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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH CENTER

PAMBANSANG SENTRO NG PANANALIKSIK SA BUWIS

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Bagong Pilipinas:

Transforming the economy toward a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient society

51st ANNUAL REPORT



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NTRC 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Bagong Pilipinas:

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABR	- Annual Benefits Report
AFAB	- Authority of Freeport Area of Bataan
AFPCEs	- Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissary and Exchange Service
AO	- Administrative Order
APECO	- Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport
ARAL	- Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning
ARI	- Annual Regular Income
ASEAN	- Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ATIR	- Annual Tax Incentives Report
AVT	- Ad Valorem Tax
BBOI	- Bangsamoro Board of Investments
BCDA	- Bases Conversion and Development Authority
BE	- Business Enterprise
BESS	- Battery Energy Storage System
BEZA	- Bangsamoro Economic Zone Authority
BIMP-EAGA	- Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BIR	- Bureau of Internal Revenue
BISEZ	- Bohol Island Special Economic Zone
BLGF	- Bureau of Local Government Finance
BOC	- Bureau of Customs
BOI	- Board of Investments
BOT	- Build-Operate-Transfer
CBA	- Cost-Benefit Analysis
CDA	- Cooperative Development Authority
CDC	- Clark Development Corporation
CES	- Certificate of Entitlement to Subsidy
CETI	- Certificate of Entitlement to Tax Incentive
CGT	- Capital Gains Tax
CAI	- Certificate of Authority to Import
CIT	- Corporate Income Tax
CNLA	- Certificate of Non-Local Availability
COR	- Certificate of Registration
CREATE	- Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises
CT	- Commercial Tax
CTC	- Community Tax Certificate
CTRP	- Comprehensive Tax Reform Program
DED	- Deputy Executive Director
DENR	- Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DME	- Domestic Market Enterprise
DOF	- Department of Finance
DOH	- Department of Health
DST	- Documentary Stamp Tax
DTI	- Department of Trade and Industry
ECRPV	- Executive Committee on Real Property Valuation
EO	- Executive Order
EPR	- Extended Producer Responsibility
FAB	- Freeport Area of Bataan
FDA	- Food and Drug Administration
FI	- Financial institution
FILM	- Fostering Investment through Local and International Movies
FIRB	- Fiscal Incentives Review Board
FIRMS	- Fiscal Incentives Registration and Monitoring System
FIST	- Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer
FISTC	- Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer Corporation
FLS	- Friday Learning Session
GAA	- General Appropriations Act
GDP	- Gross Domestic Product
GI	- Government Instrumentality

GIT	- Gross Income Tax
GOCC	- Government-Owned and/or –Controlled Corporation
GRT	- Gross Receipts Tax
GS	- Government Securities
GSIS	- Government Service Insurance System
GST	- Goods and Services Tax
HB	- House Bill
HR	- Human Resource
IA	- Implementing Agency
ICC	- Investment Coordination Committee
IDR	- Indonesian Rupiah
IMF	- International Monetary Fund
IPA	- Investment Promotion Agency
IRA	- Internal Revenue Allotment
IRR	- Implementing Rules and Regulations
ISO	- International Organization for Standardization
IT-BPM	- Information Technology and Business Process Management
JAO	- Joint Administrative Order
JHMC	- John Hay Management Corporation
LGC	- Local Government Code
LGU	- Local Government Unit
LNG	- Liquefied Natural Gas
LRA	- Land Registration Authority
LUC	- Local Universities and Colleges
MAA	- Metropolitan Manila Area
MC	- Memorandum Circular
MICT	- Minimum Corporate Income Tax
MIF	- Maharlika Investment Fund
MR	- Motion for Reconsideration
MRP	- Maximum Retail Price
MSME	- Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise
MUP	- Military and Uniformed Personnel
MVRUT	- Motor Vehicle Road User's Tax
MVUC	- Motor Vehicle User Charge
NBDB	- National Book Development Board
NCR	- National Capital Region
NEDA	- National Economic and Development Authority
NG	- National Government
NGA	- National Government Agency
NIRC	- National Internal Revenue Code
NPA	- Non-Performing Asset
NPL	- Non-Performing Loan
NTRC	- National Tax Research Center
PCA	- Philippine Coconut Authority
PDIC	- Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
PEI	- Productivity Enhancement Incentive
PEZA	- Philippine Economic Zone Authority
PIA	- PHIVIDEC-Industrial Authority
PPMC	- Poro Point Management Corporation
PPP	- Public-Private Partnership
PRO	- Producer Responsibility Organization
PSAI	- Philippine Statistical Association, Inc.
RA	- Republic Act
RBE	- Registered Business Enterprises
RDC	- Regional Development Council
RDO	- Revenue District Office
RE	- Renewable Energy
REE	- Registered Export Enterprise
RMC	- Revenue Memorandum Circular
ROPA	- Real and Other Properties Acquired
RPT	- Real Property Tax
RPVAR	- Real Property Valuation Reform
RR	- Revenue Regulation
SAKOP	- Samahan ng mga Kooperatiba sa Pasig

LIST OF ACRONYMS

SARO	- Special Allotment Release Order
SB	- Senate Bill
SBMA	- Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority
SC	- Supreme Court
SEF	- Special Education Fund
SIPP	- Strategic Investment Priority Plan
SONA	- State of the Nation Address
SPT	- Specific Tax
SST	- Sales and Services Tax
STEPP-HEI	- Specialized Training on Ethics for Public and Private Higher Education Institution
SUC	- State University and College
TBORO	- Taxpayer Bill of Rights and Obligation
TC	- Technical Committee
TCRPV	- Technical Committee on Real Property Valuation
TEI	- Tax Exemption Indorsement
TIEZA	- Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority
TIMTA	- Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act
TRAIN	- Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion
UNESCO	- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
USAID	- United States Agency for International Development
USD	- US Dollar
VAT	- Value-Added Tax
VAT-TWG	- VAT Technical Working Group
VRP	- VAT Refund Program
WFH	- Work-From-Home
ZCSEZA	- Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone Authority



MANDATE

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 74, the National Tax Research Center (NTRC) is mandated to conduct continuing research on taxation to improve the tax system and raise the level of tax consciousness among our people to achieve economic growth and bring about a more equitable distribution of wealth and income.

Specifically, the NTRC performs the following functions:

1. Conducts research on taxation for the purpose of improving the tax system and tax policy;
2. Provides comments/position papers on revenue proposals coming from Congress and other government offices and the private sector;
3. Recommends such reforms and revisions as may be necessary to improve revenue collection and tax administration;
4. Provides technical assistance to both Houses of Congress and the Department of Finance (DOF) pertaining to taxation through studies, revenue estimates of tax proposals, and drafting of bills, among others;
5. Publishes and sends tax guides and tax information materials to officials of the executive and legislative branches of government as well as the private sector;
6. Serves as Secretariat to the Fiscal Incentives Review Board (FIRB), which acts upon applications for tax subsidy of government-owned and/or -controlled corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), and other government instrumentalities (GIs) and agencies, and processing and evaluation of application for grant of incentives to projects or activities listed in the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP) with investment capital of over PHP15 Billion, and tax incentives of highly desirable projects or a specific industrial activity;
7. Serves as Secretariat to the Task Force on the Revision of Fees and Charges, which provides technical assistance and monitors the revision of fees imposed by national government agencies (NGAs) and GOCCs; and
8. Serves as Consultant to the Technical and Executive Committees on Real Property Valuation on the revision of zonal values for tax purposes.

MANDATE, VISION, AND MISSION OF THE NTRC

VISION

- To be recognized as a premier tax research institution attached to the Department of Finance (DOF);
- To be a more motivated and committed team of professionals that will continue to provide high-quality research and technical assistance on taxation and other fiscal-related matters to the DOF and other branches of the government (executive, legislature, and judicial) and local government units;
- To be using state-of-the-art technology for information systems and processes.

MISSION

We are a government institution dedicated to promoting a tax system that will ensure a fair distribution of the tax burden among all taxpayers.

We are committed to recommend necessary improvements in the tax system by conducting continuing quality research on taxation and to provide responsive staff support to fiscal policymakers.

We are also committed to provide opportunities for professional growth and to promote the well-being of our personnel.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The opportunity to serve the country as a public servant for nearly thirty years in the National Tax Research Center (NTRC) and five years as head of this office was a life spent advocating for the highest interest of the country and improving the lives of the Filipino people through our core mandate of conducting quality research on taxation to improve the tax system and tax policy.

I am humbled and honored to have devoted my professional life to public service and to have led the dedicated men and women of the NTRC, who have made significant contributions to the growth and success of this office. I commend the NTRC officials and staff for their professionalism, commitment, and hard work. I am proud to have walked this path alongside them in serving the country and our people.

The year 2023 was very meaningful since it was my last year working for the government. Nevertheless, I have every confidence that the NTRC, as a leading tax institution and with the brilliant minds of its workforce, will continue to serve and bring positive change to our country.


I take great pride as I present to you the NTRC Annual Report 2023. This report chronicles the NTRC's major accomplishments, initiatives, and activities during the year. The NTRC consistently supported the Department of Finance's fiscal policy initiatives, by rendering technical assistance on comments on tax bills, revenue estimates, and cross-country comparisons, among other things. This is especially true for the remaining packages of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program.

The NTRC also fully supports the new brand of governance and leadership of the Marcos administration's "**Bagong Pilipinas**", which is centered on implementing an all-inclusive plan for economic and social transformation. **Bagong Pilipinas** calls for a profoundly fundamental transformation in all sectors of society and strengthens the nation's resolve to achieve comprehensive policy reforms and full economic recovery.

The NTRC may face challenges in the years to come, and obstacles will inevitably arise, but I remain resolute that the NTRC will be able to overcome any challenges that come its way.

As committed public servants, let us embrace **change, transform** into a better society, and leave a **legacy of excellence**.

Maraming Salamat! Mabuhay ang Bawat Pilipino! Mabuhay ang Bagong Pilipinas!


MARLENE LUCERO-CALUBAG
Executive Director
National Tax Research Center

NTRC TOP MANAGEMENT



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Deputy Executive Director
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Marlene Lucero - Calubag
Executive Director



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Deputy Executive Director
Financial and Administrative Services Group



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Deputy Executive Director
Monitoring and Evaluation Group

INTRODUCTION

The transformative journey of the Filipino people in 2023 has once again demonstrated strength, unity, and resilience in the face of challenges. This was a journey aimed at creating an environment that provides equal opportunities to all and equipping them with the necessary skills to fully participate in an innovative and globally competitive economy.

In the year 2023, the Marcos administration envisioned a revitalized Philippines—the Bagong Pilipinas (New Philippines)—anchored in strengthening the economic, finance, and trade agencies, opening the economy to foreign investment, and introducing agricultural development.

During the Bagong Pilipinas Kick-Off Rally held on January 28, 2024, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. underscored that Bagong Pilipinas is a master plan for genuine development that benefits all our people and not a political game plan that caters to a privileged few. Bagong Pilipinas is a call for transformation—the transformation of our idea of being a Filipino, and the transformation of the economy, governance, and society. It encapsulates the administration’s ultimate objective “No one Filipino hungry or left behind.”

Bagong Pilipinas is also aligned with the overarching goal of the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028 to achieve a deep economic and social transformation to reinvigorate job creation and accelerate poverty reduction by steering the economy back on a high-growth trajectory and effecting a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient society.

On the economy, the Philippines performed well in 2023, with a GDP growth rate of 5.6%, despite a challenging economic and financial climate marred by ongoing geopolitical tensions, trade restrictions, and extreme weather events that drive up domestic commodity prices, particularly for rice and fuel. This put the Philippine economy ahead of the major economies in Asia, namely China (5.2%), Vietnam (5.0%), and Malaysia (3.8%).

Although 2023 was noted as a year of “economic challenges,” the Philippines also saw “steady progress” during the period. Amidst the challenging economic environment, the government crafted enabling policies and programs for economic growth to sustain national development. Of the priority pieces of legislation of the Marcos administration (most of which have secured approval in the House of Representatives and are presently by the Senate of the Philippines in their respective committees), key policy measures came into fruition during Marcos’ second year, among others. These were:

1. **Republic Act (RA) No. 11954, otherwise known as the Maharlika Investment Fund (MIF) Act of 2023**, signed into law on July 18, 2023, is the Philippines’ first-ever sovereign wealth fund that will optimize national funds by generating returns to support the infrastructure development agenda of the government, create jobs, promote investments, strengthen connectivity, achieve energy, water and food security, and support the government’s poverty reduction efforts by sustaining the economy’s high growth trajectory and ensuring sustainable development, with the end view of promoting efficient intergenerational management of wealth;

2023 AT A GLANCE

- 2. RA 11964, otherwise known as the Automatic Income Classification of Local Government Units (LGU) Act**, signed into law on October 26, 2023, will help the Department of Finance (DOF) boost LGU revenues, and ensure the fiscal sustainability of local governments. The law updates the income classification of LGUs according to their current financial capabilities and empowers the DOF to efficiently and systematically determine LGUs' financial capabilities and fiscal positions in line with the economy and local development; and
- 3. RA 11966, otherwise known as the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Code of the Philippines**, signed into law on December 5, 2023, which optimizes public-private collaborations and helps ensure the realization of high-quality infrastructure and services in the country to reach the government's target infrastructure spending of 5% to 6%. The law consolidates all legal frameworks at both national and local levels, including but not limited to joint ventures, toll operations agreements, and variations on the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) paradigm. It in turn makes doing business easier and reduces transaction costs for PPPs. Moreover, the PPP Code streamlines the project implementation process, updates approval thresholds for national PPP projects, and promotes autonomy in implementing local PPP projects while ensuring alignment of local projects to national development plans.

Consistent with the Office of the President's directive on expediting digitalization efforts, the NTRC implemented improvements in its information and communications technology to enhance its delivery of public service, transparency, capacity, and proactive participation of stakeholders. The improvements include, among others, the automation and digitalization of tax administration processes through the Fiscal Incentives Registration and Monitoring System or FIRMS. The Human Resource (HR) Information System was also developed to automate HR workflows and requests and streamline HR processes.

COMPLIANT WITH ISO 9001:2015 STANDARD...

The NTRC maintained its compliance with the ISO 9001:2015 standard in 2023. Its continued adoption of the International Standard demonstrated its unwavering commitment to providing quality services consistently, improved efficiency, increased productivity, and client satisfaction. The agency's effective implementation of the NTRC Quality Policy and Quality Management System, including its continual improvement, ensured conformity to client needs and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

IN PROSPECTIVE...

As our economy moves forward in 2024 and beyond, leveraging the full implementation of key tax reforms will intensify investment promotion in the country and boost growth, thus improving the state of our nation and uplifting the lives of the Filipino people.

Echoing President Marcos Jr.'s statement from his second State of the Nation Address, or SONA, let **"Bagong Pilipinas"** guide our every endeavor as we bring forth peace, progress, and prosperity to all. The **state of the nation is sound and is improving**. The "New Philippines" has arrived.

Let us **TRANSFORM** together towards a better future.

148

Evaluated tax bills and resolutions as input to the DOF position paper on tax proposals and attended public hearings, technical working group meetings, and committee meetings relative thereto.

33

Evaluated and processed Investments Promotion Agencies-endorsed tax incentives applications of RBEs.

5

Published press releases involving approved tax incentives, resolutions, and announcements.

41

Meetings/deliberations attended as consultant to the Executive and Technical Committees on Real Property Valuation, on the review of revised zonal values and public hearings on the proposed zonal values in coordination with the various Revenue District Offices of the Bureau of Internal Revenue all over the country.

43

Completed basic studies on taxation supportive of national goals and priorities of the present administration, which focused on revenue enhancement, promotion of equity, and efficiency in tax administration.

3

As Secretariat to the Fiscal Incentives Review Board, evaluated and processed tax subsidy requests/applications of GOCCs/ SUCs/ GIs/ Commissaries.

31

Conducted FIRB virtual town hall meetings and onsite workshops with a total of 13,260 participants from IPAs, RBEs, and other FIRB stakeholders.

188

As Secretariat to the Task Force on the Revision of Fees and Charges, monitored the compliance of the national government agencies (NGAs) and GOCCs in the revision of fees and charges pursuant to Administrative Order (AO) No. 31, series of 2012.

215

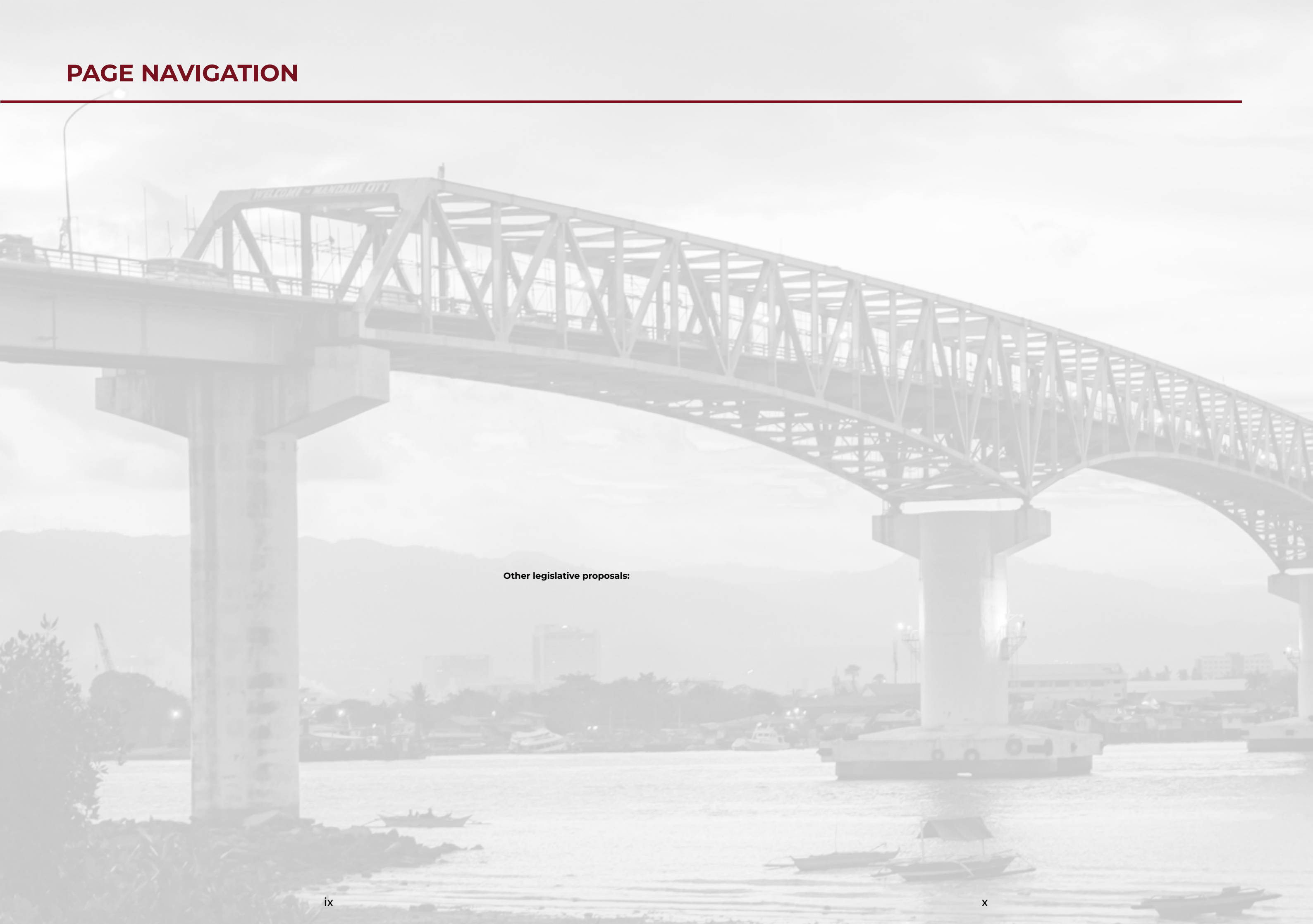
Monitored performance commitments of RBEs, such as investment pledges, employment commitments, level of exports, and sector-specific performance metrics. As of August 2023, a total of 215 projects were monitored as operational.

