

Participation of Filipino Children in Local Government Processes



Prepared by:



SALIGAN

For:



Save the Children

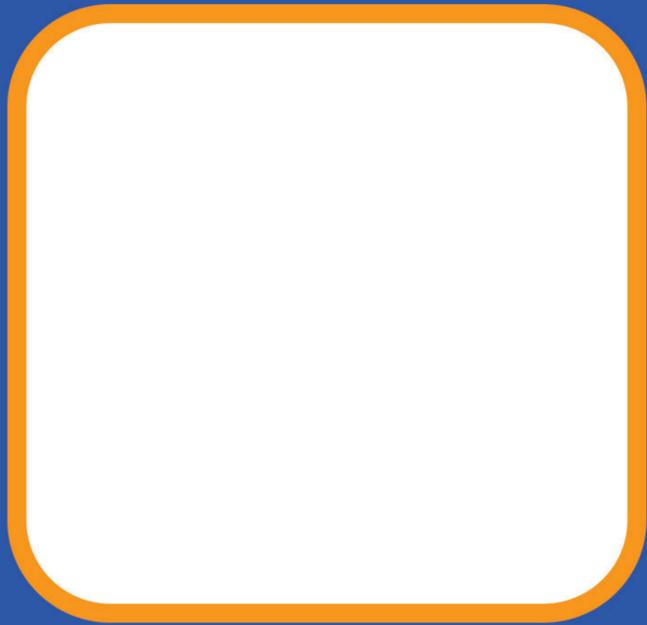
The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is an international agreement signed by more than one hundred ninety countries all over the world. It says that like adults, children also have human rights. It recognizes the status of children as citizens of a country which is why it made all the State-parties commit to the protection and promotion of children's rights through their respective governments. Because of this, the child's right to participation has gained significant attention at the international, regional, national and local levels.

The UNCRC recognizes that every child should be given the opportunity to exercise his or her right to participate or be heard in all decisions that affect his or her life, whether these decisions are made inside his or her home, school, community or in the larger society. It acknowledges that the right to be heard is a core right which plays an important role in realizing all other rights of children.

For instance, the Philippine government makes many important decisions from national to barangay level that can affect the everyday lives of its citizens. These decisions may include implementation of programs that help improve people's health and well-being and provide access to education and livelihood, as well as the passage of laws for the improvement of everyone's life. As citizens, Filipino children should be given the opportunity to participate in discussions on how these decisions are made.

This book is intended for children to learn and understand about the different venues in the local government where they can engage with and be heard in the process of coming up with decisions that affect them. This may also serve as a guide for civil society, local government units, other adults and decision-makers which play an important role in pushing for policies that will make the children's right to participation a widely acceptable and permanent practice at home, in school and in the community, including the government.

This book is for all of us:



Name: _____

Age: _____

If I could change one thing in my own life, it would be:

If I could change one thing in my community, it would be:

If I could change one thing in the world, it would be:

Some of my favourite people are:

Some of my favourite things are:

If every adult was listening, I would give them this message:



Before we get started, let us learn some words and names that we will encounter in this book...

CHILD AND YOUTH

A person is referred to as a “child” if he or she is below eighteen (18) years of age, like you. Also, if you are over 18 years of age but are unable to fully take care of or protect yourself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition, you are still considered a “child”. Some older children may feel uncomfortable being called a “child” and would rather be called “youth.”

According to the United Nations (UN), the “youth” are young people aged 15-24 years. In the Philippines, the Youth in Nation Building Act or RA 8044 describes the youth as persons who are in their adolescent stage toward the peak of adulthood, when they are already mature, self-reliant and responsible. Generally, the youth in the Philippines refer to persons from the aged 15-30 years.



In this book we will be using children and youth or young person interchangeably keeping in mind that our focus will be on those like you who are below 18 years old.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Every child has the same human rights. Some of your human rights have to do with the basic physical needs to stay alive. For example, you have the right to food, water, shelter, and basic health care. Some of your human rights have to do with how other people treat you.

You have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. Some of your rights have to do with your need to be cared for, to develop and to grow and be part of your communities. You have the right to an education, to express your own ideas and opinions, to information, to protection, and to participate in making decisions about issues that affect you. You also have the right not to be discriminated against because of who you are or where you come from.

RIGHT TO
EDUCATION



GOVERNANCE

Governance is the exercise of power by political leaders to promote and protect the well-being of all the people in our community. It includes making public policies, planning and implementing programs and activities and effectively using the resources of our community in order to attain social and economic development.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Local Development Plan is a legal document prepared by the local government unit containing the plans for the development of the whole community. For social development, it enumerates the priority programs and projects for education, health, housing, social welfare, including plans for children, like you. For economic development, it includes plan for agriculture, tourism and infrastructure. These plans are to be implemented for a specific period.

LOCAL COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The LCPC is a body responsible for making and putting into practice plans for the promotion of your welfare. It is organized in the barangay, municipal, city and provincial level. It is composed of various stakeholders from the government and civil society organization or people's organization.



**Now let us read more
about Child's Right to
Participation...**

WHAT IS CHILD PARTICIPATION?

All girls and boys, regardless of age, gender, ability, language, color, and other status in life, have the right to think for herself or himself. You can participate in matters that affect you, other children, and the community. Children's right to participation, also includes your right to access information that will help you form your own ideas and opinions as well as your right to be assured of a safe and happy environment while expressing your views. To be more specific,

CHILD'S RIGHT TO PARTICIPATION is about:²

- ✓ having information about things that concern you and are important to you and other children
- ✓ being able to express yourself – your thoughts and opinions
- ✓ being able to have your voice heard
- ✓ having the chance to be involved in making decisions that affect you
- ✓ having your ideas respected and taken seriously
- ✓ being involved in something or playing part in something that is important to you
- ✓ having the right to choose your own beliefs
being able to join and set up groups or clubs



²Stein J. (2014) Kids Right Report: Child's Participation from Rights to Reality, Kids Right Foundation, Universiteit Leiden, (Accessed 20 January 2017), pg.10

CHILD'S RIGHT TO PARTICIPATION is *not* about:³

- ✗ disrespecting or harming others
- ✗ only a few children talking all the time and not letting others speak
- ✗ taking over or wanting control over adults
- ✗ adults doing everything children want or tell them to do
- ✗ children always getting to do what they want, when they want
- ✗ adults letting children speak but not caring about what they say

