DUTERTE ADMINISTRATION MID-YEAR REPORT 2020

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESPERSON

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Introduction



This midyear report highlights some of the major accomplishments of the four years of the Duterte Administration. This report likewise discusses the Administration's response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) health crisis.

The first four years of the Duterte Administration saw a nation with strong growth prospects. The Philippines was among the fastest growing economies with an average of 6.5% from 2016 to 2019. Inflation was low and stable averaging 3.0% from 2016 to 2019. The country registered the lowest rates of unemployment (5.3%), underemployment (14.8%), and poverty (16.6%).

We owe this stable outlook to the decisive leadership of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte who chartered an independent foreign policy thereby attracting foreign trade and investments from allies and partners abroad while remaining focused on good governance and inclusive development. The responsible fiscal management of the members of PRRD's economic team who aggressively pushed for tax reforms, structural reforms, such as but not limited to ease of doing business, universal healthcare coverage, universal access to tertiary education, and the Build, Build Infrastructure Program where infrastructure spending exceeded 5% of GDP since 2018 contributed to our good standing. A series of unexpected events, however, occurred in 2020 dampening our growth target beginning with the Taal volcano eruption in January. This was followed by the decline in tourism and trade due to the COVID-19 and the imposition of quarantine measures to contain the spread of the virus.

COVID-19 is the biggest problem that the Philippines is facing today. In our battle against COVID-19, we have gone from protecting lives and prioritizing public health over the economy to balancing the need to protect lives and livelihood as we strive to gradually bring the economy back.

In the course of doing so, government programs were put in place to assist the public in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Cash subsidies have helped millions of target beneficiaries survive the enhanced community quarantine. Other vulnerable sectors received various forms of assistance as well from many government programs that were crafted to mitigate the effects of COVID-19.

As the country gradually eases to the recovery stage, the fight against COVID-19 has been synergized with the national government, local government units, the private sector, and individual citizens joining hands.

As the administration of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte enters its fifth year of governance, let us remain hopeful and look forward to our economy recovery. With the country's sound macroeconomic fundamentals and with the current government's four-pillar socioeconomic strategy against COVID-19 in place, we remain confident of our strength as a nation. As we begin to gradually settle in the new normal, let us heal together and recover as one toward a more resilient Philippines.



Secretary Harry oque. Jr. Presidential Spokesperson

II. ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMY



Prior to COVID-19, the domestic economy was considered one of the best in the region. Economic growth averaged 6.5 percent since the beginning of the administration in Q3 2016 until Q4 2019.

- Growth was seen to be more inclusive as manifested by the country's full year 2018 poverty incidence, which significantly dropped to 16.7 percent of the population in 2018 from 23.5 percent in 2015. Around 6 million Filipinos were lifted out of poverty between 2015 and 2018.
- The Duterte Administration accelerated spending on infrastructure investments to 5.4 percent of GDP in 2019, double the average infrastructure spending to GDP for the past 50 years.
- The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) facilitated the approval of 77 projects under the Duterte Administration, with a resource requirement amounting to at least P2.5 trillion from 2016 to 2019. Majority of these were infrastructure projects in support of the Build, Build Program.



Source: NEDA

FINANCE



- President Duterte signed Republic Act No. 10963, or the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act in 2017. The Department of Finance (DOF) reported in May 2019 that Filipino taxpayers have reaped a cash bonanza of P111.7 billion in personal income tax cuts in 2018 with the implementation of the TRAIN Law, the first package of the Duterte Administration's Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP). DOF also said that as of September 2019, revenues from the first package of the tax reform program reached P91.3 billion.
- The country's debt-to-GDP ratio of 39.6% in 2019 is the lowest it has been since the country started recording this metric in 1986. This achievement has bolstered the country's credit-worthiness and the stability of our investment grade credit ratings, which, in turn, has allowed the government to access financing for critical programs at deeply concessional rates. Under the Duterte Administration, the Philippines has achieved its highest ever sovereign credit ratings.



Standard & Poor's (S&P) affirmed the Philippines' "BBB+" with a "stable outlook" in May 2020.

FitchRatings



In May 2020, Fitch Ratings affirmed the Philippines' rating at "BBB" and changed the outlook to "stable" from "positive."

In July 2020, Moody's affirmed the country's "Baa2" credit rating, and has kept its "stable" outlook for the country.



In June 2020, Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) upgraded the Philippines' credit rating by a notch from "BBB+" to "A-."

• The Duterte Administration achieved the highest revenue collection effort in history, as total revenue collection in 2019 reached P3.14 trillion. Collections of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) also reached the P2 trillion mark, the first time in history. Overall government revenue effort in 2019 was at 16.1 percent of GDP, the highest in 22 years.

