



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Basic Services and Facilities of Local Governance in the Philippines: An Anchored United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals towards Agenda-Setting

GARY B. LAPIZ*

Department of Public Governance, College of Public Governance and Safety, Cebu Normal University, Cebu City, Philippines

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ABSTRACT

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Anchoring the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this research determined the basic services and facilities of Local Governance in the Philippines as stipulated under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 towards agenda-setting. As such, this study devised a public policy-scribbling-technique using un-obtrusion in highlighting, lifting and sorting the stipulations of the Local Government Code to align to the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Results towards the conclusion show that the Local Government Code of 1991 has satisfied even prior to the passage of the Agenda for Sustainable Development, proving that the problems encountered in governance per delivery of basic services and facilities is not the mandate but the execution of the Local Government Code and relevant policies postulated side-by-side, the Agenda for Sustainable Goals.

***Corresponding Author:**

lapizg@cnu.edu.ph

INTRODUCTION

The challenge of every state is to achieve progress in all aspects of delivery services to all its citizens. Satisfaction index and levels of governance cannot be isolated in a nutshell as it encompasses a wide-array of indicators that are mainly political, social and/or economic in nature. The government (Beerli & Zaidan, 2023); (Raffer et al., 2022) as a machinery and/or instrumentality of the state functions (Berenschot & Mulder, 2019) according to the public needs as it requires the state-of-the-art-and-science of basic services and facilities in the implementation of plans, programs, projects, activities, initiatives and the like in cascading to those who are to be served accordingly.

The United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development stipulates the seventeen (17) as itemized goals per the following, "No poverty (SDG 1), Zero hunger (SDG 2), Good health and well-being (SDG 3), Quality education (SDG 4), Gender equality (SDG 5), Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), Decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9), Reduced inequalities (SDG 10), Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), Climate action (SDG 13), Life below water (SDG 14), Life on land (SDG 15), Peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16), and Partnerships for the goals (SDG 17) (Sustainable Development Goals, n.d.).

In addition, government implementation (Biermann et al., 2022) requires coordination among all organs of the instrumentality, both the national, local and other stakeholders (Rafique et al., 2023); of all agencies and

institutions (Konte & Vincent, 2021); (Sancino et al., 2023) in the Philippines (Taking a Whole-of-Government Approach, n.d.). As such, the execution should go back to the basics where the grassroots are in the local government units from the purok level to the barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces per supervision and administration (Hickmann, 2021) of the national government headed by the President of the Republic.

Thus, there is a need to revisit the mandate of basic services and facilities (Šaparnienė et al., 2021) of Local Governance in the Philippines as stipulated under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 anchoring the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Valenzuela et al., 2023) towards agenda-setting with the following queries, to wit: Firstly, what are the expressed policy provisions of basic services and facilities in the local governance as stipulated in the Local Government Code of 1991 of Republic Act 7160 in the Philippines; Secondly, how are these policy provisions highlighted, lifted and sorted side-by-side the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) that are meant to advance public service delivery and facilities for all citizens in the country? Thirdly/Lastly, based on the anchored SDGs and the policy provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991, what agenda-setting design can be created for the public and/or citizens to know the mandate of basic services and facilities of local governance in the Philippines?

With all the questions per abovementioned, this study is conceptualized, processed, finalized, realized and accomplished therein.

METHODOLOGY

This study devised a public policy-scribbling-technique using un-obtrusion in highlighting, lifting and sorting the stipulations of Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 side-by-side the Seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations towards an agenda-setting design.

Resolution No. 017-B-xxxx series of xxxx, Adopting the Revised Rules of Procedure and Executive Order No. 26 series of xxxx, Reconstitution and Revitalization of the Various Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councilors and Committees of a Local Government Unit were sourced in order to determine the Basic Services and Facilities per Assignment to Committees in the Legislative and Executive Departments respectively. This captured the evidence on implementation the various programs, projects, initiatives and the like that exemplified the basic services and facilities provided in a particular local government unit in the Philippines in compliance with the mandate of the Local Government Code of 1991 side-by-side the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.

The scope and delimitation of the study relies in the manner of an un-obtrusion (*Milesandhuberman1994*, n.d.) per the raw policy on actual data in highlighting, lifting and sorting of the expressed policy provisions, *in toto*, as enumerated in the results and discussions section of this article in order to exemplify on exposition, the stipulations without altering the integral form and substance of the law translated and/or transcribed into policies for public use in governance and administration (Binh & Giai, 2021); (Frederickson et al., n.d.).

