

DOCUMENTING LGU BEST PRACTICES

I. TITLE

KABALAKA SA KABATAAN SA BUENAVISTA: An MCPC National Awardee Buenavista, Guimaras

II. SUMMARY

The Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC) in the Municipality of Buenavista at the Province of Guimaras is an organization that takes the lead in implementing children's programs to ensure the delivery of quality services for, by and with the Children's Welfare. It advocates to coordinate and make interventions if necessary, to further the development of children.

Established in 2008, its vision is *"by 2025, Children are well nourished, well-educated, protected, participative and globally competitive, enjoying the quality basic services"* while its mission is *"to be responsive to the needs of the children and their families."* To ensure that this vision and mission will be fulfilled, the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Buenavista, Guimaras provides programs, projects and activities to fulfill the core rights of the children- survival, development, protection and participation.

MCPC focused more in the implementation of quality services, wherein such programs, projects and activities were basically conducted for, by and with the children in order to sustain their welfare towards nation building.

After fifteen (15) years, a robust in governance in strengthening linkages and child-friendly practices have emerged and a better functionality was developed as it still grows better and better. This is evident through the child-friendly advocacies and interventions advanced by the different government offices together with the non-government organizations (NGOs), civil service organizations (CSOs) and other partners and stakeholders.

It has been cited that the functionality of the Buenavista MCPC was the highest among the five municipalities in the Province of Guimaras and has maintained the ideal functionality with a rating of 107% as of the year 2016.

Indeed, Buenavista MCPC has come a long way to further the welfare of children as a tool in nation-building. This has been made possible only because of well-coordinated linkages amongst the different government and non-government sectors which came together to ensure that only the best child-friendly practices will be done. As a result, Buenavista MCPC's collective efforts were bestowed by a Presidential Award in 2015 Search for Child-Friendly Municipalities/Cities 1st – 3rd Class Category.

III. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Municipality of Buenavista has been considered as a benchmark and a leading advocate in coordinating and making interventions if necessary, to further the development of children in all aspects of life. These aspects namely Survival, Development, Protection and Participation have been the anchor of everything that has been done by the MCPC in attaining the fullest potential of every child in the municipality.

In the aspect of **SURVIVAL**, death rate of children below five years old has lowered from 4 in CY 2015 to only 2 in CY 2016 based from the data collected from the Municipal Health Office. The various activities being done such as regular monitoring of the health status of Children with monthly and quarterly weighing as well as distribution of vaccines, regular check-up, immunization and many other health related services as availed by the community are some of the reasons on the decreased number of Under-Six years old that are considered as malnourished children, to wit, from 237 children in 2015 to only 226 children in 2016.

Moreover, extensive education campaign to the students about Anti-Tobacco and Illegal Drugs, HIV/AIDS Symposium and Teenage Pregnancy are done continuously over the years. Further, an initiative called Pabasa sa Nutrisyon and Nutrition Month Celebration are done as well to educate not only the students but also their parents so that they will be able to know how to properly take care of their family as a whole.

As to **DEVELOPMENT** aspect, freeing the children from the chains of poverty and social degradation were treated as part of the most pressing concerns of the Municipality. To address such concerns, the Buenavista Municipal Scholarship Program (BMSP) was established in 2008 which aims to shoulder the Tuition and Miscellaneous fees of incoming college and Senior High School students was created. Initially, this scholarship program was only given to ten deserving students every year but seeing the undeniable need to increase additional number of grantees, the LGU has decided to increase it from 10 to 166 in the School Year 2016.

Aside from the scholarship program, the LGU has also launched the Early Childhood Care and Development Center to cater the needs of children ages 2 years old until 4 years old. As a result, 100% of the children under Day Care ages 3 to 4 years old are attending the SNP as Day Care Centers from Public, Private & Faith-based was attained. Moreover, there is a 100% participation rate in elementary level while a 91.77% was observed in secondary level. It has also been noted that there is no or zero Drop-Out since there is a strong support from MCPC to the Alternative Learning System

Program are given to the Out-of-School Youth which gave them an opportunity to eventually finish their studies and be able to graduate at least in secondary level.

In addition, Educational Assistance from the LGU are released every end of the school year to the deserving students that alleviated their need. Giving of Cash Incentives and Awards to High Achiever and Honor Students during their Graduation Day was also done as a motivation to do more than they are expected to do.

On the other hand, the Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program (4Ps) initiated its Youth Development Session (YDS) in 2015 in the municipality. This endeavor was recognized by the DSWD RO 6, thereby naming Buenavista, Guimaras as the very first Municipality to conduct YDS.

Further, the LGU's Learning and Resource Center (LRC) serves as a library of Day Care Workers where they can borrow learning materials to be used in their respective centers and also as a venue for recreation area for the children. It also serves as a place for walk-in users and venue for trainings and other activities related to children and their parents while the Municipal Library and Knowledge Center also serves as the Public Library of the LGU.

In the aspect of **PROTECTION**, the Buenavista MCPC has forged linkages for the ultimate protection of children with the various agencies such as Philippine National Police (PNP), Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (MDRRMO), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Sangguniang Bayan, Civil Service Organizations (CSOs) and more importantly the Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC) who worked tirelessly to uphold the Municipal Children's Code that was approved and passed in Year 2006.

Each agency has its own share of support and accomplishments for the MCPC. The PNP has conducted Moral Recovery Programs, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Classes, orientation on Anti-Bullying Act, Anti Human Trafficking in Persons Act and Cybercrimes Act to various barangays in the municipality.

The MSWDO also upholds the protection advocacy by continuously conducting Parents Education Seminars and Family Development Sessions. It has also created activities which addressed the PWD-related concerns and conducted case studies to facilitate assistance to those who are in need.

The LGU also sponsors a Mass Wedding which is conducted annually as part of its celebration of the Civil Registration Month. Now on its 3rd year, it aims minimize the late registration and illegitimate birth registration incidence in the municipality. Likewise, it brought about a very significant change to the lives of people specifically to the children which boosts their morale and has eliminated the stigma of being an illegitimate child.

On the other hand, a Disaster Preparedness Orientation / Drill for the students in partnership with the MDRRMC, PNP and BFP is conducted annually to teach children of what to do in any case of disaster and calamities that may occur.

A strict implementation of the Anti-Minors on Wheels is also observed in compliance of the Local Children's Code of Buenavista.

The MCPC has institutionalized the **PARTICIPATION** of children and youth. As such, the Municipal Federation of Supreme Pupil Government and Supreme Student Government have been formed to highlight the representation of student leaders in the municipal and provincial level. These organizations have actively joined various activities in the municipality such as Municipal & Provincial Children's Day Celebration, Buena Paskwa and Palayag Festival.

The beneficiaries of the BMSP formed the United Scholars of Buenavista (USB) has been increasing its members annually. This organization of scholars played a great role in facilitating various activities towards developing children to become potentially and globally competitive future leaders as they uplift their families from poverty. The USB also spearheaded the publication of the Palahayagan sang Buenavista, the official publication of the municipality and the operationalization of the Municipal Library & Knowledge Center.

In addition, a youth organization namely Federation of Accredited Youth Organizations of Buenavista (FAYOB) was accredited and organized in the municipality. FAYOB has participated and was actively involved in social mobilizations as it functions in mobilizing the youth in the community and reaching out to the barangay-based youth organizations. It spearheaded various youth activities in the municipality which includes Team Building activities and Youth Night in the celebration of Palayag Festival and Buena Paskwa among others. Such Organizations were also monitored and evaluated yearly as to functionality based on their performances and effectiveness. Awarding of Best Performing Organizations was done during the Youth Night Celebration.

In terms of its **FUNCTIONALITY**, Buenavista MCPC conducts an annual Search for Child-Friendly Barangay which aims to facilitate the Monitoring and Evaluation phase of MCPC in ensuring the functionality of BCPCs covering 36 barangays of Buenavista. As such, MCPC Buenavista initially used 28 indicators of the Child-Friendly Monitoring Tool that has been recently revised containing 40 indicators. The winners of the search are given incentives and certificates in recognition to their performance and support to the Vision and Mission of the municipality for the Children's Welfare. In addition, such activity serves as a gathering of the data pertaining to children that serve as database of Children's Data for easier access.