24

Rendered technical assistance to government agencies on its rationalization of fees, and in the revision of fees and charges.

19

Published tax information materials as part of its information dissemination campaign.



Other legislative proposals:

Chapter 1

SALIENT FEATURES OF TAX LEGISLATIONS ENACTED IN 2023

1. Republic Act (RA) No. 11683 – An Act Amending Section 450 of Republic Act No 7160, Otherwise Known as the Local Government Code of 1991, As Amended by Republic Act No. 9009, By Providing for the Requisites for the Conversion of a Municipality into a Component City, and for Other Purposes

RA 11683 amended Section 450 of the Local Government Code (LGC) of 1991, as amended. The requisites for the creation of a municipality into a component city have been revised wherein the locally generated average annual income increased from P20 million to P100 million, but the same contiguous territory of at least 100 square meters and a population of not less than 150 thousand inhabitants.

As stated in RA 11683, in order to minimize the effect of conversion, the newly converted cities shall, upon enactment of the law, bring their respective allotment derived from the national taxes as municipalities to the allotment of cities, provided, that said portability shall be effective for the period of three years from conversion into cityhood. This will assist affected local government Units (LGUs) in dealing with the current economic conditions and address the limitations of developing LGUs. Hence, the law addressed the adjustment in the national tax allotment shares of the LGUs as prescribed in Mandanas et al. vs. Executive Secretary, which expanded the internal revenue allotment base from net internal revenue taxes to all national taxes effective January 2022.

2. RA 11964 – Institutionalizing the Automatic Income Classification of Local Government Units to Provide a More Responsive Approach to the Promotion of Local Autonomy and to Enable Local Government Units to Realize Their Full Potential

The law, to be known as the “Automatic Income Classification of Local Government Units Act”, aims to institutionalize automatic income reclassification of provinces, cities, and municipalities, promoting local autonomy and enabling LGUs to realize their full economic potential, as well as determine the financial capability and fiscal position of the LGUs.

The reclassification shall be conducted every three years based on the updated table of income classifications to be released by the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF) and further grant the Secretary of Finance the clear mandate and authority to set income targets or the periodic automatic income reclassification, in consultation with the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the concerned LGU Leagues.

The income classes shall be classified into five income classes according to ranges of income and based on the average annual regular income (ARI) for three fiscal years preceding the automatic income classification, provided that the ARI shall be computed from the statement of receipts and expenditures maintained by the BLGF, to wit:

Table 1
RA 11964 Income Classification of Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities (in pesos)

Provinces		Cities		Municipalities	
Class	Average annual regular income	Class	Average annual regular income	Class	Average annual regular income
1st	1.5 billion or more	1st	1.3 billion or more	1st	200 million or more
2nd	900 million to less than 1.5 billion	2nd	1 billion to less than 1.3 billion	2nd	160 million to less than 200 million
3rd	700 million to less than 900 million	3rd	800 million to less than 1 billion	3rd	130 million to less than 160 million
4th	500 million to less than 700 million	4th	500 million to less than 800 million	4th	90 million to less than 130 million
5th	Below 500 million	5th	Below 500 million	5th	Below 90 million

3. RA 11966 - An Act Providing for the Public-Private Partnership Code of the Philippines

RA 11966, otherwise known as the “Public-Private Partnership Code of the Philippines”, signed into law on December 5, 2023, is a timely piece of legislation that will enhance public-private sector collaboration and lay the foundation for ensuring the realization of high-quality infrastructure projects and services in the country.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP), as defined under the law, refers to any public infrastructure or development projects and services implemented under the Code¹. PPP projects can either be local or national. A local PPP project refers to a PPP project that is undertaken by LGUs and Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), while a national PPP project refers to a PPP project that is undertaken by the National Government (NG), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and government-owned and/or -controlled corporations (GOCCs).

Some of the key provisions of RA 11966 include the following:

a. Identification, development, and preparation by implementing agencies² (IAs) of their respective lists of PPP Projects³ guided by the following principles:

- Effectiveness in meeting government objectives;
- Appropriateness of the chosen procurement modality and source of funding;
- Value for money;
- Accountability and transparency;
- Consumer rights;
- Affordability; and
- Public access, safety, and security.

The lists of PPP projects or any update thereto shall be submitted by the implementing agencies to the appropriate oversight agencies, including the NEDA, the

regional development councils (RDCs) or local Sanggunian concerned, and the PPP Center, in accordance with the rules, regulations, and guidelines to be promulgated pursuant to the provisions of the PPP Code⁴.

b. On approval of PPP Projects⁵, the same shall be in accordance with the following:

For National PPP Projects⁶

i. Project Cost is greater than or equal to P15 billion - To be approved by the NEDA Board upon favorable recommendation of the NEDA Board-Investment Coordination Committee (ICC). In the case of projects to be implemented by SUCs which does not require any Government Undertaking from the NG, the same shall be processed through a green lane to be established pursuant to the guidelines to be issued by the NEDA Board-ICC.

ii. Project Cost of less than P15 billion – To be approved by the Head of the IA. However, if the IA is an attached agency without a governing board, the Head of the department or agency to which the IA is attached shall approve the PPP project. In the case of an IA with a governing board, whether or not it is an attached agency, such a governing board shall approve the PPP project. The NEDA-ICC may also approve projects with a project cost of less than P15 billion if it:

- physically overlaps with a project approved by a government authority, or with a project being developed by another government entity based on national or sectoral development plans;
- negatively affects the economic benefits, demand, and/or financial viability of a project approved

by a government authority or a project being developed by another government entity based on national or sectoral development plans;

- the project requires financial government undertakings to be sourced and funded under the General Appropriations Act (GAA);
- involves Availability Payments⁷ to be sourced and funded under the GAA; or
- the contribution of an IA in a proposed joint venture exceeds 50% of its entire assets based on its latest audited financial statements and other pertinent documents and is subject to the subsidy agreement as defined under Sec. 3(gg) of the Code.

c. For PPP projects that do not fall under any of the above, the IA shall notify the NEDA and the PPP Center in writing of such information and submit the project details for monitoring purposes.

d. For national PPP projects that encompass or extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries, or where bundling of similar projects can benefit from economies of scale and can increase the viability of a proposed PPP project, may be jointly implemented by all IAs concerned under a single PPP contract. In such cases, all the IAs concerned shall secure the required approvals of all Approving Bodies concerned pursuant to the provisions of the Code.

The NEDA-ICC may, as it deems necessary and in strict adherence with the principles of prudence and reasonableness, review, evaluate, and update the P15 billion threshold.

For Local PPP Projects⁸

i. Local PPP projects shall be approved by the respective Local Sanggunians in the case of LGUs, or by the boards in the case of LUCs. Prior to approval, local PPP projects implemented by LGUs shall be confirmed by the respective local development councils.

ii. Proposed Government Undertakings⁹ that use NG funds for local PPP projects shall be submitted to the NEDA Board-ICC for approval, upon review and endorsement by the respective RDCs.

PPP Projects undertaken through the Code shall be entitled to various incentives under applicable laws and existing policies of the government. Provided, that any exemptions or special rates on taxes for a PPP project granted during the term of its PPP contract shall be reported in writing to the PPP Center¹⁰.

¹ Section 3(cc) of RA 11966.

² Refers to a department, bureau, office, instrumentality, commission, and authority of the NG, SUC, LUC, LGU, and GOCC. [Section 3(q) of RA 11966]

³ The law provides that all PPP projects shall be consistent and responsive to national, local, and sectoral development and investment plans.

⁴ Section 6 of RA 11966.

⁵ Section 6 of RA 11966.

⁶ PPP Projects undertaken by national government, state colleges and universities, government-owned and -controlled corporations including government instrumentalities with corporate powers, government corporate entities, and government financial institutions, water districts, and economic zone authorities.

⁷ Refers to predetermined payments by the IA to the Private Partner in exchange of delivering an asset or service in accordance with the PPP contract. Section 3(b) of RA 11966.

⁸ PPP projects undertaken by LGUs and LUCs.

⁹ Government Undertakings shall include, among others, the following items to be provided by the NG to a local PPP project: (a) Guarantees on Demand; (b) Guarantees on Private Sector Return; (c) Guarantees on Loan Repayment; (d) Viability Gap Funding and other forms of subsidy; and/or (e) monetary payment of Contingent Liability through the PPP Risk Management Fund of the NG. Permits, clearances, licenses, or endorsements from NG agencies required for local PPP projects under laws, rules, and regulations shall not be considered as Government Undertakings by the NG for local PPP projects.

¹⁰ Section 17 of RA 11966.

Chapter 2

TAX IMPLICATIONS OF RELEVANT LAWS

1. RA 11523¹ - Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer Act

RA 11523 is part of the government's economic recovery program to mitigate the adverse effects of the coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer (FIST) Act provides a legal framework for fully transferring banks' bad loans and assets by allowing them to clean their books and re-channel their resources to improve liquidity in the financial system.

The law established the Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer Corporation (FISTC), a stock corporation organized in accordance with RA 11232². The FISTC is not allowed to be incorporated as a one-person corporation and shall be incorporated primarily to invest in or acquire non-performing assets (NPAs) of financial institutions (FIs).

Under this law, the transfer of NPAs from the FI to a FISTC and from a FISTC to a third party in favor of an FI or favor of an FISTC is exempt from the following taxes:

- a. Documentary stamp tax (DST) on the transfer of NPAs and dation in payment as may be imposed under Title VII of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended by RA 10963, otherwise known as the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act;
- b. Capital gains tax (CGT) imposed on the transfer of lands and/or other assets treated as capital assets as defined under Section 39(A)(1) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended;
- c. Creditable withholding income taxes imposed on the transfer of land and/or buildings treated as ordinary assets pursuant to Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 2-98, as amended;
- d. Value-added Tax (VAT) on the transfer of NPAs as may be imposed under Title IV of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, or gross receipts tax (GRT) under Title V of the same Code, whichever is applicable pursuant to regulations of the BIR.

¹ Entitled, "An Act Ensuring Philippine Financial Industry Resiliency Against the COVID-19 Pandemic", February 16, 2021.

² Entitled, "An Act Providing for the Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines", February 20, 2019.

The abovementioned transfers of NPAs shall also be subject to the following in lieu of the applicable fees:

- a. Fifty percent of the applicable registration and transfer fees on the transfer of real estate mortgage and security interest to and from the FISTC, as imposed in accordance with the existing circular of the Land Registration Authority (LRA);
- b. Fifty percent of the filing fees for any foreclosure initiated by the FISTC in relation to any NPA acquired from an FI, as prescribed by the Rules of Court, and
- c. Fifty percent of the land registration fees prescribed under the existing circulars of the LRA.

The transfers from a FISTC to a third party of NPAs acquired by the FISTC within two years, or within such extended period, or transfers by way of dation in payment by a borrower or by a third party to the FISTC shall enjoy the incentives and exemption privileges enumerated above for not more than five years from the date of acquisition by the FISTC.

The law also aims to encourage the infusion of capital and financial assistance by the FISTC to rehabilitate the financial consumer's business. The following additional tax exemption and privileges of the FISTC shall apply for not more than five years from the date of its acquisition of non-performing loans (NPLs):

- a. Income tax on net interest income, DST, and mortgage registration fees on new loans in excess of existing loans extended to borrowers with NPLs which it has been acquired; and
- b. On DST in case of its capital infusion to the borrower with NPLs.

Pursuant to Rule 15.1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the FIST Act approved on March 26, 2021, the following transactions are exempt from the payment of taxes and are entitled to the fee privileges provided in Section 15 of the FIST Act subject to particular applicable requirements, to wit:

- a. Transfer of an NPL by an FI to a FISTC;
- b. Transfer of real and other properties acquired

(ROPA) by an FI to a FISTC;

- c. Dation in payment (dacion en pago) of an NPL by a borrower to an FI;
- d. Dation in payment (dacion en pago) of an NPL by a third party, on behalf of a borrower, to an FI;
- e. Transfer of an NPL by an FI to an individual;
- f. Transfer of a ROPA by an FI to an individual;
- g. Transfer of an NPL by a FISTC to a third party;
- h. Transfer of a ROPA by a FISTC to a third party;
- i. Dation in payment (dacion en pago) of an NPL by a borrower to a FISTC or an individual;
- j. Dation in payment (dacion en pago) of an NPL by a third party, on behalf of a borrower, to a FISTC or an individual;
- k. Transfer of an NPL by an individual to a third party; and
- l. Transfer of a ROPA by an individual to a third party.

The exemption from the payment of CGT imposed on the transfer of lands and/or other assets treated as capital assets³ as defined under Section 39(A)(1) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, minimizes friction costs, both implied and direct, associated with a transaction. Such costs include time, effort, money, and associated tax effects of gathering information and making a transaction⁴. The exemption from the payment of CGT would also facilitate transfers of lands and/or buildings from the FI to an FISTC and from an FISTC to a third party or dation in payment by the borrower or by a third party in favor of an FI or in favor of an FISTC.

Under Rule 15.3(3) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 11523, exemptions from the payment of creditable withholding income taxes imposed on the transfer of land and/or buildings treated as ordinary assets pursuant to BIR RR 2-98, as amended, shall not include the exemption from income tax under Title II of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The transfer by an FI or by a FISTC of its NPA, which is treated as its ordinary

³ Section 39(A)(1) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, defines capital assets as property held by the taxpayer whether or not connected with trade or business, but does not include stock in trade of the taxpayer or other property of a kind which would properly be included in the inventory of the taxpayer if on hand at the close of the taxable year, or property held by the taxpayer primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of his trade or business, or property used in the trade or business, of a character which is subject to the allowance for depreciation; or real property used in a trade or business of the taxpayer.

⁴ Kagan, J. (2020, December 27). Friction Cost. <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/f/frictioncost.asp>

asset, shall continue to be subject to the ordinary corporate income tax (CIT) or minimum CIT, as the case may be, under the pertinent provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. Likewise, Rule 16.1(a) of the IRR of RA 11523 provides that an FISTC shall be exempt from income tax on the interest income from new loans in excess of existing loans, which are extended to a borrower with NPL that has been acquired by the FISTC from an FI within a period of not more than two years from the date of effectivity of the law, and which are solely to rehabilitate the borrower's business.

Such exemptions from the payment of creditable withholding income taxes and the income tax on interest income will help banks and other FIs to maintain their financial health temporarily to be effective partners of the National Government (NG) to "recover as one" from the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The exemption from the creditable withholding income taxes does not necessarily mean exemption from the payment of income tax, but only on the withholding of tax, which is an administrative measure on the collection of taxes. This will improve the taxpayer's cash flow and avoid the possibility of claiming a refund or credit in case the amount of creditable income tax withheld exceeds the tax due.

The transactions are exempt from the DST subject to certain conditions. Specifically, Section 4(b)(1) of RR 11-2021 provides that any document evidencing the transfer or dation in payment is exempt from the DST as may be imposed under Title VII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The conditions vary depending on the transaction.

Meanwhile, Section 16 of the FIST Act exempts new loans in excess of existing loans extended to borrowers with NPLs that the FISTC has acquired from the DST. In case of capital infusion by the FISTC to the borrower with NPLs, the FISTC shall also be exempt from the DST. These exemptions shall be availed only for not more than five years from the date of acquisition of the borrower's NPL by the said FISTC.

As implemented by Section 5(b) of RR 11-2021, any document evidencing the new loans extended in excess of existing loans, which are extended to a borrower with NPL that the FISTC has acquired from an FI from February 18, 2021, to

February 18, 2023, shall be exempt from the DST. Likewise, any document evidencing the FISTC's capital infusion to the business of the borrower with an NPL that the said FISTC has acquired from an FI between February 18, 2021, to February 18, 2023, shall be exempt from the DST. Specifically, these transactions may be exempt from the DST on all debt instruments (Section 179) and original issuance of shares of stock (Section 174), among others.

Section 4(b)(4) of RR 11-2021 provided the rules of VAT-exemption on the transfer of NPAs from the FI to a FISTC and from a FISTC to a third party or dation in payment or borrower or by a third party in favor of an FI or in favor of a FISTC, as follows:

- a. If the property being transferred was intended for sale, for conversion into or intended to form part of a finished product for sale, for use as supplies in connection with trade or business, or as supplies in the sale of services, by a VAT-registered person, the input tax which can be directly attributed to the said property shall not be allowed as input tax to the transferor's other VATable activities;
- b. If the property being transferred is a capital good used in the trade or business of a VAT-registered person, the input tax on the said property shall be allocated as follows: the depreciated book value of the property over its acquisition cost, multiplied by the input tax directly attributed to the said property shall not be allowed as input tax to the transferor's other VATable activities; and
- c. The amount of the unallowable input taxes as determined in paragraphs (a) and (b) above, if previously debited to "input taxes", shall be charged back to the property.

Meanwhile, if the originators or transferors of the assets are FIs, the transactions are currently subject to GRT under Section 121(C) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

In the FIST Act, no local taxes are involved in the provisions concerning tax exemptions and fee privileges. The transfer of NPAs from the FI to the FISTC is subject to local transfer tax under the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended and as provided in the respective local revenue codes

of the local government units.

With regard to the charging of 50% of the filing fees for any foreclosure initiated by the FISTC/special purpose vehicle in relation to any NPA acquired from an FI, it is noted that the Supreme Court (SC) had held that “the payment of legal fees under Rule 141 of the Rules of Court is an integral part of the rules promulgated by this Court pursuant to its rule-making power under Section 5(5), Article VIII of the Constitution. In particular, it is part of the rules concerning pleading, practice, and procedure in courts. Indeed, payment of legal (or docket) fees is a “jurisdictional requirement”. Since the payment of legal fees is a vital component of the rules promulgated by the SC concerning pleading, practice, and procedure, it cannot be validly annulled, changed, or modified by Congress.” Hence, legislative grants of discounts from the payment of legal fees will not stand.

