TOWARDS ENERGY EQUITY
A multi-stakeholder approach to a just renewable energy transition for Philippine local governments
KEY MESSAGES

• The DOE-DILG JCM 2020-01 provides the policy basis for the creation of multi-stakeholder energy committees in Local Development Councils that shall oversee local energy planning and implementation.

• In terms of the stakeholder composition of the committee, LGUs should ensure diverse representation to ensure all relevant points of view are accounted for in the development of Renewable Energy policies, programs, projects, and activities (RE PPPAs). To this end, it is recommended that the committee is composed of representatives from the relevant national government agencies, local government departments, distribution utility (DU), local businesses, civil society organizations (CSOs), people's organizations (POs), non-government organizations (NGOs), women's groups, youth groups, senior citizen's groups, PWD groups, indigenous peoples (IPs), other vulnerable groups, and the academe.

• Supporting participatory and feedback mechanisms to complement the multi-stakeholder energy committee must also be established to guarantee that every part of the community, especially the vulnerable and marginalized are able to equitably let their voices be heard.

• Members of the multi-stakeholder energy committee must be capacitated in the development of RE PPPAs and provided necessary budget and resources to enable their inclusive, meaningful, and just participation in the energy transition.

• The local energy plan created through the multi-stakeholder energy committee must adhere to relevant national regulations and priorities, and should follow a similar timeline horizon as the local CDP.

• The shift away from fossil fuels and a single-minded focus on GHG emissions reduction can perpetuate and worsen existing inequalities, including poverty, energy insecurity, health risks, resource exploitation, and land grabbing, among others. Conversely, a just energy transition will make energy more accessible, improve energy security, generate green jobs, stabilize and economize electricity prices, and decentralize energy generation—these, in addition to reducing pollution and related risks.
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The Philippines is facing an energy crisis

The Philippines' reliance on fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas is at the heart of the climate and energy crisis that the country is facing. From just a 31% share in the country's energy mix in 2010, the use of coal grew to 47% in 2022, with all fossil fuels combining to make up over 77% of the country's electricity generation sources (Ember Climate, 2023). This dependence has led to steadily growing emissions in this sector, which went from 70.95 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) equivalent (MtCO2e) in 2020 to 73.88 MtCO2e in 2021 (Department of Energy, 2021), indicating that the country continues to contribute to climate change and the climate hazards itself is suffering. Moreover, since the country imports most of the fossil fuels it uses, it is vulnerable to fluctuations in supply chains and market prices. High importation costs ultimately get passed down to consumers, with the Philippines having the 5th highest household electricity price in the Asia-Pacific region at an average of USD 0.17 per kilowatt hour (Global Petrol Prices, 2022).

Due to recent technological and market advances, renewable energy (RE)—hydro, solar, wind, bio, geothermal, and other sustainable sources—is more than ever the most viable solution to the country's energy woes. As of 2022, renewables made up around 23% of the Philippines' energy mix (Ember Climate, 2023), increasing from 5,521 megawatts (MW) of installed capacity in 2012 to 8,264 MW in 2022 (Department of Energy, 2023). The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 6th Assessment Report underscores the importance of not just a plain transition from fossil fuels to clean energy sources, but rather a truly sustainable transition anchored on equity, justice, and inclusivity.

Local government units (LGUs) in the Philippines are considered the frontliners in this sustainable transition owing to their close proximity to their constituents which allow them to better deliver contextualized and tailor-fit solutions. This role is enshrined in policies such as the Local Government Code of 1991 which gives them responsibility in managing their jurisdiction's ecological balance; the Climate Change Act of 2009 which mandates the creation of Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAPs); the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 which provides LGUs incentives to host RE facilities; and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 2019 which promotes the development and use of RE technologies amongst energy end users, including for LGUs. Moreover, the Mandanas-Garcia Supreme Court Ruling empowers them positionally and fiscally to exercise autonomy over their energy-related plans, programs, projects, and activities (PPPAs).
However, for LGUs to fully realize their critical role in this energy transition, they must recognize and realize the need for the democratization of the energy system. This entails the meaningful involvement of stakeholders across the entire transition process to ensure that the environmental, social, and economic benefits of the RE transition is fairly and equitably distributed to all, most especially the traditionally neglected individuals and communities. This energy democratization and multi-stakeholder energy mechanisms is at the heart of the Oxfam Just Energy Transition (JET) programme which is characterized by inclusivity, fairness, and collective benefit, especially for poor women and vulnerable communities who would be affected by the implementation and localization of renewable energy PPPAs.

