

Proceedings on Legislative Advocacy Planning Workshop for Stakeholders and Duty Bearers on Interventions to Promote Exclusive Breastfeeding for Workers in the Informal Workplaces Zamboanga City

Day 1: January 8, 2013



The activity started at 9:40 A.M. of 8 January 2013 at the Lantaka by The Sea Hotel, with the usual opening preliminaries like prayer and singing of the National Anthem.

Ms Julieta Tigo, local ALLWIES Coordinator, welcomed the participants and acknowledged them, both from the duty bearers, and informal sector leaders. She said that what is more inspiring for the day is the presence also of the principal author of Zamboanga City Ordinance on Breastfeeding, which is the main discussion the two-day event.

Ms Tigo thanked the ILO and its social partners, the organizing team of this activity for giving the meaning of social inclusivity in social protection and development of the informal sector.

It was followed by a Solidarity Message of Mr Sisino Cano, the Regional Director of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Region 9. Mr Cano mentioned his commitment to include the Exclusive Breastfeeding topic for the coming Regional OSH Conference in February 2013, his commitment as he met the activity organizer, Ms Susanita Tesiora, Sectoral Representative and Ms Gloria Madayag of NAPC-Workers in the Informal Sector at the Office of the Zamboanga City Mayor. He relayed a finding of A British Obstetrician that the heat of the hands of a mother and food that the mother can give is the security that the child felt when they are in hands of their mother. He further said that there is comfort in the presence of family and friends and work hard for our daily subsistence. There is no choice but to work eight hours taking away the time that should have been spent with our child to express our love and comfort. We need to work for fulfillments, but meeting the need of a working woman to balance the maternal function and work, should be supported by the government. The RA 10028 responds to this need requiring to put up breast feeding or lactation stations. DOLE Administrative Order on Lactation Station, Series of 2012 was issued not only requiring the work places in private sectors but likewise our offices in different dole offices regions. We decided to put up in our place in Region 9.



Despite the success in the formal work places in terms of reduced absenteeism, improved employer-employee relationship, there is a strong evidence to do the promotion to help the informal sector balance economic activity and breast feeding or milk expression. Through this strategy, women working mothers feels better with a chance of looking after their children. Lactating worker mothers would have better arrangement to breast feed their babies without being harassed by stiff working schedule if lactations stations will be provided.



From left : Mr Roberto Valerio, ECOP Zambasulta Secretary General, Mr Sisino Cano, OIC Director of DOLE Reg. 9 , Dr Rodelin Agbulos, Zamboanga City Health Officer, and Councilor Lilia Nuño, author of Breastfeeding Ordinance No.377 of 2011.

After the Solidarity Message, Ms Susanita Tesiorna, introduced the next person to deliver the Solidarity Message, Mr Roberto Valerio, Secretary-General of ECOP-ZAMBASULTA who chairs the Local EBF Technical Working Group. The context of his message included support of any activities or initiatives on this advocacy as it is also their advocacy. He mentioned also that ZAMBASULTA is the only Chapter of ECOP in Mindanao. He also said that for the reason that no one wanted to become President, ECOP in Cebu was not sustained. And further, on his organization he said that ECOP-Zambasulta has 21 company members and is still recruiting. He ended his speech by expressing their organization's solidarity with the informal sector in advocating local instrument to address the gap for the promotion of breastfeeding in the informal workplace.

Ms Tesiorna, presented the objective of this activity which is to assess the existing ordinance and request the duty bearers to address the gap or obstacles of implementing the RA 10028 in reaching out the workers in the informal workplaces, with any appropriate local instrument. A customized intervention or programs is being sought for considering their work situation and considering that any minutes away from their workplace is a lost income opportunity. Other salient features presented are as follows:



After presenting the objective, ILO Coordinator on this project, Ms Lady Kristine Cruz, was presented the role of ILO in this MDG-F 2030 project. She narrated its role and what has been accomplished for the workers in the informal sector such as the Baseline Survey Tool, the Monitoring and Evaluation Tool, this activity and the lactation equipments to be turned over by the National Anti-Poverty

Commission. She mentioned that under the UNICEF funding, this project will scale up such as training of Workplace Breast-feeding Peer Counselors, how to sustain the lactation station and to advocate for the passage/approval of whatever appropriate local instrument.