Highlighting and lifting the policies using "un-obtrusion" is not just a matter of "copying and pasting" to neglecting the ideals and practice of the scholarship, albeit, the intention is to manifest the unaltered nature and/or state of the policies as "raw instruments" that served as bases in sorting-out and/or showcasing the basic services and facilities of local governance in the Philippines side-by-side the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

It should be noted that the policies were treated with utmost integrity, diligence and prudence not contrary and/or detrimental to public interest to ensure the best in the academic scholarship of this study. Consequently, the policy stipulations in the Local Government Code of 1991 vis-à-vis the seventeen (17)

Sustainable Development Goals set forth by the United Nations (Guha & Chakrabarti, 2019) is a matter of categorization, solely, for public knowledge purposes in administration and governance thereof (Title of the Module: A Self-Instructional Module on Local and Regional Governance Course Code: PA 107 Course Name/Title: Local and Regional Governance Name/s of Faculty: Gary B. Lapid, BPA, MPA, DPA, n.d.). The device of highlighting, lifting and sorting as a research device and/or technique is an attempt of remedial research. All conflict of interests in the interpretation (OUTCOMES-BASED SYLLABUS IN REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE, n.d.), whatsoever, is subject to subsequent study, amendment and/or revision per the existing laws, rules and regulations on data privacy, transparency and accountability pursuits and the like in writing the discipline of scholarship in policy, governance and administration (Republic of the Philippines COLLEGE OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE, AND SAFETY (CPGS) Course Syllabus in PA 4006. Innovative Practices in Local and Regional Governance, n.d.).

In addition, the Local Government Unit, on adoption the policies, as an example was left undisclosed per data privacy including the level of its jurisdiction, the policy actors, the setting, the dates and the like in order to protect the integrity of the data, rest assured of the authenticity and veracity of the documents as utilized in this study. Similarities per the data may have been coincidental and/or intentional if identified and/or associated to a particular local government unit in the Philippines. In fact, this research excludes the bureaus and/or units of the local government units as a limitation, which is, subject for another future research if studied accordingly.

Since the scope and delimitation set forth in this study covers the basic services and facilities as stipulated to exemplify a local government unit in the Philippines per the Sustainable Development Goals, this research suggests more comprehensive and extensive studies in Philippine local governance regarding the specific/particular bureaus/departments (macro and micro), offices, units of the organizational structure in its entirety as stipulated under the Local Government Code of 1991 per mandated, created and/or operationalized for the purpose of governance and administration.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Highlighting and Lifting the Provisions of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines vis-à-vis Local Governance

The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, ARTICLE II, DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND STATE POLICIES, Section 9. The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. Section 25. The State shall ensure the autonomy of local governments. ARTICLE X, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, Section 1. The territorial and political subdivisions of the Republic of the Philippines are the provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays. There shall be autonomous regions in Muslim Mindanao and the Cordilleras as hereinafter provided. Section 2. The territorial and political subdivisions shall enjoy local autonomy. Section 3. The Congress shall enact a local government code which shall provide for a more responsive and accountable local government structure instituted through a system of decentralization with effective mechanisms of recall, initiative, and referendum, allocate among the different local government units their powers, responsibilities, and resources, and provide for the qualifications, election, appointment and removal, term, salaries, powers and functions and duties of local officials, and all other matters relating to the organization and operation of the local units (THE 1987 CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, n.d.).

Highlighting and Lifting a Literature vis-à-vis the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

At the heart of global development action plans for future peace and prosperity are the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which were set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and adopted by all UN member states in 2015 (The United Nations Sustainable Goals (SDGS), n.d.).



Figure 1: The United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals
 Source: (*The United Nations Sustainable Goals (SDGS)*, n.d.), taken from
<https://www.rl360.com/row/funds/investment-definitions/sdgs.htm>

The United Nations’ Seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (*The United Nations Sustainable Goals (SDGS)*, n.d.); (*Call for Papers-1st International Research Conference on Sustainable Development 2024*, n.d.) are the following:

Sustainable Development Goal 1 - No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Sustainable Development Goal 2 - Zero hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Sustainable Development Goal 3 - Good Health and Wellbeing

