

January - March 2019



# The DBM Bulletin

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Budget and Management



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# IN THE LEAD

BY: EMIL JOHN T. MANGUERRA AND CRISPIN MAHRION B. ABACAN

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) takes pride in the improved delivery of government services with a number of reforms that it has implemented over the past years. These reforms, however, would not take place without its strong leaders who steered toward their realization.

Former DBM Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno, who now takes the helm of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, introduced unprecedented developments in the country's budgeting system. The continuity of reforms remains on track with the appointment of an equally competent public servant, Undersecretary Janet B. Abuel, as Officer-in-Charge of the Department.

## BENJAMIN E. DIOKNO

When Secretary Diokno was appointed DBM Secretary in 2016, he pursued an expansionary fiscal policy aimed at investing heavily in public infrastructure and human capital development. For the first time in history, the government spent an equivalent of more than 5% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP) in public infrastructures.

The perennial budgeting problem on underspending was put to an end. In 2014 and 2015, underspending was as high as 13.3% and 12.8%, respectively, amounting to a total of PhP631 billion. This situation raised concerns on the slow delivery of government programs and projects, as well as the poor absorptive capacity of implementing agencies.

In the years 2016 and 2017, under Secretary Diokno's term, government underspending went down to just 3.6% and 2.9%, respectively. In 2018, 12 years of underspending was reversed as actual expenditures exceeded the program by 1%.

On transparency and accountability, the Philippines gained international recognition under his watch as it ranked 1st in Asia and 17th in the world in the 2017 Open Budget Survey.

Secretary Diokno strongly championed the sustainability of Open Government Partnership in the Philippines. As Chairperson of the PH-OGP Steering Committee, he pushed the OGP as a genuine platform for convergence and constructive engagement between and among government and non-government sectors.



The DBM received the Department Champion Award for the FOI program for its outstanding commitment in ensuring transparency in the public service in 2017.

The following year, the PH-OGP was awarded a Plaque of Appreciation for its efforts and accomplishments in supporting the Freedom of Information Program.

Secretary Diokno also pushed for an ambitious budget reform agenda amidst political resistance. Under his guidance, the Executive Branch was able to submit the proposed national budget – the first Annual Cash Budget – on the day of the President's State of the Nation Address, 30 days ahead of the Constitutionally mandated deadline.

He championed the shift towards cash budgeting to ensure the prompt delivery of public services and completion of projects on time.

## JANET B. ABUEL

Secretary Diokno may have left big shoes to fill given the reforms he has initiated, but the DBM is still in good hands with its interim leader, Undersecretary Abuel. The latter was designated by President Rodrigo R. Duterte as Officer-in-Charge of the DBM effective March 2019.

She never expected the task of leading the Budget Department. For her, Sec. Diokno is a tough act to follow. Nonetheless, she was humbled to be entrusted by President Duterte and the former Secretary with the responsibility of being the "tita" of the DBM, while awaiting the mother or father who will be chosen to lead the DBM for good.

***"In my decades of service in the DBM, I have learned the values of integrity, competence, and diligence – values that I share with the rest of the family."***

Being in the DBM for more than two decades, Usec. Abuel is a force to reckon with. She rose from the ranks, starting her career as a Budget Analyst in 1996 in the DBM Regional Office in Baguio City, her hometown. On top of her achievements is being a Bar topnotcher in 1998. In 1999, she was a recipient of the DBM Sariling Sikap Awards, and one of the Ten Outstanding Citizens of Baguio City.