Ms Cruz also informed the participants for the coming National Conference on Practices Promoting Exclusive Breastfeeding in the Workplaces. She also mentioned the importance of breastfeeding. She stressed the Joint Programme outcomes. After her presentation, it was followed by coffee break for a total of 40 participants, resource persons and guests.

Ms Amina T. Lim, former Region 9 MDG Coordinator, presented the salient features of RA 10028, the local interventions for the informal workers and the latest data on exclusive breastfeeding. She started by defining what is expressed human breast milk as the milk extracted by a hand or by a breast pump. She emphasized not to promote by using a bottle for feeding with expressed breast milk but by spoon or a cup not bottled. The baby will just be confused because of the same taste of the milk lessens the desire of the baby to be breastfeed.



Ms Lim discussed what is lactation management as the general care of a mother and infant from prenatal to post-natal periods. It builds with educating and providing knowledge and information in pregnant and lactating mothers on the advantages of breastfeeding, the risk associated with breast milk substitutes and milk products not suitable like condensed milk, evaporated milk, etc.

She also defined lactation station as private, clean, sanitary and well ventilated rooms or areas in the workplace or public places where a mother can wash out, breast feed or express their milk comfortably and store it after. She continued by defining more terms such as:

1. Public places-enclosed areas like school, public transportation terminals, malls and work places, private or public.
2. RA 10028 under Section 7 – these rules shall apply to all establishments whether operating for profit or not, for employees in any work place, nursing employees unless exempted by the Secretary of Labor and Employment under Section 8 hereof.
3. A private establishment may apply for an exemption to establish lactation station to DOLE regional office having jurisdiction over the establishment, an application exemption may be granted by the DOLE regional director.
4. Exemption sample: Work establishment which women's are not in reproductive age, work establishments that is exclusive for male gender.
5. Minimum requirements: For accessibility of breastfeeding women, the breastfeeding room or lactation room should be adequately provided with the necessary equipment and facilities and other items.
6. Standard will be established by the Department of Health (DOH).
7. Sample standards: The room must have sofa, sink, table, refrigerator to store their milks, lavatory.
8. Other establishment has their log book to monitor.
9. Station should be clean, well ventilated, comfortable and free from contagious and hazardous substances.
10. It should have privacy for breast feeding women and not placed near in the toilet area.
11. Section 11: Work place compliances with the milk code. It should take certain measures to prevent any direct or indirect promotion, marketing and or sales infant formula and or breast milk substitute within the Lactation Station.

12. Continuous education. We educate and train a health worker for institution- they need to update their knowledge and information on breastfeeding.
13. DOH with the assistance of other government agencies, professional and non government organization should conduct continuing information, education and other information campaign.
14. Continued education and training programmes for physicians, nurses, mid wives, nutritionists, dieticians, community, health workers, chamber or room attendants and other health and nutritionists workers and other professionals on current and updated lactation management.
15. Public education and awareness program (August breastfeeding month).

Ms Lim presented the objectives of breastfeeding such as:

1. To protect, promote, and support breastfeeding in the Philippines as the normal, natural and preferred method of feeding infants and young children. COMBI: communication for behavioral infants.
2. To guarantee the right food to eat of breastfeeding in society as a timed honor tradition and nurturing values as well as natural health policy that must to be enforced.
3. To provide information about the benefits and superiority of breastfeeding and the high risk and cause of bottled feeding.
4. To generate awareness on in full enforcement of national and international laws, codes, policies and programmes on the promotion and protection of safe and adequate nutrition for infants and young children by promoting authenticating breastfeeding and by regulating the marketing of certain food and feeding bottles and peeps and pacifiers. It is not advisable to use pacifiers because a child can still have a little confusion to still recognition in support and ensure access to comprehensive current and culturally appropriate lactation care on services for all women, children and families including support for breast feeding mothers in the world.
5. To require one peer counselor for 20 breastfeeding mothers.

Ms. Lim's presentation as Annex A.



Councilor Lilia M. Nuño, author of Zamboanga City Ordinance No. 377 of 2011.

Ms Tesiorna asked the pleasure of the participants if they need to have question and answer before Councilor Lilia Nuño presents the Zamboanga City Ordinance No. 377 of 2011. The participants preferred to finish all the presentations, Ms Nuño to present the ordinance. Ms Nuño, started her presentation by saying that breast milk is the best milk for babies.

