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Assessing the Costs of Raising Children with Disabilities: The Philippine Experience

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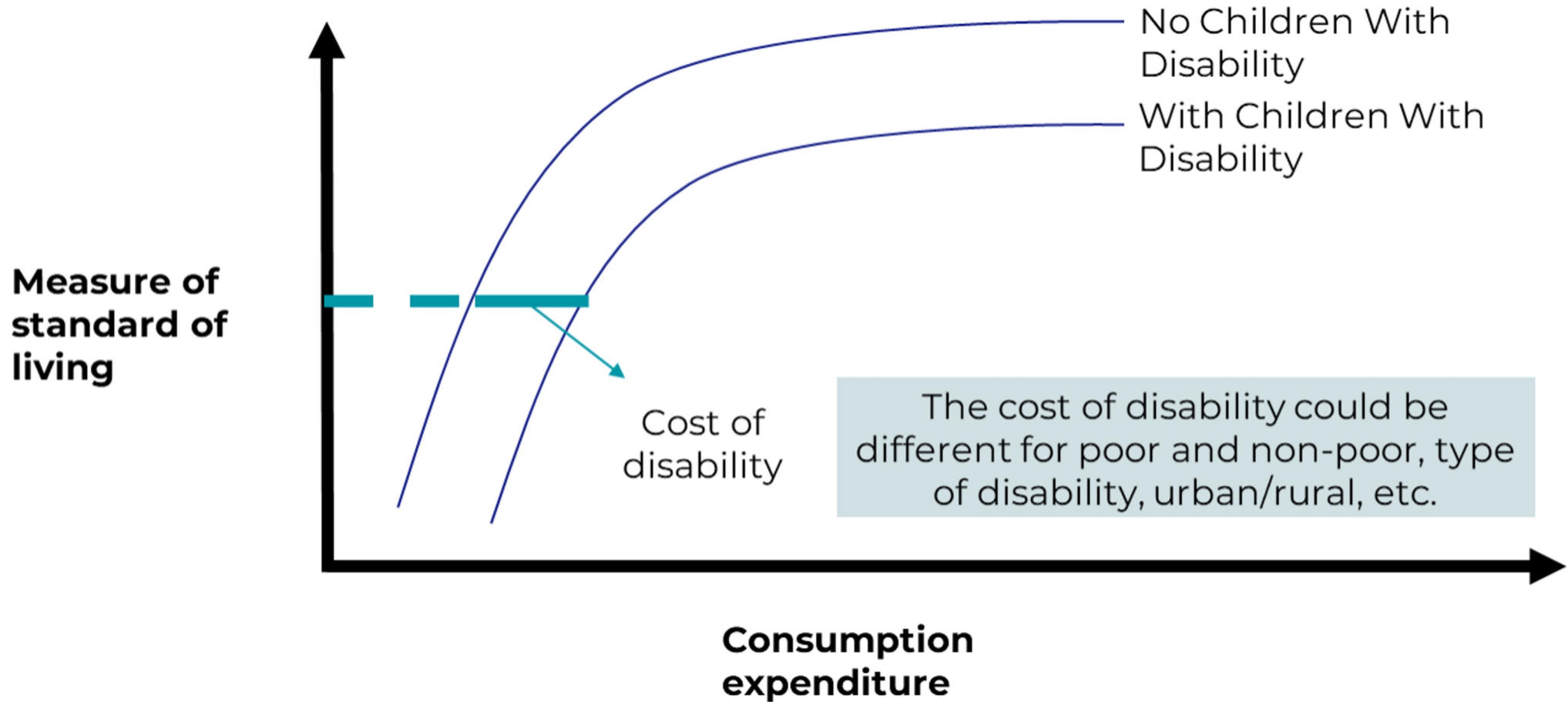
Outline of the Presentation

- 1. Study Objectives and Expected Use**
- 2. Research Design**
- 3. Five Key Messages on the Study Findings**
- 4. Policy Implications**

Study Objectives and Expected Use

1. The key objective of the study is to produce an estimate of the extra-costs faced by households with children with disabilities in order to inform possible policy responses that would improve inclusion.
2. There are two main areas of interest:
 - The assessment of the current situation
 - The possible policy implications

Conceptual Framework



Research Design

Consultations + Focus Group Discussions

- Inform the design of the questionnaires for the sample survey.
- Main focus on relevant costs for the main types of disabilities

Sample survey

- Household survey including children with and without disabilities
- Community survey to understand service provision

