

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **9376**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO,
JOCELYN P. TULFO, and ERWIN T. TULFO

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN
DEVELOPMENT (CDD) APPROACH AS A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR
INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, ESTABLISHING FOR
THE PURPOSE THE CDD KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCE INSTITUTE, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the World Health Organization, community empowerment refers to the process of enabling communities to increase control over their lives. More than the involvement, participation, or engagement of communities, it implies community ownership and action that explicitly aims at social and political change.

The promotion of active citizen participation and the inclusion of basic sectors remain underlying cornerstones for deeper democratization and augmentation of an inclusive and sustainable Philippine society. When citizens responsibly engage in decision-making processes and participate in the crafting of social protection measures, these communities build partnerships with other sectors in finding solutions that address social, cultural, political, and economic issues.

We recognize that the vital participation of communities allows for the formulation of genuine development catered to advance their respective conditions and recognizes their essential function in contributing to national initiatives, programs, and policies for their collective demands and aspirations. In this regard,

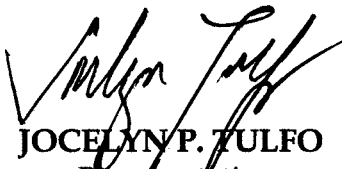
their empowerment robustly and equitably enables them to become active participants rather than passive recipients of aid and development at large, which foster social justice and strengthen democratic processes and institutions in the country.

We aim to ignite a transformative movement, empowering every citizen and community to understand the interplay of forces operating on their lives. In the relentless pursuit of inclusive progress, this bill pioneers the institutionalization of the community-driven development (CDD) approach, paving the way for a revolutionary era of grassroots empowerment. At the heart of this visionary legislation lies the establishment of the CDD Knowledge and Resource Institute which will facilitate the capacity-building of community members. Through unwavering dedication, we champion the principles of meaningful participation, robust governance, and unwavering democracy, forging a brighter future for the Philippines.

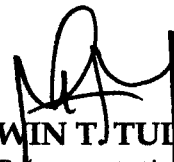
In view of the foregoing, the urgent passing of this bill is earnestly sought.



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1 **AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN**
2 **DEVELOPMENT (CDD) APPROACH AS A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR**
3 **INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, ESTABLISHING FOR**
4 **THE PURPOSE THE CDD KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCE INSTITUTE, AND**
5 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

6 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Community-Driven
7 Development (CDD) Approach Institutionalization Act".
8

9 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policies.** - It is the policy of the State to uplift the standard
10 of living and quality of life of the poor and provide them with sustained opportunities
11 for growth and development. The State also recognizes that the right of the people
12 and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social,
13 political, and economic decision-making shall not be abridged. The State shall, by law,
14 facilitate the establishment of adequate consultation mechanisms.
15

16 Towards this end, and in pursuit of sustainable and inclusive growth and poverty
17 reduction, the State shall enact programs that provide opportunities for community
18 members, particularly the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized to effectively
19 participate in designing, planning, budgeting, implementing, monitoring, and
20 evaluating community programs, activities, and projects.

1
2 Further, the State shall provide capacity-building opportunities for local
3 government units (LGUs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and communities to
4 ensure the proper use of the CDD approach in implementing local programs, projects,
5 and activities.
6

7 **SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:**
8

- 9 a) *Basic sectors* refer to the disadvantaged sectors of Philippine society,
10 including farmer-peasants, fisherfolk, workers in the formal sector including
11 migrant workers, workers in the informal sector, indigenous peoples and
12 cultural communities, women, persons with disability, senior citizens,
13 victims of calamities and disasters, youth and students, children, urban
14 poor, and members of cooperatives;
15
16 b) *Community-based programs* refer to programs, activities, or projects that are
17 designed, planned, organized, and implemented locally by community
18 members or groups to address community-identified plans and needs;
19
20 c) *Community-driven development* refers to an approach that gives control over
21 the development processes, decision-making, and resources to community
22 members or groups and treats people as assets and partners in the
23 development process while building on their institutions and resources; and
24
25 d) *Community empowerment* refers to a process of enabling groups to increase
26 control over the factors and decisions that shape their lives, including their
27 assets and attributes, partners, networks, and voice.
28
29

1 **SEC. 4. *Elements of CDD.*** – The CDD approach has the following elements:

