promotion of learnings in social welfare.

C. Provision of Services for Community and Center Based Clients

1. Implement retained community-based programs and projects for children, youth, women, PWDs and OPs and other individuals and families in difficult circumstances or crisis situations.
2. Manage and operate DSWD Centers and residential care facilities as centers of excellence
3. Implement SWD programs as provided for in the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 and other laws and executive orders
4. Augment and provide services to SWD intermediaries in the implementation of:
 - Assistance to victims of disasters and calamities through disaster relief and rehabilitation operations
 - Assistance to children, youth, women, PWDs and OPs
 - Protective services for individuals and families in especially difficult circumstances and crisis situations

5. Scale-up economic/livelihood projects as capability-building interventions for the poor
6. Enhance and accelerate frontline services and transactions, e.g. travel clearance, E-NGAS
7. Institutionalize the KALAHY-CIDSS Program
8. Implement the following special projects:
 - a) Emergency Operations Project to Conflict-Affected Areas in Mindanao in ARMM, Region X and Region XII (UN-World Food Programme-assisted project)
 - b) Access to Justice for the Poor Program in Regions IV-B, V, VI, X and XII (European Commission-funded)
 - c) Strengthening Government Mechanisms in Mainstreaming Gender in Reproductive Health and Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Programs in Regions III, V, VII, VIII, XII, CAR and ARMM (UNFPA-assisted project)
 - d) Support to Victims/Witnesses of Human Trafficking in Regions III, VIII and IX (UNODC-assisted project)
 - e) Mainstreaming Program for Badjao Families: A Resettlement Village Project in Zambales (New Zealand Aid-assisted project)
 - f) KALAHY-CIDSS
 - KALAHY-CIDSS in all regions except Regions I, II, III, ARMM and NCR (partially funded by a loan from World Bank)
 - *Poder y Prosperidad dela Comunidad (Cycle III)* in Regions III, V and CARAGA (funded by Agencia Española Cooperacion International)
 - KALAHY-CIDSS Sub-projects (funded by Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects of Japan [GGP])
 - Empowerment and Community Development – Kapangyarihan at Kaunlaran sa Barangay in Tineg, Abra (funded by the New Zealand Government)
 - Social Inclusion Project in all KALAHY-CIDSS regions except Region VII (funded by the Japanese Social Development Fund)

II. RESEARCH (includes Development Research)

1. Monitor and assess the impact of the implementation of the Expanded Senior Citizens Act (RA 9257), the Solo Parent's Welfare Act, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act.

2. Monitor the implementation of the national (as lead convenor) and Department's operational and sectoral plans with concerned entities relative to the:
 - 3.1 *National Sectoral Plans for Filipino Family (2005-2015) and for Senior Citizens (2006-2010)*
 - 3.2 *Medium Term Development Plan and Investment Plan*
 - 3.3 *DSWD Sectoral Plans for Children, Youth, Persons with Disabilities and Gender and Development Plan*
3. Undertake studies/survey such as An Assessment of the Implementation of DSWD Devolved Programs and Services, Study on the Status of Children Placed on Domestic Adoption for the Last 5 Years, Impact Assessment of Centers' and Residential Care Facilities' Rehabilitation Programs and A Survey of Level of Awareness on DSWD Steering Functions
4. Monitor implementation of re-entry plans and assess the impact to trained staff and unit/office concerned to ensure application of learnings towards improved service delivery and/or organizational effectiveness

III. TRAINING

A. Technical Assistance and Capability Building to Intermediaries

1. Strengthen partnership and collaboration with intermediaries and stakeholders of the Social Welfare and Development Learning Network through provision of relevant and quality capacity building programs to organizations, groups, and individuals engaged in poverty alleviation and social protection.
2. Conduct capacity-building for social workers/local implementers/intermediaries along community and center-based programs and services, planning and policy formulation, case management and SWD project monitoring and evaluation, among others
3. Strengthen the capacity of partner proponents along project development and external resource accessing

B. Human Resource Development

1. Conduct capability building and enhance competencies of internal staff to respond to the needs of all stakeholders along but not limited to planning and policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation, research, effective communication, resource generation, human/customer relations, and

information technology, development planning and management, problem solving and decision making and quality improvement as innovation

2. Train DSWD Field Instructors on student training and supervision
3. Organize and maintain a pool of specialists on SWD programs and services

C. Institutional Strengthening

1. Enhance the Career Development and Management System
2. Improve the work and financial planning; records management; asset management and procurement system; and strengthen financial and management system in the Field Offices
3. Implement and monitor compliance of the Integrity Development Action Plans (IDAPs)
4. Implement the DSWD's Corporate Plan and Rationalization and Streamlining Plan
5. Pursue institutionalization at all levels of the agency Performance Management System

Issued in Quezon City, this 12th day of July 2006.


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