



## We reached around 1.8 million individuals and over a million children in 2014



Save the Children is the world's leading, independent organization for children.

We envision a world where every child attains the right to survival, development, protection and participation. Our mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children, and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

Working in the Philippines for more than 30 years, Save the Children provides long-term support for children to fulfill their potential and ensure that their voices are heard. Located within the Pacific Ring of Fire and annually threatened by an average of 20 typhoons, Filipino children are among the most vulnerable in the world.

Save the Children works with the government, partners and communities in addressing the critical needs of Filipino children through capacity and resilience building, and better accessibility and delivery of social services in both development and humanitarian contexts. We also advocate policy formulation and reforms as well as for programs and policies for children and their families to have access to quality services. In addition, Save the Children provides capacity building activities and needed support for sustainability and strengthened systems of child-centered services. We work for children and their families to improve their health and accessibility to education, reduce malnutrition rate, address and prevent child abuse and exploitation.

### OPERATES IN 10 REGIONS NATIONWIDE

#### LUZON

- Metro Manila
- Central Luzon
- Southern Tagalog

#### MINDANAO

- SOCCSKSARGEN
- Davao Region
- ARMM
- CARAGA

#### VISAYAS

- Eastern Visayas
- Western Visayas
- Central Visayas

Save the Children works with partners and communities to reach out to the most deprived and marginalized children through projects focused on the following themes:



### CHILD POVERTY



Children deprived of their most basic needs like food, water, education and healthcare are prevented from enjoying their rights and fulfilling their full potential to becoming active and productive members of the society. Save the Children addresses this through capacity building of children and families, creating conditions and opportunities for them to earn incomes and/ or access assets and services for their basic needs and enhance their well-being. We also help families make their livelihoods more sustainable and resilient to natural and human-induced hazards.

Save the Children works for their accessibility to social protection mechanisms such as social security benefits, medical care and pensions, to help supplement their income and help meet their household needs.

We aim to break inter-generational poverty by supporting young boys and girls without formal education to transition into adulthood through employability and technical skills that will enable them to have proper employment or even run their own enterprise. This is complemented by linking these youth with partners in the private sector who are willing to employ them.



### CHILD PROTECTION

We are committed to protecting children from harm in the Philippines and across the globe. We do this by strengthening families' and communities' awareness and abilities to safely care for and protect their children. We encourage the participation of local committees that will be responsible for building awareness on and addressing child protection issues such as abuse, exploitation, violence and neglect.

We also work with Philippine legislators for the passage of the bill that bans the use of physical and humiliating punishment on children, and promotes the practice of positive discipline—guiding and teaching children with warmth, structure and understanding. We provide training to school officials and facilitators, social workers and government officials on positive discipline to raise awareness and provide alternatives to cruel and humiliating forms of punishment.





## CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE



Save the Children works with child-led organizations and civil society groups in monitoring the government's fulfillment of children's rights and other human rights treaties in the Philippines and in the South East Asian Region. We build the capacity of civil societies, children and child-led groups to engage with government bodies to influence policy and other governance decisions. We advocate the government in taking concrete steps to implement children's rights at all times through the passage and implementation of laws and policies promoting children's rights, systematic data collection and monitoring of the children's situation, sufficient budget appropriation for children with accountable spending, comprehensive plans of action that include children, effective coordination mechanisms for service delivery including in humanitarian situations and broad awareness raising on children's rights. We also promote children's meaningful participation in governance and active citizenship in their localities, at the regional, national and global levels and support their initiatives on awareness raising and advocacy.



## EDUCATION

Save the Children helps improve access to quality education for all children no matter where they live and what their situation is. Education continues to be the integration point in our programs, usually combined with programs on health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, child protection, and risk reduction and resilience. We signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Education for mutual support on education programs for early childhood care and development, basic education, and support during emergencies such as school repairs and improvements. Our wide array of education interventions include the following: basic reading and comprehension skills development programs; development and provision of teaching and age-appropriate learning materials; promotion of mother tongue-based multi-lingual education; and capacity building for teachers and day care workers. We engage parents and communities to support children's learning and development. We also push for budget allocations and local policies on education to ensure the sustainability of these initiatives in the community.



To prepare young children for structured formal education, we have programs built on the strong relationship of parents and their children aged 0-4 years old wherein we encourage parents to invest on developing their young children's literacy and numeracy skills through early reading. In support of this objective, we partner with communities to produce learning and story books appropriate for young children to support their successful transition into primary school.



## HEALTH & NUTRITION



With partners from the government, communities and other organizations, we ensure that no child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday. We advocate policies on quality programs and projects for children, including components for water, sanitation and hygiene, early childhood care and development, child protection and child-sensitive social protection. Our innovative approaches and strategies focus on increasing the number of deliveries by skilled birth attendants, exclusive breastfeeding and responsive complementary feeding, complete immunizations, prevention of stunting and treatment of acute malnutrition.

We also work with the Department of Health, local governments, other non-government organizations and key target populations and their families to prevent the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV and AIDS), protect the most at risk children and youth and sustain the government's response in addressing the noted epidemic.

One of Save the Children's top priorities is ensuring that Filipino children grow up healthy and well-nourished. We do this by training frontline health and nutrition workers on live-saving care for newborns and their mothers, managing community and school-based health and nutrition programs and promoting reproductive health to adolescents. We also advocate budgetary appropriations and quality service delivery networks for adolescent sexual and reproductive health, maternal and newborn health, maternal, infant and young child nutrition and child health to be sustained and prioritized in the local budgets.



## SAVE THE CHILDREN IN EMERGENCIES

Save the Children responds to children's needs in times of humanitarian crises—be it natural or human-induced. We were among the biggest organizations on the ground after Typhoon Haiyan hit in 2013. We help children and their families by providing them with immediate life-saving relief, we help them recover and strengthen their capacity on disaster preparedness and risk reduction.

Part of our emergency response is to provide immediate non-food relief for families such as tarpaulins for temporary shelters, basic household items like kitchen utensils and clothes, water containers and purifiers, hygiene essentials and blankets. Save the Children also promotes key messaging on child protection, hygiene and sanitation, health and nutrition as well as risk reduction and resilience. We set up child friendly spaces for children's play, recreation and socialization with other children; thereby helping them regain a sense of normalcy in their lives.



## CREATING IMMEDIATE AND LASTING CHANGE IN THE LIVES OF FILIPINO CHILDREN FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS

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