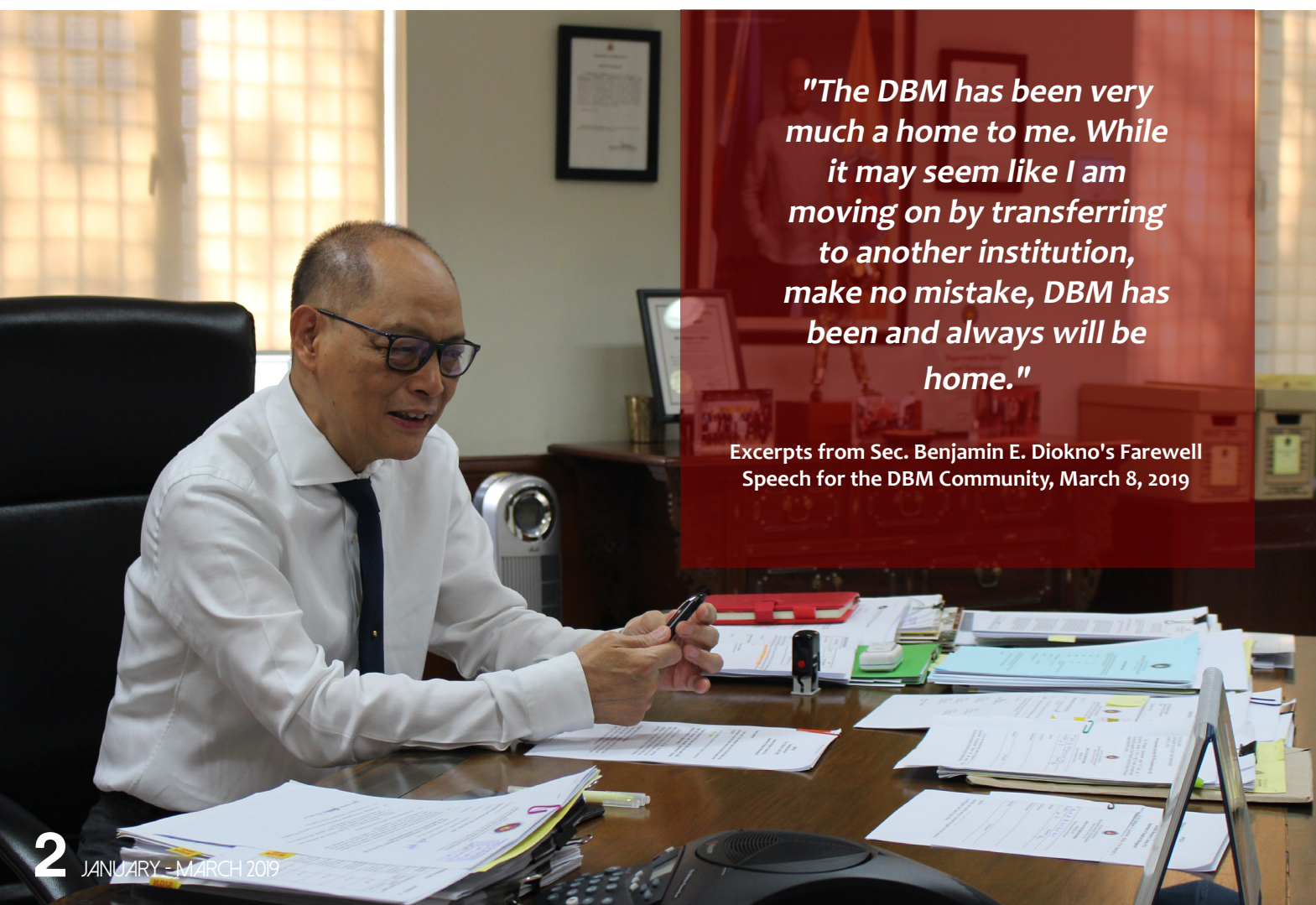
Given her years of service in the government, various recognitions, and numerous trainings, the reforms introduced by the DBM will not be put to waste as she commits to build on the gains of the Department through various administrations.

More than anything else, she remains optimistic to weather the challenges at work with the help of the DBM community.

"It is truly comforting that we have our competent senior officials to guide and steer us. Of course, nothing beats the caliber of the DBM family," the young DBM Chief said.

As the new caretaker of the DBM, Usec. Abuel vows to do the best that she can to balance duty and impartiality as the DBM's OIC.

"Rest assured that we will keep working tirelessly to continue performing our mandate efficiently, and pursue the reforms we have set in motion," she said. ■



***"The DBM has been very much a home to me. While it may seem like I am moving on by transferring to another institution, make no mistake, DBM has been and always will be home."***

Excerpts from Sec. Benjamin E. Diokno's Farewell Speech for the DBM Community, March 8, 2019



# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

## DBM RO V INSTITUTIONALIZES REFORMS AND INITIATIVES

To highlight achievements and recognize areas for improvement, the Department of Budget and Management Regional Office (DBM RO) V conducted a year-end assessment for its staff, during which they agreed to implement the following reforms and initiatives in the Regional Office in 2019:

### DBM MARCH

The DBM RO V has institutionalized the singing of the DBM March as part of its weekly flag raising ceremony. The DBM March is an affirmation of the Department's mandate to promote the sound, efficient, and effective management and utilization of government resources. It instills a feeling of pride and conveys a sense of commitment among the employees of the Department. Originally titled "DBM RO March," the hymn was penned by the former Director of the Training and Information Service (now Budget Information and Training Service), Fe Versoza-Ico, and DBM RO V Supervising Budget and Management Specialist Marissa Punzal. The lyrics were then reworked by Ms. Punzal and the title was changed to DBM March. It was sung by select DBM RO V personnel and was produced by Director Renato De Vera.

The DBM March was presented to the DBM Community during the 2019 Budget Forum as the Regional Office's gift to the Department for its upcoming 83rd anniversary.



### FITNESS FRIDAY

One of the novel initiatives of the DBM RO V is its "Fitness Friday" Program, a one-hour exercise activity conducted weekly to help employees prioritize health and wellness and stay fit at work. Through this on-site Fitness Program, employees are able to fit an exercise break into their busy

schedules while reaping the other benefits of participating in a group fitness program, such as improved employee morale.

Zumba is a high-energy fitness program that mixes aerobics with dance, making the activity a fun way for the employees to get together, get in shape, and get into the rhythm. The upbeat and energetic atmosphere of a Zumba session facilitates opportunities for team bonding amidst cramped hands, tired eyes, and sore backs, which often go hand in hand with long hours at the desk, especially during budget preparation.



### SHUTTLE SERVICE

In order to help the weekday commute of its employees, the DBM RO V now offers a regular shuttle service for the convenience of its employees. The shuttle departs the office at 5:30 every afternoon and drops its passengers at select strategic drop-off points around Legazpi City proper, which is five kilometers away from the Regional Office. The shuttle service hopes to foster employee productivity as it encourages employees to finish their work on time in order to be able to join the shuttle service. In the long term, the shuttle service is also seen to reduce stress-induced health issues associated with commuting, especially during rush hours. The service also aims to eliminate or reduce the hazards of walking and waiting for rides as employees are dropped off at transport terminals and in safe and strategic locations. ■

(Contributed by Alessandra B. Apuya, Budget and Management Analyst, DBM RO V)



## DBM RO XIII LAUNCHES PROJECT S.O.A.R.

The DBM RO XIII conducted a three-day seminar-workshop last February 11-13, 2019 at the DBM RO XIII Conference Room to launch Project S.O.A.R. (Strengthening Operating Units through Accurate Reporting). It was participated in by the technical staff of the Region, including Regional Director Gary R. Martel and OIC-Assistant Regional Director Jenneth C. Partosa.

Said event paved the way for the discussion of the budget process and the Unified Accounts Code Structure (UACS), while the workshop tackled the evaluation and analysis of various source documents necessary for the preparation of reports.



For the past years, it has been observed that agencies have difficulty submitting accurate and complete reports on time. Project S.O.A.R. aims to address the problem by enhancing the knowledge of the technical and finance staff of government agencies on the application of UACS, and the various guidelines governing the preparation of reports. It also aims to equip them in the proper preparation, evaluation, and encoding of reports (e.g., Budget Execution Documents, Budget Accountability Reports, and Financial Accountability Reports) in the Unified Reporting System (URS).



The Project will involve the participation of the staff concerned of the Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Health (DOH) and its retained hospitals, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and its administered schools, State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and Commission on Higher Education (CHED). These include Planning Officers, Accountants, Budget Officers, Cashiers/Disbursing Officers, and Bookkeepers.

As part of the Department's efforts to cascade this initiative, Project S.O.A.R. was presented to DepEd, SUCs, TESDA and DOH during the FY 2019 First Quarter Full-Time Delivery Unit Meeting last February 28, March 7, 13, and 19, 2019, respectively. To further cascade the Project, it will be presented to DPWH in the second quarter of this year.



According to Dir. Martel, learning is a continuous process. With this, he hopes that Project S.O.A.R. will greatly help the agencies in ensuring the accuracy of their reports, as well as in observing the timely submission of the same to the DBM. ■

(Contributed by: Elvin D. Chatto and Eva Jane R. Lagat, DBM RO XIII)



# REFORMS ON TRACK

By: Crispin Mahrion B. Abacan and Paola M. Morales

The DBM, in collaboration with other public institutions, has introduced a number of reforms aimed at improving the quality of government services. To start the year on a strong footing, here are the updates on the reforms for the first quarter.