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Sustainable Development Goal 4 - Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Sustainable Development Goal 5 - Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Sustainable Development Goal 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Sustainable Development Goal 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Sustainable Development Goal 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Sustainable Development Goal 10 - Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Sustainable Development Goal 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Sustainable Development Goal 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Sustainable Development Goal 13 - Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Sustainable Development Goal 14 - Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Sustainable Development Goal 15 - Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Sustainable Development Goal 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Sustainable Development Goal 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Revisiting the Basic Discussions about the Mechanisms of Local Governance Operations in the Philippines

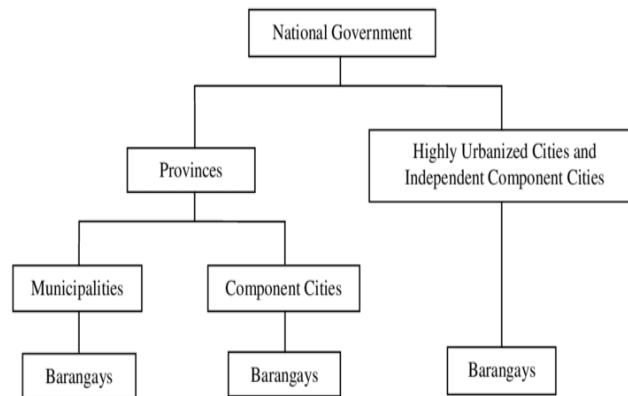


Figure 2: Structure of Local Governments in the Philippines

Source: (Structure of Local Governments in the Philippines, n.d.) taken from https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Structure-of-Local-Governments-in-thePhilippines_fig1_265226283

In the Philippines, RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, became the legal instrument that strengthened the spirit of democracy, and attain the highest possible level of developments at local levels in the Philippines (Lazo, 2011). Powers (Salman Khan & Syrett, 2022) are decentralized per the mandate of the national government on supervision the local government units (Morita et al., 2020) in the purok to barangays, municipalities, cities and the provinces. As the Local Government Units exercise its functions to its jurisdiction under those who are under its control, most, if not all of its basic services and facilities are devolved accordingly. Devolution per decentralization is the transfer of powers and/or delegation of authority from the national to the local levels of the government. Along this, seeming mechanism to foster cooperation between the entire organs of the government, is de-bureaucratization and de-concentration. De-bureaucratization is the “shared” transfer and/or delegation of authorities among stakeholders (Vitálišová et al., 2021); (Binh & Gai, 2021) usually, the Non-Government and People’s Organizations (NGOs and POs) (Rahman & Tasnim, 2023); (Valenzuela et al., 2023). In addition, de-concentration is the transfer of power from the national government to its agencies in the local and/or regional levels of jurisdiction.

All local government levels per barangay, municipalities, provinces and cities constitute its legislative and executive with the judicial bodies congruent to the all offices and instrumentalities per check-and-balance mechanism in governance and administration. Generally, the legislative body is headed by the Purok Head and the Barangay Councilor, Vice-Mayor, Vice-Governor and its Councilors from the Barangay, Municipality, Province and City. Similarly, the executive is headed by the Barangay Captain, Mayor, Governor and all administrative offices and the entire local bureaucratic units under control from the Barangay, Municipality, Province and City respectively. Generally, the judicial courts for all legal matters and concerns are

independent therein. The katarungang pambarangay is set to resolve matters in the barangay level, headed by the barangay captain and his council and all micro-administrative units under its control and/or authority.

The Whole-of-Government Approach (20190717-RA-IRR-11032-RRD-1, n.d.); (Taking a Whole-of-Government Approach, n.d.) should be adopted in the delivery of basic services and facilities to people centered primarily from the grassroots level of the purok(s) per barangay, municipalities and cities and the province under the jurisdiction of the national government, thus, carrying-out all duties and services for purposes of the public.

Highlighting and Lifting the Policy Provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991 regarding the Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Units from the Barangay, Municipality, Province and City

The Local Government Code of 1991, SECTION 17. Basic Services and Facilities (THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES BOOK I GENERAL PROVISIONS, n.d.). – (a) Local government units shall endeavor to be self-reliant and shall continue exercising the powers and discharging the duties and functions currently vested upon them. They shall also discharge the functions and responsibilities of national agencies and offices devolved to them pursuant to this Code. Local government units shall likewise exercise such other powers and discharge such other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental to efficient and effective provision of the basic services and facilities enumerated herein.

