



**EMPOWERING 4PS GRANTEES IN BALILIHAN MUNICIPALITY THROUGH  
LIVELIHOOD ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT: A STEP TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

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**ABSTRACT**

In the municipality of Balilihan, Bohol, this study was carried out to ascertain the livelihood requirements of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Grantees. In a similar vein, this attempted to identify the training program that may be suggested to help reduce poverty in the town. This study used the descriptive survey approach, with a sample size of the entire population. All the information was gathered, examined, and then presented in table form. The results showed that among the 11 possibilities for a livelihood, cooking was the respondents' top pick, while fishing was their least favorite. The researchers concluded that cooking is the 4Ps grantees' primary need for a livelihood since most of them are women, who are more likely to be interested in and use cooking.

**Keywords:** Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)'s Sustainable Livelihood initiative, a community-based capacity building initiative, includes the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) as a strategy for reducing poverty. It aims to raise the socioeconomic standing of the participants, who are considered to be in very dire straits. The 4Ps program was first established in Brazil and Mexico with the primary goal of giving cash to families living in extreme poverty in exchange for modest commitments to education and healthcare. Since then, several nations have made an effort to imitate their examples, including the Philippines.

The Municipality of Balilihan also started this initiative, which currently has 730 active grantees. Every barangay holds monthly meetings to review and assess the status

One of the alternatives that is crucial in improving their economic situation is helping them develop their talents through training. It can be a significant weapon for eradicating poverty and is crucial to enhancing the employability and potential productivity of the working poor. Some people may have used it to launch successful businesses, while others may have found work. There isn't currently any livelihood training available for the municipality's residents, although it is already included in the DSWD's plans.

According to that premise, Bohol Island State University (BISU) Balilihan thought that the 4Ps members would be re-evaluated in terms of their needs for a living, which would then serve as the foundation for their new sources of income. The Department of Social Welfare, the organization in charge of the 4Ps program, will work with this study as the basis for the development of an extension project.

## Literature Background

Section 9 Article 2 of the New Philippine Constitution states that:

“ The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.”

In order to assure everyone's well-being and financial stability, as well as to build, maintain, and guarantee adequate social services in the fields of education, health, housing, employment, welfare, and social services, this section emphasizes the promotion of social justice and security to ensure the people's enjoyment and a respectable quality of living.

Paragraph 3-b c of Sec. 24, Chapter II of the Education Act of the Philippines States that:

“ The objectives of non-formal education are to provide unemployed and underemployed youth and adults with appropriate vocational/ technical skills to enable them to become more productive and effective citizens and to develop among the clientele of non-formal education proper values and attitudes necessary for personal, community and national development.”

According to this, the government's main responsibility is to give unemployed and underemployed youth and adults the technical and vocational skills they need to become more productive and effective citizens. It also owes it to non-formal education clients to cultivate the right values and attitudes that are essential for individual, local, and societal development.

Despite these current legal protections, there are still numerous challenges plaguing the Philippines. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) jointly implemented the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), a Conditional Cash Transfer program, to address this issue. The DSWD launched a "Ahon Pamilyang Pilipino" strategy to combat poverty in 2007, with the world's poorest people as its intended beneficiaries. On July 16, 2008, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) issued Administrative Order No. 16, series of 2008 (A.O. No. 16, s. 2008), which established the implementing guidelines for the project renamed "Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program" (4Ps), upon the following stated objectives: to improve prevention health care for pregnant women, to increase enrollment/attendance of children at elementary level, to reduce incidence of child labor, to raise consumption of nutrient-dense

### OBJECTIVES

The main thrust of the study was to assess the livelihood needs of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program grantees.

Specifically, this study sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the profile of the respondents in terms of:

- I. Personal profile

- a. Age
- b. Sex
- c. Educational Attainment

## II. Family profile

- a. Number of family members
  - b. Number of employable per household
2. What are the livelihood needs of 4Ps grantees in the Municipality of Balilihan?
  3. What extension program can be proposed to enhance their needs?

## METHODOLOGY

### Design

The descriptive survey method was applied to the investigation.

### Participants and Environment

The municipality of Balilihan, where the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program is actively implemented, served as the study's local. The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) grantees made up the participants. The sample size was 100% of the population, and there are currently 730 registered active members of the aforementioned program in the town.

### Instruments

The eleven options for means of subsistence are included in a self-made questionnaire for the participants. It was pilot tested among the municipality's non-4Ps residents. In order for the respondents to completely grasp each statement, the final copy of the questionnaire was translated into their mother tongue.

### Statistical Treatment

The percentage of measurement was used to calculate the data and interpret it. The 4Ps grantees' livelihood needs were evaluated based on the outcomes, which were ranked.

## Results and Discussion

**Table 1. Age Distribution of 4Ps Grantees in the Study Area**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>No. of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
15-24	7	0.96
25-34	141	19.32
35-44	252	34.52
45-54	198	27.12
Above 55	132	18.08
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Age Distribution:** The 4Ps grantees were divided into five age groups: 15–24, 25–34, 35–44, 45–54, and over 55 years. It was discovered that the majority of the participants (34.52%) fall into the 35–44 year age bracket. Since one of the prerequisites to be a grantee (registered member) in each family is that he/she must be the responsible person in the household, it is implied that the majority of the 4Ps grantees were in the active age range. It is not necessary that he/she is a parent.

