“Ensuring Food Security and Nutrition for Children 0-24 months old in the Philippines”

The Philippine Country Team

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Background:

NNS 2005: FNRI
- one-fourth of Filipino children aged 0-5 years old were underweight or stunted
- > 5% wasted

NDHS 2008 shows that:
- Only 34% of infants <6 months old were exclusively breastfed
- 19.7% of infants did not receive any breastmilk at all
- 11.8% of infants less than 6 months old already received complementary foods in addition to breastfeeding
- 42% of infants 6-9 month old did not receive complementary foods.
The Joint Programme

- Project Duration: 3 Years (November 2009-November 2012)
- Funded by: Spanish Government through the MDG-F
- Target Beneficiaries: 0-24 months old children
- Project Sites: 3 Cities and 3 Municipalities in 3 regions of the Philippines
- Participating UN Agencies: FAO, ILO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO
Objectives

- **Over-all Objective:**
  To contribute to improving MDG 1 (eradicating extreme poverty and hunger) and MDG 4 (reducing child mortality)

- **Specific Objectives:**
  1. To increase exclusive breastfeeding rate by 20% annually in 6 joint programme areas;
  2. To reduce prevalence of undernutrition among children 0-24 months old by 3%;
  3. To improve capacities of the national government, local governments, employers and workers, and other stakeholders to formulate, promote, and implement appropriate policies and programs on infant and young child feeding
Project components

Piloting of EWS-FNS (Early Warning System)

Partners:

National Nutrition Council (NNC)

Local Government Unit of Ragay, Camarines Sur

Recipe Trials
**Project components**

- Conduct of national consultations to review the Family Welfare Programme (FWP) and existing policies and practices on breastfeeding in the workplace

- Pilot-testing of the promotion of EBF through FWP in the cities of Naga, Iloilo and Zamboanga

- Establishing mechanisms for the promotion of breastfeeding among workers in the informal economy/sector in the cities of Naga, Iloilo and Zamboanga

**Partners:**

- Government (national and local)
- Employers’ group
- Worker’s group
**Project components**

- Established Human Milk Bank; Policy Advocacy & Support to Milk code
- Capacity building on IYCF counselling and supportive supervision of health workers & government partners
- Formative research on group counselling and CF
- Purchase/distribution of IFA
- MDGF Baseline and Endline Survey

**Partners:**
- Hospital Dep’t of Health
- NNC
- FDA
- Congress and Senate
- NGOs
- University
- LGUs
MDG-F 2030 Project components

**Partners:**
- Dep’t of Health
- INGOs/NGOs (Hellen Keller)
- LGUs
- NNC
- University (UPLB-FI, IHNF)

**MDG-F 2030 Project components:**
- MNP distribution
- MNP operational research
- Support development of the National Policy for MNP Program by DOH covering children 6-23 months

**Republic of the Philippines**
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 15, 2011

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
No. 2011 - 0303

**SUBJECT:** Micronutrient Powder Supplementation for Children 6-23 Months
**Project components**

- Developed evidenced-based marketing and advocacy campaigns
- Communication for Behavioural Impact (COMBI)
- Assessment and enhancement of Nutrition Information System at the LGU level

**Partner:**
- DOH
- NGOs
- LGUs
- NNC
Processes

1. Development of policies on:
   a. Exclusive Breastfeeding
   b. IYCF
   c. Initiated multi sectoral participation (EBF in the workplace and local government involvement)

2. LGU used EWS to create evidenced-based decisions
   a. Provision of food insecure households with supplementary feeding
   b. Provision of seeds to supplement food resources
3. Development of exit strategies and sustainability plans in the LGUs
   - MYCNSIA- Maternal and Young Child Nutrition Security Initiative in Asia funded by EU
   - Regular programming (Nat’l./Local)

4. Established institutional mechanisms
   - National Steering Committee (NSC)
   - Programme Management Committee (PMC)
   - National/Regional/Component Technical Working Group (N/R/C/TWG)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARGET OUTCOMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 1:</strong> Increased EBF rates in the project areas by 20% annually.</td>
<td>Increased EBF from 22.1% to 29.8%; but not significant</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Outcome 2:</strong> Reduced the prevalence of under nutrition by at least 3% by 2012.</td>
<td>• Insignificant decline in % underweight children from 16.2% to 15.5%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Over 20% increase in % children 6-8 mos old receiving complementary food to infants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Decline in anemia among:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 6-24 months old</td>
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<td>- 6-11 months old</td>
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### TARGET OUTCOMES

| Outcome 3: Improved the capacities of national and local governments and stakeholders to promote and implement policies and programme on IYCF. |
| Assessment of KAP on policies related to IYCF |
| Piloting of early warning system for FNS |
| Nutrition Information System evaluation done |
| Assessments results distributed and disseminated. |
Lessons Learned

1. The project contributed to the government’s initiatives of developing policies on EBF & IYCF and initiated multi-sectoral participation specifically on the EBF in the workplace;

2. Sufficient convergence of interventions is important to achieve uniform results;

3. Combined nutrition interventions (i.e. EBF & IYCF) were more effective if complemented with livelihood and poverty reduction interventions;

4. Program duration is too short to see impact;

5. Building synergies with other Joint Programmes is important to present a multi-sector perspective;

6. Using or linking with existing coordinating mechanisms help in ensuring sustainability

7. Communication (vertical, horizontal) important
Challenges

- Different administrative procedures that delayed some of the project activities
- Different timelines of activities where each UN agency can integrate
- Priorities of LGUs differ from that of the UN agencies that led to change one program area
## Scaled-up Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiatives being Scaled Up</th>
<th>Lead Agency</th>
<th>Partner Agency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EWS-FNS</td>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>NNC, UNICEF, WFP, LGUs</td>
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<tr>
<td>EBF in Workplace</td>
<td>ILO</td>
<td>Government (national and local), UNICEF, Employers’ and Workers’ group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity-building on IYCF</td>
<td>UNICEF and NNC</td>
<td>DOH, NNC, LGU</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFA distribution</td>
<td>DOH</td>
<td>UNICEF, NNC, LGU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Breastmilk Bank</td>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>On-going with DOH</td>
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<td>MNP</td>
<td>DOH</td>
<td>WFP (now a national Policy) UNICEF (during emergency response)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing and advocacy campaigns</td>
<td>DOH</td>
<td>WHO, NNC, NGOs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication for Behavioural Impact (COMBI)</td>
<td>DOH</td>
<td>WHO, NNC, NGOs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to Breastfeeding in Workplaces thru the RUP (Reaching the Urban Poor) initiative.</td>
<td>DOH</td>
<td>WHO, NNC, NGOs</td>
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Current Coordination Mechanism

1. UNDAF Subgroup 1.1 FNS Programme Management Committee

1. National Nutrition Cluster

1. UN SUN Network

2. Regular reporting on related concerns in the NNC Technical Committee and NNC Governing Board
THANK YOU!!!