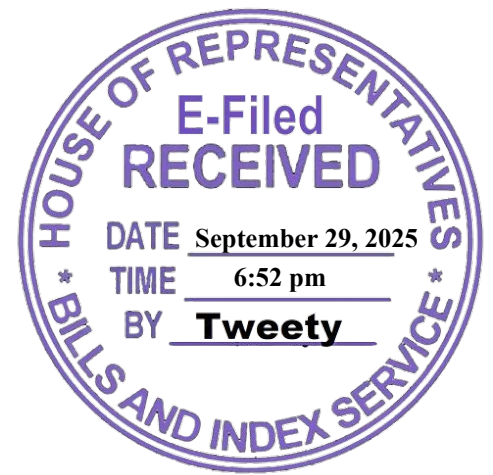


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **4967**



Introduced by Representatives ERIC G. YAP and EDVIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Nutrition is the foundation of human development. Without proper nourishment, Filipinos, especially children, are unable to learn, grow, and thrive. The government has long recognized that nutrition is not just a health issue, but a development imperative. Yet persistent malnutrition, food insecurity, and poverty, particularly in rural areas, continue to hinder the country's progress.

UNICEF estimates that 1 in 3 Filipino children under five are stunted, while 95% of those aged 6 to 24 months lack sufficient nutritious food¹. These alarming figures compromise not only physical health but also cognitive development and learning capacity. Recent reports also highlight that nutrition is a critical factor in a child's ability to read and comprehend. Children who experience hunger are more likely to fall behind in early grade literacy, which if left unaddressed, can lead to long-term setbacks in national human capital development.

The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Bill seeks to address these challenges of malnutrition and poverty through a science-based, participatory, and community-empowering strategy. BIDANI, first conceptualized by the University of the Philippines Los Baños in 1978, has evolved into a proven model of action research and extension that partners State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), and Local Government Units (LGUs) to deliver nutrition-in-development interventions.

As both a strategy and a program, BIDANI adopts a holistic and integrated approach that empowers communities to identify their own needs and formulate development plans with nutrition as a key outcome and indicator of progress. Through components such as the Barangay Integrated Development Approach (BIDA), the Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA), the Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP), and the Barangay Management Information System (BMIS), BIDANI equips barangays and LGUs with data-driven tools to design

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<https://www.unicef.org/philippines/press-releases/national-nutrition-council-and-unicef-rally-end-child-food-poverty-philippines>

locally responsive and sustainable programs that embed nutrition into broader development goals.

This bill therefore seeks to institutionalize the BIDANI network as a long-term mechanism to fight hunger and rural poverty through multisectoral collaboration. It mandates the participation of SUCs and LUCs across the country, with funding support to be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

In doing so, this measure not only empowers barangays and municipalities to take ownership of their local development but also helps ensure that no Filipino is left behind due to hunger or poor nutrition. It recognizes that achieving food and nutrition security is foundational to national development.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. ERIC G. YAP



HON. EDVIC G. YAP

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **4967**

Introduced by Representatives ERIC G. YAP and EDVIC G. YAP

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BARANGAY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
APPROACH FOR NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT OF THE RURAL POOR AS A
LINKAGE PROGRAM OF PARTICIPATING STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
COLLEGES AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize nutrition as a basic human right that shall be promoted as a public good and a public concern that can be satisfactorily achieved through multi-sectoral support and cooperation. To this end, the State shall vigorously work towards the provision of the nutritional needs of the poor and vulnerable especially in the rural areas, and give utmost support to programs and projects that are responsive to the health needs of the Filipino people.

SEC 3. *Objectives.* – This Act shall have the following objectives:

- (a) To encourage the cooperation and participation of academic institutions and local government units (LGUs) in promoting the nutritional well-being of the people;
- (b) To develop among state universities and colleges (SUCs) and local universities and colleges (LUCs) an effective action research and extension network program that will improve the nutrition and general well-being of the community; and
- (c) To enhance the productivity and nutritional well-being of the poor in the rural areas in order to improve their nutrition and life status.

SEC 4. *Establishment of the Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement Program.* – The BIDANI is hereby established as a nutrition-in-development action research and extension network program of the participating SUCs/LUCs which aims to assist the national government and LGUs in improving the nutritional status and general well-being of the community, in particular and the country, in general..

It is a comprehensive model for building the capacity of LGUs to integrate nutrition concerns in countryside development programs that supports the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) to combat malnutrition, food and nutrition insecurity, social deprivation, and poverty alleviation.