Despite that banks can still tolerate the burden of continued increase on NPAs before the implantation of the FIST Act, it is hoped that the Act will resolve possible problems that may occur and will further strengthen the financial sector by efficiently disposing of their NPAs and extending credit to more sectors in need, that will put the Philippines’ economy on a more stable path. However, considering fee privileges granted to the FISTCs and/or FIs, the Philippine government coffers may incur revenue loss from fees collected by other fee-collecting government agencies mandated to provide administrative and regulatory services to those FISTCs.

The provisions for tax exemptions and fee privileges under the FIST Act are justified to help the FIs through the provision of the necessary economic assistance to ensure their financial stability, which, in turn, can extend access to credits to more sectors disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and thus stimulate economic recovery of the country. Although the implication of the tax exemptions would inevitably result in revenue loss to the government, it gives economic opportunity to the transactions made by FIs to dispose or settle their NPAs with FISTC, which would eventually positively affect the financial appetite of the said institutions. The tax exemptions in the FIST law also expedite bureaucratic processes, such as there will be no more DST requirements, among others.

Lastly, the given tax exemptions are temporary reliefs or time-bound, performance-based, targeted, and transparent, consistent with the government’s thrust in redesigning the country’s tax incentives system.

2. Sections 12 and 13 of RA 11534⁵ on Indirect Taxation - Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act

RA 11534 was passed into law to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide relief for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The CREATE Act amended several provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, and rationalized the fiscal incentives to make them performance-based, time-bound, targeted, and transparent. The law also expanded the role of the Fiscal Incentives Review Board (FIRB), an existing inter-agency government body that would improve the governance of the grant of incentives and tax subsidies.

Among the salient features of Sections 12 and 13 of the CREATE Act on indirect taxation are as follows:

- a. Expansion of the coverage of the VAT exemptions to include the following transactions:
 - i. Sale, importation, printing, or publication of books and any newspaper, magazine, journal, review bulletin, or any such educational reading material covered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials, including digital and electronic format;
 - ii. Sale of or importation of prescription drugs and medicines for diabetes, high cholesterol, and hypertension beginning January 1, 2020, and for cancer, mental illness, tuberculosis, and kidney disease starting January 1, 2021, instead of January 1, 2023;
 - iii. Sale or importation of the following beginning January 1, 2021 to December

⁵ Signed into law on March 26, 2021, with a number of vetoed provisions and was published in the Business Mirror on March 27, 2021. It took effect on April 11, 2021.

31, 2023:

- Capital equipment, its spare parts, and raw materials necessary for the production of personal protective equipment components such as coveralls, gowns, surgical caps, surgical masks, N-95 masks, scrub suits, goggles and face shields, double or surgical gloves, dedicated shoes, and shoe covers, for COVID-19 prevention;
 - All drugs, vaccines, and medical devices specifically prescribed and directly used for the treatment of COVID-19; and
 - Drugs for the treatment of COVID-19 approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in clinical trials, including raw materials directly necessary for the production of such drugs;
- b. Reduction of percentage tax for non-VAT taxpayers or persons whose sales or receipts are exempt under Section 109(CC) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, from 3% to 1% of their gross quarterly sales or receipts effective July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2023; and
 - c. Vetoed the amendment to Section 109(P) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, on increasing the VAT-exempt threshold on sales of real properties on a residential lot from P1.5 million to P2.5 million, and house and lot, and other residential dwellings from P2.5 million to P4.2 million.

Under Section 109 (1)(R) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by the CREATE Act and implemented by RR 4-2021, the sale, importation, printing, or publications of books, and any newspaper, magazine, journal, review bulletin, or any such educational reading material covered by the UNESCO Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Materials, including the digital or electronic format thereof, shall be VAT-exempt. The enumerated materials shall enjoy VAT exemption provided that they are not devoted principally to the publication of paid advertisements and are compliant with the requirements set forth by the National Book Development Board (NBDB) pursuant to RA 8047⁶,

⁶ Entitled, “An Act Providing for the Development of the Book Publishing Industry Through the Formulation and Implementation of a National Book Policy and a National Book Development Plan”;

also known as the “Book Publishing Industry Development Act”.

Under the UNESCO Agreement⁷, all imported books, whether in commercial quantity or for personal use, are exempt from VAT, except those published by a private commercial enterprise for advertising purposes. Available data from 2014 to 2018 show that the availed tax and duty-free importation amounted to P120 million from different publishers and printers. According to the 2021 NBDB Annual Report, there were a total of P37,302,598.36 actual waived taxes and duties due on importation from 20 shipments of four book publishing and printing enterprises.

The Department of Health (DOH) and the FDA are responsible for identifying medicines that must be included in the list of VAT-exempt health products transmitted to the BIR. The list is regularly updated based on the list of registered products approved by the FDA. It is noted that the drug products containing the same active pharmaceutical ingredients and bearing the same dosage strength and form may remain indicated for multiple diseases. However, suppose the said products are not explicitly prescribed for the treatment and/or prevention of the identified diseases. In that case, they should not be construed as among the VAT-exempt medicines under the TRAIN Law and the CREATE Act.

DOH released Department Circular No. 2021-0289, dated July 15, 2021, to disseminate the medicines for the treatment of cancer, mental illness, tuberculosis, kidney disease, and COVID-19 qualified for the VAT exemption beginning January 1, 2021. Certain medicines under the maximum retail price (MRP) regulation under Executive Order No. 104⁸ are qualified for tax exemption. Thus, the MRP adjustments were made to exclude the VAT.

The VAT exemption on the sale or importation of COVID-19 drugs, vaccines, and other related materials eases the cost of public consumption, especially during the pandemic. As mentioned, the exemption would only cover the period from January 1, 2021 until December 31,

⁷ June 7, 1995.

⁸ UNESCO. (1950, June 17). Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials. UNESCO Digital Library. <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000059329>

⁸ Entitled, “Improving Access to Healthcare Through the Regulation of Prices in the Retail of Drugs and Medicines”, February 17, 2020.

2023. Per RR 4-2021, the VAT exemption would only apply if such equipment, spare parts, or raw materials for importation are not locally available, insufficient in quantity, or not in accordance with the required quality or specification certified by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Customs recorded 16,102 shipments of Personal Protective Equipment, or PPE and other medical supplies released from March 2020 to December 2021⁹. This is to provide sufficient reserves to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the country. The DOH-Bureau of International Health Cooperation reported that from February 2020 to March 9, 2022, the Philippines received a donation of 86,470,240 doses of COVID-19 vaccines and storage and transport equipment through the COVAX facility and foreign governments.

According to the BIR's 2020 Annual Report, percentage tax collection amounted to P117.61 billion, accounting for 6.01% of total BIR collection in 2020. The percentage tax collection weakened by 12.13% from the 2019 figure. The decrease is believed to be brought about by various reasons related to the pandemic.

The temporary percentage tax reduction should result in lower collections in 2021. However, it is a small price to pay for the benefit of micro-enterprises¹⁰, which make up 90.54% of the businesses in the Philippines based on the 2021 MSME Statistics by the DTI.

The provision perfectly accommodates the needs of both the taxpayers and the government. The tax reduction would greatly benefit micro-entities presumably liable to the 3% other percentage tax. At the same time, the impermanence of the provision helps the eventual recovery of government revenues.

The TRAIN Law already amended the VAT exemption on the sale of real properties, which

⁹ Notes. March to December 2020: 15,583 shipments of PPE and other medical supplies were released, while 519 during January to December 2021.

¹⁰ Micro enterprises are those engaged in industry, agribusiness, and/or services, whether single proprietorship, cooperative, partnership, or corporation, whose total assets do not exceed P3,000,000 inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land on which the particular business entity's office, plant and equipment are situated.

states that the sale of house and lot, and other residential dwellings valued at not more than P2.5 million shall be VAT-exempt. The exemption is targeted to relieve buyers of socialized housing and base-level economic housing. The amendment in the CREATE Act increased the VAT threshold to up to P4.2 million. The effect of the said increase would benefit even those not originally targeted for the VAT exemption – those who can actually afford proper housing. Moreover, it would distort and exact a heavy price on the taxpaying community. It is also prone to abuse, as properties can be parceled into lots, so their individual values may fall within the VAT-exempt threshold.

3. RA 11898¹¹ – Extended Producer Responsibility Act or EPRA of 2022

RA 11898, enacted into law on July 23, 2022, without the President's signature in accordance with Article VI Section 27(1) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, is a timely piece of legislation that addresses the urgency and necessity to combat environmental damages caused by plastic pollution and climate change. It provides an amendment to RA 9003¹², otherwise known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000."

Extended producer responsibility (EPR), as defined under the law, refers to the environmental policy approach and practice that requires producers to be environmentally responsible throughout the life cycle of a product, especially its post-consumer or end-of-life stage¹³.

Some of the key provisions of RA 11898 include the following:

- a. Formulation of a National Framework¹⁴ on EPR for all types of wastes;
- b. Establishment of phase-in EPR programs for

¹¹ Entitled, "An Act Institutionalizing the Extended Producer Responsibility on Plastic Packaging Waste, Amending for this Purpose Republic Act No. 9003, Otherwise Known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000", July 23, 2022.

¹² Entitled, "An Act Providing for an Ecological Solid Waste Management Program, Creating the Necessary Institutional Mechanisms and Incentives, Declaring Certain Acts Prohibited and Providing Penalties, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes", January 26, 2001.

¹³ Section 3(m-1), RA 9003, as amended RA 11898.

¹⁴ The EPR framework shall include the activities and strategies to reduce non-environment friendly products, and product waste recovery programs aimed at effectively preventing waste from leaking to the environment (Section 44-A of RA 9003, as amended under Section 6 of RA 11898).

- c. Grant of sufficient period to oblige enterprises and Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs)¹⁶ to adjust to their EPR duties and responsibilities and improve their performance over time by setting a target for recovering the product footprint generated.
- d. Submission by obliged enterprises or their PROs to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of a compliance report. For this purpose, obliged enterprises or their PROs shall establish and implement an auditing system to monitor and assess their compliance performance with the Act and their EPR programs. As such, said enterprises or their PRO shall engage an independent third-party auditor to certify the veracity of the reported plastic product compliance, using uniform standards established by the DENR. The audited report shall be submitted to the DENR.
- e. Entitlement of obliged enterprises or PROs acting on their behalf, and other registered business enterprises to apply for tax incentives following the approval process provided under Title XIII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, provided that EPR-related activities shall undergo the standard processes in the identification of qualified activities under the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP)¹⁷.

Pursuant to Sec. 44-B of Article 2 of the new Chapter III-A of RA 9003, as amended by RA 11898, product producers obliged to implement EPR for plastic packaging are large enterprises¹⁸ that

¹⁵ Refer to product producers that are required to implement an EPR program under the Act. [Sec. 3(s-1), RA 9003, as amended by RA 11898].

¹⁶ The EPR framework shall include the activities and strategies to reduce non-environment friendly products, and product waste recovery programs aimed at effectively preventing waste from leaking to the environment (Section 44-A of RA 9003, as amended under Section 6 of RA 11898).

¹⁷ The SIPP refers to the plan prepared by the Board of Investments, in coordination with the Fiscal Incentives Review Board, investment promotion agencies, and other government agencies administering tax incentives, and the private sector, which is approved by the President, and contains the priority projects or activities, scope and coverage of location and industry tiers, recommendations for non-fiscal support and corresponding specific activities wherein investments are to be encouraged, and other information, analyses, data, guidelines, or criteria as the BOI may deem appropriate [Part I, Rule 1, Section 4(DD), CREATE Act Implementing Rules and Regulations].

¹⁸ Large enterprises shall refer to any business entity whose total assets, inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land on which the particular business entity's office, plant and equipment

generate plastic packaging waste. However, in case the total value of assets of all enterprises carrying the same brand, label, or trademark exceeds that of medium enterprises, these enterprises shall be deemed obliged enterprises. While the EPR does not cover micro, small, and medium enterprises on plastic packaging, they are still encouraged to practice EPR voluntarily or be part of the network of obliged enterprises or PROs practicing EPR. Through the EPR, obliged enterprises, or through their PROs, will have to recover or offset their generated plastic product footprint by 20% in 2023 to 80% by 2028.

are situated, are exceeding that of medium enterprises stated under RA 9501, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises. (Section 3 (p-4) of RA 9003, as amended under Section 3 of RA 11898).

Chapter 3

SELECT STUDIES AND OTHER RESEARCHES

1. Tax Code Provisions Beginning January 2023

This paper presents the tax provisions from the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended, effective January 1, 2023.

RA 10963¹, otherwise known as the “Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN)” Law, amended Section 24(A)(2)(a) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, by reducing the specific tax (SPT) and ad valorem tax (AVT) rates on taxable income of individuals. The law also amended Section 114 of NIRC of 1997, as amended, by mandating that the filing of VAT returns and payment of VAT shall be done within 25 days following the close of each taxable quarter. Taxpayers will only be required to file four quarterly VAT returns instead of 12 filings per year starting January 1, 2023.

Meanwhile, RA 11346² amended the tax provisions under Sections 145(B) and 145(C) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, by increasing the excise tax rates from P55.00 to P60.00 per pack for cigarettes packed by hand and by machine.

Likewise, RA 11467³ amended the NIRC of 1997, as amended, by increasing the excise tax rates on certain excisable products: (a) the SPT rate on distilled spirits, from P52.00 to P59.00 per proof liter; (b) on wines, from P56.18 to P59.55⁴ per liter

¹ Entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 5, 6, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 51, 52, 56, 57, 58, 74, 79, 84, 86, 90, 91, 97, 99, 100, 101, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 112, 114, 116, 127, 128, 129, 145, 148, 149, 151, 155, 171, 174, 175, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 186, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 232, 236, 237, 249, 254, 264, 269, and 288; Creating New Sections 51-A, 148-A, 150-A, 150-B, 237-A, 264-A, 264-B, and 265-A; and Repealing Sections 35, 62, And 89; All Under Republic Act No. 8424, Otherwise Known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”, January 1, 2018.

² Entitled, “An Act Increasing the Excise Tax on Tobacco Products, Imposing Excise Tax on Heated Tobacco Products and Vapor Products, Increasing the Penalties for Violations of Provisions on Articles Subject to Excise Tax, and Earmarking a Portion of the Total Excise Tax Collection from Sugar-Sweetened Beverages, Alcohol, Tobacco, Heated Tobacco and Vapor Products for Universal Health Care, Amending for this Purpose Sections 144, 145, 146, 147, 152, 164, 260, 262, 263, 265, 288, and 289, Repealing Section 288(B) and 288(C), and Creating New Sections 263-A, 265-B, and 288-A of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended by Republic Act No. 10963, and for Other Purposes”, July 25, 2019.

³ Entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 109, 141, 142, 143, 144, 147, 152, 263, 263-A, 265, and 288-A, and Adding a New Section 290-A to Republic Act No. 8424, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, and for Other Purposes”, January 27, 2020.

⁴ It is based on the excise tax of P50 per liter effective January 1, 2020. RA 11467 provides that the rate shall be increased by 6%

based on Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 7-2021⁵; (c) on fermented liquors, from P39.00 to P41.00 per liter; (d) on heated tobacco, from P30.00 to P32.50 per pack of 20 units or packaging combinations of not more than 20 units; (e) on vapor products classified as nicotine salt or salt nicotine, from P47.00 to P52.00 per milliliter or a fraction thereof; and (f) on vapor products classified as conventional “freebase” or “classic” nicotine, from P55.00 to P60.00 per 10 milliliters or a fraction.

In addition, tax provisions introduced under RA 11534⁶, otherwise known as the CREATE Act, amended Sections 27(B), 27(E)(1), and 28(A)(2) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, by reverting the tax rates for proprietary educational institutions and hospitals⁷ (from 1% to 10%) and the minimum corporate income tax (from 1% to 2%) effective July 1, 2023. Likewise, it also amended Section 116 of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, by stating that the tax on persons exempt from VAT shall revert to the original 3% percentage tax from the 1% percentage tax⁸ starting July 1, 2023. The law also provided that the VAT-exempt transactions under Section 109(BB) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, will end on December 31, 2023.

2. A Review of the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Tax Collection from the Private Education Sector

This paper examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on tax collection from the private education sector to serve as valuable input to fiscal policymakers. It also provides insights and recommendations on the role of the private sector in resolving the aftermath of the pandemic on the education system as the Philippines transitions to the post-COVID-19 era.

every year thereafter, effective January 1, 2021, through revenue regulations issued by the Secretary of Finance.

⁵ Rules and Regulations Implementing the Provisions of Republic Act Nos. 11346 and 11467, Relative to the Excise Tax on Alcohol Products, Tobacco Products, Heated Tobacco Products, Vapor Products and Disposition of Excise Tax Collection, May 18, 2021.

⁶ Entitled, “An Act Reforming the Corporate Income Tax and Incentives System, Amending for the Purpose Sections 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 34, 40, 57, 109, 116, 204, and 290 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and Creating Therein New Title XIII, and for Other Purposes”, March 26, 2021.

⁷ As further amended by RA 11635 entitled, “An Act Amending Section 27(B) of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”, December 10, 2021.

⁸ The CREATE Act lowered the 3% percentage tax on persons exempt from VAT to 1% effective July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2023.

The private education sector was one of the industries badly hit by the pandemic. The number of enrolled students in private schools decreased from 7.17 million to 5.54 million or by a whopping 77.3%. The reduced number of enrollees caused a lot of private schools to cease their operations temporarily, if not permanently.

It is the responsibility of the State to support and promote the welfare of Productivity Enhancement Incentives (PEIs) given the Constitutional role of the private sector in the education system. The CREATE Act's imposition of a preferential tax rate of 1% on their taxable income from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2023, and 10% effective July 1, 2023, gave private schools a respite from the financial setbacks they experienced during the pandemic. However, the tax collection of the government from the sector suffered significantly as a result. It can be said that the revenue loss was a necessary sacrifice on the part of the government to sustain and support the education sector in the country amidst the crisis.

By exposing its many gaps and failures, the COVID-19 pandemic allowed the Philippine education system to reinvent itself into a more responsive and inclusive industry. Moving forward, a recalibration of the system is essential to improve the provision of education in the country and avoid going through the same struggles that the sector went through during the pandemic. Harnessing the strengths and potential of PEIs is one way to redesign the system for a more effective delivery of education to the public. Notwithstanding the additional tax revenues that can be collected from the sector if it were to flourish, supporting private schools will also contribute to the advancement of education in the country and enhance the competence of the future labor force which is a crucial prerequisite to economic progress.

3. A Review of the Profile and Taxation of Government Securities in the Philippines

This paper provides basic information on the profile of government securities (GS) in the country and the taxes imposed thereon to serve as invaluable inputs to fiscal policymakers in their review of Package 4 of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP).

GS has always dominated the local currency

bond market over the years. GS accounted for 93% of the debt securities issued, while corporate securities shared 7% of the market.

GS has proven itself crucial in the current economic landscape. It provided the government with the necessary funds to finance COVID-19 pandemic responses and sustained the rise of the State's infrastructure investments to boost the country's economic expansion. However, the taxation of GS in the country remains complicated and inequitable as it imposes different tax rates on the same financial instrument/s.

