

PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID) CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: PIDC22250

Project Name	Philippines Social Welfare Development and Reform Project II (P153744)
Region	EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC
Country	Philippines
Sector(s)	Other social services (60%), General education sector (20%), Health (20%)
Theme(s)	Social Safety Nets/Social Assistance & Social Care Services (40%), Education for all (20%), Child health (20%), Other social protection and risk management (20%)
Lending Instrument	Investment Project Financing
Project ID	P153744
Borrower(s)	REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Implementing Agency	DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Environmental Category	B-Partial Assessment
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Concept Review Decision	Track II - The review did authorize the preparation to continue

I. Introduction and Context

Country Context

The Philippines has benefited from strong macroeconomic fundamentals, manifested by low and stable inflation, falling debt ratios, a healthy current account surplus, high international reserves, and a stable banking sector. Philippines economic growth has been robust in the last years, averaging 6 percent in 2010-2014, in line with the major economies in the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region. In recent years, economic growth has also become more inclusive as it is translating into stronger job creation and faster poverty reduction as measured both by income and non-income dimensions of poverty. In 2014, unemployment rate fell to its lowest level in 10 years at 6 percent.

Also, after years of stagnation, poverty incidence started to decline, by 3 percentage points in 2013 vs. 2012, to reach 24.9 percent. The real income of the bottom 20 percent of the population grew much faster than the rest of the population (10 percent vs. 2.4 percent for the rest of the 80 percent

of the population). This is in part the result of the Government's expansion of the Pantawid Pamilya Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program, which is well targeted and reaching 4.4 million households in 2014 and the Universal Health Care (UHC), with coverage increasing from 5 million in 2012 to 8 million poor households in 2013, covering the bottom 40 percent of the population. The growth elasticity of poverty—the rate at which economic growth reduces poverty—improved significantly to -2.02 from -0.24 between 2006 and 2012. If these trends are sustained, the government's target of reducing the incidence of poverty to 18-20 percent by 2016 is attainable.

Still, several challenges remain. Of the 1.1 million entrants to the labor force annually, only 22 percent get jobs in the domestic formal sector. Better jobs are need for the 21 million Filipinos who are still informally employed. The recent contraction in agricultural value-added and employment, where most of the poor still find their livelihood, may risk undermining the government's poverty reduction efforts. And many Filipinos still live just above the poverty line ("near poor"), cycling in and out of poverty due to high vulnerability to climatic, disaster, financial and price shocks. It has been estimated that a 20% increase in the poverty line following a major food shock would increase the poverty incidence by over 9%. Between 2003 and 2009, 44% of the population was poor at least once, one in three Filipinos were persistently poor, and two out of three households moved in and out of poverty. Perennial typhoons and flooding are the most devastating in terms of their economic and social impact. The Philippines is visited by an average of 20 typhoons annually and Typhoon Yolanda in 2013 has so far recorded the highest number of affected population (at 12.2 million) and brought 1 million Filipinos into poverty.

In terms of social indicators, despite progress, several challenges remain. Increases in public education spending have halted the decline in education access and learning that began in the late 1990s. Between 2006/07 and 2012/13 primary (secondary) net enrolment rates increased from 84 (59) percent to 95 (65) percent. While access to elementary education is comparable to other countries in the region, this is not the case with secondary education where the Philippines lags behind and inequalities are high (65 percent enrollment for non-poor youngsters aged 15-18, vs. 40 percent among poor). Trends in education quality have been more mixed but there have been some notable improvements in overall learning outcomes at the primary level and in some areas of secondary schooling. In health, while most indicators have improved, malnutrition among mothers and children under five years continued to be a persistent challenge in the Philippines. While the prevalence of underweight for children 0-5 years old has declined from 27.4 percent in 1989 to 19.9 percent in 2013, stunting rates have only declined by about three percentage points over the last decade (from 33.9 percent in 2003 to 30.3 percent in 2013), and at this current rate of improvement, the Philippines is unlikely to achieve the MDG target for nutrition. Other challenges include low and barely improving immunization rates (they rose from 72.2 per cent in 1993 to 76.6 per cent in 2013), and obesity among children obesity among children and adults has also been steadily increasing, along with associated risk factors for diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases.