Source: DOF

FOREIGN INVESTMENTS



- The Board of Investments (BOI) breached its target of P1 trillion approved investments in 2019 as it reached P1.14 trillion, higher by 25% from last year's P914.96 billion. This is the highest investments recorded in more than 52 years of BOI's existence. These investments, which came from 376 approved projects, is expected to generate 61,622 jobs.
- Approved investments from foreign sources grew by 223%, from P103.97 billion last year. Top five (5) sources of foreign investments are Singapore (P170.92 billion), China (P85.20 billion), South Korea (P39.15 billion), Netherlands (P9.15 billion), and Thailand (P8.83 billion).



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FOREIGN POLICY



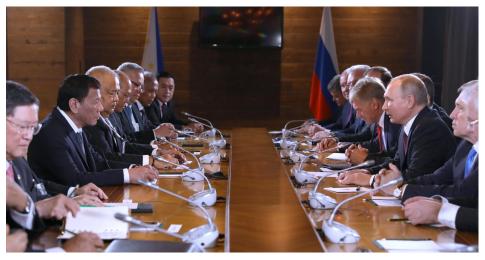
The Philippines successfully hosted the 30th and 31st Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summits in 2017 with leaders working towards the realization of ASEAN Vision 2025. In 2020, President Duterte joined fellow heads of state via a video conference – the first of its kind – for the 36th ASEAN Summit, pushing for regional security and stability in light of the threat of infectious diseases such as the COVID-19. The President joined other leaders from the ASEAN member countries during the Special ASEAN Summit on Covid-19 video conference at the Malago Clubhouse in Malacañang on 14 April 2020.



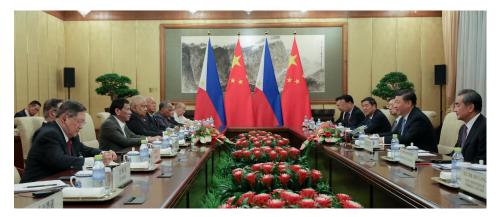
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Source: DFA

FOREIGN POLICY

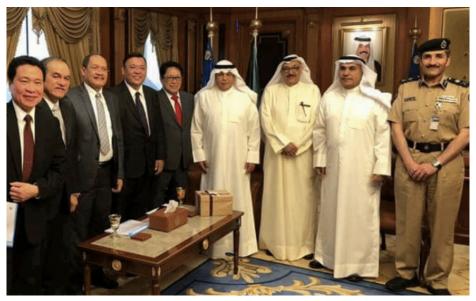


President Duterte went to Russia on 1 to 6 October 2019 upon the invitation of President Vladimir Putin after he sought the rebalancing of traditional partnerships and the deepening of relations with non-traditional partners at the onset of his Administration. The President mentioned the opening of defense attaches in both countries, which is an indication of the long-term commitment to enhance defense relations between the Philippines and Russia.



President Duterte had an official visit to China on 29 August to 1 September 2019 upon the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jin Ping. PRRD took the occasion to talk with his Chinese counterpart in the crafting of a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea. With the Philippines as the designated country coordinator of the ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, the Filipino head of state articulated his firm belief that the Code of Conduct would contribute in the resolution of numerous conflicts in the disputed areas of the South China Sea. President Duterte was also steadfast in raising with President Xi concerns central to the Philippines' claim in the West Philippine Sea (WPS), which include the ruling held by the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. He said that the arbitral award is final, binding and not subject to appeal.

FOREIGN POLICY



The signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Philippines and Kuwait to provide legal protection for Filipinos working in Kuwait was signed during the Philippine delegation's trip to the Middle East in 2018.



On 11 December 2018, the United States handed over the three Balangiga bells to the Philippines, 117 years after these were taken from the town of Balangiga, Eastern Samar and brought to the United States by American soldiers during the Philippine-American War in 1901.

Sources: DOLE, DND

BUILD BUILD BUILD

The Build Build Build program of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has generated a total of 911,034 jobs in 2016; 1,196,555 jobs in 2017; 1,714,905 in 2018; and 1,266,023 in 2019. DPWH expects to create 1,525,342 jobs in 2020.



In July 2019, the DPWH opened the first section of the Cavitex C5 Southlink consisting of 2.2-kilometer flyover crossing South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) traversing Taguig and Pasay City. The P1.6 billion C5 Link flyover is expected to reduce travel time in half from the usual 1.5 hours spent to cross from Villamor Airbase, Pasay area to Taguig City. On 10 July 2020, CAVITEX Segments 2 and 3A2 Construction Contract Signing and Groundbreaking Ceremony were held.



The 2.6 kilometer C-3 – R10 Section (Exit Ramp), part of the NLEX Harbor Link, Segment 10, was opened last 16 June 2020. Travel time from NLEX to Radial Road 10, Navotas City (and vice versa) was reduced from 1 hour to just 10 minutes.

Source: DPWH

BUILD BUILD BUILD



The 89-kilometer Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway or TPLEX was opened on 15 July 2020 and can now be fully utilized from Tarlac City to Rosario, La Union. Travel time between Tarlac City and Rosario, La Union will be reduced from 3.5 hours to 1 hour and will benefit 20,000 travelers per day.