## BUDGET AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- ✓ A common, modern, integrated, accurate, reliable, and secure information system for the public financial management operations of the government

The DBM issued DBM Circular Letter No. 2019-4 which prescribes the guidelines on the adoption and use of the BTMS for budget utilization. Said CL also provided the standard workflow and signing authorities for BTMS users, ensuring proper segregation of duties and enforcement of budget execution controls.

The DBM officially launched the BTMS on January 16, 2019 at the Diamond Hotel, Manila. Media partners and invited national government agencies were among those who graced the event.



## PROJECT DIME

- ✓ A technology-driven mechanism to monitor selected high-value government projects through the use of various Digital Data Imaging Technologies (DDITs)

The Technical Review Unit of Project DIME is currently drafting the new list of agency projects to be covered for 2019. As of date, 12 agency projects are being monitored under Project DIME.

Currently, Project DIME is utilizing the Digital Globe (thru Google Earth) and Planet Dove (through DOST's subscription) to get Satellite Imageries which are the main outputs of the Digital Data for Imaging Technology (DDIT).

On March 6, 2019, Project DIME was awarded by the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission for promoting transparency and accountability in the government.



## PASIG RIVER FERRY CONVERGENCE PROGRAM

- ✓ A multi-sectoral program that aims to re-establish the Pasig River Ferry Service for commuter transport, disaster response, and tourism

On January 23-26 2019, a Best Practices Study Tour was conducted in Bangkok, Thailand as part of the ongoing preparation of a Feasibility Study. The tour aimed to further enhance the knowledge of government agencies in ferry system development.

On January 31, 2019, the 7th Pasig River Ferry Convergence Program (PRFCP)-Technical Working Group Meeting was held at the DBM to present updates on the Study Tour, major findings from the ongoing study, and responses to comments provided by the TWG on the draft final report.

The Conceptual and Detailed Engineering Design, and Program of Works for the second batch of interim ferry stations under the PRFCP has already been completed by the DPWH Cadet Engineers last January 31, 2019 and has been submitted by the DBM to the MMDA on February 12, 2019.



## GREEN, GREEN, GREEN PROGRAM

- ✓ A nationwide intervention that will involve the construction of parks, plazas, and waterfronts, and the improvement of streetscape by adding trees, seating areas, protected bike lanes, jogging paths, solar lights, and eco-friendly street furniture

As of March 29, 2019, an amount of PhP1.2 billion has been released for 68 recipient cities

Each of these public open spaces in the 68 cities is expected to benefit an average of 25,000 individuals residing within a 10-minute walk from the site, aside from the estimated 66,000 daily visitors.

In the 68 cities which have already received their funding, more than 628,000 sqm of new public open space will be built; more than 327,000 sqm of existing public open space will be rehabilitated; and more than 263,000 sqm will be added to existing developments under the Program.

The Technical Review Unit (TRU) is currently drafting the Local Budget Circular (LBC) on the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Local Government Support Fund-Assistance to Cities in the FY 2019 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

On February 7, 2019, a round table discussion was conducted to gather inputs from experts and other stakeholders. Said inputs will be used to enhance the draft Circular.



## OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

- ✓ A multilateral effort that brings together government reformers and civil society leaders to create action plans that aim to make governments more inclusive, responsive, and accountable

Last February 18-22, 2019, the DBM hosted the International Open Government Partnership (OGP) country visit in the Philippines, where the Philippines' status as a regional leader in the Asia-Pacific Region was affirmed.

Secretary Diokno updated the International OGP Support Team on the progress of the Philippines' National Action Plan (NAP) for 2019-2021 which will be the first action plan to have proposed commitments from non-government organizations at the beginning of the process.

The PH-OGP Non-Government Secretariat presented the OGP Citizens Agenda during the PH-OGP Steering Committee Meeting last February 19, 2019. This contains proposals from non-government sectors that have been endorsed to different agencies concerned for consideration or adoption.

In celebration of the Global Open Government Week, the DBM conducted the "From Potential to Concrete Transformative Impact: a PH-OGP Orientation and Co-Creation Workshop" last March 15, 2019. The event convened different OGP agencies for the co-creation dialogue of the PH-OGP National Action Plan 2019-2021, and served as the venue for the launching of the revamped PH-OGP website.