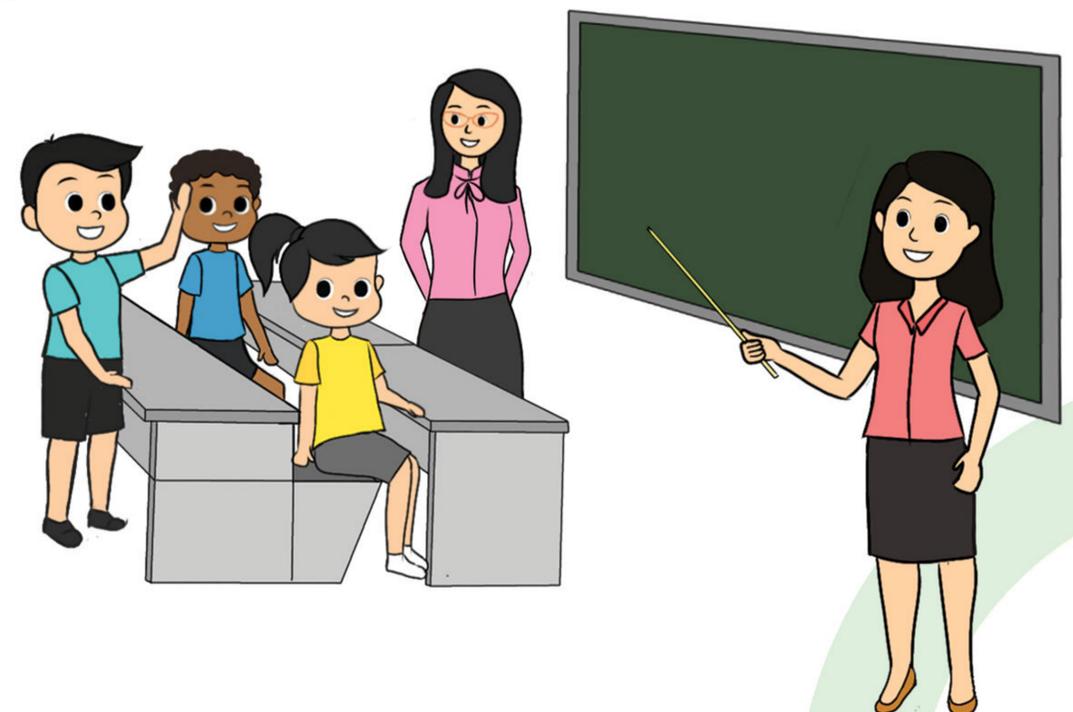


WHY IS CHILD PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT?

Allowing you and other children to participate in various activities including decision making processes benefits you, your family, your school, and the community to which you belong. According to a report entitled *Child Participation from Rights to Reality* prepared by Jill Stein, there are three reasons your participation is important⁴:

Child Participation Helps in Your Personal Development⁴

Giving you the opportunity to express your views and taking them seriously will help you develop confidence. It will increase your self-esteem. It will help you develop a greater sense of responsibility which, in turn, will have a positive impact on your future and in the realization of your other rights. You can also develop other skills like team-work, problem solving, reasoning, negotiation, and interaction with other children and adults. (Parkes 2013: p.13-14; Lansdown & O'Kane, 2014: p.6).



³Kapell, *Participate You and Participate Me*, pg.11

⁴Jill Stein, *Child Participation From Rights to Reality*, (Kids Right Foundation, 2014), pg.9-12

Child Participation Leads to better outcomes®

Better outcomes are achieved when more people are involved in developing ideas and decisions. You have unique ideas about your needs, concerns and experiences as an individual and along with other children like you, as a group. So, when it comes to children's issues, your views are important and they can give adults essential information that will bridge the gap between how they see children's lives and your actual experiences. This is very important when adults make decisions on laws, policies, and programs that affect you and other children. Decisions that are based on children's perspectives will be more relevant, more effective, and more sustainable.⁵

Child Participation Contributes in Making A Strong Civil Society Engagement and Good Governance®

When you participate in organizations, groups, councils, committees, and other forms of associations you are making civil society engagement strong. You learn to become active citizens and to value the role of every person in attaining community development. You become aware of your rights and develop the skills needed to participate meaningfully in decision making processes. You become confident in engaging with other people, the government and other duty-bearers. These opportunities will, contribute to the development of accountable and transparent governance.⁶



⁵Lansdown G. (2009), What is Children and Young People's Participation, Save the Children Sweden, (Accessed 20 January 2017), pg.5

⁶4 Participatory Learning Action Young, Young Citizens: Youth and Participatory Governance in Africa, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), (Accessed 20 January 2017), pg.9



Learning Activity

Gina, a 15 year old girl, is a resident of Barangay Masaya. Every month, Barangay Masaya conducts a meeting to plan for programs and projects for the children. Gina and other are invited to these meetings. They attend and actively take part in the discussions that is why their suggestions are included in the plans of Barangay Masaya.

In your barangay...

1. Are children invited to participate in community meetings?

.....

2. If yes, have you participated in any of those meetings?

.....

3. Are your suggestions being considered?

.....

4. If yes, can you share how?

.....

5. If no, list down some actions that you think you can do to convince the people in your barangay to consider your suggestions.

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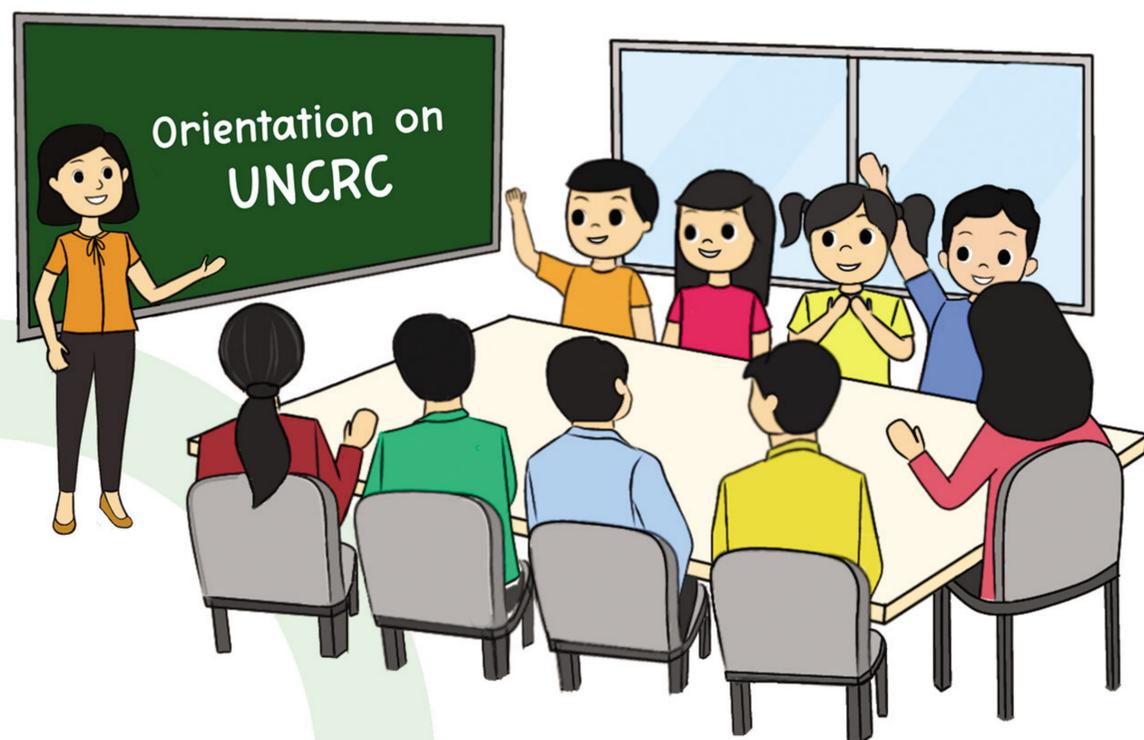
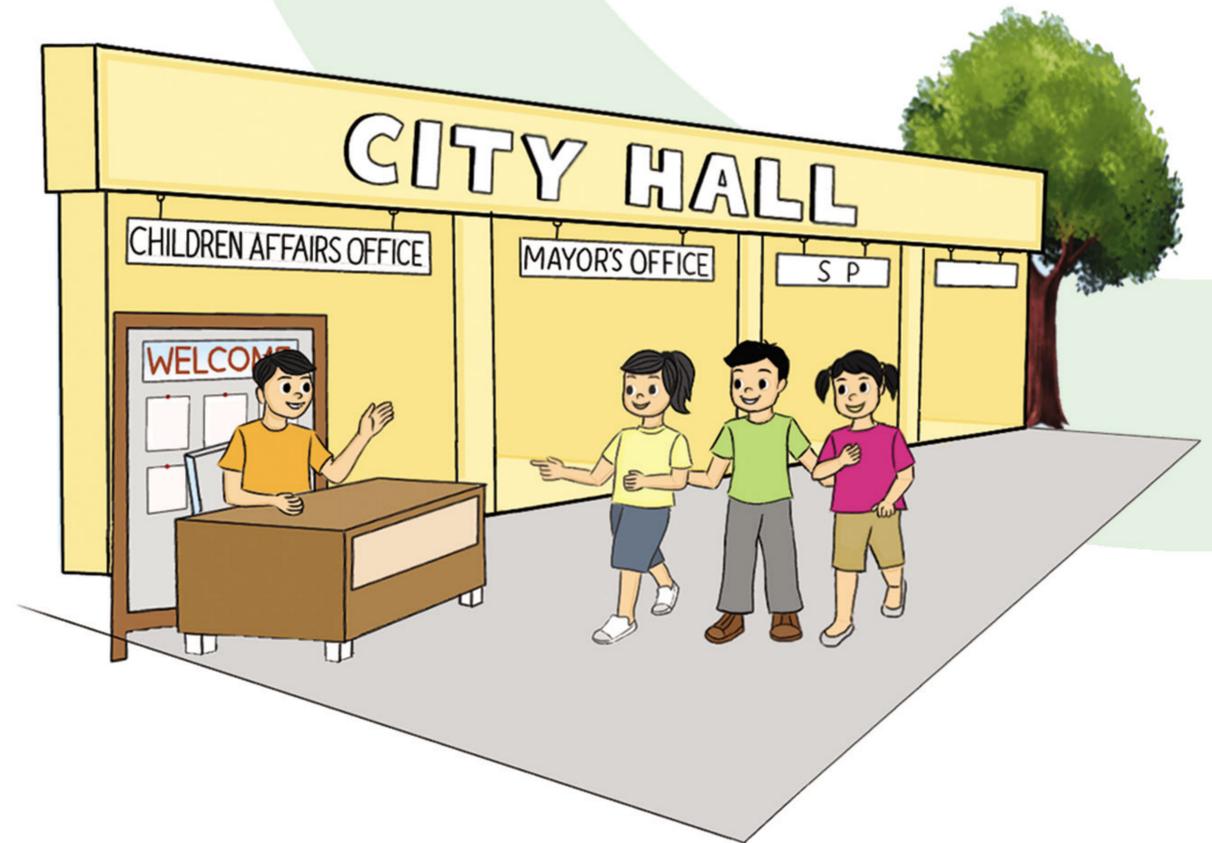