The Clark International Airport (CRK) is the first hybrid public-private partnership (PPP) project implemented under the Duterte administration's "Build Build Build" program. The new building covers an area of 101,977 square meters and has an annual passenger capacity of 8 million. It is now 99.14 percent finished.



President Duterte led the unveiling of marker of the newly renovated Mactan-Cebu International Airport (MCIA) Terminal 1 in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu that is expected to accommodate more local and foreign passengers. The renovation of the said terminal started in July 2018 following the completion of the MCIA Terminal 2. The P1.8 billion project aims to solve the airport's congestion and improve the efficiency of its operation.

Source: DPWH

TRANSPORTATION

Prior to COVID-19 pandemic, per the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the P2P (Point-to-Point) has expanded its routes from 2 to 49 routes and is being serviced by 527 buses transporting 14 million passengers annually. 28 additional new routes have been opened for franchise applications.



PUV Modernization: As of October 2019, there are 465 authorized routes with 8,528 units authorized to travel. The total operational units are 3,256. The Office of Transportation Cooperatives (OTC) has accredited 1,038 transport cooperatives nationwide to operate. As of September 2019, 575 units were provided with loan assistance amounting to P1 billion and loan applications amounting to PhP2.5 billion.



Source: DOTr

TRANSPORTATION

On 1 December 2019, the Philippine National Railways extended the Tutuban-Calamba line with additional five (5) new flag stop stations past the Calamba station, namely: Pansol, Masili, Los Baños, College, and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). In December 2018, the PNR extended the service to Malabon City with the opening of the PNR Governor Pascual Station. The reopened PNR line last September 2018 was also extended to Sangandaan (Samson Road) station on Caloocan to FTI Station in Taguig.



Summary of Railway Projects

ONGOING CONSTRUCTION	ONGOING REHABILITATION	FOR CONSTRUCTION
6	1	8
Metro Manila Subway Common Station, MRT-7, LRT-1 Cavite Extension LRT-2 East Extension PNR Clark Phase 1	MRT-3	PNR Clark Phase 2 PNR Calamba, PNR Bicol Subic-Clark Railway LRT – 2 West Extension, LRT – 4 Cebu Monorail, Mindanao Railway

Source: DOTr

III. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN REFORM



In 2018, President Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 10969 giving free irrigation to farmers.

Per DPWH, a total of P38.6 billion was released from 2016 to 2020 for the construction/ improvement of 3,859 kilometers of Farm to Market Roads identified by the Department of Agriculture. As of May 2020, 1,540 km of farm to market roads were constructed and improved.



Per the Department of Agriculture (DA), they have a Financial Subsidy to Rice Farmers (FSRF) program, which gives unconditional cash assistance in the amount of P5,000.00 to rice farmers whose incomes are severely affected by the drop of palay price. As of 27 June 2020, a total of 529,205 farmer beneficiaries have already claimed their cash assistance. This accounts 89% of the 591,246 indicative target of the program.

Since July 2019, per the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), they have distributed nearly 30,000 hectares of public and private agricultural lands to more than 19,000 agrarian reform beneficiaries helping them escape the vicious cycle of poverty and social injustice.



President Duterte signed landmark health-related issuances:

Executive Order No.104 - Improving access to healthcare thru regulation of prices in the retail of drugs and medicines

Republic Act No. 11036 - Mental Health Act

Republic Act No. 11166 - Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act

Republic Act No. 11228 - Mandatory PhilHealth coverage for all persons with disabilities

Republic Act No. 11223 - Universal Health Care Act

Proclamation No. 976 - Declaring the Year 2020 as the "Year of Filipino Health Workers"

The DOH announced that out of the 81 provinces in the Philippines, 50 are already declared malaria-free, 27 are now under elimination phase. There are only four provinces with local-transmission -- Palawan, Sulu, Occidental Mindoro and Sultan Kudarat. The DOH is hopeful that the country will be declared malaria-free by 2030.



The University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) Polyclinic at the New Clark City was inaugurated last 19 November 2019. The UP-PGH Polyclinic is equipped with a 24-hour Emergency Room Facility, Primary Care and Sports Medicine, Dentistry, Ophthalmology, Imaging Center (X-ray and Ultrasound), Diagnostic Laboratory and Pharmacy. Medical and administrative personnel from the UP-PGH in Manila staffed the medical facility during the SEA Games.

EDUCATION



In August 2017, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed Republic Act No. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (UAQTE) which enabled more Filipinos to gain equitable access to quality education by institutionalizing Free Higher Education (FHE), Tertiary Education Subsidy(TES), Student Loan program (SLP), and Free Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

Other landmark education-related pieces of legislation:

Republic Act No. 11314 - Student Fare Discount Act Republic Act No. 11358 - National Vision Screening Act Republic Act No. 11440 - National Campus Press Freedom Day Act Republic Act No. 11476 - GMRC and Values Education Act

From July 2016 to July 2020, per the Department of Education (DepEd), 103,164 new classrooms and 11,034 technical-vocational laboratories and workshops have been constructed, 86,305 classrooms have been repaired and reconstructed, 201,524,609 textbooks and other instructional materials have been procured and delivered, and 213,527 new teachers items have been created, of which 194,371 have already been filled.



