

National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretariat CY 2008 Physical Accomplishment Report

This report provides information concerning the key accomplishments of the National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretariat for 2008. The accomplishments are catalogued by Major Final Output.

MAJOR FINAL OUTPUT #1: PLANS/POLICY FORMULATION AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1.1 Development of pro-poor policies, guidelines, and issuances, necessary measures, i.e. resource mobilization, research, IEC development, publication and dissemination

- 1.1.1 NAPC's mandate is to oversee, monitor and recommend measures to ensure the effective formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies, programs and resource allocation and management of social reform and poverty alleviation programs.

The agency through its units provided technical inputs and comments to various policy papers. Specifically, the Macropolicy Unit spearheaded and consolidated the inputs that serve as the agency's official stand to different pertinent documents that address poverty and other related issues.

1.2 Policy and oversight

- 1.2.1 NAPC Cabinet Group Meetings

The NAPC Secretariat provided technical and administrative support for the Cabinet Secretariat during three (3) NAPC Cabinet Group Meetings, ten (10) Joint NAPC-NEDA Cabinet Group Meetings, thirteen (13) Cabinet Assistance System (CAS) Meetings, and three (3) NAPC Cabinet Group Preparatory Meetings. The secretariat also took the lead in the preparation of updates on Presidential Directives arising from cabinet meetings.

- 1.2.2 Investor's Forum

The implementation of a widespread information and advocacy campaign is one of the agency's primary strategies for the expansion of microfinance and microenterprise services for poor folk throughout the country. NAPC issued a nationwide Call for Microfinance Capacity Building proposals to broaden public awareness about the People's Development Trust Fund (PDTF).

The activity served to widen the opportunities of organizations that implement microfinance and micro-enterprise projects.

The PDTF Secretariat received 11 project proposals for grant funding. These came from the Cooperative Bank of Palawan, Hometown Corporation, People's Bank of CARAGA, Inc., Rural Bank of Guinobatan, Agricultural and Rural Development for Cataduanes, Inc., Surigao Economic Devt Foundation, Inc., United Microfinance Cooperative, Habagat Agribusiness Corp., Inc., and the LGU of Limasawa, Southern Leyte, Municipality of Basey, Samar and Alalay Sa Kaunlaran, Inc. (ASKI).

The PDTF Executive Committee approved two (2) project proposals. These were of the Cooperative Bank of Palawan and the Hometown Corporation.

1.2.3 Implementation of Philippine Microfinance Literacy Program (PMLP)

The agency leads the PMLP, a major microfinance technical training program. The program aims to institutionalize and improve available financial education services for the poor, focusing on critical interventions for various stakeholders in the microfinance sector. NAPC conducted five regional PMLP training of trainers (TOT) seminars in 2008. These covered areas yet that lack microfinance services.

This year, TOTs were conducted in Dipolog City for Regions IX and X; Ilo-Ilo City for Regions VI and VII; Tacloban City for Region VIII; Baguio City for Cordillera Administrative Region; and Naga City for Region V. The entire program was able to train 119 trainers.

The agency likewise conducted a Program Test Run for Financial Literacy Trainers in the priority areas of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Some 146 trainers received instructions and training in seminars conducted in Leyte, the NCR, and Surigao del Sur,

In addition, the agency conducted five (5) provincial PMLP seminars, providing additional training for some 359 trainers from 13 provinces. The seminars were held in Surigao City, Baguio City, Catbalogan, Masbate, and Naga City.

1.2.4 Assessment of the President's Priority Program on Water (P3W)

NAPC undertook an evaluative study of the P3W, assessing the institutional sustainability of the projects implemented under the program. The study reviewed issues concerning the legal, policy

and administrative framework of the program; project design issues; and operational and implementation issues. The study was completed under the leadership of the NAPC- WASCO Technical Advisory Group through an independent consultant.

The assessment and findings of the program were presented to the NAPC Secretariat through an exit conference. As a result of the study, several recommendations were made. These included: a.) the integration of the P3W into the Roadmap Sector Framework and the provision of clear guidelines and oversight mechanisms for national to local collaboration; b.) the strengthening of the regulatory framework at the local level; c.) the improvement of project designs by incorporating results-based criteria, the participation of beneficiaries in determining priorities and project monitoring, and clear accountability mechanisms at both the national and local levels; and d.) the establishment of a process to lay-out a clear set of institutional arrangements at the local level which are to be integrated into project designs.

