

PRESS RELEASE

HGM performs project in the Philippines...

KALAHI-CIDSS names two new towns in Sultan Kudarat province

Thursday, 07 July 2011 07:00



KORONADAL CITY—The poor towns of Lambayong, Palimbang in Sultan Kudarat province made to the list of new KALAHI-CIDSS (Kapit Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services) municipalities for implementation next year.

Palimbang and Lambayong were chosen as the newest recipients of the project, along with other municipalities of Kapitalong and Pantukan in Compostela Valley. The selection was done during the information dissemination and municipality selection process of the DSWD KALAHI-CIDSS (KC) project held at the Grand Men Seng Hotel, Davao City on June 30, 2011.

Davao del Norte Gov. Rodolfo P. del Rosario led the drawing of lots during the selection process, which was participated by 17 municipalities coming from the three provinces across region 12 and 11.

Elda Montera, Executive Director of the Associated Resources for Management and Development, Inc (ARMDEV), said the selection was done because the municipalities with high poverty incidence cannot be funded at the same time.

She assured the selection was fair and transparent, and that those who did not make it to the list will still have a chance in the future.

The orientation and selection process was attended by Horace McCormack, President and CEO of the HGM Management and Technologies, Inc., Marivic Anonuevo, managing director and CEO of the Millennium Challenge Account-Philippines (MCA-P), Gemma Rivera, DSWD-XII Assistant Regional Director. and local chief executives and representatives of the candidate municipalities.

“It is not just a privilege, but an honor to be here and witness how participative and dedicated the municipal leaders are with regards to bringing development in their areas,” McCormack said.

HGM, together with the ARMDEV were tasked to assist the DSWD with the massive information dissemination campaign about the KALAHI-CIDSS Project, which is funded by the US government through the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

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KALAHI-CIDSS , one of the government's flagship anti-poverty project implemented by the DSWD since 2003, aims to boost the decision-making power of local communities, strengthen their involvement in local development planning and mobilize local government units and community resources to implement community projects that reduce poverty.

In his opening message, Gov. del Rosario challenged the officials of recipient municipalities to make the program work in their respective areas. He said local officials should work harder to significantly reduce poverty in their towns in order to eventually graduate from the 4Ps conditional cash transfer project.

“Our people cannot go on receiving conditional cash transfers forever,” he said.

Rivera on the hand, boasted that impact felt in KALAHI-CIDSS project sites. “The project began building roads, bridges, schools, water system, post-harvest facilities, and health clinics in 2003 to demonstrate empowerment, improved local governance and immediate progress to Filipinos. Eight years later, its focus continues to improve the poorest sectors and connects the rural Philippines to basic services.”

The winning municipalities have until December to prepare the necessary requirements before the implementation of the project next year. #