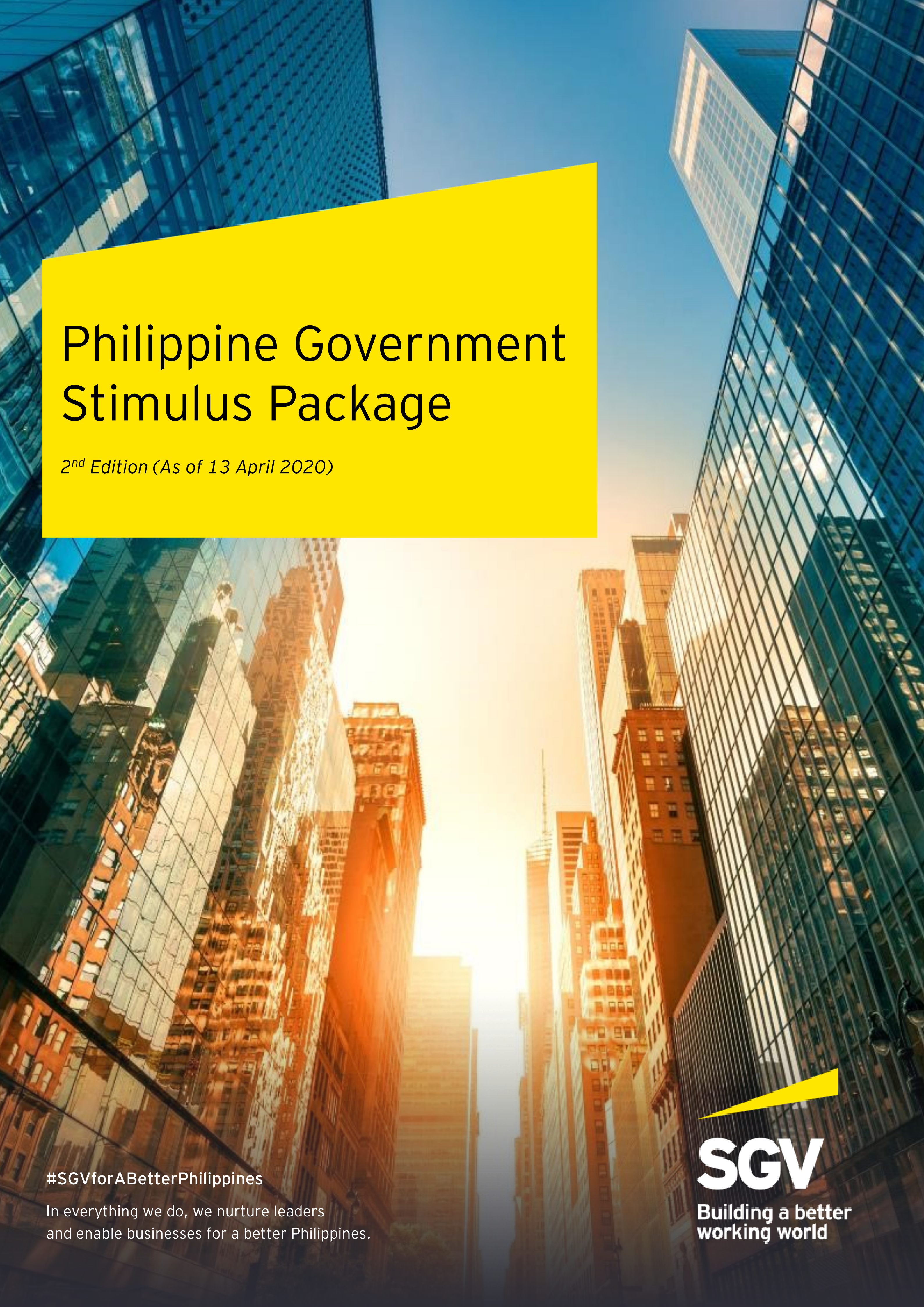


Philippine Government Stimulus Package

2nd Edition (As of 13 April 2020)

#SGVforABetterPhilippines

In everything we do, we nurture leaders
and enable businesses for a better Philippines.

SGV
Building a better
working world

Message from the Chairman

Today we face an unprecedented crisis of unimaginable proportions. The entire global economy has been disrupted, supply chains have been affected, and, for some countries, healthcare systems are being tested beyond capacity. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought the world to a standstill, and it will take a monumental, collective effort from Governments, businesses and citizens everywhere to get it going once more. In each nation, the battle is being fought by brave health workers, visionary Government leaders, dedicated public servants and frontliners who continue to deliver critical care and services to their respective communities.

In this climate of uncertainty, it is imperative that every effort is tightly focused on a comprehensive crisis response plan, one that not only tackles the situation and challenges on the ground in the communities, but also anticipates the long road to economic recovery once the pandemic has been dealt with.

We are indeed fortunate that the Philippine Government has taken swift and decisive action to control the spread of COVID-19 with the passage and implementation of the *Bayanihan* to Heal as One Act. Not only does it empower Government to take the necessary actions to mobilize the country as one unified and cohesive unit, it also reinforces and evokes the enduring *bayanihan* spirit that has always ennobled the Filipino people.

Thank you.

J. Carlitos G. Cruz
SGV Chairman

Message from the Country Managing Partner

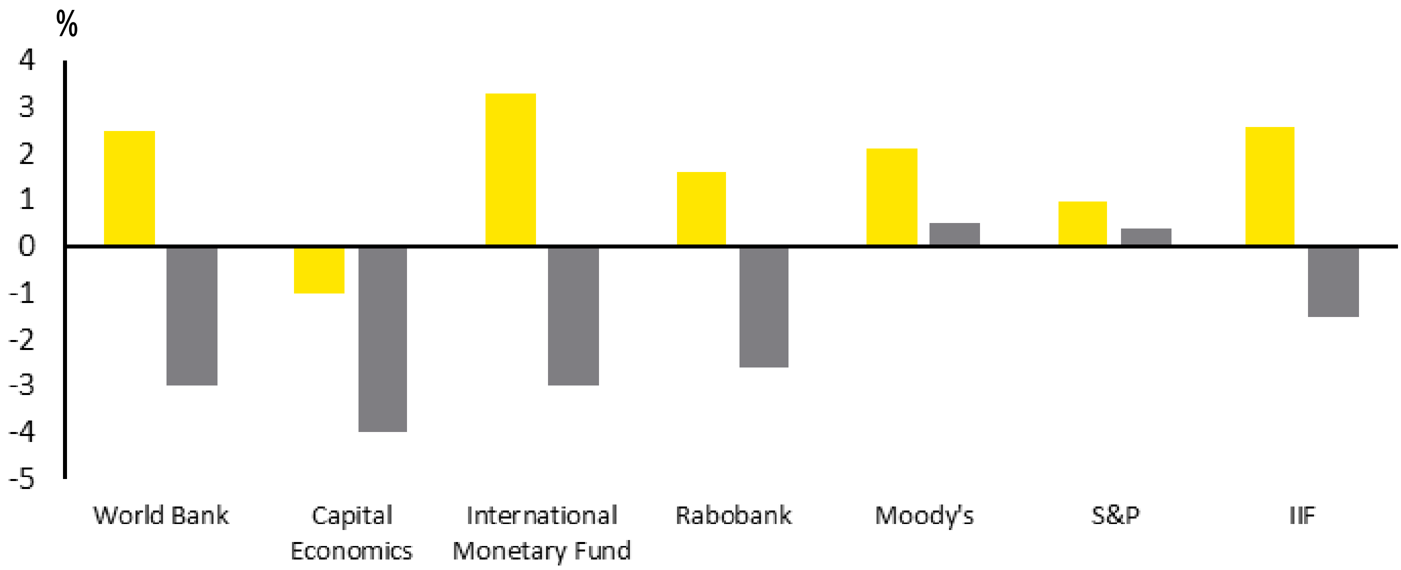
In times of national emergency, we look to the Government to provide us with leadership, guidance and support not only to surmount the current crisis, but to also provide us with hope for the future. The *Bayanihan* to Heal as One Act is precisely that. An action plan to address the very challenging realities that our people are facing now, but also to demonstrate that there is a strategy, that there is a plan that will stimulate and regrow our economy once the crisis has passed. We appreciate that the implementation of the new Act is one that must necessarily continually evolve as the weeks of the Enhanced Community Quarantine pass by. No single plan can cover every nuance and eventuality, which is why we applaud the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force's tireless efforts to address every eventuality that continues to arise.

Through this report, we aim to provide an overview of the many and varied steps that Government is taking to protect and sustain our people, keep their hopes and morale up, and mitigate the damage and cost of the pandemic. And we will continue to update this report as new eventualities and implementing rules arise, so that all of us may better understand the enormity of the challenge before us now, and in the foreseeable future. Yet we at SGV remain optimistic that, with effective and responsive Government leadership, selfless support from the business community, and the enduring spirit of resilience of the Filipino people, we will continue to all work together to help create a better Philippines in the future.

Wilson P. Tan
SGV Country Managing Partner

Current Economic Conditions

Following the COVID-19 outbreak, which has wrought massive disruptions in economies worldwide, global GDP forecasts for 2020 have declined drastically. The World Bank forecasted that the global GDP for 2020 will decline to -3% much worse than during the 2008-2009 financial crisis[1]. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) likewise predicted that the world economies will contract by -2.3% (under a scenario of short-term containment and smaller demand shocks) to -4.8% (for a longer-term containment and larger demand shocks[2].) The chart below shows the different estimates for the 2020 global GDP forecast by different agencies and all have slashed their estimate with the COVID-19 scenario worsening around the world.



