

**REGIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF BLES SURVEYS: 2006  
(Summary)**

**Problems Encountered**

**Administrative Concerns**

- Lack of material time in the recruitment and selection of PBIs.
- Delayed release of fund (2<sup>nd</sup> tranche)
- Limited funds

**Field Operations**

- Some establishments are still hesitant to accomplish the forms
- Respondents from government-owned and controlled corporations such as PAGCOR, NHA and other government-utility corporations have been uncooperative and refuse to participate
- Many of the sample establishments were already reported earlier either permanently closed, cannot be located, non-existence and duplicates in the previous survey (2004).
- Some questionnaires have misspelled names of companies or have the wrong addresses.
- Some PBIs backed out at the middle of survey operation.
- One PBI was caught tampering retrieved questionnaires
- High transportation costs especially in remote areas
- Peace and order situation in remote areas.
- Respondents failed to comply with their commitment to submit the survey forms.

**Measures Undertaken by the RO to Solicit Cooperation of Sample Establishments**

- Hired the same PBIs, hence are familiar with the establishment personnel covered by the survey
- Massive persuasion through personal visits and telephone calls
- Coordinated with Labor Standards Enforcement personnel for them to inform establishments regarding the conduct of the survey
- Effective orientation of BLES Survey for Enumerators.
- Letter-request from the RO to ensure cooperation of economic zones to give assistance in the implementation of program
- Issue certification of closed establishments identified in the economic zones
- Personal visits of regional supervisors to big establishments
- Validated establishments' addresses before sending enumerators on field to ensure correctness of addresses.
- Coordinated with PEOs for assistance in locating the out of town establishments
- The Regional Director personally made an effort to follow up thru phone to some respondents especially those who have passive attitude
- The regional staff made an extra effort explaining to some of the respondents the usefulness and manner of presentation of the final output of these surveys.

## **Suggestions for Improvement of Survey Implementation**

### **Training of Enumerators and Area Supervisors**

- There should be a clear instructions on filling up questionnaires specifically on OWS Part C.
- Training should be well-funded and should be comprehensive for enumerators. New PBIs cannot easily grasp the nature of the job.

### **Manpower Complement**

- BLES to push for the provision of a plantilla position for statistician in our region
- Regional Office should be advised earlier on the conduct of the survey to have ample time to hire competent PBIs
- Need for additional enumerators for fast retrieval of delivered questionnaires
- BLES to review the timetable being set for the conduct of the next survey – too little time allotted for recruitment of PBIs
- Sufficient number of enumerators shall be engaged to meet the target on time

### **Fund Utilization**

- Increase budget allocation for transportation/traveling, supplies, communication services and training expenses
- Interfund transfer should be done only once.
- Provide/Allocate budget for cell card to Regional/Area supervisors considering its necessity and usefulness for the success of the survey.

### **Field Operations**

- Longer survey period should be considered to allow more time on retrieval and editing of survey questionnaires
- An updated list of establishments should be used to avoid spoilage questionnaires.
- Peace and order situation of the area should be considered before including the establishment in the survey
- BLES should provide a uniform token or certificate of appreciation signed by the Secretary himself to be given to valued respondents as a sign of gratitude for their cooperation and support.

### **Others**

- Simple layman's term to be used in the questionnaires (ex. Fortnightly to bi-monthly)
- This feedback mechanism be given a serious consideration to improve program implementation

*Note: No report received from Region IV-B.*