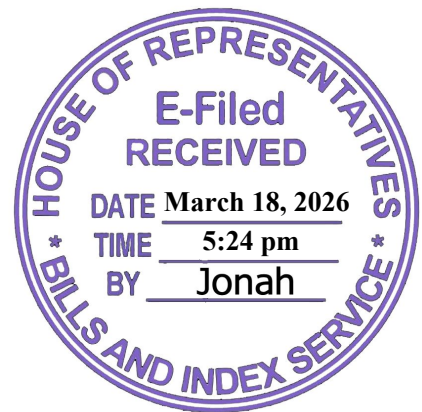


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8688



Introduced by Hon. Kenneth T. Gatchalian

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed measure aims to institutionalize a long-term, strategic approach to infrastructure planning and development through the creation of a Comprehensive Infrastructure Development Masterplan. This Masterplan will be fully integrated into all stages of the planning, programming, and budgeting cycle. To be spearheaded by the Masterplan for Infrastructure and National Development (MIND) Council, the initiative seeks to advance the country's long-term development vision of becoming a prosperous middle-class society. It is designed to rationalize public and private infrastructure investments, promote policy continuity, and clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of government agencies and instrumentalities involved in the implementation of critical infrastructure projects. The Masterplan will adopt a holistic framework encompassing key infrastructure subsectors, including land, air, and maritime transportation and logistics; energy; water resources; information and communications technology; social infrastructure such as housing, health, and education; agri-fisheries modernization and food logistics systems; as well as asset preservation and maintenance.

The MIND Council shall be chaired by the President of the Philippines, with the Secretary of Economy, Planning, and Development serving as Vice-Chair. Its membership shall include the heads of major infrastructure-related agencies, thereby strengthening inter-agency coordination in the formulation,

implementation, and monitoring of infrastructure policies and projects.

This legislation is timely, given the sustained increase in national infrastructure spending. From 2022 to 2025, budgetary allocations for infrastructure development grew by an annual average of 7.9 percent. As infrastructure expenditures continue to expand, the need for sound long-term planning becomes imperative to maximize returns on investment and to avoid the inclusion of redundant or low-impact projects. With infrastructure commanding a larger share of public resources, it is essential to ensure that taxpayers' funds are directed toward high-impact initiatives that deliver meaningful benefits to the public. It is envisioned that this measure will enable the country to address long-standing infrastructure gaps and propel the Philippines toward higher levels of economic growth.

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



KENNETH T. GATCHALIAN

Republic of the Philippines
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HOUSE BILL NO. 8688

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE FORMULATION AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF A
COMPREHENSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT MASTERPLAN,
ESTABLISHING THE MASTERPLAN FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MIND) COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Masterplan for*
2 *Infrastructure and National Development (MIND) Act.*”

3 **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the vital role of an
4 efficient and integrated infrastructure system in promoting job creation to drive
5 inclusive economic growth and sustainable development.

6 The State hereby adopts a policy to develop reforms in infrastructure
7 planning to achieve higher economic growth trajectory and improve the quality of
8 life of Filipinos.

9 **SEC. 3.** *Purposes and Objectives.* – The purposes and objectives of this
10 Act are:

- a. Support the achievement of the overall long-term development vision of the country as a prosperous, predominantly middle-class society, where no one is poor, and where Filipinos shall live long and healthy lives, be smart and innovative, and live in a high-trust society;
- b. Provide an overall guide for the preferred locations, magnitude, interrelationships, and timing of public and private infrastructure investments to maximize their impact to the economy and society;
- c. Institutionalize long-term development plan in infrastructure investment planning and implementation to ensure policy continuity and consistency; and
- d. Define the roles of implementing agencies in the development of essential transportation, energy, water resources, information and communications technology, social infrastructure systems, and other basic overhead facilities in the country.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- a. *Agri-Fisheries Modernization and Food Logistics infrastructure* refers to facilities which include farm access roads, trading posts, agricultural tramlines and other market infrastructure, fish ports, irrigation and soil and water conservation structures, post-harvest facilities such as warehouses and cold storage, meat establishment infrastructure such as slaughterhouses, and production infrastructure such as greenhouses, hydroponics, aquaponics, and food irradiation facilities. This includes the health and safety infrastructure required to meet regulatory standards;
- b. *Energy infrastructure* refers to projects for power generation, transmission and distribution, and electrification, as well as for exploration, development, production, storage and distribution of