Households in-depth interviews

- In depth understanding of different needs and costs by disability types
- Understand goods and services required

- **2,753** households
- **240** cities/
municipalities

Findings: Five (5) Key Messages

- 1. Size: There are 325,000 children with a disability ID card; these are only 1 out of 5 children with disabilities.**

The sample also provides an estimate of the percentage of children with functional difficulties in the country:

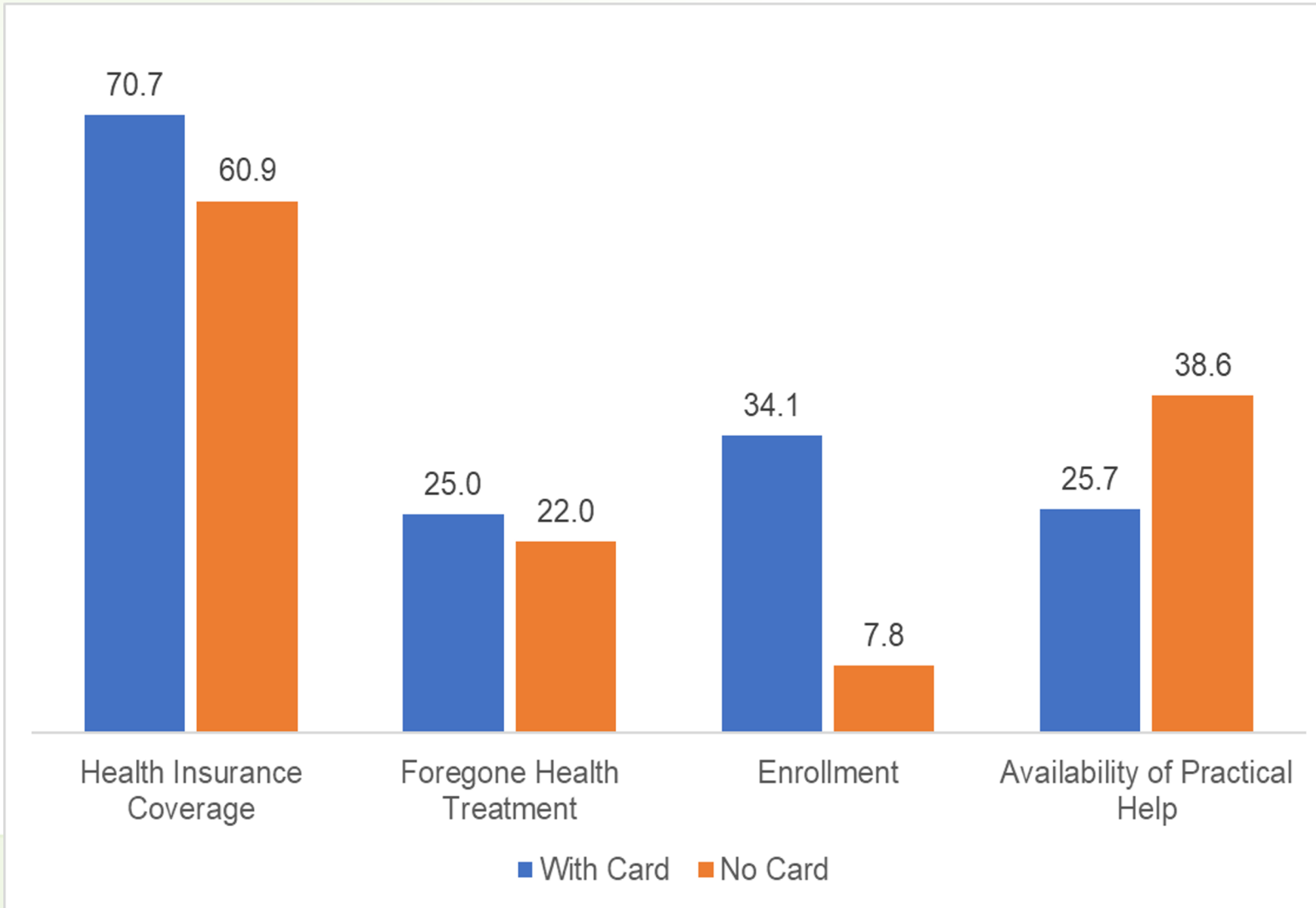
3.5% (1.27M) of children aged 2-17 have a moderate/severe functional difficulty

8.5% (3.07M) of children aged 2-17 have a mild/moderate/severe functional difficulty

Findings: Five (5) Key Messages

2. Disadvantage: Children with a disability card are at disadvantage compared to other children across many fundamental rights, but the group most deprived is that of children with disabilities without the disability card.