## DBM JOINS DISCUSSION ON WORLD BANK REPORT

Representatives from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) attended the World Bank (WB) discussion on the WB East Asia and Pacific Regional Report held at One Global Place, Taguig City last January 29, 2019.

The DBM representatives were Mary Joy O. De Leon and Fides B. Basco, both OIC-Chief Budget and Management Specialists (CBMS) from the Fiscal Planning and Reforms Bureau (FPRB), and CBMS Marlyn A. De Guzman and Budget and Management Specialist I Melanie A. Quilantang of the Systems and Productivity Improvement Bureau (SPIB).

The Report titled, “A Resurgent East Asia Navigating a Changing World,” and authored by WB East Asia and Pacific Lead Economist Andrew Mason and Chief Economist Sudhir Shetty, presents analyses of issues relevant to the East Asia Region with the aim of aiding policy makers in addressing Regional challenges effectively in the coming decade, as well as sustaining the Region’s remarkable development performance.



The “East Asian Development Model” is a combination of policies anchored on “growth with equity,” consisting of three pillars: 1) outward orientation (recognizing that labor is the most abundant asset); 2) investment in basic human capital (providing basic services like education, health and nutrition, and family planning to raise labor productivity); and 3) sound economic governance.

According to the World Bank, the Model has been instrumental in moving hundreds of millions of people out of poverty and into economic security. It has also resulted in sustained productivity, growth, inclusion, and effective economic governance across the Region.

Furthermore, the study highlights policy reforms under five pillars: boosting economic competitiveness, building skills, promoting inclusion, strengthening state institutions, and financing the transition to high income. Policy makers in the Region will need to address both familiar and novel challenges. Among others, these will include focusing on both emerging policy priorities and reforms that require special emphasis, as countries transition to high income status.



The Discussion Panelists – Assistant Secretary Carlos Abad Santos of the National Economic and Development Authority and Executive Director Reynaldo Laguda of the Philippine Business for Social Progress, identified gaps in the Philippine context where the Report would be useful in addressing such issues, specifically in the following pending Congressional bills: Philippine Innovation Act, Security of Tenure Act, and Revised Foreign Investments Act of 1991. ■



**CONTRIBUTED BY:**  
Marlyn A. De Guzman  
Systems and Productivity Improvement Bureau

**PHOTOS FROM:**  
World Bank

## Finding your own harmony

# MASTERING THE ART OF WORK- LIFE - STUDY BALANCE

BY: REY ANGELO JOSE GONZAGA

Achieving a comfortable and productive work-life balance remains to be one of the most significant aspects of a healthy lifestyle – especially in contemporary times when everything is fast-paced. As we grow even more connected through technology, drawing a line between work and our personal lives can prove to be more and more difficult. But what happens when we add the pursuit of a post-graduate study to the list?

In order to master the art of work-life-study balance, one must find his or her own kind of rhythm and harmony. Juggling the demands of work, life, and study will always be an ongoing challenge – but setting limits, looking after oneself, and finding ways to restore or maintain harmony will help one achieve the elusive balance that is sought. The art of work-life-study balance comes from understanding and adapting situations to one's distinct needs and demands.

Let's meet two DBM employees who have found their own harmony in the art of work-life-study balance.

### MA. CHARLENE CADIZ • ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER II • AS



At the young age of 23, Ma. Charlene Cadiz already has a Bachelor's Degree in Legal Management and multiple years of work experience in the private and public sectors tucked under her belt, while studying law at the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law. Now on her third year as a law student and on her second year in the DBM, Ms. Cadiz has developed her own style of managing her commitments and responsibilities.

**On how her week usually goes.** Every day of the week is full of challenges since I am a full-time employee in the DBM and a law student at the same time. I utilize my free time either by keeping abreast with the latest Korean drama and news or studying for the next class. I make it a point to go home to Antipolo during weekends to spend time with my family.

**On handling the demands of work, studies, and personal life.** There are things which can be classified as stone commitments, some are flexible, and the rest are miscellaneous. Although they all require different kinds of attention, these commitments are all manageable. Working smart is how I am able to cope with my day-to-day activities. I work well by pacing things as I see fit, and ensuring that deadlines are met.

