Sustainable Development in the Philippine Context: Performance and Challenges

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Secretary, NEDA

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Key messages

• Despite remarkable gains in the economy, challenges in poverty, unemployment, and vulnerability to shocks remain: Economic growth is necessary but not sufficient for SD.

• Deeper governance and policy reforms should be pursued to effectively address the key constraints to inclusive growth and sustainable development.

• To fare better in the SDGs: Invest in sustainable solutions through closer partnerships and stronger coordination among stakeholders, including government (national and local), private sector, civil society, and academe.
Organization

• Performance of the economy and the social sector in recent years
• Lessons learned
• Moving forward
Development Priorities for the Philippines

- Rapid poverty reduction
- Massive employment generation
- Social inclusion
- Effective disaster risk reduction management
- Environmentally sustainable development
The Philippine economy is on a higher growth trajectory since the beginning of the current decade.

Real GDP growth
6.2% (2010-2014)

Source: PSA. *Projected

Structural break of potential real GDP at around 2009

1997-1998
2008-2009

GDP in 2000 billion Php, 1960-2016*

Source: PSA. *Projected
Philippine growth from 2010-2014 is the second-highest in Asia next to China.

Average growth of GDP per decade (in constant 2005 prices)

Source: WDI.
Recent gains in “rebalancing the economy”: Investment and industry are becoming larger drivers of Philippine GDP growth.

**Demand side**

- 1990-1999: 2.8%
- 2000-2009: 4.5%
- 2010-2014: 6.2%

**Supply side**

- 1990-1999: 2.8%
- 2000-2009: 4.5%
- 2010-2014: 6.2%

Source: NEDA
Supporting the PH’s remarkable performance are sound macroeconomic fundamentals.

**Fiscal side**

- Declining external debt & interest payments
- Modest fiscal deficit
- Increasing reliance on domestic financing
- **Result:** wider fiscal space
Supporting the PH’s remarkable performance are sound macroeconomic fundamentals.

**Monetary side**
- Robust external position
- Low and stable inflation
- Favorable interest rate & sound banking system

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**Headline inflation rate (%), Jan 2005 to June 2015**

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**NPL and interest rates (%, rhs)**

**Current account balance (% GDP)**

Sources: PSA, BSP.
Challenge: making growth more inclusive.

- Weak performance in poverty reduction relative to the country’s neighbors.

Poverty incidence (%) based on $1.25 threshold

Official PH poverty incidence among pop. (%), 1991-2013

Sources: WDI, PSA.
Challenge: making growth more inclusive.

- Hunger incidence is persistently high, though it has gone down in recent years.

Total hunger incidence, July 1998 to March 2015
(% of households)

Source: SWS.
Challenge: making growth more inclusive.

- The unemployment rate has been decreasing, and the quality of jobs has been improving (i.e., rising share of wage and salaried workers in total employment).
- Underemployment remains stubbornly high.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Ave 2010</th>
<th>Ave 2011</th>
<th>Ave 2012</th>
<th>Ave 2013</th>
<th>Ave 2014*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor force (‘000)</td>
<td>38,893</td>
<td>40,006</td>
<td>40,426</td>
<td>41,022</td>
<td>40,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed (‘000)</td>
<td>36,035</td>
<td>37,192</td>
<td>37,600</td>
<td>38,118</td>
<td>37,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wage and salary workers</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>58.4</td>
<td>57.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(% share to total employment)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate (%)</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underemployment rate (%)</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>18.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Labor Force Survey, PSA.

*The average estimates for 2014 exclude Region 8. Moreover, average estimates for wage and salary workers are computed using the January 2014 data (which exclude Region 8) and April-October 2014 (which exclude Leyte).
Challenge: making growth more inclusive.

- Measures to achieve MDGs produced mixed results.

**High**
- Poverty and hunger
  - Food poverty
- Education
  - School participation
- Empowering women
- Child mortality
  - Infant and under-5
- Major diseases
  - Malaria morbility
  - TB incidence
- Environment
  - Access to safe water
  - Access to sanitary toilet facilities (100%)

**Medium**
- Poverty and hunger
  - Income poverty
- Nutrition
  - Underweight children

**Low**
- Education
  - Cohort survival
- Gender disparity
  - Political participation
- Maternal health
  - Maternal mortality
  - Access to RH
- Major diseases
  - HIV/AIDS
Lessons learned

• Lessons learned in recent years of PH development experience:
  1. Economic growth is necessary but not sufficient to sustainable development;
  2. Good governance is an effective platform for the strategies’ implementation;
  3. Macroeconomic and political stability fuel positive expectations leading to growth;
  4. Growth strategies need to have spatial and sectoral dimensions to ensure inclusivity;
  5. Disasters can negate gains and even push back development.
Lessons learned specific to the MDGs

1. The attainment of the MDGs requires a sustained and consistent **commitment across all stakeholders:** government, private sector, civil society and the international community.