The current policy of the present Administration is to develop the capital market by providing an efficient regulatory framework and creating a favorable market environment among its participants. In terms of taxation, there is a need to harmonize taxes on interest income to make the taxation of capital income simpler, fairer, more efficient, and regionally more competitive. The possible reduction of the tax on interest income is worth exploring to help deepen the country's shallow capital market. The lowering of the tax on interest income would make GS more accessible and affordable to the general public and increase their participation in nation-building.

4. Proposed VAT Refund Mechanism for Non-Resident Tourists

This paper discusses the proposed VAT refund mechanism for non-resident tourists under House Bill (HB) No. 7292 and Senate Bill (SB) No. 2415.

The proposed mechanism would encourage tourists to spend more and support the local Philippine shopping industry, which could translate to additional tax contributions by local manufacturers and retailers. An influx of foreign tourists in the country would also increase revenues on other tourism-related services such as accommodation, food and beverages, transport, travel agencies and other reservation services, entertainment and recreation, and other miscellaneous services.

According to the 2021 Philippine Tourism Satellite Accounts Report data, the average shopping expenditure for 2017-2021 amounted to P8,815 per tourist, regardless of the number

of days spent in the Philippines. Using this data and the 2.7 million foreign tourists in 2022, the estimated tourist shopping expenditure would amount to P23.39 billion, with an estimated P2.52 billion output VAT collection. Likewise, using the Department of Tourism's international tourist arrival target of at least 4.8 million foreign tourists in 2023, an estimated P42.32 billion in foreign tourist shopping expenditure is expected, with an estimated P4.53 billion in output VAT collection.

In the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), six member states impose a VAT refund program (VRP) or VRP-like mechanism for non-resident or inbound tourists in their respective jurisdictions. The main reason for the six-member states to implement a tourist refund mechanism is to promote their tourism sector. It is noted that ASEAN is considered a unique combination of different local cultures and traditions linked across diverse communities' boundaries and borders.

The common practices in the five selected countries with such mechanisms are as follows: (a) a list of qualified or participating stores on the tax refund scheme; (b) one-stop shop in the airport or seaport that would process the tax refund; (c) existing tourist tax refund portal that caters to tax refund application; and (d) existing pre-condition for qualified tourist [e.g., purchase threshold, receipts/invoices and the goods purchased (not consumed), validity/coverage of the tax refund, travel requirements]. Likewise, a one-stop shop for VAT refunds for foreign tourists in international departure areas is also recommended in the Philippines.

The proposed P3,000 threshold in HB 7292 and SB 2415 can be benchmarked with other ASEAN member states based on the existing minimum threshold in the six ASEAN member states with tourist refund schemes, with an average of P3,397. The principle of the marginal propensity to spend that any individual has an available fund to spend, especially on leisure activities, would add up the value chain in the tourism sector, which would encourage tourists to spend more.

Works of literature have highlighted the economic benefits of VAT tourist tax refund schemes in other countries. However, the regulators or implementation of a VAT refund program must be fair and reasonable, balancing the economic

benefit for the host country.

5. Profile and Taxation of the Philippine Non-Life Insurance Industry

This paper provides basic information on the country's non-life insurance industry and its current tax treatment to serve as valuable input to fiscal policymakers. It also presents the documentary stamp tax proposals under Package 4 of the CTRP that would help lower the cost of non-life insurance products to help increase insurance penetration in the country.

Non-life insurance has proven itself as an essential component of present-day life. Recent data shows that the industry remains resilient and poised for growth despite the challenges it faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, there is still much work to be done in terms of improving public access, particularly to the underserved segments of society.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of insurance especially for the vulnerable and low-income populations. As Filipinos become more aware of the importance of having insurance during the pandemic to help rebuild their lives, Package 4 provides needed tax reliefs on non-life insurance to encourage them to patronize these products and help them live life knowing that they have financial security. The proposal to equate the differentiated DST rates imposed on non-life insurance products will surely increase the accessibility of said financial products by making them more affordable for everyone.

6. Assessment of the Philippine Salt Industry: Profile, Challenges, and Initiatives to Support the Industry

This study provides a profile of the Philippine salt industry, including the issues and challenges confronting it. A discussion on government initiatives as well as pending proposals in both Houses of Congress that seek to revitalize the said industry in order to achieve salt self-sufficiency for the country are also provided.

Salt, scientifically known as sodium chloride, is an essential mineral for the human body. A small amount of salt plays a pivotal role in transmitting nerve signals, muscle movement, and a healthy

balance of minerals and water⁹. Beyond its fundamental importance to human health, salt has also emerged in the culinary and manufacturing industries. In culinary, salt is commonly used as a flavor enhancer, seasoning, and preservative while in the manufacturing industry, it is used in the production of soaps, detergents, and processed foods, among others. Interestingly, the use of common salt is also being endorsed by the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) as a fertilizer for fruit-bearing coconut trees as it accelerates crop growth and development, and increases copra weight and number of nuts, among its other advantages¹⁰.

The Philippines, an archipelago surrounded by vast bodies of saline water, is naturally positioned for abundant salt production. In the early 1990s, the country was able to meet 85% of its salt requirement and only 15% was imported¹¹. Presently, however, the country has become highly dependent on imported salt, importing 93% of its salt requirement¹². The decline of local salt production was attributed to several factors, such as climate change, limited technological advancements in the industry, reclamation of bay areas, and subsequent construction of coastal roads, which disrupted salt production, among others, leading to the gradual deterioration of the industry.

Currently, the government is trying to revive the industry to achieve salt self-sufficiency through the institutionalization of a policy framework. This initiative aims to reduce the country's heavy reliance on imported salt, address existing policy gaps, improve salt production methods, and attract and encourage investment through the grant of tax incentives, among others.

9 Harvard School of Public Health. (n.d.). Salt and Sodium. Retrieved on January 22, 2024, from <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/salt-and-sodium/>.

10 Philippine Coconut Authority. (n.d.). Common Salt Fertilization on Coconuts. Retrieved on January 22, 2024, from <https://pca.gov.ph/pdf/cocoTech/fertilization/commonSaltFertilizationOnCocounuts.pdf>.

11 Hontucan, R. M. M. & Acedo, C. E. (2017, February 24). PH Salt Industry Reeling from Climate Change. Retrieved on January 22, 2024, from <https://su.edu.ph/ph-salt-industry-reeling-from-climate-change/>.

12 Senate of the Philippines. (2023, January 18). Retrieved on January 22, 2024, from https://legacy.senate.gov.ph/photo_release/2023/0118_05.asp.

7. Review of the Philippine Agricultural Insurance

This paper aims to review the current status of the country's agricultural insurance, identify the current gaps and challenges in its implementation, and provide an overview of its taxation and other relevant legislative proposals affecting the said industry to serve as valuable inputs to fiscal policymakers.

The government has long been extending support and assistance to the farmers because of their crucial role in carrying the burden of feeding the entire nation. A comprehensive agricultural insurance program in the Philippines has been implemented for almost five decades already and a number of amendments have extended its coverage to different major crops, livestock, poultry, fisheries, and other assets.

Although it is considered the oldest institutional agricultural insurance provider in the ASEAN region, the Philippines still faces challenges. While the insured amount and adoption among farmers have increased over the years, the rampant increases in occurrences of natural disasters due to climate change calls for stronger management, higher insurance coverage, more efficient delivery of services, and wider adaptation on agricultural insurance among farmers. Moreover, the need for agricultural insurance in the country is, more often than not, primarily meant to facilitate credit access, especially in formal lending institutions. Thus, there is a need to promote financial literacy and build trust in financial services to make agricultural insurance products more attractive to farmers as well as address the low penetration of agricultural insurance in the country.

8. Concept, Level, and Reporting of the Philippine Tax Expenditures

Given the significant importance of tax expenditure as a fiscal policy tool, this paper presents the concept, level, and measurement of Philippine tax expenditures. A discussion on tax expenditure practices in other countries and how these compare with the Philippines is also provided.

Tax expenditures play a crucial role in fiscal policy, contributing significantly to achieving

various economic and social goals. These are special provisions in the tax system designed to benefit and support favored activities. The International Monetary Fund or IMF defines tax expenditures as deviations from a benchmark¹³ tax system to provide financial support or benefits to individuals, companies, and other entities, including nongovernment organizations.

In the Philippine context, tax expenditures refer to preferential provisions of the tax law that grant specific taxpayer concessions unavailable to others. It represents foregone revenue, distinct from expenses, and does not lead to inflows or outflows of resources; it does not generate assets, liabilities, revenue, or expenses of the government¹⁴.

While tax expenditures are instrumental in attaining policy objectives, stimulating economic growth, supporting social programs, and addressing specific needs within the tax system, their proliferation without adequate information and reporting systems can severely lose transparency and accountability in government finances.

9. Implementation of Real Property Tax Online Payments on Selected Local Government Units

This paper assesses the transition of selected LGUs in the National Capital Region (NCR) on integrating technological advancements in government transactions, particularly the use of online payment systems for real property tax (RPT) payments in the Philippines. While the concept of RPT online payments is not entirely new, the COVID-19 pandemic has led almost everybody to prefer the use of online payment methods. Some LGUs have already implemented ordinances and other interventions to generate online payment systems due to the high demand for easier and cashless transactions. However, one of the main problems is the technological illiteracy of some taxpayers and the country's poor internet quality.

13 Includes the rate structure, accounting conventions, deductibility of compulsory payments, provisions to facilitate tax administration, and international fiscal obligations.

14 Chapter 5, Section 20 of the Government Accounting Manual for National Government Agencies Volume 1 Accounting Policies, Guidelines and Procedures, and Illustrative Accounting Entries.

10. Feasibility of Levying a National Surtax on Real Property

The paper presents the different types of taxes on real property that are considered surtaxes, such as the special education fund or SEF, socialized housing tax, idle land tax, and the special levy imposed by respective LGUs. It also considers a cross-country comparison of the various surtaxes imposed in selected countries.

The paper discusses how the national surtax on real properties should depend on the "ability to pay" economic principle and contribute to the NG additional funds providing sustainable economic growth and development.

11. Local Franchise Tax: Issues and Concerns

The paper examines the franchise tax or privilege tax on businesses enjoying franchises and presents sample cases on the local franchise tax referred to the BLGF and the SC to provide clarifications on the implementation and imposition of the said tax under the LGC of 1991, as amended. This will shed light on the confusion regarding the imposition of both the business tax and the local franchise tax, especially in cases when both taxes are levied on the same gross receipts by the same taxing authority.

12. Updates on the Community Tax Certificate Imposition in the Philippines

The Community Tax Certificate (CTC), generally referred to as the Cedula, is an official document of identification issued by cities and municipalities in the Philippines. This study will examine the historical changes of the CTC from its inception to the present, its revenue performance from 2017 to 2021, and the implication of the proposed amendment on the revenue of LGUs. However, the imposition of the tax is slowly diminishing, leading to poor collection and production of fake certificates and collections not accruing to the LGUs.

The study also enumerates proposals to remove the CTC as one of the requirements in government transactions, which is complementary to RA 11032, otherwise known as the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018. The proposals intend to reduce red

tape and expedite transactions in the government.

13. Assessment of the Revenue Performance of Cities Within the Metropolitan Manila Area, CY 2012-2021

This study evaluates the revenue performance of cities within the Metropolitan Manila Area (MMA) from 2012 to 2021, determining the major factors influencing their ability to collect taxes, as well as comparing them with other selected cities from other regions by looking at the productivity of the revenue sources and how significantly different they are from one another. The collection efforts of MMA cities are recognized through performance management systems, thereby positively affecting their good performance in transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. Although MMA cities perform effectively overall, there is still room for improvement.

It also assesses the apparent increase in revenue collection, which is expected to continue for the years to come, notwithstanding the effects of the devolution of other powers and functions of the NG to the LGUs. Likewise, implementing their best practices will enable LGUs to demonstrate their efficiency and effectiveness and help prove that they are competent in policing their jurisdictions.

14. Analysis of the Revenue Performance of Professional Tax, CY 2017-2021

The study aims to review the revenue performance of professional tax imposed by LGUs from 2017 to 2021, as well as factors affecting its collection. Understanding these factors is crucial for policymakers and tax authorities to devise effective strategies to enhance tax collection and ensure sustainable revenue streams.

It also analyzes factors affecting the revenue performance of the said tax and argues that imposition of the professional tax is an effective and sufficient source of revenues for the LGUs hence, reforms should be taken into consideration to further improve its potential as a major source of local income.

15. Impact of COVID-19 on the Tax Collections from the Film Industry

This study aims to review the profile of the Philippine film industry, the taxes collected therefrom, and the present legislative reforms and direction of the government to support the industry to serve as valuable input to policymakers.

The film industry in the Philippines was challenged by operational and logistical difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which was evident from the unstable taxes collected from 2020 to 2022. Although the country and the economy have already transitioned to normalcy, the Philippine film industry is yet to show signs of recovery. Moreover, viewers have switched to other entertainment options from the comfort of their homes driven by the lingering pandemic. Thus, the gap between the consumption of media via traditional methods like watching television and going to cinemas and digital methods including social media, apps, podcasts, blogs, among others, and/or subscription videos on demand continued to widen. Said wide gap is predicted to continue in the years to come as said entertainment options are not only easily accessible but also more affordable than going to the theater. The proliferation of foreign films as a consequence of globalization likewise created competition for the local film industry.

It is worth highlighting though that the lackluster performance of the local film industry is not only peculiar in the Philippines but also being experienced worldwide. Given this, institutional support is very much needed for the local film industry to be able to produce more quality films and programs that will be more appealing to the current preferences of audiences in the Philippines and abroad.

16. Feasibility of Imposing a Foreign Tourist Tax in the Philippines

This paper explores the possibility of imposing a tourist tax on foreign visitors in the country to help raise additional revenues to be derived from the proposal. It also presents similar tax practices in selected countries to serve as input to fiscal policymakers.

The tourism industry was one of the most heavily affected sectors during the onset of the

COVID-19 pandemic due to travel restrictions. When the borders have reopened, several countries are taking advantage of their thriving tourism industries to increase their revenues.

Foreign tourist tax, also known as accommodation tax or sojourn tax, is common in most European countries. Among the ASEAN member countries, it is imposed in Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia. The tax is based on hotel category/type or as a percentage of hotel room charges and is applied either locally or nationwide. Collection from such is then earmarked for the preservation of the environment, heritage, and other social purposes to also promote the tourism sector.

In the Philippines, it has been proposed that a fixed rate of USD25 be imposed on each foreign visitor which will be integrated into airline ticket prices to generate an annual average of P13.75 billion additional revenue. This tax may help alleviate or correct the negative externalities that may result from possible natural resource degradation, crimes, and other forms of exploitation. On the other hand, the proposal may also stifle the growth of the tourism industry in the short run. Since the mechanisms enumerated in the bill to improve tourist services will take time before it is fully implemented, its effects are not to be observed instantly.

The good intention of imposing a tourist welfare tax is acknowledged as it is an additional source of revenue that can be tapped by the government to help provide better infrastructure and facilities and improve the services being offered by the tourism industry. However, it should be weighed carefully, taking into consideration its direct domino effect on several sectors of the economy such as hotels, restaurants, shops, and local transport, among others.

17. Fiscal Incentives to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in the ASEAN Region

This study presents the landscape of the Philippine micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and the fiscal incentives currently provided to said enterprises. It also provides a discussion on the policies and fiscal incentives for MSMEs in other ASEAN member states.

MSMEs play a vital role in a country's economic and social development. Among others, MSMEs significantly contribute to gross domestic product, or the total monetary or market value of all the finished goods and services produced, by the country, and serve as an avenue for job creation, trade, and investment. MSMEs also reduce poverty by promoting sustainable development goals, social stability, and livelihoods for thousands of people.

In the ASEAN, the MSMEs are tagged as the backbone of the economy as they constitute 95% to 99% of all business establishments and more than half of the total employment in all ASEAN member states. Given the importance and contributions of MSMEs to economic and social development, the ASEAN member states have implemented policies and programs to further capacitate and promote MSMEs' development which often includes tax incentives/breaks, subsidies, and exemption from certain government fees and charges, among others.

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18. Comparative VAT and VAT-Like Structure in the ASEAN Member States

This paper compares the VAT and VAT-like structure in the ASEAN member states, including Timor-Leste (as an observer status).

Among the ten ASEAN member states, six countries are imposing VAT, namely, Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam, while three countries are imposing VAT-like structures, namely, the sales and services tax (SST) of Malaysia, the commercial tax (CT) of Myanmar, and the goods and services tax (GST) of Singapore. On the other hand, Brunei does not impose VAT or any VAT-like structure. Meanwhile, Timor-Leste imposes a tax structure similar to Malaysia's SST.

Of the six ASEAN member states imposing VAT, the Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, and Thailand impose a general single VAT rate on the sale of goods and services.

The Philippines' VAT rate is 12%, while Cambodia's and Thailand's are 10% and 7%, respectively. Meanwhile, Indonesia has increased its VAT rate from 10% to 11% since April 1, 2022, while Lao PDR has decreased it from 10% to 7% starting January 1, 2022. In Vietnam, goods and services not entitled to exemptions, zero-rating, and 5% VAT are subject to the 10% standard VAT rate.

Indonesia has a special VAT base, the transaction value agreed upon between the parties concerned, subject to certain conditions.

For countries imposing a VAT-like structure, Singapore's GST rate is 7%, while Myanmar has increased its CT rate on some of its taxable goods from 1% to 15% beginning April 1, 2022. On the other hand, Malaysia imposes a three-tiered SST rate, i.e., a standard rate of 10% sales tax, 5% sales tax on specific goods (e.g., agriculture, food), and 6% service tax. Meanwhile, Timor-Leste imposes a two-tiered service tax of 0% and 5% and sales tax of 0% and 2.5%.

It is common among the ASEAN member states to impose a zero-rated VAT/VAT-like structure on exports of goods and certain types of specific services to avoid taxing the products or services

twice. Meanwhile, exemptions from VAT include the sale or importation of agricultural and marine food products in their original state and the sale, importation, printing, or publication of books.

19. Comparative Taxation of Alcohol Products in ASEAN Member States

This paper compares the excise tax and excise-like tax structure on alcohol products among the ASEAN member states to serve as baseline information for policymakers and researchers.

Alcohol products in the ASEAN countries are generally classified into distilled spirits, wines, and fermented liquors. Among the ASEAN member states, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam impose an AVT rate of 20% to 80% on alcohol products, primarily based on ex-factory selling prices or import or landed costs. Meanwhile, Myanmar also imposes a fixed tax rate on alcohol products based on the sales price per liter, ranging from MMK92 (PP2.42) to 60% of its sales price per liter.

On the other hand, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore impose an SPT rate on alcohol products. It should be noted that Indonesia imposes different tax rates for locally produced alcohol products ranging from IDR1,000 (PHP3.72) to IDR80,000 (PHP297.92) and imported alcoholic products ranging from IDR1,000 (PHP3.72) to IDR139,00 (PHP517.63). The base for the SPT rate in alcohol products for Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore is generally per liter. In contrast, Brunei's base for the SPT rate is on a per deciliter.