energy resources including those based on or using water resources, fossil fuel, geothermal, solar, wind, wave, and other emerging technologies including nuclear;

c. *Information and Communications Technology (ICT)*

infrastructure refers to facilities that provide access to information through telecommunications, including the internet, wireless networks, telephone systems, and other communication media;

d. *Social infrastructure* refers to schools, buildings, hospitals and

health facilities, public housing, solid waste management, penitentiary, evacuation centers, and other public and community facilities, including waste management and circular economy infrastructure that covers solid waste collection, distribution and disposal, waste aggregation and transfer stations, waste markets, material recycling, sustainable production, material recovery, and waste-to-energy facilities;

e. *Transport and Logistics infrastructure* refers to (1) roads, bridges,

tunnels, grade separation, and related structures; (2) rail, bus rapid transit and other mass transportation systems, including subways, fixed facilities, and rolling stock; (3) seaports, including terminals and navigation facilities; (4) airports, including terminals and navigation facilities; (5) intermodal transportation facilities, including terminals; and (6) supply chain infrastructure including warehouses and distribution centers. Transport infrastructure includes support systems for the operation of transport services and facilities, such as intelligent transport systems; and

f. *Water Resources infrastructure* refers to (1) water

supply, sewerage and sanitation for domestic, commercial and industrial uses; (2) irrigation for agriculture; and (3) flood control

1 and drainage facilities, including dams, reservoirs and coastal zone
2 protection.

3 **SEC. 5.** *Formulation of the Comprehensive Infrastructure Development*
4 *Master Plan (CIDMP).* – There shall be formulated a 30-year Comprehensive
5 Infrastructure Development Master Plan (CIDMP) which shall set forth the
6 country’s long-term vision, goals, and strategy for infrastructure development. The
7 CIDMP shall be the framework for forward planning, prioritization, and
8 development of infrastructure investment and programs, taking into consideration
9 the country’s long-term national development plans, including the medium-term
10 Philippine Development Plan. It shall serve as the integrated framework of
11 infrastructure programs and projects of the government enterprise architecture.

12 The CIDMP shall be reviewed and updated every 10 years or earlier as the
13 needs arises, in anticipation of disruptions, emergencies, crises, and new and
14 emerging technologies and trends: *Provided*, That such early review and update be
15 consistent with long-term national development vision and goals.

16 In order to effectively implement this Act, a whole-of-government approach
17 shall be adopted for the formulation and adopted of the CIDMP. This approach
18 shall facilitate engagement with government agencies, instrumentalities,
19 government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), local government units
20 (LGUs), regional development councils (RDCs), ICT councils, technical and
21 standards organization and other relevant stakeholders towards ensuring the full and
22 effect implementation of this Act.

23 **SEC. 6.** *Infrastructure Policies and Strategies.* – The CIDMP shall pursue
24 the following national development policies and strategies of the Government:

- 25 a. Establishment of a whole-of-government strategy to coordinate
26 infrastructure investment planning and implementation that
27 promote effective collaboration among key actors, with the

Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev)
as the lead coordinator;

- b. Prioritization of projects of national significance which are consistent with the approved national and physical framework plans, as well as with national, regional, local, and sectoral development plans, roadmaps, and master plans;
- c. Observance of the following principles in the determination of priorities: (1) effectiveness in meeting national development objectives; (2) economic feasibility and impact; (3) poverty alleviation and social inclusion; (4) environmental sustainability and climate resilience; (5) safety; (6) security; (7) affordability; (8) public access; (9) technical readiness for implementation; and (10) financial viability and value for money;
- d. Harmonization and coordination of national, regional, and local infrastructure development goals;
- e. Promotion of public consultation and feedback mechanisms on infrastructure investment priorities and projects at the national and local levels;
- f. Maximization of private sector participation in the planning, development, financing, design, construction, and operation and maintenance of infrastructure;
- g. Utilization of any of the following modes in infrastructure implementation: (a) by the concerned national government agencies and GOCCs as provided under their respective charters; (b) under Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) arrangements; or (c) in partnership with LGUs to complement public finance as well as promote technology and knowledge transfers;

