

The Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program (4Ps): A Philippine Open Government Partnership (OGP) Initiative

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ABSTRACT

While 4Ps is part of Good Governance and Anti-Corruption (GGAC) Plan of the Aquino Administration, it is not an identified Open Government Partnership initiative. The researchers delved into how the OGP core principles are resonated through the 4Ps based on the OGP initiative facets: credibility of partnership, strength and innovation in open government approaches, evidence of results, sustainability and special recognition. This study employed a descriptive quantitative research method utilizing a standardized questionnaire, Open Government Awards-The Scoring Process. In order to discuss the issues and concerns of the grand challenges of the OGP Action Plan, a Multiple Stakeholder Approach was utilized. 4Ps invests in health and education of poor households, particularly of children aged 0-18 years old, requiring compliance of certain conditionalities. The 4Ps serves dual objectives: poverty alleviation and investment in human capital. It operates in 79 provinces covering 1484 municipalities, 143 cities in 17 regions with 4,090,667 registered households as of 25 June 2014. Stakeholders are one in saying that 4Ps is highly compliant of the OGP initiatives. Issues and concerns on the 4Ps are classified into (1) improving public service including non-identification of supposed beneficiaries, areas regarded as GIDA, need to establish rapport with partner agencies, system concerns, and protracted grievance mechanism process; (2) increasing public integrity: non-compliance to guidelines, poor attitude on public health, and issues of permanence and fear of discontinuance; and (3) managing public resources, lack of data updating and tracking mechanism, lack of personnel, decentralization, lack of information dissemination, and delayed cash transfer. The 4Ps is reflective of the core values of OGP and its challenges as observed by the stakeholders. The positive observation and the credible impact of the 4Ps pushed for clamors for institutionalization of the program to ensure sustainability. Further, there is a need for better collaboration between and among the stakeholders in order to best address challenges, issues and concerns in the implementation of the 4Ps.

Keywords: *4Ps, Open Government Partnership (OGP) Initiative, core values, collaborative governance*

INTRODUCTION

It has been the increasing trend of countries around the globe to make *openness* the yardstick of democratic success. The advancement of electronic communications technology brings into

fore the need of the government to move closer to its people. With the knowledge that the government cannot do everything alone comes the challenge of collaboration with the end of attaining

the promise of sustainable development goals. Such is the guarantee of Open Government Partnership (OGP).

OGP, of which the Philippines is one of its founding members, anchors its ground on the four core open government principles: transparency, citizen participation, accountability, and technology and innovation. In this vein, the government has committed to undertake several initiatives under its OGP Action Plan. In hindsight, The Philippine OGP Action Plan is a part of the broader Good Governance and Anti-Corruption (GGAC) Plan (for 2012-2016) of the Aquino Administration. For its part, the GGAC Plan seeks to improve public service delivery, curb corruption and enhance the business environment. By so doing, the ideals of participatory democracy are imbibed in a climate conducive to business and investment through a government which is transparent thus, in a sense--honest and sincere to the public to whom it serves.

While the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is one of the multiple implementing agencies working hand-in hand with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office (PCDSPO) for the Bottom-Up Budgeting program, it is also one of the identified implementing agencies of the 4Ps.

For its part, the 4Ps is a Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program of the national government that provides conditional cash grants to extremely poor households to improve their health, nutrition and education particularly of children age 0-14. With the thrust of the Aquino

Administration in pursuing inclusive growth, the CCT aims to engage shared interest through the reduction of poverty incidence in the country. The direction the present administration thread is one which is closest to the very foundation of the OGP.

The researchers delved into how the 4Ps as a Philippine government development initiative is reflective of the core values of OGP namely: transparency, citizen participation, accountability, and technology and innovation vis-a-vis the Philippine OGP Action Plan. In particular, the following were sought: the profile of the 4Ps in terms of: program description, objectives and goals, conditionalities for availment, and program coverage; the level of compliance of the 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP initiative, in the aspects of: credibility of partnership, strength and innovation in open government approaches, evidence of results, sustainability; and special recognition; and the issues and concerns of the multiple stakeholders on the 4Ps, in terms of the grand challenges of the OGP Action Plan, namely: improving public service, increasing public integrity, and effectively managing public resources.