In the case of the Philippines, Myanmar, and Thailand, these countries impose a mixed structure for alcohol products that is ad valorem and specific. In the Philippines, distilled spirits have imposed a combination of a 20% AVT rate and P66.00 SPT per liter rate, while wines and fermented liquors are imposed an SPT per liter rate of P63.12 and P43.00, respectively, effective January 1, 2024. The Philippines also exempts distilled spirits used for medicinal preparations, flavoring extracts, and all other preparations, except toilet preparations, excluding water and distilled spirits from the chief ingredients, from the excise tax.

20. Comparative Royalty Rates on Mining and Mineral Products Imposed in the ASEAN Member States

This paper compares the royalty rates on mining and mineral products among the ASEAN member states to serve as baseline information for policymakers and researchers.

Brunei Darussalam and Singapore do not impose any royalties on mining among the ten ASEAN member states. Either there is no natural resource to mine, or it is already covered by other taxes, such as income tax, as in the case of Brunei Darussalam. The remaining eight member-states impose royalties on mining or mineral products, seven of which impose ad valorem rates ranging from 1% to 27%. In contrast, Cambodia imposes specific and ad valorem taxes depending on the mineral products.

In the Philippines, a royalty tax of at least 5% for large-scale mining and 5% for small-scale mining based on the gross output market value is imposed on contractors operating from the mining reservations. A minimum royalty tax of 1% is paid to indigenous people if the mining site is located within their ancestral lands.

Cambodia imposes a specific rate of royalty that shall be paid in United States dollars (USD) ranging from USD0.15 (PHP8.30) to USD225.00 (PHP12,445.66) per unit, depending on the mineral product. There are also imposed ad valorem rates ranging from 2% to 15% of the gross revenue from the sales of minerals and other related products such as (a) clay pottery, (b) bauxite, (c) metal, (d) coal; (e) semi-precious stones; (f) groundwater and mineral; and (g) crude oil.

In Indonesia, a production royalty rate of 2% to 10% is imposed on the mining business license holder depending on the sales volume, actual price, and/or benchmark price of the minerals produced annually. On the other hand, a production royalty rate of 13.5% based on the coal sales price net of marketing or selling expenses is imposed on mining companies.

Lao PDR imposes a 10% royalty on diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, and jades based on the percentage of the sales value of the mineral products that could be extracted and a

2% to 7% royalty on other mineral products such as coal, sodium, iron, metal, and other related products.

Meanwhile, Malaysia may set any royalty for a commutation fee by notification in the Gazette. Based on the available source, the royalty rate in Malaysia is 5% for metallic, non-metallic, and energy minerals (e.g., tin, bauxite, copper, ilmenite, gold, iron, coal, clay) based on the value of the mineral extracted.

Myanmar imposes royalty rates between 2% and 5% on gold, platinum, uranium, silver, copper, tin, iron, zinc, lead, antimony, and industrial minerals or stones based on the value of the mineral when the minerals produced are sold.

The royalty rate in Thailand ranges from 2.5% to 20% based on the market price, depending on the mineral product, which includes mineral ore with tungsten oxide, lead ore, gold ore, zinc ore, gemstone, and other mineral ores.

Lastly, Vietnam imposes a 27% royalty on diamonds, rubies, and sapphires and 25% on emeralds, alexandrite, and precious black opal. The royalty on other mineral products ranges from 6% to 20%. The tax is based on the output of the mineral exploited multiplied by the selling price, excluding VAT.

Chapter 4

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF REFERRED TAX BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

The NTRC provides technical assistance to both Houses of Congress by evaluating tax bills and other fiscal proposals referred to it, preparing revenue estimates, and rendering technical assistance during technical working group meetings, public hearings, and other bill deliberations.

For 2023, the NTRC prepared at least 148 comments on tax bills and resolutions from Congress as input to the DOF's position on tax proposals. Among the major DOF priority tax proposals referred to and evaluated by the NTRC were as follows:



On Automatic Income Classification of Local Government Units

The tax reform bills aimed to institutionalize an income classification system reflective of the financial capability of provinces, cities, and municipalities **consistent with the prevailing economic conditions**. The measures also intend to provide a more responsive approach to the promotion of local autonomy and to enable local government units to realize their full economic potential. Notably, Republic Act (RA) No. 11964 otherwise known as the Automatic Income Classification of Local Government Units Act, was signed into law on October 26, 2023.

1. Automatic Income Classification Act of LGUs
2. Enrolled Automatic Income Classification Act



On Package 3 - Real Property Valuation Reform Act

The Real Property Valuation Reform (RPVAR) is Package 3 of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program, which aims to **promote the development of a just, equitable, impartial, and efficient real property valuation system based on internationally accepted valuation standards, concepts, principles, and practices**. It intends to increase tax revenues without raising the current tax rates or enacting new taxes, as well as broaden the tax base utilized by the national and local governments for property and property-related taxes.

1. Real Property Valuation and Assessment Act
2. Unnumbered Substitute Bill on Real Property

Valuation and Assessment Reform Act



On Enhancing the Fiscal Regime for the Mining Industry

The Rationalization of the Mining Fiscal Regime aims to **establish a single, rationalized fiscal framework that applies to all mining agreements while ensuring the industry's sustainability and the government's just share of mining revenues**. This will be achieved through additional royalties, windfall profits tax, export tax, and ring-fencing

With the revenues generated from the reform, the government will fund various government programs on disaster risk management, environment rehabilitation, and overall economic development.

1. People's Mining Act and Philippine Mineral Resources Act
2. Fiscal Regime for the Mining Industry



On Motor Vehicles Road User's Charge

Under RA 8794 or "An Act Imposing a Motor Vehicle User's Charge on Owners of All Type of Motor Vehicles and for Other Purposes", as amended by RA 11239, the collection of the Motor Vehicle User Charge (MVUC) was intended to be utilized for the **maintenance of national and provincial roads, installation of traffic lights and road safety devices**, as well as address the negative impact of vehicles on the environment through **air pollution control**.

In lieu of the MVUC, whose rates were last adjusted in 2004, the Motor Vehicle Road User's Tax or MVRUT was introduced to provide adequate funding for the mentioned programs, expanding them to include a priority in addressing major accident-prone areas nationwide, modernization of public utility vehicles, as well as the government's road infrastructure and safety programs.

1. Motor Vehicle User's Tax Act
2. Motorcycles Exemption from Motor Vehicle Road Users Tax



On Military and Uniformed Personnel Pension Reform

The Military and Uniformed Personnel (MUP) Pension Reform aims to create a long-lasting structure in which employees can make contributions and have a stake in their pension. It is also aimed to offer **reliable and timely adjustments to the pension rates** based on economic conditions and **secure a viable and sustainable funding source for MUP pension requirements**.

Under the proposal, the government will make contributions alongside MUPs and has the authority to provide reliable and timely adjustments to the pension rates based on economic conditions and the sustainability of the pension fund.

1. Military and Uniformed Personnel Insurance Fund Act of 2022



On Public-Private Partnership

The Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is supportive of the administration's 8-Point Socioeconomic Agenda, which prioritizes job creation through the promotion of trade and investments and improving infrastructure. The measure aims to further **develop and strengthen the public and private sector collaborations** by facilitating a more effective and streamlined PPP approval process, and simplifying the procedures on infrastructure projects in order to establish an enabling environment for PPPs to thrive in the country. RA 11966, entitled, "An Act Providing for the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Code of the Philippines", was enacted into law on December 05, 2023.

1. Public-Private Partnership Acts



On Ease of Paying Taxes

The measures aim to improve tax compliance by making the system more taxpayer-friendly through simplified tax processes and enhanced taxpayer rights. It is also intended to modernize the tax administration, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the taxation system,

and increase revenue collection.

The proposed measures would provide convenience and reduce the possibility of late payments by enabling taxpayers to file and pay their internal revenue taxes electronically through authorized Revenue Collection Officers, or authorized Tax Software Providers.

1. Ease of Paying Taxes Act
2. USB Ease of Paying Taxes Act
3. Enrolled Ease of Paying Taxes Act bill



On Taxpayers Bill of Rights and Obligations

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights and Obligation, or TBORO was proposed to ensure that every taxpayer has the right to be informed about their obligations and the services they are entitled to receive from the concerned tax authority. The measure aimed to shield taxpayers from rights violations, especially those resulting from tax officials' arbitrary decisions and undue exercise of discretion.

1. Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and Obligations Act
2. USB Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and Obligations Act

Other Legislative Proposals:



On Junk Food and Sweetened Beverages Tax

The proposal seeks to advance **health equity** by generating revenue for the government to fund the promotion of the Filipino's right to health, equitable access to quality and affordable health care, and healthy living conditions.

1. Excise Tax on Sugar-sweetened Beverages



On Economic Development

The proposals aimed to **improve the business climate for investors and advance human capital development**. Some measures focused on improving regulations to promote further investments, thus, enabling economic transformation that can revive job creation and mitigate the effect of various types of economic

shocks.

1. Marinduque Special Economic Zone Act, Surigao City Special Economic Zone and Freeport Act, Bohol Island Special Economic Zone (BISEZ) Act of 2022, Cagayan de Oro Special Economic Zone Act, Bulacan Airport City Special Economic Zone and Freeport Act, Southern Leyte Economic Zone and Freeport Act of 2017, Iligan Special Economic Zone Act, NSC Special Economic Zone Act, Camarines Sur Special Economic Zone Act, Occidental Mindoro Special Economic Zone and Freeport Authority Act, Municipality of Sarangani Special Economic Zone Act, The Maguindanao and Cotabato City Special Economic Zone Act, Misamis Occidental Economic Zone Act, Eastern Visayas Special Economic Zone and Free Port Act, West Aklan Special Economic Zone Act
2. Digital Philippines Act
3. Online Network Philippines Act
4. Anti-Bulk Foreign Currency Smuggling Act and Anti-smuggling of Cash in Bulk Act
5. Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 Amendment.
6. Salt Industry Acts
7. Local Cooperatives Development Fund Act
8. Bulacan Airport City Special Economic Zone and Freeport Act
9. Construction Philippines Act of 2021
10. Tax Relief for Micro-Enterprises
11. Freeport Area of Bataan (FAB) Act of 2009 Amendment
12. Official Development Assistance Act of 1996 Amendment
13. Siquijor Special Economic Zone Authority Act
14. Community Paluwagan Microfinance Act
15. Metro Bataan Development Authority Act
16. Strengthening the Cooperative Movement
17. Lowering the Cost of Doing Business in Special Economic Zones and Freeport Zones
18. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises exemptions from Percentage Tax
19. Philippine Capital Markets
20. Reducing the Cost of Business Compliance for Micro, Small, and Medium (MSMEs)
21. Philippine Downstream Natural Gas Industry Act
22. Magna Carta for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
23. Cooperative Banking Act

24. Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Act
25. Philippine Coffee Industry Development Act of 2023
26. Philippine Capital Markets
27. Philippine Movie Industry Act 2022; Philippine Film and Television Tourism Act; Artists Incentives Act; Fostering Investment through Local and International Movies (FILM) Act; Philippine Independent Film Incentives Act of 2022; and World-Class Filmmakers' Incentives Act
28. Midstream Natural Gas Industry Development Act and Downstream Natural Gas Industry Development Act
29. Philippine Film and Movie Industry tax exemption
30. Local Film Industry Development Act of 2022
31. Philippine Downstream Natural Gas Industry Act
32. 'Tatak Pinoy'



On Social Protection

Social Protection measures were designed to **reduce poverty and vulnerability**. To address the needs of the vulnerable, the measures aimed to promote efficient labor markets, reduce exposure to risks, and improve their capacity to protect themselves against loss of income and other hazards.

1. Philippine Bicycle Act
2. Travel Tax Discount to Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Act
3. Social Welfare and Development Agencies Acts
4. Elderly Employment System
5. Budget Allocation for Programs for Senior Citizens Persons with Disabilities
6. Social Housing Development and Finance Corporation Act
7. Senior Citizens Free Parking Acts
8. Walkable and Bikeable Communities Act and Safe Pathways Network Act
9. Work-From-Home or Telecommuting Program Incentives
10. Tax Exemption of Bibles and Other Religious Articles
11. VAT exemption on System Loss Charge
12. VAT exemption on Electricity
13. VAT exemption on Water Utilities

14. Estate Tax exemption
15. Tax-Exempt Purchases of Balikbayans
16. Income Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens Act
17. Tax Amnesty Act
18. Anti-Tax Deduction Padding Act
19. Discount and VAT Exemption of Persons with Disabilities
20. Olympic Medalists and Their Coaches exemptions
21. Incentives for Rental Residential Housing by the Private Sector Act
22. National Housing Authority Acts
23. Enterprise Productivity Act
24. Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities amendment
25. Free Funeral Services Act
26. Accessible Environment For All Persons with Disabilities Act
27. Travel Tax Exemption to Travellers to BIMP-EAGA.
28. Estate Tax Amnesty extension



On Environmental Protection

The risks of climate change are recognized as colossal for developing countries such as the Philippines. The massive rescue and reconstruction as a result of extreme natural disasters are expenditures that can be minimized; thus, the policymakers are one in responding with the need for collective action to address climate change and **promote efforts to improve climate change and natural hazard resilience.**

1. Blue Economy Act
2. Solar Energy in National Government Offices Act and Total Electrification in Households and Public Schools Act
3. Real Property Tax Exemption for Tress Act of 2022
4. Hazardous Waste Management Act
5. Sierra Madre Conservation and Development Authority Act
6. Integrated Coastal Management Act
7. PHIVOLCS Modernization Act



On Health System Improvement

It is recognized that health development is instrumental in developing the capabilities of Filipinos and leading them to achieve their full

potential. The measures are supportive of the vision for Filipinos to have long and healthy lives. The efforts toward this goal include guiding Filipinos to make healthy choices and ensuring **access to basic health services and affordable medicines.**

1. Public Health Emergency Tax Exemption Act
2. Rainwater Harvesting Facility Acts
3. VAT Exemption on drugs and nutritional foods
4. Pro Bono Services to Poor Patients
5. Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers
6. Senior Citizen Care Act of 2023
7. Mas Murang Gamot Para sa Pilipino Act of 2023
8. Homes for the Homeless and Abandoned Senior Citizens Act
9. Mahal Ko, Barangay Health Workers Ko Law



On Food Security and Resiliency

There is a call for collective action to keep food prices within the reach of every Filipino. The aim is to increase the feeling of security of the Filipino people with the knowledge that they have enough to provide for the needs of their own and their families. Efforts include **diversifying food supply sources, monitoring the supply and demand of key commodities, and risk management interventions** to ensure food security and proper nutrition for every Filipino.

1. Potable Water Act
2. Farm Fertilizers and Pesticides Tax Exemption Act
3. Genuine Agricultural Cooperativism Reform Act of 2019
4. Philippine Livestock Promotion Act Amendment
5. VAT Exemption of Bread, Sugar, Cooking Oil, and Other Basic Necessities
6. Revised Masustansyang Pagkain Para sa Batang Pilipino Act of 2023
7. Water Service Cooperatives Development Act
8. UHB National Water Act



On Public Service/ Tax Administration

The AmBisyon Natin 2040 aspires to a life for Filipinos that is strongly rooted, comfortable,

and secure. To achieve this, there is a need for change to be made to the way things are done in the government, especially in how public services are delivered. The proposed measures aim to address the gaps in public service delivery and to establish integrated, innovative, and quality delivery systems.

1. Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act of 2022
2. Lamon Bay Development Authority Act Cagayan De Oro River Basin Development Authority Act, Lake Mainit Development Authority Act, Sustainable Bicol River Development Authority Act, Abra River Basin Development Authority Act, and Chico River Basin Development Authority Act
3. General Tax Amnesty Act of 2022
4. Firearms, Ammunition, and Accessories Tax Act
5. Department of Sports, Culture, and Arts Act of 2022
6. Imposing Taxes on Offsite Betting Activities
7. One-Stop Shop for Priority Infrastructure Projects Act
8. Charter of the Public Assets Management Corporation of the Philippines
9. Automatic Suspension of Excise Tax on Petroleum Products
10. Charter of PAGCOR
11. Tourist Welfare Tax Act
12. Excise Tax Reduction on Petroleum Products
13. Local Government Units tax exemption
14. Increasing excise tax on non-essential goods
15. VAT Exemption of Locally-produced Newspapers, Magazines, Newsletters, and Other Print Materials
16. VAT Refund for Non-Resident Tourists
17. Informers Reward
18. Tax Exemption on Microinsurance Policies
19. Excise Tax on Power Generation Plants
20. Philippine National Nuclear Energy Safety Act
21. Rationalizing the Taxes Imposed on Non-Life Insurance Policies
22. Revised Philippine Coast Guard Law
23. Charter of the General Santos International Airport Authority
24. Hazard Pay for Public Prosecutors Act and Hazard Pay for Trial Court Judges Act
25. Cordillera Autonomous Region
26. Magna Carta for Barangays
27. E-Governance Acts

28. Open Access in Data Transmission Acts
29. Information and Communications Technology Hubs Act
30. Bills creating new distinct and independent barangays



On Learning Continuity

Learning continuity measures aim to **expand access to quality learning resources, enhance the curriculum, and improve the education facilities and competencies of the teachers.** The efforts should provide enough opportunities for high-quality lifelong learning for Filipinos to help them become smart, innovative, and productive members of society.

1. Expanded Philippine Science High School System Act
2. Educational Applications, Gadgets, Computers, and E-Books Value-Added Tax Exemption
3. Bicol University-College of Veterinary Medicine, Southern Luzon State University-Catanauan Campus-College of Veterinary Medicine, and Visayas State University-College of Medicine Acts
4. Dinagat Islands State College; Sarangani State College; Siquijor State University; and National Aviation Academy of the Philippines Acts
5. Teaching Supplies Allowance Act
6. Ifugao State University-Potia Baa State College University of Southern Mindanao-Kidapawan City Campus; Nueva Ecija State University; and Davao Del Sur State University Acts
7. Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Program Act
8. Philippine Science High School System Act, Sulu State University Act, Zamboanga Del Sur Polytechnic State College Act San Pedro State College Act, Mindanao Peoples State College Act, Cotabato Foundation State University Act, Zamboanga Del Sur State University Act, and Aurora State University of Science and Technology Act
9. Alternative Learning System Learners and Graduates Incentives Act and Fresh Graduates Incentives Act
10. Senior Citizen's Employment Incentives Act of 2022
11. Batang Magaling Act

Chapter 5

AS SECRETARIAT TO THE FISCAL INCENTIVES REVIEW BOARD

A. Tax incentive applications approved

Projects approved under the CREATE Act reached Php 1.1 trillion as of 2023

As of 31 December 2023, there were 1,016 registered projects under the CREATE Act¹. Of the 1,016 total projects, 52, or 5.12%, are big-ticket projects approved by the FIRB, while the IPAs approved 964 projects, contributing 94.88 percent in terms of count².

The total committed investments from all approved projects amount to P1.07 trillion. From this amount, P845.65 billion (78.9%) represents committed investments from FIRB-approved projects, while the remaining P225.65 billion (21.1%) are from IPA-approved projects.