Note: Date Published
World Bank – April 2020 | Capital economics – April 09, 2020 | IMF – April 2020 | Rabobank – April 09, 2020 | Moody's – March 25, 2020 | S&P – March 30, 2020 | IIF – March 23, 2020

Sources:
World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Capital Economics, Institute of International Finance, Rabobank, S&P Global, and Moody's Global (see Appendix for source details)

For the Philippines, the ADB cuts its 2020 GDP forecast to 2.0% and this is following a 5.9% 2019 GDP which was already below the expected 2019 GDP growth of 6.3%[2].

The World Bank revised its forecast down to 3% growth in 2020[1], IMF slashed its estimates to 0.6%[5], and Oxford Economics cuts its estimate to 3.9%[3].

Philippine 2020 GDP forecasts		
	Baseline (%)	Revised (%)
ADB	6.2	▼2.0
World Bank	6.1	▼3.0
IMF	6.2	▼0.6
Oxford Economics	5.9	▼3.9

Note: Revised forecasts are as of: ADB (April 2020), World Bank (April 2020), IMF (April 2020), Oxford Economics (March 2020)

Sources:
World Bank April 2020 report, ADB Outlook 2020, Oxford Economics 2020 Forecast, International Monetary Fund April 2020 report (see Appendix for source details)

With the rising cases of COVID 19 in the world and the eventual lockdowns imposed in various forms in different countries, the current crisis has driven down private consumption, investments, and trade. Particularly for the Philippines, the pandemic will impact the remittances from our OFWs, which have partially driven consumption in the past. The table below shows the impact of the slowdown in consumption, government spending, and trade.

Impact on GDP by expenditure				
	World Bank 2020 Estimates		Oxford Economics 2020 Estimates	
	Baseline (%)	Revised (%)	Baseline (%)	Revised (%)
Private consumption	5.9	▼2.4	5.8	▼3.6
Government consumption	10.6	▼9.9	11.6	▲13.7
Exports, goods and services	8.0	▼1.7	4.0	▼-0.8
Imports, goods and services	11.3	▼1.3	7.4	▼3.8

Note: Revised estimates from World Bank are as of April 2020 & Oxford as of March 2020

Sources:
World Bank April 2020 report, World Bank October 2019 report, Oxford Economics March 2020 forecast, Oxford Economics February 2020 forecast (see Appendix for source details)

The Philippine Government has acted swiftly and has initiated policy responses to address the COVID-19 outbreak[1]. The table below shows the policy responses in different areas. The BSP has cut rates and reduced reserve requirements to inject more liquidity in the economy and government spending will further increase by 12% to help stimulate the economy. As the situation progresses and the related economic indicators become clearer, we expect our Government policy response, particularly on fiscal aspects, will change.

Policy Responses in the Philippines[1]			
Monetary	Fiscal	Health Response	Travel
• Interest rate (-25bp in February) • Interest rate (-50bp in March) • Signaled an additional 25bp cut later in the year	• Expansionary budget with a planned 12% year-to-year increase of spending • Additional spending for the tourism sector (0.03% of GDP) • Php27.1 Billion fiscal support packages to provide economic relief to business and livelihood affected by COVID-19	• Expanded testing and treatment capacity of hospitals • Established a repatriation and quarantine facility • Community quarantine until April 30	• No entry if traveled to China last 14 days • Mandatory 14 days of quarantine for citizens if traveled to China

Source:
World Bank April 2020 report (see Appendix for source details)

NEDA has flagged certain risk areas in our economy that are greatly affected by the COVID-19 outbreak and the ECQ with the corresponding expected foregone GVA[4] assuming the adverse effects will last until June.

Degree of impact	Impact Areas		Foregone GVA (in Php Billion)	% of 2020 nominal GDP	Loss on employment (no. of persons)
	Luzon-enhanced community quarantine	• Luzon accounted for 73% of the country's real GDP in 2018. • While the ECQ allows essential business to remain open, other sector such as retail trade, air transport, and other manufacturing and service activities not related to essential activities are likely to bear significant losses. • NEDA estimates that the one-month closure due to ECQ could result in a loss of gross value added of Php298 Billion to Php1.1 Trillion	298.0 - 1,086.9	1.5 - 5.3	61K - 1M
	Transport & Tourism	• Contributed 1.5% of 2018 Ph GDP. • Chinese and Korean tourists account for 46.0% of total foreign arrivals in 2018 and spent over Php237.4B representing half of tourism receipt in 2018 • With the travel restrictions, NEDA estimates 100% decline in China and South Korea tourists, a 10% decline in other foreign visitors until June, and a 100% decline in airline revenues for a month.	77.5 - 156.9	0.4 - 0.8	33.8K - 56.6K
	Consumption	• Health concerns and social distancing are main drivers on the decline of household consumption. • Lower remittances, lockdown measures, and higher unemployment will cause consumption to decline. • NEDA estimates that at 5% to 10% decline in household non-essential consumption will result to a loss of GVA of Php45.1B to Php93.6B	45.1 - 93.6	0.2 - 0.5	3K - 6.7K
	Exports	• China is largest trading partner of the Philippines accounting for 1/5 of Philippine trade. In 2019, China (with Hong Kong) accounted for 27% of exports and 26% of imports. • NEDA estimates that should the Top 10* products exported to China follows the behavior seen in February partial customs information, economy will lose about Php5 to Php10B of gross value.	4.9 - 9.8	0.02 - 0.05	3K - 6.7K
	Remittances	• Remittances from OFW amounted to USD30.1 Billion in 2019, growing by more than 4% y-o-y. In January 2020 alone, it reached USD2.6 Billion, up 6.6 percent y-o-y. • However, NEDA estimates that if 30.0 percent of OFW employed in tourism and tourism-related services lose their jobs (around 100,000 employees), it expects to lose approximately Php5.7 Billion in foregone remittances.	3.9 - 8.5	0.02 - 0.04	1.7K - 4.5K
	Fiscal	• With the containment measure, and even without additional spending, the estimated decline in GDP (2.1% to 6.6%) can increase the national government budget deficit to 4.4 - 5.4 percent of GDP in 2020, assuming the same revenue effort. • Certain regulatory relief for affected sectors the extension of the tax filing by one month, are expected to result in collection delay of about Php145 Billion. • CAAP and MIA agreed to defer payment on parking and landing fees of local airlines. • Fiscal stimulus by Congress under House Bill 6606 amounts to over Php100 Billion. • Realignment and reprioritization of projects and budgets is expected to address the COVID-19 crisis			

*Top 10 products: (1) Chromium Ore (2) Veneer Sheets/Corestocks (3) Copper Metal (4) Dried Seaweeds (5) Bananas (6) Telecommunication (7) Copper Concentrates (8) Chemicals (9) Electronic Data Processing (10) Automotive Electronics

Source:
National Economic and Development Authority 2020 report (see Appendix for details).

To address these risks areas, the NEDA, following their three-phased program of interventions, has laid specific interventions during the ECQ, and after the quarantine is lifted. These are as follows:

Phase 1a: Clinical/Medical Response			
Intervention	Objectives	Other problems or issues	Intervention design considerations
1. Early detection and diagnosis	To provide care or treatment at the early stages of the disease To isolate persons under monitoring (PUMs) and persons under investigation (PUIs) from the non-infected population	▸ Cost of testing might overburden the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) ▸ Cost of testing might crowd out PhilHealth funds for non-COVID-19 cases ▸ Usual sources of test kits will be constrained in the short term given huge global demand ▸ New sources of test kits may not be up to standards ▸ Adequate number of trained personnel to conduct tests across the country	▸ PhilHealth to provide estimate of additional funds necessary ▸ Crowd-in other funds for testing kits ▸ Adequate number of testing kits (including reagents), thermal scanners ▸ Adequate personnel ▸ Testing kit facilities that are outside hospitals ▸ Proper distribution of resources or facilities across the country ▸ Adequate funding
2. Effective quarantine systems	To isolate PUMs and PUIs from the non-infected population	▸ Crowding out of facility for non-COVID-19 cases ▸ Indirect cost of quarantine, especially if PUM/PUI is the breadwinner ▸ Some private homes may not be suitable for quarantine	▸ Establish health monitoring and referral systems
3. Effective management and treatment protocol	To provide care and/or treatment towards full recovery	▸ Indirect cost of care if PUM/PUI is the breadwinner ▸ Crowding out of facility for non-COVID-19 cases ▸ Crowding-out of equipment/personnel for non-COVID-19 cases	▸ Sharing of treatment protocols with other countries
4. Research and epidemiological studies	To contribute to the body of knowledge on COVID-19 To improve health surveillance and health systems planning		▸ Adequate distribution of research personnel across the country ▸ Studies should be peer-reviewed
5. Ensure easy mobility of Human Resources for Health (HRH)		▸ Absence of public transport	▸ Provide shuttle service of HRH ▸ Provide temporary sleeping quarters for HRH