Make a poster with a slogan relating to your suggestions. Show it to your parents and friends and ask them what they think about your suggestions.

REALISING CHILD'S RIGHT TO PARTICIPATION

In 1990, the Philippine Government adopted the UN CRC. This means that the government promises to do all that it can so that children like you will enjoy your rights. It promises to do the following:

- Make policies that promote children's rights and change policies that violate children's rights or make the realizations of children's rights difficult.
- Make plans and strategies to implement children's rights.
- Make programs for children and allot enough funds for these programs.
- Collect data and study how policies and programs are affecting children.
- Put up independent offices that will promote and protect human rights.



- Work with the people and provide opportunities where children can express their opinions and be listened to.
- Correct negative attitudes towards child participation.
- Train people and groups about children's rights including child participation.

The Following Are Children's Recommendations On How They Can Participate In Local Governance



The government should involve us in a way that is appropriate and child-friendly.

Children and children's groups should be able to get information about barangay programs, services, and budgets. This information will tell us if the government is responding to our needs and concerns.

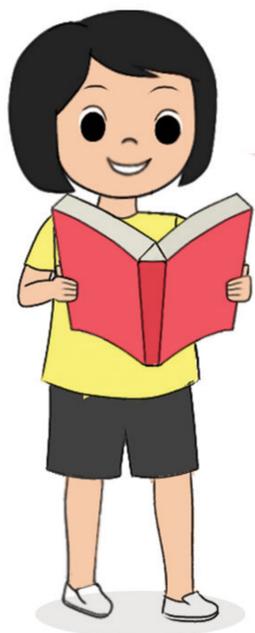


A strategy should be developed in partnership with children to make sure that our participation is meaningful and our suggestions and concerns are considered in decision-making.

There should be a stronger partnership between children's groups and barangay governments so the partnership will not be affected by the change in administration.



The Following Are Children's Recommendations On How They Can Participate In Local Governance



Train us how we can convince the government to make policies and programs.



Our barangay officials should involve us in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of our barangay's programs.

Support our own activities to promote our rights.



The government should teach children's rights in the indigenous communities.



Allow us to take part in the community decision-making process.



What else can you add in the list?

.....
.....



Learning Activity

There are many things that can contribute to a meaningful participation of children. Put a  on the statement if it will help you participate in a decision-making process and a  if it will hinder your participation.

- Feeling that one is “put on the spot.”
- Knowing everyone at the meeting or consultation.
- Being prepared and supported for the meeting or discussion.
- Being required to disclose personal circumstances with a stranger.
- Long meetings or deliberations.
- Not being allowed to access relevant information to be discussed during the meeting and not being informed who will be present during the activity.
- Having time to say what you think or feel or express your views appropriately.
- Use by adults of positive communication skills and really tuning in on what you have to say.

The Government made many policies to promote your rights. These policies gave life to their promise under the UN CRC. Here are some Examples of policies that promote your right to participate.

The Child and Youth Welfare Code, PD No. 603.

