



# PHILIPPINE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

*Strengthening Good Local Governance towards  
Sustainable and Resilient Filipino Communities*

**OCTOBER 2020**



## ABOUT THE CODE

In recognition of the importance of the local governments in partnering with the national government towards the country's development, the Local Government Code of 1991, also known as Republic Act No. 7160, was enacted on October 10, 1991.

As a declared policy of the State, it paved the way to the local government units' autonomy and decentralization of authority from the national to the local level, building self-reliant communities and accountable local government structures.

According to the University of the Philippines Halalan (as cited in Atienza, 2006), the Local Government Code of 1991 contains salient features that highlight its relevance as part of the country's history. Specifically, it transfers the responsibility of delivering basic services as well as regulatory powers; it expands the taxing powers of the local governments to cater to the financial needs of localities; it permits de-bureaucratization; and it grants opportunities to the LGUs entering the world of joint ventures and such.

On its 29th year of implementation this 2020, the Local Government Code of 1991 prevails as the standard for the LGUs in assisting the national government in providing quality service to the Filipino people.







## PHILIPPINE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM

*Strengthening Good Local Governance towards Sustainable and Resilient Filipino Communities*

# ABOUT THE FORUM

In celebration of the 29th anniversary of the Local Government Code, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Local Government Academy (LGA), Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), Local Governance Training and Research Institutes – Philippine Network (LoGoTRI-PhilNet), University of the Philippines – National College of Public Administration and Governance – Center for Local and Regional Governance (UP-NCPAG CLRG), Tanggol Kalikasan, National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Habitat (UN Habitat), CityNet, The Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Singapore (J.CLAIR Singapore) bring the Philippine Local Government Forum – a month-long knowledge exchange activity with the theme, **“Strengthening Good Local Governance towards Sustainable and Resilient Filipino Communities.”** The forum partners organize thematic sessions with highly relevant topics anchored on various areas of governance and the sustainable development agenda, to influence local governments make informed decisions and lead communities towards a sustainable and resilient future.

With sixteen (16) forum sessions focused on imparting relevant and practical knowledge meaningful in identifying opportunities and recommendations to improve local actions and policies, the forum aims to support the LGUs in preparing for the implementation of the full devolution in 2022. Moreover, the sharing and discourses during the forum are seen to contribute to addressing present issues and challenges relevant to facing today’s crisis.



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## ABOUT THE LOGO



The Philippine Local Government Forum is a celebration of the birth of decentralization and local autonomy in the country that were realized through a landmark legislation known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

Now on its 29th year, the arrows in the logo symbolize the goal of moving forward towards sustainable development and of a shared vision bounded by unity among the national government, local governments, and the Filipino people in the years to come.

Connected to the arrows is a bamboo, a plant known for its strength and flexibility, symbolizing the attribute of resiliency that Filipino communities are known for.

The three (3) stars and the sun located on the upper part of the logo represent the Philippines, and attached to it are chat boxes signifying the exchange of knowledge, continuing dialogue and convergence of local government stakeholders through this month-long event.



# SCHEDULE

## OPENING SESSION

06 October 2020

- 9:00 AM** Preliminaries
- 9:15 AM** **Welcome Message**  
**Marivel C. Sacendoncillo, CESO III**  
*Undersecretary for Local Government*  
Department of the Interior and Local Government
- 9:30 AM** **Inspirational Message**  
**Eduardo M. Año**  
*Secretary*  
Department of the Interior and Local Government
- 9:50 AM** *Introducing the Forum's Theme*  
**Strengthening Good Local Governance for Sustainable  
Development in the Philippines**  
**Thelma T. Vecina**  
*Executive Director*  
Local Government Academy
- 10:00 AM** **Leaders Dialogue on Good Local Governance**  
*Lightning Speakers:*
- Vivian P. Suansing**  
*Assistant Director*  
Department of the Interior and Local Government - Bureau of Local Government Supervision  
*"Improving LGU Performance through Transparency, Accountability, and Incentive"*
- Dakila Carlo E. Cua**  
*Governor, President*  
Province of Quirino, Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines  
*"Ensuring Social Inclusion in Local Development"*
- Susana G. Juangco**  
*Director*  
Capacity-Building and Training Service, Office of Civil Defense  
*"Enhancing LGU Disaster Preparedness and Management"*
- Dr. Kenneth V. Tanate**  
*Executive Director*  
Philippine Competition Commission  
*"Levelling the Playing Field for Businesses towards Local Economic Development"*
- Maria Belinda E. de la Paz**  
*Chief Operating Officer*  
Haribon Foundation  
*"Empowering LGUs in Environmental Management"*
- 11:00 AM** **Open Forum**
- 11:45 AM** **Wrapping Up**
- 12:00 PM** **End of Session**