The 1,016 approved projects are expected to generate 115,077 jobs across varying industries³. 33,829 or 29.4% of the 115,077 jobs represent committed jobs from FIRB-approved projects, while 81,248 or 70.6% are from IPA-approved projects.

These committed jobs offer more security and stability, with career growth prospects, as opposed to seasonal or contractual work, which generally lacks security of tenure and offers limited opportunities for career advancement. (Please refer to Table 1 for further details)

Table 1
Approved Projects Under the CREATE Act, Broken Down Between the FIRB and IPAs⁴

IPA	Number of projects	Committed investment capital (in billions PHP)	Committed jobs ⁵
FIRB-approved projects			
BOI	39	770.64	18,285
SBMA	11	53.79	15,220
PEZA	2	21.22	324
Subtotal	52	845.65	33,829
IPA-approved projects			
BOI	439	124.70	45,673
PEZA	474	89.73	25,266
BBOI	21	5.44	4,833
AFAB	9	1.69	559
SBMA	7	1.51	2,509
APECO	5	0.22	- ⁶
CDC	6	1.15	2,147
ZCSEZA	3	1.00	261
Subtotal	964	225.22	81,248
Grand total	1,016	1,070.87	115,077

¹ The figures are based on the accumulated approvals from 11 April 2021 until 31 December 2023 by the FIRB and the IPAs.

² Under Section 297(B) of the CREATE Act, the FIRB has the power to register and grant fiscal incentives to projects with investment capital exceeding P1 billion. Meanwhile, the authority to register and grant incentives to projects with investment capital not exceeding P1 billion has been delegated to the IPAs.

³ The expected job generation is understated because the full employment commitment data for IPA-approved investments was only reported starting 01 December 2022.

⁴ Includes approvals as of 31 December 2023, based on IPA submission as of 25 March 2024.

⁵ FIRB-approved projects represent the highest projected employment level during the incentivized period. For the committed number of employment for IPA-approved projects, the figure to be captured will be streamlined as the retrieved amounts vary based on the highest count of employment, the average level of employment, and Year 1 employment. The figures to be reported shall be further streamlined to support comparability.

⁶ No employment data provided.

FIRB & IPA APPROVED INVESTMENTS TRACKER

Under the CREATE Act

From August 2021 to December 2023, the FIRB and IPA-approved CREATE projects reached

1,016 APPROVED APPLICATIONS

₱1.071.3T

TOTAL COMMITTED INVESTMENT CAPITAL

115,077

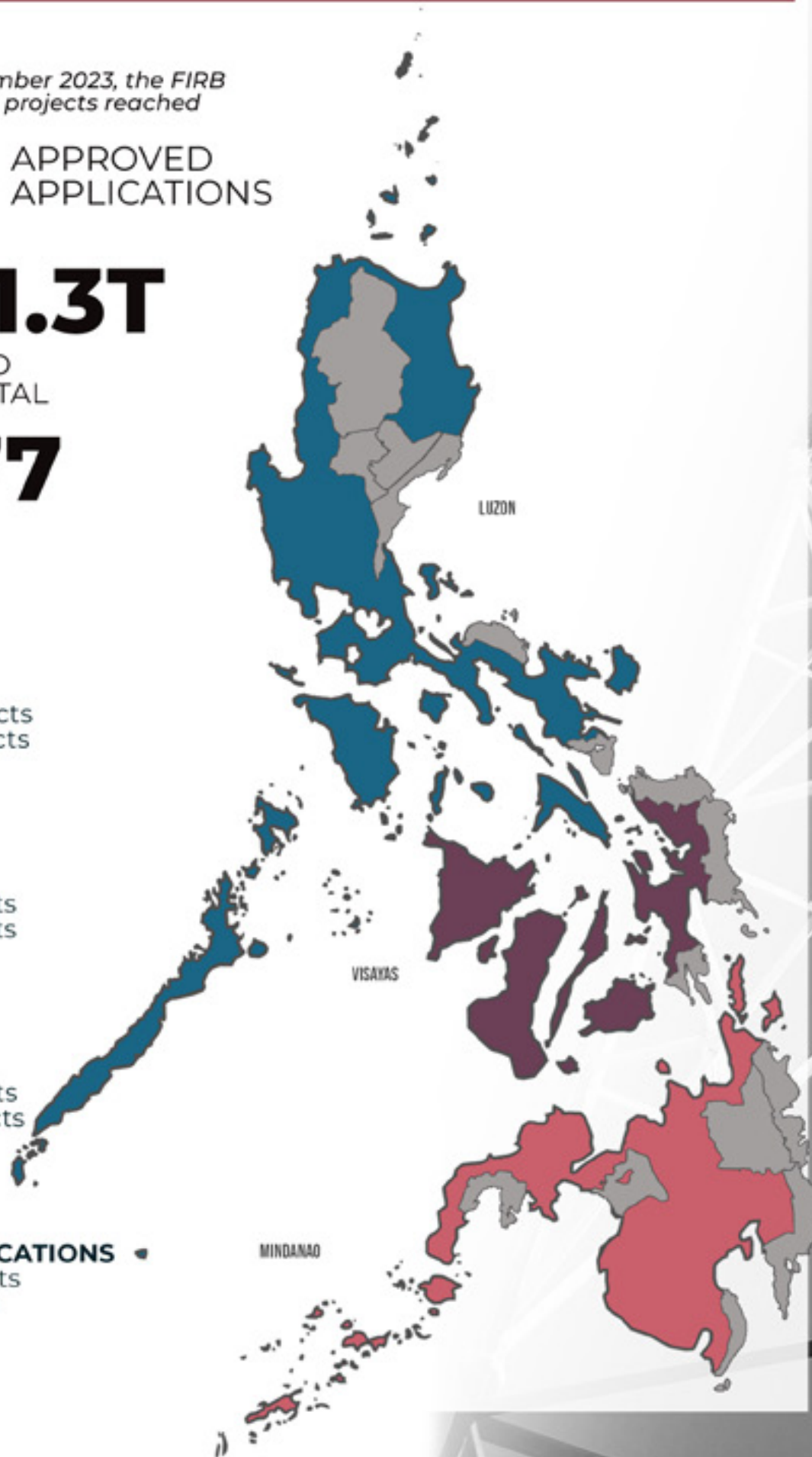
EXPECTED JOB GENERATION

762 LUZON
FIRB: 28 projects
IPA: 734 projects

128 VISAYAS
FIRB: 7 projects
IPA: 121 projects

113 MINDANAO
FIRB: 6 projects
IPA: 107 projects

13 MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
FIRB: 11 projects
IPA: 2 projects



FIRB

(above P1 billion of investment capital per project)

- 52** APPROVED APPLICATIONS
- ₱845.7B** TOTAL COMMITTED INVESTMENT CAPITAL
- 33,829** EXPECTED JOB GENERATION

IPAs

(P1 billion and below of investment capital per project)

- 964** APPROVED APPLICATIONS
- ₱225.7B** TOTAL COMMITTED INVESTMENT CAPITAL
- 81,248** EXPECTED JOB GENERATION

Total

FIRB + IPAs

- 1,016** APPROVED APPLICATIONS
- ₱1.07T** TOTAL COMMITTED INVESTMENT CAPITAL
- 115,077** EXPECTED JOB GENERATION

Notes:
 1. Excludes projects reported to the FIRB but were confirmed to be registered under special laws.
 2. Employment data for IPA-approved projects (P1 billion and below) began from December 2022, as the 2000MU reports were circulated starting that month.
 3. The number of committed employment for FIRB-approved projects is based on the peak employment committed by approved projects within their incentivized period.
 4. On potential FDI pledges for IPA-approved projects, only 644 of the 964 have data on FDI. Projects where a single foreign entity or related group contributes less than 10% of the investment are tagged with FDI data, regardless of whether the percentage of foreign investment is specified.
 5. No submissions from APECO, BBOL, JIMCO, PPMC, and TRZA for the month of December 2023 as of 20 January 2024.
 6. Under IPA-approved projects, PEZA approved and reported one project with investment capital above P1 billion.
 7. Figures are rounded off and may not add up.

B. Tax subsidy applications approved

FIRB approved P5.4 billion worth of tax subsidies for FY 2023

In 2023, the FIRB evaluated and approved tax subsidy applications from three government agencies: the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC), the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), and the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissary and Exchange Service (AFPCEs). The total value of the granted tax subsidies amounted to P5.14 billion. (Please refer to Table 2 for further details)

Table 2
Tax Subsidy Granted by the FIRB and Utilization for 2023

Agency	Amount granted (in millions PHP)		Amount utilized per SARO (in millions PHP)	Percentage utilization rate per CES
	Per FIRB Resolution	Per CES		
PDIC	4,200.00	4,172.51	4,172.51	100%
GSIS	536.23	536.23	536.23	100%
AFPCEs	400.90	331.05	331.05	100%
Total	5,137.13	5,039.78	5,039.78	100%

Note: Total figures may vary due to rounding-off.

C. Performance monitoring

Implementing a performance-based tax incentive system

As the CREATE Act was designed to enact a tax incentives system that is performance-based, targeted, time-bound, and transparent, the committed performance metrics of RBEs are now being closely monitored and validated, in support of the RBEs' continued enjoyment of tax incentives.

Performance commitments, such as investment pledges, employment commitments, level of exports, and sector-specific performance metrics, are now being closely monitored by both the IPAs and the FIRB, through the FIRB secretariat. As of August 2023, 12 big-ticket projects¹ have

¹ Out of the 45 projects approved by the FIRB as of 07 August 2023.

already started commercial operations². For IPA-approved projects³, submitted reports show that 203 IPA-approved projects have likewise started commercial operations. In total, 215 projects are now operational.

Under the CREATE Act, registered projects are allowed to start commercial operations within three years from the date of registration, unless stated otherwise under the Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP) guidelines or as mandated by the FIRB⁴.

In terms of job creation, among the 215 projects that started commercial operations, 79 projects have employment commitments to fulfill⁵. These 79 projects reported a total employment count of 14,245 workers, collectively exceeding the total employment commitment by 84.35%. Out of these 79 projects, 74 or 93.67% met the committed employment targets, while five or 6.33%, fell short of their commitments (See Table 3).

In terms of investment capital, among the 215 projects that started commercial operations, 21 projects have outstanding investment commitments. These 21 projects account for a total actual investment of P36.14 billion, representing 37.12 percent of the overall committed investment.

The total actual investment for the 12 FIRB big-ticket projects is understated as four projects only submitted partial data, while five projects reported no data. Among the 21 FIRB and IPA-approved projects, nine were compliant, investing a combined total of P9.21 billion. Five projects did not submit their actual investment data, and the remaining three non-compliant projects fell short by P0.22 billion. Meanwhile, four projects submitted only partial data. (See Table 4).

² The SCO date for purposes of tax incentives availment shall be the latest among the FIRB approval date, the date of the COR, or if amended, the date of the amendment, and the actual SCO.

³ Based on 2022 Monitoring Reports received as of 30 November 2023.

⁴ Section 296 of the Tax Code.

⁵ Commitments for the projects approved by the IPAs and FIRB are those outstanding as of 2022 and 2023, respectively. Kindly note that the monitoring of performance commitments for FIRB-approved projects is performed at least twice a year. Thus, updates on FIRB-approved performance commitments are more recent (as of 9 August 2023) compared to the IPA-approved projects (as of 31 December 2022).

Table 3

Status of Employment Commitments of Approved Projects under the CREATE Act

Status	Number of projects	Committed employment	Actual employment	Percent accomplished
FIRB-approved projects				
Compliant	6	471	603	128.03%
Not compliant	1 ¹	234	140	59.83%
Subtotal	7	705	743	105.39%
IPA-approved projects				
Compliant	68	6,663	13,502	202.64%
Not compliant	4	359	- ²	-
Subtotal	72	7,022	13,502	192.28%
Grand total	79	7,727	14,245	184.35%

Notes:

- Total figures may vary due to rounding-off.
- "Compliant" refers to those projects that either met or exceeded their employment commitments.
- "Not compliant" refers to those projects that did not meet their employment commitments.

¹ Per FIRB Resolution No. 9-22, the project is required to generate and maintain 234 jobs in Year 1 (but reported just 140 actual jobs as of 31 December 2022). The FIRB secretariat is currently working with the concerned IPA to secure the project's justification regarding the unmet job commitment.

² No data was reported, but the IPA indicated that the projects were not able to comply with their performance commitment.

Table 4

Status of Investment Pledges of Approved Projects under the CREATE Act

Status	Number of projects	Investment commitment (in PHP billions)	Actual investment (in PHP billions)	Percent accomplished
FIRB-approved projects				
Compliant	3	7.62	7.78	102.17%
Submitted partial data	4	48.26	26.23	54.34%
No data reported	5	39.08	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal	12	94.96	33.01	35.82%
IPA-approved projects				
Compliant	6	1.42	1.43	101.09%
Not compliant	3	0.97	0.75 ¹	76.93%
Subtotal	9	2.39	2.18	91.30%
Grand total	21	97.35	36.14	37.12%

Notes:

- Total figures may vary due to rounding-off.
- "Compliant" refers to those projects that either met or exceeded their investment commitments.
- "Not compliant" refers to those projects that did not meet their investment commitments.
- "Submitted partial data" refers to those with reported actual performance data but did not report complete information, as of the reporting date.
- "No data reported" refers to those projects that have commitments to fulfill but have not submitted actual performance data. The actual performance data of these five (5) projects will be submitted to the FIRB Secretariat on 14 July 2024.

¹ One project did not indicate the amount of actual investment, but the IPA indicated that the project was not able to comply with their performance commitment.

D. Publication of the Preliminary Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) Report

The FIRB secretariat published its annual CBA report

The second CBA report was published on October 2, 2023⁶, based on the Annual Tax Incentives Report (ATIR) and Annual Benefits Report (ABR) submissions of RBEs for the taxable year 2022, as consolidated by the IPAs. The preliminary report is published online through the FIRB's website⁷.

The CBA report aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the grant of fiscal incentives in attracting investments that would generate net economic benefits through productivity enhancement, job creation, nationwide development, and inclusive growth while maintaining fiscal prudence and stability. Although the two years of data (counted from the enactment of the CREATE Act in April 2021 until December 2022) may be too early to provide definitive results, initial figures indicate progress in the efficient use of fiscal incentives for both job generation and minimizing forgone revenue.

Under Rule 11 of the CREATE Act's IRR, firm-level data shall be published annually every September 30 on the FIRB website, containing the information on the costs of providing tax incentives and related benefits gathered therefrom.

For the report covering the taxable year 2022, the dataset used is composed of 1,488 firms, 1,388 of which only had registered projects prior to the passage of the CREATE Act while the remaining 100 firms reported at least one project registered under the CREATE Act.

⁶ As September 30, 2023, falls on a Saturday, the FIRB published the report for 2022 on the 2nd of October 2023 (the following business day).

⁷ To access the full report, please refer to <https://bit.ly/PrelimCBA2023>.

E. Fiscal Incentives Registration and Monitoring System (FIRMS) Accomplishments

Automation and digitalization of tax administration processes

The FIRMS has been developed to facilitate the registration of BEs for tax incentives and digitalize the monitoring activities of the FIRB and the IPAs.

In its current form, BEs may use FIRMS to apply for tax incentives and generate their CORs and CETIs. On the other hand, the IPAs and the FIRB may accept, review, and approve or deny the applications of the BEs.

The following are the highlights of the digitalization efforts of the FIRB Secretariat, as operationalized through FIRMS:

1. New modules deployed

- Creation of the online ATIR and ABR submission module. This module allows the BEs to directly encode their data into the system, subject to embedded and reinforced data validation to improve data quality. This will also automate the consolidation process on the part of the IPAs.
- Creation of an online submission module embedded within FIRMS for the ATIR and ABR, as opposed to the manual submission through email.
- Pilot-tested the layered evaluation module co-developed and supported by the United States Agency for International Development or USAID. This module provides a more structured approach to the assessment process of a tax incentive application on the part of the IPAs.

2. System usage

- For the taxable year 2022, two of the 14 IPAs fully implemented the issuance of CETI through FIRMS. The successful implementation led to the issuance of 463 CETIs in 2023⁸.

⁸ SBMA and PPMC, based on the latest data as of November 2023.

- Digital copies of the COR have been issued to 13 projects under the CREATE Act using FIRMS⁹.
- The RBEs of Clark Development Corporation (CDC), comprising 409 firms, were migrated to the FIRMS database in preparation for their CETI issuance for the taxable year 2023, which will generally start this 2024.
- As of December 2023, the total number of verified users increased to 1,852, a 170% increase from 685 in 2022. This includes a 50% increase in verified IPA users, from 16 to 24, and a 173% surge in verified RBE users, from 669 to 1,828.

3. Other system enhancements

- Automated notification enhancements for ATIR and ABR and layered evaluation modules.
- Allowed the use of multiple IPA accounts, to support the management of the internal process flows of the IPAs.

F. Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Initiatives

Wrapping up 2023 with intensified stakeholder relations

- Launched the YouTube page FIRB Videos on 04 April 2023 with five uploaded FIRMS instructional videos. The videos gained a combined number of views of 1,181 and 19 subscribers as of December 2023. More videos will be uploaded soon as FIRMS undergoes system enhancements;
- Published a total of five press releases involving approved tax incentives, resolutions, and announcements;
- Published two issues of "The FIRB Imprint", the official newsletter of the FIRB, covering FIRB's approved tax incentives, investment promotion efforts and support to IPAs, and the impact of investments in the country's economic recovery;
- Issued a total of 12 e-newsletters to all IPAs and other stakeholders to give relevant information and updates on the latest

⁹ SBMA and CDC, based on the latest generated COR on September 2023.

developments in the FIRB. The e-newsletters helped keep stakeholders well-informed and updated on the most recent policy developments, key resolutions, and activities that the FIRB undertakes and oversees;

- Conducted 31 FIRB virtual town hall meetings and onsite workshops with a total of 13,301 participants from IPAs, RBEs, and other FIRB stakeholders. These cover presentations and consultations on the CREATE Act and its IRR and VAT-related issues, procedures in the filing of the TEI through the DOF Revenue Office Tax Exemption System, CBA workshops, and demonstration and pilot testing of FIRMS updates (Annex A);
- The 2023 virtual town hall meetings and onsite workshops generally received positive reviews, with the level of satisfaction and the level of effectiveness of the speakers rated as "Very Satisfied" by the participants from the results of the online feedback form collected by the FIRB Secretariat.
- Of these 31 meetings and engagements, the FIRB Secretariat conducted nine workshops for cooperatives nationwide which were aimed at training participants from the CDA and various registered cooperatives on DOF-DTI Joint Administrative Order No. 001-2023 and how to accomplish the ATIR-ABR of cooperatives. The cooperative-participants appreciated the new and simplified ATIR-ABR templates presented as the forms are generally acceptable and easy to follow.

