



Republic of the Philippines  
National Nutrition Council XII  
Regional Nutrition Committee XII



**REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE**  
**SOCCSKSARGEN REGION**  
Resolution No. 003, Series 2023

**ENJOINING THE REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE (RNC) MEMBERS AND  
OTHER STAKEHOLDERS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
PHILIPPINE MULTISECTORAL NUTRITION PROJECT (PMNP) IN THE  
TARGETED AREAS OF COTABATO, SULTAN KUDARAT AND SARANGANI  
PROVINCES**

**WHEREAS**, the persistent high levels of childhood undernutrition in the Philippines despite decades of economic growth and poverty reduction could lead to a staggering loss of the country's human and economic potential;

**WHEREAS**, about 30 percent of children under five years of age are stunted, 19 percent are underweight, and 6 percent are wasted (Expanded National Nutrition Survey, 2019). World Health Organization (WHO) classification categorizes the country's stunting prevalence a 'very high' public health significance and the wasting rates a medium public health significance;

**WHEREAS**, based on the 2022 Operation Timbang Plus results among 0-59 months old children, SOCCSKSARGEN Region has a total number of 20, 610 (5.1%) stunted children and 6, 150 (1.5%) wasted children

**WHEREAS**, stunting has long-term adverse developmental impacts that far surpass childhood, and has been linked to slower learning outcomes, poor academic performance, and lower productivity and wages in adulthood;

**WHEREAS** the underlying causes of undernutrition are multi-sectoral and are related to deficits in food and inadequate care, feeding practices for mothers and unhealthy environments;

**WHEREAS**, significant gaps persist in the provision of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions needed to address the nutrition crisis in the country;

**WHEREAS**, improving nutrition outcomes in the Philippines is an agenda driven by multiple agencies through a whole-of-government approach which is contained in the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN);

**WHEREAS** the Philippine Multisectoral Nutrition Project (PMNP), a government project funded by the World Bank (WB) will set the stage to support the Philippines in addressing malnutrition by focusing assistance to the poorest municipalities in the country;

**WHEREAS**, on 21 December 2021, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board confirmed *ad referendum* the Investment Coordination Committee-Cabinet Committee (ICC-cc) approval of the PMNP. The PMNP Loan Agreement was signed by the



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Philippine Government and WB on 25 June 2022, followed the declaration of Loan Effectiveness on 17 August 2022 and will close on December 2025;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Multisectoral Nutrition Project, adopts a bold, multi-sectoral nutrition approach to deliver a coordinated package of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions across varying local government unit (LGU) platforms together with a harmonized social and behavior change communications (SBCC) strategy;

**WHEREAS**, the design and implementation of the PMNP are guided by the following overarching principles:

- 1) ***Design and roll out an evidence-based multisectoral approach*** that will draw upon the science-based and global recommendations and best practices for improving nutrition;
- 2) ***Establish geographic convergence of key sectors*** down to the household level to address the multidimensional causes of undernutrition;
- 3) ***Invest in both supply-side interventions*** (Component 1), which will be complemented by ***demand-side interventions*** (Component 2) to remove financial, geographic, and behavioral barriers to using essential nutrition and health services by project beneficiaries;
- 4) ***Incentivize achievement of nutrition results*** at the LGU level through the provision of performance-based grants (PBG); and
- 5) ***Emphasize equity*** to ensure that lagging LGUs catch up with their well-performing peers and improve the country's overall achievements on the Human Capital Index (HCI);

**WHEREAS**, the PMNP targeted project sites in Region XII includes three municipalities namely, Banisilan, Cotabato; Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat and Kiamba, Sarangani;

**WHEREAS**, the implementation, management, and collaborative arrangements for PMNP are based on the respective institutional and jurisdictional mandates and areas of expertise of DOH, NNC, DSWD and other partner agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the DOH as the main Project lead and DSWD as co-lead implementing agencies are responsible for implementing the PMNP's three components wherein the DOH shall serve as technical and administrative oversight in the implementation of Component 1 (*Strengthened Delivery of Nutrition and Primary Health Services*) and Component 3 (*Institutional Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation*) activities in close coordination with DSWD; The DSWD Kalahi-CIDSS as a co-lead IA shall have technical oversight in the implementation of PMNP Component 2 (*Community-Based Nutrition Service Delivery and Multisectoral Nutrition Convergence* activities) and Component 3 in close coordination with DOH and NNC;

**WHEREAS**, the National Nutrition Council (NNC) will be mainly responsible for strengthening multisectoral collaboration for nutrition in the Project with the regional and municipal levels. The agency will contribute technical guidance to the Department of Health



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particularly on LGU mobilization to facilitate implementation of the activities under Components 1 and 3 respectively.

**WHEREAS**, A PMNP Regional Technical Working Group (PMNP-RTWG) will be established, chaired by the DOH-Center for Health Development XII Director and co-chaired by the Department of Social Welfare and Development XII Director;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Regional Nutrition Committee in a meeting conducted on 28 February 2023 followed by a RNC-Technical

Working Group Meeting on 30 June 2023 supports the implementation of PMNP to increase the simultaneous utilization of package of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, and improve key behaviors and practices known to reduce stunting of targeted households in targeted PMNP project sites in the region;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, for RNC, RNC-TWG AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS to support PMNP implementation through:

1. the development and formulation of supporting policy, social behavior change campaign, monitoring and evaluation for the PMNP implementation, particularly at the PMNP Targeted sites in the region
2. mobilizing multisectoral participation and provide assistance in the reactivation, and organization of Municipal Nutrition Committees (MNCs)/Barangay Nutrition Committees (BNCs)
3. providing technical assistance to project municipalities and barangays in the formulation of LNAPs and AIPs, help facilitate approval by the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) and its integration into the CDP, ensuring these are aligned with the objectives of the PMNP, and with the overall thrust and direction of the PPAN
4. providing support and assistance to NNC XII in coordination of planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of PMNP within the PPAN overarching thrust at the local level
5. participating in identified activities when needed relative to the implementation of the PMNP project

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that National Nutrition Council XII, as Secretariat of the Regional Nutrition Committee shall furnish a copy of this RNC Resolution to all member agencies of the Regional Nutrition Committee, the Local Government Units particularly in PMNP areas; and other regional partners and stakeholders and a project briefer for appropriate action and support.

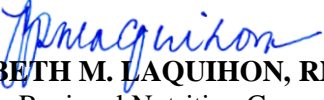
**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three in Koronadal City.



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Certified Correct:

  
**RETSEBETH M. LAQUIHON, RND, MPD, MDM**  
Secretary, Regional Nutrition Committee XII  
Regional Nutrition Program Coordinator  
National Nutrition Council XII

Approved by:

  
**ARISTIDES CONCEPCION-TAN, MD, MPH, CESO III**  
Regional Nutrition Committee Chairperson,  
Regional Director, Department of Health XII