1.3 Poverty data collection, analysis and utilization in aid of policy making

The Secretariat continues to develop and maintain poverty statistics and reference materials for other agencies and for the public. The agency also provided technical inputs for the official release of the 2006 Official Poverty Statistics of the National Statistical Coordination Board in March 2008.

1.4 Formulation and consolidation of Annual Work plan, Accomplishment Reports and Plan and Budget Proposal

The NAPC Macropolicy Unit led the design and completion of the agency's 2009 Plan and Budget Proposal. The unit prepared and calculated budgetary requirements using Agency Performance Measures, MFO Budget Matrix, as well as the accomplishment Reports of various units.

MAJOR FINAL OUTPUT #2: ADVOCACY, NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIP-BUILDING

2.1 Institutionalization, mainstreaming and localization of convergence approaches at the regional and local government systems

2.1.1 Conduct of capacity-building for LGUs

- The NAPC Secretariat, in cooperation with CBMS Network Team, continues to instruct and guide local governments on

the use of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS). The system is an organized process of data collection and processing at the local level. The data collected through CBMS is then integrated into local planning, program implementation and impact-monitoring.

The CBMS training program covers four (4) modules: Module 1—Data Collection, Module 2—Encoding and Digitizing of Spotmaps, Module 3—Data Processing and Poverty Mapping, and Module 4—Socioeconomic Profile and Barangay Development Plan Writeshop.

With funding support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NAPC has conducted a total of five CBMS advocacy and training seminars in priority provinces identified by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) under the Accelerated Hunger Mitigation Program (AHMP). These are:

- o Sarangani – Modules 2, 3 and 4
- o Zamboanga del Sur – Module 4
- o Zamboanga del Norte – Module 1, 2 and 3
- o Agusan del Norte – Module 4

The team also provided training and orientation briefings for the local governments of provinces and cities that have expressed an interest in CBMS. Namely:

- o Tarlac – Modules 1, 2, 3 and 4
- o Pampanga – Orientation
- o Quezon City – Orientation
- o League of Municipalities, League of Cities, League of Provinces – Orientation
- o ASEAN Study Group

To administer the last leg of CBMS training in the provinces - Module 4 – Socioeconomic Profile and Barangay Development Plan Writeshop, the NAPC pool of trainers underwent additional training under the supervision of the Angelo King Institute (AKI).

As of September 2008, CBMS was utilized in the development planning programs of 52 provinces (out of which 25 provinces are implementing CBMS province-wide), 506 municipalities, 41 cities, and 13,248 barangays.

- With funding from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), NAPC conducted the Nationwide Advocacy Forum

for the Installation of the CBMS in Local Planning Systems. The activity was designed to intensify CBMS promotion and advocacy efforts, and consequently expand the adoption of the system among provincial LGUs. The forums were conducted in the NCR, the Visayas, and Mindanao. These gatherings became a venue for information sharing on CBMS experiences and for soliciting commitments among the participating provincial governors to implement the system and incorporate it in their planning system.

The Regional Directors of NEDA, Provincial Planning and Development Coordinators, Provincial and Regional Directors of DILG, as well as the Mayors and other LGU Officials, participated in the forums.

- The agency likewise carried out special microfinance technical information and training seminars for local governments. The program, which included a skills training and development component through the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to ensure the availability of affordable capital required to set up household based income generating projects and to facilitate the development of microenterprise.

2.1.2 Conduct of Quarterly Basic Sector Council Meetings

This gathers the Basic Sector Council (BSC) members and leaders in quarterly regular council meetings with government agencies, allied civil society organizations, and other development partners to share information and discuss pressing problems, issues and constraints that hinder or slow down sectoral development; and agree on the measures to address them, including the formulation and advocacy of policies and programs. For the year 2008, forty-five (45) Basic Sector council meetings were conducted.

2.1.3 Conduct of Ugnayan Laban sa Kahirapan

The Ugnayan program involves the provision of assistance to communities in the country's 15 poorest provinces and the NCR. Such assistance involves rapid participatory community diagnosis; facilitation of identified critical needs like water, electricity and other utilities through the convergence approach; organizational development; conduct of community skills training; and facilitation for the conduct of microfinance training.

