

Reforms in Local Planning

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Local development councils (LDCs) were created to formulate development plans and investment programs for their respective units. Under the New Local Government Code (RA 7160), the LDCs have an expanded membership where the congressman and representatives from nongovernmental organizations who should at least constitute one-fourth of the fully organized city development council are enjoined to participate in the planning process. A question is raised, however, on the mandate of the LDC, specifically on its allocative powers to actually program and determine the allocation of resources for development projects. A more pressing issue is the willingness of the national government to fund identified local projects, and whether available resources tally with the programmed budget proposal contained in the local development plan.

Introduction

Planning is an important prerequisite of development. It is done at the local, regional and at the central levels. At the local level, the Local Development Plans (LDPs) set forth the development goals and priorities of the local units based on current socioeconomic conditions and include the identified programs and projects, budgeting and resource-generating measures as well as implementation and monitoring and evaluation plan of the locality.

At the regional level, the Regional Development Plan (RDP) contains the priorities and thrusts of the region taking into account the LDPs and the socioeconomic problems and potentials of the region. The RDP reflects sectoral priorities in the region, and the specific roles and contributions of agencies, regional offices and local government units (LGUs).

At the central level, the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) is prepared. It sets the broad socioeconomic development directions and goals, establishes broad guidelines for investment policy in both private and public sectors, and prescribes policy objectives and broad investment guidelines for each sector and region.

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Furthermore, an investment program at every level is contained in a plan. A Local Development Investment Program (LDIP) shows the medium-term annual financing requirement of both the nationally-funded and the locally-funded programs and projects in the locality. The LDIP is regarded as the major plan document next to the general Local Development Plan and the Land Use Plan. The Regional Development Investment Program (RDIP) is formulated to contain the medium-term annual financing requirements of nationally-funded investment programs and projects in the region. At the central level, the Medium-Term Philippine Investment Program (MTPIP) is formulated.

The Local Development Council

The Local Development Council (LDC) is the body at the local level mandated to initiate the preparation of a comprehensive multisectoral development plan and investment program and have the same approved by the local *sanggunian* (council). Similarly, the LDC is tasked to assist its *sanggunian* in setting the direction of economic and social development, and coordinating development efforts within its territorial jurisdiction.

The legal basis for the creation, composition, functions and other matters relating to the local development councils is provided for in Title Six Book I Sections 106 to 115 of Republic Act (RA) 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code (LGC). Prior to the Code, the old LGC (*Batas Pambansa 337*) contained no similar provision. The creation and organization of LDCs then were based on a Ministry of Local Government and Community Development (MLGCD) Memo Circular No. 76-110 issued in October 1976, and on Executive Order No. 319 issued in March 1988 as amended. A comparison of the codal provisions and previous laws on planning is provided in the Appendix.

Composition of the Local Development Council

The new Code introduced reforms regarding the organization and composition of LDCs. In cities or municipalities, the LDC consists of the mayor as chairman and the following as members: all *punong barangays* (barangay captains) in the city or municipality; the chairman of the committee on appropriations of the *sangguniang panlungsod* (city council) or *sangguniang bayan* (municipal council); the congressman or his representative; and representatives of nongovernmental organizations operating in the city/municipality who shall constitute not less than one-fourth of the members of the fully organized council.

In provinces, the LDC is composed of the governor as chairman, and as members, all mayors of component cities and municipalities; the chairman of the committee on appropriations of the *sangguniang panlalawigan* (provincial council); the congressman or his representative; and representatives of nongovernmental organizations operating in the city who shall constitute not less than one-fourth of the members of the fully organized council.

At the barangay level, the chairman is the punong barangay and the following as members: members of the *sangguniang barangay* (barangay council); representatives of nongovernmental organizations operating in the barangay who shall constitute not less than one-fourth of the members of the fully organized council; and a representative of the congressman.

Thus the congressman or his representative is a new member of the city development council. Also, now, no upper limit is set on the membership of NGOs. RA 7160 rather placed a lower limit of not less than one-fourth of the total members of the fully organized council. Membership of heads of national line agencies is now optional. They may be called upon by the LDC chairman to participate in LDC meetings.

