

Background on CBMS

The community-based monitoring system (CBMS) was designed in 1993 under the Micro Impacts of Macroeconomic Adjustment Policies (MIMAP) Program to provide policymakers with a regular source of information that can be used to track the micro impacts of macroeconomic shocks on the vulnerable groups in the society. While it generates a core set of indicators that enables multidimensional poverty monitoring and analysis over time, the system has also been designed and used to facilitate the generation of needed disaggregated information for more in-depth analysis of other thematic concerns such as gender responsive budgeting, monitoring the millennium development goals (MDGs), now the sustainable development goals (SDGs), disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, and impact monitoring of economic and non-economic shocks, among others. CBMS also provides the necessary local level data for generating composite indices such as multidimensional poverty index and climate change vulnerability index, among others.

In 2013, the CBMS Network Team of the De La Salle University-Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies (DLSU-AKI) pilot tested and launched in the Philippines the use of information and communication technology for implementing the CBMS. Referred to as the **CBMS Accelerated Poverty Profiling (APP)**, the system was an innovation for CBMS implementers which entailed the use of standard CBMS instruments for data collection (CBMS SCAN and CBMS Portal), data processing (using the CBMS STATSIM) and poverty mapping (using QGIS). Data are transmitted, managed and accessed through the CBMS Portal. The implementation of the CBMS APP has responded to the increasing demand from various users of the CBMS, particularly local government units, to fast track the generation of data for use in the preparation of development plans and budgets, and for various development program initiatives.

Key Features of CBMS

1. CBMS is an organized manner of data collection, processing, validation and use of data for various development concerns

It entails the use of structured instruments and training modules to collect individual, household, and community level data. Data can be processed using freewares designed to automatically generate key local level statistics and information presented in tables and digitized maps. CBMS findings are presented at each geopolitical level to validate and discuss the results, prioritize needs and identify proposed solutions for policy action and implementation of appropriate programs and interventions.

2. CBMS is LGU-based while promoting community participation

The system is designed to be implemented and maintained



at the local level particularly driven by local government units while ensuring the proactive role and participation of key stakeholders from the different sectors of the community in carrying out the CBMS process. CBMS is locally owned by the communities, with local governments taking the lead in data collection and processing.

3. It taps existing LGU personnel and community volunteers as monitors

To make the system more cost effective and efficient, the CBMS implementation requires involvement of key personnel particularly from the LGU led by the provincial/municipal/city planning offices in collaboration with other concerned local government departments, barangay development councils, and, to the extent possible, even community-based organizations and volunteers.

4. It monitors a core set of indicators for multidimensional poverty analysis but is flexible enough to accommodate other development indicators

CBMS generates outcome and impact indicators to measure survival, security and enabling needs. It provides disaggregated data on key dimensions of development, including income and livelihood, education, health and nutrition, access to safe water and sanitation, shelter, and peace and order. Aside from a core set of indicators, CBMS also generates data on migration, disaster preparedness, access to programs, and related information that can be

used for tracking the MDGs (now the SDGs) at the local level.

5. CBMS establishes databanks at each geopolitical level

Data repositories are established at the national and local levels. Data can be readily accessed by the LGU to provide vital baseline information for preparing socioeconomic profiles, development plans, project proposals and other development reports. CBMS data serve as barometers for gauging the effectiveness of programs and projects.

Data Generated from CBMS

Although the CBMS can generate a wide range of LGU-specific indicators, at the very minimum there are 14 core indicators that are being measured to determine the welfare status of the population. These indicators capture the multidimensional aspects of poverty and have been confined to outcome and impact indicators.

Other information that can also be generated from the CBMS includes the following: migration, overseas remittances, community/political participation, access to programs, and vulnerability indicators of impacts of climate change and disaster risks, among others. Data generated from CBMS can be disaggregated across population sub-groups (by age, gender, ethnicity, income-class, urban-rural, among others), and by geopolitical levels (barangay/village, municipal/city, and provincial). CBMS, conducted

CBMS Core Indicators

BASIC NEEDS	CORE INDICATORS
A. Health	Proportion of children under 5 years old who died Proportion of women who died due to pregnancy-related causes
B. Nutrition	Proportion of children aged 0-5 years old who are malnourished
C. Housing	Proportion of households living in makeshift housing Proportion of households who are informal settlers
D. Water and Sanitation	Proportion of households without access to safe water supply Proportion of households without access to sanitary toilet facilities
E. Education	Proportion of children aged 6-11 years old who are not attending elementary school Proportion of children aged 12-17 years old who are not attending secondary school Proportion of children aged 6-17 years old who are not attending school
F. Income	Proportion of households with income below the poverty threshold Proportion of households with income below the food (subsistence) threshold Proportion of households who experienced hunger due to food shortage
G. Employment	Proportion of persons in the labor force who are unemployed
H. Peace and Order	Proportion of persons who are victims of crime

on a regular basis, can generate panel data that can aid tracking of conditions of households/ groups of population over time.

