



Republic of the Philippines
Province of South Cotabato
OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP
City of Koronadal, South Cotabato

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Held on September 25, 2024, at PDC Hall, Provincial Planning and Development Office, Provincial Capitol Compound, Alunan Avenue, Koronadal City, South Cotabato.

PRESENT:

1. **Mr. Carlito Y. Uy**, SCIC Chairperson
2. **Ms. Marites S. Tanseco**, OIC - PPDO
3. **Atty. Romeo Sustiguer**, LPC Koronadal
4. **Ptr. Joey Gonzales**, South Cotabato Provincial People's Council
5. **Mr. Hayd Ali Suwaib**, DILG-SC, represented by **Ms. Atila H. Baynosa-Lapidez**
6. **Ms. Freda Liza Gazo**, PHRMO, represented by **Ms. Karen Negapatan**
7. **Mr. Rudy Jimenea**, PIO, represented by **Mr. Ivan Klar Braga**
8. **Ms. Gloria S. Duco**, SPO
9. **Ms. Jean T. Luntao**, SPO
10. **Mr. Siegfred Flaviano**, PEMO
11. **Mr. John B. Magbanua**, PGO - BAD
12. **Ms. Luz Perpetua P. Fontanilla**, PBO, represented by **Ms. Hazel Grace Tanchoco**
13. **Mr. Mark De La Cruz**, PGO - ITU
14. **Engr. Jose Daniel Salamat**, PPDO – REM, represented by **Mr. Danny Jason Duron**
15. **Mr. Dennis Gasendo**, PPDO – SPD
16. **Ms. Juvilyn Reodique**, PCDO
17. **Ms. Imelda Samal**, CSO Desk Officer
18. **Ms. Michelle Montoya**, CSO Desk Officer
19. **Ma. Leony C. Dohino**, CSO Desk Officer, LGU – Sto. Niño
20. **Ms. Gilialyn C. Cordero**, CSO Desk Officer, LGU – Tboli
21. **Mr. Dico L. Tuan**, CSO Tboli
22. **Mr. Karl Quintos**, CSO Koronadal
23. **Ms. Emmie Candiro**, CSO Desk Officer, LGU – Tupi

SECRETARIAT

1. **Ms. Jennifer G. Ilao**, PPDO -SPD
2. **Ms. Rio Ann Padrones**, PPDO - SPD
3. **Mr. Kyle Patrick Uy**, PPDO – SPD

A. MEETING PROPER

- Ms. Marites S. Tanseco delivered her opening speech, declaring that the success of implementation is from the collaborative efforts of the commitments of the implementors.

1. OGP Local – Introduction for Stakeholders

- Mr. Carlito Uy, SCIC Chairperson, presented the OGP Local – Introduction for Stakeholders to the committee. OGP embodies the principles of transparency, citizen participation, and collaboration in transforming the relationship with citizens and the government sector. It was launched in 2011 with founding members: the United States, Philippines, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.
- OGP Local started in 2016 as a Subnational Pilot Program with fifteen (15) inaugural members, with Mr. Martiniano L. Magdolot, Executive Director of Mahintana Foundations Inc. The South Cotabato crafted the following commitments that transpired in the 1st Action Plan: 1) Open Information, 2) Open Monitoring and Evaluation, 3) Open Contracting, 4) Open Mining Information, and 5) Open Legislation.
- As of 2024, four (4) new cohosts joined OGP Local from Baguio City, Larena Municipality of Siquijor, Quezon City, and Tagbilaran City.

- Mr. Uy introduced the Cycle of OGP Local: 1) Action Plan Co-creation, 2) Implementation, 3) Evaluation, and 4) Learning. This cycle spans the length of the current administration and can implement a maximum of 5 at any time.

2. REVISITING OGP COMMITMENTS

A) OPEN LEGISLATION

- Ms. Gloria Duco, Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP), presented the Open Legislation with thematic area: Establishing Online Channels to Broaden Civic Engagement and Increase Relevance of Local Legislations. She recalled that a commitment for a resolution was passed on March 4, 2019, for the Adoption of the Open Legislation Commitment of the South Cotabato Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2018-2020.
- The establishment of the official Facebook account for the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of South Cotabato posed challenges in social media engagement; however, with the onset of COVID-19, it transformed into a vital avenue for public interaction, significantly enhancing online presence and visibility.
- Ms. Duco also followed up that the Vice Governor Arthur Pingoy requested the PGO-ITU for a Legislative Tracking System for barangays and municipalities to gain access to legislation passed by the SP members of the Province of South Cotabato. She added that it's currently in the development phase. Mr. Dico Tuan of CSO Tboli commented on the relevance of public viewing of the sessions of the SP of South Cotabato, if it could be interactive, and for the audience to interact with the session, to which the committee unanimously agrees.