Functions of the LDC

The Provincial Development Council (PDC), the City Development Council (CDC) and the Municipal Development Council (MDC) shall exercise the following functions as contained in Section 109 of the 1991 Local Government Code (RP 1992a):

- (1) Formulate long-term, medium-term and annual socioeconomic development plans and policies;
- (2) Formulate the medium-term and annual public investment programs;
- (3) Appraise and prioritize socioeconomic development programs and projects;
- (4) Formulate local investment incentives to promote the inflow and direction of private investment capital;
- (5) Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of development programs and projects; and

- (6) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law or competent authority.

Thus, the scope of functions and responsibilities of the LDC was neither diminished nor enhanced under RA 7160.

The LDC Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) is intended to be the implementing arm of the Council who shall represent it and act in its behalf when the Council is not in session.

In the case of cities and municipalities, the EC is composed of the following:

Chairman: City/Municipal Mayor

Members :

- (1) chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the Sangguniang Panlungsod/Bayan;
- (2) the president of the city/municipal league of barangays; and
- (3) a representative of the NGOs that are represented in the CDC/MDC.

The EC is vested with the following functions:

- (1) ensure that decisions of the Council are faithfully carried out and implemented;
- (2) act on matters requiring immediate attention or action by the Council;
- (3) formulate policies, plans and programs based on the general principles laid down by the Council; and
- (4) as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), take final action on matters that may be authorized by the CDC except the approval of city/municipal development plans and annual investment plans.

The EC shall hold its meetings at least once a month. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or by a majority of its members.

Sectoral or Functional Committees

Aside from the Executive Committee, the Council is further assisted by sectoral or functional committees that it may create to assist in the performance of their duties.

The sectoral or functional committees are being called upon in the IRR to do the following:

- (1) directly establish linkages with NGOs to ensure policy coordination and uniformity in operational directions;
- (2) provide the CDC with data and information essential to the formulation of plans, programs and activities;
- (3) define sectoral or functional objectives, set targets and identify programs, projects, and activities for the particular sector or function;
- (4) collate and analyze information and statistics and conduct related studies;
- (5) conduct public hearings on vital issues affecting the sector or function;
- (6) coordinate planning, programming and implementation of programs, projects and activities within each sector;
- (7) monitor and evaluate programs and projects; and
- (8) perform such other functions as may be assigned by the CDC.

The sectoral/functional committees form part of the planning process, and serve to establish linkages with national agencies and with other sectoral/functional committees of the government.

The Council Secretariat

Technical support to the LDC is provided by a Secretariat headed by the City Planning and Development Coordinator. The Secretariat is responsible for providing technical support, documentation of proceedings, preparation of reports and such other assistance as may be required in the discharge of its functions.

Some Issues and Concerns

Composition of the LDC

The inclusion of the congressman or his representative is a welcome change in the LDC to strengthen or to further strengthen the good working relations between local governments and the offices of congressmen, especially in the identification and prioritization of projects that will be included in the Local Development Plan and in the Local Investment Program. The congressman, who shares in the Countrywide Development Fund also known as the pork barrel fund, could, through his membership in the City Development Council, participate in the identification of projects for and in the locality and present to the LDC the projects he wants to carry out.

In the case of officials of national agencies located in the local area, their membership to the CDC is now optional. This change is in line with the move to decentralize those functions of national departments and agencies which could be better performed at the local level by the LGUs themselves. Viewed to promote decentralization, it means that the national government will have a minimal role to play in the local development planning process. But making their membership optional may make it more difficult to foster coordination in the planning and implementation of projects by the national government agencies and by LGUs themselves.

On the composition of the LDCs at the provincial, city, municipal and barangay levels, they have as members representatives from NGOs. The NGOs remained authorized to send representatives as members to the council. But unlike in Executive Order (EO) 319 where NGO membership is limited to *not more than 1/4* of the members of the fully constituted council, under RA 7160, NGOs operating in the locality may constitute *not less than 1/4* of the members of the fully organized council. This could have a tremendous effect on the membership of the LDC posing difficulty in convening its members. The LDC is to meet at least once every six months or as often as necessary.

In relation to this, in the case of cities and municipalities, *all* punong barangays shall also serve as members of the CDC or MDC. This RA 7160 provision, which is a carry over from EO 319, compounds the problem on large membership considering that some cities have as many as 905 barangays as in Manila City. In other cities, the number of component barangays could be as large as in Iloilo City (with 180 barangays), and Davao City (158 barangays).

