Department Order No. __01__
Series of 2008

SUBJECT : ADOPTING A HOUSEHOLD TARGETING SYSTEM
FOR POVERTY REDUCTION FOR DSWD SOCIAL
PROTECTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

I. Rationale

Data from the National Statistical and Coordination Board (NSCB) showed that poverty worsened from a 24.4 percent poverty incidence in 2003 to 26.9 percent in 2006 equivalent to 4.0 million poor families in 2003 to 4.7 million poor families in 2006, respectively. Similarly, the subsistence or food poverty incidence increased from 10.2 percent in 2003 to 11 percent in 2006. The latter is equivalent to 1.9 million families who could not meet their basic food requirements.

The DSWD is the lead agency mandated to provide social protection and to promote the rights and welfare of poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, families and communities. The Department contributes to poverty alleviation and empowerment through social welfare development policies, programs, projects and services implemented with or through LGUs, NGOs, POs, other government organizations and members of civil society.

The Department is implementing several social protection programs aimed at reaching poor households using different targeting approaches to identify beneficiaries. Targeting is a means of increasing the efficiency of programs. It is also a means that will allow the government to reduce the budget requirement of the program while still delivering the same level of benefits to the poor.
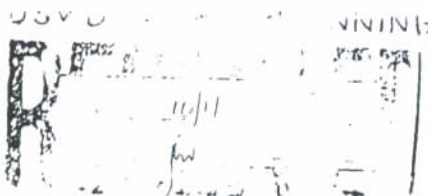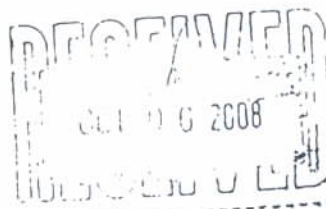
It is important that the DSWD adopt an efficient, effective, and transparent Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (HTS-PR) that will identify who and where the poor household are as well as ensure that limited resources of the Department reach them.

II. Objectives

General Objective:

To establish an objective and transparent targeting system for social protection programs.

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2. To establish a database of households as a means to identify beneficiaries for social protection programs/projects.
3. To reduce inclusion of unintended beneficiaries and exclusion of intended beneficiaries in social protection programs/projects.

III. The Targeting Tool – Proxy Means Test (PMT)

The PMT is a statistical formula used to approximate income to determine the poor using socio-economic variables that would predict household income and allow for objective ranking, classification and prioritization of poor households. (Please see the attached Household Assessment Form-Annex A)

IV. Establishment of Database of Poor and non-Poor Households

The database shall be used for analysis relative to the classification of households into:

1. Non-Poor – those living above the poverty threshold
2. Survival Poor – those at or below the poverty threshold but above the food threshold
3. Food Poor – those below the food threshold

V. Institutional Arrangement

A. Creation of a Project Management Office (PMO)

A PMO shall be created to manage the targeting project, to include the household assessment and the maintenance of the hardware and software components of the system. The PMO functions shall be mainstreamed to the regular function of Management Information System Service (MISS)

B. Responsibility of Offices/Bureaus/Services (OBSs) concerned

1. The Policy Development and Planning Bureau (PDPB)

   a. Shall be the focal unit in responding to concerns on targeting needs and requirements of Offices/Bureaus/Services (OBS) /Project Management Offices (PMOs) and Field Offices (FOs).

   b. Shall coordinate the build up of database of poor households as reference in identifying beneficiaries for social protection programs developed or being developed by Bureaus/PMOs.

   c. Shall periodically monitor the concerned Bureaus on the implementation of programs to ensure output of HTS-PR is being followed.

that includes, but not limited to, database administration, back up and management, hardware maintenance, high data availability, monitoring of storage capacity and data security.

3. **Social Technology Bureau and Program Management Bureau and other Project Management Offices**

   a. Shall ensure that the database generated from the application of the HTS-PR will be used in the development and enhancement of social protection programs/projects.

   b. Shall utilize data for identifying beneficiaries of social protection programs/projects.

4. **Field Offices**

   a. Shall utilize data for identifying beneficiaries of social protection programs/projects.

   b. Shall advocate the use of the HTS-PR to LGUs, NGOs and other intermediaries in the selection of household beneficiaries of social protection programs and projects.

5. **Social Marketing Service**

   Shall advocate the use of the HTS-PR to LGUs, NGOs and other intermediaries in the selection of household beneficiaries of social protection programs and projects
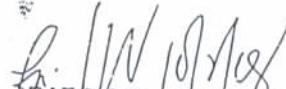
V. Effectivity

This Order shall take effect after the establishment of the household targeting database.

Issued in Quezon City, this 30th day of September, 2008

ESPERANZA I. CABRAL
Secretary

EIC/ARB/FRV/GEF/DSF/CBL/MUV
DAO on PMT/mv docs

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