Phase 1b: Public Health Response			
Intervention	**Objectives**	**Other problems or issues**	**Intervention design considerations**
1. Travel ban	To limit or prevent introduction of imported cases	▸ Decline in revenues of travel and tourism sectors ▸ Closure of some travel and tourism-related businesses ▸ Reduction in employment and income for those working in travel- and tourism -related sectors ▸ Strained diplomatic relationship with countries included in the travel ban	▸ Regulatory relief; provision of emergency funds/loans ▸ Amelioration funds for displaced works
2. Promote proper hygiene and strong immune system	To reduce the reproductive rate of the virus, R_0 (roughly the average number of persons that a positive case can infect), and Case Fatality Ratio	▸ Increased business cost	▸ Massive information campaign ▸ Media campaign (including influencers) and programs to encourage exercise, adequate sleep, healthy diet ▸ Provision of hygiene products in public areas ▸ Require proper and regular disinfection of public areas (including mass transport)
3. Ban on crowded gatherings	To reduce R_0	▸ Decline in revenues of Meetings, Incentives, Conferencing, Exhibitions (MICE) sectors ▸ Closure of some MICE-related businesses ▸ Reduction in employment and income for those working in MICE-related sectors	▸ Regulatory relief; provision of emergency funds/loans ▸ Amelioration funds for displaced works ▸ Temporary suspension of required payments for utilizes, rental, etc.
4. School closures	To reduce R_0	▸ Diminished quality of learning outcomes ▸ No venue for supplementary feeding ▸ Decline in revenues of schools ▸ Closure of some school-related businesses ▸ Reduction in employment and income for those working om school-related sectors	▸ Delivery of food packs for the beneficiaries ▸ Regulatory relief; provision of emergency funds/loans ▸ Amelioration funds for displaced works
5. Work suspension	To reduce R_0	▸ Decline in revenues of sectors included in the ban ▸ Closure of some businesses included in the ban ▸ Reduction in employment and income for those working in included sectors ▸ No income for those in the "no work-no pay" sectors ▸ Supply-chain disruptions	▸ Regulatory relief; provision of emergency funds/loans ▸ Temporary suspension of business-related payments ▸ Amelioration funds for displaced works ▸ Food and cash assistance for the most in need ▸ Establish cargo handling protocols ▸ Ensure unhampered transport of food, medical supplies, and other essential goods ▸ Suspend toll operations at major highways ▸ Monitor inventory of food, medical supplies, and other essential goods

Phase 1b: Public Health Response *(continued)*			
Intervention	Objectives	Other problems or issues	Intervention design considerations
6. Flexible work arrangements in non-essential sectors		▸ Philippine Economic Zone Authority and economic zone (ecozone) companies have limited flexibility on work location	▸ Temporary suspension of workplace regulation for ecozone locators
7. Work continuance in essential sectors		▸ Public transport is not available ▸ Need to ensure social-distancing	▸ Identify essential sectors ▸ Establish system of identifying workers in essential sectors ▸ Companies in essential sectors to provide shuttle service to employees
8. Enforce rule of law			▸ Clear guidelines on enforcement of enhanced community quarantine ▸ Provide system to identify essential personnel, transport, etc.

Phase 1c: Short-term augmentation of health systems capacity			
Intervention	Objectives	Other problems or issues	Intervention design considerations
1. Makeshift outpatient consultation facilities (MOCF) with specimen harvesting capability	To limit or prevent spread of COVID-19	▸ Residents in the area where MOCF will be put up may be endangered ▸ Residents may not allow the MOCF to be put up in their community ▸ Human Resources for Health (HRH) to man the MOCF will be taken away from hospitals	▸ Construct MOCF; secure official development assistance (ODA) from the World Bank (WB) ▸ Set up health surveillance systems ▸ Establish quick referral protocols ▸ Ensure adequate number of ambulance facilities and stretchers
2. Increase supply of personal protective equipment (PPE)	To protect frontliners against infection To limit or prevent spread of COVID-19	▸ Usual sources of PPEs will be overwhelmed by huge demand ▸ New sources of PPEs may not be up to standard	▸ Secure ODA from WB to increase access to other sources ▸ Provide financing to existing manufacturers of PPEs ▸ Provide capacity building and financing to new manufacturers
3. Increase number of remote quarantine facilities (RQF), including modular isolation wards or rooms	To limit or prevent spread of COVID-19 to non COVID-19 cases	▸ Residents in the area where RQF will be put up may be endangered ▸ Residents in the area may not allow the RQF to be put up ▸ HRH to man the RQF will be taken away from hospitals ▸ Protocol for transfer of patients from MOCF to RQF	▸ Construct new facilities ▸ Set up health surveillance systems ▸ Establish quick referral protocols ▸ Ensure adequate number of ambulance facilities and stretchers
4. Increase supply of needed hospital equipment and paraphernalia (mechanical ventilator, N95, antivirals, antibiotics)	To reduce R_0	▸ Usual sources of PPEs will be overwhelmed by huge demand ▸ New sources of PPEs may not be up to standard	▸ Provide financing to existing manufacturers of needed equipment ▸ Tap additional international sources of needed equipment

Phase 2: Rebuild consumer and business confidence			
Intervention	Objectives	Other problems or issues	Intervention design considerations
1. Assure public of adequacy of health systems	To expand health systems capacity To communicate to the public the improved health systems capacity		‣ Reconfigure Health Facilities Enhancement Program to include provisions for infectious diseases ‣ Increase HRH ‣ Improve health surveillance systems ‣ Strengthen UHC including PhilHealth
2. Implement staggered working and business hours	To maintain appropriate social distancing even beyond the ECQ	‣ Increased business cost given the need to pay for overtime ‣ Increased business cost given the need to operate the utilities for an extended period per day	
3. Address balance sheet problems of business sector			‣ Provide emergency loans to business ‣ Provide emergency production assistance to farmers, fisherfolk, micro, small, and medium enterprises
4. Address balance sheet problems of consumers			‣ Provide emergency loans to consumers

Source:
National Economic and Development Authority 2020 report (see Appendix for details).

Phase 3: Resume a new normal state of economic activity that is more prepared for the next (hopefully not forthcoming) pandemic.

- Redefine the new normal state of economic activity
- Recalibrate development plans and work programs to conform to the new normal
- Implement the new normal

Looking ahead to 2021

As every country tries to contain and manage the COVID-19 crisis in the NOW, we must also look ahead at the NEXT and BEYOND. The revised estimates presented above for 2020 certainly are severe, but analysts also expect a strong rebound in 2021. The ADB forecasted a strong recovery of 6.5%[2] in 2021, the World Bank at 6.2%[1], the IMF at 7.6%[5], and Oxford economics at 7.3%[3].

These 2021 estimates at least provide hope that this crisis shall pass albeit with heavy losses and we can look ahead at a recovery and operate in a new normal state.

Appendix of sources:

[1] "World Bank East Asia and Pacific Economic Update: East Asia and Pacific in the Time of COVID-19," World Bank April 2020,. Washington, DC© World Bank. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/33477 License: CC BY 3.0 IGO.

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[6] "Selected Macroeconomic Forecasts," Capital Economics. April 2020. https://www.capitaleconomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/NEW-Macro-Forecasts-122.pdf

[7] "GMV – Global Recession," Institute of International Finance, March 2020. https://www.iif.com/Portals/0/Files/content/1_IIF032320_GMV.pdf

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[10] "Moody's: Global GDP to contract 0.5%in 2020," S&P Global March 2020. https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/moody-s-global-gdp-to-contract-0-5-in-2020-57758375

[11] "Country Economic Forecast Philippines," Oxford Economics. February 2020.

[12] "World Bank East Asia and Pacific Economic Update, October 2019 : Weathering Growing Risks," World Bank. 2019. Washington, DC © World Bank. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/32482 License: CC BY 3.0 IGO."

Report to the Congressional Oversight Committee dated 6 April and 13 April 2020

On the 2nd & 3rd weeks of the implementation of the *Bayanihan* to Heal as One Act (RA No. 11469), the Duterte Administration renewed its call to the public and private sectors for their continued cooperation as the country continues its battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, as the COVID-19 cases in the country continue to rise, the Government has extended the effectivity of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in Luzon until the end of April 2020. The extension of the ECQ aims to enable the Government to beef up its policies to suppress transmission of the virus and further cushion the impact of the crisis on the livelihoods of Filipinos through accelerated measures and intensified rehabilitation programs specially for the severely affected sectors.

As COVID-19 has proven to be a health crisis and economic disruptor, the Philippine Government continues to extend the emergency measures authorized by and pursuant to the Bayanihan Act to cover the following priorities:

1. Provide emergency assistance to all affected sectors;
2. Secure facilities and resources for the health sector and other frontliners;
3. Establishment of sound fiscal and monetary actions that are responsive to all stakeholders;
4. Other measures for the protection of the welfare of citizens

Summarized below are the key additional emergency measures and updates culled from the reports of various executive departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the Government.

Timeline of events

April 2020

1 2 3 4 5 **6** **7** 8 9 10 11 12 **13** 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

Second Presidential Report to JCOC

Declaration of Extension of ECQ for the entire Luzon until 30 April

Third Presidential Report to JCOC

12 March	Declaration of Community Quarantine over Metro Manila
15 March	Effectivity of Community Quarantine
16 March	Declaration of State of National Calamity
17 March	Effectivity of Enhanced Community Quarantine over Luzon
25 March	Enactment of R.A. No. 11469
30 March	First Presidential Report to Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC)

I. People Measures

	A. New Measures
1. Benefit packages for COVID-19 patients	▸ PhilHealth approved benefit packages for Spectrum of Care for COVID-19 to cover cost treatment for all patients with COVID-19 from February to 14 April 2020. The package includes Php8,150 for testing kits and up to Php786,384 for critical pneumonia cases.