**On coping with multiple responsibilities, workplace and academic stress, and the pressures of friends, family and self.** Multiple responsibilities equate to stress. Hence, having a support system and surrounding yourself with positive and supportive people will make every step lighter. I see to it that I give myself a break. It can range from a 5-minute breathe in, breathe out exercise to a whole weekend of bonding with my family.

**Tips for DBM employees who also plan to pursue post-graduate studies.** Frankly speaking, don't do it unless you're committed to it. Embarking on any post-graduate program while working requires one's commitment because it consumes a lot of time, effort, energy, and attention. Moreover, set things at your own pace. Studying/working hard and studying/working smart are two different things. Although being a working student requires hard work, it must not be at the expense of your health and relationships with the people around you.

### EVELYN DATUIN • TRAINING SPECIALIST II • BITS



Evelyn Datuin is a 39-year old solo parent who has redefined her path numerous times. Having earned Bachelor's Degrees in Mass Communication and Public Administration, she has also ventured into different fields that earned her various work experiences. She is currently on her third year in the DBM and is taking up Master's in Public Administration at the University of Rizal Systems.

**On how her week usually goes.** On weekdays, my day usually starts at 4 a.m. Before leaving for work, I attend to my children's needs before they leave for school. On Saturdays, I juggle going to class and doing the laundry with my daughter. We also make it a point to have our usual weekend dinner with my parents. On Sundays, I spend the day doing household chores and going to church in the afternoon.

**On handling the demands of work, studies, parenthood and personal life.** I have been trained to have a daily plan that includes work, parenting, and socializing.

**On coping with multiple responsibilities, workplace and academic stress, and the pressures of friends, family, and self.** I have been taught the value of planning and practising appreciative inquiry. When you try to focus on doing well and doing more of it, your work and life will be stress-free. When you learn to appreciate what's best in your teammates and veer away from negativity, you will work as if you're not working at all because you will enjoy what you're doing. When times get rough, I just go back to my first love – singing. Doing your passion heals your soul and de-stresses you.

**Tips for DBM employees who also plan to pursue post-graduate studies.** Obtaining a master's degree can be expensive, time-consuming and emotionally draining. Therefore, you need to weigh your reasons carefully. If you are working or is a working parent, you might consider pursuing a master's degree with a blended-learning mode (combines face-to-face classroom time with online learning where you can interact with lecturers, tutors and fellow students). Through this, one can pursue post-graduate studies without compromising other roles and relationships.





**SUBJECT:** Queries' on the Release and Utilization of Local Government Unit (LGU) shares from the Excise Tax collected from Locally Manufactured Virginia-Type Cigarettes and Burley and Native Tobacco

#### ISSUES:

- (1) Whether the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) can withhold LGU shares in light of representations made by some Congressmen
- (2) Whether the DBM has the authority to require additional supporting documents to validate compliance of beneficiary LGUs in the release of LGU shares

#### DISCUSSION:

Local Budget Memorandum (LBM) No. 76<sup>2</sup> was issued by the DBM to guide the LGUs on the release and utilization of LGU shares from the collection of the excise tax on locally manufactured Virginia-Type Cigarettes and Burley and Native Tobacco ("LGU Shares"). It bears stressing that said memorandum authorizes the DBM to require beneficiary LGUs to (i) identify and submit a list of programs and projects to be implemented chargeable against the LGU Shares; and (ii) ensure that said programs and projects are included in the Annual Investment Program (AIP) duly formulated and endorsed by the Local Development Council (LDC) and duly approved by the local sanggunian concerned.<sup>3</sup>

In relation thereto, during the pendency of the release of LGU Shares, certain members of the House of Representatives informed the DBM that they neither participated in nor authorized representatives to attend the LDC meetings intended for the formulation of AIPs in certain municipalities. Furthermore, they alleged that the allocation and utilization of shares in the Tobacco Excise Tax in one of the municipalities was illegal.

#### DBM RESPONSE:

On the first issue, if the LGUs have complied with the requirements for the release of the LGU shares under LBM No. 76, then the DBM is obligated to release said shares. This is clear under Items No. 2.7<sup>4</sup> and 2.8<sup>5</sup> of LBM No. 76, which provides that the DBM Regional Offices, upon receipt of the documentary requirements, shall endorse said list to the DBM Central Office and the same shall serve as the basis for the release of LGU Shares. There

is likewise no provision in the guidelines allowing for the withholding of the LGU Shares by the DBM. Hence, the option to withhold the LGU Shares is not prevailing under the existing guidelines.