(b) Such basic services and facilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) For a Barangay:

- (i) Agricultural support services which include planting materials distribution system and operation of farm produce collection and buying stations;
- (ii) Health and social welfare services which include maintenance of barangay health center and day-care center;
- (iii) Services and facilities related to general hygiene and sanitation, beautification, and solid waste collection;
- (iv) Maintenance of katarungang pambarangay;
- (v) Maintenance of barangay roads and bridges and water supply systems;
- (vi) Infrastructure facilities such as multi-purpose hall, multi-purpose pavement, plaza, sports center, and other similar facilities;
- (vii) Information and reading center; and
- (viii) Satellite or public market, where viable;

(2) For a Municipality:

- (i) Extension and on-site research services and facilities related to agriculture and fishery activities which include dispersal of livestock and poultry, fingerlings, and other seeding materials for aquaculture; palay, corn, and vegetable seed farms; medicinal plant gardens; fruit tree, coconut, and other kinds of seedling nurseries; demonstration farms; quality control of copra and improvement and development of local distribution channels, preferably through cooperatives; interbarangay irrigation systems; water and soil resource utilization and conservation projects; and enforcement of fishery laws in municipal waters including the conservation of mangroves;
- (ii) Pursuant to national policies and subject to supervision, control and review of the DENR, implementation of community-based forestry projects which include integrated social forestry programs and similar projects; management and control of communal forests with an area not exceeding fifty (50) square kilometers; establishment of tree parks, greenbelts, and similar forest development projects;

- (iii) Subject to the provisions of Title Five, Book I of this Code, health services which include the implementation of programs and projects on primary health care, maternal and child care, and communicable and non-communicable disease control services; access to secondary and tertiary health services; purchase of medicines, medical supplies, and equipment needed to carry out the services herein enumerated;
- (iv) Social welfare services which include programs and projects on child and youth welfare, family and community welfare, women's welfare, welfare of the elderly and disabled persons; community-based rehabilitation programs for vagrants, beggars, street children, scavengers, juvenile delinquents, and victims of drug abuse; livelihood and other pro-poor projects; nutrition services; and family planning services;
- (v) Information services which include investments and job placement information systems, tax and marketing information systems, and maintenance of a public library;
- (vi) Solid waste disposal system or environmental management system and services or facilities related to general hygiene and sanitation;
- (vii) Municipal buildings, cultural centers, public parks including freedom parks, playgrounds, and other sports facilities and equipment, and other similar facilities;
- (viii) Infrastructure facilities intended primarily to service the needs of the residents of the municipality and which are funded out of municipal funds including, but not limited to, municipal roads and bridges; school buildings and other facilities for public elementary and secondary schools; clinics, health centers and other health facilities necessary to carry out health services; communal irrigation, small water impounding projects and other similar projects; fish ports; artesian wells, spring development, rainwater collectors and water supply systems; seawalls, dikes, drainage and sewerage, and flood control; traffic signals and road signs; and similar facilities;
- (ix) Public markets, slaughterhouses and other municipal enterprises;
- (x) Public cemetery;
- (xi) Tourism facilities and other tourist attractions, including the acquisition of equipment, regulation and supervision of business concessions, and security services for such facilities; and
- (xii) Sites for police and fire stations and substations and municipal jail;

(3) For a Province:

- (i) Agricultural extension and on-site research services and facilities which include the prevention and control of plant and animal pests and diseases; dairy farms, livestock markets, animal breeding stations, and artificial insemination centers; and assistance in the organization of farmers' and fishermen's cooperatives and other collective organizations, as well as the transfer of appropriate technology;
- (ii) Industrial research and development services, as well as the transfer of appropriate technology;
- (iii) Pursuant to national policies and subject to supervision, control and review of the DENR, enforcement of forestry laws limited to community-based forestry projects, pollution control law, small-scale mining law, and other laws on the protection of the environment; and mini-hydroelectric projects for local purposes;
- (iv) Subject to the provisions of Title Five, Book I of this Code, health services which include hospitals and other tertiary health services;
- (v) Social welfare services which include programs and projects on rebel returnees and evacuees; relief operations; and population development services;
- (vi) Provincial buildings, provincial jails, freedom parks and other public assembly areas, and similar facilities;
- (vii) Infrastructure facilities intended to service the needs of the residents of the province and which are funded out of provincial funds including, but not limited to, provincial roads and bridges; inter-municipal waterworks, drainage and sewerage, flood control, and irrigation systems; reclamation projects; and similar facilities;
- (viii) Programs and projects for low-cost housing and other mass dwellings, except those funded by the Social Security System (SSS), Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Home Development