The 2011-2016 Philippine Development Plan (PDP) provides the overall policy direction in the country on the medium-term. It focuses on transformational leadership based on governance, empowering the people, and delivery of health and education services to achieve the goal of inclusive growth and sustained poverty reduction. The PDP develops the vision of achieving these overarching goals through concrete actions that focus on three strategic objectives: (i) attaining a sustained and high rate of economic growth that provides productive employment opportunities, (ii) equalizing access to development opportunities for all Filipinos, and (iii) implementing effective

social safety nets to protect and enable those who do not have the capability to participate in the economic growth process. To achieve sustained and high growth, the PDP calls for a stable macroeconomic environment, increased infrastructure investment and competitiveness, and improved governance. To enable broad-based access to development opportunities, the PDP calls for increased investment in human capital (education and health) and improved access to infrastructure, finance, land, and other assets. Social protection was adopted in the PDP as one of its cross-cutting strategies aimed at improving the quality of human and physical capital. For effective social protection, the PDP lays out the needs for developing effective and responsive safety nets.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

The Philippines currently features much improved—better designed, coordinated and implemented and more efficient and effective—suite of social assistance programs than it used to. The Philippines used to have multiple but relatively small and uncoordinated social assistance programs that sought to assist the poor and vulnerable. Nearly each government agency used to implement their own social assistance program, employing their own methods of identifying beneficiaries. Without an effective mechanism to identify the target population, the effectiveness of social assistance programs in the Philippines was compromised.

Faced with the financial crisis in 2007, the Government of the Philippines embarked on the reform of its social assistance system to assist the poor and vulnerable more effectively. These reforms were spearheaded largely by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). Most notably, the reforms include:

- Adoption of a national definition and framework for social protection. In 2007, the government adopted a definition of social protection with a view to improving coordination in delivering social assistance. The definition was enhanced in 2012 and accompanied by a framework that serves as a blueprint for the improved delivery of social protection programs, with a view to reducing fragmentation and overlap, while also enhancing coordination. Tools have been developed and being rolled out at the local government level to provide core parameters/guidelines for adopting the definition of social protection and related framework among various agencies and organizations implementing social assistance programs.
- Creation of the Sub-committee on Social Protection (SCSP) in the standing Social Development Committee in 2009. The SCSP is an inter-agency committee that serves as the national coordination body and leads the policy dialog in social protection. It is located in the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and is co-chaired by the Department of Social Welfare and NEDA. .
- Establishment of a unified national system to target poor households. In the past, various social assistance programs of the government applied their own beneficiary selection mechanisms, mostly based on some subjective eligibility assessment and significantly influenced by partisan politics at the local level. In 2007, DSWD piloted a targeting mechanism based on a proxy-means method combined with community validation to assess the income/ poverty status of households. The pilot paved the way for the establishment of the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NTSP-PR). The major data collection effort took place in 2009-2010 when data on about 11 million households (almost 60 percent of the Pilipino households was) collected, of which 5.3 million were identified as poor and targeted for government assistance. While initially the system, now called Listahanan, was used to select beneficiaries of Pantawid Pamilya CCT Program,

it has become the backbone of the Philippine's anti-poverty programs and it is now used to target other 44 national anti-poverty programs, including the PhilHealth subsidized health insurance and the social pension program, and by more than 1,000 local government units (LGUs). It is also used by local governments, civil society organizations and bilateral and multilateral donors. It has also been used in planning relief operations and delivering emergency assistance to families affected by natural disasters .