- 2
- 3 a) *Community focus* wherein programs or projects put primacy on a group of
- 4 people living in a particular locality or geographical area such as a barangay,
- 5 ancestral domain, or specific subsets thereof, where interventions are
- 6 implemented;
- 7
- 8 b) *Participatory planning* wherein the process directly involves the community
- 9 members, leaders, and other stakeholders in diagnosing local problems and
- 10 designing a course of action to resolve those problems, and aims to
- 11 harmonize views among all its participants and provide opportunities for
- 12 the engagement, especially of the marginalized groups;
- 13
- 14 c) *Community control of resources* wherein the utilization and management of
- 15 the resources by the community members or groups are based on
- 16 community-identified plans and needs;
- 17
- 18 d) *Community-managed implementation* wherein the execution, monitoring, and
- 19 contract management of community-identified projects are performed by
- 20 community members or groups, with assistance from the LGUs and other
- 21 local partners; and
- 22
- 23 e) *Participatory monitoring and evaluation* wherein the process through which
- 24 members are various levels of the community engage in monitoring and
- 25 evaluating a program or policy, share control over the content, the process,
- 26 and the results of the monitoring and evaluation activity, and participate in
- 27 identifying and making corrective actions.
- 28

29 **SEC. 5. *Institutionalization of the CDD Approach.*** – National government

30 agencies (NGAs) and departments, including their attached agencies, offices, bureaus,

31 other government instrumentalities, and LGUs shall adopt the CDD approach in their

1 community-based programs to promote participation and empowerment of poor,
2 vulnerable, disadvantaged, and marginalized groups within communities.

3
4 **SEC. 6. *Operationalization of the CDD Approach.*** - NGAs and LGUs in
5 community-based programs shall be responsible for:

- 6
- 7 a) Developing policies for enhancing participatory governance practices,
8 tapping community organizations, particularly the basic sectors, and
9 responding to community needs;
 - 10
 - 11 b) Providing information on government intervention, technical assistance,
12 and support to partner communities for more effective community-driven
13 planning and implementation;
 - 14
 - 15 c) Enabling community members to meaningfully participate in the whole
16 process;
 - 17
 - 18
 - 19 d) Ensuring that community members are prioritized, to the extent possible, in
20 receiving employment opportunities brought about by project
21 implementation at the communities;
 - 22
 - 23
 - 24 e) Ensuring that identified community priorities are sufficiently funded; and
 - 25
 - 26
 - 27 f) Accrediting and ensuring participation of CSOs as partners in organizing
28 and strengthening communities, and implementing community-based
29 programs, projects, and activities.
 - 30
 - 31

1 **SEC. 7. *Role of Civil Society Organizations and the Academe.*** – Accredited CSOs
2 and academic institutions are encouraged to participate in community activities,
3 specifically by:

- 4
- 5 a) Facilitating the community empowerment processes;
 - 6
 - 7 b) Providing continuous capacity-building and technology transfer to LGUs
8 and communities;
 - 9
 - 10 c) Conducting third-party monitoring and evaluation, and capacity-building
11 and empowerment of LGUs and communities; and
 - 12
 - 13 d) Providing additional funding or collaborating with private institutions to
14 implement capacity-building and empowerment of LGUs and communities.
 - 15

16 For purposes of this section, the *CDD community of practice* refers to a community
17 of CDD practitioners comprised of agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs),
18 academic and research institutions, and individuals, that share the commitment and
19 passion for CDD, and together strive to advance its practice through regular and
20 purposive interaction.

21

22 **SEC. 8. *Incentives.*** – The exemplary use of the CDD approach by NGAs and LGUs
23 shall be considered as a significant criterion for the recognition given to LGUs, such
24 as the Seal of Good Local Governance by the Department of the Interior and Local
25 Government (DILG) and other recognition awarded by NGAs.

26

27 **SEC. 9. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.*** – A Joint Congressional
28 Oversight Committee, hereafter referred to as the *Oversight Committee*, is hereby
29 constituted. The Oversight Committee shall set the overall framework to review the
30 implementation of this Act. It shall also determine the inherent weaknesses in the law
31 and recommend the necessary remedial legislation or executive measures.

1
2 The Oversight Committee is composed of fourteen (14) members, with the
3 chairpersons of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation of the House of Representatives
4 and the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare, and Rural Development of the Senate
5 as co-chairpersons; and six (6) members from each House to be designated by the
6 Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate President, respectively.

7
8 The review of the implementation of this Act must include a systematic evaluation
9 of its impact, accomplishments of the program, and performance of its implementing
10 agencies. The Oversight Committee shall conduct a review every three (3) years
11 reckoned from the effectivity of this Act, or whenever deemed necessary by a majority
12 of the members of the Oversight Committee.

13
14 **SEC. 10. *Advisory Council.*** – An Advisory Council on CDD Institutionalization is
15 created to develop policies relative to the implementation of this Act. The Advisory
16 Council is composed of the following:

- 17
18 a) Secretary of Social Welfare and Development, as chairperson;
19
20 b) Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, as co-chairperson; and
21
22 c) Representatives from the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC),
23 National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of
24 Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Agriculture (DA),
25 Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and
26 Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Health (DOH), Department of
27 Education (DepEd), and Department of Human Settlements and Urban
28 Development (DHSUD).
29
30
31

1 The representatives include the secretaries of the agencies as the officially
2 designated permanent members and designated undersecretaries as alternate
3 representatives.