Mutual Fund (HDMF); Provided, That national funds for these programs and projects shall be equitably allocated among the regions in proportion to the ratio of the homeless to the population;

(ix) Investment support services, including access to credit financing;

(x) Upgrading and modernization of tax information and collection services through the use of computer hardware and software and other means;

(xi) Inter-municipal telecommunications services, subject to national policy guidelines; and

(xii) Tourism development and promotion programs;

(4) For a City:

All the services and facilities of the municipality and province, and in addition thereto, the following:

(i) Adequate communication and transportation facilities;

(ii) Support for education, police and fire services and facilities;

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) hereof, public works and infrastructure projects and other facilities, programs and services funded by the National Government under the annual General Appropriations Act, other special laws, pertinent executive orders, and those wholly or partially funded from foreign sources, are not covered under this section, except in those cases where the local government unit concerned is duly designated as the implementing agency for such projects, facilities, programs, and services.

(d) The designs, plans, specifications, testing of materials, and the procurement of equipment and materials from both foreign and local sources necessary for the provision of the foregoing services and facilities shall be undertaken by the local government unit concerned, based on national policies, standards and guidelines.

(e) National agencies or offices concerned shall devolve to local government units the responsibility for the provision of basic services and facilities enumerated in this section within six (6) months after the effectivity of this Code.

As used in this Code, the term "devolution" refers to the act by which the National Government confers power and authority upon the various local government units to perform specific functions and responsibilities.

(f) The National Government or the next higher level of local government unit may provide or augment the basic services and facilities assigned to a lower level of local government unit when such services or facilities are not made available or, if made available, are inadequate to meet the requirements of its inhabitants.

(g) The basic services and facilities hereinabove enumerated shall be funded from the share of local government units in the proceeds of national taxes and other local revenues and funding support from the National Government, its instrumentalities and government-owned or -controlled corporations which are tasked by law to establish and maintain such services or facilities. Any fund or resource available for the use of local government units shall be first allocated for the provision of basic services or facilities enumerated in subsection (b) hereof before applying the same for other purposes, unless otherwise provided in this Code.

(h) Regional offices of national agencies or offices whose functions are devolved to local government units as provided herein shall be phased out within one (1) year from the approval of this Code. Said national agencies and offices may establish such field units as may be necessary for monitoring purposes and providing technical assistance to local government units. The properties, equipment, and other assets of these regional offices shall be distributed to the local government units in the region in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the Oversight Committee created under this Code.

(i) The devolution contemplated in this Code shall include the transfer to local government units of the records, equipment, and other assets and personnel of national agencies and offices corresponding to the devolved powers, functions, and responsibilities.

Personnel of said national agencies or offices shall be absorbed by the local government units to which they belong or in whose areas they are assigned to the extent that it is administratively viable as determined by the said oversight committee: Provided, That the rights accorded to such personnel pursuant to civil service law, rules and regulations shall not be impaired: Provided, further, That regional directors who are career executive service officers and other officers of similar rank in the said regional offices who cannot be absorbed by the local government unit shall be retained by the National Government, without any diminution of rank, salary or tenure.

(j) To ensure the active participation of the private sector in local governance, local government units may, by ordinance, sell, lease, encumber, or otherwise dispose of public economic enterprises owned by them in their proprietary capacity.

Costs may also be charged for the delivery of basic services or facilities enumerated in this section.

Table 1. Sorting Policy Stipulations under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 vis-à-vis Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals	Policy Stipulations under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991			
	Barangay	Municipality	Province	City
Goal 1: No Poverty	(b) (1) (ii)	(b) (2) (iv)	(b) (3) (v)	(b) (2) (iv) (b) (3) (v)
Goal 2: Zero Hunger	(b) (1) (i)	(b) (2) (i)	(b) (3) (i)	(b) (2) (i) (b) (3) (i)
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being	(b) (1) (ii)	(b) (2) (iii) (b) (2) (viii)	(b) (3) (iv)	(b) (2) (iii) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (3) (iv)
Goal 4: Quality Education	(b) (1) (vii)	(b) (2) (v) (b) (2) (viii)	other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (2) (v) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (4) (ii) other provisions similar per stipulation
Goal 5: Gender Equality	(b) (1) (vi)	(b) (2) (iv)	other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (2) (iv) other provisions similar per stipulation
Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	(b) (1) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi) (b) (2) (viii)	(b) (3) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (3) (iii)
Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	(b) (1) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi)	(b) (3) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi) (b) (3) (iii)
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	(b) (1) (vi) (b) (1) (viii)	(b) (2) (v) (b) (2) (ix) (b) (2) (xi)	(b) (3) (ii) (b) (3) (ix) (b) (3) (x)	(b) (2) (v) (b) (2) (ix) (b) (2) (xi) (b) (3) (ii) (b) (3) (ix) (b) (3) (x)
Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	(b) (1) (v) (b) (1) (vi)	(b) (2) (vii) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (2) (ix) (b) (2) (x)	(b) (3) (ii) (b) (3) (vi) (b) (3) (vii) (b) (3) (viii) (b) (3) (x) (b) (3) (xi)	(b) (2) (vii) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (2) (ix) (b) (2) (x) (b) (3) (ii) (b) (3) (vi) (b) (3) (vii) (b) (3) (viii) (b) (3) (x)

