

## Philippines

### Update on the context and situation of children

The Philippine economy continues to register a high growth rate of 6.2 per cent in the third quarter of 2019. Latest official figures show a significant decline in the poverty incidence, from 23.3 to 16.6 per cent in 2015 and 2018, respectively, placing 17.6 million Filipinos living below the poverty threshold of an estimated average monthly income of PHP10,727 (US \$210) for a family of five.

However, while all regions recorded a decline in poverty incidence among the population, this overall positive trend was not felt in the poorest region in the country. According to the official poverty statistics for the full year of 2018, the poverty incidence in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao increased to 61.3 per cent from the 2015 poverty incidence of 58.9 per cent.

Since the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao's (BARMM) inauguration in March 2019, the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) has faced difficulties transitioning to a new autonomous bureaucracy. While the new Regional Government has expressed commitment to address poverty, there is no roadmap to improve social assistance despite the existence of a national conditional cash transfer programme.

This year saw several gains for children and families with landmark legislation passed such as the Universal Health Care Act that automatically enrolls all Filipino citizens in the *National Health Insurance Program* and prescribes complementary reforms in the health system; and the Expanded Maternity Leave Act granting working mothers the extension of paid maternity leave up to 105 days and generating broader commitment/action towards promoting gender equality and women empowerment.

The signing of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to institutionalize the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps), the conditional cash transfer programme serving 8.3 million poor children through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); and the release of the IRR for the Health and Nutrition of the Mother and Child Act to address health and nutrition needs in the first 1,000 days of life also marked a good year for children.

The Philippines also experienced several health emergencies including a dengue epidemic, polio outbreak and measles outbreak that challenged the country's health system. The dengue epidemic was the largest in the history of monitoring the disease with Northern Mindanao among the hardest-hit regions. Polio re-emerged after being eradicated in the Philippines almost two decades ago with nine confirmed cases as of December.

The Government reported that only 60 per cent of children received their scheduled vaccines as of November 2018, far lower than the Department of Health's (DOH) annual target vaccination rate of 85 to 90 per cent. However, following the major outbreaks, DOH held mass immunization campaigns for polio and measles for most of 2019 and reported optimistic turnouts with 54 per cent of the 3.7 million children 6-59 months old receiving the measles vaccine, and 95 per cent of the 1.8 million children below age 5 receiving oral polio vaccine.

In education, as of October 2019, the Department of Education (DepEd) reported a decline in net enrolment rates for elementary from 96 per cent in 2016 to 94 per cent in 2018 with a higher decline among females (96 to 94) compared to males (96 to 94). The net enrolment in secondary education increased significantly from 74 in 2016 to 81 in 2018 for junior high school, and from 37 to 51 for senior high school – both registering higher numbers for females.

Despite higher enrolment in secondary education, DepEd acknowledged the gaps in the education system amid poor performance of students in reading comprehension, science and math in the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment, finishing the lowest overall out of 79 participating countries.

Children remain vulnerable in the Government's campaign against illegal drugs that has challenged constitutional safeguards and elicited strong criticism from political opposition, civil society and media. Civil society sources report between 25,000 and 30,000 deaths associated with the "war on drugs", with an international organization pegging the number of children killed at more than 100 since 2016. As of July 2019, official figures show the number of deaths in the anti-drug campaign at 5,526 in connection with law enforcement operations since mid-2016.

Following the ratification of the Bangsamoro Organic Law on January 25, 2019, resources and efforts emphasized establishing the new BARMM and the decommissioning of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in earnest – 7,000 of the envisaged 12,000 combatants in phase 2 of the peace process have been decommissioned (out of a total of 40,000 combatants). Continuous monitoring of the 737 of 1,869 children disengaged from the MILF in 2016-2017 found that none of them have re-associated with any armed group as of 2019. The United Nations, led by UNICEF and the Office of the Resident Coordinator and in support of the Government, brokered the successful disengagement of these children in 2017

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through the UN-MILF Action Plan.

Significant political challenges remain in BARMM as the BTA seeks to quickly build its governance capacities and institutional structures. On a positive note, BTA has approved its first expanded budget funded by the block grant for 2020 with education, health and sanitation, food security, environmental protection, and infrastructure as priority programmes.