# Major Thematic Sessions

## 1 Localizing SDGs for Socially Protective, Safe and Inclusive Local Governments

**08 October 2020 | 1:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Co-hosted by: **United Nations Development Programme**

Participants: **Target LGUs of SDG-FACES, CSOs, (LRIs, DILG Personnel)**

*A discussion on interventions that localize SDGs especially those that ensure social inclusion and protection in communities*

## 2 Philippine Local Governance Reimagined

**09 October 2020 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Co-organized by: **Department of the Interior and Local Government through the Office of Undersecretary for Local Government**

Participants: **DILG and LCEs**

*A session that highlights the celebration on the triumphant step the nation took in 1991, during the enactment of R.A. 7160 or Local Government Code of 1991, and the discussion of the promising future that is to be achieved through empowering LGUs as effective partners of development*

## 3 Making Local Governments Accountable in Protecting Environment

**13 October 2020 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Co-hosted by: **Tanggol Kalikasan**

Participants: **Barangay Chairpersons**

*A discussion on crisis and environmental management topics including the Philippine Situationer on Environmental Management and Protection, the Potential of Zero Waste Philippines, Effective Solid Waste Management, and Achieving Sustainability through Biodiversity Conservation*

## 4 Outpacing COVID-19: Boosting Local Economic Development for Stronger PH Local Governments

**15 October 2020 | 2:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Co-hosted by: **University of the Philippines National College of Public Administration and Governance - Center for Local and Regional Governance**

Participants: **LCEs, LGU personnel from Cities and Municipalities**

*A discussion about local action plans and recommendations on how LGUs can boost local economic development to recover from the economic hit caused by the COVID-19 crisis*

## 5 Strengthening Disaster Preparedness and Management towards Good Local Governance

**20 October 2020 | 1:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Co-hosted by: **United Nations Habitat Philippines**

Participants: **Disaster-prone LGUs and DILG personnel involved in disaster management**

*A discussion on how the integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation in local government helps achieve SDGs*



## Sponsored Sessions

### 1 Intensifying Localized Peace Building Efforts

**09 October 2020 | 2:15 PM-5:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict**

Participants: **DILG Personnel and conflict-affected LGUs and Barangays**

*This initiative is a big leap towards regaining the people's trust in the government and finally address the root causes of decade's long communist insurgency problems in the country. The national and local governments continue to find solutions to the problems of vulnerable sectors in uplifting their lives and bringing development on their doorsteps*

### 2 Leading Local Green Economic Recovery in a COVID-19 Context

**14 October 2020 | 2:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **United Nations Habitat Philippines**

Participants: **City and Municipal Mayors, Governors, National Government Agencies  
(and IATF agency members), CSOs, Private Sector, Academia**

*A venue for a national-local discourse on green economic recovery, the needs and challenges to ensure green recovery in the Philippine setting, and the entry points and approaches to make it happen by learning from international experiences*

### 3 Tourism: Story-based Tourism for Towns in the New Normal

**21 October 2020 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc.**

Participants: **LCEs, Tourism Officer from LGUs**

*A virtual workshop designed to enable LGUs to utilize local stories in promoting their towns given the challenges of the new normal and to impart capabilities on identifying and capturing stories from local culture, and packaging them for online audiences.*

### 4 Converting Adversity to Opportunity: Rejuvenating Local Economy through Tourism Development

**22 October 2020 | 9:00 AM-11:30 AM**

Sponsored by: **Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations Singapore**