As a declaration of policy, the city government shall create environment where physical, emotional, and psychological needs of the mothers and infants are fulfilled. The city shall likewise protect working mothers by providing safe and healthy working conditions taking into account the maternal functions, facilities, and opportunities that enable mothers to continue family obligations with work responsibilities. Towards this, the city shall promote and encourage exclusive breast feeding and provide special measures that would enable

nursing mothers express their milk or breast feed. Lactation Stations are needed by certain factories in the west coast.

Section 4 of the Ordinance provides that the provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all private enterprises, government agencies including subdivision, instrumentalities and all government owned and controlled corporations. Market area is an example of it.



Section 6: Nursing mother employees are entitled to lactation break of 40 minutes in addition to a regular break time. These intervals which include the time it takes an employee to go to in from the work place to the lactation station shall be counted as compensable hours work.

Section 7: Access to breast feeding information. The employers shall ensure that the employees be made aware of this ordinance, that all pregnant employees shall be provided with information on how they can continue breast feeding once they return to work. The employer shall coordinate with the city health in order for them to be aware of the breast feeding programme.

Section 8: Incentives and award system. The city office shall create an award system in order to strengthen the compliance in this ordinance subject to existing laws, rules and regulation.

Section 9: Breastfeeding awareness month. In order to create the awareness on the importance of promoting breastfeeding, the month of August in each in every year shall be known as the breastfeeding month. We have been practicing this for four years.



The monitoring team shall monitor compliance of this ordinance, develop and provide information and educational materials on the benefits of breastfeeding or breast milk. The team shall also conduct seminars and meetings on breast feeding, submit reports on status of the implementation of the ordinance to the city mayor and to the city health officer.

Sec 11- the following penalties shall be imposed with a violation with this ordinance. Any private non-health facilities, establishments and institutions which failed to comply provision of the ordinance shall be impose a fine of:

First offense – Php1,000 plus warning to be issued by the city health office.

Second offense – Php2,000 and non-extension of the sanitary permit.

Third offense – Php5,000 and cancelation/revocation of business permit.



In all cases the fines imposed take into consideration among others the number of employees, women employees, the physical size of the establishment and the average number of women who visits the establishment.

The city government shall allocate substantial amount from the gender and development fund. She told the City Health employees participating in this activity, to conduct trainings soon to be funded from the GAD Funds. A copy of the ordinance is presented as Annex B.



After the presentation on City Ordinance, Dr Rodelin Agbulos, City Health Officer speak on the current status of the space for lactation station for the vendors in the event that the first public market committed is undergoing major renovation. He announced that the Mayor Celso Lobregat instructed him to assign a place in the second largest public market which is the Sta. Cruz Commercial Complex. This happened after the meeting yesterday with Ms Tesiorna and Ms Madayag. He said that the Market Supervisor has been instructed to join the meeting of duty bearers tomorrow, if she cannot make it today.

As agreed, the open forum followed: Ms Josephine Alam from Barangay Tagum-Tagum raised the first question for Dr Agbulos. We have peer counselors in our barangay. We encounter problem as we are not recognized by the barangay officials or shall we say they are not familiar with this advocacy and even our health center. Can we ask recommendation or introduction that we are promoting breastfeeding?

Dr Agbulos replied that the best thing to do as of now because not all the health centers are properly oriented by now.



Ms Alam continued to express sentiments that they feel they don't belong to their own barangay. Our intention is only to help as we have been doing community volunteerism ever since.

Ms Proserfina Lazo, city midwife replied that the midwives were trained together with the peer counselors. I have spoken to her in several visits. We were facing problem which caused the delay of the implementation of peer counseling training. However, this time, all the 21 barangays have schedule already of their trainings. The officer-in-charge of the nutritional programme reported that the group COMBI is well emerged in our community. There are series of 11 batches of training of which the first started yesterday. We are united in this programme and we are opening our doors for this project, in the informal workplaces.

Another peer counselor, Robina Isidro, threw question for Dr Agbulos. She was quoted as follows: "I looked for peer counselors, Zamboanga City Medical Center because COMBI trained by Arugaan together with peer counselors in Zamboanga were deployed there. Mary Ann gave me the list of peer counselors, I found none. There are some people who helped us like in Diwan, Putik, Tubugan, Mariki and Riondo. There were two persons I recognized in IYCF Marsilina Rosal and assigned in Tarum-Tarum and Breth Aurea".