Access to Services among Children with Functional Difficulties



1. Health Insurance Coverage is lowest among those without disability card.
2. Those with disability ID card have much higher forgone health needs, but this is also true for those with FD and without card
3. Lack of enrolment is particularly high for children with FD and disability card
4. Percentage of households who have no one to ask for practical help are high among households with functional difficulties with/without disability card.

Findings: Five (5) Key Messages

3. Consumption expenditure: Consumption expenditure patterns are very different for families with children with disabilities and health expenditure share on total expenditure is three times higher compared to that of other households with children; the disability card helps households who make use of it to reduce costs, but its subsidy is mostly received by the better-off.

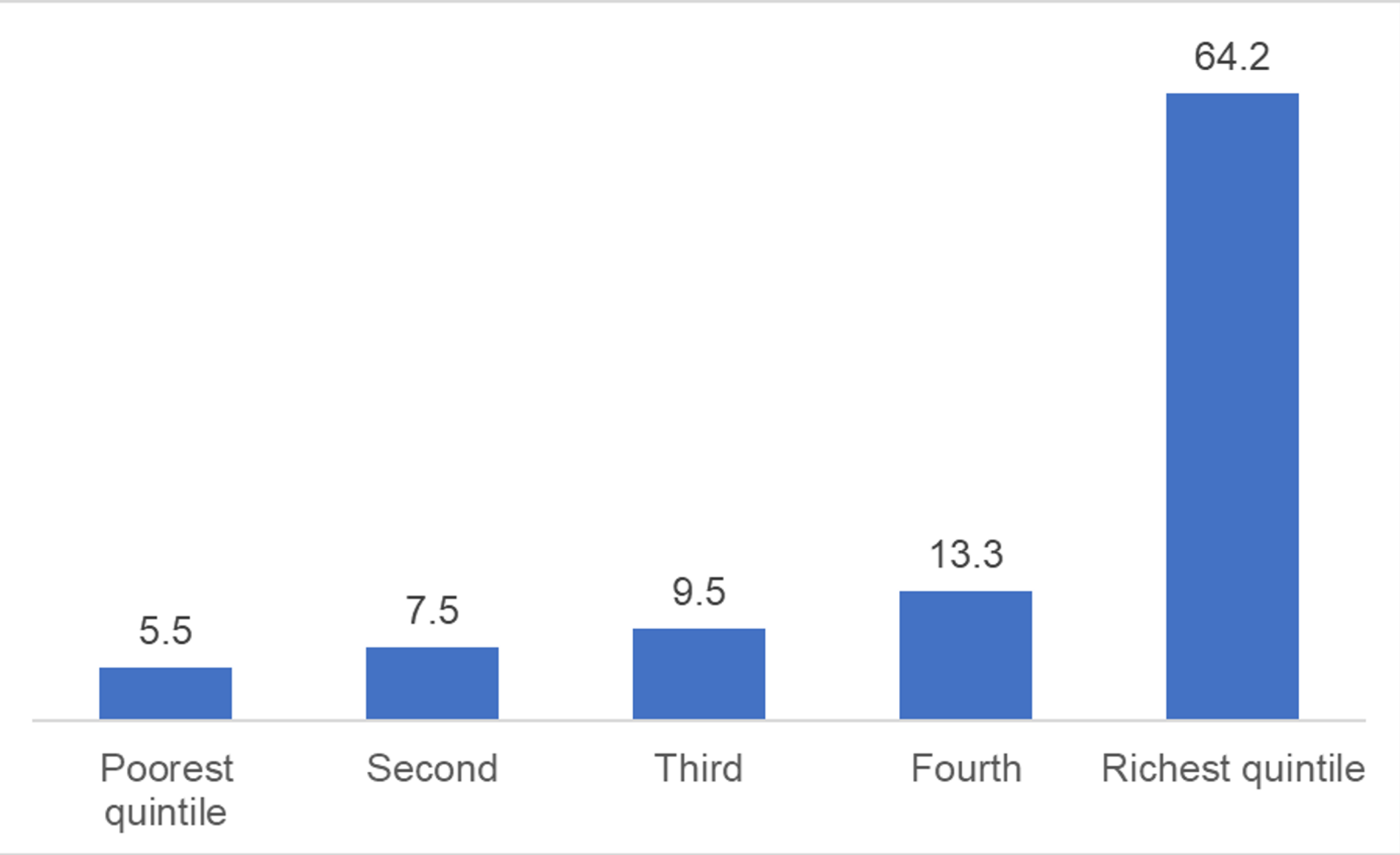
Consumption Patterns for Selected Items

Consumption group	Sampled household		Disability card and functional difficulties			
			With card		Without card	