				(b) (3) (xi) (b) (4) (i) (b) (4) (ii)
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities	(b) (1) (iv)	(b) (2) (iv)	(b) (3) (v)	(b) (2) (iv) (b) (3) (v)
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	(b) (1) (viii)	(b) (2) (viii)	(b) (3) (vii) (b) (3) (viii) (b) (3) (xii)	(b) (2) (viii) (b) (3) (vii) (b) (3) (viii) (b) (3) (xii) (b) (4) (i) (b) (4) (ii)
Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	(b) (1) (i)	(b) (2) (ix)	(b) (3) (v)	(b) (2) (ix) (b) (3) (v)
Goal 13: Climate Action	(b) (1) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi)	(b) (3) (iii)	(b) (2) (vi) (b) (3) (iii)
Goal 14: Life Below Water	(b) (1) (iii)	(b) (2) (viii)	(b) (3) (iii) (b) (3) (vii)	(b) (2) (viii) (b) (3) (iii) (b) (3) (vii)
Goal 15: Life on Land	(b) (1) (iii)	(b) (2) (ii) (b) (2) (vi) (b) (2) (viii)	(b) (3) (iii) (b) (3) (vii)	(b) (2) (ii) (b) (2) (vi) (b) (2) (viii) (b) (3) (iii) (b) (3) (vii)
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	(b) (1) (iv)	(b) (2) (xii)	other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (2) (xii) (b) (4) (ii) other provisions similar per stipulation
Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals	(b) (1) (i)-(viii) including other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (2) (i)-(ix) including other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (3) (xii) including other provisions similar per stipulation	(b) (2) (i)-(ix) (b) (3) (i)-(xii) (b) (2) (i)-(ix); (b) (3) (xii) and (b) (4) (i)-(ii) including other provisions similar per stipulation

Source: Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991, (THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES BOOK I GENERAL PROVISIONS, N.D.);

Legend:

- (1) For a Barangay: (b) (1) (i)-(vii) of Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991
- (2) For a Municipality: (b) (2) (i)-(xii) of Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991
- (3) For a Province: (b) (3) (i)-(xii) of Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991
- (4) For a City: All the services and facilities of the municipality and province (b) (2) (i)-(xii) & (3) (i)-(xii) of Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991, in addition (i) Adequate communication and transportation facilities; (ii) Support for education, police and fire services and facilities

Note Well: Other Services per Stipulation means the basic services and facilities of local governance that are not mentioned under Section 17 of the Local Government Code of 1991 but are provided based on the general and specific principles of governance vis-à-vis existing laws, rules, regulations of the policies in the Philippines.

As aligned, one/plural provision(s) under Section 17 per each/plural SDG(s) may cut-across as sorted side-by-side other stipulations (e.g. basic deliverables and facilities of cities) in planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating and budgeting (POSDCORB, n.d.) in public administration and governance. Realistically, this means that one committee/s cannot isolate itself/themselves but has to relate on involvement with others. Using the Whole-of-government Approach, the case is explicit for SDG Goal 17, Partnerships for the Goals that should encompass all committees in the basic delivery and facilities of local governance in the Philippines.

The Seventeen (17) Sustainable Goals from No Poverty to Partnership for the Goals are concomitantly found in Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991 per all provisions therein. This means that all of basic services and facilities can be accessed and/or availed by all constituents per each local government units. The challenge is not necessarily the laws and/or the policies of local governance in the country but more into the implementation of basic programs per services and facilities therein.