While the 4Ps is not in itself one of the identified OGP programs, it is to the researcher's interest to find out whether the 4Ps as a national development initiative relates to the four core open government principles and corollarily, whether the 4Ps is in line with the GGAC Plan of the Aquino Administration. The researchers zeroed in on how the OGP core principles are resonated through the 4Ps. The 4Ps under the DSWD aims to eradicate extreme poverty in the Philippines by

investing in health and education. As such, this development initiative strengthens the global call to reduce poverty incidence by designing genuine welfare programs.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DESIGN

This study employed a mixed method of research (qualitative-quantitative) utilizing a standardized questionnaire being adapted from, *Open Government Awards- The Scoring Process* (<https://www.opengovawards.org/scoring-process>) as the main tool in data gathering. The said assessment tool is based on the scoring rubric consisting of five (5) judging criterion for the Open Government Awards, as follows: credibility of partnerships, strength and innovation in open government approaches, evidence of results, sustainability and special recognition.

In order to discuss the issues and concerns of the grand challenges of the OGP Action Plan, namely: improving public service, increasing public integrity and effectively managing public resources, a Multiple Stakeholder Approach was utilized. The latter as anchored on the *Stakeholder theory* brings together the perspective of diverse institutions from different sectors regarding a certain issue or concern. In this case, on how the 4Ps resonate the OGP.

The Stakeholder theory, as first detailed by R. Edward Freeman in the book, *Strategic Management: A Stakeholder Approach* is a theory of organizational management that identifies the groups which are stakeholders of an organization, and describes and recommends the method of management which can give due credit to the varied interests of the said groups. In this case the government takes on the spot of the organization taking into consideration the pluralistic interests of its constituencies in its initiative to combat poverty through openness.

The survey was necessary to gather data regarding present conditions of the investigated subject. Personal interviews and focused group discussions (FGDs) were done with the varying stakeholders in the identified city per region all over the archipelago. A researcher-made interview guide was utilized during the personal encounters of the researcher with the respondents. Data mining was utilized to gather the necessary data on the OGP initiatives of the Philippine national government.

The researchers made use of the *Number of Pantawid Pamilya Households by Region, Province, Municipality, Set of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Data* as of April 20, 2014 as the basis of the identification of the research locale and the research respondents. Below is the table showing the research locale in the three island group-Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Table 1. Research Locale of the Study

ISLAND	REGION	PROVINCE	CITY/ MUNICIPALITY
Luzon	National Capital Region (NCR)	Third District	Caloocan
	Region I		
	Region II	Pangasinan	San Carlos
	Region IV-A	Isabela	Iligan
	Region IV-B	Quezon	Lucena
Visayas	Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR)	Palawan	Taytay
		Benguet	Baguio
		Negros Occidental	Bacolod
Mindanao	Region VII	Cebu	Cebu City
	Region IX	Zamboanga del Sur	Zamboanga
	Region X	Bukidnon	Valencia
	Region XI	Davao del Sur	Davao

Treatment of Data

The method of data analysis employed in this study was adapted from the interpretation table of *Open Government Awards- The Scoring Process* (<https://www.opengovawards.org/scoring-process>). The said study presented a tool for assessment for open government as well as the interpretation per score range.

The questions were divided into five categories, namely: credibility of partnership, strength and innovation in open government approaches, evidence of results, sustainability, and special

recognition. There were five items per category with the highest score of five (5) and the lowest score of zero (0) per item.

The interpretation of the average scores per category of stakeholder is a modified adaptation from *Open Government Awards- The Scoring Process* (<https://www.opengovawards.org/scoring-process>).

The total score for the five (5) judging criterion per category of stakeholder is tabulated and the average score for all the criteria is then taken, to mean as follows:

LOW	I-----	I-----	I-----	I-----	I-----	I HIGH
0	(0.1-0.9)	1 (1.1-1.9)	2 (2.1-2.9)	3 (3.1-3.9)	4 (4.1-4.9)	5

Thus,

- 0-2.5 → **LOW**---Strongly suggests the need for improvement within the OGP initiative and signals the need to review whether there is collective will to address the issue at the present time.
- 2.6-5.0 → **HIGH**---The Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative is doing well.

