

# Report of Working Group on Social Progress

Philippine Development Forum  
Davao City, March 8, 2005

# Challenge of yesterday's plenary

- If we are to focus on effective execution of good plans, what should we be talking about?
- If we are to act as if this is not business as usual, what should we be doing?
- If we are to obtain greatest results in the window of opportunity of next 2-3 years, what should be giving priority?

# 1. Financing framework

- Establish a medium-term financing framework for social services and attainment of MDGs, that:
  - Provides more resources than those currently planned under the MTPIP
  - Has support of NG, LGUs, donor community, private sector and civil society
  - Could start from 20/20 plan proposed before.

# Other features of framework

- Allows growing budget for MDG-supportive programs as these scale up, with support from NG, LGU and ODA
- Provide mechanism for additional funding support to IRA-poor localities
- Include use of pork barrel spending for MDGs
- Adopt demand-driven, market-led approach to sub-allocation of committed resources

# Financing linked to LGU buy-in

- Allow government health institutions fiscal autonomy to increase cost recovery
- Make LGU spending for education (SEF and others) part of total resources planning and management of education delivery
- Adopt strategy for co-financing by NG and LGU of health and other social services necessary to attain MDGs

## 2. Action points: focus on rural poor

- Expand convergence effort beyond present 3 provinces
- Improve use of Philhealth benefit spending to increase availability and access to health care
- Develop better models for delivery of MCH and infectious disease control services
- Widen access to assets, micro-credit, knowledge and social services among poor
- Address the continued depletion of human resources for health

# Other action points

- Accelerate support to mobilize women for social services reforms
- Scale up response to HIV-AIDS as “hidden and growing” not “low and slow” epidemic
- Move on regulatory reforms in health and education
- Adopt an effective population program and pass an RH law
- Consider other possible “quick wins”

# 3. Build foundations for success

- Insure “quick wins” and “fast-tracking” do not detract from building sound institutional foundations
- Conduct poverty mapping in all communities and use household data to link local action with local responsibility
- Advocate to create larger informed and impassioned constituencies committed to meeting MDGs

# More on foundations

- Set annual MDG targets and create review linked to annual budget process and incentives for LGU performance
- Ensure convergence of govt, NGO, private and donor efforts based on MDGs as organizing principle
- Develop corps of leaders with awareness, attitudes, knowledge and skills to lead in effort to attain MDGs