From 2016 to 2020, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) has recorded over 9 million enrollees and graduates in various Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) qualifications.

HOUSING



The Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) was created through Republic Act No. 11201 on 14 February 2019. The Act consolidates the functions of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) and the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) with the latter being reconstituted into the Human Settlements Adjudication Commission (HSAC).

The housing sector has implemented various programs to address the housing requirements of the homeless and underprivileged Filipino families. From July 2016 to May 2020, the housing sector has been able to provide secure tenure to 803,996 households.



Sources: DHSUD, NHA

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

Intensifying Employment Facilitation Services

From July 2016 – May 2020, out of the total 9.032 million applicants referred for placement, 7.834 million or 87% were placed/employed by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).



Facilitating Better School-to-Work Transition for the Youth

From July 2016-May 2020, the DOLE helped a total of 672,184 youth under its Special Program for Employment of Students (SPES), Government Internship Program (GIP) and JobStart.

Enhancing Competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

The DOLE provided productivity training to 53,726 MSMEs and 98,170 employers and workers. In addition, 3,967 MSMEs were provided with technical assistance in designing productivity incentive schemes. This is designed to equip MSMEs with the knowledge and skills to implement productivity improvement programs to enhance business growth and expansion and create jobs.

Assistance to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs)

From July 2016 – May 2020, around 8.885 million OFWs were deployed whose contract were processed by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), covering both land-based and sea-based workers.

From July 2016 – February 2020, the DOLE provided legal assistance to 88,962 victims of illegal recruitment.

From July 2016 – May 2020, a total of 3,506 million OFWs were provided with assistance on-site-training, case management, custodial services, repatriation, and other welfare services.

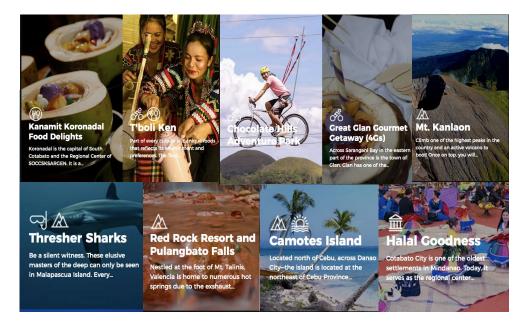
From July 2016 – May 2020, the DOLE, through the OWWA, provided educational support to a total of 178,260 dependents of OFWs. Of this number, 66,855 pursued degree courses, while 111,405 completed short-term courses.

From July 2016 – May 2020, reintegration program for OFWs assisted 157,064 OFW returnees and their families through training while 132,517 OFW returnees were provided with livelihood assistance.

From December 2016 – February 2020, a total of 5.874 million OFWs have been served by the One-Stop Service Centers for OFWs nationwide.

Source: DOLE

TOURISM



From January to December 2019, visitor arrivals reached 8,260,913, up by 15.24% compared to 7,168,467 in 2018. This figure hit the 8.2 million target that was set in the National Tourism Development Plan 2017-2022.

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), the tourism industry's contribution to the country's gross domestic operation (GDP) grew from 12.3 percent in 2018 to 12.7 percent in 2019. The report also showed that 14 out of 100 employed Filipinos were in tourism-related industries in 2019. The report noted that employment in tourism industries increased from 5.36 to 5.71 million in 2019. This translates to about 350,000 additional tourism-related jobs.

Per DPWH, to date, a total of P104.5 billion has been allocated for projects from 2016 to 2020 developing about 3,667 kilometers of access roads. These projects are aimed at enhancing connectivity from gateways to service centers and tourism sites. As of May 2020, 1,950 kilometers of tourism roads have been completed.

Sources; DOT, PSA, DPWH

ENVIRONMENT



In 2018, President Duterte created the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force to formulate an action plan and help rehabilitate the island-paradise.

To date on Boracay rehabilitation, per the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), beach easement recovery reached 67% completion. Structures not compliant of the required easement were demolished. Boracay Circumferential Road Improvement is almost 50% completed. Boracay drainage improvement projects construction to address island flooding is on track. Water quality already reached the safe level for swimming and skin-diving.

On the Manila Bay Rehabilitation, per DENR, a 1.7-kilometer wastewater interceptor was constructed to catch dirty waters from the three notorious outfalls of Manila and a solar powered Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) beside the Manila Yacht Club. This STP is capable of treating 500,000 liters of untreated water per day. As a result, coliform levels at the Baywalk area have drastically decreased recently.

