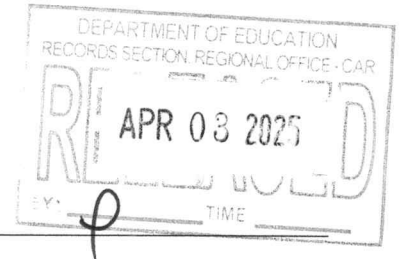




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION



2 April 2025

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 236-2025

STATUS AND UPDATES ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SAFER AND RESILIENT SCHOOLS (ISRS) PROJECT

To: Assistant Regional Director
Schools Division Superintendent
Division Engineers
All Division

1. The offices of the Undersecretary for Human Resources and Organizational Development and the Undersecretary for Strategic Management released a memorandum numbered **OUSM-OUHROD No. 0722** on February 25, 2025 regarding the above-stated subject.
2. This status and updates on the Infrastructure for Safer and Resilient Schools (ISRS) Project is presented to the World Bank. The project will be co- implemented by the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).
3. This update is particularly relevant in anticipation of inquiries related to the ISRS Project during this year's Regional Development Council (RDC) budget presentations.
4. For information and dissemination.


ESTELA P. LEON-CARIÑO EdD, CESO III
Director IV, Regional Director 

Enclosure: As stated

ESSD/GCD/mmg



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DepEd Tayo Cordillera



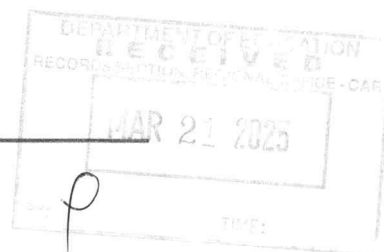
<https://depedcar.ph>



Certificate No. PHP QMS



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY



MEMORANDUM

OUSM-OUHROD No. 072

TO : **Director TOLENTINO G. AQUINO**, Region I
Director BENJAMIN D. PARAGAS, Region II
Director ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, Region IV-A
Director NICOLAS T. CAPULONG, MIMAROPA
Director GILBERT T. SADSAD, Region V
Director RAMIR B. UYTICO, Region VI
Director SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ, Region VII
Director EVELYN R. FETALVERO, Region VIII
Director RUTH L. FUENTES, Region IX
Director ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, Region X
Director ALLAN G. FARNAZO, Region XI
Director CARLITO D. ROCAFORT, Region XII
Director ESTELA L. CARIÑO, CAR
OIC-Director MARIA INES C. ASUNCION, CARAGA
OIC-Director RONNIE S. MALLARI, Region III

FROM : **WILFREDO E. CABRAL**
 Undersecretary for Human Resources and
 Organizational Development

RONALD U. MENDOZA, PhD
 Undersecretary for Strategic Management

SUBJECT : **STATUS AND UPDATES ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SAFER AND RESILIENT SCHOOLS (ISRS) PROJECT**

DATE : February 25, 2025

This is to respectfully provide the status and updates on the **Infrastructure for Safer and Resilient Schools (ISRS) Project** for World Bank financing to be co-implemented by this Department and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

As the primary beneficiaries and key stakeholders in the project's implementation, the Regional Directors shall remain informed to ensure alignment with regional priorities and facilitate effective coordination at the local level. Furthermore, this update is particularly relevant in anticipation of inquiries related to the ISRS Project during this year's Regional Development Council (RDC) budget presentations.