- Initialized systematic monitoring of social protection statistics. After the enhancement of the national SP definition and framework, the SCSP sought the inclusion of basic SP indicators in the 2011-2017 Philippine Statistical Development Plan to institutionalize monitoring of key statistics relevant for social protection. Since then, national household surveys for poverty monitoring included modules on participation and benefits from various SP programs of the government for their regular assessment.

Regarding the social assistance programs, the most reform important milestone has been the creation of the Pantawid Pamilya CCT Program. It plays a central role in the Government's overall strategy to address poverty and vulnerability among Filipinos. The program aims to break intergenerational transmission of poverty by incentivizing poor households to invest in education and health of their children. At the same time, by increasing the household income, the CCT grants contribute to poverty alleviation. Initially, the program was targeted to poor households with children 0-14. In 2014, it was expanded to cover children in secondary education as well. The CCT program was piloted on 6,000 households in 2007 and formally launched in 2008 to cover 320,000. By 2010 the coverage reached 1 million households. The Aquino administration that came into power in 2010 adopted the CCT as a flagship of its poverty reduction efforts, expanding the coverage to all poor households with children 0-18 (4.2 million households) by 2014. Commensurately, the budget allocation to the CCT program increased from 0.1% of GDP in 2010 to 0.5% of GDP in 2014. The CCT program is implemented by 11,000 staff across the Philippines and it features elaborate implementation architecture, including a beneficiary identification and update system, compliance verification system, payment system and grievance redress system (GRS). The rounds of rigorous impact evaluation and a household survey based benefit incidence analysis have shown that the CCT program is having impact on health and education of poor children and that it has a significant effect on poverty and inequality, particularly among the beneficiary households. The World Bank has been a key partner in its development and financing, through the Social Welfare Development and Reform Project (P082144) and continuous technical assistance supported by the Australian Government, as well as the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The program has been assessed as one of the best-targeted CCT programs in the world, underscoring the critical importance of having a sound targeting system behind it.

In addition to the CCT program, DSWD has significantly strengthened and expanded the KALAHI-CIDSS community driven empowerment and development (CDD) program and it launched in 2011 the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), a community-based capacity building program that aims to improve the socio-economic status of the poor Filipino families and to increase opportunities for the CCT households to exit poverty. From 2011 to 2014, the SLP has served 478,281 participants, of which 87 percent were Pantawid Pamilya beneficiaries. It is implemented through two tracks, the majority (94 percent) under the Microenterprise Development Track (that distributes capital seed fund), and the rest through the Employment Facilitation Track (technical training at accredited institutions). The three programs: the CCT, the CDD and the SLP represent an example of the current administration's efforts to converge the delivery of anti-poverty programs at the local

level for better poverty reduction outcomes.

Philippines is also one of the best examples in which social protection programs are scaled-up in response to emergency. DSWD is also the agency responsible for disaster relief and early recovery, and is also the agency responsible for social assistance programs. In response to the massive Yolanda typhoon of 2013, DSWD used Pantawid Pamilya CCT program as one means by which to help affected poor families recover from the disaster. It also coordinates cash-for-work, food, and temporary shelter assistance with LGUs.

Moving forward, the Government administration is committed to continue further reducing poverty despite the challenges described before. It intends to prepare a 5-year Social Protection Plan to ensure that reforms initiated will continue and Social Protection remains a government priority at the turn of the new administration. The update of the Listahanan's database of poor by end of 2015 will be a key critical step especially as more national- and local-led programs plan to use it for targeting.

The proposed Social Welfare and Development Reform II Project (SWDRP 2) intend to continue supporting the efforts of DSWD in moving forward the social protection agenda as leading implementing institution. The proposed Project intends to sustain, improve, and enhance the delivery of the CCT program, and to support the labor market entry of CCT beneficiaries to enhance their chances of exiting poverty. It also aims to strengthen the information systems to ensure better coordination of programs, and a more rapid and effective response upon natural disasters or economic shocks. Continuous World Bank support will particularly be critical in the next couple of years of changing Government administration to sustain gains and help move forward the pending challenges in the social protection agenda.