Program Description

It is aptly described as the human development program of the national government that invests in the health and education of poor households, particularly of children aged 0-18 years old. A conditional cash transfer scheme which

provides cash grants to beneficiaries provided that they comply with the set of conditions required by the program.

Objectives and Goals

The 4Ps has dual objectives, namely: (1) Social Assistance and (2)

Social Development. As a social assistance, it provides cash assistance to the poor to alleviate their immediate need (short term poverty alleviation). As a social development, it aims to break the intergenerational poverty cycle through investments in human capital.

The program helps fulfil the country's Millennium Development Goals, as follows: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality, reduce child mortality, and improve maternal health.

Conditionalities for Availment

To avail of the cash grants, beneficiaries must comply with the following conditions: 1) Pregnant women must avail of pre- and post-natal care and has to be attended during childbirth by a

trained health professional; 2) Parents must attend Family Development Sessions (FDS); 3) 0-5 year old children must receive regular preventive health check-ups and vaccines; 4) 6-14 year old children must receive deworming pills twice a year; and 5) All child beneficiaries (0-18 years old) must enroll in school and maintain a class attendance of at least 85% per month.

Program Coverage

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program operates in 79 provinces covering 1484 municipalities and 143 cities in all 17 regions nationwide. The program has 4,090,667 registered households as of 25 June 2014.

Level of Compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP Initiative

Table 2. Level of Compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP Initiative
According to DSWD Regional or Field Officers

JUDGING CRITERION	SCORE	INTERPRETATION
Credibility of partnership	3.9	Demonstrated compelling mechanisms for consulting others in nominating a claim. Was not jointly implemented but showed convincing validation of claims.
Strength and innovation in open government approaches	3.1	Establishes strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative. Targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need.
Evidence of results	3.2	Uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. Initiative has widened access or improved the quality of a public service for more than half of the target population.
Sustainability	1.8	Shows some commitment to institutionalizing the initiative but presents unrealistic ways of managing challenges faced by the initiative.
Special Recognition	4.3	The OGP initiative demonstrate that it successfully improved service delivery access and/or outcomes for a vulnerable population (e.g. poor, elderly, minorities, women), thereby promoting more inclusive development.
TOTAL AVERAGE SCORE	3.26 (HIGH)	The Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative is doing well.

As can be gleaned from Table 2, DSWD Regional and Field Officers rated 4Ps as Highly compliant (3.26) in its OGP initiative. To them, 4Ps as a development program is very much compliant as an OGP initiative in terms of the aspect of special recognition, credibility of partnership, evidence of results, and strength and innovation in open government approaches. However, they exhibit pessimism in their view that while there are unrealistic ways of managing challenges faced by the initiative. Their major fear against the sustainability of the program stems from the possibility of the discontinuance of the program due to transition of power in the government, despite of the positive results brought about by the program in light with the efforts of the government to reach the grassroots by providing direct benefits for the poor.

In terms of credibility of partnership, to them the 4Ps demonstrated compelling mechanisms for consulting others in nominating a claim. The expanded CCT covering Indigenous People's (IPs) and other vulnerable groups, excluded from the pockets of poverty are now to be identified with the participation of the civil society organizations in the level of partnership and implementation. In the light of the New Public Service paradigm, emphasis is on the role of the government in serving the interest of its citizens. Citizens on their part share the same interest and responsibility which is to better serve the common good.

In terms of strength and innovation in open government approaches, the program is seen to

establish strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative. In line with its core values, innovation carries with it implications on greater transparency on the part of the government. On the other hand, citizens are more inclined to identify and in a sense participate with the government. Particularly, the 4Ps targets a large number of population in terms of pockets of poverty and thus by identification, response is said to be more direct towards the goal of poverty alleviation.

In terms of evidence of results, the respondents are unanimous in saying that the initiative has widened access and improved the quality of public service, in terms of poverty reduction for a considerable number of the target population. Although admittedly to them, geographical barriers are the first stumbling block in the genuine identification of the pockets of poverty.