Case	Proposed rate
COVID-19 testing	Php8,150 (all components covered by package) Php5,450 (if test kits are donated)
Community isolation	Php22,449 (with LGU overhead)
Mild pneumonia (elderly)	Php43,997
Moderate pneumonia	Php143,267
Severe pneumonia	Php333,519
Critical pneumonia	Php786,384

- PhilHealth approved the direct reimbursement of patients previously confined for COVID-19, with retroactive applications from 01 February 2020 subject to issuance of further advisories.
- PhilHealth shall pay for all COVID-19 tests conducted outside hospitals accredited by RITM. The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) aided Php420.5 million to PhilHealth for COVID-19 related packages.

2. Social Amelioration Program (SAP) to PUV and TNVS sectors	▸ Provision of emergency subsidy to around 435,000 drivers of public utility vehicles (PUVs) whose operations were suspended due to ECQ. 4,175 from transport network vehicle service (TNVS) sector and 36,243 from other PUV sectors have given emergency subsidies amounting to Php323.344 million, as of 09 April 2020.

I. People Measures
(continued)

	B. Updates on Existing Measures
1. Various SAP	▸ Php101.5 billion has already been released to fund the SAP implemented by Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as of 08 April 2020, as it targets to serve 18 million families. ▸ The DSWD is set to issue an omnibus guideline for the implementation of the Emergency Subsidy Program (ESP) given on a "per family basis", to extend beneficiaries under "low-income household" category despite living in a single house. ▸ Currently, there are 4.4 million 4Ps target beneficiaries and 84.58% of which were given emergency subsidies totaling to Php16.3B. ▸ The DSWD is studying a unified online public monitoring and transparency system to promote SAP implementation and public participation.
2. Laborers	▸ As of 09 April 2020, COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) provided assistance to 52% of its target beneficiaries equivalent to 167,941workers and has utilized Php840 million. ▸ The *Tulong Panghanapbuhay para sa Displaced/Disadvantage Worker* (TUPAD) program target beneficiaries has been increased to 235,949. As of 09 April 2020, it has provided aid to 46% beneficiaries or 118,086 workers from the informal sector, amounting to Php206 million.
3. Assistance to health workers	▸ The One-time Special Risk Allowance to public health workers (PWH) for the duration of the ECQ, which is equivalent to a maximum of 25% of monthly basic salary/pay pro -rated based on the number of days PHWs physically report to work reckoned not earlier than 17 March 2020. *(Administrative Order (AO) No. 28 s. 2020)*

II. Economic Measures

	A. New Measures
1. Supply chain	‣ Creation of a national supply chain plan by National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and the University of the Philippines Public Administration Foundation for essential medical supplies, food commodities, and other critical materials. ‣ Availability of and accessibility to basic goods are maintained through Kadiwa ni Ani and Kita on Wheels. These projects link farmer cooperatives to Local Government Units (LGUs) in Metro Manila for their agri-fishery food supply. ‣ Validating and accrediting legitimate agri-fishery entities and personnel to ensure unhampered movement of agri-fishery products and inputs. ‣ Rolled out RapidPass.Ph to enable frontliners and those working to provide essential goods/services to pass through checkpoints more quickly through the use of a QR code or alphanumeric code, minimizing contact with checkpoint personnel. ‣ Allowed the private express and messengerial delivery services sector to operate to ensure delivery of basic necessities. ‣ Implementation of the Urban Agriculture Program (UAP) by the Department of Agriculture (DA) to ensure an adequate supply of readily available, safe, and nutritious food. ‣ The DA provided fingerlings and seaweed propagules to 1,005 fishpond and cage operators and seaweed farmers to help fishermen increase their income and augment fish production. ‣ The Department of Transportation (DOTr) Maritime Sector ensures that all ports under its jurisdiction remain open and operational. ‣ Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) has ensured the operation of 126 ports nationwide. It adopted port emergency measures at the Manila International Container Terminal (MICT) and temporarily authorized Manila North Harbor to receive overstaying and cleared import cargoes from MICT. ‣ To implement Joint Administrative Order (JAO) No. 20-01, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) issued a Customs Memorandum Order providing for the general and operational guidelines on summary abandonment proceedings during the ECQ. ‣ PPA MC No. 14-2020 relaxed the movement of trucks and their drivers and helpers from one port to another. ‣ Port authorities conducted an inventory of all abandoned and/or forfeited cargoes and perishable and non-perishable goods to identify which items can be disposed of pursuant to RA No. 10863 and JAO No. 20-01.

II. Economic Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
1. Supply chain *(continued)*	‣ PPA prohibited the imposition of additional port charges and fees including hazard fee in the delivery of port services. ‣ The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) facilitated 391 cargo flights, 7 general aviation flights, 128 utility/maintenance flights, 67 government flights, and 834 military flights. The Mactan Cebu International Airport and the Clark International Airport Corporation continue to facilitate cargo flights. ‣ The FDA approved 7,360 applications for License to Operation (LO) and Certificate of Product Registration (CPR) of basic food commodities such as canned goods and instant noodles. ‣ The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) has assisted at least 139 Agrarian Reform Beneficiary (ARB) organizations in marketing their products by linking them to institutional and local markets. ‣ DAR has prescribed guidelines on the issuance of quarantine accreditation passes to ARB organizations. ‣ Availability of a prototype of the tool to address supply chain concerns for presentation to the NEDA Regional Development Group.
2. Government's uninterrupted access to cash	‣ The *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP) advances remittance of Php20 Billion dividends. Several Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) made early remittances of dividends. ‣ The Department of Energy (DOE)'s attached agencies advanced dividends and unutilized funds of Php12.34 Billion. A Circular is being drafted on the distribution of Energy Regulation (ER) 1-94 Funds among LGUs. ‣ Realignment for COVID-19 Programs of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)'s Climate Change support activities fund, TransCo's unutilized fund and the

II. Economic Measures
(continued)

A. New Measures *(continued)*	
3. Discontinuance of appropriated programs of any agency of the Executive Department to augment and address the COVID-19 emergency	▸ The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) identifies the discontinuance of unreleased appropriations of Php189 Billion. Php4.209 Billion is from the Special Purpose Funds. Php100 Billion in allotments was released to DSWD. Php1.5 Billion to Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Php30.82 Billion to ALGU-*Bayanihan*. ▸ Unreleased appropriations shall be utilized to: ▸ Fund additional requirements of existing programs/projects of NGAs and GOCCs; ▸ Provide for deficiencies and contingent fund ▸ Releasing of the following allotments and cash allocations:

Department/ Agency	Allotment	Cash Allocation
DOH	600,000,000	600,000,000
DSWD	3,930,605,846	3,908,259,846
DILG	548,029,000	520,627,550
DOST	-	53,230,732
DOLE	468,960,000	100,000,000
Total	**5,547,594,846**	**5,182,118,128**

**net of withholding taxes*

4. Appropriation of unutilized or unreleased balance and/or funds for measures to address COVID-19	▸ The LBP remitted to the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) Php12.13 Billion, unutilized balance of Letter of Credit of Php4.4 Billion and unutilized Unconditional Cash Transfer of funds of Php5.5. Billion.
5. Assistance to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and productive sectors	▸ There is a plan to roll out a wage subsidy program for MSMEs that will provide relief for the formal sector and middle-class workers who are not covered by the ESP. ▸ Evaluation of proposal for the establishment of a Small Business Relief Program to help 1.5 million small businesses in the formal sector and their 3.4 million workers. This Program will cost around Php50.8 Billion and may involve a wage subsidy of up to Php8,000 per worker for up to 2 months. ▸ Evaluation of a proposal for the grant of credit guarantee to small businesses for easy access to bank financing. ▸ Implementation of the proposed Php45 Billion wage subsidy assistance, through the Social Security System (SSS), to employees of eligible businesses.

II. Economic Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
6. Emergency procurement of goods and supplies	▸ Issuance of Resolution No. 06-2020 dated 06 April 2020 which provides for the guidelines for Emergency Procurement under RA No. 11469 particularly as regards the increase of the allowable amount of advance payment from 15% to 30% on specific COVID-19 related procurement activities including procurement of medical supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs).
7. MSMEs and productive sectors	▸ The Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) launched the P10 Billion *Help via Emergency Loan Assistance for LGUs* (HEAL) Lending Program for emergency funding in the purchase of goods and procurement of services. Loans will have a 5% interest rate p.a., payable up to 5 years, with a one-year grace period on principal payment. ▸ *Bayanihan* Grant to Cities and Municipalities by the DBM to fund LGUs for their COVID-19 measures and relief efforts equivalent to Php30.8 Billion.
8. Proposals for the drafting of the Economic Recovery Package Bill	▸ Conduct of a survey by the SEC on the impact of the ECQ on the mutual fund industry, lending companies, financing companies, microfinance non-governmental organizations and their clients.

