



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



May 24, 2018

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 2018-77

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS, BARANGAY OFFICIALS, DILG REGIONAL and PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS, BUREAU DIRECTORS, AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : GUIDELINES IN THE CONDUCT OF THE BNEO TOWARDS GRASSROOTS RENEWAL AND EMPOWERMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT (GREAT) BARANGAYS PROGRAM

I. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Consistent with its mandate to be the lead government institution in capacity-building for local governments and their officials, this Department, through the Local Government Academy (LGA) has implemented capacity development programs for barangay officials upon their election and assumption to office. With the forthcoming barangay elections scheduled in May 2018, the Department through the LGA is preparing for an updated capacity building program for the incoming barangay officials.

The proposed program, to be known as the BNEO for GREAT Barangays Program is a comprehensive, term-based capacity development program that focuses on barangay officials who will be elected during the May 2018 elections.

The term "newly-elected" refers to those barangay officials elected for the term 2018-2020. This means that the program will cover not only officials elected for the first time, but also those that have been re-elected for either the second or third time.

The BNEO for GREAT Barangays Program is designed to meet the challenge of reinvigorating the political and administrative leadership at the community and barangay level, and to prepare barangays and their officials in actively fulfilling their roles and their relevance to development. The Program takes into account contemporary conditions which impact on barangays role in and contribution to development, namely:

- The important role of barangays in contributing to the achievement of both local and national objectives for development, especially in the light of

Ambisyon Natin 2040 and the most recent Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022.

- An increased emphasis on the role of barangays in the fight against illegal drugs and in the promotion of public safety and societal law and order under the Administration of President Rodrigo Duterte.
- The need to improve barangays' capacity for adaptation to and mitigation of risks brought about by climate change, as barangays are the most directly affected level of local government in terms of climate change and disaster risk.
- The central role of barangays in deepening decentralization and participatory governance, and a renewed emphasis on the importance of barangays in democratic governance at the community level
- The emphasis on improving the quality of performance management at the barangay level, as part of the broader expectations for a more responsive and efficient public sector.
- The continuing challenge of enhancing the managerial and leadership capacities of both new and re-elected barangay officials.
- The challenge of transforming barangays to become GREAT institutions for service delivery and community governance.

II. OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the program are two-fold. Through the term-based capacity development program, it is expected that:

For the Individual Officials

1. Incoming elected barangay officials gain an appreciation of their mandated tasks and responsibilities;
2. Incoming elected barangay officials show improvements in their personal, managerial and leadership skills to perform their mandated tasks and responsibilities and manifest the tenets of good local governance.

For the barangay

1. The barangay government shows measurable positive performance towards good governance
2. The barangay government demonstrates and contributes to the desired public administration values such as transparency, accountability, integrity and citizen participation.

III. UNDERLYING PROGRAM VALUES

The basic values that underlie the Program are *performance orientation, resilience, transparency, accountability, integrity and participation*. The Program seeks to contribute to a transformational process, through which barangays become more performance-oriented and resilient in the face of natural and human induced risks. Barangay officials are expected to show integrity, and demonstrate transparent and accountable actions and decisions. Barangay officials are also envisioned to foster a more participatory process of governance in their barangays, by engaging with non-government actors in their communities, and identifying ways and means by which the skills, competencies, and resources of these non-government actors could be harnessed to foster more effective and responsive barangay governance.

IV. COMPONENTS

Component A: Ensuring Smooth Transition

This component prepares the barangay officials in assuming their positions after their elections. It aims to promote transparency and accountability right at the start of their terms, through a smooth turnover of barangay documents, properties, and accountabilities. This component will be guided by existing and updated guidelines on turnover of public documents, properties and accountabilities in public organizations. The component will also emphasize the responsibility and burden of barangay officials to maintain proper documentation, keep forms required by the government, and safeguard barangay properties and assets purchased out of public funds throughout their terms. DILG field offices are expected to assist the municipal/city governments as members of the City/Municipal Audit and Transition Teams, based on DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2018-12 in ensuring the proper and smooth transition of power and authority from the old to the new barangay officials based on recent guidelines issued by the DILG through DILG MC No. 2018-12. To this end, barangay officials will be provided with the details of the memorandum circular for their compliance.

Component B: Jumpstarting Local Governance

Two sub-components make up Component B.

Sub-component B.1 deals with *Laying the Foundation for GREAT barangays*, and focuses on the critical actions to be done by the punong barangay and his officials on their first one hundred days in office.

