

PERCEPTION SURVEY OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) ON

GOVERNMENT & CIVIL SOCIETY

2016 EDITION



INTRODUCTION

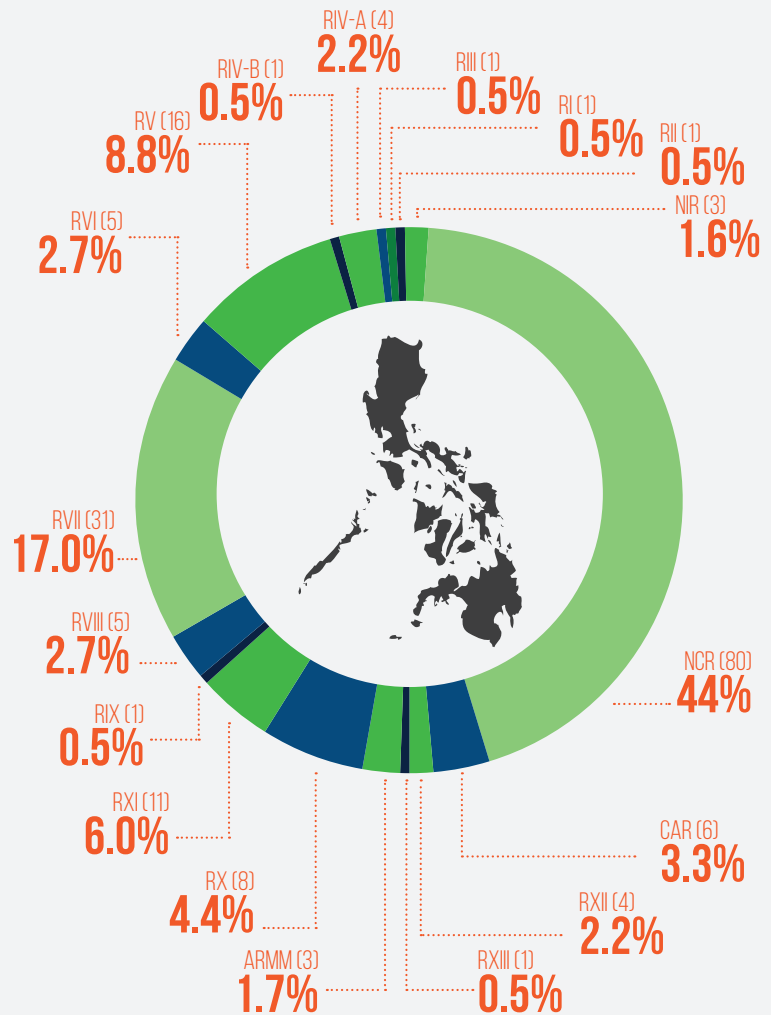
The Perception Survey of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on Government and Civil Society is an annual survey conducted by the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO). It started in 2014 as a means to gauge the satisfaction ratings of civil society leaders across the Philippines on the performance of the government and the CSO sector. It also looks into the trust levels of CSO leaders in different government positions/officials and various types of civil society organizations. Some highlights of the 2016 survey: the satisfaction with the national government dropped to 2.90 from 3.24 in 2015; the highest trust level was given to the Vice-President, while it was the President in 2015; and for both rounds, the most trusted among the institutions are the NGOs while the least trusted are political parties.

SURVEY DURATION & TOOL

The survey was conducted from October 26, 2016 to November 18, 2016. The questionnaire was divided into 6 parts with a total of 51 rating questions. These were encoded to an online survey tool and the Google Forms link (<http://goo.gl/forms/xVOxSbAlbu>) was disseminated to CODE-NGO's members and CSO partners. For those who were not able to respond online, the questionnaire was also printed and distributed during CSO gatherings within the survey period.

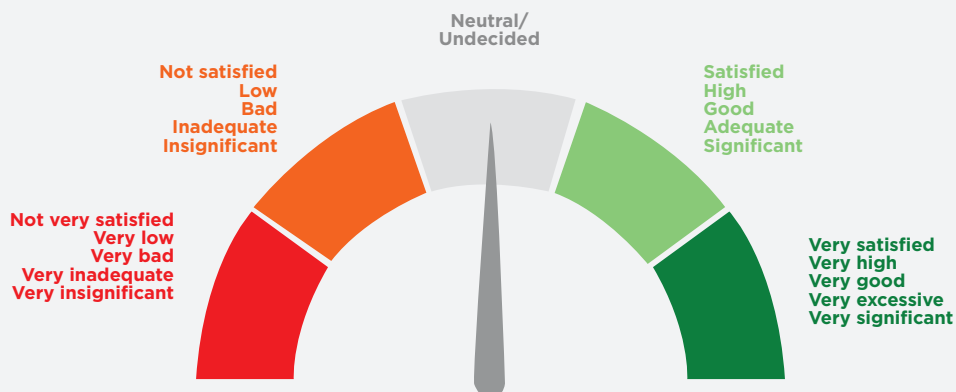
SCOPE & COMPOSITION

Out of the 182 returns, 73% of the respondents were from the member networks and member base organizations of CODE-NGO, while 27% came from CSOs outside of the CODE-NGO network. All 18 regions of the Philippines were represented, with 44% of the respondents coming from the National Capital Region (NCR).



