



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

IBP Road, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City 1126

Telephone Nos. (632) 931-8101 to 07; Telefax (632) 931-8191

e-mail: osec@dswd.gov.ph

Website: <http://www.dswd.gov.ph>

Memorandum Circular

No. 01

Series of 2010

SUBJECT: DSWD RESEARCH AGENDA CY 2010 – 2014

I. BACKGROUND

The Department recognizes research as a major tool in crafting appropriate and relevant social welfare and development programs and policies. To further strengthen its research function, the Department issued Memorandum Circular No. 11, Series of 2009 (Guidelines for the Formulation of DSWD's 5-Year Research Agenda) and Memorandum Circular No. 14, Series of 2009 (Revised Terms of Reference for the Research and Development Technical Working Group).

Memorandum Circular No. 11, Series of 2009 specifically aims to formulate the Department's 5-Year Research Agenda which is comprehensive, holistic and responsive to the needs of the social welfare and development sector. It is also directed towards pursuing and supporting the Department's reform agenda. The National Research and Development Technical Working Group (RD-TWG) shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation and providing advisory role to all priority, Department-wide and Department-funded research activities. Both National and Regional RD-TWG will play a major role in the implementation of the DSWD's 5-Year Research Agenda.

The crafting of the DSWD research agenda is in the context of Social Protection.^{1/} Following the definition of social protection, the general goal for the SWD sector is to provide social protection particularly to the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors through interventions and programs on social welfare, social insurance, social safety nets and labor market. Appropriate and relevant interventions in terms of policies and programs are essential to improve the quality of life of the marginalized sectors. Evidence-based data through research shall serve as basis in identifying the appropriate and relevant policies and programs. The Department's Reform Areas serve as the framework for determining the research areas.

^{1/} Constitutes policies and programs that seek to reduce poverty and vulnerability to risks and enhance the social status and rights of the marginalized by promoting and protecting livelihood and employment, protecting against hazards and sudden loss of income and improving people's capacity to manage risks (SDC Resolution No. 1, series of 2007)

II. Priority Research Areas and Topics

Priority research topics for CY 2010 – 2014 are enumerated under each research area following the review of the social welfare and development issues and concerns. Prioritization of these research topics was done according to the following criteria:

- a) Relevance - Research topics are considered relevant if the priority problem affects a great number of SWD sectors and provide inputs to the proposed SWD legislations
- b) Responsiveness to issues/emerging trends/concerns - Research topics are responsive to an emerging issue/concern
- c) Urgency - Research topics are considered urgent if it requires immediate action or attention to be able to respond immediately to a pressing issue or problem
- d) Doability/Feasibility - Research topics are considered doable/feasible if there are available manpower and resources to undertake it
- e) Ethical Acceptability - Research topics identified does not inflict harm on others while carrying out the research, thus ethical issues are considered
- f) Availability of information - Available information on the identified research topics

Research Area 1: Leadership in Social Protection Sector

This Research Area focuses on the objective of DSWD Reform Area 1 which is to lead and engage other government agencies, local government units, non-government organizations, basic sectors and other social protection service providers to muster the resources and intellectual capacities to make a dent in its goal of improving the lives of the poor and vulnerable².

The research topics identified under this Research Area are supportive of and related to the (1) development/implementation of a national policy framework for social protection, (2) establishment of an objective and transparent targeting system, (3) continuing advocacy work on policy agenda and (4) the enhancement of evidence-based policy making.

² Ignacio, M.DR. Final Integrative Report (NSS-SWDRP). Department of Social Welfare and Development

A. HIGH (research topics for 2010-2011)

✧ Children and Youth

- Assessment of the Implementation of RA 9344 (Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act)
- Effects of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on Children and Youth
- Psycho-Social Effects of Armed Conflict Among Child Warriors
- Profiling of Youth Migrants
- Social Impact of Youth Migration
- Situation of Young Professionals in the Call Center Industry
- Cases of Trafficking in Unborn Babies
- Factors Contributing to the Prevalence of Street Children/Street Gangs
- Life of Street Children/Street Gangs
- Effects on Children Migrating with their Parents Abroad