As part of its JET Programme, Oxfam Pilipinas partnered with ICLEI Southeast Asia for the RE-Start Campaign to provide support to the local governments of Borongan and Dolores in Eastern Samar as they embark on their energy governance democratization journey. A series of multi-stakeholder engagement activities were conducted throughout 2023 which encouraged local actors to collaborate in establishing enabling policies and environments for accelerated RE transformation. Through capacity-sharing and participatory approaches, mutual understanding between the local governments and community members was established to advocate for the meaningful inclusion of the greater public in the development of future energy-related PPPAs. Moreover, Oxfam Pilipinas and ICLEI Southeast Asia were able to provide Borongan and Dolores with a draft local policy instrument institutionalizing participatory local energy planning.

Stakeholder consultation and training workshops were conducted as part of the RE-Start campaign’s goal of enabling a just energy transition in Eastern Samar, Philippines.
Why multi-stakeholder energy mechanisms are the way forward

According to Oxfam’s 2022 research paper “Towards a Just Energy Transition: Implications for Communities in Lower- and Middle-Income Countries,” a shift from the use of fossil fuels to renewable energy which maintains the top-down status quo of current energy systems has the danger of likewise perpetuating existing inequalities, including poverty, energy insecurity, health risks, resource exploitation, and land grabbing, among others. A single-minded focus on GHG emissions reduction also runs the risk of further worsening these sectoral and intersectional injustices.

Conversely, a just energy transition will make energy more accessible, improve energy security, generate green jobs, stabilize and economize electricity prices, and decentralize energy generation—these, in addition to reducing pollution and related risks (Oxfam, 2022). In alleviating these issues, energy democratization stands to generate greater public and private support for RE, which in turn will speed up the transition, snowball the primary and co-benefits, and minimize the possibilities of reverting to fossil fuel dependence. Moreover, the inclusive and active engagement of stakeholders will lead to a more holistic understanding of the positive and negative impacts of RE PPPAs and lead to more contextualized, truly sustainable, and community-supported climate actions (UNDP Climate Promise, 2022).

A just energy transition will make energy more accessible, improve energy security, generate green jobs, stabilize & economize electricity prices, & decentralize energy generation.

The RE-Start Campaign worked hand-in-hand with stakeholders to surface a holistic understanding of Eastern Samar’s energy context and create contextualized ways forward for the province’s renewable energy transition.
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**Key policies and programs supporting the RE transition and multi-stakeholder energy mechanisms**

Various Philippine legislations and programs support both the locally-led transition to renewable energy, as well as the meaningful participation of stakeholders in this transition. These are enumerated and explained below.

**Climate Change Act of 2009**

Republic Act 9729 or the Climate Change Act of 2009 is a landmark law which directs the Philippines to systematically integrate the concept of climate change in various phases of policy formulation, development plans, poverty reduction strategies and other development tools and techniques by all levels of government. With regards to renewable energy, the Climate Change Act mandates a gender-sensitive, pro-children, and pro-poor approach in any efforts, plans, and programs. Moreover, it promotes broader multi-stakeholder participation in climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.

**Renewable Energy Act of 2008**

Republic Act 9513 or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 serves as the foundation for the country’s transition to renewable energy. Through it, various policy instruments have been created to enable a policy environment with preferential bias for the development and utilization of renewable energy resources from production to consumption. These instruments include the Feed-In Tariff System which offers guaranteed fixed price per kilowatt to RE developers; the Renewable Portfolio Standards which requires electricity suppliers to obtain a specified share of their overall energy supply from qualified RE sources; the Green Energy Option Program which enables consumers to choose RE as their preferred energy supply; the Green Energy Auction Program and the Net-Metering Program which allows eligible consumers to install RE for their own use while selling any excess electricity back to the grid.