SCALE

A 5-point scale was used to rate the perception questions.

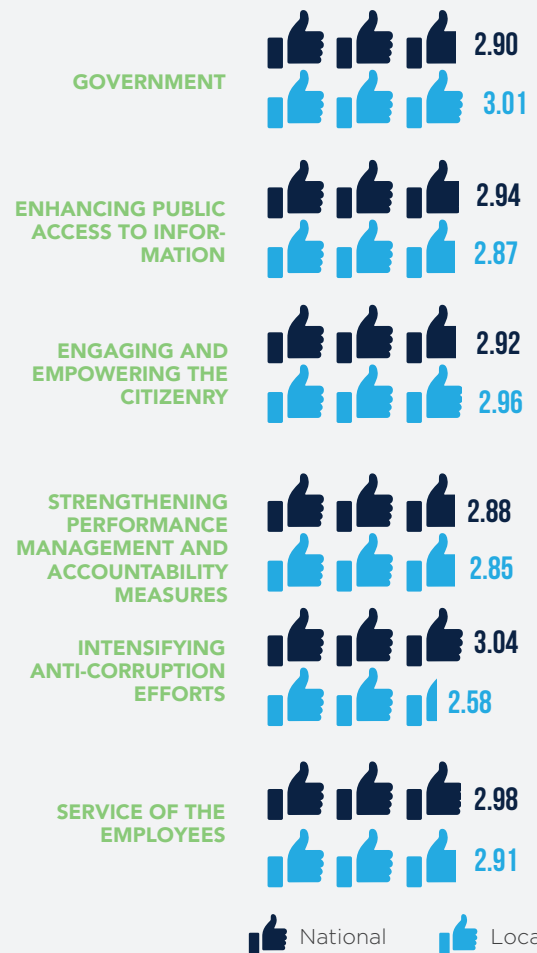


SATISFACTION WITH THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

In general, the respondents gave almost neutral satisfaction rating with the national government with a mean score of 2.90. This is lower than the 2015 satisfaction which was at 3.24. This is also slightly lower compared to the satisfaction with the local governments which was at 3.01 (up from 2.96 in 2015).

Among the identified capabilities of the national government, respondents were most satisfied with Intensifying anti-corruption efforts (3.04) and least satisfied with Strengthening performance management and accountability measures (2.88). With the local governments, the respondents were most satisfied with Engaging and empowering the citizenry (2.96), and was least satisfied with Intensifying anti-corruption efforts (2.58).

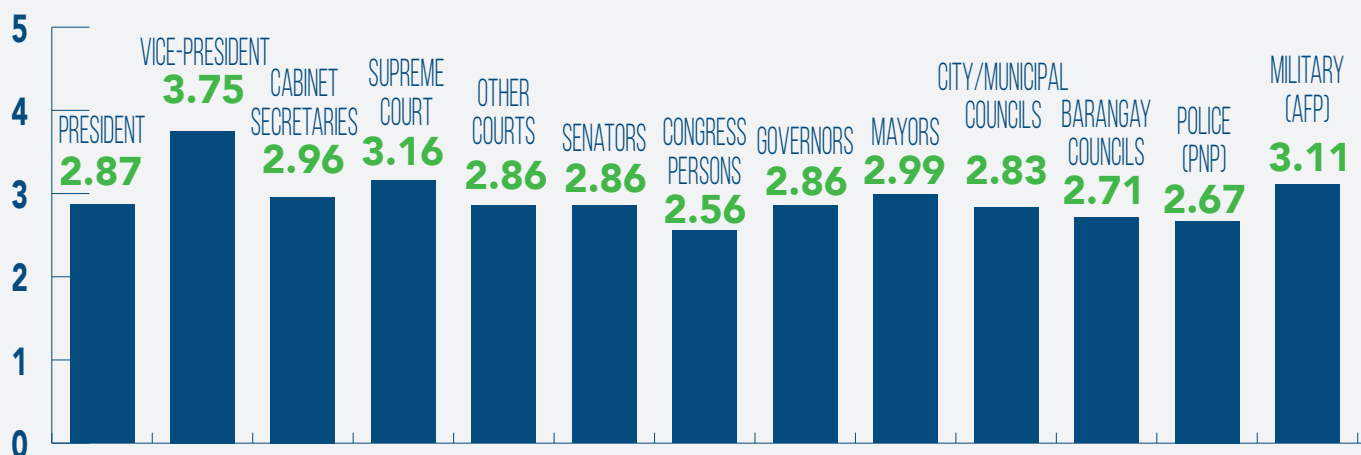
In terms of the identified capabilities of the national and local government in 2015, the respondents were also most satisfied with Engaging and empowering the citizenry (3.15 and 2.89, respectively). The least satisfaction was also with Services of the employees (2.95) for the national government and with Intensifying anti-corruption efforts (2.56) for the local governments.