A 2.5-kilometer long trash boom was already installed, designed to trap for collection of floating debris coming offshore before these would inundate the seawall of the Manila Baywalk. Dredging the waters fronting the whole Manila Baywalk is in full blast while nourishment of the beach area beside the US Embassy is ongoing. Direct dumping of trash along the riverways draining to Manila Bay is a critical issue that needs to be resolved in a comprehensive manner. Provision for resettlement of the informal settler families is a key action in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

Source: DENR

ENERGY



President Duterte signed Republic Act No. 11371 or the "Murang Kuryente Act" on 8 August 2019 which aims to lower electricity rates by tapping P208 billion from the net government share of the Malampaya funds to pay for the stranded contract costs and stranded debts of the National Power Corp. (NAPOCOR). On 22 November 2019, the Department of Energy (DOE), together with the DOF, conducted a public consultation on the draft implementing rules and regulations of this act.



The government promotes renewable energy resources and technologies. Alternative fuels and energy technologies are actively commercialized. In 2019, about 3,249.87 thousand tonnes oil equivalent (ktoe), 60% electricity, and 40% fuel were saved through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



President Duterte signed Republic Act No. 11035, or the Balik Scientist Law. From January to November 2019, 53 scientists were approved for engagement in host institutions nationwide to contribute in the fields of health, agriculture, aquatic and marine, and energy and emerging technology. The engaged Balik Scientists published 11 researches in ISI journals, conducted 25 local trainings and seminars, and introduced/assisted 35 technologies and projects.



Source: DOST

PRO-PEOPLE INITIATIVES

Implementation of Salary Increase

President Duterte has signed into law a measure that increases the take-home pay of government employees, including teachers and nurses.

Republic Act No. 11466, otherwise known as the **"Salary Standardization Law (SSL) of 2019,"** was enacted on January 8, 2020.

The DBM has been a primary agency in pushing for the enactment of the law to raise the pay of around 1.4 million government personnel to a level closer to market rates, while giving priority to the rank-and-file. The increase will be implemented in four tranches, starting this year until 2023.

For a Teacher I/SG-11, overall increase in monthly salary is equivalent to P6,246/month by 2023 or an annual increase of P1,561/ month. Moreover, the annual compensation of a Teacher I/SG-11 will increase by P87,444 upon full implementation in 2023.

The SSL 5 likewise institutionalized the grant of the Mid-Year Bonus, which is equivalent to one month basic salary.

The DBM increased the salary of entry level nurses from Salary Grade 11 (P22,316.00) to salary grade 15 (P32,053.00) through budget circular 2020-4.

Nurses with the following positions now have the following salaries:



President Duterte signed **Republic Act No. 11310 or the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act.** The budget for the program has increased continuously from P62 billion in 2016 to P89 billion, in 2018 and 2019. The provision of rice allowance to active and compliant Pantawid Pamilya households is included in the increase as well as a monthly cash rice subsidy of P600. As of 2019, the program covered 42,044 barangays in all 145 cities.

President Duterte signed into law, **Republic Act No. 10928, extending** passport validity to 10 years.



Distribution of Driver's License with 5-year validity: As of 28 November 2019, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) has printed and released 13,264,631 pieces of driver's license card w/ 5-year validity. The driver's license now also has 32 security features against counterfeit.

"Republikang Walang Plaka" no more: As of 28 November 2019, 2,202,356 pairs of motor vehicle plates (4-wheel) have been produced and distributed to the Regional Offices covering plates from 2014 onwards.

Source: DBM, DOTr

SPORTS



The Philippines successfully hosted the 30th South East Asian (SEA) Games in 2019. Twelve locations in Clark were used during the Games which ran from November 30 to December 11, 2019. New Clark City was used as the main sporting venue for athletics and aquatics during the SEA Games. The new metropolis also made its mark in showcasing Filipino hospitality to delegates from 11 countries.



Sources: PSC, BCDA



ARTS



From 2016-2019, a total 93 Graded A Films, 158 Graded B Films were evaluated by the Cinema Evaluation Board. The Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) has awarded a total of P333,540,290.00 in rebates to Filipino film producers through the system. Compared to the previous administration, there was a 43% net increase in incentives awarded to producers, and 40% net increase in CEB applications for review.

IV. GOOD GOVERNANCE, JUSTICE, PEACE AND SECURITY

AFP MODERNIZATION





Under the Duterte Administration, of the total P15.455 billion remittance to the National Government, per Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), P12.719 billion is their contribution to the modernization program of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This amount was generated within only three years under the term of the President, representing almost 27 percent of the total P46.55 billion contributed for the AFP within the 28 years of BCDA's existence.

On 8 November 2018, the Department of National Defense (DND) led the launching of BRP Antonio Luna (FF151), the second missile-capable frigate of the Philippine Navy, in South Korea. It is armed with Anti-Air Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare and Electronic Warfare Operation capabilities.





Sources: BCDA, DND

PEACE AND SECURITY



Under the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and Amnesty Program (EAP) Cluster, the DND recorded 13,038 surrenderers nationwide from 01 July 2016 to 12 June 2020.

