

COMMUNITY-BASED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (CBEP)

Presidential Directive

In the 22-Point Platform and Policy Pronouncements on Labor and Employment, the President's instruction was:

“Work with relevant government agencies in enhancing social protection programs such as social security, workmen's compensation, health insurance and housing for laid off workers while strengthening the Emergency Community Employment Program (ECEP) to create jobs immediately so people can still have income to spend for their basic needs.”

Concept and Objective

The CBEP is among the priority programs that aim to contribute to the national goal of inclusive growth, poverty reduction and job creation, particularly in the countryside or the local community. The program also contributes to achieving one of the Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster goals which is “increasing social protection and engaging communities in their own development”.

CBEP provides employment to skilled, semi-skilled, and low-skilled workers in the community where the program is undertaken through government undertakings, whether infrastructure or non-infrastructure. The program has been implemented for more than two decades now, though it is called in different names i.e., Emergency Community Employment Program, Community Employment and Development Program, Kabuhayan 2000, Rural Works Program, and Emergency Employment Program.

The computation of jobs generated is dependent on the assumptions and nature of the program implemented. Hence, each implementing agency provides the formula and assumptions for jobs generated in the CBEP-enrolled program/project.

Legal Bases

Among its bases for implementation are Republic Act 6685 providing the employment policy objective of hiring of 50% unskilled and 30% skilled workers in the local community where the infrastructure project will be undertaken; EO 94 series of 1999 establishing the policy direction and institutional framework to implement labor-based equipment supported infrastructure program; and EO 728 series of 2009 instituting measures to assist workers affected by the global financial crisis and temporary filling up of vacant positions in the government, among others.

At the onset of President Aquino III's administration, the Steering Committee at the national level has been institutionalized by virtue of a memorandum issued on 27 September 2010 by Executive Secretary Paquito N. Ochoa Jr. The Steering Committee is tasked to develop procedural guidelines for coordination and monitoring of jobs created from various programs/projects enrolled under CBEP.

The Steering Committee is chaired by DOLE with NEDA as Co-Chair. NAPC and DPWH serve as lead stewards for non-infrastructure and infrastructure, respectively. The PMS performs oversight and advisory functions. Consequently, CBEP guidelines for monitoring was issued on 16 May 2011 and supplemental guidelines on 04 October 2011.

CBEP Components

The program has three components, namely:

1. Infrastructure projects – government or PPP initiatives implemented at the local community that generate jobs i.e., construction of roads, bridges, flood control structures, school buildings, water systems (RA6685 & EO 94, s. 1999)
2. Non-infrastructure projects – job generation initiatives that cover social infrastructure i.e., reforestation, coastal resource management, livelihood and self-employment programs
3. Emergency employment - emergency response income support programs that create short-term wage employment or self-employment in distressed/remote areas or those affected by contingencies

2011 Targets

1. About **1.49 million** projected jobs to be generated out of the Php148.7 billion funds under the 2011 General Appropriations Act (GAA) and Official Development Assistance (ODA). Of these, the infrastructure component is 862,298 or 57.87% while the non-infrastructure component is 627,875 or 42.13%.

2011 Accomplishments

1. For 2011, CBEP generated **1.24 million** actual jobs, of which 515,682 jobs were generated by the infrastructure projects while 722,543 are from the non-infrastructure projects.