Given its membership, the size of the CDC could be very large depending on three points:

- (1) the number of barangays in each city or municipality, which can be very many;
- (2) presence or absence of NGOs. In relation to this is the requirement that NGOs should compose a minimum of one-fourth of the total membership of the CDC, not less; and
- (3) any local official or any official of national agencies/offices located in the city may be called upon by the CDC to assist in the formulation of their respective development plans and public investment programs.

On Scope of Powers and Functions of the LDC

The scope of powers, functions and responsibilities of the Local Development Councils in general, did not change under RA 7160. In fact, they are lodged with basically the same functions and responsibilities as under EO 319.

The LDC as a planning body is lodged with the responsibility of formulating development plans; appraising and establishing priority socioeconomic development programs and projects; and coordinating and monitoring the implementation of these, among other functions. However, the LDCs still lack the authority and power to allocate certain funds to implement the plan they have envisioned. The experience of many LGUs was that the allocation and actual spending of financial resources was made in total disregard of the development plans.

The provision that the local budget should operationalize the local development plan adds value and importance to the role of the LDCs. But in the actual budget preparation, closer coordination between the LDCs, the Local Finance Committee and local agency heads still has to materialize to ensure that the annual budget is in accordance with the local development plan.

Another problem area is the fact that the annual planning exercise had been limited to the formulation of development projects funded by the 20 percent Development Fund. In many cases, projects classified as "development projects" do not entail capital outlay, or an expense to raise the productive and absorptive capacity of the locality. The LDCs under the new Local Government Code still have little control over how capital investment funds should be allocated for development and infrastructure projects that they have identified in the Capital Investment Program and the long-term and medium-term local development plans.

To emphasize the importance of coordination and give primacy to the role of the LDC in the overall planning process, the code provides in Section 107(d) that "local development councils may call upon any local official concerned or any official of national agencies or offices in the LGU to assist in the formulation of their respective development plans and public investment programs." Coordination is mandated more strongly in the provision in Article 470(b) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Code, which states that "no infrastructure or community project within the territorial jurisdiction of an LGU shall be undertaken without informing the local chief executive and the Sanggunian concerned" (RP 1992b:310).

A simple interpretation of the aforementioned provisions, however, should reveal that no strict compliance is called for. In the first case, the word used was "... *may* call upon..." (with emphasis on *may*) (RP 1992a), which could be liberally interpreted to mean that the LDC is not really required to call upon any national government official nor any national official is strictly enjoined to respond to the call of LDCs. In the second provision, the requirement is to *inform* the governor or mayor. And this does not necessarily mean that the approval of the local chief executive is necessary. He is only informed so that he may know of the impending project.

Again with respect to functions, it is not specifically stated that one of the functions of Local Development Councils would be to appraise, prioritize, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of development projects with local impact and significance which are initiated and funded by the national government and its agencies. This gray area was a source of problems and conflicts before between local government units and national agencies in so far as projects of national agencies at the local level were concerned. But this situation could be improved by adopting certain guidelines. For instance, it may be provided that regional, national and locally-funded projects in the regional/local development investment programs as approved and endorsed by the RDCs/LDCs should not be altered by national line agencies. To ensure consistency, avoid duplication or unnecessary overlap between national-funded and locally-funded projects, regional/local projects which are to be funded or implemented by national line agencies must be developed and programmed jointly by the concerned LGU and the national line agency prior to its approval and endorsement by the concerned development council.

In the construction and repair of roads and highways funded by the national government, there is a provision that allows for coordination in planning and project implementation. This refers to the provision giving authority to the local chief executive to ensure, as far as practicable, that construction and other public works repair projects of the national government be carried out in spatially

contiguous manner and in coordination with the construction and repair of roads and bridges and public works or infrastructure programs of LGUs.

Membership to the Executive Committee

It may be noted that the congressman or his representative is not a member of the Executive Committee (EC). It seems very necessary that a representative of the congressman should be made a member of the EC to achieve better coordination of programs and projects, and also to maximize the application of scarce resources under the separate control of the congressman and the local chief executive.