DISCUSSION

- Ms. Gilialyn Cordero from Tboli CSO expressed that they were neither part of the session nor familiar with its process. They requested an invitation to attend as observers or to receive an orientation on the matter, which the committee agreed to. Mr. Uy clarified that the CSOs are seeking an orientation on the legislative process of the SP, particularly concerning the approval of resolutions and ordinances.
- Ms. Duco stated that the Review Committee is responsible for reviewing and addressing citizens' feedback on proposed legislative actions, ensuring that a status report on actions taken regarding this feedback is published online via the SP Official Facebook Page. However, this has been discontinued due to turnover in the personnel in charge.
- Atty. Sustiguer proposed allowing citizens to contribute to the development of ordinances by enabling them to provide feedback prior to the approval of the proposed ordinance. Pastor Joey Gonzalez, President of the South Cotabato People's Council, emphasized that CSOs should appoint a suitable representative to attend SP sessions.
- Ms. Duco highlighted that the Legislative Information Technology System (LITS), developed by Mahintana Foundation Inc., could not be sustained because the programmer was outsourced and there was no proper turnover to the Province. Mr. Carlito Uy inquired with Mr. Mark De La Cruz of the PGO-ITU about the possibility of developing the system. Mr. Cruz responded that their department has created a system for the legislative process, but it currently operates only within the Province. The output resolutions and ordinances of legislation have yet to be developed, although this is feasible. Given the department's workload, the system could be developed in the future or included in the next Action Plan if budget allocation allows for cloud hosting.

B) OPEN CONTRACTING

- Mr. John Magbanua of PGO-BAD presented the Open Contracting with thematic area: Enhancing Efficiency and Transparency of the Public Procurement Process.
- He stated that the office has been conducting orientations, training sessions, and seminars on the bidding and awarding process for the CSOs. Additionally, they are developing internal policies for procurement, increasing the involvement of CSOs and the business sector in monitoring and implementation, and uploading procurement data in a machine-readable format.
- The Administrative Order No. 02 Series of 2019 entitled "An Order Providing the Internal Rules and Policies to Improve the Procurement Process of the Province of South Cotabato: This process is as follows: 1) Semi-annual Market Survey, 2) Provincially Maintained Blacklisted Entities, 3) Easy to find Business Opportunities, 4) Status tracker for Contractors & Suppliers, 5) Annual Contractors Assembly, 6) Feedback System, 7) More CSOs to observe during bidding, 8) Easy to use Observer's Report, and 9) Capacity Building for CSOs.
- The Executive Order No. 38A entitled "DIRECTING THE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC) TO EXCLUDE THOSE PRIVATE CONTRACTORS WITH EXPIRED CONTRACTS WITH THE PROVINCE AND THOSE WITH 15% NEGATIVE SLIPPAGE OF PROJECTS WITH THE PROVINCE AND WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH) FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE CURRENT AND FUTURE BIDDING OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS OF THE PROVINCE" was also presented.

DISCUSSION

- Ptr. Gonzales and Mr. Tuan proposed inviting more CSOs or representatives from the People's Council of various municipalities. In response, Mr. Magbanua indicated that their office is open to any accredited CSOs recognized by the SP, but these invitations will need to be referred to the BAC Chairperson for approval to participate as observers during the bidding process, monitoring, implementation, and training sessions aimed at the capacity building of CSOs and the People's Council.

C) OPEN MONITORING

- Danny Jason Duron of PPDO-REM presented the OGP Commitment for Open Monitoring and Evaluation: Citizen Participatory M&E, which covers the period from August 31, 2018, to August 31, 2020.
- He presented the milestones for the Open Monitoring and Evaluation which are: A1) Development & Operationalization of Project Monitoring System and A2) Make Public the Conduct of Monitoring Results & Activities (Physical & Financial) to which uses the Open Data Kit (ODK) for the data collection but have discontinued due to the change of leadership in the office.
- One of the milestones under Open Monitoring and Evaluation is currently discontinued due to the lack of development in the integration of the Customer Feedback Mechanism from the developer, change of leadership, non-prioritization of the OGP, and conflict within the barangay regarding the institutionalization of the Barangay Monitoring Team.

DISCUSSION

- Mr. Uy stated that the discontinued milestones will be included again in the next action plan.