- h. Implementation of adequate infrastructure asset preservation and maintenance strategies;
- i. Development of an efficient, safe, economical, accessible, affordable, reliable, integrated, seamless, convenient, user-oriented, disaster-resilient, and environmentally sustainable national infrastructure system consistent with the latest industry standards;
- j. Establishment of a robust national geospatial infrastructure that will provide location-specific data to support evidence-based planning and implementation of infrastructure projects;
- k. 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;
- l. Establishment of food security infrastructure that will ensure the smooth flow of cargo across the archipelago shall be emphasized;
- m. Prioritization of the development of mass public transportation to reduce dependence on private vehicles;
- n. Adoption of inclusive mobility designs through the provision of a network of protected bicycle lanes, sidewalks, at-grade and elevated walkways, and green and open spaces;
- o. Incorporation of appropriate infrastructure risk management measures, including risk identification, allocation, and mitigation, in project development and management;
- p. Adoption of green and sustainable design, climate change adaptation and disaster resilience measures, as well as

1 updated strength, safety, health and environmental standards in the
2 design and construction of infrastructure projects;

3 q. Preferential use of quality construction materials that have a high
4 domestic content, especially those that use sustainable materials
5 and appropriate technology;

6 r. Prioritization of multi-sectoral, multi-modal and area-wide
7 development projects to take advantage of their synergistic effects,
8 and where feasible, provide common underground ducts for
9 utilities, and synchronize timelines for their installation and
10 maintenance; and

11 s. Strict monitoring and evaluation of project completion of all
12 functional features.

13 **SEC. 7.** *Contents of the CIDMP.* – The CIDMP shall contain the
14 following:

15 a. A report on the long-term vision for infrastructure, which shall
16 support and be consistent with long-term socio-economic goals;

17 b. An analysis of projected economic growth and demographic
18 trends;

19 c. Reports on the integrated and holistic strategies for the
20 development of the following infrastructure sub-sectors:

21 1. Land, Air, and Sea transportation and Logistics

22 2. Energy

23 3. Water

24 4. Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

25 5. Social Infrastructure, such as housing, health, and
26 education

27 6. Agri-Fisheries Modernization and Food Logistics
28 Infrastructure Program

29 7. Asset Preservation and Maintenance Strategies

- 1 d. Indicative projects, timelines for expected phases of
2 implementation, estimated funding requirements, and financing
3 modalities for each of the infrastructure sub-sectors.

4 **SEC. 8.** *Masterplan for Infrastructure and National Development (MIND)*
5 *Council.* – The MIND Council is hereby established to lead the preparation and
6 revision of the CIDMP. The Economy and Development Council (ED Council) of
7 the DEPDev shall ensure that the CIDMP shall be mainstreamed into all phases of
8 the Planning-Programming-Budgeting process and operationalized in all of the
9 major documents involved, including but not limited to the:

- 10 a. Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and the Regional
11 Development Plans (RDPs);
12 b. Public Infrastructure Plan (PIP);
13 c. Three-Year Rolling Infrastructure Plan (TRIP); and
14 d. National Expenditure Program (NEP), Budget of Expenditure and
15 Sources of Financing (BESF), Annual General Appropriations Act
16 (GAA), and their supporting documents.

17 **SEC. 9.** *Composition of the MIND Council.* – The MIND Council shall be
18 composed of the following:

- 19 a. President of the Philippines, as Chairperson;
20 b. Secretary of the DEPDev as Vice Chairperson;
21 c. Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways
22 (DPWH), as Member;
23 d. Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF), as Member;
24 e. Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM),
25 as Member;
26 f. Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), as
27 Member;
28 g. Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE), as Member;

- h. Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), as Member;
- i. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Member;
- j. Secretary of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DSHUD), as Member;
- k. Secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT), as Member;
- l. Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), as Member;
- m. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), as Member;
- n. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), as Member;
- o. Presidents of the Local Government Unit (LGU) Leagues, as Members; and
- p. Five (5) Industry Stakeholders, as Members.