The Planning Process

The current planning reforms at the local level are attempts to change the planning process from the one-sided top-down process to bottom-up planning. Theoretically, the process is one of top-down-bottom-up planning process, although there is still much to be desired in the bottom-up part (Figure 1.)

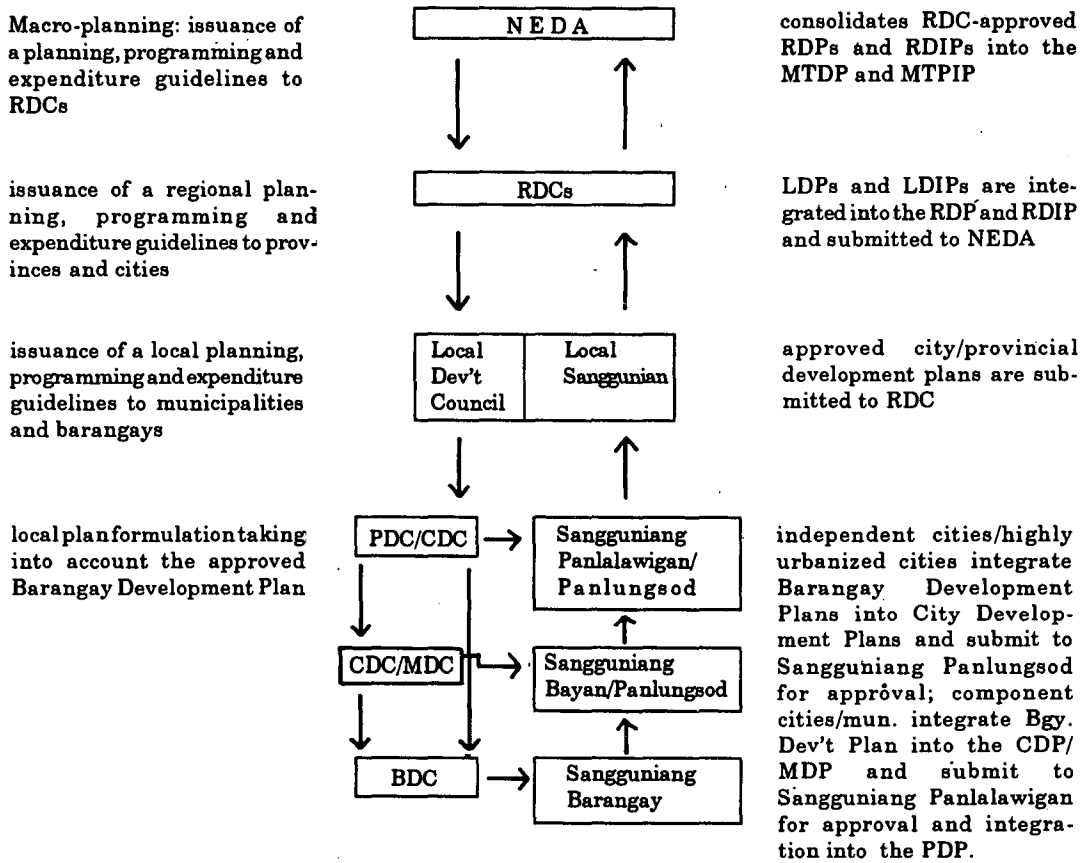
As contained in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), local development planning is a shared responsibility of central and local bodies. At the central level, there are two agencies involved in the planning process. The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination and consultation with the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the Leagues of LGUs, has been tasked to formulate the operational guidelines for the local development planning process. The Department of Budget and Management's (DBM) role in the planning process comes in the form of furnishing the LDCs information on financial resources and budgetary allocations applicable to their respective jurisdictions to serve as guide in the planning process (RP 1992b: Art. 182 K and L).

The process begins with the issuance by NEDA of Planning, Programming and Expenditure Guidelines to the RDCs. Based on these guidelines, the RDCs issue their own Regional Planning, Programming and Expenditure Guidelines containing:

- (1) a brief review of the region's socioeconomic performance, challenges and opportunities;
- (2) goals, strategies and priorities;

- (3) regional and sectoral targets;
- (4) investment programming guidelines including sectoral or provincial investment and expenditure ceilings; and
- (5) a timetable for the submission of the sectoral provincial development plans, investments and multiyear expenditure programs.