Mary Ann Porquillo replied: “I’m proud they are active members. They are in duty in City Health Center and Zamboanga Medical Center.

Robina Isidro replied back: I did not receive the contact numbers that I was expecting. I am sorry but Tarum-Tarum health center is under construction.



Ms Porquillo replied: “There’s lack of communication, you just have to know each other well. The person who’s responsible for contacting you has lost her cellphone that’s why we weren’t able to communicate that earlier before the programme starts. Ms Joan said she was sorry that she wasn’t aware because she was in Cagayan at that time.

Mr Joe Suan of TUCP-PILO spoke that in connection with the subject city ordinance, there is a big conversation because of informal sector. 8 per cent of our workers are women. I count the working hours because break time was counted to be paid: 15 minutes in the morning; 30 minutes for lunch; and another 15 minutes in the afternoon. If we add 40 minutes, work is performed in six hours and 16 minutes. That was a big discussion in the formal sector because in summation, a breastfeeding mother work only five hours a day. In the canning industry there is no fixed term of work because of the nature of operation, usually 24 hours operation. As far as the formal sector is concerned I recommend to amend the ordinance, instead of 40 minutes, change it to 15 to 30 minutes lactation break. This is only a suggestion.



Mr Suan continued: Sometimes lactating mothers spend time for coffee break and breastfeeding or expressing milk which can be done simultaneously to maximize time.

One of the participants spoke that it can be a matter of negotiation between employer and employee. Mr Suan continued: “It is a matter of the company and workers or union discipline of time to maximize the benefits of lactation break while working. I understand that prolonged feeding has less chances for a baby to get illness, which then lessens the tendency of the working mother to go on sick leave or vacation leave. Breastfeeding helps mother and family that is why we promote breastfeeding on work days. The matter of 40 minutes to 15 minutes is whether to push it for the amendment ordinance or think of the ways that we can make it easier. I don’t know if there is an IRR in the ordinance.



In the law, a day work is eight hours. If there is a 30 minutes break/coffee break in morning and in afternoon and a one hour lunch break is equivalent to working hour of six and 30 minutes. I suggest that we should not deduct the 40 minutes because if we do it, the labour productivity and working hours will be affected.

We can fix the 40 minutes break through lunch break at least our work wouldn’t be affected and the six hours and 30 minutes still continue. The working hours wouldn’t be affected without

compromising 40 minutes that we propose to be in the implementing rules and regulations (IRR). It is a matter of arrangement. Section 9 of the work place policy, every work place shall develop a clear set of guidelines that protects promotes and supports breastfeeding programme. The written policy shall be developed in consultation with the workers, approved and properly disseminated to all concerned.

No one reacted to Mr Suan but the workshop facilitator. Ms Tesiorna, reminded that an ordinance cannot supersede a law.

Dr Agbulos queried on: (a) what is the extent of technical support like the refrigerators and all the facilities inside the lactation station?; and (b) how many lactation stations can we have in the city to be supported by the ILO as far as lactation equipment is concerned?

Ms Cruz replied that for the original plan of one set, NAPC will take charge of the turnover of the lactation equipment consisting of a personal refrigerator and armed chairs. However, we have some funds to buy additional sets of lactation equipment. For the mean time LGU's will identify the public space and make an assurance that they assist the informal sector organizations maintain and sustain lactation stations.

In February, we will help identify the places. We cannot extend the support on lactation equipment without the spaces provided and assurance of sustaining. We see that this will help motivate the mothers to practice breastfeeding. In the upscale of this project, we will conduct workplace peer counselors training for the lactation spaces provided by us of the lactation equipment.

Ms Porquillo raised a question to the ILO Coordinator: I mentioned this to Ms Tigo last October that our airport does not have a lactation station and hope it will be established soon. She mentioned about the responsibility of the maintenance of the station and we advocate to have one at the airport and at pier.

Ms Cruz replied and enumerated the following:

1. Funds for informal work places are limited and we know airport generates their own funds. They have enough resources to establish their own. What we can do is to advocate them to provide lactation station.
2. The project is focused on what is missing, the informal sector. There are funds left for informal places and public places for the community to access because formal work places/companies can provide their own station.
3. We work with government units, for them to provide spaces and provide enabling environment for the informal sector organizations to maintain and sustain in their respective workplaces.