Uses of CBMS Data

CBMS has a number of potential concrete uses particularly in the areas of local governance and poverty monitoring. Specifically, data gathered from CBMS can:

- **Build the capacities of LGUs and communities**

CBMS can be used to further enhance if not build the capacities of local government units as well as members of communities in addressing the needs of their respective localities by maximizing the use of their existing resources.

- **Facilitate resource allocation**

One the most common dilemmas among local chief executives is how to efficiently and effectively use and manage the meager financial resources of the local government unit given the many competing projects and programs that need to be delivered in their localities. CBMS tries to address this issue by providing the necessary information that would reveal to decisionmakers an up-to-date development situation of communities in terms of core areas of welfare.

- **Enrich existing databases**

CBMS can complement existing databases by providing a regular source of information on socioeconomic attributes of communities to further enrich the contents and usefulness of existing databases. A number of local government units were able to get funding support from international organizations in the past for setting up databanks containing information on children, environment and the like. CBMS can help enrich these databases by providing a complete set of household, barangay, municipal/city and provincial level information.

- **Serve as inputs for preparation of development profiles**

CBMS data also provide vital baseline information for the preparation of barangay, municipal/city, and provincial socioeconomic profiles, annual investment plans, land use plans, infrastructure project proposals, and other related development reports.

- **Aid the design, targeting and impact monitoring of social services and development programs**

CBMS provides disaggregated information that reveal the community's needs based on the CBMS household survey and corresponding explanations for such deficiencies as gathered during the validation forum and supplemented by information gathered from the barangay profile questionnaire.

- **Serve as inputs in poverty mapping**

CBMS, through poverty mapping, aids in identifying the location of municipalities, cities, barangays and even households which are in dire need of basic services. It has also been found that the local policymakers and the communities' understanding of the poverty situation in their localities was greatly facilitated by the use of maps.

- **Monitor global development commitments such as the SDGs (formerly the MDGs)**

CBMS can provide the data to monitor the SDGs at the local level by gender, age group, ethnic origin, with or without disabilities, income group and other relevant profile. With the latest CBMS Household Profile Questionnaire and Barangay (Village) Profile Questionnaire, 39 SDG indicators can be monitored.

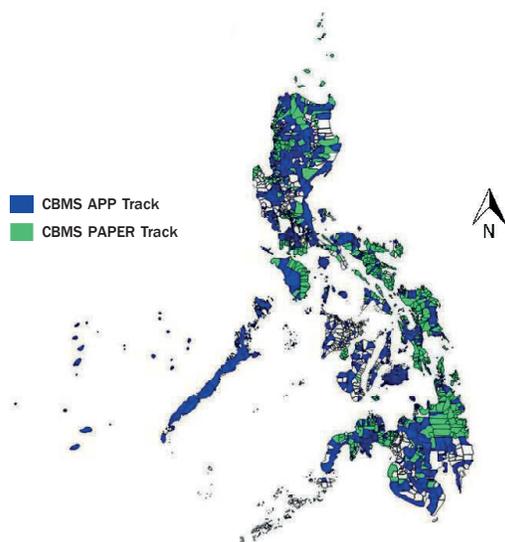
- **Help in preparing disaster risk reduction management plans, and hazard mapping**

Overlaying CBMS generated poverty maps with hazard maps can aid LGUs in identifying which and how many households are in disaster prone areas and identifying suitable relocation sites for the affected households.

CBMS in the Philippines

As of September 25, 2018, 77 provinces, 33 of which are province-wide, 1,068 municipalities and 104 cities, covering a total of 29,958 barangays have already adopted the CBMS and are at varying stages in implementing the system. The costs of implementation have been borne largely by the local government units, indicating that they see the usefulness of the system. This bodes well for the sustainability of the system. In some cases, NGOs, donor agencies and other stakeholders have contributed to the implementation.

CBMS Philippines Coverage as of September 25, 2018



Memorandum circulars and policy issuances have been prepared by key national government agencies supporting the use of CBMS:

- o **DILG Memorandum Circular 2001-105**

Issued in August 2001, the circular enjoins all local chief executives to undertake local programs on poverty reduction and economic transformation and emphasized the need to designate Local Poverty Reduction Action Officers (LPRAOs) and to formulate a Local Poverty Reduction Action Plan (LPRAP).

