

# Testing the Graduation Approach in the Philippines

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30 August 2017



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**Social Protection: policies, programs and evidence**

**29-31 August 2017, Thailand**

# 5 Questions

1. What is the graduation approach?
2. What does evaluation tell us?
3. Why try this in the Philippines?
4. Who are the partners?
5. What's the plan?



# What is the graduation approach?

- A set of multi-dimensional, integrated, holistic 'cash plus' social protection and livelihood interventions targeted to the poorest
- Carefully sequenced complementary elements:
  - consumption support (mostly cash transfers)
  - productive asset transfer (based on market research)
  - technical skills training
  - access to services (financial, health)
  - life skills coaching (through frequent home visits)
- Pioneered by BRAC in Bangladesh, piloted & evaluated in 10 countries by CGAP & Ford Foundation 2006-2014, now in > 30 countries

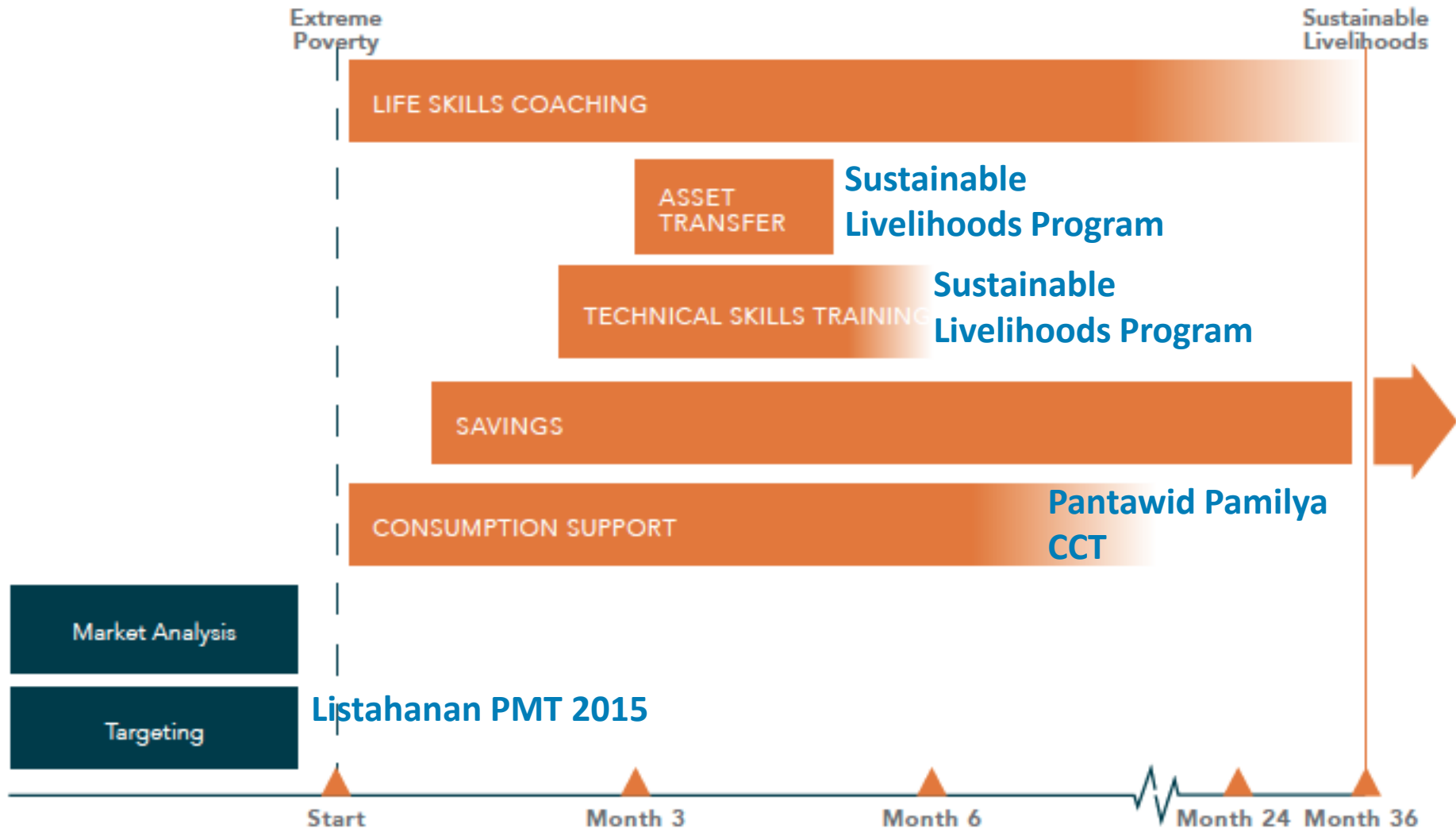
# What does evaluation tell us?

- Graduation package gives poor people a big push toward sustainable livelihoods through:
  - broad and lasting economic impacts, e.g. higher consumption, savings
  - increased self-employment income
  - improved psycho-social wellbeing
  - increased participation
  - consistent effectiveness across most contexts and implementing partners
- Programs are expensive, but long-run benefits appear to outweigh up-front costs

# Why try this in the Philippines?

- Stubbornly high and persistent poverty
- large-scale government Many graduation package elements already exist in extant programs – national poverty targeting system, cash transfer program, livelihood support, community-driven development
- Better sequencing, coordination and integration (“convergence”) + new elements (coaching) could create a pathway for survival and subsistence level families to graduate to self-sufficiency
- No need to start from scratch - Philippines could look to Peru and Indonesia for lessons

# The BRAC/CGAP/Ford Foundation Model



# Unlocking Innovation for Development

- \$5 million fund Jan 2016 – Dec 2019
- **Impact:** strengthened capacity of DMCs to solve development problems using innovative solutions
- **Outcome:** increased ADB operations to support scaled-up innovative solutions
- 5 diverse projects in road safety, urban transport, service delivery, graduation programs, and digital financial services
- PHI graduation pilot: \$500,000 (+\$220,000 from ERCD's impact evaluation fund)



# Who are the partners?

WHO	WHEN	ROLE
<b>DSWD</b>	Since late 2015	coordination among programs, pilot design, monitoring
<b>CGAP</b>	April-May 2016	brownbag seminar at ADB and initial design workshops for DSWD
<b>BRAC USA</b>	Since Feb 2017	technical assistance to DSWD for pilot design, implementation & monitoring
<b>Innovations for Poverty Action</b>	Since Feb 2017	research design, baseline survey for randomized control trial
<b>ADB</b>		SEHS, SDTG, KSSC, ERCD



# What's the plan?

- Pilot will test 2 models of coaching: individual vs. group coaching (cost considerations)
- Location: 4-5 municipalities in Negros Occidental, Negros Island Region (with national community-driven development program)



# What's the plan?

- Targeting:
  - poorer CCT households (<80% of the poverty line in 2015 Listahanan )
  - never exposed to SLP
  - verified through brief eligibility verification survey
  - 800 HHs each in
    - Treatment 1: CCT + graduation package + individual coaching
    - Treatment 2 : CCT + graduation package + group coaching
    - control group: CCT

# What's the plan?

- Timeline:
  - Design details finalized by September 2017
  - Facilitators recruited & trained, baseline data collected October-November 2017
  - Immersion visit to Bangladesh 2017
  - 24-month pilot January 2018 to December 2019



# More information...

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