D) OPEN INFORMATION

- Mr. Ivan Klar Braga, representative from PIO presented the Open Information Commitment. The commitment for the “Chikaha si Gobernadora” from the previous administration of Governor Daisy Fuentes was discontinued due to the conflict in schedules. Currently, the office under the leadership of Governor Reynaldo Tamayo Jr. launched the South Cotabato Angat TV with the feedback mechanism answering questions of the general public through the community outreach and services together with the PSWDO.
- He also stated the Provincial Government of South Cotabato FB Page and RST in Action Radio Program are accessible to general public for information, and answer queries based on the concerns.
- In coordination with the SCIC, the launch of the South Cotabato 12 Integrity Core Values was unveiled during the Flag Ceremony and Integrity Week on September 17, 2024. This will be followed by a writeshop organized in collaboration with Ms. Annaliz Cabrido, inviting interested members of the People’s Council through their respective LGUs.
- Mr. Braga emphasized that during 2018, the South Cotabato FOI Ordinance and IRR was established through a workshop to promote public engagement and dissemination of information.

DISCUSSION

- Mr. Uy suggested that the Data Privacy Act be implemented for the general public to ensure proper information handling, to which Mr. Braga responded that it could potentially be included in the current action plan.

E) OPEN MINING

- Mr. Siegfried Flaviano, Provincial Environmental Management Officer presented the Open Mining Commitment and stated that the milestones have been accomplished, with the integration of the EITI feedback in countering the buying of gold in the black market.
- Mr. Flaviano added that the second commitment, the Provincial Online Database, was incompatible with the documents produced under the Open Mining Commitment and was therefore unable to be uploaded. Fortunately, a project to integrate the mining and quarry information of the Province into the website is currently in phase two (2), in coordination with the University of the Philippines (UP), the National Institute of Health (NIH), and PGO – ITU, and is currently waiting for the budget.
- He also stated that the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board (PMRB) has passed a resolution on gold trading standards. Additionally, during operations, personnel must have identification or an ID indicating completion of training for occupational safety, proper handling of small-scale mining, etc., with 3,000 miners.
- With coordination with the JBS Mining, a training was conducted through the portal with 14 associations of Indigenous People near mining sites. The PMRB elected during their meetings with associations and cooperatives and elected Ms. Josephine Balonga as the representative of the PMRB and is currently the President of the National Coalition of Small-Scale Miners.
- Mr. Flaviano also stated that the PMRB passed a resolution to allow any CSOs to be invited as observers during the PMRB meetings following a letter of intent for invitation.

DISCUSSION

- Atty. Sustiguer suggested that the PMRB expand its membership to follow the representative guideline of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), with each sector having representatives. Since there are only five (5) members: three (3) from the government and two (2) from the CSOs, Mr. Flaviano responded that the Multipartite Monitoring Team is composed of members from each sector. Mr. Maniego of the PCDO suggested inviting accredited CSOs from Tboli as members of the PMRB through the Peoples Council.
- Mr. Flaviano suggested for the addition of large-scale mining in the commitment for Daguma Agro Minerals Inc. have been operating and as well as to Tampakan, and the software for the uploading of mining information.

3. OGP CO-CREATION PROCESS

- Ms. Padrones presented the action plan co-creation process with an outline of: 1) Action Plan, 2) Co-Creation, 3) Monitoring, 4) Timeline/Cycle.
- The Action Plan is the core of an OGP Local Member composed of a summary of the Local Open Government Strategic Vision plus the collection of commitments with government and non-governmental stakeholders jointly working. The Action Plan Period must align with and end at least two (2) months before the end of the current administration and can implement five (5) commitments at the same time at most.
- She stated that the requirements of the co-creation are the forum, regularity, multi-stakeholder involvement, and endorsement with recommended practices of transparency, documentation in advance, awareness-raising, inclusiveness, communication channels, record keeping, and feedback.
- Monitoring, Reporting, and Final Learning, which implies the identification of a Monitoring Body that would carry out an inception assessment, an end-of-commitment assessment for each finalized commitment, and a final learning exercise.

COMMENTS

- Mr. Uy discussed the upcoming action plan based on the discussion with Mr. José María Marín, Lead of the OGP Local, that a commitment can be crafted but should be doable within the timeframe of six (6) months only due to the administrative term.

4. OTHER MATTERS

- There are no other matters discussed.

B. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at exactly 12:31 am.

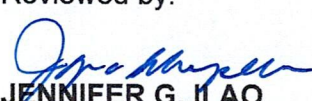
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