The country remains highly vulnerable to climate change and disasters. In 2019, 18 tropical cyclones affected the Philippines particularly Northern Luzon, Eastern Visayas, and Eastern Mindanao. The resulting heavy rains and flash floods affected an estimated quarter of a million people. A series of high-intensity earthquakes occurred in Mindanao towards the end of 2019 impacting heavily on the population, many of whom are expected to be displaced for at least a year. An estimated 298,000 children were affected by Typhoon Kammuri (local name Tisoy) and 106,000 children were affected by the series of earthquakes in Mindanao in late 2019.

### Major contributions and drivers of results

This year, UNICEF Philippines began its 8th Country Programme with the Government. UNICEF supported the Government in responding to major virus outbreaks, delivering humanitarian assistance during an onslaught of natural disasters, and supporting the transition to the new BARMM through advocacy and partnership in policymaking.

In reporting the country's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UNICEF was a key partner for the National Economic and Development Authority throughout the Voluntary National Report process. This included UNICEF's contribution in SDG data-targeting workshops and working on national-level indicators. UNICEF played a key role in the consultation of children and was a main partner to the government think tank Philippine Institute for Development Studies in consultations with stakeholders.

UNICEF supported the National Evaluation Capacity Development (NECD) of the Congressional Policy and Budget Research Division and the Senate Economic Planning Office on planning and managing evaluations. The objective was to allow Congress and Senate to assess proposed policies and laws through an evaluation lens.

UNICEF also worked to convene both the Executive and Legislative branches around the NECD, specifically on a National Evaluation Policy that will encompass and strengthen the current National Evaluation Policy Framework. The National Evaluation Policy law is being considered by both Congress and Senate with a timeframe to be passed within the current 18th Congress which runs through 2022.

### ***Strengthening the policy and programme environment for the Early Years***

In priority geographical areas, UNICEF supported and strengthened the integrated planning and budgeting of regional, provincial and municipal authorities and has started to build technical capacity for Government partners to expand priority programmes and services in 2020.

UNICEF generated evidence to advocate for a nutrition-sensitive social protection by analyzing the impact of 4Ps on nutrition outcomes on 0- to 5-year-old children. Results of the analysis provided recommendations to DSWD to integrate nutrition indicators, strengthen case management and programme design to make the 4Ps an enabling factor in the First 1,000 Days agenda.

UNICEF continued to support DOH and the National Nutrition Council (NNC). Responding to DOH request for assistance, UNICEF provided expertise in developing the IRR of RA11148 'Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act' (Health and Nutrition of the Mother and Child), the country's first law promoting the importance of the first 1,000 days of a child's life. With DOH and NNC as co-chairs of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of the IRR, UNICEF engaged key stakeholders in policy dialogue. The series of TWG discussions led to public consultations involving more than 300 participants and legal reviews from key experts. The IRR was signed by DOH in May 2019.

UNICEF supported DOH in the conduct of the first-ever Bottleneck Analysis (BNA) of the management of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) for priority provinces included in the Scale-Up Plan. The objective of the BNA is to improve the access and effective coverage of SAM management services, inform the scale-up strategy and obtain more responsive programming and better results. DOH and UNICEF identified three main bottlenecks limiting the effective coverage of SAM services in priority areas: ineffective supply chain for therapeutic and anthropometric supplies; poor demand for SAM management services linked to poor community mobilization; and limited supervision and lack of reporting/monitoring systems.

UNICEF and WHO are supporting DOH to improve the quality of care for mothers and newborns in primary and referral

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facility levels. Acknowledging the gaps in the quality of healthcare for mothers and newborns, UNICEF provided significant assistance to develop a quality of care assessment tool for primary health facilities.

In support of the Philippines' Every Newborn Action Plan, UNICEF provided technical support to PhilHealth, the national health insurance agency, to develop the Z Benefit Package for Premature Newborns and Small Babies launched in November 2016 with four participating hospitals as of October 2019. Funded by Grand Challenges Canada through the Saving Lives at Birth grant, the project aims to capacitate 27 government hospitals and their service delivery networks to provide premature and small baby care. An estimated 350,000 or 75 per cent of premature and small births are covered by these hospitals annually.