II. Economic Measures
(continued)

B. Updates on Existing Measures	
1. Consumer protection	▸ The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) prescribes anti-hoarding and anti-panic buying guidelines, conducted monitoring activities, processed online complaints, which led to arrests. LGUs are assisting to monitor the prices and supply of basic necessities and prime commodities. ▸ The DTI conducted 2,415 price monitoring activities from 02 to 09 April 2020 where 98% of 12,602 monitored entities were compliant. ▸ The DTI issued 150 Letters of Inquiry and 71 Notices of Violation and 71 Notices of Violation and launched 888 operations relative to the anti-hoarding/anti-profiteering campaign. The PNP arrested 635 persons from 17 March to 03 April 2020 in violation of this campaign. ▸ Inclusion of PPEs and other medical-related products in the price monitoring. About 528 firms have been monitored to ensure compliance with fair trade laws. ▸ 2,987 online complaints have been acted upon where 594 of which have been endorsed to the PNP-CIDG and National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), 231 to the DOH-FDA and 2,162 to other concerned agencies. ▸ Creation of a central *Bantay Presyo* Task Force by the DA to monitor prices of basic food commodities and enforce the Price Act. ▸ The Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) continues to monitor groceries and wet markets in the NCR. It has likewise confirmed sufficiency of raw sugar stocks (for 3-4 months) and refined sugar stocks (for 4-5 months). ▸ Enforcement of measures by the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) to protect the people from cartels, monopolies, among others that may affect the supply, distribution, and movement of essential goods and services.
2. MSMEs and productive sectors	▸ Expanded the Survival and Recovery (SURE) Aid and Recovery Project target to benefit 40,000 small farmers and fishers, and 295 micro and small enterprises by providing them with 0% interest loans, which has reached 113,570 small farmer beneficiaries. It also implemented a loan moratorium to benefit 244,044 marginal and small farmers and fish-borrowers. ▸ The DA has identified 57 partner lending conduits to assist in the implementation of the Expanded SURE-Aid and Recovery Project where 36 of which have signified their intent to participate. 16 out of 295 target micro and small enterprises have signified their intent to avail of this program.

II. Economic Measures
(continued)

	B. Updates on Existing Measures *(continued)*
2. MSMEs and productive sectors *(continued)*	‣ Implementation of the Financial Subsidy for Rice Farmers (FSRF) Program (Php5,000 cash grant to farmers) to cover 34 provinces with 591,246 individuals totaling to Php3 Billion budget allocation. 18,495 out of 591,246 target farmers have received cash grants, totaling to Php 92.48 million, as of 13 April 2020. ‣ One-time cash transfer of Php5,000 under the Rice Farmers Financial Assistance (RFFA) Program has benefited 300,994 farmers out of the 597,404 target amounting to Php 1.5 Billion utilization out of the Php3 Billion budget, as of 08 April 2020. ‣ The Livelihood Seeding Program will now include individual packages from Php5,000 to P8,000 to qualified individuals and MSMEs to support their enterprise during the crisis. This is targeted to benefit 3,592 barangays, 359,000 participants and 17,960 MSMEs. ‣ The Small Business Corporation (SBC) borrowers in good-standing have been granted a 1-month loan moratorium and option to limit their payments in the next 6 months to just interest payments. This has benefitted 127,000 micro enterprises under the P3 Program and 15,000 MSMEs under the SBC loan portfolios. Rent concession is also granted to MSMEs. ‣ 7,317 retail SBC borrowers and 205 wholesale SBC borrowers have been given reprieve from their loan payments which is equivalent to a deferred collection amounting to Php252 Million. This moratorium also extends to around 134,000 micro enterprises with loans from wholesale borrowers.
3. Allocation of funds held by GOCCs or NGAs to address the COVID-19 emergency	‣ The DBM and Department of Finance (DOF) Joint Circular No.1 dated 30 March 2020 provides the guidelines on the pooling of cash, funds and investments for the Social Amelioration Measures. As of 31 March 2020, Php101.64 Billion funding is available.

III. Tax and Business Measures

	A. New Measures
1. Tax relief measures	▸ Revenue Memorandum Circular (RMC) No. 36-2020 dated 06 April 2020 is issued to further clarify exemptions from DST. ▸ RMC No. 37-2020 dated 06 April 2020 provides relief for qualified loans and guidelines on the filing and payment of taxes. ▸ Further extension of statutory tax compliance deadlines pursuant to Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 10-2020 issued on 14 April 2020 in light of the extension of the ECQ to 30 April 2020. ▸ Tax returns filed before extended deadlines can be amended on or before the extended due date without interest and penalties. Overpaid taxes on the amended returns can be carried over to succeeding periods or refunded. ▸ Issuance of RR No. 9-2020 by the DOF on the tax benefits of donations made for battling COVID-19. Donations in cash or in kind to certain recipients for purposes of combatting COVID-19 during the state of national emergency are exempt from donor's tax and fully deductible from the donor's taxable income subject to specific documentation. Donations in kind for the same purpose are exempt from VAT and allows input VAT credits on such related purchases. ▸ Issuance of a Memorandum authorizing BOC Commissioner to act on donations authorized under the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), provided that goods are donated to identified government agencies.
2. Confidence on financial capacity to address the COVID-19 pandemic	▸ DOF states that it is confident that the country has the financial capacity to address the COVID-19 pandemic and notes that the country has a BBB+ credit rating; growth rate of an average of 6.4% since 2016; highest revenue collection in 22 years; and lowest debt-to-gross domestic product ratio at 41.5%.
3. Extension of submission of documents, deadlines and renewal of permits	▸ The Insurance Commission (IC) issued 15 Circular Letters which include deferment of submission of reportorial requirements, extension of coverage, and extension of grace period. The IC temporarily relaxed certain customer due diligence requirements. ▸ The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) extends the filing deadline on quasi-judicial proceedings; and extends deadlines for submission of annual reports, 2019 Audited Financial Statements and Mandatory Disclosure Forms. ▸ The National Water Resources Board (NWRB) extends the validity of all conditional water permits due to expire on or before 30 June 2020 for a period of 6 months from expiration. An application for renewal within an extended period of 6 months from the last date of validity of Certificate of Public Convenience (CPCs) is allowed.

III. Tax and Business Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
3. Extension of submission of documents, deadlines and renewal of permits *(continued)*	▸ The Land Transportation Office (LTO) and Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) extend the application for renewal until the end of April 2020. There shall be no collection of LTO fines and penalties during the ECQ. ▸ The Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) grants an automatic 4-month validity for certifications to expire on or before 30 June 2020. ▸ AO No. 29 s. 2020 prescribes the guidelines on procedural matters before the Office of the President during the ECQ.
4. Moratorium on payments Sec 4(aa)	▸ The LBP gives a grace period for maturing loan obligations: ▸ 60-days - salary loans, credit card payments, mortgage and housing loans ▸ 30 days – business loans ▸ 1 year – loan amortization of ARB. ▸ The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) grants relief to corporate and closed banks' clients from payment of loans, real property purchases and leases falling due during the ECQ. ▸ Moratorium on subdivision and condominium project buyer's in-house financing plans per the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD). ▸ The PhilGuarantee, Social Housing Finance Corporation, National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation, Department of Education (DepEd), Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM), the Social Housing Finance Corporation, the Al-Amanah Islamic Bank of the Philippines, and the Department of Tourism (DOT)-Philippine Retirement Authority implemented moratorium and grant relief measures. ▸ The SEC directs financing and lending companies to adopt debt relief measures for the extension of payment deadlines. ▸ The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) granted a 1-month extension for premium remittances and loan payments due in March and April 2020; a 1-month grace period for housing loan amortization and rental payments for GSIS investment properties. ▸ The SSS grants moratorium and relief measures; and will implement a Calamity Loan Assistance Program for its members. ▸ The PSALM grants relief measures: extension of deadlines for submission of Universal Charge (UC) Collecting Entities (CEs) of reportorial requirements, moving for payments of Distribution Utilities, Independent Power Producer Administrators, and remittances of UC CEs.

III. Tax and Business Measures

(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
4. Moratorium on payments Sec 4(aa) *(continued)*	▸ The BSP issued Memorandum M-2020-008 for relief measures: ▸ Reduction of the reserve requirement ratio on the reserve liabilities ▸ Reduction of the minimum liquidity ratio for stand-alone thrift banks, cooperative banks and quasi-banks ▸ Grant of a 60-day grace period to settle outstanding obligations ▸ Approval of the temporary reduction of the term spread on rediscounting loans on the overnight lending rate; and ▸ Issuance of memoranda to all BSP-supervised financial institutions extending temporary regulatory forbearance.
5. Fiscal measures of the BSP	▸ Reduction to 16% (from 20%) of the Minimum Liquidity Ratio for stand-alone thrift banks, rural banks, cooperative banks to enhance system liquidity by allowing banks to release a portion of their liquid assets for re-lending. *(Memorandum No, 2020-020 dated 07 April 2020)* ▸ BSP-supervised financial institution may reclassify certain debt securities booked at fair value to the amortized cost category. *(Memorandum No, 2020-022 dated 08 April 2020)* ▸ Clarifies treatment of Net Unrealized Losses in FCDUs/EFCDUs books for determining compliance with Asset Cover Requirement. *(Memorandum No. 2020-023 dated 08 April 2020)*

III. Tax and Business Measures
(continued)

	B. Updates on Existing Measures
1. Assistance with respect to statutory deadlines	▸ The DAR and Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) suspended the running of periods for filing of respective legal cases. ▸ The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) extended the validity of Letters of Authority issued to PEZA-accredited service enterprises, including payment of fees. ▸ PhilHealth extended the deadline for claims by healthcare facilities.
2. Healthcare supplies and equipment	▸ Issuance of a Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) by the DTI and the DOF in line with liberalizing the grant of incentives for the manufacture or importation of critical or needed equipment of supplies, including healthcare equipment and supplies. ▸ Exemption from all taxes, duties and fees of all imported goods, supplies and equipment, including test kits and PPEs needed for containing the COVID-19 outbreak, and imported materials needed to manufacture the products. (Customs AO No. 07-2020 dated 30 March 2020)
3. Economic relief for MSME	▸ A 30-day grace period to residential rents; and commercial rents falling upon MSMEs within the ECQ period, without incurring interest, penalties, fees and other charges. ▸ DTI issued MC No. 20-12 dated 04 April 2020 which provides for the guidelines on concessions for residential and commercial rents of MSMEs nationwide.