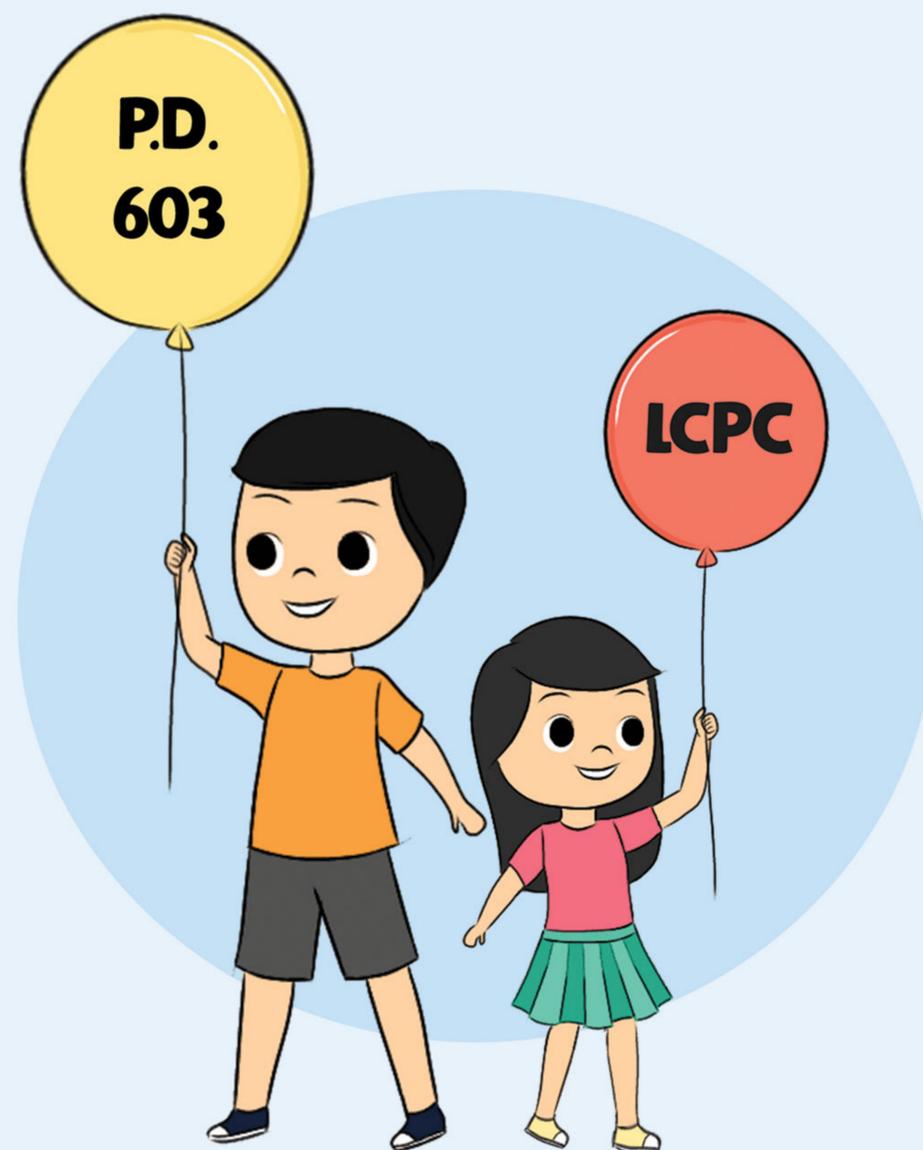
You have the right and responsibility to grow-up as free individual determined to build a better world and to participate actively in civic affairs keeping in mind that you and other children are the ones who will shape our nation's future.

Local Government Code of 1991 or RA No. 7160

This law provides for venues where people can participate like the local special bodies and the Sangguniang Kabataan for youth and children.

Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act or RA No. 9425

This law identified children in the list of the basic sectors in the society. This means that all government agencies tasked to make and implement anti-poverty programs and policies must first consult with you and consider what you have to say.

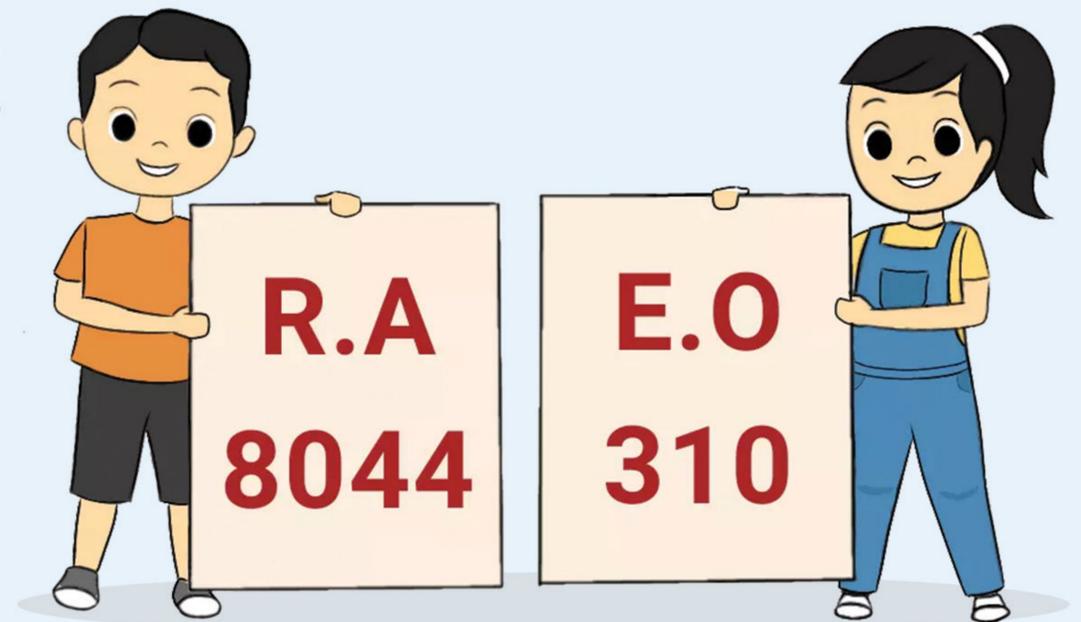


Executive Order 310, Series of 2000

This policy ordered all local government units to include in their local development plans the programs and activities listed in the Philippine National Strategic Framework Plan for Development Children, also known as Child 21. The money needed for its implementation from the local government's internal revenue allotment (IRA).

Youth in Nation Building Act, RA 8044

According to this law, the government should help you take part in making policies and programs that will help the poor and make people's lives better.



Have you heard about any of this law? If yes, how did you know about it?

.....

.....

.....

Toward Child-friendly Relocation Facilities

Oplan LIKAS is a government program that transfers families living along areas considered danger zones within Metro Manila to safer places located outside Metro Manila. The government has allocated ample amounts to provide decent housing complete with basic services and employment opportunities for the families who have been relocated under the program.



After three years of implementation, SALIGAN along with other civil society organizations partnered with children from the Cities of Malabon and Navotas, and the Provinces of Bulacan and Cavite to assess and see what the children think about the relocation program. The children were trained on children's rights, standards for decent and adequate housing, and laws and processes on relocation. After the discussion, they were asked about their experiences during the process of relocation and what they think and feel about it. They were also asked for suggestions on how the process can be improved to make it more child-friendly.

The children said that they want to be informed and included in the discussion of the relocation plan. They want to be safe and respected during the relocation process, including their family, friends, and belongings. They want the relocation site to have electricity, water, decent housing, roads, Internet access, market, parks, and other child-friendly facilities. One of the children said, "Sana po maging maganda ang buhay namin sa bagong bahay na aming lilipatan. Salamat po."

Their suggestions on the manner of conducting the relocation process and the services and facilities that should be present in the relocation area were considered and included in the proposed bill filed in Congress.

What do you think about this story?

How do you feel about it?

What other suggestion can you think to improve the community of the relocatees?

What can you do to encourage yourself and other children to participate in community activities, like the one in the story?



Laws tell us what we can and cannot do to live in harmony with other people. That is why it is important for you to understand what the law means, and where it came from. Your knowledge about all these will empower you to participate in governance.

WHAT ARE LAWS?

Laws are rules of conduct made by the proper authority to protect and promote the good interest of all people in a community.



What is a Rule of Conduct?

A rule of conduct is what you can or cannot do or behavior that is allowed or not allowed.



Who is the proper authority?

We, the people, make laws through our representatives in the government. It is the Philippine Congress, that is composed of Senators and Representatives (also called Congresspersons), which makes national laws. Meanwhile, the local council makes local laws for the community. The council is called Sangguniang Panlalawigan for provinces, Sagguniang Panlungsod for cities, Sangguniang Bayan for municipalities, and Sangguniang Barangay for barangays.