- o **NAPC En Banc Resolution No. 7**

Issued in March 2003, the resolution directs LGUs to adopt the 13 core local poverty indicators as the

minimum set of community-based information for poverty diagnosis and planning at the local levels and integrate such information in their local poverty monitoring system and local level action plans and program.

- o **DILG Memorandum Circular 2003-92**

Issued in April 2003, it provides policy guidelines for the adoption of the 13 core local poverty indicators for planning. The guidelines shall aid the LGUs in assessing and understanding poverty and its dimensions at the barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces with the end view of formulating an LPRAP and implementing the plans and programs to reduce poverty.

- o **DILG Memorandum Circular 2004-152**

Issued in November 2004, the circular encourages LGUs to intensify efforts in implementing programs, projects and activities towards the achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs).

- o **NSCB Resolution No. 6, Series of 2005**

Issued in January 24, 2005, it attests to the statistical and technical soundness of the CBMS. Furthermore, it recognized the CBMS as a tool for strengthening the statistical system at the local level that will generate statistics for monitoring and evaluation of local development plans, including the progress of local governments in attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It also further resolved that the NSCB Technical Staff initiate and coordinate an advocacy program for the adoption of the CBMS by the LGUs, through the RSCCs, the technical arm of the NSCB Executive Board in the regions.

- o **League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) Memorandum Circular 027-2006**

Issued in June 2006, enjoining all CBMS-implementing municipalities to adopt/sustain the adoption of the CBMS as a tool for local poverty diagnosis and ensure the incorporation of the MDG targets and utilization of CBMS data in the formulation of local development plans.

- o **SDC Resolution No. 3, Series of 2006**

Issued on July 19, 2006, the resolution adopts the CBMS as the prescribed monitoring tool for the generation of the Core Local Poverty Indicator Database. It further enjoined the NAPC, DILG, other government agencies and LGUs to coordinate with the CBMS Network Coordinating Team towards the fast-tracking and full implementation of the CBMS.

- o **PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 982, S.2007**

In March 2007, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) adopted the CBMS as the principal source of data in identifying indigent families to be enrolled under the sponsorship program of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP). The Program is implemented in partnership with the local government units (LGUs) and PhilHealth. The LGU and the National Government through PhilHealth share the annual premium payment of P1,200 per indigent household to get enrolled.

- o **League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP) Resolution No. 2011-01**

Issued in January 28, 2011, urging the Department of Social and Welfare Development (DSWD) and the Department of Health (DOH) to adopt the CBMS and other locally-developed poverty monitoring systems as its targeting system in identifying beneficiaries to the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Philhealth Indigent Sponsored Program.

o DBM-DILG-DSWD-NAPC Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, Series of 2012

Issued on March 8, 2012, the joint memorandum circular identifies the collection of relevant economic and social data such as those that can be obtained from CBMS, as one of the main components in empowering poor LGUs and in the bottom-up planning and budgeting approach.

o DILG Memorandum Circular 2012-73

Issued on April 17, 2012, the circular provides that the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund can be utilized for disaster prevention and mitigation projects including the implementation of a CBMS with CCA/DRRM indicators.

o DILG Memorandum Circular 2012-142

Issued in August 10, 2012, the circular enjoins all local chief executives to utilize the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) in planning and project development. It also recommends for the adoption of CBMS to coincide with the synchronized local planning and budgeting calendar and with the bottom up planning and budgeting preparation calendar.

CBMS NETWORK OFFICE

The CBMS Network Office and its partners provide free technical assistance to local government units (LGUs) in the Philippines in the implementation and full-scale institutionalization of CBMS. Interested local government units and other organizations may contact the CBMS Network Office at the following address:

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"Because of the CBMS, statistics on poverty and other areas of development in our local government unit is now available at our fingertips. The planners, decision makers, and implementers are provided with a clearer and solid basis to determine specific areas on where to accord the necessary and appropriate interventions."

PEDRO G. MAYAM-O

Governor, Province of Ifugao

"With the updated CBMS database of the province, we will now be able to identify who and where are the most vulnerable sectors of the community that need the necessary strategic intervention. This will help us very much in the implementation of programs, projects, and activities."



EDUARDO C. FIRMALO

Governor, Province of Romblon



"The data from CBMS is vital for the Province of Tarlac in achieving its goal on good governance, particularly in poverty reduction. The information gathered in the grassroots level is instrumental in addressing various challenges in local planning and budgeting, poverty monitoring, disaster-risk reduction management and impact-monitoring among other concerns."

SUSAN A. YAP

Governor, Province of Tarlac