Working with Women in the Informal Economy: Initiatives from the Philippines

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Executive Director
Workers in the Informal Economy

- self-employed,
- occasionally or personally hired,
- subcontracted,
- paid and unpaid family workers in household incorporated and unincorporated enterprises,
- including home workers,
- micro-entrepreneurs and producers
- operators of sari-sari (small village variety) stores
- all other categories who suffer from violation of workers’ rights

(Magna Carta of Women, Sec 4.d.5)
Needs and Challenges

• Social Protection
• Organization, Leadership, Voice, Agency
• Breastfeeding Support
  • Information about breastfeeding; dangers of infant formula feeding
  • Time with her baby; Proximity to her baby
  • Food for her own nutrition
  • Access to skilled help and support
  • Lactation Stations in public places
Legal Mandates

• EO 51: The Milk Code of 1986
• RA 10028: The Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009
• RA 9710: Magna Carta of Women
• RA 10354: Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012
• DOLE Dept Order No 143, s 2015
• Workplace lactation stations included in Labor Law Compliance System
• Local Ordinances
Lactation Stations and Periods per RA 10028

• All health and non-health facilities, establishments or institutions shall establish lactation stations...

• Nursing employees granted break intervals in addition to regular time-off for meals to breastfeed or express milk... not less than 40 minutes for every 8-hour working period
Nutrition Security and Maternity Protection (NSMP) through Exclusive and Continued Breastfeeding (ECBF) in the Workplace

- **ODA**: ILO-UNICEF-EU, Spanish Government; WHO; FAO
- **Government**: DOH-DOLE-NAPC
- **Unions and WIE/S groups**: TUCP-FFW-ALLWIE/S-ECOP
- **Local Government Units**: Cities of Naga, Zamboanga, Iloilo; Quezon City
# Lactation Stations in Public Places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ILOILO</th>
<th>NAGA</th>
<th>ZAMBOANGA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iloilo Terminal Supermarket</td>
<td>NAMASFED Lactation Station in Naga City People’s Mall (market)</td>
<td>Sta Cruz Public Market</td>
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<td>27 village halls; Electric cooperative; water district offices</td>
<td>Plaza del Pilar (a shrine)</td>
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<td>Tagbak Integrated Terminal</td>
<td>CBD Bus Terminal, including tricycles</td>
<td>New Integrated Bus Terminal</td>
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<td>Naga College Foundation and other schools</td>
<td>Airport</td>
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Breastfeeding Support Group at OB Ward Zamboanga City Medical Center
Peer Counselors counseling to BF Mothers at Health Centers
Regular Meeting of Breastfeeding Support Group

**AGENDA:**
1. Schedule of Duty
   a. Monthly schedule
   b. Time in / time out logbook (signature) 8:00am - 11:00am
2. Proper attire / grooming while on Duty
3. Hospital Policy for Breastfeeding Support Group
   a. Counseling at Breastfeeding RM / Bedside Ward 1 / Birthing Clinic
   b. Proper filling up of log book
   c. Only two individuals are allowed to go on duty for the day
4. Monthly / Quarterly meeting (schedule & venue to be discussed)
5. Breastfeeding updates
6. ZECM → HOUR
   Handwashing Technique
Inauguration and Blessing of the LACTATION STATION
Plaza del Pilar for the Informal Sector, August 8, 2014
• Lactation Station at Plaza del Pilar
• 151 mothers counseled/assisted (August-December, 2014)
• Advocacy for Human Milk Banking, Oct. 10, 2014
Lactation Station at Yubengco Mall

Naga City People’s Mall managed by Naga City Market Vendors Association Federation (NAMASFED)
Waste pickers in Payatas, Quezon City and NAPC WIS in Lactation Station
“Mother-baby friendly ride”
a directive requiring all bus operators in Region 12 to designate the 3rd seat by the window as breastfeeding seat/corner inside buses with proper signage – RDC 12 to LTRFB

Breastfeeding Area, Zamboanga Airport

New Iloilo Integrated Bus Terminal
Breastfeeding during Disasters

• Human Milk Bank in Zamboanga City
  • Milk collected during ‘Immunization Day’ and during medical missions
  • Fed to pre-term babies in hospitals and to infants in disaster centers.
• ARUGAAN Emergency Response in Samar and Leyte Typhoon Haiyan – relactation massage
Milk Letting for Human Milk Bank
Zamboanga City Medical Center
Breastmilk Letting Activities
(Hospital and Community Partnership)

Total milk collected in 23 barangays –
35,118 cc
From 424 mothers
Cup-feeding triplets at the Talon-Talon Elem. School Evacuation Center
• Assessment of Breastfeeding by a Community Nutritionist at Masepla, Mampang Transitory Site
ARUGAAN BREASTFEEDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
ARUGAAN BREASTFEEDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
6,410 mom-baby pairs in 209 Barangays, Leyte & Samar
ARUGAAN BREASTFEEDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
Relactation management from bottle to breast

Grandma can breastfeed, too!

Breastfeeding cluster counseling for Kagawads, BNS & BHWs
ARUGAAN BREASTFEEDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE
Indigenous Food: Spaghetti & Yummy soup from kamote, kalabasa, mais, saba
ARUGAAN BREASTFEEDING
EMERGENCY RESPONSE
Astrodome January 25, 2014
Relactation Management on Twins from Bottle to Breast
Success Factors

1. COMPLIANCE TO LAWS AND ORDINANCES
2. CONVERGENCE, COOPERATION
   – Interagency mechanisms: ODA, government, union and informal economy workers
3. COMMITMENT
   – Political will of the local chief executives and councilors, agency heads
   – Dedicated health and nutrition officers
   – Organized volunteer peer counselors; link with other government programs (e.g. CCT)
   – Organized women workers in the informal economy / sector
4. CAPACITY and SKILLS BUILDING – Exclusive and Continued Breastfeeding in the Informal Workplace (25 workers trained as ECBF educators per lactation station)
5. COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY
6. CONTINUITY
7. CARE OF FATHERS
Fathers Care, too!!
With pride and joy, he recognizes that exclusive breastfeeding is not exclusively for mothers, as he too can share and take active part in the experience.

Assisting in latching onto mom
Burping after a meal
Cup feeding breast milk
- He knows how to **listen** from the core of his being.
- He has **high expectations** for himself and those he connects with.
- He **loves** with fierceness.

Working dad + sleepy baby = Happy Mom

– Laine Barrera-Pavico
THANK YOU!!

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