Evidently, the higher the scope and/or level of jurisdiction per level of governance, the more responsibilities and intricate the basic and services there are towards public service. This implies that leadership, governance and administration require intensive conceptualization, planning and formulation, execution of the basic delivery of services and facilities towards thorough evaluation, the impact per compliance. Thus, the government needs to address, revitalize and/or nurture existing programs vis-à-vis basic services and facilities and increase its capacitating efforts for more than its usual targets towards outcomes and outputs that will cascade to actual services to people.

Table 2. Sorting Sample Standing Committees Assigned in a Legislative Department of a Local Government Unit in the Philippines per the Local Government Code of 1991 side-by-side the Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals	Policy Stipulations under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributed of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 per Assignment of Standing Committees of a Local Government Unit (Legislative Office) in the Philippines
Goal 1: No Poverty	Committee on Social Services
Goal 2: Zero Hunger	Committee on Agriculture and Food
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being	Committee on Health and Sanitation; Committee on Games and Amusement
Goal 4: Quality Education	Committee on Education and Information
Goal 5: Gender Equality	Committee on Women, Gender and Family Relations
Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Committee on Cooperative Development and People's Organization; Committee on Finance, Budget and Ways and Means; Committee on Franchises, Utilities and Facilities; Committee on Labor and Employment
Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Committee on Infrastructure and Public Works
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities	Committee on Laws and Human Rights
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Committee on Youth Welfare and Sports Development; Committee on Tourism and Socio-Cultural Affairs; Committee on Housing and Land Utilization
Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	Committee on Trade and Industry

Goal 13: Climate Action	Committee on Environment and Natural Resources; Committee on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Management
Goal 14: Life Below Water	Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Goal 15: Life on Land	Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Committee on Ethics, Moral and Conduct and Good Government, Complaints and Investigation; Committee on Public Order and Safety; Committee on Laws and Human Rights
Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals	Committee on Barangay Affairs

Source: (Resolution No. 017-B-2016 Series of xxxx, Adopting the Revised Rules of Procedure of a Legislative Department of a Local Government Unit in the Philippines, n.d.)

As aligned, one/plural legislative act/s per each/plural SDG(s) may cut-across as sorted (e.g., the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources covering SDGs 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15 with other committees) side-by-side other committees in planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating and budgeting (*POSDCORB*, n.d.) in public administration and governance. Realistically, this means that one committee/s cannot isolate itself/themselves but has to relate on involvement with others. Using the Whole-of-government Approach, the case is explicit for SDG Goal 17, Partnerships for the Goals that should encompass all committees in the basic delivery and facilities of local governance in the Philippines.

The assignment of Standing Committees of a Local Government Unit (Legislative Office) in the Philippines is consistently congruent to the ideals of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals that are aligned and compliant (vice-versa) to Section 17. Basic Services and Facilities of the Local Government Code of 1991. Public servants through leadership, governance and administration are required to achieve more than the usual in order to significantly impact the basic delivery services and facilities knowing that these are mandated under the existing laws, rules and regulations of the policy specifically Republic Act 7160, the Local Government Code of 1991 (THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES BOOK I GENERAL PROVISIONS, n.d.).

It is important to note that attached and/or relative to standing committees of a legislative department are bureaus, offices, departments, and/or units per organizational structure of a local government unit, both career and non-career in human resources per duties, functions and responsibilities, that will carry-out and/or operationalize the basic services and facilities of administration and governance according to the existing laws, rules and regulations of policies therein.

Table 3. Sorting Sample Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councils and Committees of a Local Government Unit (Executive Office) in the Philippines per the Local Government Code side-by-side the Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals	Policy Stipulations under Chapter II, General Powers and Attributed of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) of the Local Government Code of 1991 per Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councils and Committees (Executive Office) in the Philippines
Goal 1: No Poverty	Local Poverty Reduction Action Team (LPRAT)
Goal 2: Zero Hunger	City Nutrition Committee
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being	STD/HIV Council; Advisory Council of the Stimulation and Therapeutic Activity Center (STAC)
Goal 4: Quality Education	Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Team
Goal 5: Gender Equality	Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Their Children (LCAT-VAWC)
Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	Other Services per Stipulation
Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	Other Services per Stipulation

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Local Finance Committee; Personnel Selection Board; Program on Awards and Incentives for Service Excellence (PRAISE); Performance Management Team (PMT); Committee on Career and Personnel Development
Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Project Monitoring Committee
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities	City Committee on Disability Affairs (CCDA)
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Project Monitoring Committee
Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	Project Monitoring Committee
Goal 13: Climate Action	Other Services per Stipulation
Goal 14: Life Below Water	Other Services per Stipulation
Goal 15: Life on Land	City Solid Waste Management Board (CSWMB)
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Committee on Office Decorum and Investigation; Grievance Committee
Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals	City of xxxx xxxx Convergence Committee (CNCC); Local Reduction Team up to Grievance Committee as per enumeration