The thrust of the Aquino administration are being forwarded in the achievement of inclusive growth by the significant improvement of service delivery in terms of access to education and health services for the poor in order to exemplify the concept of "pantawid pamilya", education being the potent tool of the child to improve the quality of life of the family and to bridge the gap in the attainment of economic and social progress. As public servants, the respondents' role in helping citizens articulate their interest is heightened by the 4Ps. Best results are achieved through collaboration of all stakeholders of the government. Thus, all stakeholders forward the good of all.

Table 3. Level of Compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP Initiative
According to City Social Welfare and Development Officers (CSWDOs)

JUDGING CRITERION	SCORE	INTERPRETATION
Credibility of partnership	2.7	Provided sufficient evidence of consulting with other partners in nominating an initiative. Was jointly implemented and showed somewhat convincing validation of claims.
Strength and innovation in open government approaches	3.1	Establishes strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative. Targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need.
Evidence of results	3.3	Uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. Initiative has widened access or improved the quality of a public service for more than half of the target population.
Sustainability	1.9	Shows some commitment to institutionalizing the initiative but presents unrealistic ways of managing challenges faced by the initiative.
Special Recognition	4.0	The OGP initiative demonstrate that it successfully improved service delivery access and/or outcomes for a vulnerable population (e.g. poor, elderly, minorities, women), thereby promoting more inclusive development.
AVERAGE SCORE	3.0 (HIGH)	The Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative is doing well.

Table 3 reflects the level of compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP initiative according to the City Social Welfare and Development Officers (CSWDOs). In gist, CSWDOs rated 4Ps as Highly compliant (3.0), having done well and good in its OGP initiative. To them, 4Ps is very much compliant in terms of the aspect of special recognition, evidence of results, strength and innovation in open government approaches, and credibility of partnership. However, CSWDOs feel that unless the program would be institutionalized and made into law, its sustainability is greatly in question even when the program is in fact yielding positive results at the end of the day.

In terms of evidence of results, the respondents opined that the initiative

has widened access and improved the quality of public service, in terms of poverty reduction for a considerable number of the target population. This is attributable to the fact that the program uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved.

In terms of strength and innovation in open government approaches, the program establishes a strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative as it targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need. Under the GGAC Plan (for 2012-2016) of the Aquino Administration, technology and innovation initiatives are subsumed under transparency, citizen participation and

accountability depending on which principle is being supported.

In terms of credibility of partnership, to the respondents, the 4Ps provided sufficient evidence of consulting with other partners in nominating an initiative. This indicates

that the public servants, use shared, value-based leadership in helping citizens articulate and meet their shared interests rather than attempting to control or steer society in new directions. Thus, the NPS paradigm: Serve rather than steer.

Table 4. Level of Compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP Initiative According to the 4Ps Beneficiaries

JUDGING CRITERION	SCORE	INTERPRETATION
Credibility of partnership	2.7	Provided sufficient evidence of consulting with other partners in nominating an initiative. Was jointly implemented and showed somewhat convincing validation of claims.
Strength and innovation in open government approaches	3.1	Establishes strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative. Targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need.
Evidence of results	3.4	Uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. Initiative has widened access or improved the quality of a public service for more than half of the target population.
Sustainability	1.9	Shows some commitment to institutionalizing the initiative but presents unrealistic ways of managing challenges faced by the initiative.
Special Recognition	4.0	The OGP initiative demonstrate that it successfully improved service delivery access and/or outcomes for a vulnerable population (e.g. poor, elderly, minorities, women), thereby promoting more inclusive development.
AVERAGE SCORE	3.0 (HIGH)	The Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative is doing well.

In gist, beneficiaries rated 4Ps as Highly compliant (3.0), having done well and good in its OGP initiative. To them, 4Ps is very much compliant in terms of the aspect of special recognition, evidence of results, strength and innovation in open government approaches, and credibility of partnership. However, the beneficiaries fear that politics can get in the way in terms of making the program sustainable because of the uncertainty of the up and

coming election especially so that the 4Ps is palpably attributable to the Aquino Administration.

In terms of evidence of results, the respondents believe that 4Ps has widened access and improved the quality of public service. This is attributable to the fact that the program uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. Thus,

results pertain to the premium given to people and not just production; public organizations and networks operate through processes of collaboration and shared leadership based on respect for all people.