WHERE DO LAWS COME FROM?

Laws come from the following:

The Philippine Constitution, which is the “the highest law of the land,” contains the most basic law of our country and the basic rights of every Filipino citizen. It also describes the way the government should work, the branches of the government, and the powers, limitations, and duties and responsibilities of the government.

Article II, section 13 of the Philippine Constitution states that “The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.”

This means that the youth is important to the development of the country. Therefore, the government should provide services to children and opportunities for children to participate in its programs so that children like you, will grow up to be a decent person and responsible citizens.

National Laws written and passed by the Philippine Congress. National laws must be consistent with the Constitution. They are implemented in all places in the country.

Local Laws written and passed by the local council like an ordinance and a resolution, which are two different things. The ordinance is more powerful than a resolution because it is considered as a permanent rule of conduct unless changed by a new ordinance. On the other hand, a resolution is a formal expression of the will of the local government. Local laws have limited application. They are valid only in the place where the law was made. One example of a local law is the City Children’s Welfare Code.

Administrative Issuances or rules and regulations that clarify how some laws should be implemented. They cannot change or “edit” the law. Administrative issuances should be consistent with National Laws and the Constitution.

The following are some types of administrative issuances:

The Implementing Rules and Regulations or IRR of a National Law.

Orders issued by the President. Sometimes, the president makes administrative issuances. These are called Executive Orders (EOs), Administrative Orders (AOs) or Proclamations. EO 310 Series of 2000, which is about the adoption and implementation of the government’s strategy for children, is one example of an administrative issuances by the President.



Court Decisions are made by the Supreme Court about new issues or controversies. Sometimes, there are disagreements that arise from actions that are not covered by existing laws and even our Constitution might not say anything about it. This matter is brought before the Supreme Court. The justices or judges as a group decide if the original writers of the Constitution intended to allow or disallow that action.

Our Constitution has very broad provisions that can cover almost all acts and issues. However, in some cases the provisions may be too general so the justices of the Supreme Court discuss how they should be interpreted. In all cases, the Supreme Court must follow and uphold the Constitution especially if the language of the Constitution is clear.

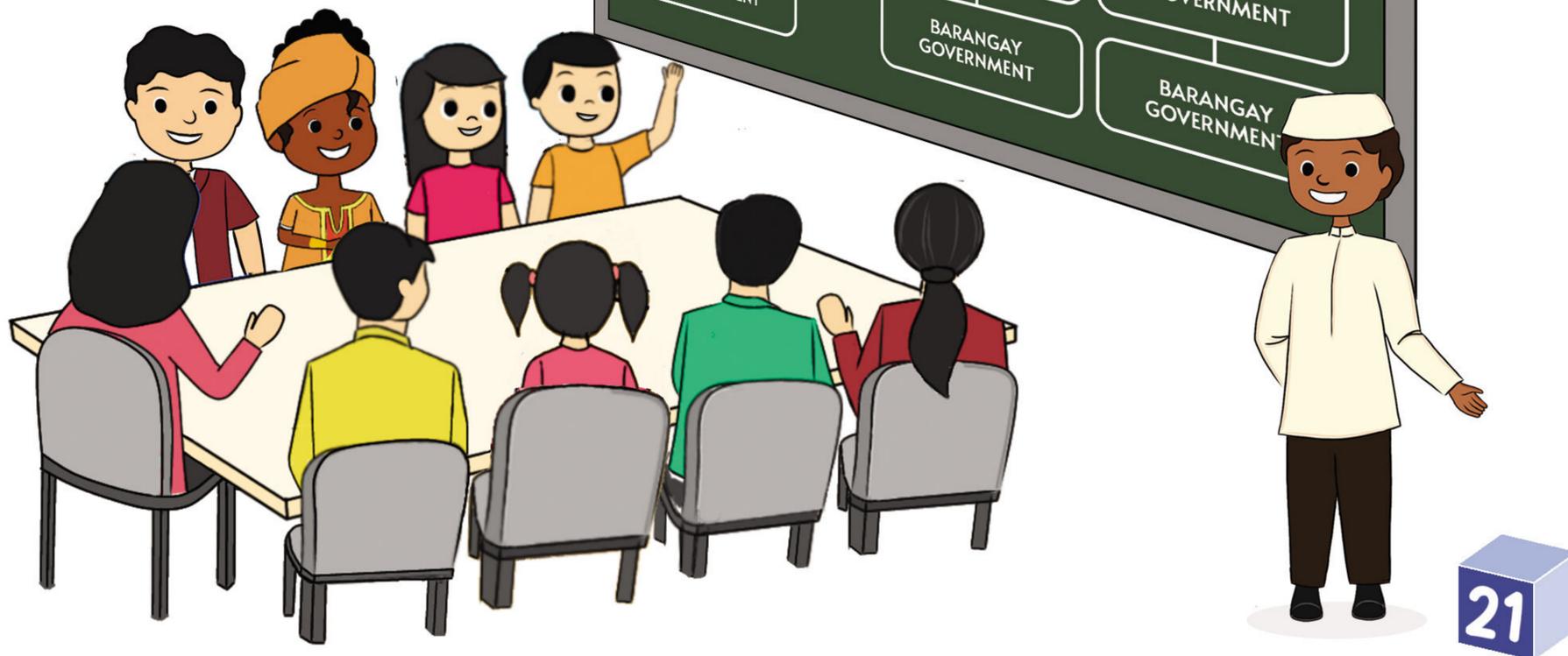
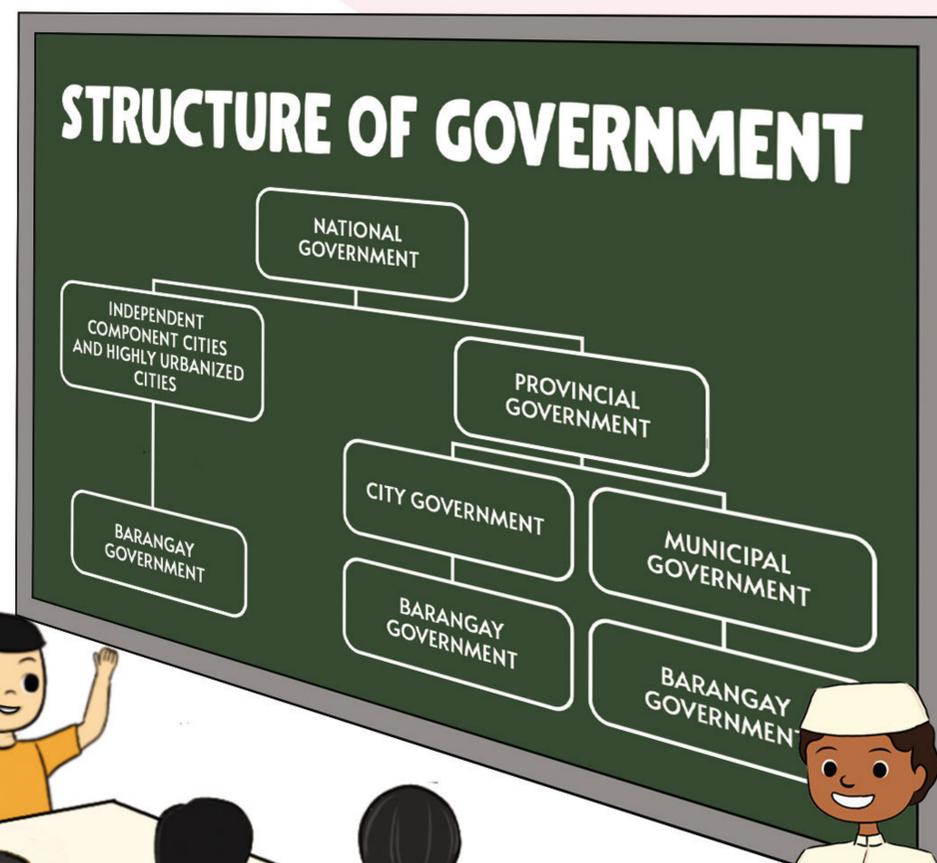


For you to be able to participate in government decision-making. It is important that you understand how government works and how decision making is made.

