



PHILIPPINES DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Working Group on Growth and Investment Climate



Status Report on the GIC 2008-2009 Action Plan (as of 31 October 2008)

Agreed Action Agenda (1)	Identified Measures/Outputs (2)	Status (3)	Targets (4)	Responsible Agencies/ Parties (5)	Timetable (6)	Fund Source (7)	Competitiveness Indicators Being Addressed (8)
Theme 1: Accelerate and Widen Investments							
1. 1 Prepare detailed strategic industrial plans for priority sectors	1.1.1 Detailed Strategic Industrial Plans for the following priority sectors (agribusiness, Information Technology-Business Process Outsourcing (IT-BPO), tourism to include health and wellness and mining) which will include the identification of geographical areas for investment.	1.1.1 Conducted the following sectoral meetings: Agribusiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings conducted (4 + 2 for LGU Conference) • Prioritized mariculture because of its impact on employment and poverty alleviation • Priority products: bangus, sea cucumber, grouper (lapu-lapu, selected species), abalone, silver pomfret (pompano) and mangrove jack (mayamaya) • Support activities for the identified products : nursery, hatchery and feeds production • BETP and BFAR mapped out resources for the identified 	1.1.1.1 Scope and prepare strategic plans for mining, tourism including health and wellness and agribusiness in coordination with relevant groups 1.1.1.2 Address critical sector issues identified through sector TWGs organized and identify/scope assistance if needed 1.1.1.3 Identify 8 LGUs in priority sectors, scope assistance and provide assistance	DTI/BOI, NCC, sector agencies, DILG, private sector, LCP and LMP GIC Secretariat Development partners DTI/BOI, NCC, sector agencies, DILG, private sector, LCP and LMP GIC Secretariat Development partners DTI/BOI, NCC, sector agencies, DILG, private sector, LCP and LMP GIC Secretariat Development partners	August 2008 - March 2009 August-September 2008 August 2008-March 2009	GTZ IFC USAID	Economic Performance Business Efficiency

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		<p>priority products including geographical areas for investment promotion.</p> <p>IT-BPO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a Strategic Plan/Roadmap, entitled: “Offshoring and Outsourcing Philippines Roadmap 2010” • Meetings conducted (1 + 2 for LGU Conference) • 27 cities identified as Next Wave Cities using the process/criteria developed by McKinsey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20 out of the 27 cities have existing locators • Harnessed Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cebu Educational Development Foundation for Information Technology (CEDF-IT); Iloilo Federation for IT (IFIT); ICT Davao; Bacolod-Negros Occidental Educational Foundation for IT (BNEFIT); Oro ICT Council (Cagayan de Oro); Sta. Rosa ICT Council 	<p>Roadmap Target for 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of Philippine share in the global IT-BPO market to 10% and achieve revenues of about US\$13 billion • Direct employment of 1 million people by end 2010 • develop 50 Next Wave Cities in 2010. • Identify 8 LGUs in priority sectors, scope and provide assistance. • Provide scorecarding activities and strategic planning to potential cities for them to become part of the Next Wave Cities within the Cyber Corridor. 	<p>DTI/BOI, NCC, sector agencies, B/PAP, LCP, development partners</p>			<p>Economic Performance Government Efficiency Business Efficiency</p>