Mr Roberto Valerio, Chairman of EBF Local Technical Working Group, about the sardine factories of which 35,000 thousand workers in the canning industry are out-of-job since December 1, 2012 to February 20, 2013 to pave way to spooning period for fish to grow bigger. 60 per cent of the canning industry is in the packing business, no brand name except mega, family, master sardines directly affected with no canning activity.

In coordination with BFAD, Bureau of Fisheries and DOLE and all other agencies that have the mandates to support the 35,000 workers out-of-job. They will return to work on March 1, 2013. This added to the burden with the magnitude of informal sector.



After the open forum, Ms Tesiorna, presented a topic on **“Other than RA 10028, instruments, issuances, treaties and laws relevant with exclusive breastfeeding in the informal workplaces”**. She started with a message that she is thankful for the Project that the Social Protection for Informal Sector is given equal opportunity to be able to demonstrate innovative strategies/mechanisms to back up in both the national and local development agenda. Any law cannot be perfect for all especially that the informal sector lacks representation and lacks good practices to build a strong advocacy agenda. But there is always a way if there is strong evidence of the demand, stronger political will and increased awareness of various instruments the country. She said that she is thankful also to the 3JP cities for the receptive environment for this call and prospected to model other cities and municipalities nationwide and making the ILO and its Social Partners proud of having a contribution of improving the local data on MDG indicators, towards the end.

“No woman should have to choose between breastfeeding her baby and earning a living!”

She said that the only thing clear under RA 10028 the informal sector can cling to is the definition of public space. She mentioned that in the last evaluation report, the Local Government Unit (LGU) is not keen on putting a lactation station in a public market because of hygiene and sanitation problem. Who must be responsible to provide healthy workplaces? She took it a challenge because she knows by heart that every informal sector has the right to be protected. She researched policies, issuances, even international treaties and conventions to be able to convey a strong message that it is the responsibility of every LGU to provide healthy workplaces, and, that the Philippine Constitution speaks of all types of workers. Social exclusion aggravates poverty. The informal sector are paying fees and permits to every LGU, thus, services in return is expected. Besides, how can MDG Goal be achieved if these large number of informal workers are left alone emancipating themselves from poverty. They don't have employers but they have local government units where they pay their fees and permits and negotiate then for services. There is the strong evidence, as she presents data, issuances, laws, international treaties, ILO convention, etc.

Also, she presented the result of Baseline Survey that NAPC did under this project and the NSO data of informal operators by age, by workplace and magnitude to justify the need of a **“customized intervention for the informal sector in any appropriate local instrument”**. The details of the message is Annex. C.

During her presentation, she acknowledged the arrival of Mr Mohammad Tara Arakama, City Interior and Local Government Officer, will speak on various types of local instruments and guide the participants what appropriate instrument can be done to address the gaps of national and local instruments in the informal sector. However, she emphasized that for this activity, it is only the local ordinance as the subject of assessment.

After the presentation on relevant instruments, she said that the local government should provide enabling environment for any informal sector organization maintaining a lactation station and a customized intervention responsive to the peculiarities of the sector for those who have common workplace and no common workplace, education in particular and providing lactation station. A new ordinance or an implementing rules and regulations, whatever can be seen as appropriate after the workshop.

She asked the participants to throw clarificatory questions but there were none of the topics presented but affirmations of the



evidences of the need presented and most especially the common sentiment as seen in the faces of every participant, the need for “CUSTOMIZED INTERVENTION”.

Instead of clarificatory questions, Ms De la Rosa from the City Nutrition Council, signified that there is a need to put one lactation station at the pier. She informed further that she spoke to the terminal at the pier and management to put up one at the second floor. Ms Tigo counter proposed to have one in the “Sanggali Fishing Port, Zamboanga City” where there are plenty of informal sector women working, staying there till early evening because of the nature of their economic activity.

Ms Tesiorna replied that the project will determine which places recommended meets the criteria of selection. She declared then lunch break and everybody agreed to come back at 1:30 p.m.

The afternoon part of the program started at exactly 1:30 p.m. and after short exchange of pleasantries, Ms Tesiorna introduced the next speaker, Mr Arakama, the City Interior and Local Government Officer, to speak on various types of local government instruments in aid of decision making for the workshop participants to recommend to the duty bearers.