Relationship to CAS

The proposed operation is fully aligned with the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) FY15-18 as well as the Governments' PDP. The goals of the CPS for the Philippines are to promote inclusive growth, reduce poverty and support shared prosperity. The theme of the PDP is inclusive growth, defined as high growth that is sustained, creates jobs and reduces poverty. The FY15-18 CPS identifies five engagement areas: EA1- Transparent Accountable and Participatory Government; EA2 – Empowerment of the Poor and Vulnerable; EA3 – Rapid Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth; EA4 – Climate, Environment, Disaster Risk Management; and EA5 – Fostering Institutions and Building Trust for Peace. The proposed operation thus is directly aligned with EA2, in particular with its focus on “Improved health outcomes”, “Improved quality of basic education and Improved Access for the vulnerable”, and “Strengthened social safety nets”. But it also contributes to all engagement areas, in particular to the following outcomes: “Strengthened Public Sector Institutions” (EA1), “Increased economic growth, productivity, and jobs in rural areas” (EA3), “Increased Physical and Financial Resilience to Natural Disaster and Climate Change Impacts” (EA4), and “Development and Implementation of a Peace Dividend Program for Bangsamoro” (EA5).

In terms of concrete CPS indicators into which this operation would contribute, these are the following:

- a. “Share of poor households registered in the Listahanan database receiving benefits of social programs.” (CPS target: 90 percent in 2016).

b. “Percentage of poor households with children covered by conditional cash transfer.” (CPS target: 97 percent in 2016).

II. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s) (From PCN)

To support DSWD in the effective delivery of the national conditional cash transfer (CCT) and livelihood programs to: a) incentivize the use of health and education services by poor children; and b) increase employability prospects of CCT beneficiaries.

Key Results (From PCN)

- a) Share of children in CCT beneficiary households attending elementary school (grades 1-6).
- b) Share of children in CCT beneficiary households attending high school (grades 7-12).
- c) Share of children 0-5 years old undergoing health check-ups in accordance with DoH protocols.
- d) Number of CCT beneficiaries who complete nationally-certified training courses.
- e) Integrated MIS among DSWD major programs

III. Preliminary Description

Concept Description

1. Description

The project comprises four components:

Component 1: Support to the Pantawid Pamilya CCT Program (Tentative allocation: US\$ 350 million).

The objective of this component is to support effective implementation of the conditional cash transfer program (CCT – Pantawid) to poor children 0-18 years of age across the Philippines. The Pantawid is a CCT program aimed at addressing the intergenerational transmission of poverty in the Philippines by supporting improved health and education outcomes of poor children and pregnant women. The Pantawid provides cash grants to poor households subject to their meeting certain conditions in health and education. The beneficiary households are chosen using the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) or Listahanan.

This component will have two subcomponents: (i) CCT Grants, and (ii) Implementation Support for Pantawid, to support the National Project Management Office (NPMO-Pantawid) in its continuous efforts to enhance implementation of the CCT, including through an integrated Management Information System for the Pantawid business processes and within DSWD enterprise data warehousing and management system, strengthened capacity for monitoring, evaluation and data analysis, enhanced payment and GRS, streamlined and improved family and youth development sessions, and faster compliance verification and beneficiary data systems.

1.1. Pantawid Grants (Tentative allocation: US\$ 345 million)

This subcomponent will continue financing health and education grants of the Pantawid beneficiaries nationwide over the period of four years, starting from the date of project effectiveness. The beneficiary households are and should continue to be selected using the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction – Listahanan – that follows a standardized targeting

mechanism with rigorous quality control process. The transfers are delivered by DSWD to poor and eligible households with children 0-18 years old nationwide. Selected households receive the cash transfers for up to 3 children, subject to meeting eligibility criteria and the compliance with the health and education related conditions.