TRUST LEVEL WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Among the government officials, the trust level was highest for the Vice-President (3.75), while it was lowest for the Congresspersons (2.56).

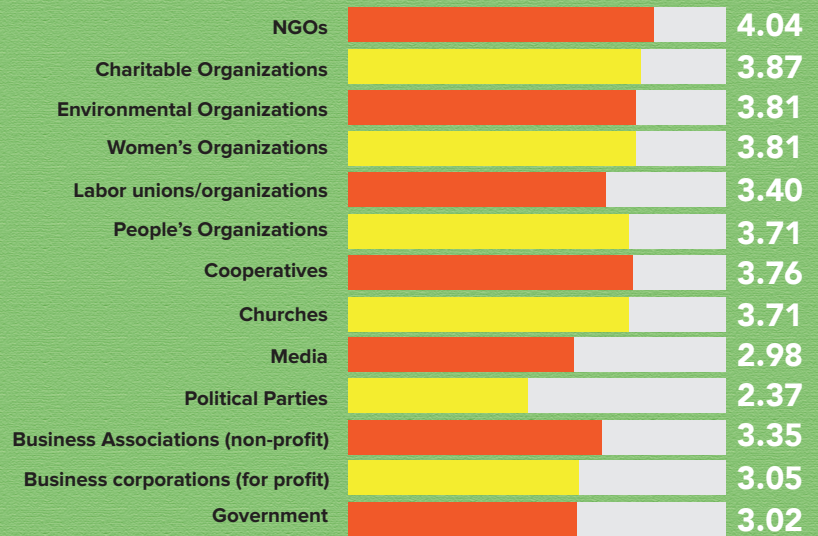
In 2015, the highest trust level was for the President (3.63) and lowest for the Vice-President (2.03).



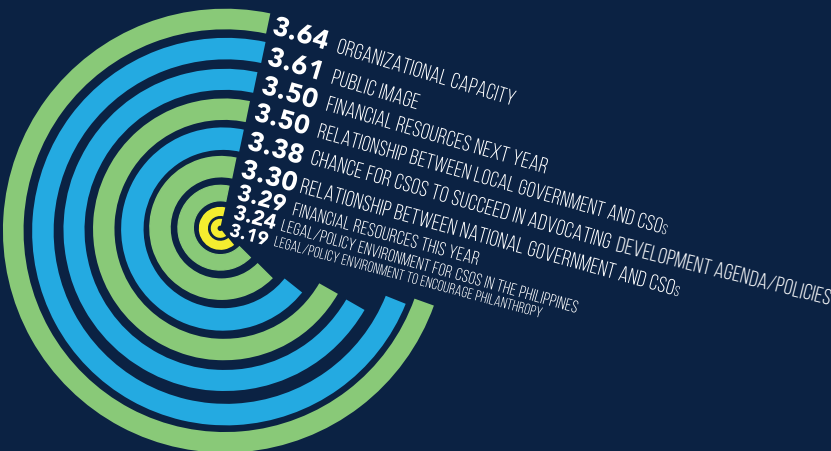
TRUST LEVEL WITH INSTITUTIONS

Among different institutions, the trust level was highest for NGOs (4.04), while it was lowest for political parties (2.37).

In 2015, the highest trust level was also for NGOs (3.99) and lowest for political parties (2.55).



PERCEPTION ON CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs)



Among several dimensions, CSOs' good perception was highest for Organizational capacity (3.64). This may include strong CSOs' constituencies, clearly defined strategic plans and good internal governance/ management structures, adequate human resources practices and office equipment.

On the other hand, the respondents gave low ratings to the legal/ policy environment in general (3.24) and in particular to encourage philanthropy (3.19). The former includes policies/laws on CSO registration, operations, reporting and tax treatment, and government support to CSOs. The latter includes individual and corporate donations to CSOs (that is, NGOs, POs, cooperatives, associations and other non-profit and non-government groups).

GOVERNMENT REGULATION AND OVERSIGHT OF CSOs

The respondents found the government regulation and oversight of CSOs to be in between inadequate and sufficient (2.88).

INFLUENCE OVER THE POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT

For both national (3.37) and local (2.95) governments, the respondents felt that CSOs had less than significant influence over the policies, programs and projects of the government. The same was true in 2015.

ABOUT CODE-NGO

The Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) is the country's largest coalition of civil society organizations (CSOs) working for social development, with its 6 national networks and 6 regional networks representing more than 1,600 development NGOs, people's organizations (POs) and cooperatives nationwide. It is the trusted national voice of CSOs and it exercises transformative leadership.

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