SEC 5. *BIDANI Program Goals.* – The BIDANI Program shall promote nutrition-in-development through community and other stakeholders’ participation in an integrated management system facilitated by SUCs/LUCs. The Program shall:

- (a) Induce the participating SUCs/LUCs to assist the government in achieving the nutrition targets of the PPAN:
- (b) Engage the participating SUCs/LUCs in the conduct of training and capacity-building activities for all BIDANI stakeholders on the BIDANI strategies and innovative practices to ensure that in-planning nutrition shall be integrated in all areas of local governance:
- (c) Promote the best nutrition-in-development practices of successful LGUs through the participation of local nutrition committees; and
- (d) Build partnership among SUCs/LUCs and other stakeholders to support the citizenry towards self-help and self-reliance; encourage citizen action through the involvement of various stakeholders; and coordinate with relevant national government agencies (NGAs), non-government organizations (NGOs), private organization (POs) and other private sector groups in linking the community with existing resources.

SEC 6. *Participation of SUCs in the BIDANI Network Program* – The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall require all SUCs to participate in the BIDANI Network Program: *Provided*, That they qualify with any of the parameters as follows:

- (a) *Existing Partnerships with LGUs.* SUCs with existing partnerships with LGUs on the development and implementation of any nutrition-improvement program;
- (b) *Operating Capability.* SUCs with adequate operating capabilities to implement and undertake partnerships on nutrition-improvement related projects such as the BIDANI program; or

- (c) *Interest to Participate.* SUCs who have expressed their willingness to participate in the BIDANI Network Program.

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned parameters, the CHED shall designate at least one (1) SUC per administrative region to participate in the BIDANI Network Program.

Within five (5) years upon the approval of this Act, the CHED shall, in coordination with the UPLB BIDANI Network, develop a BIDANI Network Roadmap Plan that shall identify potential participating SUCs in the BIDANI Network Program. After such period, the CHED shall include at least one (1) SUC per province, if any, and induce potential SUCs to participate in the BIDANI Network Program, as provided in the BIDANI Network Roadmap Plan.

SEC 7. BIDANI Structural/Organizational Linkages. – To adopt the BIDANI as a program, the SUCs/LUCs shall have the manpower capabilities and facilities to conduct applied research and extension activities. The BIDANI partners and stakeholders shall work at different levels, as follows:

- (a) Participating SUCs and LUCs – Partnership with participating SUCs/LUCs shall be formalized through an execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the UPLB, being the national coordinator of the BIDANI Program, represented by its Chancellor, and the President of the participating SUCs/LUCs.

The BIDANI Program in each participating SUCs/LUCs shall set up their respective organizational structure for the implementation of the Program, subject to the rules and regulations of the SUC/LUC concerned. It shall also be attached to a unit that the concerned SUC/LUC deems appropriate. The BIDANI SUC/LUC shall select its own LGU partners based on the prescribed criteria as stated in the MOA.

- (b) City or Municipal Local Government Units – The implementation of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall commence upon the approval by the city or municipality of the nutrition plans formulated by the SUC/LUC concerned through a MOA or a city/municipality resolution, whichever comes first. The existing City/Municipality Nutrition Committee shall be capacitated to implement, monitor, evaluate and replicate the BIDANI strategy in the locality;
- (c) Barangay Units – The realization of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall be accomplished at the barangay level. The barangays implementing the BIDANI program shall pass a resolution adopting the strategy. The Barangay Development Council (BDC) and Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) shall be facilitated by the City/Municipal Nutrition Committee to ensure that the process of planning and management of nutrition development programs, projects, and activities will be participative and responsive to the needs of the community; and

- (d) Other stakeholders – The participation and inputs of relevant National Government Agencies (NGAs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), accredited Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in cities or municipalities and POs, shall be sought in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programs, projects and activities of the barangay.

SEC. 8. *BIDANI Innovative Strategies* – To facilitate the local implementation of the BIDANI, the Program shall be implemented using the following innovative strategies:

- (a) Barangay Integrated Development Approach (BIDA) – The participatory process of implementing the BIDANI strategy involves organizing, capacity building, advocacy, mobilization, and collaboration to accelerate local development. Each barangay shall be mobilized and capacitated to formulate their sectoral plans for the Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP). All BIDPs shall be integrated into the City/Municipal development plans
- (b) Barangay Management Information System (BMIS) – In the conduct of its research activities, the concerned SUC/LUC shall develop a people-based information system which shall focus on the identification of the needs of the barangay through efficient and effective data collection. The data shall be the basis for program planning, management and implementations of various projects and activities in the barangay; and
- (c) Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA) – The National Nutrition Council (NNC) and participating SUCs/LUCs shall utilize the life cycle approach in the formulation of food production policies and programs, and promote market-driven livelihood activities and formulation of Barangay Nutrition Action Plan (BNAP) to support the PPAN.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations*. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the budget of the participating SUCs in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs concerned may allocate funds for the implementation of the BIDANI program, including the necessary funds for the LUCs.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the UPLB-BIDANI as the National Network Coordinator and the CHED shall, in coordination with the NNC and representatives from participating SUCs/LUCs, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 11. *LGU Limitation* - No city or municipal council shall enact or enforce any ordinance or resolution in conflict with the provisions of this Act.

SEC 12. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC 13. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC 14. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved