



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Finance  
**INSURANCE COMMISSION**  
1071 United Nations Avenue  
Manila



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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### **NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY MICROINSURANCE ROSE BY 8% AS OF END OF 2016**

The number of individuals protected by a microinsurance rose by 8% as of the end of the end of the last quarter in 2016.

According to Insurance Commissioner Dennis B. Funa, the number of individuals covered by microinsurance products rose by 8% from 26.3 million as of the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2016 to 28.4 million as of the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016.

Based on the quarterly statistical report on the microinsurance industry as of 31 December 2016, 61% of the total lives covered by microinsurance are the members and dependents of Microinsurance Mutual Benefit Associations (Mi-MBAs).

The life insurance sector, on the other hand, covered some 8.59 million lives with microinsurance products or 30% of the total number of insured lives, while the non-life sector accounted for 2.54 million or 9% of the total lives covered by microinsurance.

In terms of premium production, the microinsurance industry posted a 36% increase from P3.97 billion end of September 2016 to P5.41 billion end of December 2016.

Based on the sector's performance report as of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2016, the MBAs accounted for 54% of the total premium income of the microinsurance sector in the amount of P2.90 billion followed by the life sector with 35% market share P1.88 billion in the amount of P1.88 billion and the non-life sector with 11% of the market share in the amount of P631 million.

"There is a continuous increase in the net premiums written by the microinsurance industry. From 2012 to 2016, the average year-on-year increase in net premiums income is 16%. In fact, the same increased by 20% from P4.5 billion in 2015 to P5.4 billion in 2016," said Commissioner Funa.

Insurance Commissioner Funa said that the MBAs sector remains to be the leader in the microinsurance industry in terms of the number of lives covered and premium production. He added, however, that private insurers are now eyeing to gain from the selling of microinsurance products.

In line with its effort to improve financial inclusion in the country, the Insurance Commission continuous to collaborate with local and international organizations in order to promote microinsurance.

Recently, the Insurance Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Global Affairs Canada, Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD), Inc. and Canadian Cooperation Association towards implementation of the "PREMIUM Project".

The "PREMIUM Project" is a 42-month project of Global Affairs Canada which aims to improve the economic well-being of individuals affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

The project is aimed at providing sari-sari store owners with skills to successfully manage and operate their business and to become more resilient in times of disaster through the purchase of microinsurance products.

Part of the "PREMIUM Project" will be the development of microinsurance products and options for distribution of microinsurance products.

Commissioner Funa added that this project will also facilitate an exchange between the respective insurance regulator of Canada and the Philippines in the areas of experience and technical information.

  
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