The representatives of the industry stakeholders shall be appointed to represent the infrastructure sub-sectors enumerated under Section 7 of this Act and shall be selected from among their respective ranks based on the criteria and mechanisms to be set for this purpose by the Council.

The Secretary of DEPDev may preside as Chairman in cases where the President is unable to attend a meeting and in the absence of any presidential preference. The President, however, shall continue to have the power to designate from among the members of the Council the Chairman, who can appropriately represent the President, to preside over specific meetings. The department secretaries may not designate alternate representatives other than their respective undersecretaries to the meetings of the Council.

The Council shall meet at least once a quarter or as often as necessary.

1 The Council shall engage other government agencies and instrumentalities,
2 as may be necessary.

3 **SEC. 10. *Powers and Functions of the MIND Council.*** – The MIND Council
4 shall have the following powers and functions:

- 5 a. Formulate the CIDMP that will serve as a blueprint for national
6 and regional investment planning;
- 7 b. Coordinate infrastructure investments, planning, and
8 implementation that promotes collaboration among key actors;
- 9 c. Establish mechanisms to monitor the progress and implementation
10 of infrastructure projects under the CIDMP, ensuring
11 accountability and timely completion;
- 12 d. Review and streamline all existing policies among government
13 agencies in the formulation of plans, programs, and projects for the
14 development of the infrastructure sub-sectors under Section 7 of
15 this Act;
- 16 e. Consult with major stakeholders from the private sector, including
17 but not limited to the business groups, LGUs, civil society
18 organizations, and non-government organizations;
- 19 f. Submit to Congress the CIDMP and such other reports as may be
20 necessary;
- 21 g. Recommend to Congress proposed legislation to fully implement
22 the CIDMP; and
- 23 h. Perform such other functions as may be necessary for the effective
24 discharge of its mandate.

25 In addition to the foregoing powers and functions, the Council may form a
26 consultative and advisory committee. This committee shall comprise individuals
27 with proven expertise in but not limited to urban planning, engineering,
28 environmental sustainability, infrastructure and economic development, social and

1 community development, housing, technology, public health, education and culture,
2 and disaster and emergency management.

3 **SEC. 11. *Secretariat to the MIND Council.*** – The DEPDev shall serve as the
4 Secretariat and shall provide administrative, operational, and technical support to
5 the Council. Pursuant to the policies, strategies, and other provisions of this Act,
6 the DEPDev shall, in coordination with concerned agencies and stakeholders, be
7 responsible in the formulation of the detailed CIDMP and integrated framework,
8 including its medium-term strategic plans and programs.

9 The DEPDev, in coordination with the concerned agencies and stakeholders,
10 shall be responsible for the update of the CIDMP as well as its regular monitoring
11 and evaluation, including the physical and financial performance of implementing
12 agencies, and the socio-economic impact of program accomplishments.

13 **SEC. 12. *Role of Implementing Agencies.*** – Implementing agencies
14 involved in the development of the transport and logistics, energy, water resources,
15 ICT, social, asset preservation and maintenance strategies, and agri-fisheries
16 modernization and food logistics shall perform the following responsibilities:

- 17 a. Prioritize and fast-track the implementation of infrastructure
18 projects in accordance with the CIDMP;
- 19 b. Develop a national transport system with the following
20 characteristics: efficient in facilitating mobility, safe, secure,
21 economical, accessible, affordable, environmentally sustainable,
22 user-oriented, reliable, convenient, integrated, and seamless;
- 23 c. Plan and implement transport projects within the context of the
24 entire supply chain and logistics system that is facilitating of both
25 traditional and electronic commerce, through a seamless and
26 demand-responsive intermodal transport network that shall link
27 production areas with processing, warehousing, transport and
28 transshipment hubs, and markets, and ensure unimpeded flow of