UNICEF has made significant progress in supporting advocacy for the nationwide Zero Open Defecation (ZOD) programme and in implementing the Philippines Approach to Sustainable Sanitation (PhATSS) in UNICEF-supported pilot areas. Six municipalities (from the Provinces of Northern Samar, Masbate, North Cotabato and Maguindanao) achieved ZOD status in all their communities this year. The next steps will be supporting DOH in the quality roll-out of the approach and looking at how to strengthen their budget support requests to the Department of Budget and Management.

DOH has launched the PhATSS national policy and guidelines. PhATSS is a sanitation programme strategy and monitoring framework that helps local government units break down the national sanitation goals into doable steps so that local government officials can easily identify their contribution to gradually achieving sustainable sanitation. The PhATSS policy aims to achieve nationwide ZOD status by 2025 and attain universal access to safe and adequate sanitary facilities by 2028.

UNICEF supported DepEd to host the 7th WASH in Schools International Learning Experience (ILE) on 11-15 November to promote south-to-south learning between countries in Asia and the Pacific. The Philippines showcased its progress in strengthening the enabling environment identified at the first ILE hosted here in 2012. For the first time at an ILE, the participants developed the 'Manila Action Agenda for WASH in Schools' with priority actions for the region to accelerate progress.

As part of the Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2019-2023, the UN Network for Food Security and Nutrition (UNICEF, WFP and FAO) enabled policy advocacy, including research to provide evidence in support of policymaking. The network, with support from WHO, provided technical guidance to the Cabinet Secretary to address poverty, hunger, and food security and undernutrition to reach the SDGs. The collaboration mainly touched on achieving Zero Hunger in line with the Government's Expanded Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Framework which aims to eradicate hunger in the country by 2030.

### ***Supporting evidence-based planning processes for early childhood care and development (ECCD)***

In August 2019, the Early Childhood Care and Development Council Governing Board approved the National Early Childhood Care and Development Strategic Plan 2019-2030, the first multisectoral long-term plan for ECCD in the Philippines.

UNICEF provided financial and technical supported to the ECCD Council in the conduct of the Situation Analysis of ECCD early this year. The evidence it generated was one of the most important inputs in the Plan. On the advice of UNICEF, the Council used the Nurturing Care Framework as a key conceptual framework for the Plan. Furthermore, UNICEF supported the ECCD Council Secretariat staff in developing their capacity in conducting situation analysis, sector planning, and costing.

The Plan aims to meet the country's commitments to ECCD targets in the SDGs that describe the integrated steps towards achieving the early childhood outcomes. It is also the first policy document that brings together existing mandates, strategies, policies and programmes for young children and their families in health and nutrition, WASH, early learning, social welfare and child protection and ensuring that young children have a smooth transition from home to preschool, then to kindergarten/Grade 1 under a single strategic plan.

### ***Strengthening partnerships and the capacities of governments and communities to keep children and adolescents safe online***

In March 2019, UNICEF formed a consortium with the Government of Australia, The Asia Foundation and Save the Children to implement the SaferKidsPH campaign to understand the emerging dangers of online sexual abuse and exploitation of children (OSAEC).

Part of a 6-year initiative, the campaign was launched in October to increase awareness; strengthen investigation, prosecution and adjudication of OSAEC cases; and increase access to protection and better quality of services for victims

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and their families. The Consortium will work with Government to support national efforts to implement the National Response Plan to Address OSAEC and the Philippine Plan of Action to End Violence Against Children.

To successfully secure funding and convene the consortium, UNICEF leveraged its institutional knowledge and years of evidence-based implementation work in the country that includes leading a global programme against online child sexual exploitation; supporting the first-ever baseline study on VAC and the development of training tools in handling OSAEC; and supporting the competency enhancement of judges and court personnel handling OSAEC.

Further, UNICEF has successfully engaged and secured support for the campaign from major industry partners – such as telecoms PLDT/SMART and Globe; media company ABS-CBN through its Bantay Bata 163 child protection hotline; and the Philippine offices of global online platforms Facebook and Google – through its strong partnerships with the business sector on Child Rights and Business Practices. UNICEF worked with these business partners in developing content and tips on online child safety and pushing for legal reform for OSAEC processes.