The Ugnayan Team attended to the needs of 10 areas in the NCR. The agency was able to extend services to one priority province this year: Masbate.

The team facilitated the conduct of two community dialogues in as many areas, less than the three targeted for the year. The dialogues were conducted in Smokey Mountain and Sitio Damayan in Parola, Tondo. The NAPC Secretary led the team during the dialogues.

The team also facilitated the conduct of 30 TESDA training seminars in seven Ugnayan areas in the NCR, namely: Navotas; Parola; Smokey Mountain; Baseco Compound; Maricaban, Pasay; Payatas, Quezon City; and Pasig. The seminars involved 886 participants. The training courses included basic hair cutting, basic reflexology; dressmaking; building wiring installation; automotive wiring installation; automotive mechanics; consumer electronics; bead jewelry making, soap making, and throw pillow-making.

2.1.4 Participation in the People's Government Mobile Action (PGMA) Caravan

The agency participated in 14 PGMA caravans in 2008. These caravans were conducted in Lanao del Norte (Tubod), Misamis Occidental (Oroquieta, Ozamis, Calamba and Baliangao); Pasig (Manggahan), Pangasinan, Abra, La Union, Benguet, Taguig, Baguio City, Pampanga and Western Samar.

2.1.5 Conduct of Basic Sector Summit

Once every year during their three-year incumbency, the members and leaders of the BSC meet in a summit to share and learn from sectoral experiences, and craft and commit to the implementation of cross-sectoral policy and program agenda. The 2008 National Basic Sector Summit was held in February 17-19, 2008.

2.1.6 Conduct of Sectoral Representative Council (SRC) Meeting

The Sectoral Representative Council (SRC) is composed of all 14 Sectoral Representatives, or the appointed (presidential) heads of the BSCs. The SRC: a) serves as a venue for consolidating the basic sectors' positions on problems, issues, needs and concerns that affect them; b) provides support to cross-sectoral concerns

and linkage with national NGAs and LGUs; c) initiates, formulates and develops cross-sectoral programs; d) consolidates the basic sector's position and agenda for presentation to the NAPC En Banc; e) formulates a common and united stand on issues affecting the basic sectors; f) deals with the government and the private sector as a solid official body; and g) assists in the accessing resources for the program and activities of the sectoral councils. The SRC conducts its regular meeting at least two days before every scheduled NAPC En Banc Meeting. Only two (2) SRC meetings were conducted in 2008.

2.1.7 Facilitation of Regional KALAH! Convergence Group (RKCG) Meetings

The RKCGs are the NAPC's representation at the sub-national levels. As such, the RKCGs oversee the anti-poverty reduction initiatives of national government agencies, Local Government Units, and other government and non-government agencies at the regional level. The agency's efforts at this level are headed by the Presidential Assistants for Regional Development (OPARD) and supported by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Office (RO) as secretariat. These provide technical assistance to the operations of the RKCGs, such as assistance in operational planning and the development of agenda for its quarterly meetings. They also extend operational support to the OPARD and the NEDA-RO.

In January, the NAPC Localization Unit led the organization and conduct of a forum entitled "Secretary's Dialogue with the Presidential Assistants and the NEDA Regional Directors." The leader of the Basic Sector Forum, the mechanism for dialogue and coordination among the leaders, called Sectoral Representatives (if with presidential appointments) or Officers-in-Charge (if without presidential appointment), of the NAPC's 14 basic sector councils, also attended the forum. The forum yielded two key agreements: (a) that the NAPC Secretariat should provide financial and technical support for the operations of the RKCGs, while (b) Presidential Assistants and NEDA should work to activate and revitalize the RKCGs.

The agency allocated some P250,000 for each RKCG, to be released in two semestral tranches, through the NEDA regional offices, and P200,000, to be released in four equal quarterly tranches, through the OPARDs.

As of Dec. 20, all NEDA regional offices have received financial support for the RKCG operations for the first semester worth P125, 000. Only two regions have availed of the second tranche.

Among the OPARDs, 13 have received their first-quarter allocation, seven (7) have received their succeeding second-quarter allocation; two have received their third-quarter allocation; and one has received its fourth quarter allocation. One received its fourth-quarter allocation, having signed the memorandum of agreement only in the fourth quarter.