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		<p>Tourism (including health and wellness)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings conducted (10 + 3 for LGU Conference) • Focus on health and wellness with tourism gateways as anchor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical tourism - NCR - Tourism “gateways” - Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao, Subic-Clark, Vigan-Laoag • Finalized the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Technical Working Group (TWG) /National Secretariat for tourism (including health and wellness) • DOH Committee of Examiners on Massage Therapy (CEMT) agreed to hold the licensure examination in Cebu City for a minimum of 50 examinees • DOH and TESDA working towards harmonization of certification and licensure systems for massage therapists • Took part in the Cebu Health and Wellness Council’s Study Tour on 10 September 2008 	<p>Health and Wellness Councils established in Metro Manila, Subic-Clark and Vigan-Laoag (aka Cebu H&W Council)</p> <p>A working National Secretariat for tourism (including health and wellness)</p> <p>Harmonized Certification and licensure systems for massage therapists</p>	<p>Tourism TWG DOT, DTI, DOH, PCCI, LCP, LMP</p> <p>DOH, TESDA, DOT, DTI</p>	<p>December 2008-January 2009</p> <p>August-December 2008</p> <p>November 2008</p>	<p>GTZ</p> <p>GTZ</p>	<p>Economic Performance Government Efficiency Business Efficiency</p> <p>Government Efficiency</p> <p>Government Efficiency</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a National Tourism Competitiveness Council (LGU Conference Commitment) • Comprehensive national marketing campaign starting with a website at par with global best practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launch a comprehensive and integrated Philippine Tourism website (LGU Conference Commitment) • Harmonize National Accreditation Standards for hotels, restaurants, transportation and other tourist services <p>Mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings conducted (1 + 5 for LGU Conference) • Finalized Competitiveness Action Plan for the Mining Sector • Draft Joint DOF-DBM Memorandum Circular on mining excise tax under review • Review systems and procedures for issuance of Exploration Permits (EPs), 	<p>National Tourism Competitiveness Council</p> <p>Philippine Tourism Website</p> <p>National Accreditation Standards</p> <p>Guidelines and procedures for the collection and sharing of mining excise and business taxes</p> <p>Rationalized systems and procedures for issuance of EPs, MAs and FTAAs</p>	<p>DOT, DTI, LGUs, Leagues and private sector</p> <p>DOT, DTI, DOH, TESDA</p> <p>DOT, Private sector associations</p> <p>DOF, DBM, DENR</p> <p>DENR, MDC, LPP, LCP, LMP</p>	<p>December 2008</p>		<p>Government Efficiency Enforcing contracts Protecting investors</p> <p>Government Efficiency Business Efficiency Protecting Investors</p>

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		Mineral Agreements (MAs), and FTAAAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct consultations with LPP and LCP in the implementation of small-scale mining laws • Resolve overlapping land claims and boundary disputes 		DENR, Leagues, concerned LGUs DENR, Leagues, LGUs			Government Efficiency Business Efficiency Protecting investors
1.2 Collaborate with the business community to address constraints to investment promotion	1.2.1 Action on some of the recommendations of the foreign chambers that will be jointly identified by the GIC, the local and foreign chambers based on consultation with the latter	Ongoing consultation on various issues and concerns listed by the Joint Foreign Chambers (JFC) to specifically prioritize and identify “doables”, issues and concerns		NCC-Transaction Costs & Flows (TCF)		No funding support required	Government Efficiency Protecting Investors
	1.2.2 Advocate for the passage of the legislative measures critical to investment promotion which have been submitted by the Executive to the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) and prepare quarterly Progress Report on these to the GIC			NCC-TCF		No funding support needed	Business Environment
	1.2.3 Address the issues on the rationalization of fiscal incentives	Draft substitute bill on Incentives Reform has been consolidated and endorsed to the House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means in time for the convening of the next Congress	- Bill passed into law	NCC-TCF		No funding support needed	
	Mining Support proposed rationalization of incentives that will provide greater benefits to local and national governments on mining (LGU Conference commitment)						

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	IT-BPO Review, enhance and institute local incentives and fiscal reforms specific to the IT-BPO to increase the city's competitiveness (LGU Conference commitment)						
	1.2.4 Preparation of local investment promotion plans in priority LGUs in identified sectors	BOI conducted 9 capability training on investments promotion and enhance skills on preparation of Local Investments and Incentives Code (LIIC) for LGU executives. Two (2) provinces each in Luzon, Visayas & Mindanao will be identified as recipient of training - Related to 1.1.1.3 under col.4	- Investment Promotion Plans present in 25 priority LGUs	NCC-TCF		To be determined	
1.3 Promote competition policy	1.3.1 Identify sectors suffering from lack of competition and/or regulatory capture and prepare recommendations to address them	To be coordinated with the newly-formed WG on Infrastructure		GIC Secretariat WG on Infrastructure			Market Efficiency
	1.3.2 Formulate a legal framework for establishing a competition policy for the Philippines	- Draft bill submitted to Congress - TWG meetings conducted at both Houses	Policy note on Competition Policy drafted Advocacy program to muster support for the immediate passage of draft bills Passage of Anti-Trust/Anti-Monopoly Law	GIC Secretariat in coordination with DTI-TWG on Competition Policy	December 2008 November 2008-December 2009	IFC	Market Efficiency Market Efficiency