Figure 1. The Plan Preparation Process



These guidelines shall be based on the results of regional Planning-Programming Conferences of the RDCs wherein the following shall be agreed upon:

- (1) consistent and mutually-supportive regional and local planning frameworks for each LGU as agreed upon between regional and local officials in each conference;
- (2) criteria for delineating regional and subregional nationally-funded projects and locally-funded projects to guide regional and local investment programming, respectively;
- (3) local investment frameworks, consistent with agreed sectoral, regional and local planning frameworks, by which local investment programs will be formulated by LGUs; and
- (4) a multiyear expenditure program for the above projects based on resource availability.

After the issuance of the Regional Guidelines, the Provincial and City Development Councils shall issue their own Planning, Programming and Budgeting Guidelines containing:

- (1) a brief provincial/city socioeconomic situationer;
- (2) the province's/city's development goals, strategies and priorities;
- (3) provincial/city sectoral targets;
- (4) investment programming guidelines including municipal investment and multiyear expenditure ceilings; and
- (5) a timetable for the submission of the municipal development plans and investment and fiscal programs.

Upon receipt of the Regional Guidelines, in the case of the city, the City Development Council shall initiate activities for the preparation of the City Development Plan and Investment and Fiscal Program taking into account the approved Barangay Development Plans.

The City Development Plan, City Investment Program, and the City Fiscal Program are then submitted to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for approval. Once approved, these are then submitted to the concerned Regional Development Council.

At the municipal level, the municipal development plan (MDP) and municipal investment program (MIP), which incorporate the Barangay

Development Plan, are submitted to the Sangguniang Bayan for approval. Once approved these are submitted to the Provincial Development Council (PDC). The PDCs shall proceed to draft their plans, investment and fiscal programs based on the MDPs, MIPs, and municipal fiscal plans (MFPs) and have these approved by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

The approved Provincial/City Development Plans, and Investment and Fiscal Programs are then submitted to the RDCs for integration into the Regional Development Plans (RDP) and Regional Development Investment Programs (RDIPs). The RDIPs will contain a prioritized and programmed list of LGUs and regional programs and projects proposed for national funding.

The RDC-approved Regional Development Plan, Investment and Fiscal Programs are then forwarded to the NEDA for consolidation into the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP), Medium-Term Philippine Investment Program (MTPIP), and Medium-Term Fiscal Plan (MTFP).

The final draft is submitted to the NEDA Board for approval as the final MTPDP and the MTPIP.

In the preparation of the local development investment plan (LDIP), a distinction is to be made between programs and projects by source of funding, i.e., list of prioritized programs and projects differentiating among those that are to be funded from: (1) locally generated resources; (2) Official Development Assistance (ODA) grants; (3) by provincial/national resources; (4) those that are to be financed by the private sector through Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) or similar schemes.

The basic services and facilities shall be funded from the share of the LGU from the proceeds of national taxes and other local revenues, and funding support from the national government, its instrumentalities and government-owned-and-controlled corporations (GOCCs) which are tasked by law to establish and maintain such services or facilities. These basic services are enumerated in Article 25 of the IRR.

On the budget side, the annual budget which is the yearly translation of the Local Development Plan (LDP), is presented in such a way that services are categorized into: (1) economic services; (2) social services; and (3) general services.

In line with the above, local funds/resources may be classified into the following:

- (1) locally-generated revenue such as tax revenue, nontax revenue, government business operations, and other miscellaneous receipts;
- (2) Internal Revenue Allotment;
- (3) ODA grants; and
- (4) Private sector financing through BOT or similar schemes.

Each service shall be covered by at least one office or department of the LGU. The budget proposal of offices or departments is further divided into two parts: current operating expenditures and capital outlay.

The place of local planning in the overall planning process is yet to be spelled out in the implementing guidelines on planning to be prepared by the DILG and NEDA in coordination with DBM. The implementing guidelines should serve to clarify certain concerns in planning at the local and national level. There is the concern that in the actual planning-programming and budgeting exercise, the planning framework should work efficiently towards an adequate distribution of authority between central agencies, the Regional Development Councils and the LGUs.

At the regional level, consistency in the regional priorities and sectoral priorities at the national level should be assured.