Except for those in the ARMM and the NCR, the 15 other RKCGs have restarted their operations and are at various levels of revitalization. This represents an accomplishment rating of 88% success.

Four RKCGs (Regions II, IVA, IVB and VI) have conducted four regular quarterly meetings and five RKCGs (Region I, III, V, VII and X) held three quarterly meetings. The others met for either one or two regular meetings.

Region XII is, as of this writing, conducting its re-organizational meeting, and is poised to re-start its regular operations first quarter next year.

The ARMM Regional Government has agreed in principle to strengthen the representation of the RKCG in the area, and has issued a yet to be numbered executive order, instituting an RKCG in the region. The region, led by the Presidential Assistant, shall conduct its organizational and inaugural meeting upon official issuance of the document.

In all, the NAPC facilitated the conduct of 41 RCKG meetings this year.

In addition, the RKCGs also conducted small-group or cluster meetings that discussed regional issues and concerns pertaining to the following themes: asset reform, human development services and social protection, livelihood and employment, and institutional development and capacity building. Outputs of these small group meetings were inputted into the RKCG en banc or regular meetings.

Across the RKCGs, the most common agenda discussed were: the review and identification of new Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAHI) areas, or the poorest areas targeted for convergent interventions in the region, which was prompted by

the availability of new targeting aids, including the 2006 poverty statistics and the small-area poverty estimates released by the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB); planning for convergence programs; and planning and mobilization for the implementation of the Guidelines for Accreditation of Organizations pursuant to Administrative Order 187, including the identification and engagement of basic sector organizations that may vie for membership in the successor basic sectoral councils that will be formed next year.

2.1.8 Road show on PDTF, PMLP and Consumer Protection

In partnership with the People's Credit and Finance Corporation, NAPC conducted Road shows to broaden awareness on the PDTF and the significance of support mechanisms for the microfinance sector.

The road show was designed to improve the capacities of MFIs, LGUs, and other microfinance and microenterprise service providers and greater outreach of their services.

Road shows were conducted in Tacloban City, Butuan City, and in Baguio City. Additional two roads shows were conducted in Bohol and Quezon City to accommodate the request of the LGUs. Some 273 representatives from LGUs and MFIs participated in the activity.

2.1.9 Conduct of National Week for Overcoming Extreme Poverty (NWOEP)

The NWOEP is an annual event held on from 17 to 23 October. The NAPC leads the organization and conduct of the event in cooperation with partners in the government, the private sector, civil society, basic sectors and donor agencies. Among the agency's major partners include the United Nations (UN) System in the Philippines and the All Together in Dignity Fourth World. This year, the main events of the week included a wreath-laying ceremony in honor of the poor at the Rizal Park, the conduct of the Stand Up Take Action (SUTA) campaign and the People's Day event, which was attended by thousands of poor folk from Metro Manila. The Philippines achieved a record-breaking rate of participation in the worldwide event, as a total 35 million Filipinos participated in the SUTA event.

2.2 Strengthening of institutional arrangements and partnerships among stakeholders, as well as organizational capacities in social reform and poverty reduction

2.2.1 ASEAN Networking and dialogue

The NAPC liaises with regional and international organizations such as ASEAN in its efforts of rural development and poverty eradication.

The NAPC was the chair of the Senior Official Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication from 2005 to 2008. This year, the chairmanship was turned over to Singapore. The ASEAN's Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Committee guides regional cooperation activities in key priority areas, including the social impact of globalization, narrowing the digital divide, social protection, employment and income generation, narrowing the development gap, partnerships and local participations. In the 6th SOMRDPE, held in October 2008, the Draft ASCC Blueprint, Draft Joint Declaration on ASEAN Development Goals, Draft ASEAN Millennium Development Compact and Draft ASEAN Roadmap for the Implementation of the MDGs were fruitfully discussed; these documents would be the framework of ASEAN in its future cooperation on rural development and poverty eradication within the region.