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Theme 2 : Expand Trade							
2.1 Work towards the implementation of the National Single Window (NSW) *in each of the agencies identified by BOC	2.1.1 Common framework for connecting the agencies which are linked to the Bureau of Customs	MOU linking BOC with other agencies of government e.g. DA, DOF and their respective line agencies, implemented on Dec. 2006		NCC-TCF		- USAID for the hardware provided to 50 agencies	Dealing with Business Government Efficiency
	2.1.2 Review the existing permits and licensing systems in each of the agencies identified by BOC and eventually inter-connect at least 12 agencies with the Bureau of Customs, with first priority being given to agencies involved in the export and import of food items	Deployed systems in 21 permits and licensing agencies (DA - 8, DTI - 4 (BPS, BIS, BOI, PEZA), BFAD, BIR, DENR, other agencies (POEA, PNRI, LTO, NIC, OMB, FEO). Connected 21 agencies with the BOC. Pilot testing of BIS system commenced 2 nd week of August 2008, other agencies to follow	- 10 agencies under EU support	NCC-TCF	To be determined with BOC	- EU for the review of computer systems for 10 agencies; support needed for other agencies	Dealing with Business Government Efficiency
2.2 Pave the way for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol (International Standards on Custom Procedures)	2.2.1 Advocate for the Senate ratification of the instruments of accession to the Kyoto Convention	Instrument of accession to the RKC signed by P/GMA Awaiting committee report of Sen. Santiago for deliberation/ratification by the Senate	Ratification of the Kyoto Convention	NCC-TCF			Government Efficiency Trading across borders
	2.2.2 Draft a Customs Manual of Procedures that will codify, systematize and align customs regulations and procedures with standards and recommended practices of the Revised Kyoto Convention		Customs Manual of Procedures drafted	NCC-TCF	To be determined with BOC	Possibly USAID	Government Efficiency Trading across borders
	2.2.3 Development and installation of systems for the transition of RKC consistent systems			NCC-TCF	To be determined with BOC		Government Efficiency Trading across borders

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Theme 3 : Strengthen Institutions and Governance							
1 Review and improve existing business registration procedures	3.1.1 Identify gaps and areas for improving business registration procedures for selected cities,	- IFC Study on Regulatory Simplification started in 2 cities (Quezon City, Marikina)	List to be expanded to other NCR cities by NCC, GIC and WG-DLG w/private sector support	NCC-CBB with NCC-TCF	March 2009	IFC-Private Enterprise Partnership, GTZ, USAID	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency Business Efficiency
		- Agreed w/ SSS to reduce procedures/steps in approving applications for business applications; - SSS issued memo reiterating processes	- At least 2 processes reduced and days for processing likewise reduced from 7 to 1 day	NCC-TCF	September 2008	No funding support	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency Business Efficiency
		Ongoing discussions on single registration form for SSS, PhilHealth and Pag-IBIG	Adoption of a single form by December 2008	NCC-TCF	December 2008	No funding support identified	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency Business Efficiency
		- Organized meeting to harmonize ODA assistance on BPLS and identify recommendations for government action	- ODA on BPLS monitored and harmonized -	NCC-TCF	March 2009		Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Business Efficiency
	3.1.2 Documentation and replication of good practices on streamlining business registration in LGUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practices of the cities of Marikina, Sta. Rosa, Quezon City, Taguig and Bohol presented to LGU Conference participants • LGU Handbook of 2000 pcs was printed out for dissemination to ULAP Convention this coming November • "Towards One BPLS" launched in Cebu with 13 Cebu LGUs identified for training 	Capacity building provided to 25 priority LGUs	NCC-TCF, BMSMED	March 2009	- GTZ, IFC - Funding support needed for upscaling	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Business Efficiency Business Efficiency
	3.1.3 Joint Circular by DTI and DILG that will set	- Draft being reviewed	Joint Circular released	NCC-TCF	3 rd - 4 th Quarter 2008 for	No funding support necessary	Starting and closing a business

