



Memorandum of Agreement

Task Force Participatory Local Governance (TF-PLG), Caucus of Development NGOs (CODE-NGO), Transparency and Accountability Network and

The Department of Interior and Local
Government

By Jing Lopez

PhilDHRRA, TF-PLG Convenor

TF-Participatory Governance CSO Members

- Galing Pook Foundation
- La Salle Institute of Governance
- Evelio B. Javier Foundation
- Institute of Politics & Governance
- Policy Forum/PRRM
- Kaisahan
- ALG
- PhilDHRRA
- Code-NGO
- Empowering Civic Participation in Governance



Memorandum of Agreement

This Memorandum of Agreement was entered into on the 18th day of October 2010 in Pasay City, Philippines, by and between:

- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, represented by Secretary JESSE M. ROBREDO, herein referred to as **DILG**;
- TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY NETWORK INC., a coalition of multi-sectoral organizations which seeks to contribute significantly to the reduction of corruption in the Philippines, represented by Executive Director VINCENT LAZATIN, herein referred to as **TAN**;
- CAUCUS OF DEVELOPMENT NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION NETWORKS, a national civil society organization represented by Executive Director SIXTO DONATO MACASAET, herein referred to as **CODE-NGO**;



Memorandum of Agreement

(continued)

AND

•TASK FORCE PARTICIPATORY LOCAL GOVERNANCE (TF-PLG), a coalition of civil society organizations that have long been engaged in the work of promoting people's participation in local governance, represented by the PHILIPPINE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN RURAL AREAS (PHILDHRRA) through its National Coordinator DIVINA LUZ LOPEZ, herein referred to as **TF-PLG**;



DILG

Context of Partnership

- is committed to aggressively scale up interventions in the local government system to elevate the practice of governance that values transparency, accountability, participation and performance into an institutionalized status
- it recognizes the need to tap the active involvement and participation of non-government organizations and the private sector in ensuring the foundation of civic engagement and partnership in the workings of government and of sustainable development;
- the DILG accords premium in collaborative work with civil society organizations and the private sector
 - in process and resources-tracking
 - in performance tracking
 - in development outcome audit in the delivery of social services, public safety, peace and order, economic development and environment management;



Context of Partnership

CSO Networks

- **TAN** advances the norm of comprehensive and multi-sectoral transparency and accountability founded on the prevention and prosecution of corruption, and the promotion of a corruption-intolerant society;
- **CODE-NGO** as a national network of non-governmental organizations, is engaged in local capability- building work, and has taken a civil society lead role in development policy advocacy and partnership-building for reform in the realm of principled governance;
- **PHILDHARRA** represents the **Task Force Participatory Local Governance**, that is committed to fully implement the *Civil Society Agenda for the Next Decade of Local Autonomy* leading to more vigorous and productive participation in governance;



PARTIES INVOLVED COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Pursue effective mobilization of CSOs as strategic partners of the DILG in promoting responsible and accountable governance. For this purpose, all parties agree to mutually direct their collaborative efforts toward:
 - Addressing various policy concerns and issues, including harmonization of laws on local governance and people’s participation, among others;
 - Institutionalization of participatory mechanisms, thereby guaranteeing the inclusive process of enlisting civil society participation especially at the local level;
 - Building and strengthening of capacities of said participatory structures and processes to effectively address community concerns and improve local government performance in service delivery and program implementation; and
 - Providing a regular mechanism for an engaging civil society and local government interaction enabling a sustained and dynamic partnership;



PARTIES INVOLVED COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Jointly organize Local Governance Forum to address PLG-related priority policy issues, such as those policies that continue to obstruct and are contrary to the principles of local autonomy and genuine people's participation;
3. Commit to set up oversight monitoring structures towards the effective compliance and implementation of policies aimed at promoting participation (DILG MC-73, s. 2010);



PARTIES INVOLVED COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Establish a database of CSOs embodying information on the geographic spread, institutional or organizational profile, level of participation, capacities and resources, as basis for the development of a strategic capacity building intervention;
3. Develop a more comprehensive and substantive framework and indicators of people's participation in various Local Specials Bodies for both the LGC-mandated and inspired special bodies (i.e. indicators of LSB functionality to be integrated in subsequent DILG guidelines); and



PARTIES INVOLVED COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Jointly identify capacity building priorities that maybe integrated into the Local Government Academy training programs in support of the development of accountable, transparent and participatory governance.
3. Agree to encourage other civil society organizations who are also engaged in promoting responsible and accountable local governance to become a signatory to this MOA



DILG

Specific Roles of Parties Involved

Issue policies aimed at strengthening the foundation of responsible and accountable governance;

- Mobilize and engage CSOs as partners to promote accountability, performance, transparency and inclusivity in local administration and development, as well as in the internal operations of the DILG;
- Regularize a monthly National Local Governance Forum to address issues that continue to challenge the norms of performance and accountability
- Establish a communication link with TF-PLG through PHILDHARRA and other partners to ensure complementarity of decisions or actions in furtherance of the objectives of the partnerships at the national and local levels; and
- Enjoin DILG Regional Offices to support the aims of the DILG-CSO and DILG-LGU-CSO Partnerships.



Specific Roles of Parties Involved

TAN, CODE-NGO and TF-PLG

- Support the conduct of the Regional Partnership Workshops, especially in mobilizing local CSO counterparts of the TF-PLG members;
- Support the institutionalization of DILG-CSO N/RMMCs, ensuring clear mechanism for feedback and accountability on the part of CSO representatives in these committees;
- Document and popularize research outputs that address key participatory local governance policy issues;
- Assist the DILG in crafting new, or enhancing existing, programs or policies to promote transparency, accountability and performance, as well as in conducting performance tracking and development outcome-audit; and
- Develop and share annotated capacity building knowledge products



Thank you!

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