On February 2008, two Australian consultants, Peter Warr and Kimberly McClean, visited the Philippines to gather necessary information on the progress of the country's bid to achieve the MDGs. NAPC facilitated technical discussions with the consultants, providing them with the necessary materials and documents for the completion of the regional study on Poverty Reduction and Social Development in ASEAN: Towards an ASEAN Roadmap for the Implementation of the Millennium Goals Plus. On April 2008 a regional workshop was held in Bangkok, Thailand to discuss the results of the study.

NAPC, through its Macropolicy Unit, prepared and consolidated materials and briefing kits for the Philippine delegation headed by the NAPC Lead Convenor for ASEAN related meetings.

NAPC officials attended the following ASEAN conferences in 2008:

- Briefing on the Programmes of ASEAN Foundation, 14th Floor Bulwagang Blas Ople, Department of Foreign Affairs Bldg. Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, 01 April 2008.
- Regional Workshop under the Regional study on Poverty Reduction and Social Development in ASEAN: Towards an

ASEAN Roadmap for the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Plus, Bangkok, Thailand, 28-29 April 2008.

- 4th Coordinating Conference for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOC-COM) Jakarta, Indonesia 21-22 April 2008- aims to exchange views on the draft Framework for the ASCC development as well as on the appropriate process of finalizing the Framework. It also discussed on identifying the ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Body or bodies which will coordinate the implementation of ASCC.
- 5th Coordinating Conference for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (SOC-COM) Jakarta, Indonesia 22-23 September 2008.
- 8th ASEAN Science and Technology and National Science and Technology Week, World Trade Center, Pasay City, 7 and 11 July 2008- The event had significantly contributes to the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to enhance awareness and appreciation of the heightened importance of Science and Technology in the region. It was a one week celebration that provided venue for closer interaction and collaboration among the region's scientists, engineers, professionals and academicians as well as the private sector, for the development of S&T in Southeast Asian countries.
- 6th Meeting of the Senior Officials on Poverty Eradication and Rural Development (6th SOMRDPE), Singapore, 13-14 October 2008.
- 1st ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting on Poverty Eradication and Rural Development, Singapore, 15 October 2008.
- ASEAN-UN Meeting on Food Security, Diamond Hotel, Manila, 11-12 November 2008- the meeting convened the members of the ASEAN, the UN Specialized agencies and other international stakeholders and agreed on areas of cooperation on food security in the region under the framework of the *Memorandum of Understanding between the ASEAN and UN on ASEAN-UN Cooperation*. The NAPC provided technical support in this activity and part of the substantive secretariat who documented the meeting.
- ASEAN Social Forum, Hyatt Hotel, Manila, 28-30 November 2008- it served as a venue to gather non -government

organizations and civil societies to gather their inputs and recommendations on how they can cooperate with ASEAN in its efforts on social development.

2.2.2 Networking and coordination meetings with religious groups, business groups, the academe, civil society, and NGOs.

To maintain a continuing partnership with the private sector, religious groups, civil society, the academe, and NGOs, the agency actively participated in the various workshops, conferences and dialogues.

For this year, the agency was involved in 15 workshops and conferences. Some of these are workshops in Country Environment Analysis (CEA) by World Bank (WB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) where NAPC is a regular participant. Also, the agency took part in the learning sessions and discussion fora of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) such as the 79th Edition of the Globalization Lecture Series: Waging Peace through Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation, among others.

2.2.3 Networking and coordination with the legislative sector and NGAs

To strengthen its partnership with other government agencies as well as the legislative sector, NAPC attended and participated in several inter-agency meetings and discussions concerning poverty alleviation.

One of the major activities where the agency took part is the 3rd Legislator's Forum held on 17-19 November. The Committee on People's Participation, Committee on Rural Development, Committee on the MDGs, and Committee on Poverty Alleviation in coordination with UNDP convene a three-day Consultative Partnership Forum-Workshop. The workshop was attended by major poverty agencies, partner institutions, and key stakeholders. This workshop was able to draw-up the implementing mechanism for the proposed Legislative-Executive Partnership through: a.) enhance coordination among all players and stakeholders; b.) continuing information-sharing; and c.) status monitoring and periodic evaluation or impact assessment of pro-poor consolidated efforts and positive actions.

Other activities and meetings attended were the NEDA Social Development Council (SDC) Technical Board Meetings and Climate Change meetings by the Office of the Presidential Assistance on Global Warming and Climate Change where NAPC is a regular attendee, among others.