	With card	Other	No FD	FD	FD	Others
Food	56.6	62.3	60.0	56.1	63.1	62.2
Alcohol and Tobacco	1.4	2.2	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.2
Education	5.0	4.2	5.4	5.0	3.5	4.3
Health	10.7	3.7	5.4	11.6	3.9	3.7
Clothes	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3
Utilities	10.1	11.0	12.4	9.7	11.7	10.9
Transport	4.0	4.7	3.3	4.1	4.3	4.7
Communication	4.0	4.1	4.6	3.9	4.0	4.1
Personal care	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.9	3.4
Maintenance	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1
Recreation	1.6	0.9	1.6	1.6	0.5	1.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Households with card spend a higher percentage of their budget on health (3 times more!), but also on education, even though there is a higher non-enrolment



Distribution of disability card subsidy



Merging information on ownership and use of disability card we computed the subsidy received by each household and how this is distributed across consumption quintiles.

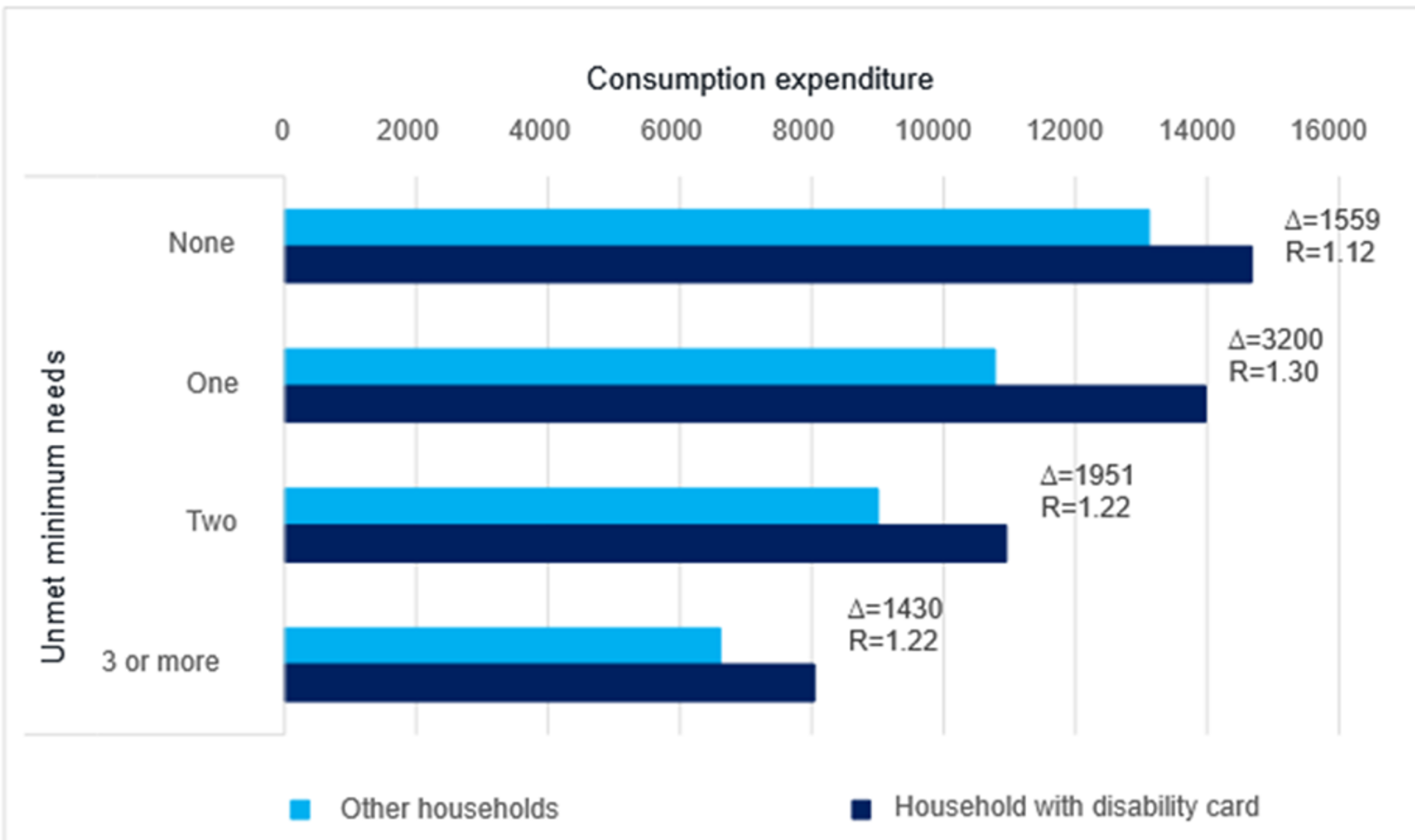
Subsidy is clearly skewed towards the better off