IV. Health Measures

	A. New Measures
1. Assistance to health workers	‣ Lending of bicycles to frontline personnel through the Bike Lending Program of the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA). ‣ Free Bus Ride program of DOTr, and partners for frontliners. Replication of the said program in different regions through LFTRB and LTO. Integration of the routes of the program in the NCR and different LGUs for easier monitoring and reference of passengers. ‣ Fuel subsidies to participating private bus companies and partners from the DOTr. ‣ Roll out in 19 different hospitals of Malasakit Helpdesks which have provided free meals to volunteers/participants in the Free Ride for Health Workers Program. ‣ The PCSO has donated Php290 Million and approved the release of Php447 Million worth of financial assistance to 81 government hospitals, chargeable against the Charity Fund of the PCSO. ‣ Prepositioning of funds by Philhealth with accredited hospitals and other health care facilities for the COVID-19 response. ‣ Mobilization of the resources through training-cum-production of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)-designed masks, face shields, PPEs, hand-sanitizers and surface disinfectants and distribution to hospitals in 16 regions, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Mobile Groups, Philippine National Police (PNP), LGUs, traffic enforcers, TESDA frontliners, and other government agencies. ‣ Mobilization of the 71 state colleges and universities by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for the production of volumes of alcohol, sanitizers and disinfectants, face shields, face masks and a proto-type design for a disinfection cabin for frontline service providers. ‣ Finalization of CHED guidelines for the grant of Php180 Million to higher education institutions (HEIs) to produce items for frontline service providers. ‣ Monitoring of around 320 operational accommodation establishments by DOT. ‣ Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and Department of Health (DOH) for the provision of LTE Push-To-Talk Over Cellular (POC) Radios and centralized POC Emergency Radio Dispatch system to streamline the logistical operations of the DOH

IV. Health Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
1. Assistance to health workers *(continued)*	▸ Establishment of a DOTr Emergency Operations Center to respond to transportation-related queries. ▸ Issuance of special permits (SPs) to PUV operators who provide transport services to health workers, medical facilities, and other exempted establishments. ▸ Waiver of the payment of toll fees for frontliners and buses operating under the Free Bus Ride Program by the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) and partners. 3,830 RFIDs have been issued to frontliners to ensure free passage. ▸ Further evaluation of the proposal to provide toll-free access to all motorists.
2. Test kits and testing centers	▸ Activation of 11 laboratories and hospitals for COVID-19 testing. DOH targets a capacity of 8,000 tests per day; projection of total 900,000 tests across all activated Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) laboratories for the next 3 months. ▸ Expediting the accreditation of 63 health facilities to serve as testing areas, most of which are compliant with the Stage 1 (self-assessment) and Stage 2 (validation) requirements. The UP-Philippine General Hospital (PGH) Medical Research Laboratories and the Philippine Red Cross are bound for proficiency testing at Stage 4, pending submission of other requirements. ▸ Approval of 33 COVID-19 test kits for commercial use, composed of 23 PCR based kits and 10 Rapid Antibody test kits, as of 08 April 2020. ▸ Out of 394 COVID-19 test kits applications received, 99 have been approved, 226 disapproved, and 69 are pending approval due to incomplete requirements.
3. Strengthening contact tracing measures	▸ The DOH has traced a total of 8,973 contacts as of 08 April 2020. ▸ Finalization by DICT of its options regarding the adoption of a digital contact tracing solution to augment the data gathering and disease surveillance and response of the DOH-Epidemiology Bureau. ▸ Ongoing procurement for the development of an Electronic Health Declaration Checklist by Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ).

IV. Health Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
4. Clinical trials	‣ Application for an LO as Sponsor of the WHO Solidarity Trial, a large-scale international clinical trial to investigate and identify drugs effective for COVID-19 treatment. ‣ Exploration of the possibility of including Favipiravir (Avigan) in the trials of DOH as new evidence regarding the safety profile and use of the said drug as treatment for COVID-19 is generated through ongoing clinical trials; identification of sources from Japan and China. ‣ Requirement to comply with the registration requirements of manufacturers of all medicines claiming to treat COVID-19 and prohibition to dispense to the public, even therapeutic claims, until such products are proven safe and effective.
5. Healthcare supplies and equipment	‣ Production of face shields using Digital Fabrication by the DTI at the Philippine Trade Training Center-Global MSME Academy for donation to medical personnel. ‣ Consolidation of donations of related medical supplies and equipment to the National Government (i.e., where donee is not a specific agency) and to the DOH, while allowing the continuation of direct donations to other agencies, and donations of nominal value from the private sector. Reallocation of donations to hospitals and health facilities, as may be deemed necessary by the Office of the Civil Defense (OCD). *(AO No. 27 s. 2020)* ‣ Facilitation of donations to frontline workers and delivery of 2 million pieces surgical masks to the DOH by the DTI-Board of Investment (BOI). ‣ Review of 11 proposals submitted by state universities and colleges (SUCs) for the production of goods for frontline service providers for possible grants from CHED. ‣ Study on the clinical safety and efficacy of GinHAWA, a Philippine-made ICU ventilator, with a budget allocation of Php16.917 Million. ‣ Approval by the FDA of 12 LO applications for the manufacture of 70% alcohol products and issuance of 418 LOs and CPR/Certificate of Product Notification for hand sanitizers, rubbing alcohol, and disinfecting products, to prevent shortage. ‣ Issuance of advisories by FDA to engage in business with only an approved LO. FDA clearance is no longer required prior to customs release of COVID-19 foreign donated products. ‣ Streamlining of applications for licensing through the "Bayanihan One Stop Shop (BOSS)," a single window concierge for all government agencies involved in the importation of COVID-19 critical commodities (e.g., PPEs, ventilators, and respirators).

IV. Health Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
5. Healthcare supplies and equipment *(continued)*	‣ Issuance of JMC No. 1-2020 by the DOF and DTI allowing importation of materials without payment of duties, taxes and fees by manufacturers and producers of medicines, supplies and equipment needed to address COVID-19 pandemic. ‣ Php17.435 Million donation from AFP military personnel to support frontliners. ‣ Redirection of the alcohol production (up to 70% of the capacity) to ethyl alcohol of Distilleria Limtuaco by DTI.

6. Assistance to healthcare services	‣ Activation of designated 55 COVID-referral hospitals across the country, with every region having at least 1.
	
	‣ 172,744 active Human Resources for Health in health facilities both private and public sectors
	  ‣ 28,428 doctors
	  ‣ 89,254 nurses
	  ‣ 42,108 midwives
	  ‣ 12,754 medical technologists
	
	‣ 1,263 mechanical ventilators in the inventory of Level 2 and 3 private and public hospitals.
	
	‣ Engagement of additional 857 contract of service (COS) workers by the DOH to be deployed to referral hospitals with monthly cost of Php352.823 Million.
	
	‣ Temporary restriction/regulation on the deployment abroad of Filipino healthcare workers falling under Mission Critical Skill (MCS) to meet the demands of the threat of COVID-19 in the country. (Governing Board Resolution No. 9 s. 2020 issued by POEA)
	
	‣ 3,194 total number of hospital beds dedicated to COVID-19 in DOH and private hospitals, including the recently converted quarantine centers – NCR 2,031 beds; Luzon 544 beds; Visayas 370 beds; and Mindanao 249 beds.
	
	‣ 1,760 isolation rooms are currently occupied; 209 out of the 1,051 available ventilators are being utilized.

IV. Health Measures
(continued)

	A. New Measures *(continued)*
7. Measures on disposal of related wastes	‣ Implementation of existing protocols for infection control of healthcare facilities and on how to handle health care waste. ‣ Private hospitals in the NCR and in urban centers are being served by private waste treaters and disposal systems service providers. ‣ DOH field personnel are informed of the need to pre-treat medical wastes like used PPEs for Persons under Investigation (PUI) or COVID-19 patients under home quarantine. ‣ The EMB continues to ensure proper transport and disposal of healthcare wastes for further treatment. It has issued 274 Special Permits for the transport of these wastes. To date, 46.60 metric tons of healthcare wastes have undergone treatment in EMD-accredited Treatment, Sanitation, and Disposal (TSD) facilities. ‣ The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has been directed to address concerns related to the proper and sanitary disposal of used healthcare

	B. Updates on Existing Measures

1. Test kits and testing centers	‣ Delivery of 100,000 test kits to 8 COVID-19 laboratories. 24,755 individuals have been tested as of 06 April 2020, of which 3,991 (17.21%) tested positive and 19,162 (82.62%) yielded negative results.
	‣ Field testing of GenAmplifyTM (COVID-19) rRT-PCR was completed on 01 April 2020. Delivery of the locally-developed GenAmplify COVID-19 rRT-PCR Detection Kit for 26,000 kits is on-going. Training of the personnel of the recipient hospitals on the use of the said kit.
	  ‣ In response to the query in the Senate Comments on the use of rapid testing, DOH reiterates that RT-PCR testing remains the gold standard for diagnosing COVID-19 and the point-of-care rapid antibody-based test kits should not be used as standalone test to definitely diagnose or rule out COVID-19.
	  ‣ Testing asymptomatic contacts using RT-PCR is not recommended until there is surplus testing capacity.
	  ‣ Continuation of the study and exploration of innovations that can potentially improve the testing capacity for COVID-19.
	‣ Deployment of 106 units of RxBox, a device used for bedside monitoring of COVID-19 patients and PUIs and which reduces contact between patients and healthcare workers. Testing of RxBoxes and ongoing training of health workers on their use.
	‣ Use of the FASSSTER tool to assist the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF), local chief executives and health facility administrators in resource planning and identification and implementation of measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and preparation of projections of PPEs good for 1, 3, and 6 months operation in order to project the needs for supplies, commodities, drugs and medicines per hospital and to promptly allocate and distribute them.