At the local level, a system for coordinating local physical and urban development plans with project identification for the Regional Development Plan and Regional Development Investment Plan, which is missing before, should be put in place.

In the overall budgeting system, there should be an assurance that budget priorities of LGUs contained in the RDC budget proposals will be given a weight equal to that of budget proposals submitted by the national departments (DBM/NEDA 1990).

Budgetary Requirements and General Limitations

The number and amount of budgetary requirements put pressure on the ability for planning at the local level. The budgetary requirements have been favorably reduced to the following under the new code:

- (1) debt service not exceeding 20 percent of the regular income;
- (2) ₱1,000 aid to every barangay in the city or municipality; and
- (3) 5 percent of the estimated revenue from regular sources as calamity fund.

In addition are the following general limitations:

- (1) 45 to 55 percent limitation for Personal Services of total annual income from regular sources realized in the next preceding fiscal year. Excluded in computation are salaries and wages, allowances of officials and employees of public utilities and economic enterprises owned, operated and maintained by LGUs;
- (2) Discretionary fund by the local chief executive is not to exceed 2 percent of actual receipts derived from basic Real Property Tax (RPT) in the next preceding fiscal year.

After allowing for the above requirements, the planner may ask: How much of the potential resources of LGUs may be allocated to support the LDP and the LDIP? How much of the total resources of local units do planners really have to afford the flexibility of allocating given that they are empowered to allocate these? In the case of cities, except for the additional 1 percent RPT which accrues solely to the special education fund (SEF), other earmarked funds from borrowing and grants, revenue accruing to special accounts in the General Fund (GF) like market fees and public utility charges, all revenue that may be generated by the city shall accrue to the GF and can be made available for financing development and investment projects including the 20 percent Development Fund. Significantly, LGUs can now deal directly with foreign funding institutions to source grants to enhance their financial position as well as their planning function.

Capability for Planning at the Local Level

At the local level, the process of formulating the LDP is not clearly outlined. Based on past practices, this begins with the conduct of baseline surveys to serve as input to the preparation of the socioeconomic profile or SEP. As secretariat to the LDC, the Local Development Planning Staff (LDPS) is tasked with the preparation and conduct of demographic projections, land use plans, physical designs, financial studies and forecasts. On the basis of these documents,

development goals over the next five years are identified and a preliminary plan is outlined. Subcommittees, task forces or sectoral and functional committees are also formed according to one's needs to help formulate the sub-area components of the plan.

The inputs of the committees or task forces are aggregated at the staff and council levels, where they are evaluated in terms of technical, economic, social, administrative and financial feasibility. The LDPS helps formulate policies and priorities to guide deliberations on the overall plan and its elements.

In the past, the problem of lack of technical capability of the planning staff was manifested in the nonactivation of local development councils in many local units. Although in cities, the incidence of nonactivation of LDCs may be lower than in provinces, municipalities and barangays. Many LGUs were not following the prescribed process of preparing Local Development Plans primarily because they did not have the planning staff. Secondly, most LDCs were not operational. At the regional level, the NEDA regional office itself is undermanned.

Many LGUs, particularly the low income ones, are yet to develop capabilities for long-term planning including revenue forecasting, expenditure monitoring and performance evaluation. Upgrading the capability of local planning staff may have to be undertaken. In this area, the assistance of national government is very essential.

Linkage Between Planning and Budgeting

Under the code and its IRR, there is an attempt to institutionalize the planning process and to establish linkage between planning and budgeting and to make planning part of the financial management responsibilities of LGUs. LDCs are required to submit to the Local Finance Committee (LFC) a copy of the Local Development Plan and Annual Investment Program prepared and approved during the fiscal year. This provision in the IRR stipulates that the approved LDP should specify the projects proposed for inclusion in the local budget as well as in budgets of national agencies and GOCCs concerned. The LFC shall use the plan to ensure that projects proposed for local funding are included in the budget. National government agencies and GOCCs are also required to provide LGUs all necessary information on projects already funded in their respective budgets including among other things: name of project, location, sources and funding levels.