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	benchmarks for the issuance of business permits and licenses				verification with DILG]		Dealing with licenses Business Efficiency
	3.1.4 Revision of existing laws (e.g. Local Government Code)/regulations that lengthen processes for securing business licenses	<p>A TWG was created composed of the legal departments of DILG and DTI to initially review 11 national laws per the IFC recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A review on the 2 laws (the National Building Code and Fire Code) is being conducted by the DILG to identify what part in the process of applying the permit takes more than 10 days before a permit is released to the applicant. - A review of special laws is being considered to find out what part in the process takes more than 10 days before a business application is approved - Include implementation of mining laws in the ongoing review of the Local Government Code (LGU Conference commitment) 	- Amendments to the 11 laws submitted	NCC-TCF	March 2009	Possibly IFC, USAID and GTZ	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency Business Efficiency
	NEW 3.1.5. Address procedural recommendations in various ODA projects on Business Permit and Licensing Systems (BPLS) in LGUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized meeting of development partners to present recommendations on BPLS (Joint meeting of PDF WGs on GIC, DLG and ATG) 	- ODA assistance on BPLS identified and harmonized	NCC-TCF	March 2008	No funding necessary	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency
	3.1.6 Pilot testing of a virtual contact center for addressing inquiries of the business sector	Endorsement re E-Gov fund for the project for signature by DTI (c/o MIS)	Virtual contact center	NCC, PIA, CSC, DTI		E-Gov Fund	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency

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3.2 Accelerate the implementation of the Philippine Business Registry System (PBR)	3.2.1 Development of the PBR portal with operational features on online business registration and facilitation, including single form for business registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 completed (beta version of the portal www.business.gov.ph) with online business registration facility for sole proprietorship soft launched on 09 July 2008 • Online business registration facilities for partnerships, corporations and cooperatives currently being developed • Design and testing of connectivity of PhilHealth, Pag-IBIG and SSS underway • DTI's Business Name Registration System (BNRS), BIR eTin registration and Business Permit and Licensing Systems (BPLS) of Caloocan and Mandaluyong already connected to PBR • Single form now available in online business registration facility for sole proprietorships • Single form for Phase 2 currently being developed • 30 cities and municipalities nominated by the Leagues of Cities and Municipalities to possibly connect to the PBR • Inter-LGU Workshop on PBR to be held in November 2008 		NCC-TCF	March 2007- March 2009		Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency

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	NEW. 3.2.2 Linking of agencies as part of Phase 1 through single data entry form for online registration from agencies included in Phase 1	DTI's Business Name Registration System (BNRS), BIR's e-TIN registration and Business Permit and Licensing System (BPLS) of Caloocan and Mandaluyong connected to PBR and is part of the sole proprietorship business registration loop targeted for launching by July 2008 Orientation on what PBR is to NERBACs is ongoing. Also awaiting finalization of the IRR for the operationalization of the NERBACs		NCC-TCF with concerned DTI groups	February 2009	GTZ (for activities on supporting the NERBAC)	
	NEW. 3.2.3 Undertake Business Name Registration Phase 2 and integration of agencies under Phase 2 (e.g., SSS, Pag-Ibig and Philhealth)	DTI's Business Name Registration System (BNRS), BIR eTin registration and Business Permit and Licensing Systems (BPLS) of Caloocan and Mandaluyong already connected to PBR as part of the online business registration facility for sole proprietorships. Single form now available in the online business registration facility for sole proprietorships. Single form for Phase 2 currently being developed		NCC-TCF with concerned DTI groups	September – November 2008		
	3.2.4 Link selected cities in PBR	PMU coordinates with the following: 1) LGUs outside of NCR, through the National Economic Research and Business Advisory Center (NERBAC), to assess their e-readiness and discuss their means of connecting to PBR if they are e-ready; and 2) League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) and League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) to		NCC-TCF	March 2009	GTZ (for activities on supporting the NERBAC)	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency

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		nominate LGUs that can connect to PBR. To date, a total of 39 cities and municipalities were nominated by LCP and LMP as LGUs that can possibly connect to PBR. An Inter-LGU Workshop will be held in November 2008 to brief them about PBR and discuss with them the PBR connectivity requirements.					
	3.2.5 Link the 15 National Economic Research and Business Assistance Centers (NERBACs) to the PBR	As of October 2008, NERBACs are fully operational in 15 regions.	NERBACs in 15 regions	NCC-TCF with concerned DTI groups	Done	GTZ (for activities on supporting the NERBAC)	Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency
	3.2.6 Review the implementation of one-stop shops (OSS) and Customer Service Desks (CSD) nationwide for further improvements			To be determined	Possibly GTZ or USAID		Starting and closing a business Dealing with licenses Government Efficiency
3.3 Institutionalize the Quality Management Systems in government	3.3.1 Support the implementation of a quality management system in selected agencies	Tapped DAP, DBM and private sector groups to assist in QMS implementation		DAP/DBM/PS/EPPMS			
	3.3.2 Work for the ISO 9001:2000 certification of agencies included in the Philippine Business Registry System	Funding support still pending but identified 8 agencies for capacity building within the year Assistance to 8 to be identified with DBM	- Capacity building for 8 PBR agencies provided NCC-EPPSM	DBM/GQMC/NCC-EPPSM	March 2009	Cost-sharing between GQMC and concerned agencies	
	3.3.3 Develop a generic manual to guide LGUs in establishing ISO 9001:2000 Quality Management System and pilot test in 5 LGUs	- Awaiting funding support	- Manual prepared and pilot testing done	DBM/GQMC/NCC-EPPSM	March 2009	GTZ: For funding support	