Poor households with children 0-18 years old and/or pregnant women are eligible for a health transfer currently set at PhP 500 (~US\$11) per household per month (for a period of 12 months/year) regardless of the number of children 0-18 years old. The health transfer requires that households fulfill the following conditions: (i) all children 0-5 years old should visit the health center or rural health unit to get the services established by DOH according to their age, including growth monitoring and immunization; (ii) pregnant women must attend the health centers or rural health unit for pre-natal and post-natal care, according to DOH protocol; (iii) all children 6-14 years old in primary school should comply with the de-worming protocol at schools (2 pills per year); and (iv) for households with children 0 to 18 years old the household grantee (mother) and /or spouse shall attend family development sessions at least once a month.

Poor households with children 3-18 years old are eligible for education grant. Up to three children can receive the grant. Children receiving grants are required to attend classes 85% of the time. For children enrolled in day care or elementary education, the current grant amount is PhP 300 (~US\$6) per child per month (for a period of 10 months/year). For children enrolled in secondary education the grant amount is currently set up at PhP 500 (~US\$ 11) per month for 10 months/year). Secondary education grantees are also expected to attend youth development sessions. The same rules apply to children enrolled in the Alternative Learning System and Alternative Delivery Mode of elementary and secondary education services.

The proposed project will support DSWD in the revision of the parameters of the CCT program drawing lessons from implementation and evaluations. One of the key emerging issues is the decline in the real purchasing power of the CCT grants. The amounts have not been changed since the program was introduced in 2007/8 and the grants real value has dropped by about 40 percent since then. The result is that the share of the CCT grants in household income has dropped from 23 percent in 2008 to about 11 percent in 2013. This drop may affect adversely the incentives of households to participate in the program and thus undermine the achievement of its objectives. While during the last four years the focus of the Government has been to expand the CCT program to all poor eligible households, going forward and taking into account the availability of Listahanan 2 (updated National Household Targeting System) data later this year, the Government is examining options to increase the value of the grants to keep pace with inflation. Another option could be to keep the level of the health and the elementary school grants approximately the same, while significantly increasing the grants for children in secondary education, differentiating by each grade (to include both direct and opportunity cost of secondary education) and by gender (higher for boys than girls, as boys tend to drop out much more, than girls). Another important aspect for potential revision concerns the number and the choice of children to be monitored under the CCT, since there are arguments for lifting the cap, or stipulating the grants availability to the first three children in a family, to avoid the situation where families opt for the youngest children to maximize the duration of the grants.

1.2. Implementation Support for Pantawid (Tentative allocation: US\$ 5 million)

The Pantawid is implemented by a National Project Management Office (NPMO-Pantawid), which

is situated within the structure of DSWD. As shown in other CCT programs around the world, a key to the CCT program success is a strong, dedicated, and well-resourced organizational structure, which is capable of implementing all key activities of the program cycle efficiently and effectively. These include: registration of eligible families, verification of eligibility, keeping the beneficiary data information up to date, verification of compliance with conditions, managing payments, delivering family development sessions, organizing assemblies of grantees and mobilizing parent leaders, implementing a GRS, undertaking monitoring and evaluation and maintaining an MIS system that supports all these operation activities. DSWD has put in place solid implementation architecture, with about 11,000 strong staff across the Philippines, serving 4.4 million beneficiary households. Continued effort is required to properly maintain and continue to develop and strengthen systems for registration, verification, client data updates, payment, grievance acceptance and resolution and monitoring, and evaluation activities.

This subcomponent would thus support the following activities: (i) enhancing business processes and systems, including: client registration, verification and information updates; compliance verification; payment; and GRS; (ii) strengthening policy analysis and monitoring and evaluation capacity, including implementation of one round of the CCT program impact evaluation and annual CCT program implementation spot checks; (iii) improving capacity to deliver CCT program in the implementation challenging areas, such as Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), areas populated by indigenous people and geographically isolated areas; (iv) integrating automated data/ information flow and management across the CCT implementation cycle and across the CCT implementation units, as well as with other parts of DSWD enterprise data management system; (v) further developing strategic communications on the CCT program and capacity to deliver them, as well strengthening of the beneficiary feedback mechanism; and (vi) further developing the content and improving delivery of family and youth development sessions.