The main output expected under this component is a completed Barangay Agenda for Governance and Development (BAGAD) which would serve as the initial action plan of the barangay officials (both the punong barangay and the members of the council) for the first 100 days in office, and an input to the crafting of the Barangay Development Plan for the next three years. The BAGAD also reflect the governance platform and promises made by

these officials during the election. It is highly recommended that as part of the BAGAD, the barangay officials include the revision and adoption of the Internal Rules of Procedure that would govern the actions and decisions of the Sangguniang Barangay.

Sub-component B.2 covers the *Planning and Preparation of the Barangay Development Plan and the Barangay Capacity Development Agenda*.

This sub-component introduces participants to the process of Barangay Development Planning (BDP) and the Barangay Capacity Development Agenda. The sub-component will emphasize the importance of the BDP as the basis for barangay budgeting.

As the barangay development plans are expected to serve as inputs to the overall municipal/city development plans, municipal and city LGUs are expected to be actively involved in the process for the crafting of the barangay plans. The process will emphasize community engagement and participation.

The Barangay Capacity Development Agenda will identify the capacity-building needs of the elected and appointed barangay officials, given the requirements of the Barangay Development Plan and the development vision of the barangay. A guide to CapDev Agenda preparation shall be made available through the DILG regional and field offices.

The Capacity Development Agenda will also serve as input to the selection and participation of barangay officials in the deepening courses under Component C of the Program.

The outputs for this sub-component are the Barangay Development Plan and the Capacity Development Agenda for same term.

Component C: Sharpening the Saw

This component is the “deepening” component of the Program. It is a flexible and demand-driven component, in which barangay officials are enabled to select and deepen their knowledge and skills on barangay governance, based on their identification of their competency needs, and guided by the Capacity Development Agenda that was crafted in Component B.

Initially, courses to be offered under this Component shall focus on the four (4) broad outcome expectations for local governments, namely: **B**usiness-friendly and competitive LGUs, **E**nvironment-protective and disaster-resilient LGUs; **S**ocially-protective and safe LGUs; and **T**ransparent, accountable, participative and effective LGUs.

Component D: Looking Forward to Better Governance through Citizenship Building

This component focuses on the process of engaging with the citizens and members of the community. The aim of this sub-component is to identify and establish participatory mechanisms and structures at the barangay level. In particular, this sub-component will look at strengthening the operational effectiveness of barangay-based institutions (BBIs). The component will also seek to promote volunteerism, deliberation and partnerships between the barangay government and citizens groups and people's/civil society organizations.

Component E: Enhancing Barangay Performance

This component focuses on the institutionalization of a performance measurement and awards system for barangays. The aim of this component is to link the performance of barangays and their officials to a system of recognition and incentives for good governance.

This component will be operationalized mainly through the Barangay Seal of Good Local Governance (BSGLG), which will be rolled out as a national program by the National Barangay Operations Office (NBOO) of the DILG. NBOO will also scan and inventory existing awards and incentives programs that might be tailored and adapted for barangays, and promote these programs also among barangays.

This component will also aim to recognize and identify cases of good barangay governance that could be documented for possible replication. Barangay officials who have participated in the BNEO for GREAT Barangays Program will be assisted in measuring their performance against the set indicators of BSGLG.

V. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The expected participants in each Component are as follows:

Component A: All *barangay* officials (Punong Barangay, Kagawads and SK Chairman)

Component B: All *barangay* officials including the members of the Barangay Based Institutions (BBIs)

Component C: All *Barangay* Officials, BBIs and other organizations

Component D: All qualified *barangay* officials

VI. Implementing Strategy

The Department through the LGA, the NBOO the DILG Regional and Field Offices and the City/Municipal Governments shall implement this program. It shall be implemented in partnership with the Liga ng mga Barangay (LnB), Local Resource

Institutions and select National Government Agencies. It shall also coordinate with other training and resource institutions for better facilitation of the conduct of the training at the local level.

Moreover, consistent with the austerity thrusts of President Rodrigo R. Duterte, the program shall be conducted **strictly on site** (within the city/municipality however, in the event that there are no training facilities in the municipality, it can be conducted within the province or within the region) to ensure judicious use of local government resources.

The DILG through the Local Governance Regional Resource Centers (LGRRCs) will conduct a mapping of capacity development programs (both the supply and demands) for barangays and will coordinate with Local Resource Institutions (LRIs) and other stakeholders for the development of CapDev programs not present in the area. Likewise, participation of barangay officials to training and other capacity building activities shall be based solely on their Capacity Development (CapDev) Agenda.