Participants: **LCEs (Provincial, Cities, Municipalities)**

*A session in which two Japanese local governments share their past experiences of overcoming natural disasters by stimulating local economic recovery through tourism.*





## Sponsored Sessions

### 5 **#YOUthCanDolt: Young Leaders in Local Governance**

**24 October 2020 | 2:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. - Center for Leaders**

Target Participants: **Youth leaders (Sangguniaang Kabataan) and youth sector representatives**

*A virtual learning session designed for youth leaders and those who support them within the context of local governance in the new normal, which aims to bring forth the various perspectives of youth leadership development and how the youth can play a critical role in the development of resilient and livable communities*

### 6 **Next Generation LGUs**

**26 October 2020 | 2:00 PM-4:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **United Nations Development Programme Philippines**

Target Participants: **City and Municipal Local Government Units**

*A session that aims to empower local leaders to make timely and well informed decisions in development planning and programming; in risk and crisis response, management and recovery; and in monitoring their progress toward the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, while ensuring that no one is left behind*

### 7 **Research, Technology, and Partnerships Empower Great Cities**

**27 October 2020 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **Local Governance Training and Research Institutes – Philippine Network**

Participants: **LGUs and LRIs**

*A discussion highlighting the significance of partnerships between LGUs and LRIs as well as ways whereby LGUs can maximize the research capacities of the academe to inform decisions and acquire fitting technology to support local development*

### 8 **Gender, Indigeneity, and Disability: Role of LGUs in Empowering the Marginalized**

**27 October 2020 | 2:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **UP NCPAG Center for Local and Regional Governance**

Participants: **LCEs from provincial to barangay level, LGU GAD Offices, PWD Offices, LRIs, IP-focused CSOs**

*A discussion highlighting the strategic role of LGUs in promoting the welfare of the vulnerable and marginalized groups in line with the goal of inclusive growth and the three pillars of “Malasakit,” “Pagbabago,” and “Patuloy na Pag-unlad” of the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022*

### 9 **Transforming Cities Post COVID-19 Pandemic: Smart City, Mobility, and Transportation**

**28 October 2020 | 1:00 PM-4:00 PM**

Sponsored by: **CityNet**

Participants: **LCEs from provincial, city and municipal levels and international guests**

*A technical seminar on smart city, mobility, and transportation to support LGUs in cities and municipalities make informed decisions in building back their communities towards a sustainable and resilient future post COVID-19*





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# CLOSING SESSION

29 October 2020

**2:00 PM** Introduction

**2:10 PM** Forum Highlights: Towards Resilient Local Governments

**Thelma T. Vecina**

*Executive Director*

Local Government Academy

**Good Local Governance Towards Stronger Nation**

*Support position and presentation of legislative agenda for local government vis-a-vis the full devolution in 2022*

*Keynote Speakers from:*

**2:55 PM** House of Representatives

**3:35 PM** Senate of the Philippines

**4:05 PM** Supreme Court of the Philippines

**4:35 PM** Closing Remarks

**Eduardo M. Ano**

*Secretary*

Department of the Interior and Local Government

**End of the Forum**





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## WHO CAN REGISTER?

- Local chief executives and other elected officials from all levels of local government units (provincial, city, municipal, barangay)
- Local functionaries such as local administrators and department heads from all levels of local government units (provincial, city, municipal, barangay)
- DILG Personnel (Regional Directors, Assistant Regional Directors, Provincial Directors, City Directors, and other Local Government Operations Officers)
- Representatives from Local Resource Institutions (i.e. Presidents and/or Directors), Private Sector, National Government Agencies (NGAs), and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- Other guests from international organizations relevant to local development and governance

## HOW TO JOIN?

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

Link: [bit.ly/phlocalgovt-forum2020](https://bit.ly/phlocalgovt-forum2020)



## PARTNERS



**J. CLAIR SINGAPORE**  
The Japan Council of Local Authorities for  
International Relations, Singapore

### CONTACT US

✉ [forum@lga.gov.ph](mailto:forum@lga.gov.ph)

🌐 [@lgaphilippines](https://www.lgaphilippines.com)

☎ (632) 8634 1906

🌐 [lga.gov.ph](http://lga.gov.ph)