Government refers to a group that exercises the power and authority to rule over or lead a country, a province, a city or municipality, or even a barangay. The power and authority of the government come from the citizens. The government has the obligation to use its power and authority for the good of the people, and it must answer to the people and report back to the people the results of their decisions and actions.

HOW IS THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURED?

We have a National Government based in the National Capital Region (NCR) and Local Government Units (LGUs) in the provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays across the country. The National Government has authority over the whole structure of the government. It supervises the LGUs, through the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), to make sure the LGUs are doing their jobs in implementing laws, managing resources, and delivering services to the people in their respective jurisdictions.



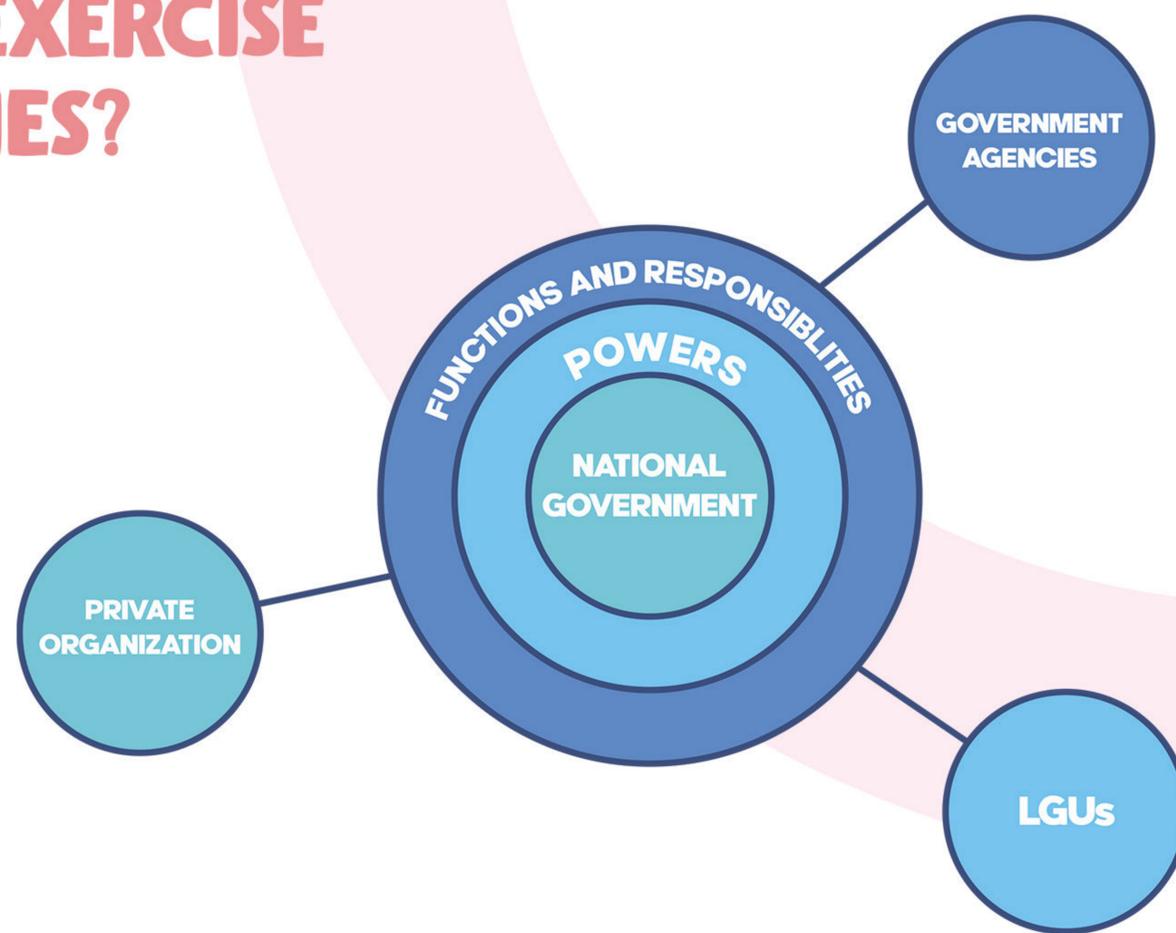
HOW DOES THE GOVERNMENT EXERCISE ITS POWER AND RESPONSIBILITIES?

The Philippines being a decentralized Government transfers some of its decision-making power and authority from the National Government to the LGUs, are given the authority to make decisions at their respective levels. This means they can make their own policies, programs and activities, and allocate funds for the implementation of various government projects intended for the people.

Decentralization helps bring the government – and its programs and services – closer to the people through the LGUs.

LGUs are also tasked to make sure that all areas in the Philippines will become active partners in building and developing the country. The success of our government does not depend on a few people working in it alone.

When people in the community, including children, participate in finding ways to improve their lives and bring this to the government for action, the whole process of governance becomes easier and development becomes responsive to the needs of the people. It is important that children are able to participate within this decentralized structure of government.



WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT LGUs?