2.2.4 Participation in the Implementation of AO 225 and AO 225-A

NAPC continued to oversee the implementation of AO 225, "Harnessing Idle Resources to Uplift the Poor and Boost Rice Supply to Cushion the Country from Price Spikes" and monitored compliance to the directive by concerned GOCCS/GFIs/SSIs. In view of the need to incorporate a provision in the said Order for the effective and synchronized implementation of projects in rice and food production by the concerned agencies, President Arroyo issued AO 225-A, "Amending AO 225". Meetings with the concerned agencies were held to discuss the status of implementation of the Presidential directive. Further to the implementation of AO No. 225 and as amended by AO 225-A, the guidelines governing the implementation of the Agricultural Guarantee Fund Pool (AGFP) was issued per DA Administrative Order No. 23 dated 07 July 2008. As stated in the guidelines, a Fund Governing Board shall be created to provide direction and exercise supervision over the AGFP. The Governing Board regularly met to apprise the members on the status of the AGFP.

2.2.5 Participation to Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)

The National Anti-Poverty Commission is part of the 4Ps National Advisory Committee. The Committee meets once a month to discuss updates and policy issues concerning the program.

2.2.6 Accelerated Hunger Mitigation Program (AHMP)

- The NAPC, in close coordination with the National Nutrition Council (NNC), conducted provincial/city/municipal planning and validation workshops for the AHMP. The workshops sought to assess the country's overall hunger situation and formulate local action plans to reduce the incidence of hunger among the Filipino poor.

The NAPC collaborated with major stakeholders in the conduct of meetings and consultation workshops for the AHMP to discuss the merits of current hunger-mitigation initiatives, identify issues requiring policy action, come up with viable recommendations for the integration of the Voluntary

Guidelines on the Right to Adequate Food in the AHMP framework and to develop efficient and effective institutional mechanisms for the smooth implementation of the activities of the Program.

The NAPC in partnership with the Asia-Pacific Policy Center (APPC) and with support from the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United Nations (FAO)-Philippines continues to pursue the strengthening of institutional efforts, programs and mechanisms to ensure the successful implementation of the AHMP.

Relatedly, a High-Level Multisectoral Consultation on Fighting Hunger the Right to Food Way was held on September 3-4, 2008 at Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City. The consultation provided an opportunity to:

- o Discuss and validate the following areas of concern:
 - Root causes of hunger and the characteristics of the poor in the Philippines;
 - Legal framework on the right to food; and
 - Issues, concerns and best practices on social safety nets.
 - o Deliberate on key issues and concerns and pinpoint recommendations arising from the Right to Food Assessment;
 - o Craft a Multi-Sectoral Declaration to Fight Hunger, the Right to Food Way, which shall be presented to the NAPC Cabinet Group for adoption and action; and
 - o Set-up a workable institutional mechanisms for future steps and undertakings.
- The agency, in coordination with the NNC, organized an Orientation Workshop on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security which was held on September 25-26, 2008 at the Sunrise Holiday Mansion Hotel in Tagaytay City. The workshop was designed to:
- o Familiarize the Anti-Hunger Task Force on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security;

- o Facilitate discussions on the positive elements of the current hunger-mitigation initiatives, identify policy issues and elicit recommendations for the harmonization and integration of the Voluntary Guidelines in the AHMP framework; and
- o To establish efficient and effective institutional mechanisms for the smooth implementation of the activities of the Anti-Hunger Task Force

2.2.7 Strengthening of the NAPC Public Affairs and Social Marketing Program.

- The media bureau issued at least 85 press and photo release over the past year. Apart from publicizing the policies and programs of the agency, the bureau continued to support the public information campaigns of other government agencies and institutions, writing and issuing press releases about the pro-poor programs of the Department of Education (DepEd), the Department of Health (DOH), the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC), and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), among others.

All stories issued saw wide publication, and were read by an estimated one million people across country, based on the combined circulation of the agency's print and on-line partners in the news media.