✧ Women

- Evaluative Study on the Effectiveness of Protection Orders (Barangay, Temporary and Permanent) Issued to Women Victims of Violence
- Perception of Urban and Rural Women on Reproductive Health Issues
- Social Resiliency of Women During Economic Crisis
- Women Trafficking at the Port

✧ Older Persons

- Participatory Action Research for Indicators of Poverty among OPs
- Fears, Challenges and Dreams of the Elderly: Basis for Policies and Programs
- Prevalence of Elderly Abuse, Abandonment/Neglect
- Assessment of the Implementation of RA 9257 (Expanded Senior Citizen's Act)

✧ Persons with Disabilities

- Alternative Special Education (SPED) for PWDs
- Assessment of the Implementation of the Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities

✧ Family

- Evaluation of the Implementation of RA 8972 (Solo Parents Welfare Act)
- Effects of Labor Migration on Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) Families
- Effects of Pornography to Filipino Families
- Changing Family Structures of OFWs
- Self-Concept of Perpetrators of Domestic Violence and Abuse
- Risks Confronting OFWs

✧ Community

- Assessment of the Indigenous Peoples Reform Act (IPRA)
- Assessment of Opportunities for Indigenous Peoples
- Understanding the Repatriation and "Juragan" Issue in Mindanao
- Measures to Curb Human Trafficking
- Organized Communities' Capability to Respond to Climate Change
- Institutionalization of Social Insurance to the Poor

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Assessment of Inter-country Deportation Policies In Relation to International Human Rights Laws
- Climate Change and its Effect on Food Security and Health
- Social Effects of Business Outsourcing

B. MEDIUM (research topics for 2012 – 2013)

✧ Children and Youth

- Evaluation of the Implementation of RA 9262 (VAWC) Focusing on the Effectiveness of Established Regional and Local Structures (NGAs, NGOs, POs, LGUs)
- Effects of Early Marriages on Children/Teenagers
- Effectiveness and Efficiency of the Discernment Tool for Children in Conflict with the Law
- Reproductive Health Needs of Adolescents

✧ Women

- Causes and Effects of Transient Poverty on Women and Children in Urban and Rural Areas
- Effects of Violence Against Women on Parenting Role

✧ Persons with Disabilities

- Relevance of the Integration of the Basic Special Education in the Education Curriculum
- Effective Strategies to Empower Parents and Siblings on Care and Management of Intellectual Disabilities
- Children with Disabilities (CWDs) Mainstreamed to Inclusive Education
- Self-concept of Children with Disabilities

✧ Family

- Effects of LGUs' Political Intervention on RA 8972 Implementation Community
- Exploratory Study on the Roles of Social Institution in the Values Formation of OFW Families
- Effects of Modern Technology to Filipino Families

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Assessment of Existing Social Safety Nets for the Unemployed

C. LOW (research topics for 2014)

✧ Children and Youth

- Assessment of the Needs of Out of School Youth (OSY)
- Impact of Implementing Quality Education Among Disadvantaged Children Using DepEd Curriculum on a Home School Basis
- Primary Factors of Malnutrition Among Urban Poor Children
- Longitudinal Study on the Effects of RA 9344 on Children in Conflict with the Law
- Factors Influencing Youth Involvement in Violence
- Mapping, Profiling and Assessment of Children in Need of Special Protection
- Effects of Poverty on the Cohort Survival of Children and Youth in Public Schools
- Relationship of Parenting Style in Poor Households to the Multiple Risk Behavior of Children and Youth
- Factors Contributing to the Prevalence of Child Abuse

✧ Women

- Profiling of Women in the Informal Sector

✧ Older Person

- Effects of the Power of Appointment and Supervision of Office of Senior Citizen Affairs (OSCA) Heads by Local Chief Executives

✧ Family

- Roles of Religious Sector in Family Foundation
- Effects of Western Culture to Filipino Families
- Current Filipino Family Arrangements

✧ Community

- Child Rearing Practices Among Indigenous Peoples' Communities

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Needs Assessment of Persons with Literacy Problems
- Jobs and Skills Mismatch of Applicants for Employment
- Defining the Importance and Utilization of the SWD Situationer versus Development Agenda

Research Area 2: Faster and Better Social Protection Programs

The area on faster and better social protection programs emanates from Reform Area 2 which is to continuously improve the quality, scope, effectiveness and timeliness of social protection programs and services, and making these accessible and available to the target sectors and clientele.