His opening salvo: “Calling for local actions! What would be a possible local instruments that can be passed in local government that could support this law, the Republic Act 10028”. An Administrative Order No. 341 was issued by Ex. President Fidel V. Ramos in 1997 citing the local government units to provide healthy workplaces which includes breastfeeding room as a criteria for the reward system of Healthy Work Places.



With all the various issuances, the point of reference of every LGU is the Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1992 which provides express power and implied power. The General Welfare Clause of the Code allows the LGU to act on anything deemed necessary and incidental to the general welfare of its constituents such as “promoting healthy and safety workplaces”. Section 106: states that all barangay, municipal, city, province must have a multi-sector development plan, in cities, city development plan and in barangay, barangay development plan. These plans consists of five major sector. One of the sector is the social sector which the health sector belongs. He suggested the following:

1. Analytical Situation
2. Setting Goal-desired State
3. Indicators
4. Local Instruments :
 - 4.1 Administrative Rules and Regulations
 - 4.2 Executive Order
 - 4.3 Local Ordinance
 - 4.4 Annual Investment Plan
 - 4.5 Annual Budget
 - 4.6 City Health programs
 - 4.7 GAD Budget
 - 4.8 Sectoral Plans (Health Sector)
5. Pursue public-private partnership

The workshop facilitator thanked Mr Arakama for the very important information necessary for the decision-making. She processed the list of suggestions and said that items 1-3, information are already available and given. She proceeded immediately to present what are the sectoral gains for the informal sector in the Memorandum of Agreement signed between the City of Zamboanga and the ILO Social Partners as Annex D.

LGU Commitments are to:

1. ensure the enforcement of Ord. No. 317 that requires the promotion of breastfeeding in all workplaces;
2. provide the infrastructure and location appropriate for the setting up of the public station for women in the informal economy; and
3. cooperate participate and support in all efforts to promote EBF and CBF in the formal and informal.

Partner's commitments are to provide:

1. technical assistance to the City Government of Zamboanga, particularly in providing comfortable seats and a refrigerator to be used and placed in the public market lactation station in Zamboanga City;
2. capacity building to City Government focal points and service providers constituents to enhance their knowledge and skills in providing services and programs on EBFW; and
3. assistance on advocacy and communication to further enhance the promotion of EBF and CF in the workplace.

The workshop to identify the policy gaps and obstacles was started by explaining the mechanics and how the ordinance and existing programmes be assessed. Participants were grouped into three and each informal sector group is being facilitated by duty bearers. The plenary presentation will be done after 1 -½ hours for each participant to enhance or clarify questions.



Societal Attitudes Group was facilitated by the City Health Personnel.

| GAPS | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|---|---|
| Taboos | Intensify health and nutrition campaign (health staff, peer counsellors, community health team navigators) |
| Body figure consciousness and conservatism of women | Advocacy campaign on community based EBF model “Mom” by LGU/City Nutrition by using bill boards |
| Negative attitude of husbands | Intensify family development sessions |
| Working mothers | 1. Establish lactation stations in all workplaces 2. Having Peer Counsellors on duty at lactation stations |
| Lack of financial support for the sustainability of peer counsellors | Allocate resources for incentives of peer counsellors |
| GOAL : BEHAVIORAL CHANGE to address myths about breastfeeding, increase exclusively breastfed babies and appreciate health and economic benefits for the family | |



Societal Structures Group was facilitated by the Transport Group.

| GAPS | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|--|--|
| LACK OF FOCUSED PROGRAM | Develop customized lactation management program for informal sector organizations to manage |
| LACK OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION | Designate PESO to the composition of local monitoring team for the informal sector |
| LACK OF RECOGNITION OF PRIVATE PARTICIPATION ON EBF | Institutionalize membership of EBF Local Working Group into City Nutrition Planning Bodies |
| EXCLUSION OF INFORMAL SECTOR ON BUSINESS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS | Require EBF Counselling Certification as a prerequisite for micro-business and service operation permits |



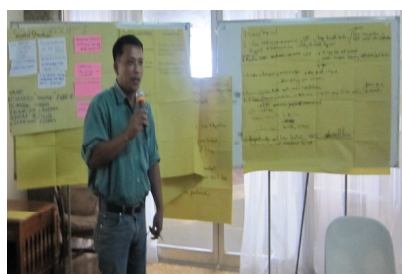
Commercial Interference Group was facilitated by DOLE Region9 representatives.