In terms of strength and innovation in open government approaches, 4Ps establishes a strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative as it targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need. Technology occupies a vital place in the

honing of the modern governance paradigm under the principles of government. Thus, citizen participation is more evident when there is greater technological innovation.

In terms of credibility of partnership, to the beneficiaries, the 4Ps provided sufficient evidence of consulting with other partners in nominating an initiative. As the program was jointly implemented, it showed somewhat convincing validation of claims.

Table 5. Level of Compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP Initiative
According to the Local Community

JUDGING CRITERION	SCORE	INTERPRETATION
Credibility of partnership	1.8	Some effort in consulting with other partners in Nominating an initiative. Initiative was not jointly implemented but showed minimal validation of claims.
Strength and innovation in open government approaches	3.3	Establishes strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative. Targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need.
Evidence of results	3.5	Uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. Initiative has widened access or improved the quality of a public service for more than half of the target population.
Sustainability	1.9	Shows some commitment to institutionalizing the initiative but presents unrealistic ways of managing challenges faced by the initiative.
Special Recognition	5.0	The OGP initiative demonstrate that it successfully improved service delivery access and/or outcomes for a vulnerable population (e.g. poor, elderly, minorities, women), thereby promoting more inclusive development.
AVERAGE SCORE	3.1 (HIGH)	The Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative is doing well.

Table 5 indicates the level of compliance of 4Ps vis-a-vis OGP initiative according to the local community. In gist, the respondents rated 4Ps as highly compliant (3.1), having done well and good in its OGP initiative.

To them, 4Ps as a development program is very much compliant as an OGP initiative in terms of the aspect of special recognition, evidence of results, strength and innovation in open government approaches, sustainability and credibility

of partnership. There is some optimism as to the long-term sustainability of the program. However, to them, there is no sufficient evidence of partnering with other NGOs in nominating, validating, and/or jointly implementing the initiative.

In terms of evidence of results, the respondents opined that the initiative has widened access and improved the quality of public service, in terms of poverty reduction for a considerable number of the target population. This is attributable to the fact that the program uses clear indicators to prove that one or more of the outcomes were achieved. There is manifest improvement in the quality of access to public services.

In terms of strength and innovation in open government approaches, the program establishes a strong rationale for using open government approaches which are somewhat innovative as it targets a large number of population and clearly identifies a need. Simply put, the greater the innovation means the greater the openness and transparency in the government. One, which makes leaders easily accessible to the public whom they serve.

In terms of credibility of partnership, to the local community, the 4Ps provided some effort in consulting with other partners in nominating an initiative. On their part, there is a clear need to collaborate with the civil society organizations in achieving the ideals of OGP. As a governing arrangement, collaborative governance brings one or more public agencies to directly engage non-state stakeholders in a collective decision-making process that is formal, consensus-oriented, and deliberative and that aims to make or implement public policy or manage public programs or assets.

It is to be noted that among all the stakeholders, it is the local community (barangay leaders) who rated credibility of partnerships, the least. As per interview and FGD, it was found out that *politics* and partisanship are largely felt at the level of the barangay. Hence, there is little effort for collaboration especially so when it involves people of different partisan leanings. This becomes a major stumbling block in achieving credible collaboration since there is an underlying issue on trust and initiatives are made along this line. Thus, the lesser the trust, the weaker the partnership as it reflects minimal effort and validation of claims.