The research topics under this area are directed to the following: (1) improve appropriate models and programs, (2) improve governance and (3) improve standards and regulations of the Department.

A. HIGH (research topics for 2010-2011)

✧ Children and Youth

- Assessment of LGU Intervention Programs & Community-Based Rehabilitation Programs for Children in Conflict with the Law
- Needs Assessment of Children Infected by HIV/AIDS

✧ Women

- Impact Assessment of Microfinance Projects for Women in the Informal Sector

✧ Older Person

- Subsidy Programs for Poor Older Persons

✧ Persons with Disabilities

- Accessibility of Children with Disabilities in Day Care Centers
- Inclusion of Auxiliary Social Services in the Annual Investment Plan (AIP) of the LGUs and its Impact to the PWD Sector
- Assessment of Programs/Services for the PWDs

✧ Family

- Effectiveness of Government Mechanisms in Protecting the OFWs
- Case Study on Kibutz Approach Among Street Families: A Strategy on Urban Poverty

✧ Community

- Review of Disaster Mitigation Response of Selected LGUs
- Assessment of Programs Implemented for Indigenous Peoples
- Effectiveness of Disaster Recovery as Strategy in Disaster Rehabilitation
- Assessment of Disaster/Emergency Preparedness of the Community
- Impact Assessment of DSWD's Anti-Poverty Programs

- Evaluation of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Effects of Decentralization of Accreditation Function to the Field Office
- Assessment of LGU SWD Programs and Services
- Evaluation on the Status of SWDAs Compliance to SWD Standards
- Impact of ABSNET in Monitoring Compliance of SWDAs/LGUs to Social Welfare and Development Standards
- Assessment of the Capacity of LGU to Sustain SWD Programs and Services
- Review of LGU Competencies in the Development of Social Protection Programs
- Service Providers Capacity: A Take Off to Quality Services to Target Clientele Groups
- Evaluating the Impact of DSWD Capability Building Efforts to LGU on SWD Implementation

B. MEDIUM (research topics for 2012 – 2013)

✧ Children and Youth

- Analysis of the Psycho-social Preparation of Children for Adoption by Child Caring Agencies (CCAs)
- Assessment of After Care Programs for Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP) Provided by NGOs and LGUs
- Extent of Functionality of Local Councils for the Protection of Children (LCPC)
- Assessment of Programs/Projects of Sangguniang Kabataan: Matching projects vis-à-vis the Needs of Youth Sector

✧ Women

- Accessibility of Health Care Interventions for Poor Women and their Children in Rural Areas & IP Communities
- Effects of Women and Children's Rights Advocacy on Access to Justice for the Poor

✧ Persons with Disabilities

- Employment of PWDs as a Result of their Training at AVRC

✧ Family

- Government Assistance on the Needs of Adoptive and Foster Families
- Family Assessments, Structure Change and Implication on Solo Parent Households

✧ Community

- Psycho-Social and Economic Effects of Armed Conflict to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Factors Contributing to Abuse of Clients in Centers and Institutions
- Available Micro-Financing Schemes and their Effects on the Beneficiaries

C. LOW (research topics for 2014)

✧ Children and Youth

- Assessment of Practices at Child Caring Agencies

✧ Women

- Effectiveness of LGU Interventions/Services on Women and Children
- Factors Contributing to Home and Traditional Birth-Assisted Deliveries among Urban Poor Women

✧ Persons with Disabilities

- The Role of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) as Lobbyist
- Level of Convergence Among Stakeholders Working with PWDs

✧ Family

- Effects of Various Programs and Services on Responsible Parenthood

✧ Community

- Effects of IDPs in Slums of Highly Urbanized Cities
- Effective Strategies for Access of the Poor and Marginalized to Basic Social Services

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Issues and Challenges among the NGOs in Developing and Sustaining Programs
- Non-Hiring of Registered Social Workers as Head of Local Social Welfare Development Officers (LSWDOs)
- Impact of Pushcart Education

Research Area 3: Financial Reforms

Research studies under this Research Area can help the Department achieve its objectives under Reform Area 3, which is to secure more predictable funding for core DSWD functions, rationalize resource

augmentation of LGUs and other partners and allocate DSWD budgetary resources in a strategic manner.

