



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 342, s. 2025

**CONDUCT OF DATA GATHERING ACTIVITY ON PIDS STUDY ON
"UPDATES ON OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN: PRE- AND POST-
PANDEMIC"**

To: Schools Division of Negros Occidental

1. Attached is the Memorandum on the conduct of data gathering activity of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PDIS) on their study titled "Updates on Out-of-School Children: Pre- and Post- Pandemic."
2. For further information and concerns on this matter, coordinate with the PPS-PRDD through ps.prd@deped.gov.ph.
3. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III
Regional Director

Encl: As stated
Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

RESEARCH

PPRD/JIS/Memo_Conduct of Data Gathering PIDS.docx



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
POLICY AND PLANNING SERVICE

Office of the Director

MEMORANDUM
2025-PPS-OD-08-027

TO : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
JOCELYN DR. ANDAYA, NCR
ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, Region IV-A
RAMIR B. UYTICO, NIR
DR. ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, Region X

ATTN : **CONCERNED SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS**
CARLEEN S. SEDILLA, SDO Quezon City
DR. EDITHA M. ATENDIDO, SDO Laguna
GLADYS AMYLAINE D. SALES, SDO Negros Occidental
ROY ANGELO E. GAZO, SDO Cagayan de Oro City

FROM : *mtligunas-roque*
MARIA CLARISSE T. LIGUNAS-ROQUE
Director IV
Policy and Planning Service-Office of the Director

SUBJECT : **Conduct of Data Gathering Activity on PIDS Study on
"Updates on Out-of-School Children: Pre- and Post-
Pandemic"**

DATE : 29 August 2025

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS), the government's primary socioeconomic policy think tank attached to the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev), is currently conducting a study titled **"Updates on Out of School Children: Pre- and Post-Pandemic"** to examine the trends and demographics of out-of-school-children, assess the barriers to schooling, evaluate existing intervention programs, particularly in the post-pandemic context, and develop policy recommendations to address emerging challenges in education access. This study is led by Dr. Jose Ramon G. Albert, Senior Research Fellow of PIDS, together with Dr. Sheryl Lyn C. Monterola, a consultant.

To gain first-hand insights on the factors impeding the learners' pursuance of their education, as well as the local context of communities with high incidence of out-of-school children and the implementation of education-related policies and programs, the PIDS will conduct key informant interviews (KII) and focus group discussions (FGD) in four (4) Schools Division Offices (SDOs) with the highest enrollment in the Alternative Learning System (ALS) and highest incidence of out-of-school children, namely in Schools Division of Quezon City, Laguna, Negros Occidental, and Cagayan de Oro City, tentatively in September 2025 (*see Annex 2*).



Participants of these KIIs and FGDs include (a) school administrators, (b) teachers, (c) ALS learners (i.e., those who dropped out and enrolled in ALS) from junior high or senior high schools, (d) parents of out-of-school children or students-at-risk-of-dropping-out (SARDOS) (i.e., overaged children), (e) LGU focal/staff on education, and (f) DSWD focal on 4Ps (*see Annex 1*).

In support of evidence-based decision-making as well as the Five-point Reform Agenda, the Department will aid PIDS in their data gathering endeavors through the coordination with corresponding Regional Offices, School Division Offices, and schools.

Particularly, the RO-PPRD through the Regional Research Coordinators shall:

- a. Ensure the progress of data collection through FGD and KII in collaboration with the selected SDOs; and
- b. Coordinate with representatives from PIDS for the itinerary and conduct of the data gathering activity (*see Annex 2*)

On the other hand, the SDO-SGOD through the SEPS for Planning and Research:

- a. Coordinate with the selected schools within their jurisdiction to identify the target interview participants in accordance with the specified criteria (*see Annex 1*); and
- b. Collaborate with representatives from PIDS for the itinerary and conduct of the interviews (e.g., selecting venues, schedule of the activities) (*see Annex 2*).

The duration of each interview is expected to last no longer than ninety (90) minutes. Additionally, PIDS will shoulder any expenses related to this data gathering activity, including the teams' accommodation and transportation, as well as the meals of the interview participants during the data collection activity.

The findings of this study will be used to inform education policy and program development in relation to addressing the challenge of out-of-school children at the national and regional levels. Accordingly, the data gathering activities shall adhere to the Data Privacy Act of 2012. Thus, all data will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and used exclusively for the purposes of this data gathering activity.

To facilitate the coordination with the PIDS, focal persons of the concerned Regions and SDOs are requested share their contact information through this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/6nqcFshHUd>. Kindly accomplish this preferably **on or before 3 September 2025**.

Additionally, to provide more background on this activity, the focal persons are invited to attend an online orientation on **Thursday, 4 September 2025, from 2:00 PM** onwards via MS Teams through the link: <https://tinyurl.com/PIDS-OSC-Study>.

For further clarifications or inquiries, kindly coordinate with PPS-PRDD through ps.prd@deped.gov.ph.

For your consideration and appropriate action. Thank you.

Copy furnished:

MARILLETE R. ALMAYDA

Director IV

Bureau of Alternative Education

ANNEX 1. *Criteria of the Interview Participants*

INTERVIEW METHOD	PARTICIPANTS	NUMBER PER SDO
Focus group discussions (FGD)	Returning learners through ALS (preferably junior or senior high school)	9-12
	Parents of out-of-school children or SARDOs	9-12
	Teachers from junior or senior high school	8
Key Informant Interviews (KII)	School administrators	1
	LGU focal staff on education	1
	DSWD focal on 4Ps	1

ANNEX 2. Indicative schedule of the data collection activity

Selected SDOs	Indicative Schedule
SDO Cagayan de Oro City	Week of September 8, 2025
SDO Laguna	Week of September 15, 2025
SDO Negros Occidental	Week of September 22, 2025
SDO Quezon City	Week of September 30, 2025

Region X – SDO Cagayan de Oro (Week of September 8)		
<i>Day of Conduct</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Interview Participants</i>
Day 1	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with School Administrator
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Teachers
Day 2	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	FGD with Learners
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Parents
Day 3	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with LGU focal
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	KII with staff on 4Ps

Region IV-A – SDO Laguna (Week of September 15)		
<i>Day of Conduct</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Interview Participants</i>
Day 1	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with School Administrator
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Teachers
Day 2	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	FGD with Learners
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Parents
Day 3	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with LGU focal
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	KII with staff on 4Ps

NIR – SDO Negros Occidental (Week of September 22)		
<i>Day of Conduct</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Interview Participants</i>
Day 1	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with School Administrator
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Teachers
Day 2	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	FGD with Learners
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Parents
Day 3	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with LGU focal
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	KII with staff on 4Ps

NCR – SDO Quezon City (Week of September 30)		
<i>Day of Conduct</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Interview Participants</i>
Day 1	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with School Administrator
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Teachers
Day 2	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	FGD with Learners
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	FGD with Parents



Day 3	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	KII with LGU focal
	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	KII with staff on 4Ps