The program components will employ various learning methodologies- Face-to-Face, Webinar, and On-site Coaching and Mentoring depending on the preference and circumstance of the barangays. In Face-to-face/classroom type, the DILG field officers shall be organized to serve as coaches. For webinar, a seminar on the web shall be organized by the Local Government Academy thru the Local Governance Regional Resource Centers (LGRRCs).

VII. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

A. DILG Central Offices

1. Issue the legal authorization for the BNEO for GREAT Barangays Program through a Memorandum Circular and other implementing guidelines
2. Provide technical inputs and assistance in the design, preparation and conduct of the different activities under the Program
3. Identify existing awards and incentives programs applicable to barangays
4. Develop Capacity Development courses and related knowledge products relevant to the Program
5. Market the Program to barangay officials and critical stakeholders
6. Whenever necessary, provide counterpart funding for the implementation of the Program
7. Establish a Barangay SGLG system for application on a nationwide basis (develop criteria for application, nomination, screening and selection of awardees)
8. Whenever necessary, provide resource person/s in support of activities related to the various Components of the Program, such as during the conduct of capacity development courses
9. Monitor compliance to issuances related to the implementation of the Program

B. DILG Regional and Field Offices

1. Provide inputs in the design and preparation of the Program
2. Manage the implementation of the program components in accordance with the approved guidelines.
3. Provide counterpart funding for the implementation of the program
4. Inventory of existing capacity development programs under the four DILG outcome areas which could be made available for barangays during Component C.
5. Through the LGRRCs, Consolidate CapDev requirements (both on the supply and demand sides) of barangays as basis for the CapDev offerings
6. Market the program to LGUs and other stakeholders
7. Forge partnership with the Liga ng Barangay, city and municipal governments and other organizations for program implementation.
8. Through the Local Government Resource Centers (LGRCs) at the regional and sub-regional levels, convene the Multi-Sectoral Advisory Committee (MSAC) at the regional and sub-regional levels to harmonize activities, schedule and targets that are relevant to the Program.
9. Assist the city and municipal governments in the management and administration of the Program
10. Provide necessary expertise during the conduct of the various components of the program
11. Monitor implementation of the Program
12. Submit regular (monthly and Quarterly) reports to the Secretary through the Local Government Academy

C. Local Government of the Academy

1. Spearhead the design and preparation of the Program
2. Draft appropriate issuances and circulars on Program implementation in collaboration with other DILG Central Offices
3. Develop/update training materials and other knowledge products
4. Orient training implementers/program officers on the Program in collaboration with other DILG Central Offices
5. Develop pool of trainers through the conduct of related Training of Trainers
6. Provide counterpart funds for the Program
7. Monitor Program implementation
8. Prepare national report to the Secretary based on reports submitted by the DILG Regional/Field Offices

D. LOCAL RESOURCE INSTITUTIONS

- Provide assistance in the development and delivery of CapDev Programs that will address the capacity development needs of the LGUs as reflected in the Capacity Development (CapDev) Agenda of the LGU
- Provide relevant knowledge products

E. Liga ng mga Barangay

1. Provide inputs to the design of the Program; and
2. LnB Chapters to assist in managing the implementation of the program

F. Local Government Units (City/Municipal)

1. Market the Program to barangay officials;
2. Create the City/Municipal Audit and Inventory Team to effect the smooth transition at the barangay level
3. Take the lead in organizing the barangays for barangay development planning and CapDev Agenda formulation and the implementation of the Smooth Transition and the conduct of the Laying the Foundation
4. Provide counterpart funding for the overall implementation of the Program
5. Ensure participation of barangay officials and functionaries in various components of the Program

D. National Government Agencies

1. Provide relevant knowledge products and resource persons to the various components of the Program;
2. Develop relevant modules for barangays in coordination with the DILG Regional and Provincial Offices; and
3. Assist in marketing the Program to barangay officials.

VIII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

As defined in these Guidelines, all relevant stakeholders are expected in their individual and institutional capacities to:

1. Provide constant feedback on the progress of Program implementation and the extent it is achieving its goal; and
2. Monitor implementation of the program components and provide corrective measures.

All Concerned are enjoined to observe strict compliance to this circular and shall take effect immediately.


UNDERSECRETARY EDUARDO M. AÑO
OIC-Secretary



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