**Table 2. Sex Classification of 4Ps Members in the Study Area**

Sex	No. of respondents	Percent (%)
Male	102	13.97
Female	628	86.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Sex Classification.** 4Ps awardees were predominately female in terms of sex. The percentage of female students was 628 (86.03%), while the percentage of male students was 102 (13.97%). Since the majority of wives stay at home and can comply with the requirement on attendance more easily than husbands who work, the 4Ps National Advisory passed Resolution No. 23, series of 2014 requiring the 4Ps staff for strict monitoring on grantees' mandatory attendance during sessions and other related activities. As a result, the majority of them are grantees.

**Table 3. Educational Status of 4Ps Grantees**

Educational Status	No. of respondents	Percent (%)
Illiterate	2	0.27
Elementary level	203	27.81
Elementary graduate	188	25.07
High School level	153	20.96
High School graduate	129	17.67
College level	45	6.16
College graduate	4	0.55
ALS graduate	2	0.27
Vocational	4	0.55
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100%</b>

**Educational Status:** The social development of the 4Ps Grantees is significantly impacted by the educational level of household heads. In reality, improving beneficiaries' socioeconomic capacity for a sustainable income source includes skill training in the program. According to the data, only 0.27% of people lacked a high school diploma, 27.81% of people were in elementary school, 25.07% of people finished their elementary education, 20.96% of people were in high school, 17.67% of people graduated from high school, 6.16% of people were in college, 0.55 received a bachelor's degree, 0.27% of people completed the Alternative Learning System (ALS), and 0.55 received vocational training.

**Table 4. Number of Family members**

<b>No. of Family members</b>	<b>No. of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
3	25	3.42
4	54	7.40
5	136	18.63
6	184	25.21
7	147	20.14
8	92	12.62
9	50	6.85
10	22	3.01
11	12	1.64
12	5	0.68
13	1	0.14
14	1	0.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>100</b>

**Number of Family Members.** The 4-5 family members scored the highest (43.84%), and the 10 or more family members scored the lowest (2.74%). The average grantee has 6-7 family members, 10.82 have 2-3 family members, and 9.86% have 8–9 family members (around 32.76% of grantees).

**Table 5. No. of Employable Beneficiaries**

<b>No. of employable</b>	<b>No. of respondents</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
1	98	13.42
2	308	42.19
3	237	32.47
4	68	9.32
5	11	1.51
6	4	0.55
7	4	0.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>100</b>

**Number of Employable Beneficiaries.** This 4Ps program ensures that the grants will not serve as disincentive for family members to work and improve their economic conditions. The members especially the parents should still work to earn a living. Thus, number of employable beneficiaries should be determined. Based from the data, 42.19 % of the grantees and beneficiaries in the household have 2 employable members, 32.47% have 3 employable members, 13.42% have 1 employable member, 9.32% have 4 employable members, only 1.51 have 5 employable members. For households with 6 or 7 employable people, the rate is 0.5%. According to the findings, the majority of households only have two (2) individuals that are employed. Therefore, in order to end the intergenerational cycle of poverty, government should adhere to the goals of the 4Ps program under social development, which includes supporting beneficiaries'/grantees' education so they may become employed.

**Table 6. Livelihood Needs**

<b>Skills</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Automotive	8	1.1
Welding	6	0.82
Cosmetology	24	3.29
Cooking/Baking	243	33.29
Farming	183	25.07
Fishing	3	0.41
Weaving	74	10.14
Carpentry/Mason	32	4.38
Sewing	29	3.97
Vending/Selling	35	4.79
Massage	4	0.55
Livestock Raising	89	12.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>100</b>

**Livelihood needs .** The 4Ps grantees' subsistence requirements are shown in Table 6 for Balilihan. According to the data acquired, cooking was shown to be the livelihood demand with 33%, ranking first. Given that women make up the majority of grantees, cooking is likely to be a hobby and source of income for them. Fishing is last in the list, earning only 0.41%. According to the respondents, fishing is the least important field for training when taking into account the town's location and available employment opportunities.

### **Findings**

The majority of grantees are between the ages of 35 and 44, making them mature enough to carry out any specified 4Ps program-related tasks. Female grantee respondents make up 86.03% of the sample. Given that the majority of male recipients are the family's primary wage earner and that 4Ps authorities are highly stringent about attendance at meetings and other activities related to 4Ps, they cannot be present at all times. Most award recipients have completed elementary school.

It was discovered that 33% of the grantees are interested in cooking as a skill. Given that the majority of grantees are women, cooking is primarily their desire for a source of income since they believe it will give them greater opportunities for employment and use it as a means of subsistence. The majority of grantees indicated that there are only two employable members of their household. Other individuals who have reached legal age may be regarded as employable if they meet the requirements for any potential careers.

### **Conclusion**

Based on its findings, this study came to the conclusion that the majority of grantees' interest in cooking is a necessity for their livelihood. This outcome is consistent among all 4Ps grantees in the several barangays of the Balilihan municipality. They think learning this discipline is important and that doing so might improve the socioeconomic situation.

### **Recommendations**

The researchers recommend follow-up livelihood training in cooking to 4ps beneficiaries as their preferred form of livelihood based on the study's findings. They also suggest a follow-up study to determine how the training has affected the recipients' means of subsistence and income.

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