The RE Act also outlines various incentives to be provided to LGUs hosting RE facilities, including 80% of their share from RE projects being used to directly subsidize consumers with less than 100kWh consumption; and 20% of their remaining share to be used in financing local government and livelihood projects.

**National Renewable Energy Program 2020-2040**

The National Renewable Energy Program (NREP) 2020-2040 outlines the Philippines’ goal of increasing its renewable energy generation to 35% of the total mix by 2030 and to 50% by 2040. As part of the NREP, the Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued a joint memorandum for the LGU Energy Code which aims to assist LGUs in aligning local energy projects to national plans, streamlining the RE permitting processes, and maximizing benefits from RE projects.

Moreover, the LGU Energy Code mandates the creation of an Energy Sector Committee through the Local Development Council which will have oversight on the development of spatial plans for local energy facilities; inclusion of local energy policies and programs in the local comprehensive development plan (CDP); streamlining of permitting and approval processes for energy-related projects; and information, education, and communication campaigns on RE.

The NREP also outlines that local energy committees or technical working groups must involve RE stakeholders in the development of local RE plans and their integration into legislative and executive agendas.

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 2019**

Republic Act 11285 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) Act mandates EEC to be a way of life for local governments in the...
country. It covers the sustainable use of energy derived from traditional fossil fuels as well as renewables.

One of the law’s mandates is the creation of a local EEC Office, headed by an EEC Officer, which will have responsibility over the development and implementation of the Local Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plan (LEECP). It allows for the EEC Office to be subsumed by the planning and development office, and the role of the EEC Officer to be taken up by an existing LGU personnel.

Under the EEC Act, the LEECP should be a collaborative and multi-stakeholder document which comprehensively details an LGU’s EEC framework, governance structure, and program, along with its EEC goals, strategies, and monitoring and evaluation plan.

The EEC Act also mandates LGUs to abide by the Government Energy Management Program (GEMP) which aims to reduce the monthly consumption of electricity and fuel used for local government buildings and vehicles through means such as employing renewable energy systems. As with the LEECP, the EEC Office and Officer are responsible for local compliance with the GEMP.

**Microgrid Systems Act of 2022**

To help provide electricity to still-off-grid communities in rural areas, Republic Act 11646 or the Microgrid Systems Act enables microgrid system providers (MGSP) to provide power generation and distribution services in areas identified by traditional distribution utilities to be underserved or unserved. Specifically, this law outlines the preference for low-cost, indigenous, renewable, and environment-friendly sources of energy.

Under the act, an LGU can fully or partially serve as an MGSP as long as it can demonstrate capability and willingness to comply with the outlined relevant technical, technological, financial, and other requirements.

**Philippine Nationally Determined Contribution**

The Philippines’ First Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) supports the country’s national development objectives and priorities which includes energy security, and is its voluntary share in the global fight against climate change. The country’s NDC “commits to a projected GHG emissions reduction and avoidance of 75%, of which 2.71% is unconditional and 72.29% is conditional, representing the country’s ambition for GHG mitigation for the period 2020 to 2030 for the sectors of agriculture, wastes, industry, transport, and energy.”

The NDC also recognizes the importance of the meaningful participation of women, children, youth, persons with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, differently abled, indigenous peoples, elderly, local communities, civil society, faith-based organizations, and the private sector in concerted efforts and action to transition to a low-emission and climate-resilient future.
Specific recommendations for multi-stakeholder energy mechanisms

Creating a multi-stakeholder energy committee

In alignment with the Joint Memorandum Circular 2020-01 by the Department of the Interior and Local Government and the Department of Energy, the proposed primary mechanism for ensuring multi-stakeholder participation in the development, implementation, and monitoring of local energy PPPAs is a multi-stakeholder energy committee embedded into the LGU's Local Development Council. This committee should oversee and perform local energy planning and implementation and should be composed of representatives from the relevant national government agencies, local government departments, distribution utility (DU), local businesses, civil society organizations (CSOs), people's organizations (POs), non-government organizations (NGOs), women's groups, youth groups, senior citizen's groups, PWD groups, indigenous peoples (IPs), other vulnerable groups, and the academe to facilitate the inclusive collaboration, information sharing, and coordination of RE PPPAs. The committee should also include experts in energy policy, technology, and economics to provide technical guidance and data-driven recommendations. It is also strongly recommended for LGUs to observe a balanced ratio between male and female representatives and leadership in the committee.

