Qualified government workers have received their FY 2018 Mid-Year Bonus, which is equivalent to one month basic salary, starting May 15. Said Bonus is granted subject to certain conditions such as: (a) personnel has rendered at least a total or an aggregate of four months of service from July 1, 2017 to May 15, 2018, and (b) personnel remains to be in the government service as of May 15, 2018, among others.

The DBM has approved the creation of 75,242 teaching positions for kindergarten/elementary, junior high (JH), and senior high (SH) schools for SY 2018-2019 to address the inadequate number of teaching personnel in public schools nationwide. The funding requirements to cover salaries and other forms of compensation for the new positions will be charged against the FY 2018 Built-in Appropriations (New School Personnel Positions) of the Department of Education.

The DBM conducted technical workshops that engaged mayors, engineers, architects, and planners on the best practices in public open space design pursuant to the launching of the Green, Green, Green Project in 2017. There are now 100 cities processing their project proposals to make their communities more livable, sustainable, and well-connected through the development or enhancement of public open spaces such as parks, waterfronts, plazas, esplanades, arboretum, botanical gardens, bike lanes, walkways, and other green infrastructure.

With this initiative, over 50 million Filipinos living in the country’s cities can look forward to a healthier, more pleasant, and more relaxing life. The Green, Green, Green Project, a parallel endeavor to the Build, Build, Build Program, is funded under the Local Government Support Fund - Assistance to Cities (LGSF-AC).
To date, the Government Procurement Policy Board-Technical Support Office (GPPB-TSO) maintains partnership with 10 SUCs to institutionalize its Professionalization Program for Public Procurement Practitioners. Said Program aims to further enhance the capacities of public procurement practitioners through the offering of the Public Procurement Specialist Certification Course.

Ten MOAs on Professionalization Program Inked

In line with the President’s directive to all agency heads to streamline the operations of their respective agencies to improve public service delivery, the DBM has prepared a draft Administration Bill that will implement a National Rightsizing Program. Said Bill was endorsed to both Houses of Congress in 2016. House Bill No. 5705 was approved on third and final reading on July 26, 2017. Meanwhile, the Senate will resume the period of interpellation for Senate Bill No. 1395 in July 2018.

DBM Pushes National Government Rightsizing Program

To monitor the status and speed of implementation of government programs and projects, the DBM, together with the Department of Science and Technology, launched the Project DIME (Digital Imaging for Monitoring and Evaluation) in March 2018. Since its launch, the following activities have been undertaken:

- Consultation meetings with implementing agencies of 15 selected programs and projects, including the Boracay and Marawi Rehabilitation Projects;
- Creation of a Project DIME Portal, to be launched once the configuration and updates are finalized; and
- Hiring of the Project DIME Team to analyze and evaluate the Digital Data and Imaging Technology.

Initial Steps Undertaken to Implement Project DIME

On May 2, 2018, the DBM forged a partnership with Philippines Air Asia, Inc., its third institutional partner, for the Government Fares Agreement (GFA), enabling the cheaper and more efficient procurement of air transport tickets for the official trips of government employees. The government also forged partnerships with Cebu Pacific and Philippine Airlines in 2016.

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The DBM, together with the Bureau of the Treasury, is partnering with state universities and colleges (SUCs) in implementing the Public Financial Management Competency Program (PFMCP) to make the Program more accessible to PFM practitioners nationwide. In May of this year, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was forged with the University of the Philippines-National College of Public Administration and Governance as the 1st academic partner. Two more MOAs are expected to be signed before the end of June with the Mariano Marcos State University and Bicol University.

PFM Competency Program Expands to SUCs

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Partnership with AirAsia Forged

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