A two-part plebiscite on 21 January and 6 February 2019 for the establishment of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) was conducted with historical and overwhelming results. Currently, there are 76 Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) members, with 42 nominees of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF); 10 representation from Moro National Liberation Front, and 26 nominated by the government, who took their oath of office before President Duterte on 22 February 2019 in Malacanang.

Sources: DND,OPAPP

BANGON MARAWI



Out of three (3) bridges for rehabilitation and improvement, the DPWH completed the rehabilitation of Mapandi Bridge while Banggolo and Pumping Bridges are substantially complete at 80.23% and 79.80%, respectively. Both projects are temporarily pending resolution of Road Right of Way (RROW) issues.



Per the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), to date, 42,831 sets of livelihood starter kits like dressmaking, bigasan, sari-sari store, baking, and carinderia starter kits were distributed to benefit 50,090 internally-displaced persons (IDPs) since the Marawi siege in 2017.

Per National Housing Authority (NHA), they have developed some 2,659 transitional housing units for the families who were displaced and/or left homeless due to the Marawi siege in May 2017. To date, a total of 2,138 units are already occupied by the affected families.



- For the fifth time, the Philippines has secured the top spot in Southeast Asia for budget transparency in the 2019 Open Budget Survey (OBS).
- Up by 29 notches, from 124th to 95th spot, in the 2020 Doing Business Survey, the Philippines climbed 29 notches in the 2020 Doing Business survey.



Source: DBM

JUSTICE SYSTEM



The Department of Justice (DOJ) has institutionalized efficient and impartial justice system:

- Disposition rate of criminal cases filed before prosecutors nationwide increased – From 87.23% in 2016, disposition rate in 2019 is at 90.49%.
- Case backlog decreased From 49.8% in 2016, case backlog rate in 2019 is now at 31.3%
- Conviction rate increased Conviction rate in trial courts in all criminal cases also improved from 20.4% in 2016 to 46.86% in 2019. Moreover, for illegal drug cases, conviction rate also increased from 27.8% in 2016 to 82.96% in 2019.

The occurrence of Index Crimes (which are crimes considered serious in nature and occurring with sufficient frequency and regularity that they are considered index to the crime situation in a given area), namely murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery, theft, carnapping and cattle rustling cases continue to significantly decrease for the period July 2016 to June 2020 under the Duterte Administration. A significant drop in crime index was observed during the community quarantine.



Barangay Drug Clearing Program

18,893 barangays were declared drug-cleared as of 30 June 2020. Out of the 42,045 barangays nationwide, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) in cooperation with other concerned agencies is yet to clear 15,031 drug-affected barangays.



Supply Reduction

From 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2020, the supply reduction of PDEA and other law enforcement agencies resulted in the following:

- 170,449 anti-drug operations conducted
- 247,798 drug personalities arrested
- 802 government workers arrested, including 325 elected officials, 91 uniformed personnel, and 386 government employees
- 3,211 minors rescued
- 15 clandestine laboratories dismantled
- 558 drug dens dismantled
- 753 marijuana plantation cites eradicated which led to uprooting Php6.18 billion worth of marijuana plants and sources
- P52.22 billion worth of dangerous drugs, including 6,881.25 kilos of shabu, 523.11 kilos of cocaine, 51,147 pieces of ecstasy tablet, 3,068.04 kilos of dried marijuana leaves

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS



The DILG reported that 178,353 drug surrenderers nationwide have successfully completed the community-based drug rehabilitation program (CBDRP) in November 2019. CALABARZON tops the list with 38,973 CBDRP graduates from 99 municipalities and 11,870 graduates from 19 cities; followed by Region VII with 22,938 CBDRP graduates from 90 municipalities and 1,633 graduates from 9 cities. On the third rank is Region I with 19,999 CBDRP graduates from 98 municipalities and 3,846 graduates from 8 cities.

V. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DISSEMINATION



President Duterte signed Republic Act No. 10929 creating a free internet access program in all public places in the country in 2017. In 2019, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) simultaneously launched 23 internet sites across 17 regions in the Philippines through the department's Free Wi-Fi for All program. As of 21 November 2019, 3,048 live sites were established with over 5 million users across Metro Manila, 77 provinces and 782 localities.

In 2016, the President likewise signed Executive Order No. 2 operationalizing the freedom of information in the executive branch. To date, there are 31,827 eFOI portal requests filed and 29,490 standard/paper-based requests filed to the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO). There are now 487 government agencies onboard the eFOI portal.





PCOO's People's Television Network (PTV) has three (3) operational digital transmitting stations having Regional News Centers with full transmission, production and post-production capability in the Philippines, namely PTV-4 Manila, PTV-8 Cordillera, and PTV-11 Davao.