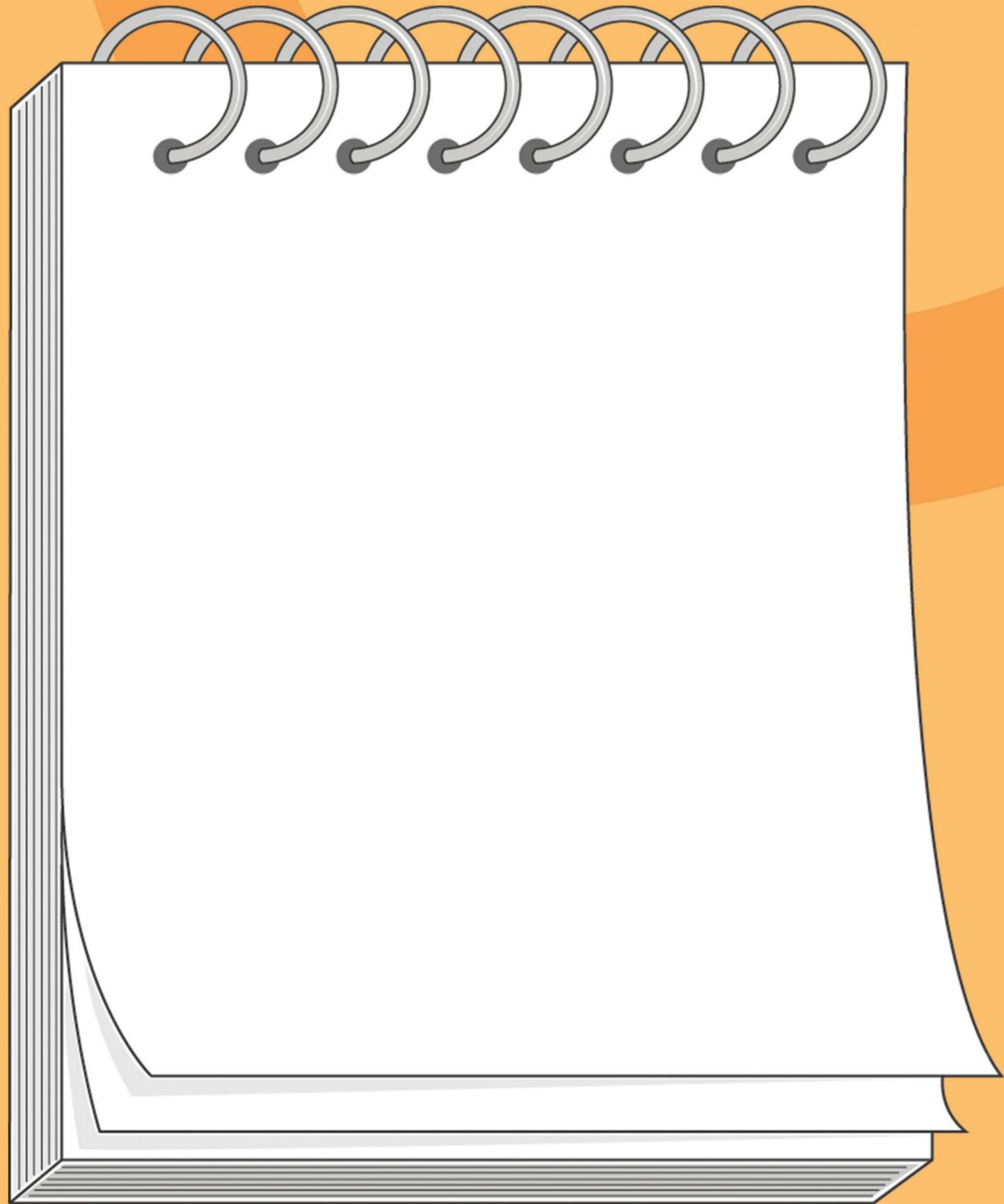
There are four different LGUs in the Philippines called the Barangay, the Municipality, the City and the Province. They are classified according to their land areas, incomes, and populations.

The Barangay is the smallest unit. It has the lowest income, smallest land area, and fewest people. As the income, land area, and number of people increase in a certain barangay, its classification increases to municipality, and then city, until it reaches the category of the province.

Basis for the formation of local government units							
Basis	Barangay	City		Municipality		Province	
Number of People	5,000 for Metro Manila/ HUCs; 2,000 para sa ibang barangay	25,000		150,000		250,000	
Extent of Land	None	50 sq. km.		100 sq. km.		2,000 sq. km.	
Annual Income	None	Class	Average Annual Income	Class	Average Annual Income	Class	Average Annual Income
		First	P55M or more	First	P400M or more	First	P450M or more
		Second	P45M or more but less than 55m	Second	P320M or more but less than 400m	Second	P360M or more but less than 450m
		Third	P35M or more but less than 45m	Third	P240M or more but less than 320m	Third	P270M or more but less than 360m
		Fourth	P25M or more but less than 35m	Fourth	P160M or more but less than 240m	Fourth	P180M or more but less than 270m
		Fifth	P15M or more but less than 25m	Fifth	P80M or more but less than 160m	Fifth	P90M or more but less than 180m
		Sixth	Below 15m	Sixth	Below 80m	Sixth	Below 90m
Source: Income Classification based on Department of Finance Department Order No. 23-08, Effective July 29, 2008							

Learning Activity

If you were given the opportunity to choose, what position in the government would you like to have? How can you use it to help promote the well-being of children? Draw or write it here.





The success of the government does not depend on the government officials alone. When people participate in governance, government action becomes more responsive to their needs. It helps bring about effective and high-quality government services. Around the world we are seeing different ways of how “participatory governance” works. In the Philippines, we are using the opportunities provided by decentralization. With decentralization, people have more say in local government processes like planning, implementing programs, and budgeting. When children take part in governance, children are recognized as important actors rather than mere recipients of government programs and activities.

WHAT ARE THE VENUES FOR CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE?

Our Constitution recognizes that local governments are important. If we have our parents in the household, the community has local officials. The acts of our local officials immediately affects the community including children. Hence, the law provided opportunities where people can take part in local governance. These opportunities are also available to children like you.

Mandatory Prior Consultation

No program or project by the government that causes pollution, climate change, depletion of resources, loss of cropland, rangeland or forest cover, and extinction of animal or plant species shall be implemented in your place without approval of the local sanggunian and without dialogue with local government units affected as well as non-governmental and people's organizations which may include children's organizations and organizations of other concerned sectors in the community.

EXAMPLE

The Department of Energy wishes to build and operate a coal power plant in Quezon City. Before the Department of Energy could even start building the coal power plant, it should go through the process of consultation with the government officials of Quezon City, environmental groups, and residents of Quezon City which should include women and children, who will be affected by the proposed project.

The Department of Energy should also seek the approval from the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Quezon City. If the Department of Energy fails to do these things and proceed with the building of the coal power plant, its action will be considered illegal.



Children like you can participate in this process by initiating any of the following:

- a. Encourage all children to participate in community activities;
- b. Read about the proposed project or ask the officials of your barangay to provide you with the needed information so you can effectively share your opinion or comment during the consultation process;
- c. Monitor projects in your community; and
- d. If you learn that this process was not followed, you can report this to your barangay.

Local Sectoral Representative

The local sanggunian is composed of elected members and three sectoral representatives. According to the Local Government Code, the sectoral representatives shall come from the (1) worker's sector, (2) women's sector and (3) other sectors including the urban poor, indigenous cultural communities, persons with disabilities and any other sector which will be determined by the Sanggunian concerned. A Children's representative can be included as one of the sectoral representatives. However, a law created by the sanggunian is needed to determine the third sectoral representative.



⁷Republic Act No. 7160, Section 26, Local Government Code of the Philippines: It shall be the duty of every national agency or government-owned or controlled corporation authorizing or involved in the planning and implementation of any project or program that may cause pollution, climatic change, depletion of non-renewable resources, loss of crop land, rangeland, or forest cover, and extinction of animal or plant species, to consult with the local government units, non-governmental organizations, and other sectors concerned and explain the goals and objectives of the project or program, its impact upon the people and the community in terms of environmental or ecological balance, and the measures that will be undertaken to prevent or minimize the adverse effects thereof

Naga City Youth Officials Program

The City Government of Naga in Camarines Sur created a program for the youth to meaningfully engage in local governance by providing selected youth officials with firsthand experience in handling local government operations on community problems and development.

This program is open to all in-school and out-of-school youth residing in Naga City who are willing to compete for the 48 slots that would put them at the executive (city youth mayor and department heads) and legislative (city youth vice mayor and sangguniang panlungsod kagawads) positions, as well as in the non-government sector as Naga City People's Youth Council representatives that together comprise Naga's unique participatory governance model.

