

SOCIAL PENSION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE

SEMESTRAL/ NARRATIVE ASSESSMENT REPORT

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Republic Act No. 9994, also known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 institutionalizes social protection to senior citizens through the provision of additional government assistance which include the Social Pension Program for the Indigent Senior Citizens (SPPISC).

As a lead agency, the Department of Social Welfare and Development National Capital Region (DSWD-NCR) in partnership with the Local Government Units (LGUs), NGOs and other stakeholders is enthusiastically advocating full implementation of Social Pension Program to convey the privileges and benefits of our indigent Filipino senior citizens.

Specifically, the National Capital Region has a target of 220,485 Social Pensioner ages 60 years old and above from 17 LGUs to receive one thousand five hundred Pesos only (Php1,500.00) per quarter with designated DSWD-NCR SDOs/Personnel, C/MSWDO and OSCA staff at the designated venues at the LGUs on a cash pay-out basis.

Due to prevalence of covid 19 and series of lockdown for the past until today, SPPMO conduct validation in a limited basis to cater the variances of the region. With this, SPPMO dedicated the 1st quarter and 3rd Quarter of the year of 2022 to conduct said validation in the entire Metro Manila.

SPPMO immediately process the data for the inclusion of the eligible senior citizen to the program. However, there are still delayed in the release of the social pension stipend considering that LGUs with huge number of beneficiaries opted to conduct the pay-out after election despite series of lobbying and consultation SPPMO conducted. As a result, SPPMO struggle to cater the big amount of cash advances for the last month of the semester. Due to lack of special disbursement officer, SPPMO was not able to process immediately the cash advance for social pension pay-out. This affects the timeline of the implementation of the program.

With this, SPPMO lobbied for the approval of fund transfer to the LGUs to the DSWD Central office. As a result, on September 22, 2022, DSWD-CO issued a Memorandum Circular 17, series of 2022 allowing the transfer of fund to LGUs and changing the cash pay-out schedule from Quarter to Semester. Immediately, SPPMO drafted the Memorandum of Agreement and process all pertinent documents to transfer the fund. Out of 16 Cities and 1 Municipality, LGU of Taguig, Caloocan, Quezon City, Manila, Valenzuela, Pateros and Pasay accepts the transfer of funds.

As explicitly stated in the Memorandum of Agreement for the fund transfer, DSWD-NCR will strictly monitor the social pension pay-out and provide grievance mechanism to address issues and concerns arise during the conduct of pay-out.

Further, additional 12,989 waitlisted beneficiaries were provided stipend for this year. The funds were charge on the continuing fund. Overall, SPPMO had an actual accomplishment of 94% for 2022.

II.ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Table 1. Targets versus Accomplishments on Output Indicators of Office/Program

Output Indicators	Accomplishments	Targets	Variance	Assessment
220,485 indigent senior citizen senior citizen received social pension stipend for 1 st and 2 nd quarter for FY 2022	a total of 201,331 social pension beneficiaries received their stipend for 1 st quarter equivalent to 91% accomplishment 202,345 beneficiaries received their 2 nd quarter equivalent to 92% accomplishment	220,485 indigent senior citizen for 1 st and 2 nd quarter	1 st Quarter Variance: 19,154 - 2 nd Quarter variance: 18,140	+/- 58% Deviation for 1st Quarter (Major Deviation) +/- 52% Deviation for 2nd Quarter (Major Deviation) For the year 2022 SPPMO conducted pay-out not within the time line considering that massive validation is being conducted to cover the variance of the region. Further, majority of the LGUs with huge number of beneficiaries opted to conduct the payout after election. As a result, SPPMO cannot immediately process the big amount of cash advances considering that the Region had limited special disbursing officer, hence accomplishment of the implementation of Social Pension is affected.
230,482 indigent senior citizen senior citizen received social pension stipend for 3 rd quarter for FY 2022	221,050 beneficiaries received their 3 rd quarter equivalent to 96% accomplishment	230,482 indigent senior citizens for 3 rd quarter	3 rd Quarter variance: 9,432	Further, Some Social Pension Beneficiaries during the conduct of pay-out transferred/changed their residence without prior notice to the OSCA, CSWDO and DSWD Field Office, hence claiming their SocPen stipend is not feasible because their whereabouts is unknown despite exerted effort of the FO, OSCA, CSWD, and Barangay Staff to located the beneficiaries.
232,632 indigent senior citizen senior citizen received social pension stipend for 4 th quarter for FY 2022	221,377 beneficiaries received their 3 rd quarter equivalent to 95% accomplishment	232,632 indigent senior citizens for 3 rd quarter	4 th Quarter variance: 11,255 -	Further, during the actual conduct of pay-out, some senior citizen found out receiving regular SSS pension, hence, SPPMO staff opted not to give the social pension stipend. This adds to the unclaimed stipend. In response to this, SPPMO conducted series of meeting to LGUs and consultation to LGUs to map out and address issues and concern that affects the implementation of the Program

Financial Performance of Office/Program

For the 1st and 2nd Quarter of 2022 Out of 220,485 target beneficiaries only **215,892** where qualified based on the clean list of the SPPMO. This adds to unobligated fund amounting to Php13,779,000.00. also, considering that SPPMO charge to continuing the 48,782 beneficiaries its affect the fund utilization for the current fund.

Furthermore, a total of Php8,506,500 of cash advances where returned due to some Social Pension Beneficiaries during the conduct of pay-out transferred/changed their residence without prior notice to the OSCA, CSWDO and DSWD Field Office, hence claiming their SocPen stipend is not feasible because their whereabouts is unknown despite exerted effort of the FO, OSCA, CSWD, and Barangay Staff to located the beneficiaries, and some are found out to receiving monthly pension from SSS.

For 3rd Quarter, SPPMO has obligated Php348, 723,000.00 to cover the 232,482 beneficiaries and Php 348,948,000.00 to cover the 232,632 beneficiaries for 4th Quarter. With same reasons as mention above, a total of Php31, 501,500.00 where returned.

III.OVERALL ASSESSMENT/CONCLUSION

CY 2022 has indeed been a highly challenging year for the Social Pension Program Management Office. However, the Social Pension Program Management Office (SPPMO) always do its best to ensure timely, efficient and effective implementation of the program and utilization of its funds which, in turn, contributes to the over-all regional.

The SPPMO continuously conducting close coordination to the LGUs to find way to effectively implement the program.

IV.RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to completely serve variances from CY 2022, schedule of recommended action plans are as follows:

- Continuous validation of waiting list endorsed by the LGUs for 2023 with strict adherence to maximum health protocols
- Conduct consultation dialogue and technical assistance with the LGUs to address properly the issues and concern with regards to Social Pension Implementation.

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