Concluding Remarks

The importance of planning at the local level is given greater emphasis under the 1991 Local Government Code. In terms of the composition of the LDC, there is wider participation from nongovernmental organizations and the perceived diminution in the role of national agency officials in the local plan formulation, with the LGU officials taking the primary responsibility in the identification of programs and projects at the local level. Coordination between the congressman and the local council, and the former's cooperation and participation in the planning process is enhanced under the Code. Allowing local units to look for grants directly from foreign funding institutions would positively affect the planning and programming of projects at the local level.

There remains certain aspects of local planning that need careful attention. These relate to the matter of powers and responsibilities of LDCs, and the degree of allocative powers it can exercise over local finances; the technical capability of the local planning staff; the manageability of the meetings of the LDC; the operationalization of what is aspired to be the "bottom-up" approach to planning; and the place and importance of local planning and local plans in the overall government planning process and plan implementation.

References

- Department of Budget and Management and National Economic
Development Authority (DBM and NEDA)
1990 Synchronized Planning-Programming-Budgeting System (SPPBS) (November).
- Republic of the Philippines
1988 Executive Order 319 issued in March 1988.
1992a Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160).
1992b Rules and Regulations Implementing the Local Government Code of 1991.

Appendix

The Local Development Councils under the EO 319 and RA 7160

Executive Order No. 319

Republic Act No. 7160

1. Legal basis

The legal basis for the creation, reorganization, reactivation or strengthening of the LDCs were not provided for in BP 337, but is contained in the MLGCD Memorandum Circular No. 76-110 issued in October 1976 in accordance with EO 156 (s. of 1956) and EO 121 (s. of 1968) until February 1988; and EO 319 issued in March 1988.

The creation, organization and strengthening of LDCs is provided for in Sections 106 to 115 of RA 7160.

2. Composition of the Local Development Council

Provincial level

Chairman: Provincial Governor

Chairman: Provincial Governor

Members:

Members:

- a) all mayors of component cities and municipalities
- b) chairman of the appropriations committee of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan
- c) heads of national line agencies in the province represented in the cabinet
- d) representative of the private sector and NGOs, who shall not exceed 1/4 of the members of the fully constituted CDC.

- a) all mayors of component cities and municipalities
- b) chairman of the appropriations committee of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan
- c) the congressman or his representative; and
- d) representatives of NGOs who shall constitute at least 1/4 of the fully organized CDC.

City/Municipal Level

Chairman: City/Municipal Mayor

Chairman: City/Municipal Mayor

Members:

Members:

- a) all barangay captains
- b) chairman of the appropriations committee of the city/municipal legislative body
- c) heads of national line agencies in the city/municipality represented in the cabinet
- d) representatives of the private sector and NGOs, who shall not exceed 1/4 of the members of the fully constituted CDC.

- a) all barangay captains
- b) chairman of the appropriations committee of the city/municipal legislative body
- c) the congressman or his representative; and
- d) representatives of NGOs who shall constitute at least 1/4 of the fully organized CDC.

*Executive Order No. 319**Republic Act No. 7160**Barangay level*

Chairman: Punong Barangay

Chairman: Punong Barangay

Members:

Members:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) members of the sangguniang barangay b) the Department of Local Government Officer assigned to the city/municipality c) representatives of government agencies working or assigned in the barangay d) representatives of the private sector, and NGOs operating in the barangay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) members of the sangguniang barangay b) a representative of the congressman; and c) representatives of NGOs who shall constitute at least 1/4 of the fully organized CDC. |
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3. Functions of the Provincial, City and Municipal Development Councils

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|---|--------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Formulate long-term, medium-term, and annual socioeconomic development plan and policies; b) Formulate the medium-term and annual public investment program; c) Appraise and prioritize the socioeconomic development programs and projects; d) Formulate local investment incentives to promote the inflow and direction of private investment capital; e) Coordinate, monitor and evaluate programs and projects; and f) Perform such other functions as may be provided for by law or competent authority. | <p>Same as in EO 319</p> |
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Functions of the Barangay Development Council

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) mobilize citizens' participation in local development effort b) identify programs and projects based on local requirements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) mobilize people's participation in local development efforts; b) prepare barangay development plans based on local requirements; |
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Executive Order No. 319

Republic Act No. 7160

- c) monitor and evaluate program and project implementation; and
- d) perform such other functions as may be provided by law or competent authority.

- c) monitor and evaluate the implementation of national or local programs and projects; and
- d) perform such other functions as may be provided by law or competent authority.

