INTRODUCTION

Malnutrition Reduction Program (MRP) is a long-running program of the Department of Science and Technology – Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST-FNRI) in various regions in the country to address undernutrition among Filipino young children six months to below three years old. It is included in the DOST’s 11-Point Agenda, specifically Agenda 1: Research and Development (R&D) to Address Pressing Problems on Health Sufficiency. This is aligned with the Ten-Point Socio-Economic Agenda of the current administration, particularly on social protection programs that address “poverty” and “protection of the poor against instability and economic shock.” The MRP has been certified by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as a priority program in the 2015-2018 National Priority Plan.

As reported in the 2015 FNRI Updating Survey, two in every 10 children age 0-5 years are underweight and three out of 10 are stunted. The DOST PINOY (Package for the Improvement of Nutrition of Young Children) strategy under the MRP supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in improving the lives of our Filipino young children. Complementary feeding among 6-35 months old children for 120 days and nutrition education among their mothers/caregivers were implemented in selected local government units (LGUs).

OBJECTIVES

✓ The study documented and assessed the feasibility of the implementation of the DOST PINOY intervention strategy in local government units during normal situation (Bulacan & Antique) and rehabilitation phases of a disaster (Basey, Samar & Jaro, Leyte).
✓ The planning, organizing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases of the intervention were examined and documented.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

DOST PINOY Strategy: A Nutrition Intervention Strategy

(Package for the Improvement of Nutrition Of Young Children):

- DOST PINOY Package for the Improvement of Nutrition of Young Children
- Observations and Review of Records
- Key Informant Interview (KII) among community workers
- Focus Group Discussion (FGD) among mothers/caregivers

120 feeding days of complementary foods among 6-35 months old children

Nutrition education for the mothers/caregivers using DOST PINOY modules
V. EVALUATION
After the 120-days intervention, the nutritional status of children participants and the mean knowledge scores of mothers/caregivers both increased significantly.

I. PLANNING
Activities were planned by the implementers at the municipal and barangay levels.

II. ORGANIZING
Series of meetings and orientations among barangay officials and mothers/caregivers were conducted. Materials for feeding and nutrition education activities were prepared.

III. IMPLEMENTATION
120-days intervention:
- Complementary feeding utilizing local-based complementary foods
- Nutrition education classes among mothers/caregivers using the DOST PINOY modules

IV. MONITORING
The LGUs in the study adhered to the program phases of planning, organizing, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

RESULTS

Conclusion & Recommendation
- Local level implementation of the intervention both in normal and after disaster situation is feasible.
- The key factors to efficient implementation are: presence of trained community workers; commitment, support, and adherence to program guidelines of local officials, implementers, and mothers/caregivers.
- For the sustainability of the program: The LGU should pass local resolution for its adoption and allocate resources for continuous implementation.