

**PROPOSED ACTION AGENDA OF THE WORKING GROUP ON DECENTRALIZATION
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE BREAK-OUT TOPICS IN THE 2007 PHILIPPINE
DEVELOPMENT FORUM (PDF)**

PDF SESSION BREAK-OUT TOPICS	WORKING GROUP THEMES	LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE	CAPACITY BUILDING	PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKING	POLICY REFORMS ON DEVOLUTION
<p>Session A: Achieving Broad-Based Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting the MDGs 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design the operationalization of performance-based grants • Undertake a study to determine how the utilization of ODA and GFI funds can be improve to catalyze private-LGU partnership to effectively assist lower income LGUs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the integrity and quality of data in the LGPMS through capacity building programs for LGUs on data collection in cooperation with statistical agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of the LGPMS in MDG and poverty monitoring • Develop benchmarks (or input and output indicators) for service delivery • Study on the link between existing community-based data collection systems (e.g. Community-Based Monitoring System) with the LGPMS 	
<p>Session B: Sustaining Fiscal Progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Revenue Collections 		<p><u>Revenue Mobilization Issues at the Local Level</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the problem of LGUs in updating property assessments in line with changes in market values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for LGUs is being planned as part of 		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve information sharing between BIR and the Leagues • Review of the SITUS of Tax rule • Address revenue assignment issues across levels of LGUs 	<p>the roll-out of the Joint Memorandum Circular on Planning and Budgeting (refer to governance reforms below)</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing the 2007 Expenditure Program 		<p><u>Expenditure Management Issues at the Local Level (not necessarily mentioned in the 2007 Budget)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamline procedures on the release of LGU shares in national wealth and other taxes • Review provision of the Procurement Law to make them more applicable to LGUs • Strengthen expenditure management by LGUs, particularly those pertaining to personnel policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for LGUs is being planned as part of the roll-out of the Joint Memorandum Circular on Planning and Budgeting (refer to governance reforms below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate in the Local Government Performance Management System (LGPMS) budget-related indicators 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensifying governance reforms 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address different reporting systems and conflicting guidelines on resource mobilization • Improved information access on LGU financial condition • Work towards automation of financial transactions at the LGU level consistent with the development of the Integrated Financial Management System being developed at the national level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize an Orientation Program for newly elected LCEs (i.e. first-timers) and their staffs • Implement the Joint Memorandum Circular, including the roll-out of core manuals • Develop capacity building programs for LGUs on the management and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to LGUs in the use of performance benchmarking systems in their operations and in generating meaningful reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a study on the decentralization experience of the Philippines • Review the Local Gov't Code, including the IRA formula.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordination of ODA • Improve the capacity of oversight agencies to monitor and assist LGUs 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the Capital Market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate the implementation mechanisms for the LGU financing framework particularly those on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LGU bond flotations - BOT and similar arrangements - Expanding GFI lending to LGUs - Creation of a specialized LGU financing facility • Update the LGU Financing Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up mechanisms for assessing the creditworthiness of LGUs (for BLGF and private sector) • Design a credit information database and a financial services providers database 			
<p>Session C: Enhancing Competitiveness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Transaction Costs & Improving Transaction Flows 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the Use of the LGPMS as tool for determining business-friendly LGUs 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting a Seamless Infrastructure Network 					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring Energy Cost-Efficiency and Self-Sufficiency 					
<p>Session D: Nurturing Regional and Local Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining Local Government Services 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a study to determine how the utilization of ODA and GFI funds can be improved 			

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		<p>to catalyze private-LGU partnership to effectively assist lower-income LGUs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the constraints of LGUs in tax collection and access to financing as stated above in Session B 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustaining Rural Development 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support action plans of concerned agencies on the further devolution in agriculture, environment and natural resources Develop models of decentralization which will illustrate protocols for engaging LGUs . 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing on Mindanao 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design the operationalization of performance-based grants Undertake a study to determine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop capacity building programs on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the use of the LGPMS in 	

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	how utilization of ODA and GFI funds can be improve to catalyze private-LGU partnership to effectively assist lower income LGUs	management and coordination n of ODA at the local level	assessing the performance of LGUs		

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