Table 6. Issues and Concerns of the Multiple Stakeholders on the 4Ps

ISSUES AND CONCERNS ON THE 4PS		
IMPROVING PUBLIC SERVICE	INCREASING PUBLIC INTEGRITY	MANAGING PUBLIC RESOURCES
some supposed beneficiaries were not identified	some people are unresponsive to the compliance guidelines such as visiting the barangay health centers and even on the children's school attendance	lack of data updating; lack of mechanism to track and/or identify qualified beneficiaries who are Indigenous People (IPs)
not all areas are accessible and others have no access to electricity and other basic government services	In terms of health conditionality, it is done only for compliance as the attitude on public health remains the same	lack of personnel to help in the conduct of Family Development Session (FDS)
need to establish rapport and communication with partner agencies (e.g. DOH & DepEd)	fear of the discontinuity of the program due to the SC declaration of DAP as unconstitutional	slow listing, delisting and updating of the system (database)
problem on incomplete cash grant, inconsistency of payment and failure to update the grade level of children	need to enact a law making the 4Ps a permanent program of government in order to assure continuity despite any change in administration	need to decentralize the updating system to be more precise & to expedite the updating process
problem on protracted grievance mechanism process		need for DepEd to promptly give the data as updating is contingent on the enrolment system case load of City Links (CLs) is too big to cover one month of monitoring need to hire IT specialist specifically assigned for updating
		health workers are understaffed selection process was not made clear to the community delay of cash transfer

The grand challenges of the OGP Action Plan include the following: improving public service, increasing public integrity and managing public resources. Along the challenge of improving public service in terms of the implementation of the 4Ps, the following are the underlying issues and concerns: non-identification of supposed beneficiaries, inaccessibility of some areas, need to establish rapport and communication with partner agencies; problem on incomplete cash grant, inconsistency of payment and failure of

updating, and protracted grievance mechanism process.

As resonated by the NPS model, while the government exists to serve citizen interest, citizens share the same interest and responsibility which is to better serve the common good. With this, there is a need to achieve a smooth interpersonal communication along with partner agencies. As there is a problem with payment of the cash grant and the grievance mechanism process, the readily acceptable solution would be the procurement of better ICT tools and

simplification of the grievance machinery process. While collaborative governance is the key, efforts must be anchored on adapting a framework of governance best suited to the country given its socio-political underpinnings.

Being a stakeholder of the government, civic engagement and participation is indispensable. There is a massive call for vigilance on the part of the citizen to identify not only the problem and its possible solution, but also to on how to take pro-active role in becoming part of the solution itself.

With regard to the grand challenge of increasing public integrity, there are instances where recipients themselves are unresponsive to the compliance guidelines of the cash grant. Fact of the matter is, there are parents who fail, albeit inadvertently to comply with the conditionalities of the 4Ps. The uncertainty of the fate of the 4Ps gives life to the need to enact a law making the 4Ps a permanent program of government in order to assure continuity despite any change in administration.

In the aspect of managing public resources, the respondents raised the following concerns: lack of data updating and the mechanism to track and/or identify qualified beneficiaries who are Indigenous People (IPs), lack of personnel to help conduct the Family Development Session (FDS), slow database (listing, delisting and updating), need to decentralize the updating system, need for DepEd to promptly give the data so as not to cause delay in enrolment, the need to decongest case loads of city-links and the need to hire I.T. specialist specifically assigned for updating.

As manifested by the respondents themselves, in order to effectively manage public resources, there is a need for the hiring of personnel. One, specifically I.T. specialists in order to address the problem on system updating and to institute significant changes to data processing and another, to facilitate in the conduct of FDS relevant to the implementation of the 4Ps. It is also important for other government agencies to do their share even when the program carries with it additional work load.

CONCLUSION

The 4Ps is reflective of the core values of OGP namely: transparency, citizen participation, accountability, and technology and innovation vis-a-vis the Philippine OGP Action Plan and its challenges which includes improving public service, increasing public integrity and managing public resources. This is observed by the multiple stakeholders of the program, namely: DSWD Regional/Field Officers, CSWDOs, 4Ps beneficiaries, and the local community in the aspects of special recognition, credibility of partnership, evidence of results, and strength and innovation in open government approaches.

Because of the positive impact of the 4Ps as a national development program, there is a need for commitment of congress to institutionalize the 4Ps through legislation to greater ensure its sustainability irrespective of who is in power.

Moreover, the institutionalization of the 4Ps through legislative enactment which can be best achieved with the clamor of the vigilant stakeholders.

Better collaboration between and among the stakeholders is imperative in order to best address the challenges, issues and concerns in the implementation of the 4Ps.

For future researchers, a study may also be focused on the expanded CCT covering Indigenous People's (IPs) and other vulnerable groups, excluded from the pockets of poverty and are now to be identified with the participation of the civil society organizations (CSOs) in the level of partnership and implementation.

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