

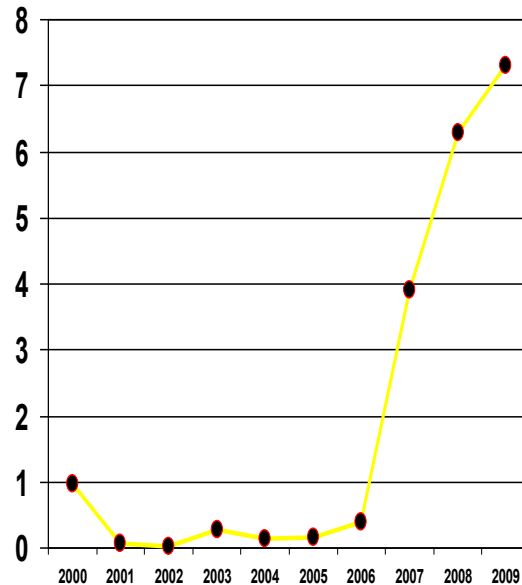
PRESS RELEASE

Adopt-A-School Program hit P7.3B in 2009

From PhP6 Billion in 2008, the Department of Education's (DepEd) Adopt-A-School Program (ASP) has generated some P7.3 Billion worth of commitments from the private sector in 2009.

DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus said, "The private-public partnership we have sustained through Adopt-A-School will further benefit our public schools and help the department deliver quality education services our schoolchildren rightfully deserve."

"The amount we have raised in 2009 speaks of the commitment of our private sector partners and the priority they give to education," he added.



Through the program, DepEd has inked more than 400 partnerships with private sector corporations, non-government and civic organizations.

The donor with the largest contribution in 2009 was Knowledge Channel, which donated educational television (ETV) facilities and infrastructure to public schools. This ten year partnership aims to enhance the teaching and learning processes with the use of ETV.

The DepEd chief said, "We at the department thank our long-time donors whose support for basic education did not waver despite the global financial crisis that negatively affected private sector performance."

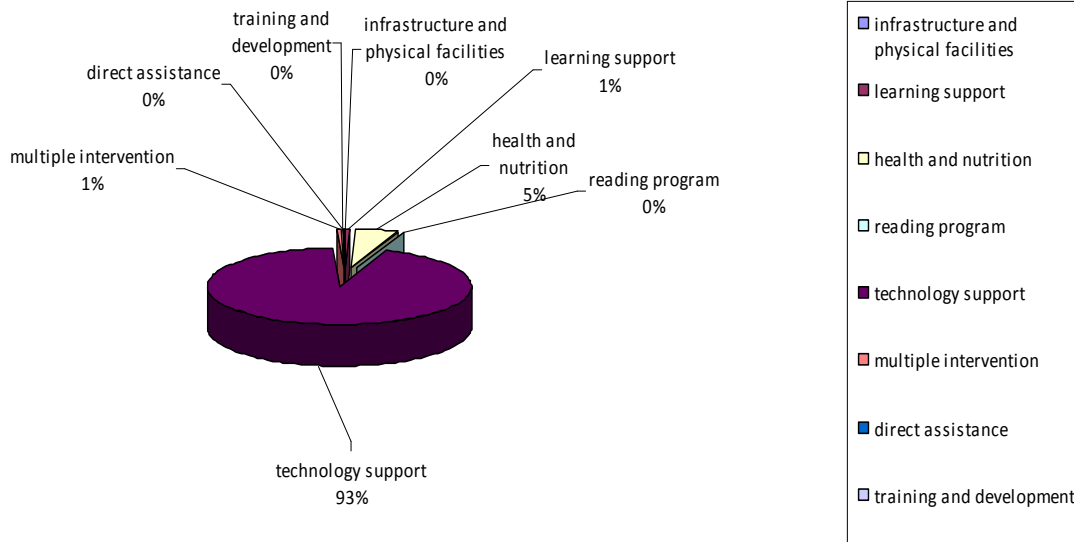
Since Lapus relaunched the program in 2006, and from PhP400 Million worth of pledges from the private sector, ASP has become the department's second biggest resource generating mechanism next to the approved DepEd budget.

The DepEd chief noted, "I call on other stakeholders in the private sector to support the Adopt-A-School Program and work with the department in providing the resources our 44,000 public schools need."

Donations from the private sector can be classified under technology support, learning support, health and nutrition, literacy program, and physical infrastructure.

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share of private sector donation per category



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Companies and individuals may also choose to help public schools through a combination of these packages. They may also extend direct assistance to schoolchildren in the form of school supplies or stipends.

END

Donations to public schools may be coursed through the Adopt-A-School Program. Donors may contact Mr. Roel Bonito through (02) 6388639 or 6388637.