

ASSA Recognition Award

- 1.1 The ASSA Recognition was first introduced by the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) of Malaysia in 2015. The purpose of the Award is to recognize ASSA member-institutions' achievements.
- 1.2 Following the approval of EPF's proposal on the ASSA Sustainability Pledge at the 41st ASSA Board Meeting in Manila, Philippines in November 2024, and the signing of the Pledge by member-institutions in Palawan, Philippines in March 2025, **the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) of the Philippines, introduces a new award category on Sustainability - recognizing programs and initiatives that address climate risks, environmental stewardship, sustainable development, and long-term resilience.**
- 1.3 The new criteria and categories for the ASSA Recognition Award are as follows.

No.	Categories of Recognition	Description of the Categories
1.	Innovation Recognition Award	Creation of an innovative technology, product or service which has led to improvements in services or products.
2.	Transformation Recognition Award	A practice that has resulted in improvement in the overall effectiveness, efficiency, and success of the organisation.
3.	Customer Service Recognition Award	Organisations that have implemented successful customer service strategies which are able to meet customers' expectations in terms of delivery and quality of service.
4.	Continuous Improvement Recognition Award	Organisations that are in a never-ending effort to expose and eliminate root causes of problems. It usually involves many incremental steps towards improvements rather than one overwhelming innovation.
5.	Strategic Communication Recognition Award	Organisations that have pushed the boundaries when it comes to their communications strategy in order to ensure they truly engage with their members using various communication channels.
6.	Information Technology Recognition Award	Organisations that run their business using effective and reliable technologies that are essential to drive efficiency and productivity, and improve organisational outcomes and performance.
7.	Insurance Coverage Recognition Award	Insurance and social security schemes that have developed their proposition with a clear focus on retirement, health and meeting members' needs.
8.	Financial Literacy Recognition Award	Organisations that have introduced and provide advisory services on financial literacy and retirement planning to address issues on adequacy of members' savings for retirement.
9.	Investment Governance Recognition Award	Organisations that have reflected specific issues relating to the management of funds of social security institutions' objectives, ranging from the investment of benefits provided and also addressing issues on the adequacy of the fund.
10.	Sustainability Recognition Award	Initiatives that promote environmental protection and stewardship, sustainable development, climate resilience, green transformation in social security operations, programs, value-chains, and resource allocation and deployment.

1.4 The write-up should include the following:

WRITE UP TEMPLATE

CATEGORY	: Innovation Recognition Award Insurance Coverage Recognition Award
ORGANISATION	: Social Security System (SSS) Philippines
CONTACT PERSON	: COLETTE H. CORDIAL Vice President, Management Services and Planning Division Concurrent Acting Head, Corporate Policy and Planning Department Social Security System Email: cordialch@sss.gov.ph
NAME OF PROJECT	: Contribution Subsidy Provider Program (CSPP)
OBJECTIVE AND NATURE OF PROJECT	: <p>The Contribution Subsidy Provider Program (CSPP) is a pioneering initiative of the Social Security System (SSS) that builds sustainable partnerships with private organizations, government institutions, and philanthropic individuals to subsidize contributions of self-employed workers, land-based Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), and voluntary members.</p> <p>These workers—most of whom belong to the informal economy—often have unstable and irregular income that makes it difficult to consistently maintain SSS membership. The CSPP directly addresses this barrier by allowing Contribution Subsidy Providers (CSPs) to cover part or all of the contributions of vulnerable workers, now formally called Contribution Subsidy Recipients (CSRs).</p> <p>Participation is made simple and transparent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested partners can enroll online via the Coverage and Collection Partner (CCP) portal on the SSS website by executing an Online Certification with Undertaking, or formalize participation through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). • CSPs must obtain the consent of CSRs, who provide their Social Security Number and full name to access the subsidy. • A minimum subsidy of six (6) consecutive months ensures continuity of coverage. • The arrangement explicitly avoids creating an employer-employee relationship, in line with the Social Security Act of 2018 (RA 11199). <p>Through this framework, the CSPP not only enables more Filipinos to enjoy the protection of social security but also strengthens collaboration across sectors to achieve inclusive coverage.</p>

WHY IT SHOULD BE RECOGNISED

: Tackling a Persistent Social Protection Challenge

Extending social security to the informal sector has always been a challenge due to the intermittent income patterns of workers such as farmers, fisherfolk, vendors, drivers, and freelancers. Without regular contributions, they risk losing eligibility for benefits and loans, leaving them financially unprotected during times of sickness, maternity, unemployment, disability, or old age.

The CSPP offers an innovative and practical solution by enabling third parties to bridge this contribution gap. By reducing financial barriers and providing continuity of membership, the program ensures that more workers can maintain active SSS coverage and access crucial safety nets.

A Scalable and Sustainable Model

The program builds on early initiatives that began in 2012, when SSS first partnered with national agencies to subsidize farmers' contributions. These early efforts yielded modest results, but the institutionalized CSPP launched in November 2022 has proven to be a game-changer.

Its growth is both rapid and substantial:

- 2013: First partnership established with ₱66,582 in collections.
- 2023: In the program's first full year, 34 partners were on board, contributing ₱11.75 million.
- 2024: The number of CSPs surged to 3,977, with collections reaching ₱146.96 million.
- As of July 2025: 4,265 registered CSPs have already provided ₱159.85 million, directly benefiting 3,548 workers.

From modest beginnings, CSPP has quickly scaled into a nationwide innovation, demonstrating its ability to multiply partnerships and sustain long-term social impact.

Institutionalizing the Spirit of Bayanihan

Beyond financial metrics, the CSPP embodies the deeply Filipino value of bayanihan—communal unity and cooperation. It channels the generosity of companies, local governments, civic organizations, and individuals into a structured and transparent mechanism for helping others.

- **Corporations** can use CSPP to strengthen their corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.
- **Local government units** can extend social protection to their community workers, such as health workers and nutrition scholars.
- **Religious and civic groups** can support their volunteers and members.
- **Individuals** with the means can directly contribute to the welfare of others.

Through CSPP, the collective goodwill of Filipinos is institutionalized into an impactful system that strengthens community bonds and fosters shared responsibility.

<p>SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT</p>	<p>: The CSPP is an innovative public-private partnership model that addresses the long-standing challenge of extending social security to informal sector workers. By enabling partners to subsidize contributions, it expands access to social protection for those most vulnerable to financial shocks.</p> <p>In just two years, CSPP has proven its ability to scale rapidly, sustain partnerships, and deliver meaningful impact. It not only safeguards the welfare of workers but also nurtures the Filipino value of bayanihan, transforming it into a formal mechanism for nationwide social solidarity.</p> <p>CSPP stands as a replicable model for ASEAN countries facing similar challenges in expanding social protection coverage. Its success lies in its blend of innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability.</p>
<p>PHOTOS/ IMAGES OF THE PROJECT, WHEN POSSIBLE</p>	 <p><i>Life Builder Fellowship MOA Signing (9 May 2025): Partnership to subsidize contributions of church volunteers.</i></p>  <p><i>Victorias City MOA Signing (2 May 2025): Subsidizing contributions of 495 barangay health workers and 26 nutrition scholars.</i></p>



DoubleDragon Corporation MOA Signing (13 March 2025): Subsidizing contributions for 2,000 informal sector workers in Iloilo City and Roxas City.