All successful examinees will undergo an orientation program and capacity-building activities before their term starts. For a month each year, these select youth leaders will be given the opportunity to handle the operations of the city government, except in areas which are policy-determining or require monetary disbursement. Also, all department heads and office chiefs are directed to make sure that their counterpart city youth officials co-signs all official documents issued by their offices. During their term, the youth leaders will also, be entitled to receive an allowance equivalent to a casual employee of the city government.

This 28-year-old program has enabled a total of 1,142 young persons in Naga City to acquire real-life and hands-on experience on how to work in the government. In fact, four of its alumni joined the City Hall and became department heads. At present, the program still continues to attract more public service-oriented young people.



Photo: Naga City youth officials in session

NGOs and POs' partnership with local government

The law on local government says that the local government should promote the creation of people's organizations, non-governmental organizations, and other private groups. These groups shall become active partners of the local government.

Children cannot enter into contracts yet because of age limitations but they can engage the local government by initiating activities for the improvement of the community and by soliciting support and cooperation of the local government.

Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction⁹

Save the Children, a child rights-focused non-government organization, has been supporting Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction across Asia. In the Philippines, the following initiatives have been supported by Save the Children:

- ☞ Training on risk assessment given to selected children;
- ☞ Formation of school children into emergency response teams and conduct of regular drills for earthquake and tsunami;
- ☞ Getting children's views included in local disaster risk reduction management (DRRM) plans and policies; and
- ☞ Participation in hazard, vulnerabilities, and capacity assessment in the community.

Children developed and produced posters and murals to raise awareness within their communities about disasters and ways to mitigate risks. Their materials were clear and simple, making them accessible to the whole community.



⁹DLG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-70, Accreditation of and Selection of Representatives to the Local Special Bodies. Online Available

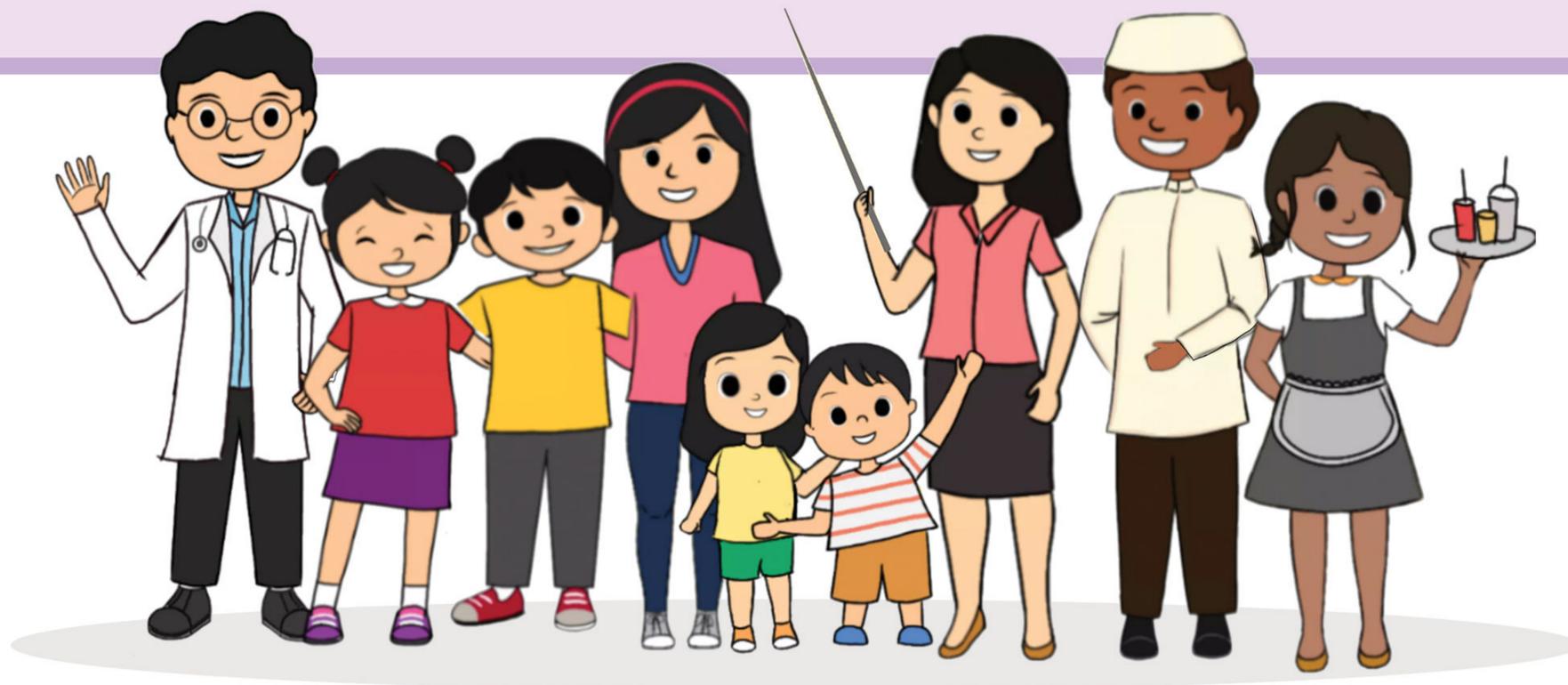
Representation in the Local Special Bodies

A Local Special Body (LSB) is a group responsible for the management of local issues. To achieve that purpose, the LSB's give advice to local officials on what community programs should be implemented and how they should be implemented. Representatives of non-government organizations (NGOs) and people's organizations (POs), including organizations working for the interest of children, can directly participate as members of an LSB. Membership in an LSB is not automatic. To become a member, the organization must be first accredited with the Sanggunian of the place where the organization is located.

Children can engage with LSBs by being involved in the consultations and discussions conducted on a particular issue. Their engagement will improve the planning and monitoring of programs and activities.

According to the law on local government, the following LSBs are required to be created to assist the LGUs in formulating and implementing particular policies, programs and activities.

The **Local Development Council** is a body formed to assist in setting the directions of the economic and social development of the community





The **Local School Board** is a body tasked to make sure that the schools operating within the LGU are providing educational services that are responsive to the needs and priorities of the students within the community. It also assists in the proper allocation of the Special Education Fund in support of the operation of local public schools.



The **Local Health Board** is tasked to assist in the preparation of the annual budget particularly allocations for the operations and maintenance of health facilities, and services in the community. It is also tasked to ensure that the same are following the standards and criteria of the Department of Health.



The **Local Peace and Order Council** is tasked to coordinate efforts to prevent and suppress criminality and maintain order and security in the community.

Child participation will improve the planning and monitoring of the situation of children and young people in the LGU. Other than the said bodies, the following are also required to be created by other laws, wherein children's groups are also encouraged to participate as members or active partners in the formulation and implementation of policies and program.



The **Bids and Awards Committee** is responsible for making sure that the process of bidding and awarding of contracts for the LGU is done according to the guidelines set by law.



The **Local Council for the Protection of Children** is an organization for all children's concerns. Its members work together to implement programs and create policies that will protect and realize children's rights.



The **Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council** is tasked to make sure that plans and programs that will reduce and manage the risks caused by disasters are included in the LGU's development plan.



CITY HALL

POLICE

SCHOOL



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