To deliver these activities, the project will finance: expert services, knowledge transfer, training, and software development and ICT.

Component 2: Increasing Employability Prospects of CCT Beneficiaries (Tentative allocation: US\$ 80 million)

The objective of this component is to improve the opportunities for a successful school-to-work transition of the high-school Pantawid graduates and other CCT beneficiaries through an integrated package of labor market orientation, life skills, and certified technical and vocational training under the umbrella SLP of the DSWD.

With evidence that the Pantawid CCT continues to have positive impacts on the expected health and education outcomes, the challenge now is towards a new phase to facilitate their productive inclusion in the labor market. Among such facilitations include providing opportunities to obtain vocational skills and technical training programs with certification, employment services, and entrepreneurship support programs. International evidence (Mexico, Colombia) shows that providing skill trainings to unemployed or underemployed youth, including former CCT beneficiaries, can increase significantly the probability of finding jobs.

In that sense, DSWD's SLP Program, implemented since 2011, aims to provide income-generating opportunities and employment to identified poor families through the two tracks of the program: (a) Microenterprise Development (including SEA-K capital seed fund, technical-vocational skills

training for microenterprise, cash for livelihood assets, and commodity cluster model), and (b) Employment Facilitation (Technical-vocational skills training for employment in accredited institutions at the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and pre-employment assistance funds to cover documentary requirements). Through these, the socio-economic benefits gained by beneficiaries are sought to be sustained and enhanced even beyond the period of providing cash grants. As of today, the large majority of SLP interventions are through the Microenterprise Development track.

SLP is implemented by DWSD's Project Development Officers operating at the Barangay level, and currently benefits Pantawid CCT beneficiaries, other non-Pantawid poor (as identified by Listahanan targeting instrument), disabled, senior citizens, and disaster-affected population. Participants are selected by PDOs and validated at the Community Core Group composed of local DSWD officials (PDO, Pantawid Municipal Links, CDD implementers) and civil society actors. For the case of Pantawid beneficiaries, these are identified at the mandatory monthly family development sessions and referred to the PDOs by the Municipal Links.

2.1. SLP Training Grants (Tentative allocation: US\$ 75 million)

The Project will seek to expand and strengthen the Employment Facilitation track among selected Pantawid CCT beneficiaries with complete high-school education; i.e., those exiting the Program. It is estimated that approximately 25,000 Pantawid beneficiaries will graduate from high-school in 2015. There is concern, however, on which type of support would be appropriate for graduating beneficiaries as the existing active SLP programs that support them have issues on efficacy and sustainability. For that, a new modality within SLP is proposed, containing the following features: a) career counseling; b) life skills module; c) technical-vocational training; d) stipend allowance and graduation and certification bonuses; and e) job placement assistance. The design of the appropriate package of intervention and costing per trained participant will be determined during Project preparation, but is expected that SLP would contract a package of services through TESDA-accredited institutions (TVIs) for its delivery, and liaise with the Department of Labor (DOLE)'s local employment offices for job placement support. The final package design will draw lessons from existing and discontinued training interventions within SLP, including the Cash-for-Training Program for self-employed Pantawid beneficiaries implemented only in 2013 in TESDA facilities, and other existing apprenticeship programs for non-Pantawid high-school graduates.