Findings: Five (5) Key Messages

4. **Extra costs:** There is strong evidence of the extra cost of disability: a child with disability needs an expenditure that is 40% to 80% higher than other children. Poverty rates for children with disabilities are 50% higher than those of other children.

Findings: Five (5) Key Messages



A child with disability needs an expenditure that is 40 to 80% higher than other children

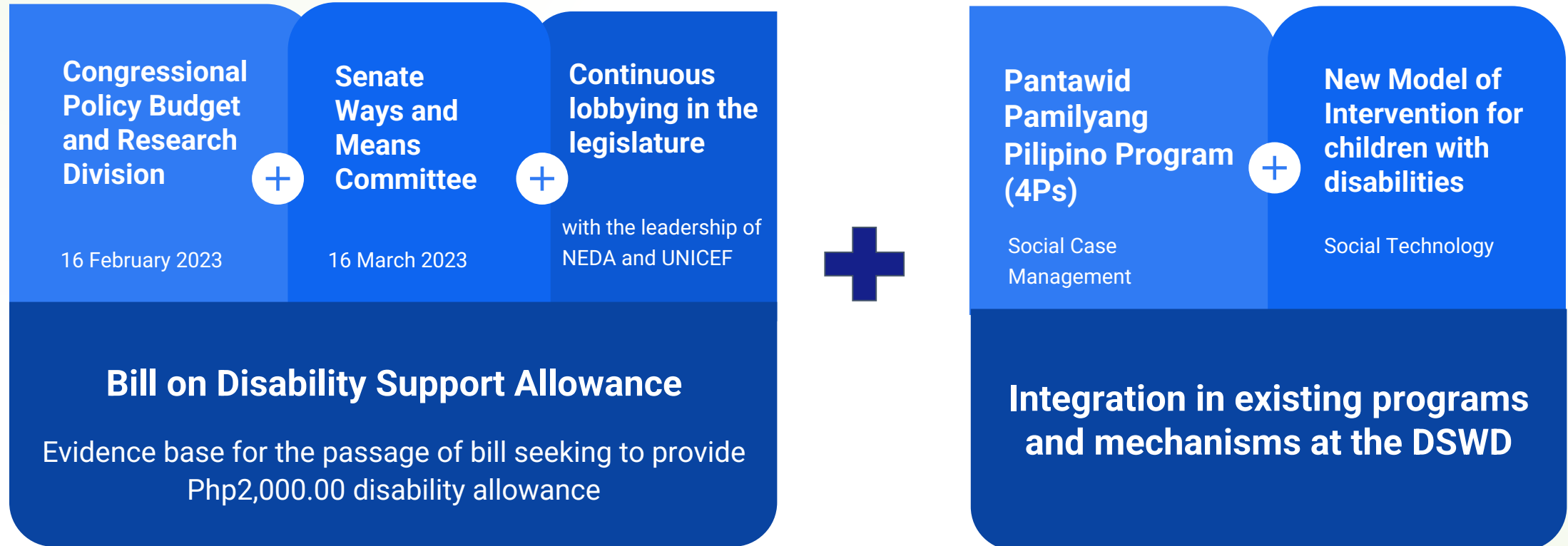
Note: "Δ" stands for the difference between expenditure for households with the disability card and expenditure for other households, whereas "R" provides the ratio between the two levels of expenditure.

Findings: Five (5) Key Messages

5. Policy implications: These findings have important implications:

- Awareness of disability registration must increase, the creation of a complete national database would help planning services.
- Benefits from disability registration should be there for all by increasing services and making the disability card worthwhile.
- Financial support to households with children with disability must factor the extra costs (either in existing programs or through a disability allowance).

Zooming in on Policy Implications



THANK YOU.

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