The LGU also takes pride on its functional and operational Municipal Council for the Protection of Children (MCPC) with its outstanding functionality rate of 107% or

Ideal in the year of 2016. Thus, MCPC has been highly effective in terms of its linkages with different stakeholders and in institutionalizing children's participation within the different structures in the Municipality to foster their growth and development.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

The table below shows the sequence of activities undertaken in the implementation of the program with its corresponding outputs, time frame required, resources needed and persons responsible.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT/ RESULT/ IMPACT	STRATEGIES/ METHODS/ APPROACHES/ TOOLS USED	COST/BUDGET/RESOURCE S REQUIRED /USED	INDIVIDUAL/S TAKEHOLDER S INVOLVED	TIME FRAME REQUI RED	PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/FACILITATING FACTOR/ RECOMMENDA TIONS
	MC No. 2002-121 MC 2005-07	Memorandum Circular		DILG		
Coordination of LCE from stakeholders	Possible Members for MCPC	Coordination from Stakeholders Agenda in a Meeting		MLGOO LCE Possible Members for MCPC	1 DAY	Planning Process for Final Composition of MCPC
Pre-Implementation Process (Project Conceptualization, Fund Sourcing, Capability Development & Procurement of Equipment)	MCPC Core Group Composition with members as representative from SB, LIGANG MGA PUNONG BARANGAY, SK MUNICIPAL FEDERATION, DILG, DEPED(Elem. & HS), PTA Federation, Day Care Workers, PNP, WCDO, PWD, NGO, Religious Sector, CHILDREN REPRESENTATIVES (SPG Mun. Fed., SSG Mun. Fed., PYAP, United Scholars of Buenavista, FAYOB), Head of Offices & TWGs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determined Final Members of MCPC 2. Determined Function of every member 3. Determined Secretariat and Support Group/TWG. 4. Monitoring & Evaluation Procedure. 5. Provision of Budget for operation 	Executive Order No. 04-08-11 Program of Expenditures Child-Friendly Program (1 % from IRA)	LCE MCPC	1 Month	Each Sector would be responsible in the implementation of corresponding services offered by the Office/Agency
Implementation Process	Raised issues and concerns concerning	Focus Group Discussions,	Child-Friendly	MCPC	Quarterly	Agreed PPAs should

	Children and actions to be undertaken addressing such. Determined Program/Projects/Activities for Children	Planning in a Monthly or quarterly meetings	Program		Annually	be passed for SBO for implementation by corresponding Office/Agencies
Monitoring & Evaluation	Issued yearly Resolution prior to conduct Search for Child-Friendly Barangay as part of Monitoring & Evaluation.	Agenda in a Meeting and Resolve to conduct Monitoring & Evaluation to 36 Barangays	Child-Friendly Program	MCPC	1 Day	Recommend Winners for the Search and as well as facilitate strategies for enhancement hindering factors was determined.
	Result of the Monitoring & Evaluation BCPCs Consolidated Data of Children.	Conduct of Yearly Monitoring & Evaluation	Child-Friendly	MCPC	1 - 2 month	
	Awards received by Performing BCPCs during the Municipal Children's Day Celebration.	Winner for the Search for Child-Friendly Barangay.	Child-Friendly Program	MCPC	1 day	Prizes received will be used for implementation of PPAs for Children
Post Implementation	Participation of SPG & SSG Municipal Federation, United Scholars of Buenavista & Federation of Accredited Youth Organizations of Buenavista	Organized Group of Children and Youth in the Municipality Facilitate PPAs for Children	Child-Friendly Program Child-Friendly Program	MCPC MCPC	1 week Ongoing	Continuous support of the municipality in the implementation of PPAs for Children

IV. PROJECT RESULT / IMPACT

The sustained efforts and proactive initiatives of Buenavista MCPC gained positive results. It has maintained its Ideal Status of Functionality from 2012 - 2016. The highly-functional Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPCs) became more active and aggressive in addressing issues and concerns for children in their area of responsibilities. As such, its efforts has been highly regarded and recommended in addressing issues for Children's Welfare in the municipality by various stakeholders. More so, it contributed convenience and efficiency as the Data Gathering Methodology

provided easier access in determining Children's Status and used as basis towards planning activities in the delivery of basic services to children.