G. Policy Issuances

The FIRB demonstrated strong effectiveness in performing its policy-making functions for a transparent, efficient and effective regulatory environment

- The FIRB Secretariat prepared various position papers, comments, studies, or briefers as input for the DOF Executive Committee meetings and draft legislations in the Senate and House of Representatives.
- It also facilitated the conduct of seven FIRB (Board Proper) meetings and 11 FIRB Technical Committee meetings, including the preparation of the packet of reference materials, discussion guides, and the resulting minutes of the said meetings.
- The FIRB Secretariat assisted in preparing and issuing 44 FIRB resolutions. Of this number, four were policy-related, 37 were related to tax incentives applications, and three covered tax subsidy applications.
- To streamline the evaluation and approval of tax incentives applications, the Board during its 24th meeting held on 07 August 2023, resolved to adopt the following protocols:
 - (1) applications that are favorably endorsed by the FIRB-TC shall be elevated to the members of the FIRB Proper by way of *ad referendum* approval; and
 - (2) only projects that are not favorably endorsed by the FIRB-TC shall be deliberated by the FIRB Proper through a Board Meeting.
- In the exercise of its policy making functions, the FIRB Secretariat provided technical and legal assistance in the preparation of one Joint Administrative Order (JAO), one memorandum circular (MC), four administrative orders (AOs), one Department Order and 19 advisories. These issuances are publicly accessible on the FIRB website.
- In response to the Office of the President's directive to review and address the VAT-related issues concerning both DMEs and REEs, the FIRB Secretariat facilitated the conduct of meetings of the VAT Technical Working Group (VAT-TWG) and held consultations with IPAs and other relevant stakeholders. This led to the amendment of Rule 18, Section 5 of the IRR of the CREATE Act.

- Under the 2023 amendments to the CREATE Act IRR, transitory registered DMEs inside the economic or freeport zone availing of the 5% gross income tax (GIT) regime will now have the option to register as VAT taxpayers. This will enable VAT-registered DMEs covered by the transitory provisions of CREATE to either charge output VAT to domestic customers or receive a refund from the BIR for the input VAT directly attributable to their zero-rated sales. Meanwhile, transitory REEs whose income tax-based incentives have expired may now continue to enjoy VAT zero-rating on their local purchases until the electronic sales reporting system under Section 237-A of the Tax Code, as amended, is fully operational or until the expiration of the ten-year transitory period, whichever comes earlier.

H. Other activities

- The FIRB secretariat also replied to over 994 queries and concerns of various private and public stakeholders as of 31 December 2023:

Particulars	No. of queries
WFH arrangements of RBEs	19
CREATE Act and its IRR	120
Submission of ATIR and ABR	78
Technical assistance on concerns of IPAs, GOCCs, government commissary, and NGAs	777
Total	994

- Pursuant to the oversight function of the FIRB on the administration and grant of incentives of the IPAs, the FIRB Secretariat conducted onsite visits for the interim performance review and monitored all 14 IPAs in from 2022 to 2023, focusing on the IPAs' compliance with the CREATE Act, the CREATE Act's IRR, and related reportorial requirements.



Chapter 6

AS SECRETARIAT TO THE TASK FORCE ON FEES AND CHARGES

As the Secretariat to the Task Force on Fees and Charges, the NTRC monitors the compliance of NGAs, including GOCCs, to Administrative Order 31 s. 2012 and prepares responses/comments on queries/requests for technical assistance in the revision/imposition of fees and charges. The Secretariat provided 24 technical assistance in the determination of rates of fees to several agencies such as:

1. Department of Information and Communications Technology-Postal Regulations Division
2. Department of Justice
3. Department of Trade Industry – Competitiveness Bureau
4. Environmental Management Bureau
5. Food and Drug Administration
6. Land Registration Authority
7. National Maritime Polytechnic
8. Philippine National Police-Firearms and Explosives Office
9. Philippine Statistics Authority
10. Philippine Tax Academy
11. Philippine Trade Training Center
12. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority

The NTRC has also monitored 188 agencies on their compliance with AO 31, s. 2012:

1. Al-Amanah Islamic Investment Bank of the Philippines
2. Anti-Red Tape Authority
3. Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
4. Biodiversity Management Bureau
5. Board of Investments
6. Bureau of Agrarian Legal Assistance
7. Bureau of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Development
8. Bureau of Alternative Education
9. Bureau of Animal Industry
10. Bureau of Broadcast Services
11. Bureau of Communications Services
12. Bureau of Construction
13. Bureau of Curriculum Development
14. Bureau of Customs
15. Bureau of Design
16. Bureau of Equipment
17. Bureau of Human Resources and Organizational Development
18. Bureau of Internal Revenue
19. Bureau of Import Services
20. Bureau of International Trade Relations
21. Bureau of Labor and Employment
22. Bureau of Labor Relations
23. Bureau of Land Tenure Improvement
24. Bureau of Learner Support Services
25. Bureau of Learning Delivery
26. Bureau of Learning Resources
27. Bureau of Local Government Development
28. Bureau of Local Government Finance
29. Bureau of Quality and Safety
30. Bureau of Small & Medium Enterprise Development
31. Bureau of Trade and Industrial Policy Research
32. Bureau of the Treasury
33. Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns
34. Bureau of Working Conditions
35. Cagayan Economic Zone Authority
36. Career Executive Service Board
37. Central Board of Assessment Appeals
38. Civil Aeronautics Board
39. Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines
40. Climate Change Commission
41. Commission on Audit
42. Commission on Filipinos Overseas
43. Commission on Population and Development
44. Commission on the Settlements of Land Problems
45. Consumer Protection and Advocacy Bureau
46. Cooperative Development Authority
47. Credit Information Corporation
48. Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center
49. Dangerous Drugs Board
50. Department of Agrarian Reform
51. Department of Budget and Management
52. Department of Education
53. Department of Energy – Office of the Secretary
54. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
55. Department of Finance
56. Department of Foreign Affairs – Office of the Secretary
57. Department of Information and Communications Technology – Office of the Secretary

58. Department of Migrant Workers
59. Department of National Defense
60. Department of Public Works and Highways
61. Department of Science and Technology
62. Department of Trade and Industry – Competitiveness Bureau
63. Department of Transportation – Office of the Secretary
64. Department of Tourism
65. Design Center of the Philippines
66. Development Bank of the Philippines
67. Early Childhood Care and Development Council
68. Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
69. Electric Power Industry Management Bureau
70. Employees Compensation Commission
71. Energy Policy and Planning Bureau
72. Energy Resource Development Bureau
73. Energy Utilization Management Bureau
74. Environmental Management Bureau
75. Export Marketing Bureau
76. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority
77. Food Terminal Incorporated
78. Forest Product Research and Development Institute
79. Foreign Service Institute
80. Games and Amusement Board
81. Governance Commission for GOCCs
82. Government Arsenal
83. Health Facility Development Bureau
84. ICT Literacy and Competency Development Bureau
85. Institute for Labor Studies
86. Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines
87. Intramuros Administration
88. Insurance Commission
89. Knowledge Management and Information Technology Service
90. Land Management Bureau
91. Land Registration Authority
92. Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board
93. Land Transportation Office
94. Local Government Academy
95. Local Government and Regional Coordination Bureau
96. Metal Industry Research and Development Center
97. Mindanao Development Authority
98. Mines and Geosciences Bureau
99. National Anti-Poverty Commission
100. National Archives of the Philippines
101. National Barangay Operations Office

102. National Book Development Board
103. National Bureau of Investigation
104. National Commission for Culture and the Arts
105. National Commission on Muslim Filipinos
106. National Conciliation and Mediation Board
107. National Council for Children’s Television
108. National Defense College of the Philippines
109. National Historical Commission of the Philippines
110. National Intelligence Coordinating Agency
111. National Labor Relations Commission
112. National Library of the Philippines
113. National Maritime Polytechnic
114. National Mapping and Resources Information Authority
115. National Parks Development Committee
116. National Power Corporation
117. National Printing Office
118. National Privacy Commission
119. National Tax Research Center
120. National Telecommunications Commission
121. National Tobacco Administration
122. National Transmission Corporation
123. Occupational Safety and Health Center
124. Office for Transport Security
125. Office of the Press Secretary
126. Office of the Solicitor General
127. Office of Transportation Cooperatives
128. Oil Industry Management Bureau
129. Organization, Position Classification and Compensation Bureau
130. Overseas Workers Welfare Administration
131. Parole and Probation Administration
132. People’s Television Network, Inc.
133. Philippine Aerospace Development Corporation
134. Philippine Air Force
135. Philippine Army
136. Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office
137. Philippine Coast Guard
138. Philippine Coconut Authority
139. Philippine Commission on Women
140. Philippine Competition Commission
141. Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development
142. Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
143. Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation
144. Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency
145. Philippine Economic Zone Authority
146. Philippine Fisheries Development Authority

147. Philippine Guarantee Corporation
148. Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
149. Philippine High School for the Arts
150. Philippine Institute for Development Studies
151. Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care
152. Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology
153. Philippine International Convention Center, Inc.
154. Philippine National Oil Company
155. Philippine National Police
156. Philippine National Railways
157. Philippine Navy
158. Philippine Ports Authority
159. Philippine Postal Corporation
160. Philippine Reclamation Authority
161. Philippine Retirement Authority
162. Philippine Statistics Authority
163. Philippine Tax Academy
164. Philippine Textile Research Institute
165. Philippine Veterans Affairs Office
166. Philippines Information Agency
167. Pinagkaisa Realty Corporation
168. PNOC Exploration Corporation
169. Presidential Broadcast Staff - Radio Television Malacañang
170. Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor
171. Presidential Commission on Good Government
172. Presidential Communications Office
173. Presidential Legislative Liaison Office
174. Presidential Management Staff
175. Radio-Television Malacañang (RTVM)
176. Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board
177. Renewable Energy Management Bureau
178. Small Business Corporation
179. Social Housing Finance Corporation
180. Sugar Regulatory Administration
181. Systems and Productivity Improvement Bureau
182. Tariff Commission
183. Technical Cooperation Council of the Philippines
184. Toll Regulatory Board
185. Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority
186. UCPB Leasing and Finance Corporation
187. UCPB Savings Bank
188. Veterans Federation of the Philippines

Chapter 7

AS CONSULTANT TO THE TECHNICAL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON REAL PROPERTY VALUATION

The NTRC continuously acted as consultant to both the Technical Committee on Real Property Valuation (TCRPV) and Executive Committee on Real Property Valuation (ECRPV) of different Revenue Regional and District Offices of the BIR and attended meetings and public hearings pertaining to determination/revision of zonal values of various real properties, requests for revaluations and participated in ocular inspections of subject properties.

For 2023, the NTRC has attended a total of 41 meetings and public hearings for the following RDOs:

A. Meetings on the Technical Committee on Real Property Valuation

1. BIR RR 06 (Manila)
2. BIR RDO 03 (Tuguegarao)
3. BIR RDO 08 (Baguio City)
4. BIR RDO 09 (La Trinidad, Benguet)
5. BIR RDO 25B (East Bulacan)
6. BIR RDO 28 (Novaliches, Quezon City)
7. BIR RDO 38 (North Quezon City)
8. BIR RDO 40 (Cubao, Quezon City)
9. BIR RDO 44 (Taguig-Pateros)
10. BIR RDO 53B (Muntinlupa)
11. BIR RDO 57 (Biñan City, West Laguna)
12. BIR RDO 64 (Talisay, Camarines Norte)
13. BIR RDO 65 (Naga City)
14. BIR RDO 67 (Legazpi City)
15. BIR RDO 66 (Iriga City)
16. BIR RDO 68 (Sorsogon City)
17. BIR RDO 69 (Virac, Catanduanes)
18. BIR RDO 70 (Masbate City)
19. BIR RDO 79 (Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental)
20. BIR RDO 85 (Catarman, Northern Samar)
21. BIR RDO 86 (Borongan City)
22. BIR RDO 87 (Calbayog City)
23. BIR RDO 88 (Tacloban City)
24. BIR RDO 89 (Ormoc City)
25. BIR RDO 112 (Tagum City)

B. Meetings on the Technical Committee on Real Property Valuation

1. BIR RDO 08 (Baguio City)
2. BIR RDO 25B (East Bulacan)
3. BIR RDO 28 (Novaliches, Quezon City)
4. BIR RDO 38 (North Quezon City)
5. BIR RDO 39 (South Quezon City)
6. BIR RDO 40 (Cubao, Quezon City)
7. BIR RDO 42 (San Juan City)
8. BIR RDO 51 (Pasay City)
9. BIR RDO 52 (Paranaque City)
10. BIR RDO 56 (Calamba City)
11. BIR RDO 66 (Iriga City)
12. BIR RDO 68 (Sorsogon City)
13. BIR RDO 69 (Virac, Catanduanes)
14. BIR RDO 70 (Masbate City)

C. Public Hearings

1. BIR RDO 13 (Tuguegarao City)
2. BIR RDO 28 (Novaliches, Quezon City)
3. BIR RDO 38 (North Quezon City)
4. BIR RDO 39 (South Quezon City)
5. BIR RDO 40 (Cubao, Quezon City)
6. BIR RDO 44 (Taguig/Pateros)
7. BIR RDO 53B (Muntinlupa)
8. BIR RDO 61 (Gumaca, South Quezon)
9. BIR RDO 79 (Dumaguete City)

Chapter 8

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Conferences and Seminars Abroad

Deputy Executive Director (DED) Jossef Eleazar B. Lacson attended the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's Study Trip on the Digital Transformation of Industries held on September 10 - 16, 2023 in Seoul, South Korea.

DED Ian Emmanuel E. Leuterio attended the 17th Working Group on Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Forum on Taxation Meeting; and the 14th ASEAN Sub-Forum on Excise Taxation Meeting held on August 1 - 3, 2023 at the Republic of Indonesia.

B. Local Conferences and Seminars

Abraham P. Solomon, Administrative Officer V, Management and Information System Division, attended the Google Workspace for End User and Training of Trainers held on January 26, 2023.

Kristine V. Mendoza, Senior Tax Specialist, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Competency-Based Human Resource Management Conversations held on February 7, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected Technical Employees attended the Macroeconomic Prospects of the Philippines in 2022-2023 held on February 9, 2023, via Zoom.

Jasmin L. Chan, Financial Analyst III, Service Industries Division, attended the Workshop on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Action 14 and the Mutual Agreement Procedure held on February 8-10, 2023 at the SEDA Vertis North Hotel, Diliman, Quezon City.

Anna Catherine V. Revillas, Administrative Assistant III, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the "Cultivating the Filipino Civil Servants' Motivation and Engagement"/First Quarter 2023 Human Resource Managers Fellowship Meeting and Learning Session held on February 15, 2023, at the Microtel UP Techno Hub, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City.

Ma. Rhea L. Caro, Chief Tax Specialist, and Johann Louise D. Ramos, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the First Gender and Development Focal Point System Sectoral Assembly 2023 held on February 15, 2023 at the

Department of Finance (DOF), Manila.

DED Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure, and Atty. Jason P. Raposas, Chief Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, attended the 19th National Convention for Lawyers held on February 15-18, 2023 at the SMX Lanang, Davao City.

Phoebe Jane E. Orijola, Senior Tax Specialist, and Gyan Karla G. Pascual, Tax Specialist II, Local Taxation Branch attended the Examining the Philippine Road and Rail Transport Infrastructure Webinar held on February 16, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the Fiscal Incentives Review Board Revised Cost-Benefit Analysis Workshop held on February 23, 2023 at the DOF, Manila.

Monica G. Rempillo, Economist V, Economics Staff and OIC-Deputy Executive Director, and Ma. Rhea L. Caro, Chief Tax Specialist, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the Supervisory Development Course Track II held on February 28 - March 3, 2023, at the CSC-NCR, 25 Kaliraya Rd., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.

Atty. Raviene Jeru Lim, Attorney III, Leif Ivan J. Malvas, Information Officer III, and Angelica R. Porciuncula, Administrative Officer V, Legal Research and Communication Division, attended the Regional Workshop on Tax Expenditures in Asia held on March 1 - 3, 2023, at the SEDA Hotel, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City.

Venchito P. Salvador, Chief Administrative Officer, General Services Division, and Anna Catherine V. Revillas, Administrative Assistant III, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Worth Orientation held on March 2, 2023, via Facebook.

DED Gian Carlo D. Rodriguez, Roselyn C. Domo, Chief Tax Specialist, Fiscal Incentives Branch, and Johann Louise D. Ramos, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the International Women's Day Celebration held on March 8, 2023, at the Samsung Hall, SM Aura Premier, Taguig City.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Friday Learning Session (FLS) 1: Concepts on Fees and Charges held on March 17, 2023 at

the DOF, Manila. Atty. Jason P. Raposas, Chief Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, as resource person.

Brandon Jorjs V. Holgado, Planning Officer II, General Services Division, attended the Fiscal Year 2023 Procurement Forum – Part 2 held on March 29, 2023, via Zoom.

Atty. Brandon L. Berad, Attorney IV, Legal Management Division, attended the Seminar-Workshop on Policies and Procedures on Appointment held on April 11 - 13, 2023 at the CSC-NCR, 25 Kaliraya Rd., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.

Sajikh E. Ayonan, Tax Specialist I, and Marjorie C. Hop, Statistician I, Tax Statistics Staff, attended the Microsoft Excel for Database Management held on April 11 - 14, 2023 via Zoom.

Leanelle D. Reyno, Librarian II, General Services Division, attended the Best Practices in File Naming in Libraries and Archives Webinar held on April 21, 2023.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the FLS 2: Global Anti-Base Erosion Rules held on April 27, 2023 at the DOF, Manila. DED Ian Emmanuel E. Leuterio (NTRC) as resource person.

Kristine V. Mendoza, Senior Tax Specialist, and Anna Catherine V. Revillas, Administrative Assistant III, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the "Cultivating the Filipino Civil Servants' Agility"/Second Quarter 2023 Human Resource Managers Fellowship Meeting and Learning Session held on May 3, 2023.

Allan Leo T. Paran, Financial Analyst IV, Manufacturing Industries Division, attended the Leadership Management Certification Program/Leadership and Management Development Course held on May 2-5, 8-12, 15-16, 2023 at the CSC Central Office, Batasan Hill, Quezon City.

Florida J. Jurado, Supervising Tax Specialist, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the Specialized Training on Ethics for Public and Private Higher Education Institutions (STEPP-HEIs): Capacitating Public and Private HEIs on Applying Ethical Practices in the Academe and in the Conduct of Special Science Research held on May 10, 17, 24,

and 31, 2023, via Zoom.

Analiza G. Berja, Statistician IV, Tax Statistics Staff, attended the Revenue Forecasting and Analysis Workshop held on May 23 to 29, 2023 at the DOF, Manila.

Ayleen G. Ang, Administrative Officer V, Brandon Jorjs V. Holgado, Planning Officer II, General Services Division, attended the Preparation of the Project Procurement Management Plan and the Annual Procurement Plan: Concepts Principles, and Techniques held on May 24 - 26, 2023, via Online Platform.

Allan Leo T. Paran, Financial Analyst IV, Manufacturing Industries Division, attended the 90-Day Action Learning Project held from May 24 to August 24, 2023.

All NTRC Employees attended the Strategic Planning, Gender and Development, and Cultural and Athletic Activities held on May 31, June 1, and 2, 2023 at Chateau Bleu Resort, Calamba, Laguna.