2.2. Implementation Support for SLP (Tentative allocation: US\$ 5 million)

The Project will also seek to strengthen the implementation of SLP interventions, which requires a revision of the participant profiling (targeting) and referral mechanism. Both aspects are critical to maximize the chances of a successful labor market entry of participants, and could be done by using several information sources (Listahanan, the new Social Welfare and Development Indicators, high-school grades, family and youth development sessions) and interviews. This will require personnel appropriately trained and fully dedicated to this task. SLP also needs to strengthen its monitoring and evaluation system to track participants before, during, and after training interventions, to report job placement indicators and profiles that would feed the selection process. For that, it will be also important to enhance the SLP IT system to systematically link trained CCT beneficiaries to employment opportunities. For the proposed Employment Facilitation package for Pantawid high-school beneficiaries, a process and an impact evaluation would provide guidance for adjustments before scaling-up coverage. An assessment to identify the most cost-effective mix of SLP

modalities or those that have highest impact for productive inclusion and sustainable development is also needed. Regular spot checks and qualitative surveys would need to be performed, as well as the setup of a GRS module, and a communications campaign. Technology and database upgrading will also be needed at central, regional, and local level.

To deliver these activities, the project will finance: expert services, knowledge transfer, training, and software development and ICT.

Component 3: Support to the role of DSWD in disaster and emergency response (Tentative allocation: US\$ 1.5 million)

Given the country's exposure to regular natural disasters the most vulnerable suffer from frequent shocks to their incomes, well-being and consumption, disrupting development progress and keeping them in poverty. The objective of this component is to strengthen DSWD's capacity to perform its duties in the country's disaster preparedness and response.

In relation to cash transfers, DSWD has already experience in implementing temporary suspensions of Pantawid conditionality during emergency situations, and even topping-up cash transfers to existing beneficiaries. This was the case following Typhoon Yolanda, when DSWD used the Pantawid structure to rapidly deliver additional grants to affected beneficiary households. The financing for this top-up cash grant was provided through the World Food Program and UNICEF after Yolanda had struck. DSWD intends to assess the adjusted delivery modality of CCT after disaster and institutionalize this as part of the early response for victims of disasters.

In that regard, the Project would support the enhancement of the automated system that would ensure efficient collection of correct and real time data to systematize and rationalize disaster preparedness, relief and early recovery. Similarly, technical assistance is needed to properly assess the effectiveness of early recovery efforts and develop guidance on how to decide on phases of assistance: emergency response, recovery and rehabilitation and when and how to transition from one to the other. The capacity of DSWD will also be strengthened across all personnel on disaster response preparedness, and logistics, for improved planning, implementation and monitoring, and to help manage expectations of the public during disaster.

To deliver these activities, the project will finance: expert services, knowledge transfer, training, and software development and ICT.

Component 4: Support to DSWD Policy and Institutional Capacity Development (Tentative allocation: US\$ 18.5 million)

The objective of this component is to strengthen DSWD's policy and institutional capacity as leading government agency in social protection. DSWD implements programs assisting poor and vulnerable individuals, households and communities in the Philippines, covering more than 25 million people and with the 2015 budget planned at almost 2.5 billion US dollars or close to 2 percent of GDP. Efficient and effective delivery of DSWD programs requires strong policy and institutional capacity

The project will support the following: (i) analytical and advisory support for the development of the 5 year social protection development plan as part of the Philippine Development Plan; (ii)

strengthening capacity of the DSWD Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Office to analyze and develop social welfare policies and programs and to perform results based monitoring and evaluation of DSWD programs; (iii) implementation of DSWD Information System Strategic Plan for an integrated information and data management system underpinning efficient and effective delivery of DSWD programs and services, including the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (Listahanan), Pantawid, KALAHI-CIDSS (National Community Driven Development Program), Sustainable Livelihood Program, and DRRM; and (iv) mainstreaming social protection at the local level, and (v) building capacity for and carrying out social marketing.

To deliver these activities, the project will finance: expert services, knowledge transfer, training, and software development and ICT.

IV. Safeguard Policies that might apply

Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project	Yes	No	TBD
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	x		
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04		x	
Forests OP/BP 4.36		x	
Pest Management OP 4.09		x	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11		x	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	x		
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12		x	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37		x	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50		x	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60		x	

V. Financing (in USD Million)

Total Project Cost:	450.00	Total Bank Financing:	450.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
Borrower			0.00
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development			450.00
Total			450.00

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