Source: (Executive Order No. 26 Series of xxxx, Reconstitution and Revitalization of the Various Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councils and Committees in an Executive Department of a Local Government Unit in the Philippines, n.d.);

Note Well: Other Services per Stipulation means the basic services and facilities of local governance that are not mentioned under Section 17 of the Local Government Code of 1991 but are provided based on the general and specific principles of governance vis-à-vis existing laws, rules, regulations of the policies in the Philippines.

As aligned, one/plural executive act/s per each/plural SDG(s) may cut-across as sorted (e.g., committees of other services per stipulation) side-by-side other committees in planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating and budgeting (*POSDCORB*, n.d.) in public administration and governance. Realistically, this means that one committee/s cannot isolate itself/themselves but has to relate on involvement with others. Using the Whole-of-Government Approach, the case is explicit for SDG Goal 17, Partnerships for the Goals that should encompass all committees in the basic delivery and facilities of local governance in the Philippines.

The implementation per the Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councils and Committees of the local executive cannot be under/over-estimated since all of the creation has been congruent already to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the Local Government Code of 1991. The challenge is putting more flesh to the implementation, such that, the duties, responsibilities and functions of the department have to align with the legislative efforts to rationalize and passed laws per standing committees the realization of propelling all platforms, programs, projects, initiatives, activities and the like for public benefit, general welfare and/or common good.

Similarly, it is important to note that attached and/or relative to the Local Special Bodies, Boards, Councils and Committees are bureaus, offices, departments, and/or units per organizational structure of a local government unit, both career and non-career in human resources per duties, functions and responsibilities, that will carry-out and/or operationalize the basic services and facilities of administration and governance according the existing laws, rules and regulations of policies therein.

CONCLUSION

The Local Government Code of 1991, specifically Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) has satisfied the ideals, precepts and fundamentals of the Philippine Constitution, such that, even prior to the passage of the United Nations' Agenda for Sustainable Development, local governance in the Philippines has complied the international standards, proving that the problems and challenges encountered in governance per delivery

of basic services and facilities in the Philippines, is not the mandate of the policies per se but the execution of the platforms, programs, projects, initiatives, activities and the like to meet the ideals of leadership, administration and governance therein.

Furthermore, local government units in the Philippines are empowered, autonomous and devolved in carrying-out the basic delivery of public goods and services to its people that are served accordingly, thus, coordinating all efforts aligned to the national directives per power and authorities vested therein. This means that before raising and/or bringing all concerns to the national government, it has to remand all needs to the basic unit of services and facilities in the purok level to the barangay, municipality, city and the province. The challenge is on the need for a harmonized, concerted and unified coordinating efforts of both the national and local governments along stakeholders in order to succeed effective and efficient governance in public service.

The ideals of the 1987 Philippine Constitution as expressed in the Local Government Code of 1991, specifically Chapter II, General Powers and Attributes of Local Government Units, Section 17, Basic Services and Facilities, Sub-sections (a)-(j) has been concomitant with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, thus, its completeness in form and substance has been idealized, transcribed, operationalized and aspired all through the years long before the passage of the Seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals making the policy instruments in the Philippines at par with international standards.



Figure 3: A Revitalized Agenda-Setting Design

Figure 3. The Revitalized Agenda-Setting Design on Innovating Platforms, Programs, Projects, Initiatives, Activities, Undertakings and the Like in the Regional and Local Levels of Governance in the Philippines

The figure above shows the design for a revitalized agenda-setting in capacitating and/or nourishing all government efforts in cooperation with the full-force of Government Organizations (GOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and People's Organizations (POs) and Other Civic Groups and International Organizations (IOs), side-by-side all the citizens who are to access and enjoy the basic services and facilities per local government units in the purok(s) to barangays, municipalities, provinces and cities in the Philippines. In order to address the gap of service delivery and access of those sectors that are unserved, underserved and/or overserved, the Local Government Code of 1991 reminds to intensify governance, administration and leadership in maximizing existing platforms, programs, project, initiatives and activities that will help aid, align and operationalize the policies in addressing gaps that are intended for the common good of all Filipino citizens therefor.

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