- Press conferences were also organized and coordinated. Twelve major press conferences were conducted for this year for events such as the launch of the National Financial Literacy Campaign and the UN Right to Food Philippines Campaign.
- The bureau also assisted in the writing of spiels for the agencies regular radio plugs, which were aired over the DZRH morning program, Damdaming Bayan. This promoted public awareness of the government's various anti-poverty programs, and were mostly based on previously issued press releases.
- The bureau oversaw the lay-out and publication of special advocacy materials. Some of the major publications were for the National week for Overcoming Extreme Poverty (NWOEP), AO 187, NAPC Anniversary, and the UN Stand Up, Take Action Campaign.

- In addition, media interviews were arranged for the Lead Convenor and other NAPC Officials. Most of these interviews revolved around the results of the 2006 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), the Right to Food Philippines Campaign, the government's anti-hunger drive, and the quarterly SWS surveys, among others.

MAJOR FINAL OUTPUT #3. COORDINATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION SERVICES

3.1 Programs and projects implementation monitoring and evaluation

3.1.1 Conduct of monitoring of pro-poor programs and projects

- The agency was tasked to oversee the implementation of Administrative Order 225, "Harnessing idle resources to uplift the poor and boost rice supply to cushion the country from the price spikes". As such, the secretariat monitored reports from Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), Government Finance Institutions (GFIs) and Social Security Institutions (SSIs) regarding their respective proposals for the utilization of the 5 percent 2007 surplus.

From the 18 GOCCs, GFIs and SSIs that were identified by the Department of Finance (DOF), 14 gave commitments while the other four declared they had no surplus funds.

Aside from monitoring the reports, NAPC coordinated and attended meetings with the Department of Agriculture as well as other agencies that provide technical support in the implementation of the AO.

- The Secretariat continues to update and maintain the Anti-Poverty Programs (APPs) of all the national line agencies. To date, some 115 APPs have been updated.
- The NAPC Secretariat undertakes legislative liaison work as part of its monitoring and evaluation operations. As such, the agency has closely followed the progress legislative measures issued by both houses of congress.

The NAPC legislative agenda includes:

- Land administration reform;
- Establishment of a Department of Fisheries;
- National land use;

- o Strengthening of the country's disaster risk management capability;
- o Scholarship program for youth students;
- o Greater awareness on international humanitarian law;
- o Amendments on the Social Security Law;
- o Amendments to the Local Government Code;
- o Magna Carta for Women;
- o Basic Sector representation at the LGU level; and
- o Magna Carta for the Poor.

The agency submitted a progress report on the above bills to the previous sectoral representatives during a BS Forum Meeting held in June 2008. In addition, the NAPC Secretariat completed position papers, conducted research, and attended hearings on the following:

- o Housing and urban development;
- o Reproductive and maternal health;
- o Establishing a poverty alleviation fund;
- o Establishing barangay livelihood and skills training centers;
- o Strengthening or abolition of the Sangguniang Kabataan;
- o Magna Carta for the informal sector;
- o Real property valuation reform;
- o Alienable and Disposable Lands for Socialized Housing Projects;
- o Microenterprise Development Institutions Act of 2008;
- o Philippine Health Insurance Corporation;
- o Instituting Reforms in Land Administration;
- o Omnibus Housing and Urban Development Act of 2007; and
- o Student's rights and welfare act.

3.1.2 Provision Information Technology related services through the Management Information System (MIS)

- The MIS Unit, in coordination with UNDP, facilitated the "Development of Pro-Poor Electronic Database" project, which specifically aims to develop a database for Anti-Poverty Policies. The project was handled by an independent consultant, Mr. Louie Lee. Included in the scope of work for the project consultancy, aside from the actual development work, are the preparation of the Users Manual of the Anti-Poverty Policy Inventory System and CD-installer of the Policy Inventory Database software; and the conduct of Anti-Poverty Policy Database Users Training to familiarize the NAPC

staff on how to use its content management feature.

The MIS Unit also prepared the NAPC Information Systems Strategic Plan (ISSP) with help from the National Computer Center (NCC). A finalized copy of ISSP has been submitted to NCC including letter of request for endorsement for Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on September 2008.

The MIS Unit also facilitated the preparation of the Agency Procurement Request (APR) of Capital Outlay for hardware & software for the Department of Budget and Management Procurement Service (DBM-PS). Included in the APR are required attachments such as full specifications of hardware and software and Obligation Request from the NAPC Admin and Finance Unit.