- 1 people, goods, services, disaster response equipment, relief goods,
2 and basic commodities in times of emergencies;
- 3 d. Optimize the use of funds through efficient transport infrastructure
4 maintenance and asset management, including applicable demand
5 management;
- 6 e. Improve road-based people-oriented transport to address traffic
7 congestion through engineering, enforcement and education;
- 8 f. Improve operational efficiency of airports and address constraints
9 to their optimal capacity utilization;
- 10 g. Improve port facilities to ensure that inter-island shipping,
11 including a stronger roll-on roll-off (RORO) network, as a
12 viable option for transporting people and cargo;
- 13 h. Support investments and fast track implementation of
14 infrastructure projects to improve power generation, transmission,
15 and distribution;
- 16 i. Encourage competition to drive down electricity costs;
- 17 j. Promote and develop alternative sources of power, including
18 renewable energy and other clean energy technologies;
- 19 k. Ensure efficient transmission of electricity to various load centers
20 and interconnect the entire grid;
- 21 l. Prioritize the provision of off-grid, stand-alone, renewable
22 technology to the remaining unelectrified off-grid, island, remote,
23 and last-mile communities;
- 24 m. Implement energy infrastructure projects in accordance with the
25 policies and programs of R.A. No. 11285 or the Energy Efficiency
26 and Conservation Act of 2019;

- n. Promote the deployment of clean, efficient, and smart energy technologies and establishment of the necessary infrastructure and regulatory support for these technologies;
- o. Pursue reforms that will address the fragmented structure of water resources management;
- p. Optimize the development and use of water resource potentials for irrigation, hydroelectric power, water supply, and flood control;
- q. Pursue institutional reforms such as streamlining processes to facilitate investments in water supply, sewerage system, and sanitation services;
- r. Intensify flood control in major river basins, principal rivers, and urban centers, combining structural or engineering intervention works as non-structural measures on an area or river system-wide basis, with priority on areas with high risks of flooding;
- s. Pursue reforms in digital infrastructure, including but not limited to streamlining process for permits, to complement the national broadband plan geared towards increasing internet access in unserved and underserved areas;
- t. Expand the deployment of ICT infrastructure and address gaps in digital connectivity and promote digital trade;
- u. Enhance the e-government system as a vital tool for good governance, including the improvement and integration of various database and software management systems within and across different sectors and government bodies;
- v. Ensure and improve cybersecurity by investing in robust systems and key management resources;
- w. Prioritize implementation of climate-smart and resilient infrastructure in all sub-sectors of agri-fisheries modernization and

1 food logistics, energy, water resources, social, transport, and ICT
2 infrastructure investments; and

- 3 x. Perform other functions as may be necessary towards the effective
4 implementation of this Act.

5 **SEC. 13.** *Consideration of Approved National Infrastructure Projects.* –

6 The infrastructure projects improved by the DEPDev ED Council before
7 the effectivity of this Act shall be given due consideration in the formulation and
8 implementation of the CIDMP.

9 **SEC. 14.** *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC).* – A Joint

10 Congressional Oversight Committee is hereby created to monitor and oversee the
11 implementation of this Act. The Committee shall be composed of six (6) members
12 from the Senate and six (6) members from the House of Representatives. The JCOC
13 shall be headed by the chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs
14 and Committee on Public Works, and the chairperson of the House Committee on
15 Economic Affairs and Committee on Public Works and Highways. The other
16 members of the Committee shall be designated by the Senate President and the
17 Speaker of the House, respectively. The minority of each chamber shall have at least
18 two (2) representatives each.

19 **SEC. 15.** *Appropriations.* – The amount needed for

20 the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's
21 appropriations of the departments/agencies concerned. Thereafter, such sums as
22 may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in
23 the annual General Appropriations Act.

24 **SEC. 16.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days

25 from the approval of this Act, the MIND Council, in consultation with stakeholders
26 from the public and private sector, including local government units, business
27 groups, community organizations, and non-government organizations, shall

1 formulate the implementing rules and regulations necessary in effectively
2 implementing this Act.

3 **SEC. 17. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is held
4 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
5 remain in full force and effect.

6 **SEC. 18. *Severability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared
7 unconstitutional, the remainder thereof shall remain in full force and effect.

8 **SEC. 19. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive
9 orders, letters of instruction, proclamations, or administrative regulations that are
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended,
11 or modified accordingly.

12 **SEC. 20. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
13 complete publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general
14 circulation.

Approved,