With respect to the validation of the documentary submission by the LGU, such as the subject AIP, the DBM can rely in its validity unless the same is patently irregular. As the Court held in *Pedro G. Sistoza vs. Aniano Desierto and Eliseo Co.*, "xxx [w]here supporting documents along with transactions reflected therein passed the unanimous approval of equally accountable public officers and appeared regular and customary on their face or when the document relied upon and signed shows no palpable nor patent, no definite nor certain defects xxx,"<sup>6</sup> the documents are presumed valid and with the assurance of regularity made by the officials concerned.

Further validation may be made, by requiring for instance the submission of the AIP, as long as this is included in the guidelines. In fine, supporting documents may be required in the guidelines upon the recommendation of the DBM Local Government and Regional Coordination Bureau as the Bureau in charge of policies regarding LGU concerns.

Finally, on the allegation of a certain member of the House of Representatives that a certain municipality was illegally allocated and utilized its shares from tobacco excise taxes, Item No. 5.0 of LBM No. 76 expressly states that the local chief executive and other local officials are the ones responsible and accountable for the implementation and proper utilization and disbursement of the LGU Shares.<sup>7</sup>



By: Legal Service

# COMPENSATION COMPENDIUM

By the: Organization, Position Classification and Compensation Bureau

#### DBM RESPONSE:

**Section 43 of the General Provisions of the FY 2018 GAA** provides that appropriations in said Act may be used for extraordinary expenses of select officials from Department Secretary to Department Assistant Secretary and their equivalent ranks, as well as to the head of a bureau, department regional office, bureau regional office or organizations of equivalent rank.

Miscellaneous expenses are also authorized for each of the offices of the above named officials. Hence, only heads of the cited bureaus/offices are entitled to EME.

Moreover, the entitlement to EME is **not** anchored on the salary grade of the official, rather, it is contingent on the **function and role of the official within the organization**.

It is to be noted that while the Chief of Staff of the Head of Agency X holds the same position as a Bureau Regional

**ISSUE:** Whether or not a Chief of Staff occupying a Director III, SG-27 position, under the Office of the Head of Agency X could be equated to a "head of a Bureau Regional Office or organization of equivalent rank," for purposes of entitlement to the Extraordinary and Miscellaneous Expenses (EME)

Director, i.e., Director III, SG-27, the functions being performed by the two (2) officials are vastly different.

The Bureau Regional Director serves as the regional head of a line bureau and oversees the direct implementation of programs and projects within the locality, with the Office he/she is heading serving as the medium for producing results.

Conversely, said Chief of Staff does **not** head a formally organized unit. Further, it is the Agency Head, and not the Chief of Staff, who is the highest ranking officer in the Office of the Head of Agency X.

In view of the foregoing, there is **no** basis to consider the Chief of Staff occupying a Director III, SG-27 position under the Office of the Head of Agency X as equivalent to a Bureau Regional Director for purposes of the grant of the EME.

## GAD CORNER

### THREE KEY GAD PUBLICATIONS LAUNCHED ON WOMEN'S DAY

By: Joy S. Almazan

The Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) launched the following key gender and development (GAD)-related publications on March 8, Women's Day, to help achieve gender equality and women empowerment:

**1) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) Plan 2019-2025** – contains concrete strategies to help agencies in formulating their GAD agenda and annual GAD Plan and Budget;

**2) Compendium of GEWE Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators** – a reference document in the development of the outcome-based planning and implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, plans, and programs towards gender equality and women empowerment; and

**3) Gender-Responsive LGU (GeRL) Assessment Tool** – designed to measure the gender responsiveness of local government units (LGUs) as an organization and as a provider of basic services and facilities.

