

Foreword

“Ang paggugol na matuwid ay direktso sa tao.”

In crafting the National Budget for 2012, the Aquino Administration aimed to advance reforms that would institute transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement in the use of public funds. At the same time, we remained faithful to the practical spirit of policy change, recognizing that public expenditure management reforms are futile if they do not result in direct, immediate, and substantial benefits to the Philippines’ poorest and most marginalized.



The Organizational Performance Indicator Framework (OPIF) is a key reform of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) that seeks to implement effective agency spending to produce concrete and measurable outcomes in line with the Administration’s priority development agenda. Under the OPIF, the deliverables of each department and agency go well beyond the number of roads built or nurses hired, and are instead strategically designed to reduce poverty and induce all-inclusive growth.

Together with other public expenditure management reforms—the Zero-Based Budgeting (ZBB) Approach, the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), the Procurement Reforms, and the strengthening of Internal Control Systems—the OPIF aims to ensure that each and every peso spent by the government is dedicated to the public good.

To better inform the Congress and the public on the outputs required of every department and agency in exchange for their budget allocation, the DBM published this OPIF Book of Outputs for 2012. It serves as a practical reference tool for legislators, academics, students, civil society organizations and researchers, as well as oversight agencies. This Book of Outputs also allows the public to learn more about, understand, and monitor not only the peso values in the national budget, but more importantly, the performance of government agencies relative to their mandates and budgetary allocations.

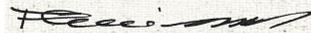
The OPIF Book of Outputs for 2012 presents the respective budgets of national government agencies in a clearer manner, and emphasizes the direct relationship of agency mandates and services with the national development agenda. The targets and performance indicators of the outcomes and outputs committed by all agencies are laid out for better monitoring and measurement. Furthermore, the corresponding budgets of each department or agency—particularly with respect to their efficient delivery of goods and services to external clients—are likewise presented. A new feature of this year’s OPIF Book is the inclusion of a column on an agency’s actual performance in 2010, which provides a reference point for the quality of an agency’s performance, as well as its defined targets for 2011 and 2012.

This OPIF Book of Outputs is thus an important instrument for ensuring accountability in the national government, especially in view of the Aquino Social Contract with the Filipino People. All the programs, projects and activities of the government listed herein are aligned with the five Key Result Areas of the Social Contract, as defined under Executive Order No. 43:

1. Transparent, accountable, and participatory governance;
2. Poverty reduction and empowerment of the poor and vulnerable;
3. Rapid, inclusive, and sustained economic growth;
4. Just and lasting peace and the rule of law; and
5. Integrity of the environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Although the OPIF reform process has made significant progress since its launch over a decade ago, much still remains to be done to institutionalize it as an effective performance-based management strategy for the bureaucracy. For instance, the selection and refinement of appropriate performance indicators remains a challenge among many agencies. Indeed, the OPIF demands the continuous enhancement of the capacities of agency leaders and staff so they may fully appreciate not only the publication's core concepts, but also its role as an implement for accountability and good governance.

We believe that the ability of government to translate complex financial data into more accessible language is strong proof of its willingness to educate its citizens, as well as of its readiness to open itself to public scrutiny. With this OPIF Book of Outputs for 2012, we hope to further support participatory governance and ultimately guarantee the empowerment of the Filipino people.



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