UNICEF recognizes that global partnerships bring opportunities for employee engagement for the donor's local counterpart. ING is a good example of 'glocalizing' partnerships such as UNICEF's global Power for Youth programme which has been well received by ING Philippines. ING's sustainability Office in Manila expressed interest in engaging its more than 300 staff to support the partnership through fundraising activities, project visits and other volunteering opportunities, thus, reinforcing the global partnership and brand visibility at the local level.

### ***Supporting the Government in humanitarian preparedness and response***

UNICEF Philippines scored 93 per cent in UNICEF's internal Emergency Preparedness Platform. UNICEF Philippines developed a total of five standby Humanitarian Programme Documents with select partners that can be immediately activated in case of an emergency. Several of these were activated for UNICEF's response activities during the polio outbreak and Mindanao earthquakes.

In October, a series of earthquakes hit some of the poorest parts of Mindanao and displaced over 265,000 people. UNICEF mobilized US\$1.3 million from the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund to assist the displaced in their needs in WASH, child protection, and education.

In December, Category 3 Typhoon Kammuri hit the Philippines and affected 1.5 million individuals. UNICEF joined the coordinated rapid assessment led by the Office of Civil Defense to determine the impacts and needs brought about by the typhoon. As the government continues to lead the response activities, UNICEF will continue to provide technical assistance in the areas of cluster coordination, information management, and protection mainstreaming.

To ensure child protection during humanitarian events, UNICEF provided technical assistance to DepEd's Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office to help finalize the National Policy Framework on Learners and Schools as Zones of Peace which had been prepared and supported with full documentation of good practices in schools on mitigating the risks of armed conflict to children. The overall strategy for ensuring that schools are safe, more secure and child-friendly in both situations of armed conflict and normal circumstances are outlined in a DepEd Order issued in November 2019.

When the Philippines experienced outbreaks of measles and polio throughout 2019, UNICEF and WHO worked together in supporting DOH in the planning and execution of the outbreak response. The Philippines is affected by both Type 1 and Type 2 of the Circulating Vaccine-derived Poliovirus (cVDPV), considered a public health emergency of international concern. The current polio outbreak is a result of a persistently low routine immunization coverage and poor sanitation and hygiene.

DOH is coordinating the polio response through its Incident Command Structures (ICS) and Emergency Operation Centers (EOC) set up in each region, as well as the Mindanao and national levels. UNICEF supported the government mainly in vaccine management, cold chain logistics, social mobilization and advocacy, development of guidelines, and monitoring at different phases of the campaign at national and subnational levels.

UNICEF supported the strengthening of the routine immunization program which resulted in increased capacity of health workers in the basic *Expanded Program on Immunization* and vaccine management, increased awareness of the immunization programme and improved policies and guidelines for program implementation.

On the one hand, UNICEF mobilized additional 14 experts on supply chain and vaccine management, immunization, community engagement, campaign monitoring and information management. On the other hand, WHO mobilized 21 international and 7 national experts who are supporting DOH in the implementation of the campaign and in the Stop Transmission of Polio initiative. WHO is also supporting DOH in strengthening its ICS and EOCs at all levels.

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This collaboration resulted in the satisfactory coverage during the initial round of the campaign in the National Capital Region and in Mindanao, at 96 per cent and 93 per cent, respectively.

UNICEF and DOH were also able to engage more than 1,000 youth volunteers to help in the vaccination drives, effectively reaching the critical number of children to be vaccinated. The partnership received support from the UNICEF National Committee network that mobilized resources for the response and outreach to strengthen routine immunization.

In terms of safeguarding children in situations of armed conflict (CSAC), the enactment of Republic Act 11188 'Children in Situations of Armed Conflict' in January 2019 is an achievement for children in BARMM and in other conflict areas in the country. Through consistent technical support and advocacy from UNICEF, this landmark legislation translates UN Security Council Resolutions on children affected by armed conflict into domestic law and aims to strengthen mechanisms to prevent grave violations against CSAC, provide adequate human and financial resources to local and national agencies, and hold the perpetrators accountable for their violations.

To support the development of the IRR of Republic Act 11188, the UN Country Task Force provided technical support and resources to the government's Inter-Agency Committee on CSAC to undertake eight consultation meetings from March to May 2019 with more than 200 service providers nationwide including family court judges, police, and military officers, and children and parents in conflict areas to ensure the consistency of the IRR with national and international child protection standards.