As a result, Buenavista has maintained zero maternal mortality and has decreased infant mortality and under five mortality from 4 in 2015 to 2 in 2016. CICL and CAR rate cases also decreased because of the continuous education and awareness of the children and its families on their basic rights in the community.

The increase of the Buenavista Municipal Scholars has doubled from 85 in 2015 to 166 in 2016. LGU's provision of support towards free access to education is highly commendable that can be highlighted as one scholar to graduate as Magna Cum Laude at Guimaras State College and made it to the Top 6 in the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) in 2015. The same batch also yield seven (7) of them (5 BEED and 2 BSED) also passed the said Exam in 2016. Among these LET passers was also an ALS graduate, who also ranked 7 in the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) in 2015.

In addition, the municipality also facilitated employment opportunities for BMSP graduates while some of them had been hired by LGU and/or referred to other agencies and companies.

The SPG and SSG Municipal Federation also represent Buenavista in a positive manner as outstanding partners in taking the lead in facilitating activities for children. As such, there have been an increased number of accredited youth organizations from 16 in 2012 to 23 in 2016. Thus, FAYOB continuously spearheaded Youth's Camp every summer and other youth related activities in the municipality.

Buenavista MCPC functionality is very commendable given the fact that from the rate of 99% as Ideal in 2012, it has increased to 107% in 2016. The Municipality ranked First among the Five Municipalities in the Province of Guimaras from CY 2012-2016 based on the Criteria of Local Council for the Protection of Children Form 1-B.

As such, the LGU has been bestowed of being a Regional Awardee as Child-Friendly Municipality and eventually became a Finalist in the 2015 Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities/Cities, 1st – 3rd Class Category.

The initiatives and efforts of the municipality were not gone unnoticed when they were conferred as 2016 Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipalities/Cities Awardee that has brought prestige and honor not only to the municipality of Buenavista but also of the whole province of Guimaras.

Truly, Buenavista MCPC has come a long way to further in sustaining the delivery of quality services for the welfare of children as tool in nation building. This has been made possible only because of well-coordinated linkages among the different government and non-government sectors which came together to ensure that best

child-friendly practices will be done. Today, it can be said that along with these stern reforms to free the children from the vulnerability brought about by the harsh reality is the heart to continue what was started from the first day until the years to come.

NOTE: KABALAKA is a Hiligaynon word which means concern for others.