4
5 The Advisory Council shall have, as additional members, representatives of
6 accredited NGOs, which shall constitute not less than one-fourth (1/4) of the members
7 of the Advisory Council and shall be appointed to serve for three (3) years from the
8 date of their appointment. Thereafter, the representatives shall be selected from and
9 appointed by the CDD community of practice.

10
11 Advisory councils at the regional level are also established with the regional
12 directors of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and DILG,
13 as chairperson and co-chairperson, respectively, and representatives from the regional
14 offices of NAPC, NEDA, DBM, DA, DAR, DENR, DOH, DepEd, DHSUD, and from
15 accredited NGOs, as members.

16
17 **SEC. 11. *Functions of Advisory Council.*** – The Advisory Council shall have the
18 following functions:

- 19
20 a) Meet regularly to promote coordination among agencies to enhance and
21 promote the use of the CDD approach;
22
23 b) Implement the incentives program to enhance and promote the use of the
24 CDD approach by NGAs and LGUs;
25
26 c) Implement a grievance redress mechanism that accepts and resolves
27 complaints pertaining to the implementation of this Act;
28
29 d) Provide the monitoring and assessment report on the implementation of this
30 Act, post the same on the DSWD website, and submit an annual report to
31 the Oversight Committee; and

- 1
2 e) Recommend to the President of the Philippines measures and policies for
3 the responsive delivery of commitments under this Act and integration into
4 the general poverty reduction strategy of the National Government.

5
6 **SEC. 12. *Establishment of the CDD Knowledge and Resource Institute.*** – The CDD
7 Knowledge and Resource Institute, hereinafter referred to as the *Institute*, is
8 established as a non-stock, non-profit government-owned and controlled corporation
9 with its own charter, attached to the DSWD. The Institute is a policy, research, and
10 training arm of the Advisory Council, which shall provide support for continuing
11 research and technology development, partnership development, policy advocacy,
12 resource mobilization, capacity-building of communities, monitoring, and evaluation
13 to ensure effective institutionalization and operationalization of the CDD framework.

14
15 **SEC. 13. *Functions and Powers of the Institute.*** –

- 16
17 a) The Institute shall have the following functions:

18
19 1. Policy advocacy;

20
21 2. Learning and development;

22
23 i. Development of CDD resource pool, a group of experts on CDD
24 principles and implementation who possess expertise in CDD to
25 co-develop the certification and accreditation programs and other
26 learning and development requirements of the staff, partners, and
27 other stakeholders;

28
29 ii. Certification of CDD organizations, institutions, and individual
30 practitioners who shall either be partners of the program or be
31 part of its human resources; and

- iii. Continuing professional development through partner academic institutions;
 3. Knowledge management and technology development;
 4. Regular monitoring and evaluation, including:
 - i. Resource mobilization: partnership and linkages; and
 - ii. Convergence; and
 5. Secretariat support services to the Advisory Council.
- b) The Institute shall exercise the following powers:
 1. Collect, receive, and maintain funds, donations, and other forms of assistance, and apply the income and principal thereof to the promotion of its aims and purposes;
 2. Contract any obligation or enter into any agreement necessary or incidental to the proper management of its powers; and
 3. Carry on any activity and exercise all the powers conferred by laws upon private or government-owned or controlled corporations, and do all the acts and things prescribed under this Act.
- c) The Institute may charge socialized fees, as determined by the Board, on all applications for certifications, training, and other services rendered by the Institute.

1 **SEC. 14. *Board of Directors.*** – The Institute shall be under the direct supervision of
2 a Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the *Board*, composed of the Secretary of
3 Social Welfare and Development as chairperson and at least four (4) other members
4 from CSOs and the academe, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, upon
5 the recommendation of the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development.

6
7 The appointive members of the Board shall serve for a term of four (4) years. Of
8 those first appointed, one shall serve for four (4) years, one for three (3) years, one for
9 two (2) years, and one for one (1) year, respectively. Appointment to any vacancy shall
10 be only for the unexpired term of the predecessor. No appointive member of the Board
11 shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

12
13 A majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the
14 transaction of business.

15
16 **SEC. 15. *Functions of the Board.*** – The Board shall have the following functions:

- 17
18 a) Formulate and adopt policies and measures for the management and
19 operation of the Institute;
20
21 b) Appoint the president of the Institute who shall come from among the
22 appointive members of the Board;
23
24 c) Approve the staffing pattern of the Institute;
25
26 d) Promulgate rules and regulations for the discharge of its powers and
27 functions and the internal operations of the Institute. The chairperson of the
28 Board shall exercise the power to appoint, promote, discipline, or remove
29 the personnel of the Institute;
30

- e) Manage the financial affairs of the Institute and approve an annual budget of the Institute according to its requirements; and
- f) Monitor and review the programs and projects of the Institute.