A. HIGH (research topics for 2010-2011)

✧ Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities

- Appropriation and Utilization of the 1% Budget Allocation for OPs/PWDs

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Review of NGO SWD Projects Funded by Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF)
- Financing Social Welfare and Development Programs in Local Government Units: Budget Allocation and Utilization
- Local Fiscal Policies and Practices in Addressing Poverty

B. MEDIUM (research topics for 2012 – 2013)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Public Expenditure Benefit Incidence Analysis of SWD Programs and Services

C. LOW (research topics for 2014)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Relationship Between DOH/LGU Budget Allocation & Malnutrition (health indicators)
- Financing Mechanisms on Local Health Care

Research Area 4: Improved Service Delivery Systems and Capacities

The research topics under this Research Area are supportive of Reform Area 4 which focuses on the (1) improvement of knowledge management system (monitoring and evaluation & management information system); (2) improvement of the organizational capacities and competencies through capability building; (3) implementation of rationalization and strengthening plans and performance management system; and (4) organizing resource expert pools.

A. HIGH (research topics for 2010-2011)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Impact of Devolution on the Performance and Competency of Devolved Social Workers
- Comparative Analysis of DSWD Programs vis-a vis Performance After Devolution
- Partnership for Poverty Reduction Efforts of DSWD and Non-Poor LGUs

- Impact of Capability Building Activities Provided to Internal Staff in the Provision of Technical Assistance to LGUs/Other Partners Relative to DSWD programs/project Implementation

B. MEDIUM (research topics for 2012 – 2013)

✧ Community

- Effectiveness of DSWD's Core Shelter Assistance Program (CSAP)

✧ Cross-Sectoral

- Compliance of Local Social Welfare Development Officers on Reportorial Requirements

C. LOW (research topics for 2014)

✧ Children and Youth

- Stakeholders' Participation in Minimizing Drop Outs

✧ Older Person

- Collaboration between the Academe and Partner Agencies on Caring for the Elderly

✧ Family

- Impact Assessment of Programs and Services for Filipino Deportees
- Institutionalization of Parenting Dynamics in Early Education

III. IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM

The DSWD 5-Year Research Agenda shall be published and uploaded to the DSWD Website. The Research Agenda shall be disseminated to the DSWD partners and intermediaries. Other national government agencies, local government units, non-government organizations and academe may be the proponent of these researches. However, coordination with the Department, particularly with the National and Regional R and D Technical Working Group, shall be done.

The National and Regional Research and Development Technical Working Group (RD-TWG) will play a major role in the implementation of the DSWD's 5-Year Research Agenda. The National RD-TWG shall be responsible in overseeing and providing advisory role to the Department-wide and Department-funded research activities.

The implementation of the research agenda shall adhere to the provisions stipulated in Memorandum Circular No. 14, series of 2009 (Revised Terms of Reference for R & D – TWG).

lib

IV. FUNDING

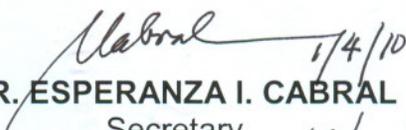
The Policy Development and Planning Bureau (PDPB), as lead in the implementation of this research agenda, shall allocate a certain amount in its Work and Financial Plan (WFP) for the conduct of a particular research. Field Offices and other Bureaus/Services/Offices who may be proponent of these researches shall also allocate a certain amount in its WFP.

The National and Regional Research and Development Technical Working Group (RD-TWG) may work with the LGUs, NGOs, POs, Academe/ State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) for implementation of the DSWD 5-Year Research Agenda. Other sources of funds such as foreign assisted projects and international and local funding organizations may be tapped to ensure that adequate funding is available for research-related activities.

V. EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Issued this 4th day of January 2010 in Quezon City, Philippines.


DR. ESPERANZA I. CABRAL
Secretary 