



ACTUAL POLICY USES OF POVERTY STATISTICS IN THE PHILIPPINES



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It is worth noting that the poverty statistics released by the NSCB played a significant role, especially in policy formulation and targeting. Following is a list of the actual policy uses of these statistics:

1. Targeting Beneficiaries of Programs/Projects

- 1.1 The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) used the small area estimates of poverty in their *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* to identify the poorest municipalities from the 20 poorest provinces. Data will be collected from residents of these municipalities to determine beneficiaries of their poverty reduction programs.
- 1.2 The National Nutrition Council (NNC) and DSWD used the small area estimates of poverty in December 2007 to identify priority households for the *Pamaskong Handog* of GMA.
- 1.3 The Department of Agriculture (DA) used the 2000 small area estimates of poverty as one criterion in the identification of target sites of the Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resources Management Project (CHARMP II).
- 1.4 The Regional Development Council of Region I (RDC I) used the 2000 small area estimates of poverty in the identification of common priority areas for poverty-related programs in the region.
- 1.5 The Regional KALAHI Convergence Group (RKCG) used the estimates to serve as one of the bases in identifying its convergence municipalities throughout the region (e.g., MIMAROPA).
- 1.6 The NSCB RD VI provided a list of the five poorest municipalities for each of the six provinces of the region to the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Regional Development (OPARD). The list will be used in identifying target municipalities for the livelihood projects of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE). These projects include the Integrated Services for Livelihood Advancement of Fisherfolks (ISLA) and *Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged Workers* (TUPAD).

- 1.7 The DSWD used the municipal poverty incidences in identifying priority municipalities for Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) (e.g., Samar).
- 1.8 The MPAI-World Vision used the poverty mapping results to determine priority municipalities in Leyte in May 2007 for: (i) sponsorship program for schooling of indigent children; and (ii) for micro-enterprise development (MED) projects.
- 1.9 The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation used the results as inputs to determine target enrolment for its health insurance sponsored programs in 2007 (i.e. Regions VIII and XII).

2. Policy Formulation and Planning

- 2.1 The Compostela Valley Provincial Government used the results in the revision of their Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan.
- 2.2 The NEDA XII used the estimates as input for their study on the socio-economic reconstruction and development of conflict affected areas in Mindanao as well as in the revision of the Medium Term Regional Development Plan (MTRDP) of Region XII.

3. Poverty Monitoring

- 3.1 Various local government units (LGUs) of Regions I, IV, and VIII used the estimates in monitoring the attainment of the MDGs at the local level as basis in setting the MDG targets (Goal 1) in 2006 as well as in the preparation of their MDG action plans.
- 3.2 The National Economic Development Authority Regional Development Council (NEDA RDC) used the estimates in the assessment of interventions being provided to the poorest municipalities in Eastern Visayas and for future targeting purposes of the different local government agencies.
- 3.3 The NNC Region VIII used the estimates in assessing the nutritional situation of municipalities in the region in October 2007.

Further, it is worth-noting that the relevance of the 2003 intercensal small area estimates of poverty, which is an output of an NSCB project funded by World Bank, was already demonstrated by various government agencies, with seven months¹ from its release in September 2008. Below is a list of the actual policy uses of the 2003 estimates:

1. The 2003 intercensal small area estimates of poverty was used by the DSWD as basis for prioritizing target households for the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTSPR), as well as, in their conditional cash transfer (CCT) program presently being implemented.
2. The DOLE, Department of Health (DOH), and the Professional Regulation Commission, Board of Nursing (PRC-BON) used the 2003 SAE of poverty as inputs in the design and/or implementation of their collaborative training/deployment Project called Nurses Assigned in Rural Service (NARS). The Project aims to mobilize unemployed registered nurses to the 1,000 poorest municipalities in the country to improve the delivery of health care services.

¹ "As of March 2009."