SEC. 16. *President of the Institute, Powers, and Functions.* – The President of the Institute is the chief executive officer of the Institute and is entitled to receive such salary and remuneration as may be determined by the Board in accordance with existing laws and rules and regulations. The President shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Subject to Board approval, prepare the staffing pattern of the Institute which includes the determination of the qualifications, the number and compensation of officials and other personnel as may be necessary for the proper discharge of the functions of the Institute;
- b) Exercise control and supervision over the personnel, staff, operations, and internal administration of the Institute in accordance with existing laws and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board;
- c) Recommend to the Board such policies and measures necessary for the effective exercise and discharge of the powers and functions of the Institute; and
- d) Submit an annual report to the Board on the operations, status of the programs funded by, and financial condition of the Institute, including a recommendation for its budget for the ensuing year.

SEC. 17. *Endowment Funds.* – There is hereby established an endowment fund which shall consist of voluntary contributions, donations, grants, or loans from

1 domestic or foreign sources, government subsidies, and other income accruing from
2 the operations of the Institute.

3
4 **SEC. 18. *Implementing Agencies.* –**
5

6 a) **DSWD as lead agency.** – As lead agency for the implementation of this Act,
7 the DSWD shall integrate in their regular operations the following functions:
8

- 9 1. Facilitate support to empower community members to participate in the
10 local development processes and to strengthen community capabilities
11 to engage LGUs, NGAs, and other stakeholders to support community-
12 identified priorities;
13
14 2. Institutionalize capacity-building and learning on CDD for NGAs,
15 CSOs, private sector institutions, and other partners;
16
17 3. Accredite CSOs to become partners in the use of CDD approach; and
18
19 4. Provide technical assistance and resource augmentation by ensuring
20 integration of municipal development plans into provincial
21 development plans.
22

23 b) **DILG as a key partner in capacity-building.** – The DILG shall support the
24 CDD Knowledge and Resource Institute in the capacity-building of LGUs
25 and communities;
26

27 c) **NAPC as a key partner in mobilizing the basic sectors.** – The NAPC shall
28 be a key partner agency in the development of policies and measures to
29 ensure meaningful representation and active participation of the basic
30 sectors in their local development; and
31

1 d) **Support from relevant government agencies.** – All relevant bureaus, offices,
2 agencies, and instrumentalities of the government shall render the necessary
3 support to the implementation of this Act.

4
5 The various government agencies identified under this Act and the concerned
6 LGUs shall implement this Act using the whole-of-government approach, which
7 provides a logical and systematic convergence of efforts of NGAs and LGUs to
8 respond to the identified community needs, issues, concerns, and priorities.

9
10 **SEC. 19. Regular Monitoring and Reporting.** – The Advisory Council shall monitor
11 the implementation of this Act and submit an annual report of its status to the Office
12 of the President and to the Oversight Committee. The report must also be regularly
13 posted on the DSWD website and updated for the public's information. A process
14 assessment shall be conducted by DSWD once every three (3) years, the results of
15 which shall be utilized to stimulate more program lessons exchange, experience
16 sharing, public dialogues, policy discussions, and generating inputs for program
17 design works on CDD. Mechanisms for promoting third-party monitoring and
18 evaluation of this Act by NGOs and CSOs, together with community members and
19 LGUs, shall also be established.

20
21 **SEC. 20. Preferential Option for Basic Sectors in Capacity-Building.** – The CDD
22 Knowledge and Resource Institute shall prioritize the capacity-building of
23 communities with identified members of basic sectors.

24
25 **SEC. 21. Appropriations.** – The amount needed for the implementation of this Act
26 shall be charged to the current year's appropriations of the DSWD. Thereafter, such
27 amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be
28 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 The CDD Knowledge and Resource Institute may accept donations and other forms
2 of assistance in accordance with applicable laws and issuances for purposes relevant
3 to the implementation of this Act.
4

5 **SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within six (6) months from the
6 effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development shall, in
7 cooperation with NGA members of the Human Development and Poverty Reduction
8 Cluster, with the participation of the league of barangays, cities, municipalities, and
9 provinces, and relevant stakeholders, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary
10 for the effective implementation of this Act.
11

12 **SEC. 23. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
13 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and
14 subsisting.
15

16 **SEC. 24. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
17 regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the
18 provisions of this Act are repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.
19

20 **SEC. 22. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
21 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
22

23 *Approved,*