The **Mindanao Media Hub** is the state-of-the-art facility constructed in Davao City in May 2020, which will serve as the government's main broadcast hub Mindanao to deliver tailored content specific to its people and to boost the signal in the areas of coverage.

The facility contains television, print, wire, online, and new media services, delivered through four studios--each with its own production control. It is powered by a 10kW terrestrial transmitter and a 1kW digital transmitter that will facilitate broadcast services and has a digital satellite news-gathering system to streamline the sourcing of news.



Sources: DICT, PCOO

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DISSEMINATION



The Office of the Presidential Spokesperson (OPS) under Secretary Harry L Roque, Jr. conducted 45 press briefings in Malacanang from his reappointment in 13 April 2020 to present. He also had 2 press briefings in Davao. The press briefings were held to disseminate updated, factual and accurate information, and deliver the President's pronouncements and directives, as well as answer queries of the Malacanang Press Corps and other media organizations.



In line with the government's efforts to keep the public up-to-date with timely and accurate information especially during calamities and this pandemic, the Office of the Presidential Spokesperson (OPS) held press briefings and spearheaded the strategic COVID-19 communications for the response.

As spokesperson for the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases, the OPS holds press briefings thrice a week to provide the latest information with the inclusion of resource speakers from the different government agencies, local government units and the private sector to share and discuss matters relevant to COVID-19.





Source: OPS

The Department of Finance, as head of the Economic Development Cluster, has been at the forefront of carrying out and supporting strong COVID-19 response measures. The DOF's efforts, among others, include the formulation of the Four-Pillar Strategy Against COVID-19 within three weeks of President Duterte's announcement of quarantine measures to curb the spread of COVID-19.



The four pillars of the strategy, with a combined value of P1.7 trillion or 9.1 percent of GDP, include providing support to vulnerable groups, marshalling the country's medical resources and ensuring the safety of healthcare frontliners, fiscal and monetary actions to finance emergency initiatives and keep the economy afloat, and an economic recovery plan to create jobs and sustain growth under a new normal.

As of 30 June 2020, the DBM has released P374.9 billion to cover response to COVID-19 such as emergency assistance to vulnerable groups and individuals, wage subsidy measures, and assistance to displaced workers, among others.

Of all recipient agencies, the DSWD received the largest share in the amount of P200.98 billion for its Social Amelioration Program, benefitting around 23 million low-income households in the country. Other agencies such as the DOLE and the DA received P12.59 billion and P11.10 billion, respectively, to support their programs for displaced formal and informal workers, OFWs and affected farmers and fisherfolks.

Some P51.0 billion was also provided for the Small Business Wage Subsidy Program which aimed to benefit affected Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) through the DOF.

To support the country's healthcare capacity, the DOH received an allotment of P48.23 billion to fund the agency's immediate and continued COVID-19 response programs as well as for the procurement of test kits and PPEs.

SOCIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM (SAP)

For the first tranche, the DSWD targeted to provide emergency subsidy to 17,946,554 family-beneficiaries amounting to P100,075,607,905.00. As of the first week of July, P99,804,426,350 has been disbursed to 17,651,938 family-beneficiaries.

Second tranche of SAP as of 24 July 2020:



COVID-19 ADJUSTMENT MEASURES PROGRAM (CAMP)

As of 8 July 2020, a total of 657,201 workers/beneficiaries have received financial assistance amounting to P3,286,005,000 which translated to a 100% utilization of the CAMP budgetary allocation.

TUPAD-BARANGAY KO, BAHAY KO PROJECT (TUPAD-BKBK)

A total of 337,198 beneficiaries have completed their work with a total of P1,263,984,262 wages paid as of 12 June 2020.

CAMP ABOT KAMAY ANG PAGTULONG SA OFWS (CAMP-AKAP)

As of 12 July 2020, a total of 198,466 OFWs have received financial assistance through CAMP-AKAP amounting to P2,030,330,000.

SMALL BUSINESS WAGE SUBSIDY (SBWS)

As of 24 June 2020, around P45.6 billion worth of subsidies for two months has been credited directly to the beneficiaries of the SBWS program. For the first tranche, 3.08 million, or 99% of the 3.10 million qualified beneficiaries, have received their cash grants totaling P23.52 billion. A total of 3.05 million, or 98% of qualified beneficiaries, have also received their 2nd tranche of wage subsidies amounting to P22.10 billion.

SUPPORT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

P37.5 billion was released as Bayanihan grants to provinces, cities and municipalities. Of this amount, P7.602 billion were already liquidated by 386 LGUs. Bulk of the liquidated amount (54.24%) went to food assistance and other relief goods for affected households followed by procurement of hospital equipment and supplies (9.63%) and other necessary COVID-19-related programs, projects, activities and expenses (8.00%).

EDUCATION

The DepEd also received P10.91 billion for its Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) program which aims to ensure educational continuity in this time of crisis by adopting multiple learning delivery modes such as distance learning and blended learning, among others, while ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all learners, teachers and personnel.