FIGURES and PICTURES

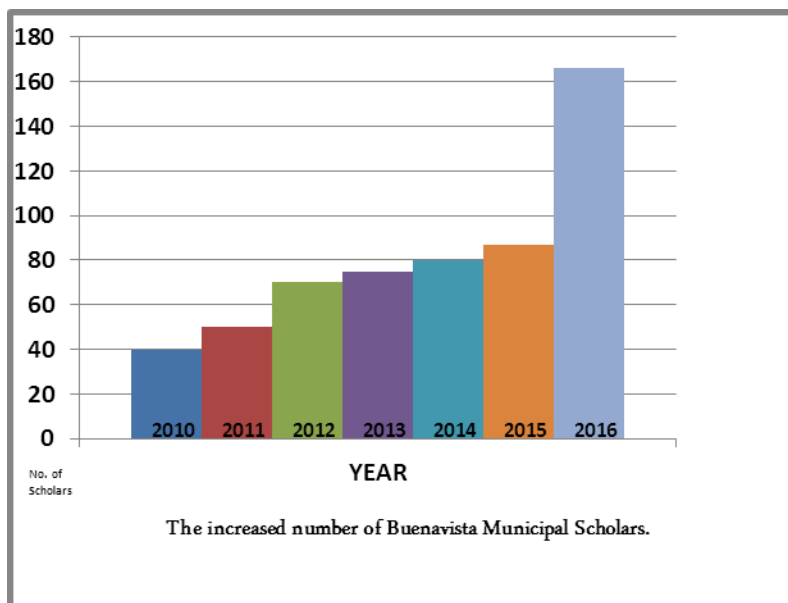


Figure 1. Shows the increased in number of Municipal Scholars from 2010-2016

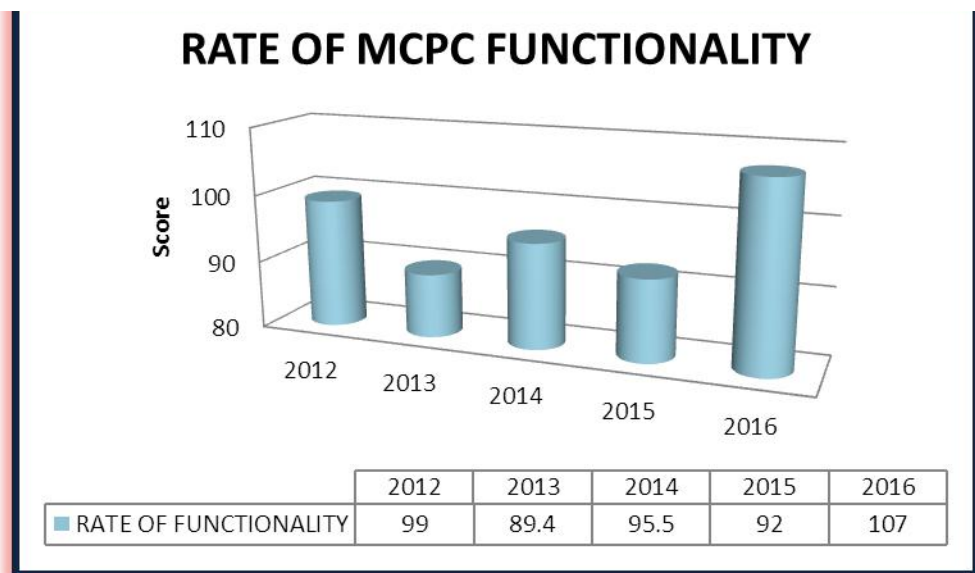


Figure 2. Shows the increased of Functionality Level of MCPC over years.

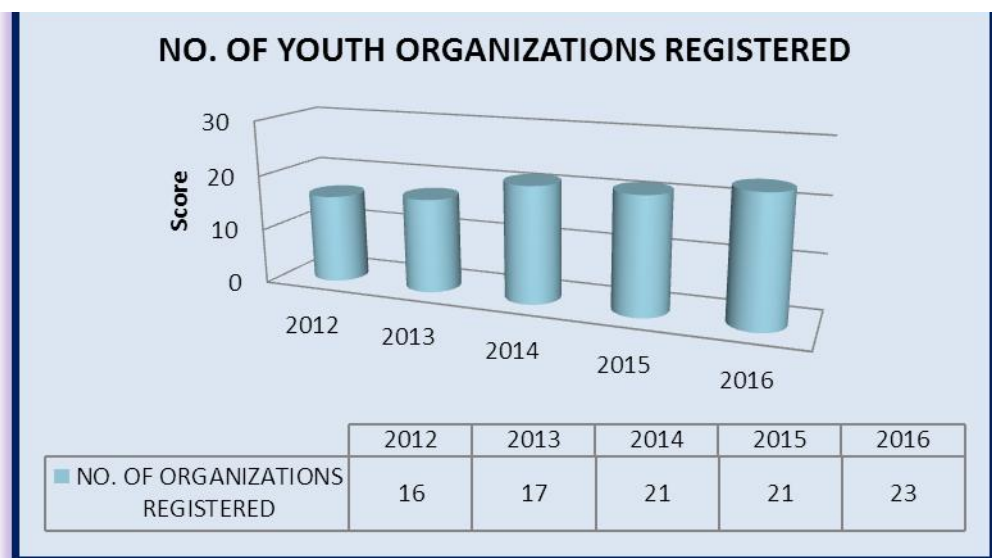


Figure 3. Shows the increased of Registered Youth Organizations Federated in the Municipality.



MS. ARLIE MAY ESPINOSA

TOP 6
 LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR
 TEACHERS (LET)
 MAGNA CUM LAUDE
 BMSP GRADUATE



Hon. Eugenio G. Reyes, SB Members Raquel Sambas & Cheryl Fernandez receiving award from the President.



