

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8060



Introduced by Hon. Julianne L. Baronda

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Over the past decade, the Philippines has seen a positive transformation from being the “Sick Man of Asia” to “Asia’s Rising Tiger”. Coupled with this transformation is the steady rise in infrastructure development, urbanization, construction as well as job opportunities for our *kababayans*.

Relatedly, we saw the efforts of the Duterte Administration to support the development of infrastructure in the country. The Build, Build, Build Program was able to prove that such an ambitious program can be realized. It is therefore a given that upgrading the infrastructure of the country is very crucial in promoting economic growth and development. The country needs to see the continuity of these projects and plans in order to sustain and to continue to improve the economic impact of such.

In line with this, the proposed measure mandates the creation of a Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan. This will serve as a blueprint to guide the future actions of the different departments of the government in the construction, upgrading, and improvement of the infrastructure projects all over the country in the next thirty years or more. It aims to create a developed, integrated and coordinated infrastructure development.

The blueprint shall be the handbook for local and national infrastructure development. Every piece of public work shall comply with its minimum requirements. Such standardization will lead to a more organized systematic process of construction.

The enactment into law of this legislative measure will ensure that the infrastructure projects in the Master Plan will continue, despite changes in administration. Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL Baronda".

Rep. Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda
District Representative

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE FORMULATION AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A
COMPREHENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of the Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan”.

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to provide an efficient and integrated infrastructure system to promote sustainable development and inclusive economic growth across the country. The State also recognizes the crucial role of public investment in infrastructure and human capital geared towards job creation and promoting economic growth.

Toward this end, the State shall undertake to develop reforms in infrastructure planning to achieve higher economic growth trajectory and improve the quality of life of the Filipinos.

Sec. 3. *Formulation of a Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan.* – The National Economic Development Authority Board Executive Committee (NEDA Board), organized under Administrative Order No. 8, series of 2017, is hereby mandated to formulate a Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan, hereinafter referred to as “Master Plan”, that will serve as a blueprint for investment planning towards a strategic infrastructure development.

The Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan shall include the priorities, schedules, and phases of implementation of the projects and activities as well as the estimated funding requirements and financing modalities for the following:

- a. Transportation and Logistics Infrastructure Program;

- b. Energy Infrastructure Program;
- c. Water Resources Infrastructure Program;
- d. Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Infrastructure Program;
- e. Social Infrastructure Program;
- f. Agri-Fisheries Modernization and Food Logistics Infrastructure Program; and
- g. Asset Preservation and Maintenance Strategies.

Sec. 4. *Infrastructure Development Thrust* – The NEDA Board, in preparing the Master Plan including amendments thereto, shall consider the following thrust:

- a. Establishment and pursuit of a whole-of-government approach to coordinate infrastructure investment planning and implementation that promotes collaboration among key actors;
- b. Development of an efficient, safe, economical, accessible, affordable, reliable integrated, seamless, and environmentally sustainable national infrastructure system.
- c. Adoption of appropriate infrastructure risk management measures, including risk identification, allocation, and mitigation, in project development and management;
- d. Incorporation of green and sustainable design, climate change adaptation and disaster resilience measures, as well as updated strength, safety, health and environmental standards in the design and construction of infrastructure projects;
- e. Establishment of a strategic national transport network consisting of complementary roads, railways, ports, and airports that serve medium and long-distance high-density traffic between key cities and municipalities, economic hubs, international gateways and major corridors in urban centers;
- f. Promotion of public consultation and feedback mechanisms on infrastructure investment priorities and projects at the national and local levels;
- g. Preferential use of quality construction materials that have a high domestic content, especially those that use sustainable materials and appropriate technology; and,
- h. Emphasis on food security infrastructure that will ensure the smooth flow of cargo across the archipelago.

Sec. 6. *Consideration of Approved National Infrastructure Projects.* – The infrastructure projects approved by the NEDA Board before the effectivity of this Act shall be given due consideration in the formulation and implementation of the Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan.

Sec. 7. *Submission to Congress.* – Every quarter after the enactment of this Act, the NEDA Board shall submit to Congress, progress reports on the formulation of the

Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan until its final approval. In the same manner, Congress shall be notified of any amendments to the approved Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Master Plan.

Sec. 8. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC).*- A Congressional Oversight Committee is hereby created to monitor and oversee the implementation of this Act. The Committee shall be composed of six (6) members from the Senate and six (6) members from the House of Representatives. The JCOC shall be headed by the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs and Committee of Public Works, and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Economic Affairs and Committee on Public Works and Highways. The other members of the Committee shall be designated by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, respectively. The Minority shall have at least two (2) representatives from both chambers.

Sec. 9. *Appropriations.* - The initial funding requirements for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against existing appropriations of the member-agencies of the NEDA Board and such other appropriate funding sources as the DBM may identify, subject to relevant laws, rules and regulations. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days of the approval of this Act, the NEDA Board, in consultation with stakeholders from the public and private sector, including local government units, business groups, community organizations, and non-government organizations, shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the law.

Sec. 11. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect immediately after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,