4. Executive Committee of each LDC

- a) The creation of the LDC Executive Committee is optional. EO 319 provides that the LDC "may", by Council resolution, create an EC and define its membership, functions and responsibilities.
- b) The composition of the EC is not defined in EO 319 and its implementing rules and regulations.

- a) The creation of the LDC Executive Committee is mandatory. RA 7160 provides that each LDC "shall" create an EC which shall represent and act in behalf of the LDC when it is not in session.
- b) The composition of the EC of each LDC is explicitly defined in RA 7160 and its IRR. In cities, the EC is composed of the ff:

Chairman: City Mayor

Members:

- 1) Chairman of the Appropriations committee of the city legislative body;
- 2) President of the City League of Barangays; and
- 3) A representative of NGOs represented in the CDC.

5. Powers and Functions of the Executive Committee

This is not defined in EO 319 and its IRR.

This is explicitly defined in RA 7160 and its IRR as follows:

- a) Ensure that the decisions of the council are faithfully carried out and implemented;
- b) Act on matters requiring immediate attention or action by the council;
- c) Formulate policies, plans and programs based on the general principles laid down by the council; and
- d) Take final action on other matters that may be authorized by the council except the approval of local development plans and annual investment plans.

*Executive Order No. 319**Republic Act No. 7160***6. Secretariat of LDCs**

The Secretariat of the CDC shall be headed by the City Planning and Development Coordinator.

Same as in EO 319

7. Sectoral/Functional Committees of LDCs

- a) LDCs may form sectoral/functional committees to assist them in the performance of their duties.
- b) The IRR of EO 319 does not require the sectoral/functional committees of LDCs to establish direct linkage with other sectoral/functional committees organized by the government.

a) Same as in EO 319

- b) To ensure policy coordination and uniformity in operational directions, the IRR of RA 7160 requires the sectoral/functional committees of LDCs to directly establish linkage with national government agencies and such sectoral/functional committees organized by the government for development, investment and consultative purposes.

Furthermore, the IRR identified the functions of the sectoral/functional committees as follows:

- a) To provide the LDC with data and information essential to the formulation of plans, programs and activities.
- b) To define sectoral/functional objectives, set targets, and identify programs, projects and activities for the particular sector of function.
- c) Collate and analyze information and statistics and conduct related studies;
- d) Conduct public hearings on vital issues affecting the sector or function;
- e) Coordinate planning, programming and implementation of programs, projects and activities within each sector;
- f) Monitor and evaluate programs and projects;
- g) Perform such other functions that may be assigned by the LDC.

*Executive Order No. 319**Republic Act No. 7160*

The IRR further provides that each member of the LDC shall as far as practicable, participate in at least one sectoral or functional committee.

8. Relationship of LDC to the Local Legislative Body

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) The development plans formulated by the LDC at a particular level shall be approved by its respective local Sanggunian prior to the submission of such plans to the next higher level LDC. | a) Same as in EO 319 |
| b) The approved development plan of an LDC at a particular level may be integrated with the development plans of the next higher level LDC. | b) Same as in EO 319. But in the IRR, the word used is shall. |
| c) The approved development plan of provinces and chartered cities shall be submitted to the RDC for integration into the RDP. | c) Basically the same as in EO 319, except that "chartered cities" are subclassified into "highly urbanized cities" and independent component cities" under the code. |
| d) The RDC shall submit the RDP to the NEDA Board in accordance with EO 308. | d) The RDC shall submit the RDP to NEDA in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations. |

9. Budget Information

The DBM shall furnish the LDCs information on financial resources applicable to their respective jurisdictions to guide them in their planning functions.

The DBM shall furnish the LDCs information on financial resources and budgetary allocations applicable to their respective jurisdictions to guide them in their planning functions.

10. Frequency of LDC Meetings

- | | |
|---|--|
| a) The LDC shall meet once every quarter or as often as may be necessary upon call by the Chairman or by at least 1/5 of its members. | a) The LDCs shall meet at least once every six months or as often as may be necessary. |
| b) The IRR of EO 319 is silent about the frequency of Executive Committee meetings. | b) The IRR of the new Code provides that the Executive Committee shall hold its meetings at least once a month, and that special meetings may be called by the Chairman or by a majority of its members. |