



Office of the President
Malacañang



Item No.: **25**
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Date: **20 APR 2026**

MEMORANDUM FROM THE ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TO : SECRETARY JUANITO VICTOR C. REMULLA, JR.
Department of the Interior and Local Government

FROM : THE ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SUBJECT : DIRECTIVES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FUND (LGSF) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSISTANCE TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES - FOOD ASSISTANCE (RICE DISTRIBUTION PROJECT)

DATE : 14 April 2026

In light of the ongoing crisis in the Middle East and its impact on the rising prices of basic commodities, the undersigned hereby transmits the following directives and clarifications on the implementation of the Assistance to Indigent Individuals or Families - Food Assistance (Rice Distribution Project) under the Local Government Support Fund - Financial Assistance to Local Government Units (LGSF-FALGU).

This memorandum does not introduce new or additional guidelines but reiterates and reinforces the directives set forth under *Department of Budget and Management - Department of the Interior and Local Government (DBM-DILG) Joint Circular No. 1, s. 2026* and *DBM Local Budget Circular No. 169*.

The DILG, subject to its implementing guidelines, is hereby **DIRECTED** to disseminate the attached Advisory and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Implementation of Assistance to Indigent Individuals or Families - Food Assistance (Rice Distribution Project) to all concerned Provincial, City, and Municipal LGUs, to provide guidance and address recurring implementation concerns.

The DILG is likewise **DIRECTED** to ensure the clear and consistent communication of the following directives to all concerned LGUs:

- **Beneficiary Identification.** LGUs shall identify their eligible family beneficiaries in accordance with Section 2.0 (Coverage) of the DBM-DILG Joint Circular No. 01, s. 2026.
- **Rice Allocation Per Beneficiary.** Each identified family beneficiary shall receive **ten (10) kilograms of rice per distribution round**. The same set of family beneficiaries must be covered in every distribution round to ensure fairness and continuity of assistance.
- **Number of Distribution Rounds.** While the program initially targets six (6) distribution rounds, the actual number of rounds may vary depending on the prevailing cost of procured rice and the availability of funds. LGUs are advised to

plan accordingly and adjust the number of rounds consistent with their LGSF-FALGU allocation. LGUs can augment the program using their own local funds to increase the number of beneficiaries covered and/or the number of distribution rounds conducted, in order to maximize the reach and impact of food assistance to their constituents.

- **Distribution Schedule.** In accordance with *DBM-DILG Joint Circular No. 1, s. 2026*, the distribution of rice to identified family beneficiaries shall be scheduled every other month. The first round of distribution must be conducted within April 2026.
- **Rice Procurement.** LGUs are strongly encouraged to directly procure rice locally through Negotiated Procurement – Sagip Saka (NP-SS). Should NP-SS prove unsuccessful, LGUs must ensure compliance with alternative modes of procurement in accordance with the *New Government Procurement Act* and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation.** LGUs are required to comply with *DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2024-134*, or the *Omnibus Guidelines for the Monitoring and Evaluation of Subaybayan-Enrolled Projects*, for purposes of monitoring and evaluating program implementation.

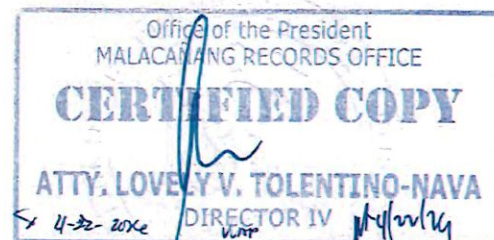
The DILG is further **DIRECTED** to submit a report to the Office of the Executive Secretary detailing the actions taken pursuant to this directive **within seven (7) days** from receipt hereof, and **every thirty (30) days thereafter** until full implementation of the program.

For your appropriate action.


RALPH G. RECTO 

Copy furnished:

1. **Hon. Dakila Carlo Cua**
Governor of Quirino, ULAP National President
Quirino, Region II, Philippines
2. **Hon. Reynado Sucayan Tamayo Jr.**
Governor of South Cotabato, LPP National President
South Cotabato, Region XII, Philippines
3. **Hon. Francisco Javier Manlapit Zamora**
Mayor of San Juan City, LCP National President
San Juan City, Metro Manila, Philippines
4. **Hon. Faustino "Inno" Dy, V**
Mayor of Echague, LMP National President
Echague, Isabela, Region II, Philippines





ADVISORY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSISTANCE TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES - FOOD ASSISTANCE (RICE DISTRIBUTION PROJECT)