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I. BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF THE PROJECT

1. The ISRS Project aims to support a resilient recovery of 1,282 selected disaster-affected schools in all regions outside the National Capital Region. Its total project cost is PHP30,558.00 million (USD555.60 million or EUR517.89 million equivalent) over 5 years from 2025 to 2029. Of the total project cost, 90% is to be financed through a loan from the World Bank amounting to PHP27,502.20 million (USD500.04 million or EUR466.07 million equivalent) while 10% is to be financed through the Government of the Philippines (GOP) counterpart amounting to PHP3,005.80 million (USD55.56 million or EUR51.82 million equivalent).
2. DepEd and DPWH are required to maintain proper project implementation structures throughout the project, including appropriate composition, staffing, functions, and resources as detailed in the Project Operations Manual (POM).
 - DepEd will implement Component 1 on Relatively Simple Works for School Infrastructure Recovery and Operations & Maintenance.
 - DPWH will implement Component 2 on Relatively Complex Works for School Infrastructure Recovery.
3. On November 18, 2024, the loan agreement was signed between the Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Finance (DOF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) of the World Bank.
4. On February 12, 2025, the World Bank declared the effectiveness of the project given the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DepEd and DPWH for the ISRS Project.
5. The ISRS Project is tentatively scheduled for a ceremonial launch on March 14, 2025 at the Bulwagan ng Karunungan. A separate memo invitation will be issued.

II. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN DEPED AND DPWH

1. The MOA between DepEd and DPWH for the ISRS Project has been signed by DepEd (*January 17, 2025*) and DPWH (*February 4, 2025*). This outlines the institutional arrangements, roles, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms for project implementation, under terms approved by the Bank.
2. *DepEd, DPWH and BARMM MOA*: Before commencing activities in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), DepEd, DPWH, and the relevant BARMM ministries must enter into a BARMM-specific MOA. This agreement must include acceptable terms for institutional arrangements, roles, responsibilities, and coordination between the parties.

III. PROJECT OPERATIONS MANUAL (POM)

1. The POM and Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) manual prepared by DepEd and DPWH has been initially reviewed by the World Bank. These manuals outline the procedures and guidelines for the effective implementation and management of the project and will serve as key

references to ensure that all project activities are carried out efficiently, transparently, and in alignment with the agreed terms

2. The updated POM, incorporating World Bank feedback, was transmitted for further review and clearance on February 17, 2025. Once cleared, a copy will be provided to all concerned Regional Offices.

IV. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1. The ISRS project falls under the Unprogrammed Appropriation (UA) of the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for FY 2025. Hence, DepEd will request jointly with DPWH a Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for its first-year implementation. However, starting FY 2026, the ISRS project is expected to have its line item in the GAA.
2. DepEd, in coordination with DPWH, is responsible for preparing a proposed Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) for each part of the project.

V. PROCUREMENT

1. For FY 2025, consultancy firms for the Detailed Architectural and Engineering Designs (DAED) and Project Management Office (PMO) will be procured by the DepEd and DPWH Central Offices.
2. The procurement of civil works contracts for Component 1 will be carried out at the Schools Division Offices (SDOs) in accordance with the latest World Bank Guidelines. A capacity-building program will be conducted for personnel involved in the procurement process to ensure effective implementation.

VI. FIELD VALIDATION ACTIVITIES

1. Field validation activities will be conducted on the 1,282 selected schools to verify data from reference databases, including the DepEd National School Building Inventory (NSBI) and the Department of Science and Technology – GeoRisk PH. These databases were used in the initial school prioritization assessment conducted by the University of the Philippines – National Engineering Center (UP-NEC).
2. The results of the field validation will serve as the basis for determining the appropriate interventions needed for each school building, as well as the site and functional improvements to be implemented.
3. UP-NEC with DepEd Education Facilities Division will conduct a Capacity Building for Field Engineers on the use of KoboToolbox, a tool that will be used for Field Validation activities, in March 2025.

For concerns and/or clarifications, your staff may coordinate with the Project Management Service-Project Development Division (PMS-PDD), Attention: Ms. Mara Camille Dayao or Ms. Jerralyn M. Castillo through e-mail: pms.pdd@deped.gov.ph or PMS-Project Management Division (PMS-PMD), Attention: Engr. Jason A. Almoite or Ms. Ymmalu Margaret Esparagoza through e-mail: pms.pmd@deped.gov.ph.

Thank you.



SUBJECT: STATUS AND UPDATES ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESILIENT SCHOOLS (ISRS) PROJECT

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