Rainer N. Dita, OIC, Management and Information System Division, Chazel Ann V. Cacananta, Computer Maintenance Technologist I, Management and Information System Division, and Brandon Jorjs V. Holgado, Planning Officer II, General Services Division, attended the Microsoft Public Sector Roadshow: Technology Partners in Nation Building held on June 8, 2023.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the 125th Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Philippine Independence held on June 12, 2023, at Rizal National Monument, Rizal Park, Manila.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the 2023 Philippine Commission on Women GAD Webinar 3 entitled, "Towards a Gender-Responsive Agency: The 7 Steps in Formulating a GAD Agenda" held on June 21, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the FLS 3: Emerging Proposals on Indirect Taxation held on June 23, 2023, at the DOF, Manila. Ma. Berlie L. Amurao, Chief Tax Specialist, Indirect Taxes Branch, as resource person.

Abraham P. Solomon, Administrative Officer V, Management and Information System Division,

attended the Webinar on the Philippine National Public Key Infrastructure (PNPKI) and its Impact on the New Normal held on June 30, 2023.

Management and Information System Division official and staff attended the Webinar on Security, Privacy, and Accessibility by Design held on July 3, 2023, via Zoom.

Mariah Levina L. Mitra, Tax Specialist II, Fiscal Incentives Branch, and Johann Louise D. Ramos, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the Productivity Challenge Workshop: Discovering and Designing Productivity Solutions held on July 6, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected Legal Research and Communication Division officials and staff attended the Webinar on Public Relations: Understanding the Philippine National Media held on July 7, 2023, via Zoom.

Local Taxation Branch Official and staff attended the Webinar on Baseline Study on the State of Devolution in the (Pre-Mandanas) Philippines held on July 13, 2023, via Zoom.

DED Jossef Eleazar B. Lacson attended the Workshop on Policies for the Digital Transformation of Industries held on July 17 - 20, 2023, at the Pico Sands Hotel Pico de Loro Cove, Hamilo Coast Barangay, Nasugbu, Batangas.

Local Taxation Branch Official and staff attended the Workshop Series on Policy Design for Effective Property Taxation held on July 19 to 20, 2023, via Zoom.

DED Jossef Eleazar B. Lacson attended the Policies for the Digital Transformation of Industries held on July 21, 2023, at the Makati Diamond Residences, Makati City.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the FLS 4: Email Etiquette and Principles of Graphic Design held on July 21, 2023. Angelica R. Porciuncula, Administrative Officer V, and Leif Ivan J. Malvas, Information Officer III, Legal Research and Communication Division, as resource persons.

Leif Ivan J. Malvas, Information Officer III, and Jozreel Martin M. Romanillos, Information Officer II, Legal Research and Communication Division, attended the Seminar Workshop on Improving

Communication and Customer Care Skills held on August 1 - 2, 2023 at the AFP Golf Club, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the "Train the Trainers" Workshop on How to Accomplish the Annual Tax Incentives Report and the Annual Benefits Report of Cooperatives held on August 2, 2023, at the Royce Hotel and Casino, Clark Freeport Zone, Mabalacat, Pampanga.

Arianne C. Fronteras, Administrative Officer IV, Human Resource Management and Development Division, and Johann Louise D. Ramos, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the "ABNKKHGDG NA AKO?!: Gamit ng HDGD sa Pagpapaunlad ng GAD sa mga Proyekto at Programa ng Pamahalaan" Webinar held on August 9, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Learning Session: Decision Making in DX held on July 21, 2023 at the DOF, Manila. DED Jossef Eleazar B. Lacson (NTRC) as resource person.

Atty. Brandon L. Berad, Attorney IV, Legal Management Division, and Ronnel L. Yambao, Supervising Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, attended the Supervisory Development Course Track 1 held on August 15 - 18, 2023 at the CSC-NCR, 25 Kaliraya Rd., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.

Jun V. Ocol, Financial Analyst IV, Indirect Taxes Branch, Lois Ruth P. Santiago, Financial Analyst IV, Infrastructure and Resource-Based Industries Division, Clarence D. Moral, Statistician III, Tax Statistics Staff, and Angelica C. Porciuncula, Administrative Officer V, Legal Research and Communication Division, attended the 2023 Philippine Statistical Association, Inc. (PSAI) Annual Conference, with training course conducted on the following topics: a. Leveraging ArcGIS for Data Sharing and Collaboration; b. Data and Analytics for Digital Transformation; c. Data Visualization and Storytelling; and d. Introduction to Crowdsourcing Data from the Web via R held on August 22 - 24, 2023 at Subic, Zambales.

Selected NTRC Officials attended the Second Gender and Development Focal Point System Sectoral Assembly 2023 held on August 24, 2023, at the DOF, Manila.

Marc Efraim B. Mendoza, Financial Analyst IV, Service Industries Division, attended the Kwentong Lingkod Bayani with Theme: Spirituality in Public Service held on September 8, 2023.

NTRC officials and Selected Employees attended the Brand Style Guide Writeshop on September 8, 2023, at The Bayleaf Intramuros, Muralla, Manila.

Lee Ann A. Batang, Executive Assistant II, Human Resource Management and Development Division, and Apple T. Jusayan, Tax Specialist I, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the Seminar on Zoom Management entitled, "Discover Zoom with Rhipe: Executive Roundtable", held on September 14, 2023, at the Holiday Inn, Makati.

NTRC IQA Team attended the 16-hour Training Workshop on Internal Quality Audit held on September 14 - 15, 2023 at the Orchid Garden Suites, P. Ocampo St., Manila.

Lee Ann A. Batang, Executive Assistant II, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Public Service Values Program Overview held on September 15, 2023.

Jessa Mae C. Rapisora, Financial Analyst II, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, attended the 9th Annual Public Policy Conference: Green and Digital: Managing the Twin Transition Toward Sustainable Development held on September 19, 2023, via Zoom.

Lorelli D. Villaflores, Supervising Administrative Officer, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the 2023 Agency Authorized Officer Orientation and Re-training held on September 20, 2023.

Venchito P. Salvador, Chief Administrative Officer, and Kristine V. Mendoza, Senior Tax Specialist, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Learning Session entitled, "Cultivating the Civil Servants' Personal Resilience" and "Cultivating Workplace Resilience" held on September 21, 2023 at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the FLS: Real Property Valuation Assessment and Reform held on September 22, 2023 at the DOF, Manila. Madonna Claire V. Aguilar, Chief

Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, as resource person.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Philippine Statistics Authority Technical Session with the FIRB held on September 25, 2023, at the 12th Floor, Eton Centris Cyberpod 5, EDSA, Quezon City.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Training/Workshop on the Annual Tax Incentives Report and Annual Benefits Report of Cooperatives held on September 26, 2023, at The Heritage Hotel, Roxas Blvd. cor. EDSA, Pasay City.

Kristine V. Mendoza, Senior Tax Specialist, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the 2023 Public Sector HR Symposium entitled, "Developing and Fostering a Culture of Dynamism to Achieve a Resilient and Sustainable People and Public Sector Organization", held on September 26 - 27, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the FIRB Alignment Workshop for Investment Promotion Agencies held on September 29, 2023, at The Heritage Hotel, Roxas Blvd. cor. EDSA, Pasay City.

Lee Ann A. Batang, Executive Assistant II, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Authorized Liaison Officers' Summit 2023: Orientation and Re-training held on October 2, 2023, at the GSIS Conference Hall, 3rd Level, GSIS Bldg., Financial Center, Pasay City.

Leanelle D. Reyno, Librarian II, and Julius C. Campos, Administrative Assistant II, General Services Division, attended the Webinar on Appraisal and Disposal of Government Properties held on October 2 - 4, 2023, via Online Platform.

Roselyn C. Domo, Chief Tax Specialist, Fiscal Incentives Branch, and Johann Louise D. Ramos, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the Freedom of Information Bootcamp for Newly Designated FOI Officers held on October 3 - 5, 2023 at the Bai Hotel, Ouano Ave. cor. C.D. Seno St., Mandaue City, Cebu.

OIC-DED Monica G. Rempillo attended the VITARA – Reform Management Fundamentals: Setting Up

a Reform Program held on October 8, 2023.

Lorelli D. Villaflores, Supervising Administrative Officer, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the 2023 Human Capital Excellence Summit: The BSP's Journey Towards Level 4 PRIME HRM held on October 9, 2023, at the BSP Assembly Hall, BSP Head Office, Manila.

Ayleen G. Ang, Administrative Officer V, and Brandon Jorjs V. Holgado, Planning Officer II, General Services Division, attended the Webinar on Cash Management and Control System held on October 9 - 11, 2023, via Online Platform.

Atty. Jason P. Raposas, Chief Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, Atty. Marry-Jean V. Yasol, Financial Analyst V, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, Roselyn C. Domo, Chief Tax Specialist, Fiscal Incentives Branch, and Lee Ann A. Batang, Executive Assistant II, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Competency-Based Behavioral Event Interview held on October 12 and 17, 2023, via Zoom.

Fernando Martin B. Aguila, Financial Analyst III, Infrastructure and Resource-Based Industries Division, attended the Online Training on Statistical Tools for Impact Evaluation of Projects held on October 16 - 20, 2023.

Ari R. Martin, Financial Analyst III, Manufacturing Industries Division, attended the Training Workshop on AI in Social Research held on October 17 - 18, 2023 at the Philippine Social Science Council, Commonwealth Ave., Diliman, Quezon City.

Lois Ruth P. Santiago, OIC, Manufacturing Industries Division, Infrastructure and Resource-Based Industries Division, and Services Industries Division, Patrick Lorenzo B. Ang, Financial Analyst III, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, Phoebe Jane E. Orijola, Senior Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, and Earl John G. Pajaro, Senior Tax Specialist, Legal Management Division, attended the Emotional Intelligence and Leadership Webinar held on October 19 - 20 2023, via Zoom.

Rainer N. Dita, OIC, Management and Information System Division, Atty. Crizedhen N. Vardeleon-Arro, Attorney III, Legal Management Division, Wilman

T. Ramo, Senior Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, and Alessa May P. Daguro-Relliza, Financial Analyst III, Tax Incentives Division, attended the Workplace Wellness Webinar held on October 19 and 24, 2023, via Zoom.

Michael Angelo T. Tiu, Senior Tax Specialist, Indirect Taxes Branch, and Marjorie C. Hop, Statistician I, Tax Statistics Staff, attended the Seminar on the Impact of Health Tax Reforms in the Philippines held on October 20, 2023 at the DOF, Manila.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Training/Workshop on the Annual Tax Incentives Report and Annual Benefits Report of Cooperatives held on October 23 - 25, 2023 at the Waterfront Cebu City Casino Hotel, Incorporated, Salinas Drive, Lahug, Cebu City.

Venchito P. Salvador, Chief Administrative Officer, and Lorelli D. Villaflores, Supervising Administrative Officer, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Forum on Public Service Excellence held on October 24, 2023, at the Landbank of the Philippines Plaza Hall, Malate, Manila.

DED Ian Emmanuel E. Leuterio, and Fernando Martin B. Aguila, Financial Analyst III, Infrastructure and Resource-Based Industries Division, attended the Philippine Export Development Plan Training/Workshop on the Plans, Activities, and Projects for Exporters held on October 24, 2023, at the Synergist Function Room, Philippine Trade Training Center Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. corner Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

Selected NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Training and Workshop on Strategic Communication and Engagement for Stronger Fiscal Management held on October 25 - 27, 2023 at the DOF, Manila.

DED Ian Emmanuel E. Leuterio, and Jasmin L. Chan, Financial Analyst III, Service Industries Division, attended the Philippine Export Development Plan Training/Workshop on the Plans, Activities, and Projects for Exporters held on October 27, 2023, at the 3rd Floor, King and Queen Hall, Makati Place Hotel, 5011 Burgos cor. Caceres St., Makati City.

Lois Ruth P. Santiago, OIC, Manufacturing Industries Division, Infrastructure and Resource-

Based Industries Division, and Services Industries Division, attended the Online Training on Statistics for Program and Project Monitoring and Evaluation held on November 6 -10, 2023.

Selected NTRC Officials and Technical Employees attended the Capital Markets and Fixed Income Courses 1 and 2 held on November 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, and 22, 2023, via Zoom, and on November 25, 2023 at the WSDC Rooms 1-3, 2nd Floor of SGV Building 1, Makati City.

Ma. Berlie L. Amurao, Chief Tax Specialist, Jun V. Ocol, Financial Analyst IV, and Michael Angelo T. Tiu, Senior Tax Specialist, Indirect Taxes Branch, attended the Online Training on Tax on Income of Foreign Suppliers, Royalties, Software Purchases, and Services held on November 14, 2023, via Zoom.

Leanelle D. Reyno, Librarian II, General Services Division, attended the Webinar on Learning, Empowering, and Transforming Society Through Libraries held on November 14- 17, 2023, via Zoom.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the Training/Workshop on the Annual Tax Incentives Report and Annual Benefits Report of Cooperatives held on November 15 - 17, 2023 at the Fog Horn Inc. (Azalea Hotels and Residences Baguio), Baguio City, Benguet.

Kristine V. Mendoza, Senior Tax Specialist, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Seminar Workshop on Policies and Procedures on Appointment held on November 16-17, 2023, at the CSC-NCR, 25 Kaliraya Rd., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the Training/Workshop on the Annual Tax Incentives Report and Annual Benefits Report of Cooperatives held on November 20 - 22, 2023 at the Negros Oriental Convention Center, Capitol Area, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the Base Erosion and Profit Sharing and Gender Equality and Taxation Workshop held on November 20 - 24, 2023 at the EDSA Shangri-La, Mandaluyong City.

Marc Efraim B. Mendoza, Financial Analyst IV, Service Industries Division, attended the Online

Course on CSI Leadership Series: Purpose Driven Leadership: Leading with Purpose for a Sustainable Organizational Transformation held on November 24, 2023, via Zoom.

Ma. Rhea L. Caro, Chief Tax Specialist, Lillian S. Flores, Senior Tax Specialist, Planning and Coordinating Unit, and Leanelle D. Reyno, Librarian II, General Services Division, attended the 2023 Socioeconomic Research Portal for the Philippines Network Annual Symposium held on November 29, 2023 at the Richmonde Hotel Ortigas, San Miguel Ave., Pasig City.

Selected FIRB Officials and Employees attended the FIRB Secretariat Year-End Assessment and Strategic Planning held on November 29, 30, and December 1, 2023 at the View Park Hotel, 3500 Calamba Road, Sungay East, Tagaytay City.

Selected NTRC Employees attended the Conference on Public Sector Productivity: Reimagining Public-Service Delivery in the Digital Age held on December 5, 2023, at the Savoy Hotel Manila, Andrews Avenue, Pasay City.

All NTRC officials and Selected Employees attended the Year-end Management Review and GAD Planning and Assessment held on December 11 - 13, 2023 at the Fog Horn Inc. (Azalea Hotels and Residences Baguio), Baguio City, Benguet.

Selected NTRC officials and Employees attended the attended the 3rd National Summit on Government Procurement held on December 13 to 15, 2023 at the Hotel Supreme, 113 Magsaysay Avenue, Baguio City, Benguet.

DOCUMENTATION

FIRB Board Proper Meetings



Year-End Management Review and GAD Planning and Assessment

December 11 - 13, 2023 at the Fog Horn Inc. (Azalea Hotels and Residences Baguio), Baguio City, Benguet



18 - Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women

National Women's Month



Package 4 briefing with Sen. Sherwin Gatchalian

October 12, 2023 at the Sen. Sotto Room, Senate of the Philippines



NTRC Stylebook Seminar

September 7, 2023, at The Bayleaf Intramuros, Muralla, Manila

FIRB Revised CBA Workshop

23 February 2023, DOF Bldg., Roxas Boulevard, Manila



Demonstration and Pilot Testing of FIRMS Module Enhancements

11 August 2023, DOF Bldg., Roxas Boulevard, Manila



NTRC in Action



NTRC SPMS Committee Meeting

August 31, 2023, at The Bayleaf Intramuros, Muralla, Manila



Mid-Year Management Review

August 04, 2023 at the Hotel Enterprises of the Philippines, Inc.

Training/Workshop Series: ATIR and ABR of Cooperative

26 September 2023, The Heritage Hotel Manila, Roxas Boulevard



September 2023 FIRB Alignment Workshop for IPAs

29 September 2023, The Heritage Hotel Manila, Roxas Boulevard



Forum on Digitalization in the 21st Century: Post 60 years of Malaysia-Philippines Relations

September 5, 2023 at the Banquet Hall, Embassy of Malaysia, Makati City



DOF GAD Focal Point System Meeting

August 24, 2023 at the 7th Floor, Roof deck Function Room, Department of Finance

Training/Workshop Series: ATIR and ABR of Cooperatives

October 24 2023 at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino, Salinas Drive, Cebu City



NTRC AS CONSULTANT TO THE TECHNICAL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON REAL PROPERTY VALUATION

TCRPV Meeting on the Proposed Zonal Values of BIR RDOs 66 (Iriga City), 68 (Virac, Catanduanes), 69 (Sorsogon City) and 70 (Masbate City)



TCRPV Meeting on the Proposed Zonal Values of BIR RDO 86 (Borongan City) and 87 (Calbayog City)



TCRPV Meeting on the Proposed Zonal Values of BIR RDO 65 (Cataraman, Northern Samar)



TCRPV Meeting on the Proposed Zonal Values of BIR RDO 40 (Cubao, Quezon City)



Public Hearing on the Proposed Zonal Values of RDO 28 (Novaliches, Quezon City)



Public Hearing on the Proposed Zonal Values of RDO 38 (North Quezon City)

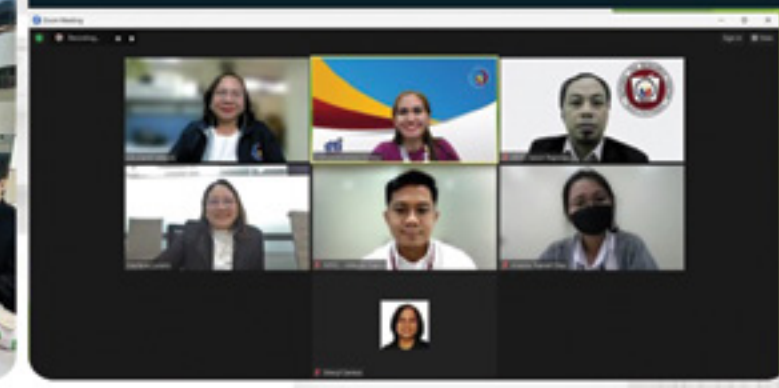


NTRC AS SECRETARIAT TO THE TASK FORCE ON FEES AND CHARGES

Task Force on Fees and Charges Meeting



Technical Assistance on Fees and Charges with the DTI-Competitiveness Bureau



Technical Assistance on Fees and Charges with the Food and Drug Administration



Technical Assistance on Fees and Charges with the Land Registration Authority



Technical Assistance on Fees and Charges with the National Maritime Polytechnic



Technical Assistance on Fees and Charges with the Philippine Trade Training Center





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