ASSISTANCE TO LOCALLY STRANDED INDIVIDUALS (LSIs)

To address the needs of LSIs in Metro Manila, the DSWD has provided more than P5 million worth of financial assistance to some 2,242 LSIs during the government's Hatid Tulong Grand Send Off activity on 4-5 July 2020 at the Quirino Grandstand. Hatid Tulong is a transport assistance initiated by different national government agencies to aid LSIs as they return to their respective provinces.

Hatid Tulong Program



Sources: DILG, Presidential Management Staff, DSWD

The National Action Plan Against COVID-19, which was approved by Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), seeks to create a balance between breathing life into the nation's economy and at the same time, protect the health and welfare of Filipinos against the deadly virus. One of the strategic goals of NAP Phase II is keeping the country's fatality rate low, including non-COVID19 cases to ensure that all Filipinos with underlying health conditions are taken care of in public and private health facilities. The second phase of the NAP still puts primacy on beefing up the testing and tracing capacity of the country, as these will be the key in containing the further spread of the virus and mitigating its socio-economic impact on the population.

In order to effectively and efficiently carry out the NAP Phase II's objectives, the IATF designated four anti-COVID czars in charge of testing; tracing; isolation; and treatment.

As of 24 July 2020, the Philippines has 91 laboratories running compared to only one in February. With more testing facilities, steady supply of testing kits and automation of the release of results, the country was able to test over 800,000 individuals as of early July compared to only 17,414 tested in March. By end July 2020, the target is to test one million individuals.

As of 1 July 2020, there are already 3,823 Contact Tracing Teams organized with 52,164 members, of which 25,052 were already trained. The government still needs to hire at least 74,060 contact tracers to meet the target ratio of 1:800. The CTTs have traced and assessed 115,816 close contacts and 135,353 general contacts across the country.

The mega swabbing centers were put up at the Philippine Sports Stadium inside the Philippine Arena (northern sector), the Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay City (southern sector), Enderun Tent in Taguig City (eastern sector), and the Palacio de Manila Tent in Roxas Boulevard (western sector).



Sources: NTF Against COVID-19, DILG, BCDA

In support of the National Action Plan for COVID-19, Task Force Clark Safe Haven (TFCSH) was created to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the Clark Freeport Zone and its environs. The general objective was to provide an alternative shelter and backup quarantine area in Central Luzon ready for use in the event of a drastic increase in the number of COVID-19 positive cases.



Task Force Clark Safe Haven led the establishment of the We Heal As One Centers in Clark, serving key provinces in Central Luzon.

1. The National Government Administrative Center (NGAC) at New Clark City



2. ASEAN Convention Center



3. Athletes' Village



Source: BCDA

As of 25 July 2020, the DFA has facilitated the repatriation of 102,519 Overseas Filipinos since February 2020. 43,893 of them are sea-based OFs and 58,626 are land-based OFs.



As of 22 July 2020, the One-Stop-Shop (OSS) in NAIA terminals 1, 2 and 3 have served a total of 95,631 OFWs, with 51,737 OFWs in Terminal 1, 34,797 in Terminal 2 and 9,097 in Terminal 3. The OSS assisted 15,107 Overseas Filipinos (OFs)/tourists.



Sources: DFA, DOTr



The OSS is a joint initiative of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Office for Transportation Security (OTS), Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA), Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Philippine National Police (PNP), and the Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ) to assist OFWs in identifying possible isolation facilities where they may take their mandatory quarantine until the quarantine certificates are released, to ensure their well-being, and to prevent the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).



WAY FORWARD

COVID-19 remains our biggest challenge. We, however, believe that the economic downturn brought by the pandemic is just a temporary setback. Long-term economic outlook still looks promising. In fact, The Economist ranked the Philippines' financial strength 6th among growing 66 economies. In terms of our credit rating, we were at BBB+ in 2019 — the highest in the country's history. The good news is, even amidst the global health scare, the Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR) upgraded our BBB+ credit rating to A-, citing the Philippines' resilience to COVID-19 and giving the country a stable outlook despite the current health situation.

Let us not put to naught the trust and confidence of the international community. Crucial factors in our economic recovery are addressing the uncertainty during this extraordinary times through information, recuperating the losses experienced during the strictest lockdown by gradually reopening the economy, and preparing for the new normal by ramping up testing, tracing, isolation and treatment while strictly enforcing minimum public health standards and protecting the vulnerable population.

The national government, however, cannot do this alone. Together with the local government units, the private sector, and the general public, let us turn the crisis into an opportunity and march towards recovery with equity and solidarity.

We thank the National Economic and Development Authority, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Finance, Department of Foreign Affairs, Bases Conversion and Development Authority, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Energy, Department of Health, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Tourism, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development, National Housing Authority, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Department of Justice, Department of National Defense, Task Force Bangon Marawi, Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, Film Development Council of the Philippines, Department of Information and Communications Technology, and Presidential Communications Operations Office.



JULY 2020