	B. Updates on Existing Measures *(continued)*
2. Healthcare supplies and equipment	‣ Processing of international humanitarian assistance from 4 foreign governments, 1 international organization, and 15 private companies. ‣ Facilitation of donations and assistance from 3 foreign governments (i.e., Brunei, China, European Union), 5 other entities of foreign governments, and 5 private companies, group and individuals. ‣ Mobilization and delivery of 1 million PPEs, 9,684 bottles of alcohol, 37,000 bouffant caps, 72,000 faces masks procured, and 15,000 face masks received as donations. ‣ Delivery of donated PPEs to 13 government and 1 private hospitals. Delivery of 43,945 sets of PPEs, 514 of 500 ml. bottles of alcohol, 30 ventilators, and thousands of other medical supplies to various hospitals. ‣ Deployment of vehicles and personnel to assist the AFP and PNP in the delivery of medical supplies and goods to healthcare facilities and air support operations for the transportation of PPEs to different areas in the country such as Bacolod, Iloilo, Cebu, Tacloban, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Northern Mindanao, Busuanga, Palawan, and Cotabato. ‣ Assistance of the MMDA in the transportation and distribution of medical supplies and equipment and relief goods upon request of hospitals and LGUs.
3. Quarantine facilities	‣ Completion of the necessary work for the conversion of Ninoy Aquino Stadium to a health/quarantine facility. Continuation with the conversion of the Philippine International Convention Center-Forum and the World Trade Center. Estimated budget of Php29.96 Million. ‣ Conversion of 114 evacuation centers and selected sites as health/quarantine facilities, emergency operations centers, food hubs, and quarters for health workers: ‣ 68 have been converted and ready for use ‣ 46 are being utilized as: 29 as health/quarantine facilities; 7 as emergency operations centers; 9 as food hubs; 1 as quarters for health workers ‣ Identification of maritime vessels that can serve as "floating quarantine hospitals" to accommodate Persons under Monitoring (PUM). The ships shall be fitted with the required medical equipment before deployment and pre-positioning to different parts of the country. The 2GO Group has agreed to convert 2 ships into "quarantine ships" expected to be operational this week. ‣ Drafting of Procurement Guidelines on the leasing of real property for quarantine

IV. Health Measures
(continued)

	B. Updates on Existing Measures *(continued)*
3. Quarantine facilities *(continued)*	‣ Activation of the Rizal Coliseum and Quezon Institute as community quarantine facilities ‣ Assignment of 20 teams to different hotel-quarantine facilities and deployment of 87 employees to oversee the mandatory 14-day quarantine of overseas Filipinos. ‣ Use of at least 7 facilities owned by DENR as temporary isolation areas for PUIs, quarters for frontliners and staging areas for food distribution. ‣ Donation of 52,362.73 board feet of lumber by the DENR for the construction of quarantine and other medical facilities. ‣ Approval by CHED of the use of 5 SUCs as quarantine facilities. ‣ Creation of a Public Health Experts Group to provide technical assistance and guidance to SUCs and LGUs in ensuring the safety of using SUC facilities as quarantine centers/community isolation units. ‣ Issuance of 2 policy instructions by the DepEd to guide its field offices with respect to the requests of the LGUs to use DepEd premises. 95 of 209 LGU requests have been approved, 473 schools in 95 LGUs, in terms of number of schools.

V. Other Measures

Public Utilities	
A. New Measures	
1. Ensuring water and energy supplies	‣ Directed all water districts to continue supplying safe drinking water to 4.7 million households; and undertake water supply projects to produce additional household/service connections serving 778,647 additional resident beneficiaries. ‣ Ordered all water utility operators and water service providers to ensure the efficient supply of safe water to all hospitals, quarantine areas, etc. ‣ 24/7 *Bayanihan* Energy Service hotline to ensure continued supply of fuel, energy and other related products and to respond to the concerns of the energy industry players and consumers. ‣ Prioritization of entry of petroleum products and ethanol for supply security, and coal importation of 2.9 million metric tons for power plants, food, beverage, etc. ‣ The NWRB has increased the water allocation of Metropolitan Water Works and Sewerage System (MWSS) from 42 cubic meters per second (CMS) to 46 CMS until 30 April 2020. ‣ As of 09 April 2020, the water in the Angat reservoir is 193.92 meters which is above the minimum operating water level and higher compared to the water level on the same date last year. The PAGASA's rainfall forecasts project sustainable water supply in the Angat reservoir in the coming months. The water level in the Ipo dam and La Mesa dam are 100.71 meters and 77.09 meters, respectively. ‣ As of 08 April 2020, the energy supply continues to be sufficient with high level of reserve capacity for power generation (at 37%) and inventory of crude oil and refined petroleum products (at 56.4 days).

V. Other Measures
(continued)

Local Government Units	
A. New Measures	
1. Assistance to and partnership with LGUs	▸ The DICT is in the process of adopting a telemedicine technology solution which will allow LGUs to provide remote consultation, electronic medical records system, and telemedicine kits. ▸ The MMDA, in partnership with a private entity, is developing a web application that can provide real-time information to LGUs on current health situations to track down all COVID-19 cases and monitor daily changes. ▸ Issuance of Local Budget Circular No. 125 dated 07 April 2020 which provides for the guidelines on the releases and utilization of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities. ▸ Distribution of agricultural products by the DA to LGUs in the NCR amounting to Php3 Million as additional relief goods. ▸ The DOE allocated Php3.4 Billion from the Electrification Fund (EF) of ER 1-94 for the use of host LGU-beneficiaries in their COVID-19 response programs.

B. Updates on Existing Measures	
1. Assistance to and partnership with LGUs	▸ Distribution of agricultural products worth Php2.5 Million by the DA to various LGUs. ▸ 85% of total LGUs complied with directives on handling PUIs and PUMs in accordance with DOH guidelines. 83% of LGUs have utilized their Quick Response Funds to assist indigent families and minimum wage earners. ▸ Medical assistance and relief operations to Muslim communities (e.g. Muslim burials, halal guidelines for relief goods, etc.) ▸ Continuous monitoring of LGUs' compliance in implementing the SAP. As of 09 April 2020, 664 LGUs have submitted a MOA to the DSWD indicating their intention to avail of the SAP while 195 LGUs are still in the process of crafting their MOAs with DSWD.

V. Other Measures
(continued)

Others	
A. New Measures	
1. Enforcement of the penal provision of the *Bayanihan Act*	▸ Issuance of subpoena to individuals for allegedly posting fake online news.
2. NEDA and Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) Initiatives	▸ Working on a study that will help address any expected rise or outbreak of COVID-19 cases. ▸ Processing of results by the IATF of various surveys (i.e., consumer survey, business survey, agriculture and fishery survey, and definition of the 'New Normal' survey) which shall form part of the programs and strategies to rebuild consumer and business confidence.
3. Lifting or extension/ expansion of ECQ	▸ NEDA and PIDS are working on the parameters for the partial/total lift or extension/ expansion of ECQ.
4. Establishing key indicators for effective and efficient COVID-19 responses	▸ Completion of database of barangay-level key demographic vulnerabilities variables in the NCR by the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) to enable effective and efficient COVID-19 responses (i.e., quarantine and other support strategies).
5. Assistance to women, children and other vulnerable groups	▸ Adopted hospital protocols on maternal care and childbirth during COVID-19 pandemic. ▸ Ensure compliance with infant and children immunizations, non-interruption of immunization services and availability and distribution of vaccines in the country. ▸ Donation of forfeited goods (e.g. 320 container of rice and 186 container of frozen seafoods) to the OCD to aid poor Filipinos affected by COVID-19.