Aside from these tasks, periodic updates to the NAPC Web Site specifically the News Update section and the Photo Gallery section by adding news articles submitted by the Media Bureau and additional new photos of recent NAPC activities, have been uploaded.

3.1.3 Development and establishment of the CBMS National Repository

- The NAPC Secretariat, in cooperation with the UNDP, held a 2-day Project Review and Planning for 2008 last February. Two proposals were crafted for the development of CBMS National Repository. These were the (1) "Adoption and Institutionalization of the Enhances Integrated Monitoring System for Anti-Poverty Programs and Projects as Central Government Monitoring and Evaluation System for Poverty Assessment"; and (2) Scaling Up of CBMS Adoption, Implementation and Monitoring Towards Effective Local Governance". These two proposals were submitted to UNDP for their approval.
- Focal persons from the NAPC MIS Unit and other CBMS trainers continue to attend learning sessions in "Improving Targeting of National Poverty Reduction Programs Using the CBMS National Repository" conducted by the AKI. The session involves updates on the NAPC-CBMS National Repository and the utilization of its data in government anti-poverty programs.

3.1.4 President's Priority Program on Water (P³W)

- The Water and Sanitation Coordinating Office (WASCO) in coordination with the DPWH-PMO Rural Water Supply/ Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (RWS/CARP) evaluates project proposals for P³W funding. As of November 30, DPWH had evaluated some 599 project proposals for the year 2008.
- WASCO identifies municipalities and barangays to be given P³W funding for the construction and rehabilitation of Level I and Level II water supply systems. The criteria used in the selection are based on the classification of the areas' access to water.

For this year, WASCO produced two batches of lists. The first and second batches were submitted last January and July, respectively, to the DPWH for implementation. Some 516 barangays in 211 municipalities nationwide are expected to benefit from the program. WASCO expects to oversee the construction of 292 Level I water supply systems and 555 Level II water supply systems in the coming months.

- After three years of implementation (2005-2008) a cumulative budget of PhP 1.5 B, some 265,000 households in 321 priority municipalities have benefited from the P³W. A total of 113 priority municipalities that received P³W technical and funding support have graduated to a higher level of access to water and are now classified as water-adequate municipalities.

In order to ensure timely completion and delivery of P³W projects in 2010 for the remaining 319 waterless municipalities, representing approximately 133,000 households, WASCO proposed an alternate source of funding to augment the annual P500 M allocation for water supply projects under the P³W. NAPC through WASCO submitted to the Office of the President (OP) a proposal for a Concessional Loan from the People's Republic of China which amounts to PhP 2.42 B which aims to hasten the delivery of potable water to waterless areas, thus making it the Accelerated President's Priority Program on Water. To date, the proposal is undergoing project preparation and planning and will implement the project as early as next year.

3.1.5 Monitoring of PDTF funded projects

One of the agency's roles in the management of the PDTF is to monitor the utilization of grants for capacity building. The agency conducted a Financial Management Analysis training last September in Butuan City. Managers, accountants, bookkeepers, directors and heads of rural banks from 21 different Microfinance Institutions attended the seminar.

3.1.6 Conduct of Basic Sector Area Monitoring with RKCG and other local bodies

Members of the BSCs, who are region-based, are tasked as development information intermediaries, to the grassroots by NAPC, the BSC and national government, and vice versa, by their basic sector constituents. Specifically, the BSC members make sure that information regarding developments that affect their respective sectors flows freely. This task includes engaging themselves with community-based organizations in their respective sectors, and sector-related local bodies, specially the local developmental councils. It also includes attending, reporting and feed-backing to, the Regional Kalahi Convergence Group's quarterly meetings. The NAPC Secretariat supports up to four monitoring travels of the BSC members every month.

3.1.7 On-line facility for filling consumer complaints on Microfinance

Consumer protection was institutionalized in the microfinance industry to safeguard the interest of consumers and empower them to be aware of their rights and make prudent and informed decisions on products and services to be acquired or availed. This on-line facility will protect the interest of microfinance clients through preventing undesirable practices of service providers and it can also be a measure to ensure transparency transactions, implementation of regulations on financial practices, promotions of consumer literacy and implementation of mechanism for filing and handling consumer complaints and grievances.

NAPC has also refurbished the microfinance section of the NAPC website to include updated information on current initiatives for the development of the Philippine microfinance industry.