MR. RAYMUND ALCUBILLA

TOP 7
 LICENSURE EXAMINATION
 FOR TEACHERS (LET)
 ALS GRADUATE



Buenavista bags Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipality (1st-3rd Class Category) on September 26, 2016 at the Malacanang Palace.

MUNICIPALITY	2014	2015	2016
BUENAVISTA	95.5 IDEAL	92 IDEAL	107 IDEAL

Figure 4. Shows the increased of Functionality Rate of Buenavista from 2014-2016



Buenavista Recognized by CWC as Regional Winner for 2015 Presidential Award for Child-Friendly Municipality (1st-3rd Class Category) on September 26, 2016 at the Malacanang Palace.



Parents Effectiveness Service Salvacion, Day Care Center

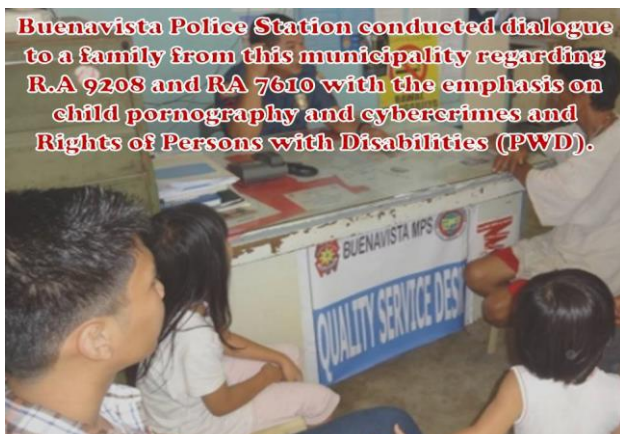
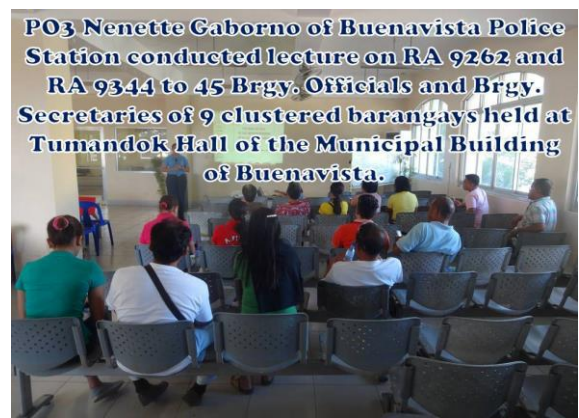


NUTRITION MONTH



ANTI-TOBACCO & DRUGS

AND HIV/AIDS SYMPOSIUM



REORIENTATION ON CHILD-FRIENDLY LOCAL GOVERNANCE AUDIT TO MUN. OFFICIALS, MCPC & BCPC MEMBERS



Discussed about Steps to be undertaken by Brgy. Officials in VAWC Cases and Orientation/Familiarization on the Child-Friendly Tool used in the BCPC Monitoring & Evaluation



Disaster Preparedness Training for Children



UNITED SCHOLARS OF BUENAVISTA (USB) MANGROVE PLANTING

May 27, 2015
Avila Marine Sanctuary
Avila, Buenavista, Guimaras



ADVOCACY ON HIV-AIDS /STI

Prevention during the conduct of the Life Skills training to PYAP Members



UNITED SCHOLARS OF BUENAVISTA (USB) MANGROVE PLANTING

May 27, 2015
Avila Marine Sanctuary
Avila, Buenavista, Guimaras



AWARDING OF PRIZES TO POSTER MAKING CONTEST WINNERS



AWARDING OF PRIZES TO WINNERS OF SEARCH FOR CHILD-FRIENDLY BARANGAYS 2015



OATH TAKING OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS FOR:
1. SUPREME PUPIL GOVERNMENT (SPG)
2. SUPREME STUDENT GOVERNMENT (SSG)
3. UNITED SCHOLARS OF BUENAVISTA (USB)
4. FEDERATION OF ACCREDITED YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF BUENAVISTA (FAYOB)



HON. EUGENIO G. REYES, MUNICIPAL MAYOR DELIVERING HIS STATE OF THE CHILDREN'S REPORT 2015



Comes with updating of 2015 Data on Children