| GAPS | RECOMMENDATIONS |
|--|--|
| “GIFTED CHILD “ advertisement of milk products | Intensification of breastfeeding advocacy and counselling |
| Promotional activities of medical representatives- Promotion of sample baby vitamins | Strict implementation of EO 51 |
| | Improve/enhance reward system for complying establishments and govt. offices |
| | Community based reward system for informal sector associations, and other basic sector associations promoting exclusive breastfeeding and lactation management |

Presentation of group workshop outputs followed on time as scheduled. Everybody agreed to the group outputs and were in consensus to propose it during the Duty Bearers’ Meeting. The drafting of an “Implementing Rules and Regulations” since other gaps have been responded aided by the Memorandum, of Agreement. The City Ordinance mentioned already the DILG Circular 2011-054 that the informal sector can hold on to. The participants also agreed in consensus that what comes out in the workshop is more on programmatic that the Implementing Rules and Regulation can address to.

The Rapporteurs:

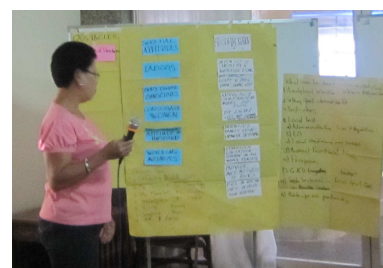
Societal Structures Group
Isabelo Rubio



Commercial Interference Group
Porferia Balan



Societal Attitudes Group
Proserfina Lazo



After a very productive day, Sectoral Representative of NAPC-Workers in the Informal Sector, Ms Madayag, responded with the Way Forward with her commitment that in her capacity, she will help ALLWIES and the local Informal Sector towards the approval of the IRR and even in the crafting of action plan afterwards. Ms Virginia Sagrado, City Nutritionist who should deliver the closing remarks need to go early proceeded with the closing remarks with sincerest appreciation to all participants, guests and resource persons. It is such a very fruitful day. She said that we will be seeing soon as I turnover our output tomorrow together with the first set of lactation equipments in Sta. Cruz Commercial Complex of this City.



Day 2: January 9, 2013

The second day of the activity, Ms Porferia Balan, President of City Federation of Barangay Health Workers, led the prayer and singing of the National Anthem. It was followed then with the Welcome Message from Ms Madayag. She introduced the participants and provided a recap of Day 1 to walk through the other participants who were not able to come yesterday for whatever reason, probably because of the busy work schedules.

Ms Madayag presented the event's objectives:

1. To aid the informal sector associations in the advocacy that the City Government in collaboration with the national government agencies develop customized and funded lactation management program that they can implement.
2. To decide what appropriate local instrument/s to recommend to the LGU to achieve No. 1 based on the recommendation of the City Interior and Local Government Officer.
3. To present the output of Day 1 workshop: Assessment of gap in the Local Ordinance for the Informal Economy Workers and data on EBF in aid of No. 2.

She also expressed positive expectations not only in behalf of the informal sector of this beautiful city but in a national scale since good practices here and in the other two cities would be our official basis in the advocacy, with my institution as the highest policy recommendatory body of the basic sectors.



Ms Cruz presented ILO's mandate and its important role in the Millenium Development Goal (MDG). She introduced ILO as a UN body specialized on the workers, the reason for involvement in this specific MDG-F 2030 JP Projects. She said that this two-day activities, was dedicated to the workers in the informal sector. Legislative or policy gaps make them more vulnerable.

She mentioned that under the MDG-F 2030, has many programmes on nutrition such as micro-nutrients of the World Food Programme, peer counseling of the World Health Organization, and others. ILO as a specialized agency for workers is focused only on workplace component, the formal and informal. It is not only up to the distribution of lactation equipment, development of tools, but more than it is the assistance to create enabling environment of sustainability. This objective will be facilitated with the funds from UNICEF such as the training of Workplace Counsellors on Exclusive Breastfeeding.

Ms Tesiorna, started the duty-bearers' meeting with brief rundown of this Exclusive Breastfeeding in the Workplace Advocacy for the past two years. She narrated the consultation workshops conducted in this same hotel that resulted to the plans of local stakeholders and majority of them are still the same people sustaining the advocacy. She gave special acknowledgment to Ms Ano-os, Mayor Lobregat who ordered Sta. Cruz Commercial Complex, the second largest public market in this city, to be the alternate for the lactation station in view that the first market designated which is still undergoing major renovation. For the benefit of Ms Ano-os, she expounded on the need of the lactation station. She presented the WIS Gains from the Memorandum of Agreement forged between the City of Zamboanga and the ILO Social partners in power point presentation with the data of market stalls. Likewise, she expressed her aspiration of behavioral change of the men and women of reproductive ages in the informal economy.