V. Other Measures
(continued)

Others (continued)	
B. Updates on Existing Measures	
1. Assistance to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and foreign nationals in the country	‣ Additional repatriation of 3,587 Filipinos as of 03 April 2020, and 2,869 sea-based and 1,666 land-based Filipino workers on 03 to 08 April 2020.Continuous monitoring of the status of 594 OFWs diagnosed with COVID-19, as of 08 April 2020. ‣ Various executive departments identify potential establishments as quarantine facilities for OFWs. The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) provided transportation, food and accommodation to 3,157 OFWs as of 02 April 2020. ‣ Temporary housing for passengers stranded at the Clark International Airport were provided. Assistance to repatriated seafarers and coordination with hotels and hostels to serve as quarantine facilities. ‣ Adoption of COVID-19 related health coverage for Filipinos abroad, including mutual agreement on reciprocity, application of overseas insurance, and application of PhilHealth benefits. ‣ Issuances of flight clearances for repatriation of foreign nationals, and rescue missions for travels of foreign nationals to gateways, in coordination with respective foreign embassies.
2. Collaborative efforts of law and order agencies	‣ Establishment of 2,513 Quarantine Control Points including sanitation booths in Metro Manila and other provinces. ‣ 855 decontamination facilities in quarantine control points in NCR. ‣ Various law enforcement agencies arrested suspects and confiscated Php6 Million worth of paraphernalia in violation of the price monitoring regulations.
3. Information dissemination	‣ The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) employed communication strategies and continued to maximize all government media platforms and information materials to promote public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the *Bayanihan Act*. ‣ Availability of various e-learning materials and instructional videos on technologies that can provide livelihood opportunities by the Industrial Technology Department Institute (ITDI).
4. Assistance to students, educators and educational institutions	‣ Repatriation assistance to students deployed overseas, and relief assistance to stranded students during the ECQ. ‣ CHED to develop an economic stimulus package for educational institutions, including extended class suspension, capacity for online instructions and review for licensure examinations. ‣ Loan moratoriums to DepEd personnel without additional interest and penalties.

VI. Proposed Measures and/or News Articles

1. Php51-B COVID-19 aid for the middle class	▸ The Philippines has unveiled a Php51-Billion aid package for middle class workers employed by small businesses affected by COVID-19. https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/733848/philippines-details-p51-b-covid-19-aid-for-middle-class/story/?just_in/news/news/nation/733758/philippines-covid-19-death-toll-breaches-300-cases-rise-to-4-932/story/?just_in (Published: 14 April 2020; Last visited: 14 April 2020)
2. BIR submits list of 3.5 million taxpayers qualified to receive financial assistance	▸ The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) submitted to the DOF the names of more than 3.5 million taxpayers qualified to receive financial assistance due to coronavirus fallout. https://news.mb.com.ph/2020/04/14/bir-submits-list-of-3-5-m-taxpayers-qualified-to-receive-financial-assistance/ (Published: 14 April 2020; Last visited: 14 April 2020)
3. Banks borrow Php6.9 billion from the BSP's rediscount facility	▸ Banks borrowed Php6.86 Billion from the peso rediscounting loan facility of the BSP last March 2020 to meet their temporary liquidity needs amid the COVID-19 outbreak. https://www.philstar.com/business/2020/04/14/2007050/banks-borrow-p69-billion-bsps-rediscount-facility (Published: 14 April 2020; Last visited: 14 April 2020)
4. 'Selective quarantine' after Luzon lockdown	▸ Possibility of only placing selected areas under quarantine once the lockdown in Luzon is lifted, provided, the government is able to do mass testing of suspected COVID-19 cases, the number of new deaths and new cases decrease, and once the capacity of local health units improve. https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/4/12/selective-quarantine-Luzon-lockdown.html (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
5. Conditions on lifting of ECQ	▸ President Rodrigo Duterte said on 14 April 2020 he would lift the ECQ imposed on the whole of Luzon region only if a vaccine, antibody, or medicine to cure the COVID-19 coronavirus disease was already developed and available to Filipinos. https://manilastandard.net/news/top-stories/321509/duterte-ecq-to-be-lifted-only-if-cure-is-available.html (Published: 14 April 2020; Last visited: 14 April 2020)

VI. Proposed Measures and/or News Articles

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6. Government to consider WHO warning about lifting of COVID-19 lockdown	▸ Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) will give weight to the World Health Organization's (WHO) warning that early lifting of lockdown could lead to a "deadly resurgence" of COVID-19. https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099550 (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
7. OCD to lead contact-tracing	▸ The OCD and DOH are directed to enter into a data-sharing agreement (DSA) in accordance with the "Data Privacy Act" or Republic Act10173 to enhance the contact-tracing efforts of the government. https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099542 (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
8. New classification of COVID-19 patients	▸ DOH has provided a new classification, based on the international system, of the patients infected by the disease in the country. "Persons under monitoring" and "patients under investigation" will be replaced with the terms "suspect," "probable" and "confirmed". https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099561 (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
9. US donates over 1K cots to PH for COVID-19 response	▸ The United States donated nearly 1,300 cots and will be providing an additional USD1.3 Million in health assistance to the Philippines, bringing its total aid to USD4 Million or approximately Php204 Million. https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099444 (Published: 10 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
10. Food security, access to medicine raised by PH in ASEAN meet	▸ The Philippine government, during the teleconference for the 25th Meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Coordinating Council (ACC), raised the need for stronger regional cooperation to ensure food security as well as access to medicine and essential medical supplies amid the global COVID-19 crisis. https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099453 (Published: 10 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)

VI. Proposed Measures and/or News Articles

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11. World Bank approves $500 million loan	‣ The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved US$500 Million in financing to help strengthen the Philippine government's capacity to address disaster risks, respond to and recover from natural disasters. The financing will also support urgent needs created by the COVID-19 crisis. https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/04/09/philippines-new-support-to-strengthen-national-disaster-risk-management-capacity-and-respond-to-COVID-19 (Published: 9 April 2020; Last Visited: 13 April 2020)
12. DBM to release Php30-B funding assistance to LGUs for COVID-19 response	‣ Municipal and city government units in the country will receive financial assistance from the national government to help them sustain their response and relief efforts. This aid is equivalent to their respective one-month Internal Revenue Allotment or share of revenues from the national government. The assistance has a total amount of Php30.8 Billion https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/money/economy/732926/dbm-to-release-p30-b-funding-assistance-to-lgus-for-COVID-19-response-duterte/story/ (Published: 7 April 2020; Last Visited 13 April 2020)
13. OFWs displaced by COVID-19 to get Php10,000	‣ A one-time financial assistance of Php10,000 under DOLE-AKAP assistance program will be given to landbased and seabased overseas Filipino workers whose employments were affected. https://www.dole.gov.ph/news/ofws-displaced-by-COVID-19-to-get-10k/ (Published: 7 April 2020; Last Visited 13 April 2020)
14. Duterte eyes sale of Government assets if no sufficient COVID-19 funds	‣ President Rodrigo Duterte broached the idea of selling public properties if the government falls short of money that will be tapped to address the COVID-19. https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1099319 (Published: 09 April 2020; Last visited: 12 April 2020)
15. Government to revamp 'Build, Build, Build'	‣ The Duterte administration's "Build, Build, Build" program may be reconfigured to prioritize health infrastructure and address potential funding issues in relation to Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III's earlier pronouncement that the administration would sustain massive infrastructure buildup to facilitate immediate recovery of the domestic economy once COVID-19 has been contained. https://business.inquirer.net/294578/govt-to-revamp-build-build-build (Published: 13 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)

VI. Proposed Measures and/or News Articles
(continued)

16. BSP eases asset booking rules to help banks cope with market volatility	▸ The BSP has released a fresh set of relief measures to help financial institutions deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, this time allowing banks to reclassify how they book their holdings of bonds to mitigate the effects of recent market volatility. https://business.inquirer.net/294590/bsp-eases-asset-booking-rules-to-help-banks-cope-with-market-volatility (Published: 13 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
17. PH to get emergency assistance package from Austria-based IAEA	▸ The Philippines is among a first batch of 42 countries across the world that will receive from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) equipment that use nuclear-derived technique for rapidly detecting the COVID-19. The emergency assistance package is part of the Austria-based IAEA's response to requests for support from around 90 member states in controlling the increase of COVID-19 infections worldwide. https://business.inquirer.net/294584/ph-to-get-emergency-assistance-package-from-austria-based-iaea (Published: 13 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)
18. ERC order to lower power transmission charges	▸ The charge for electricity transmission is lower by 4 centavos per kilowatt-hour for the 2020 billing as the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) ordered National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP) to decrease the latter's maximum allowed revenue (MAR). https://business.inquirer.net/294321/erc-order-to-lower-power-transmission-charges (Published: 7 April 2020; Last visited: 12 April 2020)
19. Exports recovery plan to be drawn up	▸ DTI is coming up with an exports recovery plan given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. DTI's Export Marketing Bureau is conducting an online survey for Philippine exporters on the impact of COVID-19 on their business. https://www.philstar.com/business/2020/04/12/2006634/exports-recovery-plan-be-drawn-up (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 12 April 2020)

VI. Proposed Measures and/or News Articles
(continued)

20. Interest rates, banks' reserve requirement ratio cuts needed	‣	BSP is committed to trimming further its key policy rates and banks' reserve requirement ratio (RRR) to cushion the impact of coronavirus disease 2019 crisis to the economy. https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/04/12/news/latest-stories/interest-rates-banks-reserve-requirement-ratio-cuts-needed-diokno/713003/ (Published: 12 April 2020; Last visited: 12 April 2020)
21. Travel group proposes tourism recovery program	‣	The Philippine Travel Agencies Association (PTAA), a network of more than 500 members, suggested different relief and stimulus programs to the DoT, asking it to forward their ideas to the concerned agencies. https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/04/13/news/national/travel-group-proposes-tourism-recovery-program/713163/ (Published: 13 April 2020; Last visited: 13 April 2020)

Source:
Report to the Congressional Oversight Committee Pursuant to Section 5 of RA no. 11469, dated 6 April and 13 April 2020

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Who we are:

At SGV, everything starts with our people:

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