



**Memorandum Circular No. 31
Series of 2020**

SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDELINES TO MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO.07 SERIES OF 2019 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF LIVELIHOOD SETTLEMENT GRANTS (LSG) FOR THE INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS OF MARAWI CITY

I. BACKGROUND/RATIONALE

Administrative Order No. 03 signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on 28 June 2017 created the Inter-agency Task Force for the Recovery, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of the City of Marawi and other affected Localities, also known as Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM). The said Order also created the Task Force's sub-committee to include the Sub-Committee on Business and Livelihood wherein the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) through the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) is a member agency.

In compliance to the said Order, the DSWD issued Memorandum Circular No. 7 series of 2019 known as "Guidelines on the Implementation of Livelihood Settlement Grants (LSG) for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) of Marawi City."

The LSG is a financial assistance to the affected IDPs of Marawi Siege to resettle and start their economic activities. The grants are directly provided to each eligible IDP who has been resettled or to be resettled in their original abode in Marawi City, relocated in identified sites or temporarily or permanently relocated/resettled in other municipalities or cities outside Marawi City.

On 12 March 2020, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) per Resolution No. 11, Series of 2020, raised the COVID-19 threat to the highest alert level, Code Red Sublevel 2, due to the evidence of sustained community transmission of the disease. To date, the IATF placed the Province of Lanao del Sur including Marawi City under Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) from October 1 until October 31, 2020.

Given the continuing impact of COVID-19 pandemic, cash pay-out for the LSG to the IDPs of the Marawi City still poses high risk not only to the DSWD personnel but also to the IDPs themselves. On this note, the engagement of FSPs as a means to disburse is hereby included in the release of LSG which aims to mitigate or lessen mass gatherings and thereby decreasing risk to COVID-19.

II. SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS

Additional provisions shall be inserted under the following Sections:

A. Section IV. Definition of Terms

7. Financial Service Provider (FSP)- refers to any financial institutions duly licensed by Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) as either bank or electronic money issuer, are privately held companies that accept and transfer funds between payers and recipients through online or mobile means.

B. Section IX. LSG Releasing Process


5. Engagement of a Financial Service Provider for the Releasing of LSG

- a. The FO may engage a Financial Service Provider (FSP) through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or through the process involving procurement as stipulated under the Republic Act No.9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act, whichever is applicable, for the release of LSG;
 - a.1. Should the engagement be through a MOA, the signatory shall be the Regional Director (RD) or an official designated by the RD, preferably the Assistant Regional Director for Operations (ARDO).
 - a.2. The MOA shall include a proposal for the digitized payout to include a brief summary of the intent to conduct such and the areas to be covered.
- b. The FO shall ensure that regardless of the nature of the charge/cost, it shall not be borne by the Department; and
- c. The FO to ensure the conduct of information dissemination for the grant recipients and the Local Government Units (LGUs) to be well-informed on the procedures to be undertaken on the LSG releasing through the engagement of FSP to avoid any grievance that may arise, if there's any.


III. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE

This Memorandum Circular shall be immediately effective upon signing.

Signed on 26th day of November 2020 in Quezon City.


ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA
Secretary

Certified True Copy:


MYRNA H. REYES
OIC-Division Chief
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