The workshop outputs was presented and the summary of different local instruments presented by the City Interior and Local Government Officer, Mr Arakama. In summary, the recommendation of duty bearers and local stakeholders is **"Implementing Rules and Regulations"** after assessing the ordinance which shows that: (a) at least informal sector is considered in the local ordinance under the definition of public place and workplace; and (b) the need in programmes and accessibility to services. Ms Tesiorna conveyed the assurance of Councilor Nuño that whatever is the recommendation, she would gladly face the challenge and strongly support it.

Mr Roberto Valerio, the Chairman of the EBF Local Technical Working Group to chair the Duty Bearers' and Local Stakeholders' Meeting was welcomed with as he opened the meeting. He then refreshed what has been going on in this project and ended the discussion meeting at 1:30 p.m.



When the meeting resumed, Mr Valerio gave a few minutes for the participants to review the workshop outputs and the City Ordinance No. 377 of 2011.

After that, the discussion started with Ms Tigo suggesting that the group recommendation of yesterday to advocate that IRR should be drafted, although Councilor Nuño expect amendment to the ordinance or another ordinance. It was confirmed yesterday the designation of spaces for lactation stations as proposed by the sector was granted by Mayor Lobregat. Ms Ano-os reaffirmed the instructions to her by the City Administrator and the City Health Officer.



Mr Valerio asked the participants of other suggestions aside from the IRR based on the different local instruments that was explained yesterday. Ms Sagrado suggested to have the lactation station in the airport. Ms Lim reacted that in the first plan, it has been consistent that the lactation stations should be placed in public markets and public transport terminals. Ms Tesiorna, presented a slide showing the target areas of the plan and this was presented already to the Mayor and other UN bodies. The only reason why we are

seeking another market is because there is ongoing construction of the city's biggest public market. The decision of the body is to proceed with the original plan with the new designated market.

The Chair expressed also that he is favoring IRR over a new local ordinance to avoid contentious issue of RA 10028 that might be raised again. Ms Proserfina Lazo read some provisions of the Ordinance and said that the requirement for the lactation station should be clean. As no one responded, Ms Tesiorna informed to refer to the slides on policy issuance presented yesterday and find the Administrative Order signed by President Ramos citing LGU to provide healthy workplaces including public markets.

Ms Tarroza asked the management of the lactation station. Ms Proserfina Balan, President of the BHW replied that the ILO will train workplace counselors and we will assist them. It would be more sustainable if ownership is transferred of the vendors association or transport association or any informal sector association qualified to receive the equipment. Ms Tesiorna said that the issue of sustainability is a common problem and suggested that in addition to GAD funds, 2 per cent of the fees and permits paid by the members of the Association maintaining the lactation station shall be advocated to be allocated by the City Government for the maintenance of lactation management programme and other developmental programmes of the association. Such association should become a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Team and everybody agreed to the proposal.



Mr Valerio asked the consensus to propose the implementing rules and regulations of the City Ordinance No. 377 Of 2011 and he will volunteer to draft. Everybody supported in consensus. The proposal letter addressed to Dr Agbulos will be sent as soon as possible with the following message that: (a) to inform of the agreement to draft IRR and it his office will take the lead towards a customized intervention for the informal sector; (b) the recommendations on Jan 8 and agreed in this event by the duty bearers are to be incorporated to the IRR; and (c) the draft of the IRR be initiated by ALLWIES based on these agreements for purposes of discussion which will then be turned over by NAPC with the lactation equipment to the City Government.

Before the meeting was adjourned, Ms Lazo announced the peer counselors training the following day and offered a slot for the informal sector. The vendors accepted the invitation and will send participants. Ms Tigo conveyed the message from Ms Nuño that she will wait for the recommendation/output of this workshop and will work on it as soon as the draft IRR is transmitted to her office. She is indispensable to come because of urgent meeting called by the City Mayor.



The meeting was adjourned as scheduled with Chair Valerio thanking the cooperation of everybody.