The creation of a multi-stakeholder committee should be preceded by local stakeholder engagement and mapping activities to more accurately determine the specific, relevant stakeholders which make sense for each local government’s unique energy profile and contexts. According to Oxfam (2022), the inclusion of CSOs, NGOs, and POs have been found to be catalytic when they are provided official means for RE participation. These also help spur local innovations and accelerate the horizontal spread of proposed solutions and interventions. Under the RE-Start Campaign, Oxfam Pilipinas and ICLEI Southeast Asia conducted stakeholder mapping, focus group discussions, and bilateral meetings per LGU to generate an exhaustive list of key stakeholders and assessment of each identified stakeholders’ impact and influence on local JET efforts. Community representatives were also able to raise key points regarding their current and desired degrees of participation in local energy planning.

These foundational stakeholder mapping activities were done in groups, separating traditionally high-power and high-influence actors such as LGUs and DUs, and other stakeholders. This was to create a more conducive discussion environment where the latter group can freely share their thoughts and opinions without fear of repercussions. Moreover, facilitators assured the participants that they were in a safe space and provided anonymized discussion mechanisms such as freedom walls to encourage equal participation from all.

Results from the activities then served as inputs in the proposed establishment of a multi-stakeholder energy committee in each LGU. While the specific composition of the committee will vary per LGU, the overall committee is generally proposed to have three working groups: (a) Multistakeholder Energy Committee, (b) Technical Working Group (TWG), (c) Policy and Program Adoption Group.

The inclusion of CSOs, NGOs, and POs have been found to be catalytic when they are provided official means for RE participation.
The Multi-stakeholder Energy Committee shall be responsible for gathering feedback and suggestions, conflict resolution, and Committee representation in dialogues with the LGU. It will also work closely with the TWG through consultative, participatory, and co-designing approaches in formulating PPPAs to facilitate JET. It will be composed of non-local government actors formed under four sub-groups, namely (1) Research and Development; (2) Alignment and Resources Support; (3) Advocacy and Implementation; and (4) Information Dissemination and Accountability Check.

The Technical Working Group shall be composed of local government departments and shall be responsible for formulating PPPAs that shall improve energy accessibility, affordability, and reliability based on the gathered data and information, issues and concerns, and feedback and suggestions raised by the Committee. It shall also bear the advisory function and services to the City Council on which priority initiatives shall be pursued.

Lastly, the Policy and Program Adoption Group will be composed of the elected local government officials and shall be responsible for decision-making and executing JET-enabling and stakeholder-driven PPPAs as advised by the Committee and TWG. It shall also be responsible for establishing a feedback platform for Committee and the general public for accountability checks and continuous improvement of energy sector initiatives and services.

A draft local executive order is provided in Annex A to support LGUs in institutionalizing the proposed multi-stakeholder energy committee, including its proposed composition and functions which may be adjusted as necessary based on the LGU’s unique contexts.

The development of a proposed multi-stakeholder energy committee in Borongan and Dolores, Eastern Samar was preceded by stakeholder mapping sessions to better identify the relevant stakeholders that should be part of each town’s committee.
Sharing capacities and resources with stakeholders for meaningful and inclusive participation

Government and non-government stakeholders must be capacitated in the development of RE PPPAs to enable their inclusive, meaningful, and just participation in the energy transition. This involves enabling them to understand their area's existing energy situation and prevailing energy systems, RE potential, and ideal RE technologies that fit this potential.