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3.4 Improve property rights and land use, focusing on secure transfer of land titles, appraisal and adjudication	3.4.1 Streamlined processes for securing registration and transfer of land titles, appraisal, taxation and adjudication			NCC-TCF			Registering property Government Efficiency
	3.4.2 Support the passage of the Land Administration Reform Act (LARA) - Establish criteria and standards in land use planning			GIC Secretariat			Government Efficiency Business Efficiency Protecting investors
3.5 Institutionalize a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) on new government requirements	3.5.1 Identify doable measures to pave the way for gradual RIA implementation	NEDA convened two (2) meetings of the RIA Working Group to level-off expectations and to explain what the RIA is all about	Citizen's Charter to replace the RIA. 15 pilot agencies identified (NPO, DFA, BI, DTI + Reg. 10, Philpost + Mandaue, LTO + Mandaue, Quezon city, LRA, POEA, BOC, DENR, NKT, DSWD, Metro Manila cities (16 cities, except Pateros), PCSO)	NCC-TCF	December 2008	ADB?	
	3.5.2 Conduct capability building for conducting RIA			NCC-TCF//NEDA	TO determined with NEDA	GTZ sponsored a briefing and presentation on the RIA	
3.6 Assist the National Competitiveness Council in identifying the criteria for LGUs to determine level of competitiveness	3.6.1 Criteria for assessing the competitiveness of cities and provinces	Draft criteria prepared by the NCC TWG on Competitiveness Criteria composed of government and private sector representatives	Criteria initially intended for 25 priority LGUs	NCC-PPM		Possibly GTZ, USAID, IFC	Economic Performance Government Efficiency Business Efficiency
3.7 Assist the GIC in promoting the competitiveness agenda and in implementing the Paris Declaration	3.7.1 Capacity building for LGUs - IT-BPO - Tourism (H&W) – value chain approach for LGUs in identified tourism gateways		- RBM completed for 6 WGs	GIC Secretariat	May 2008	GTZ	Efficiency enhancers

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on Aid Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agribusiness - Mining 3.7.2 Capacity building for the DTI and the National Competitiveness Council secretariat	Re: GTZ assistance to NCC, conducted 2 Results-Based Management (RBM) Workshops					

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Theme 4: Provide Adequate Financing Support							
4.1 Establish a Credit Information System for the Philippines	4.1.1 Passage of the law establishing a Credit Information System	Credit Information System Act signed by P/GMA on 31 October 2008	Passage of the law	GIC Secretariat	March 2009		Getting credit
	4.1.2 Implement and operationalize the Credit Information System	- Awaiting approval	To be determined	GIC Secretariat	March 2009		Getting credit
4.2 Identify policy reforms to promote risk-based lending	4.2.1 Policy reforms that would promote less reliance on security-based lending	IFC policy note completed		GIC Secretariat	July 2008	IFC	
4.3 Review and amend laws (e.g. CARP) which limit financing options for firms	4.3.1 Amendment of relevant laws (e.g. CARP) to allow use of farm lands as collateral	The Senate Committee on Agrarian Reform has endorsed the extension of CARP (3 phases) until 2013 with a total budget of PhP147 billion.		GIC Secretariat			Getting credit

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Theme 5: Raise Quality and Productivity Thru Innovation and Technology							
5.1 Work towards better matching /coordination of private sector manpower needs with training courses of service providers (e.g., academe, private sector, CHED, TESDA or other government agencies)	5.1.1 Implementation of Industry-designed training programs IT-BPO - Initiate, strengthen and expand Human Capacity Development Programs (LGU Conference Commitment) Tourism - Participate in capacity building programs to enhance competitiveness (LGU Conference Commitment) Agribusiness - Participate in capacity building programs (LGU Conference Commitment) Mining - Participate in capacity building programs (LGU Conference Commitment)	To be determined		GIC Secretariat NCC-CHR		GTZ	Efficiency enhancers Innovation Factors