Through these publications, the PCW hopes that agencies will be able to formulate and implement better GAD programs and projects that are aligned with the Philippine Plan for Gender-Responsive Development, Magna Carta of Women, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, among others. ■



<sup>1</sup> Query lifted from LS Opinion No. 3, s. 2018 dated January 22, 2018

<sup>2</sup> Dated October 6, 2017, Guidelines on the Release and Utilization of the Shares of LGUs from the Collections of Excise Tax on Locally Manufactured Virginia-type Cigarettes under RA No. 7171 and Burley and Native Tobacco Excise Tax Pursuant to RA No. 8240, As Amended by RA No. 10351, Chargeable Against the Allocations to LGUs under the FY 2016 General Appropriations Act (GAA), RA No. 10717, Continuing Appropriations, and FY 2017 GAA, RA No. 10924.

<sup>3</sup> Items No. 2.6 and 2.6.1; and in accordance with Sections 106, 107.b.4 and 109, Title VI, Book I, RA No. 7160, The Local Government Code, which requires the LDCs, composed of, among others, the Congressman or his representative, to formulate the AIP of his/her respective provincial, city and municipal constituencies

<sup>4</sup> Item No. 2.7 (Upon receipt of the beneficiary LGU's list of programs and projects to be implemented, together with the necessary supporting documents per Item 2.5 hereof, the DBM RO concerned shall endorse said list to the DBM Central Office.)

<sup>5</sup> Item 2.8 [(The endorsement by the DBM RO concerned of the LGU's submission of the list of programs and projects, together with the necessary supporting documents, shall serve as the basis of the DBM Central Office for releasing the corresponding Notice/s of Cash Allocation (NCA) to the Authorized Government Servicing Banks (AGSBs) and the Advice of NCA Issued (ANCAI) to the BTr.)]

<sup>6</sup> 388 SCRA 307 (2002)

<sup>7</sup> Item No. 5.0 (The responsibility and accountability in the implementation of programs and projects and proper utilization and disbursement of LGU shares shall rest upon the local chief executive and other local officials concerned. It is also the responsibility of said local officials to ensure that the LGU shares are utilized strictly in accordance with applicable budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations, and pertinent provisions of RA No. 9184.)

# Ang PINAKA Sa DBM

By: Information and Communications  
Technology Systems Service

Listed below are some fun facts about DBM employees, generated from the Manpower Management Information System (MMIS):

1

PINAKAMARAMI

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE**  
(with 103 employees)

3

PINAKAKAUNTI

**INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE**  
(with 10 employees)

2

PINAKABATA

**LAIZA APRIL ACHICO**  
(20 years old)

4

PINAKAMATAGAL SA SERBISYO

**FORMER SEC. BENJAMIN DIOKNO**  
(from 1967 to 2019)

5

**BUWAN NA MAY PINAKAMARAMING  
NAGDIRIWANG NG KAARAWAN**

**SEPTEMBER**

(with 113 birthday celebrators)

6

PINAKAMAHABANG PANGALAN

**MARIA CECILIA SOCORRO**  
(19 letters)

7

PINAKAMARAMING SINGLE

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE**  
(with 53 unmarried employees)

Note: Data as of February 11, 2019



How well do you know budgeting?  
Can you highlight some of the budget-  
related terms in the box?

ALLOTMENT  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BUDGET CALL  
BUDGET REFORM  
CAPITAL OUTLAYS  
DISBURSEMENT  
EXPENDITURES  
MIDYEAR BONUS  
OBLIGATIONS  
UNDERSPENDING

C	H	K	A	O	B	L	I	G	A	T	I	O	N	S
D	A	Q	Y	M	R	E	F	D	P	O	J	A	B	J
I	S	P	Y	V	P	S	C	D	P	U	L	A	U	S
S	E	P	I	K	Y	X	A	Y	R	L	X	N	D	U
B	R	M	K	T	W	H	H	H	O	L	D	X	G	N
U	U	P	G	F	A	C	V	T	P	E	J	U	E	O
R	T	R	E	H	L	L	M	V	R	R	F	M	T	B
S	I	J	J	M	E	E	O	S	I	J	R	Y	C	R
E	D	T	U	F	N	E	P	U	A	V	P	S	A	A
M	N	G	A	T	Y	E	E	M	T	P	T	K	L	E
E	E	V	Q	N	N	Q	X	M	I	L	E	N	L	Y
N	P	A	C	D	M	H	S	B	O	N	A	J	G	D
T	X	R	I	M	U	P	A	N	N	L	N	Y	Y	I
G	E	N	C	Y	L	F	Y	U	S	F	L	E	S	M
P	G	M	R	O	F	E	R	T	E	G	D	U	B	M

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