### ***Supporting the transition of the new Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao***

In 2019, the UN Country Team continued to make strides in influencing national policy and programmes (leading to the passage of a law and a roadmap for BARMM) as well as mainstreaming UN core values in its work.

The Bangsamoro Organic Law passed by Congress in 2018 is a significant development towards achieving a lasting peace in Mindanao after more than 40 years of armed conflict. The law prescribes the formation of BARMM with a devolved government.

A major step in the overall Government of the Philippines-Moro Islamic Liberation Front peace process, the law promises opportunities for BARMM to define and exercise meaningful autonomy and craft social policies suited to their specific development context, allowing its people to address deep-seated poverty, structural conflict, and the low human development outcomes that are known to characterize the Muslim Mindanao region – the poorest and most-underserved in the country.

Recognizing the significant opportunities in this transition, UNICEF re-positioned itself in a stronger role in BARMM decision-making, to maximize opportunities and minimize risks for children.

Successful advocacy led to the first-ever Parliamentary Resolution on Children's Rights in BARMM adopted by the Parliament on World Children's Day and the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). UNICEF's long-standing partnerships and sustained advocacy resulted in commitment by the new Government of BARMM to respect, protect and promote the rights of children through Resolution 48 during the first-ever special Parliamentary Session on Children.

The Resolution stipulates that, "Bangsamoro policies and programs shall take into utmost consideration the best interest of children and promote the rights of children, youth, and adolescents, including their survival and development. The Bangsamoro Government and its constituent local government units shall provide for adequate funding and effective mechanisms for the implementation of this policy."

Responding to the Children's Declaration pronounced in the special session, Resolution 28 responds to calls from children and young people for better access to education, ending poverty and hunger, responsible leadership, lasting peace, positive parenting programmes, and increased participation by children and youth in finding solutions to improve their lives and wellbeing.

With the view to provide access to and improve the quality of education, UNICEF provided technical support to the Ministry of Education in the development of the Education Sector Plan 2020-2035. This was conducted in partnership with UNESCO-International Institute for Education Planning to be finalized in mid-2020 and will address some of the fundamental constraints to improving access to quality learning. This includes UNICEF support to the training of master trainers for Tahderiyyah and the updating of its curriculum based on the findings of the Tahderiyyah ECD Programme evaluation provided by UNICEF. As a result, the curriculum has been transformed into three dedicated curricula for children ages 3, 4 and 5. The Ministry of Education committed to introduce the improved curricula in all public schools in BARMM starting 2020.

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Riding the wave of optimistic change in the new Bangsamoro Region, BARMM Ministry of Health developed the Medium Term (2020-2022) Strategic Plan for Health with UNICEF support in identifying priority issues during transition such as health financing, institutional development and organizational development of the local health system.

To further assist the BARMM Government, UNICEF completed the landscape analysis on shock-responsive social protection in BARMM which identified potential entry points for strengthening social protection and DRR and broader resilience building in a region characterized by high deprivations, armed conflict and natural disasters.

Moreover, UNICEF worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization to develop a proposal on inclusive and risk-informed shock-responsive social protection for resilient communities in BARMM. The proposal was approved by the highly competitive Sustainable Development Goals Fund on Social Protection which will provide additional resources for the development of BARMM.

UNICEF, in partnership with Coram Children's Legal Centre (UK-based child rights charity), also supported a series of reviews of the social welfare and protection system in the region that highlighted severe weaknesses. The reviews helped the new Ministry of Social Services to develop plans for strengthening child protection – including recruitment of some 2,500 new para-social workers at subnational level in 2020, and better contextualization of the national social protection system to better match the high child poverty incidence (72 per cent) in BARMM.

### Lessons Learned and Innovations

#### ***With a greater focus on adolescents and youth in the new country programme, several initiatives were launched in 2019.***

In June, UNICEF and its partners launched U-Report in the Philippines, specifically in BARMM. It comes at an important time during the region's transition period which presents unique opportunities to empower children and adolescents to influence the development of policies, plans and budgets that can improve their situation.

In the first-ever U-Report poll in the country, adolescents and youth in BARMM reported their biggest concerns in education and livelihood opportunities, ranking higher than their concerns related to violence and armed conflict. To address these concerns, U-Reporters recommended that the regional government improve and expand services and support initiatives and advocacy for adolescents and youth.