For the immediate and proper implementation of the Assistance to Indigent Individuals or Families - Food Assistance (Rice Distribution Projects), all Local Government Units (LGUs) are hereby advised to strictly adhere to the following guidelines set forth in the **DBM-DILG Joint Circular No. 1, s. 2026**, and **Local Budget Circular No. 169**:

A. Procurement of Quality Rice

- LGUs are **highly encouraged** to directly procure quality rice from accredited local farmers and farmer organizations through Negotiated Procurement - Sagip Saka (NP-SS). This aims to support local agriculture while ensuring timely and adequate assistance to identified beneficiary families.
- The posting of procurement opportunities through NP-SS may be made through the Department of Agriculture's Farmer and Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Information System (FFEDIS), the procuring entities' websites, or other conspicuous places. Direct purchases through these channels must comply with the negotiated procurement procedures prescribed by the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB).
- If procurement of rice through NP-SS proves unsuccessful, LGUs must ensure compliance to alternative modes of procurement in accordance with the New Government Procurement Act.
- Funds allocated for this program **must not be distributed as cash or in any monetary equivalent** to beneficiaries. Assistance shall be provided strictly in the form of rice to the family beneficiaries.

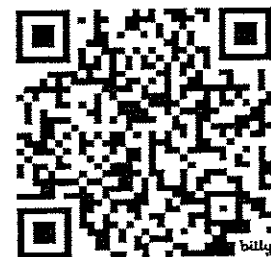
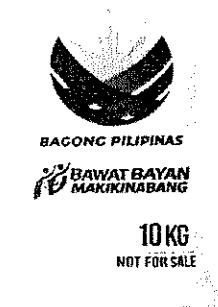
B. Selection of Beneficiaries

- **LGUs will identify their eligible beneficiaries** for the rice distribution project. LGUs should distribute rice to **at least 25% of their population** based on the 2024 census.
- Eligible beneficiaries may include **families identified as poor, near poor, vulnerable, minimum wage earners, or other deserving families**. LGUs may prioritize families from vulnerable sectors (e.g., solo parents, labor workers, PWDs, IP groups, senior citizens, middle income workers) affected by the ongoing Middle East crisis and/or other ongoing local crises specific to the region, province, city, or municipality.

- LGUs must ensure **proper validation and verification** of all beneficiaries prior to and during implementation to guarantee that assistance reaches the intended recipients.
- As a general guideline, **duplication of benefits should be minimized** to ensure equitable distribution of food assistance. LGUs may prioritize families who are not current recipients of rice assistance from other government programs.
- LGUs in cities and municipalities are also encouraged to coordinate their list of family beneficiaries with their Provincial LGU counterpart to avoid duplication of beneficiaries.
- The **same set of identified families** must receive the **ten (10) kilograms of rice** in every distribution round to ensure fairness and continuity of assistance.

C. Schedule of Rice Distribution and Packaging Compliance

- Each identified family beneficiary shall receive **ten (10) kilograms of rice every other month**, subject to the availability of funds. While the program initially targets **six (6) distribution rounds**, the **actual number of distributions** for the same set of beneficiaries may vary depending on the prevailing cost of procured rice.
- Regardless of the actual number of distribution rounds, the schedule of rice distribution must be implemented every other month.
- All rice units for distribution must be **packed in the prescribed LGSF *Bagong Pilipinas* Rice Program packaging** and strictly adhere to the program's branding and packaging specifications.



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- LGUs are advised to conduct the first round of rice distribution within April 2026.

D. Project Monitoring

- LGUs are required to comply with **DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2024-134**, or the **Omnibus Guidelines for the Monitoring and Evaluation of SubayBayan Enrolled Projects**, including its subsequent revision(s) and all supplemental guidelines for the monitoring and evaluation of project implementation.
- Details required for project monitoring may include, but are not limited to, project amount, number and profile of family beneficiaries, quantity of rice distributed (in kilograms), procurement method, and schedule of distribution rounds.

E. Requests for additional budget for rice

- LGUs that have already exhausted their rice budget allocation may request additional rice, provided that the equivalent cost of the new request will be deducted from their FALGU–Menu allocation.
- LGUs must clearly indicate in the Project Description section of the Ugnayan Bayan portal that the new submission is an "additional request for rice" to facilitate easier assessment of the request.
- LGUs may also provide their own counterpart funding to cover the cost of additional rice beyond their FALGU–Rice allocation.