Specifically, stakeholders must first be capacitated in co-developing their area's energy profile which is composed of their local energy and climate goals, and an assessment of existing and upcoming energy sector PPPAs, energy provider, distributor, energy consumption data, energy cost, supply and demand issues, and GHG emissions by the sector as applicable. In inclusively developing the energy profile, the potential of RE development and use in the area can be better assessed. Unforeseen limitations and barriers to RE and JET can also be surfaced and taken into account.

Additionally, it is proposed that the stakeholders be capacitated in the following foundational RE topics: RE technology solutions and interventions; conducting basic financial valuation or techno-financial assessment; estimating greenhouse gas emissions; and tapping financing modalities, platforms, and opportunities. In creating an equal level of understanding between all stakeholders on the aforementioned topics, they can be better empowered to meaningfully participate in the proposed multi-stakeholder energy committee.

LGUs should then allocate sufficient budget and resources via their annual investment plan to support the committee's activities, such as research, outreach, public engagement, and PPPA implementation.

It is also recommended that the DOE and DILG—as the national proponents of the policy basis for the creation of these committees—be tapped to provide training opportunities for committee members to enhance their knowledge of energy-related topics and policy development. They should likewise provide continuous guidance to LGUs in ensuring that all energy-related policies and projects adhere to relevant national regulations and priorities.

Creating supporting participatory and feedback mechanisms

In institutionalizing active and participatory processes as opposed to passive approaches, it is important to guarantee that every part of the community, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized, are adequately included and capacitated to allow for their informed participation within and outside the multi-stakeholder energy committee. LGUs should move beyond conventional media to broaden their influence and enhance their interaction with all stakeholders. Constituents should have convenient access to feedback channels that accommodate their resources, such as whether they have internet access or the ability to visit municipal halls in person. Creating feedback systems accessible through different media and platforms ensures that everyone has an equitable opportunity to voice their opinions and be listened to. Additionally, it is strongly recommended for the multi-stakeholder energy committee to conduct an annual stocktake to assess if energy targets and initiatives being set are being effectively, efficiently, and equitably delivered to uphold the principles of transparency and accountability.

Aligning the local energy plan with other local plans

Lastly, it is ideal for the LGU’s local energy plan produced by the said multi-stakeholder energy committee to follow a similar timeline horizon as its CDP. Therefore, it is recommended for the committee to convene at least six (6) months before the formulation of the local energy plan to ensure sufficient time to conduct research and consultations to determine priority PPPAs that shall be suggested for consideration into the local energy plan, to the CDP, and to the Local Development Investment Plan (LDIP).
While the Philippines is facing a critical energy and climate crisis driven by its heavy dependence on fossil fuels, a transformative shift towards RE offers a path to true sustainability and energy security. LGUs play a pivotal role in this transition as they are empowered by various laws to take charge of their energy futures.

However, for this transition to be truly successful, energy systems must be democratized. Institutionalizing multi-stakeholder energy mechanisms will ensure that the benefits of RE will be equitably distributed across society, especially to the most vulnerable sectors. Several key policies and programs already provide a solid basis for this just energy transition, including the Climate Change Act of 2009, Renewable Energy Act of 2008, National Renewable Energy Program 2020-2040, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 2019, Microgrid Systems Act of 2022, and the Philippine Nationally Determined Contribution.

As such, it is proposed for LGUs to establish their own multi-stakeholder energy committees and capacitate all stakeholders to ensure their meaningful participation in developing RE PPPAs. In adopting an approach that advocates for collaboration and collective action, LGUs can chart a course towards a greener and more just energy system for all.

Conclusions and recommendations

The RE-Start Campaign’s implementation in Eastern Samar Philippines is proof positive that stakeholders are more than willing to be involved in just energy transition processes and mechanisms.
References


Annex A

Draft Executive Order establishing a multi-stakeholder energy sector committee for the City of Borongan

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. ___
Series of 2023

PROVIDING FOR THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A LOCAL ENERGY PLAN AS THE ENERGY SECTOR COMPONENT OF THE CITY COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CDP), CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE IN PURSUANCE HEREOF

WHEREAS, the Philippines reliance on fossil fuels as its principal source of power supply is at the heart of the energy crisis that the country is facing, including the country’s share in the worsening greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that are affecting climate change;