The annual target of 5,000 U-Reporters for the reporting year was met and around 80 per cent of registered U-reporters took part in each poll. The results of five U-Report polls fed directly into the formulation of the new Bangsamoro Youth Agenda finalized in August and into the preparation of the Call to Action by children and adolescents against which the BARMM Government responded through its adoption of Resolution 48 at a Special Parliamentary Session on Children's Rights.

The enrolment of U-reporters quickly spiked to 3,000 following the June launch but slowed down in the last quarter of the year due to funding limitations. To sustain the early momentum and meet the target, U-Report promotion was included in other activities such as the 30th anniversary of the CRC. The initiative will continue to engage U-Reporters in upcoming activities such as engaging religious leaders, training youth volunteers by the Office on Bangsamoro Youth Affairs, and training teachers for Alternative Learning System.

In November 20, U-Reporters were actively involved in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the CRC and will continue to play an important role in following the progress on the Children's Declaration and the provisions of Resolution 48 passed by BARMM Parliament. The U-Report polls provided real-time information to the BARMM government, specifically the Office on the Bangsamoro Youth Affairs (OBYA) in developing the Bangsamoro Youth Agenda and the programs of the Ministries of Higher, Basic and Technical Education, and of Social Services and Development.

"U-Report is an exciting innovation to help us understand the concerns of youth and adolescents in BARMM. This tool can foster open communication and make sure that we prioritize issues that children and youth are passionate about," said Dr. Marjanie Mimbantas Macasalong, Executive Director of OBYA.

#### ***Youth volunteers make up for limited resources in responding to the polio outbreak***

When faced with the herculean task of quickly and efficiently reaching the most vulnerable children during the polio

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outbreak amid lack of resources, UNICEF and DOH were able to count on youth volunteers. These volunteers worked with national and international NGOs, civil society organizations, and the whole UN Health Cluster partners – Philippine Red Cross, Rotary International, Health Organization of Mindanao – in community mobilization, vaccination and monitoring of the polio outbreak response.

More than 1,000 youth volunteers from various universities in Manila, from Cavite State University and St. Edward Integrated School-Cavite, and from the Positive Youth Development Network (PYDN) were given orientation, mobilized and deployed as vaccinators, recorders, educators and monitors to do Rapid Coverage Assessments (RCA) during the polio outbreak campaign in various communities and areas.

The PYDN is a group of youth volunteers from Unilab Foundation who handles various health projects and groups all over the country. UNICEF Philippines engaged the volunteers for the measles outbreak to do RCAs and because they have experienced conducting such, they were once again engaged to help in the polio outbreak RCA and to be part of the vaccination teams.

The volunteers from Cavite joined the vaccination drive through a UNICEF staff with the Health and Nutrition section who invited them to help be part of the vaccination teams and to conduct RCAs. They also served as trainers/educators for other members of the teams. The volunteers also helped significantly by printing their own campaign shirts and IDs.

UNICEF and DOH conducted a Training of Trainers to prepare youth leaders to train other volunteers. The first group of trainees were composed of 25 from PYDN and Cavite State University, 30 from various universities in Manila, and 39 from St. Edward School conducted a series of trainings which resulted in more than 1,000 volunteers in the National Capital Region by the end of the campaign. They were all deployed mostly in the hard-to-reach and densely populated slum areas.

This experience is a testament to the power of volunteerism especially when help is needed most. In this case, during a national health crisis where the volunteers had the potential to contract the disease, but it did not hinder their commitment to help.

Neither UNICEF nor DOH offered incentives to the volunteers, but they will be given recognition through certificates of participation at the end of the campaign.

### List of Acronyms

4Ps	<i>Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino</i>
BARMM	Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BTA	Bangsamoro Transition Authority
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSAC	children in situations of armed conflict
DepEd	Department of Education
DOH	Department of Health
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
ECCD	early childhood care and development
IRR	Implementing Rules and Regulations
NNC	National Nutrition Council
OSAEC	online sexual abuse and exploitation of children
PhATSS	Philippines Approach to Sustainable Sanitation
PYDN	Positive Youth Development Network

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RCA	rapid coverage assessments
VAC	Violence against Children
ZOD	Zero Open Defecation