WHEREAS, the City of Borongan as part of the Eastern Samar Province suffers from the adverse effects of climate change and is projected to experience a general increase in temperature, rainfall, and the number of extreme hot days¹;

WHEREAS, the Eastern Visayas region has recorded a poverty incidence of 28.9% and is also energy poor with low to no access to stable electricity supply, and these catastrophic events led by climate change further deepen poverty and slow down growth and development in locality;

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Act of 2009 (RA 9729) declares as State policy to systematically integrate the concept of climate change in the various phases of policy formulation, development planning, poverty reduction strategies and such other development tools among the different instrumentalities of the government;

WHEREAS, the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 (RA 9513) provides the legal framework for the exploration and development of renewable energy in order to achieve energy self-reliance;

WHEREAS, the Microgrid Systems Act (RA 11646) enables microgrid system providers to generate power supply and distribution services in the remaining underserved and unserved areas identified by distribution utilities, and to prioritize low-cost, indigenous, renewable and environment-friendly sources of energy;

WHEREAS, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act of 2019 (RA 11285) likewise authorizes the LGUs to establish their Energy Efficiency and Conservation Office (EECO) that shall be responsible for the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of their Local Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans (LEECP);

WHEREAS, the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP) 2020-2040 sets the country’s target of increasing the share of renewable energy sources in the generation mix to 35% by 2030 and to 50% by 2040;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, in furtherance of the Paris Agreement, communicated its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) wherein it committed a projected cumulative GHG emission reduction and avoidance of 75% from its current business-as-usual scenario, and to pursue unconditional policies and measures in the energy sector;

WHEREAS, the City of Borongan and the Oxfam Pilipinas and the ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability Southeast Asia Secretariat (ICLEI SEAS) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the implementation of the RE-Start Campaign Y2 Project, which is intended to promote a system of integrating renewable energy in the City plans, programs, and budgets;

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior & Local Government and the Department of Energy issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2020-01 mandating LGUs to enact their LGU Energy Code and to formulate their Local Energy Plan, which shall be made as integral part of the LGU Comprehensive Development Plan, in order for them to address their respective energy supply needs as well as to complement at their levels the Government’s initiatives in the implementation of those above-mentioned laws and plans.

¹ Observed Climate Trends and Projected Climate Change in the Philippines
² Philippine Climate Extremes Report 2020
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSE IVAN DAYAN AGDA, Mayor of the City of Borongan, Province of Eastern Samar, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. Formulation of Local Energy Plan. Within thirty (30) days from the issuance of this Order, the Multi-Stakeholder Committee herein created shall formulate the City of Borongan Energy Plan which contain the energy-related policies, programs, projects and activities proposed and committed by any participating stakeholder.

Section 2. CDP Energy Component. The Local Energy Plan shall be submitted to the City Development Council which, upon its adoption, shall be incorporated in the Comprehensive Development Plan, therein referred to as Comprehensive Development Plan-Energy Component. Section 3. Creation of Multi-Stakeholder Committee. Towards a functional mechanism in the formulation and implementation of the Local Energy Plan, there is hereby created a City Multi-Stakeholder Committee whose composition shall be from LGU offices, government agencies, government and civil society organizations and be grouped as follows:

Committee Chairman: The City Mayor
(a) Policy & Program Advisory Group:
   Chairman: Chairman, SP Committee on Environment
   Members: Chairman, SP Committee on Health
             Chairman, SP Committee on Education
             Chairman, SP Committee on Development Planning
             Chairman, SP Committee on Land Use and Zoning
             City Government Operations Officer-DILG
(b) Technical Working Group:
   Chairman: City Planning & Development Office
   Vice Chairman: City Environment & Natural Resources Office
   Members: City Solid Waste & Management Office
            City Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Office
            City Engineering Office
            Office of the Building Official
            City Budget Office
            City General Services Office
            City Information Office
(c) Secretariat: City Planning and Development Office
(d) Research and Development Support Group:
   Chairman: Eastern Samar State University
   Members: Institute of Integrated Electrical Engineers
            Eastern Samar Electric Cooperative
            Department of Science and Technology
(e) Policy & Program Alignment and Resources Support Group:
   Chairman: Department of Energy, Visayas Field Office
   Members: Department of the Interior & Local Government
            Department of Environment Natural Resources
            Department of Social Welfare & Development
            Department of Public Works & Highways
            Department of Agriculture
            Department of Science and Technology
Section 4. Duties and Functions. In addition to the responsibilities to attend to meetings and participate in all activities of the Committee or as may directed by the Committee Chairman, the duties and functions of a group organized under the Committee include:

(a) Policy and Program Advisory Group:

1. Serve as the feedback platform between the general and the Committee and render recommendations thereof;
2. Recommend appropriate executive and legislative actions and such other corrective or remedial measures in order to provide the legal authority for the adoption, institutionalization, implementation, enforcement, as the case may be, of any policy, program, project or activity included in the Energy Plan;

(b) Technical Working Group:

1. Provide technical assistance to the Committee in all of its proceedings. Primarily in the formulation of a Local Energy Plan;
2. Initiate technical evaluation, inspection or verification of an issue, report, object or document referred to it, especially if it is relevant to energy accessibility, affordability, and reliability of a policy, program or project to be included in the Energy Plan.

(c) Secretariat:

1. Provide administrative support services to the Committee;
2. Finalize agenda and serve notices to all concerned;
3. Prepare documentation of the activities of the Committee, including preparation activity and post-activity reports;
4. Maintain a system of safekeeping and retrieval of records and properties of the Committee.

(d) Research and Development Support Group:

1. Conduct study on issues or matters requested by the Committee;
2. Extend relevant information pertaining to any policy, program or project under consideration by the Committee.
Policy & Program Alignment and Resources Support Group:

1. Provide guidance in the alignment and compliance of policies, programs, projects, and activities of the LGU to the relevant national policies and priorities
2. Extend relevant information pertaining to any policy, program, project, and activity under consideration by the committee
3. Provide assistance services, in the form of capacity building, technical assistance, financial assistance, feasibility studies, and/or expert guidance of its technical personnel upon request.

Advocacy and Co-Implementation Group:

1. Develop public understanding and support of the Local Energy Plan by facilitating dialogues and knowledge sharing among key stakeholders on the advancement of just energy transition in the city

Information Dissemination Group:

1. Disseminate relevant information about the activities of the Committee;
2. Inform the salient features or contents of the Local Energy Plan.

Section 5. Meetings of the Committee. The Committee shall have its regular meeting once a month at the day, time and place to be determined during its first meeting called by the Chairman. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman upon the request of a concerned group particularly stating in the notice the purpose of the meeting.

Section 6. Implementation Strategy of Local Energy Plan. The implementation of any policy, program, project or activity included in the Local Energy Plan shall be primarily initiated by the concerned proponent office, agency or organization. Whenever practicable, the proponent shall prepare an implementation plan to be submitted to the Committee as basic reference for multi-stakeholder participations and application of regulations, monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

Section 7. Committee Internal Rules. The Committee may adopt its own internal rules that govern its meetings and Committee other activities.

Section 8. Funding. The amount needed for the maintenance and operating expenditures of the Committee shall be charged from the budgetary allocations for the City Development Council: Provided, that for the ensuing years, the Committee plans and allocations shall be included in the consideration of the annual budget of the City.

Section 9. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE at the Office of the City Mayor, City of Borongan, this ___ day of _____ in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-three.

JOSE IVAN DAYAN AGDA
Mayor
This policy brief contains policy recommendations for Philippine local government units (LGUs) arising from the lessons learned in the development of proposed just energy transition multi-stakeholder committees in the three LGUs of the City of Borongan, Municipality of Dolores, and Province of Eastern Samar. This policy brief was prepared with supervision from ICLEI Southeast Asia and Oxfam Pilipinas under the RE-Start Campaign Y2 Project funded by Oxfam Pilipinas. The views expressed in this document are in no way considered to reflect the official opinion of Oxfam Pilipinas.