2. The implementation plan should include a **financing plan.**

3. The implementation plan should include **programs to build resilience**, especially of the poor and near poor, against natural and man-made hazards and economic shocks.

4. There should be a clear **assignment of responsibilities** consistent with the governance structure.

5. There should be an appropriate **data monitoring system** to support the accountability mechanism.
Moving forward...

• Should stay focused on the Philippines’ key development priorities.

• Also, we should facilitate structural transformation from low to high productivity areas/sectors of the economy, & make growth more inclusive and environmentally sustainable.

• Critical measures include:
  - Building efficient **infrastructure**: Transport, logistics, flood control
  - Upgrading **skills** and capacity for **innovations**: Education, health, social protection
  - Deepening reforms in **economic regulation**: Ease of doing business
  - Reducing social and economic inequities: Advancing **social inclusion**
  - Investing in **disaster risk management** and community resilience
  - Securing just and lasting **peace** in Mindanao
Transitioning to SDGs

From 8 MDGs...

to 17 SDGs with 169 targets

...will require

- more resources
- greater capacities
- more responsive institutions
- stronger political will
- revitalized partnerships
- transformational changes

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development
Thank you!
Key elements toward the transformation

1. Political will

- Creation of **enabling policies** to create an environment for SDG implementation and localization.
- Review and **harmonization** of conflicting and overlapping **policies**.
- Strengthening policies and plans that **build resilience of communities**, especially the poor, against natural and man-made hazards and economic shocks.
Transitioning to SDGs

• Political will
• Community capacity building
• Data monitoring system
• Financing
• Partnerships
Key elements toward the transformation

2. Capacities and data

- Strengthen national capacities toward **mainstreaming global SDGs** into the national and local policies, plans & programs.

- Enhance both **national and local capacities** (LGUs/LCEs) on data collection, dissemination & analysis, identification SDG indicators and monitoring & reporting of implementation, etc.
Production/availability of evidence-based, high quality, disaggregated data

- Critical for better goal setting, develop appropriate interventions and provide evidenced-based decision making to support SDG implementation
- Investments on statistics and information
Key elements toward the transformation

3. Monitoring and follow-up

- Strong governance structure required at all levels to monitor, review and ensure accountability to follow up commitments.
- Multistakeholder participation in the formulation, decision-making, implementation and monitoring and review of progress.
- Political buy-in of LCEs and transparency in local governance.
Key elements toward the transformation

4. Financing

Mobilizing international and domestic resources

- Increasing investment/expenditure on poverty reduction programs, social services and environmental protection
- Allocating part of the tax (i.e. excise tax) for SDG implementation
- Performance Challenge Fund
- Tap private sector resources (e.g. PPPs for school buildings, health facilities, and CSRs for environmental conservation activities)
  - Remittances from overseas workers
Partnerships at several levels should be pursued and strengthened.

- Invest in sustainable solutions through closer partnerships and stronger coordination between different stakeholders, including government (national and local), private sector, civil society, and academe.
- Knowledge creation can be treated as a public good that may be underprovided.
- Harness these links to foster research and knowledge creation especially at the local level where interventions may need to be context-specific.
- Deepen cooperation among developing countries through South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives across sectors to implement and achieve SDGs.
Key elements toward the transformation

5. Partnerships

• Synergize links between international organizations and networks working on SD in order to maximize opportunities.
  – SDSN should work in cooperation with other organizations working on SD (such as HDN, PCSD).

• The Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PSCD) was created through Executive Order 15 in September 1992 to assure integration of SD in Philippine national policies, plans and programs involving all sectors of the society.
  – Chair: NEDA Secretary
  – Co-Chair: DENR Secretary
  – Members: DFA, 5 civil society groups, and 1 representative each from business and labor

• The SDSN is a welcome addition to the country’s growing network of SD initiatives.
EXTRA SLIDES
Average growth in 2010-2014 is the highest 5-year average growth since the mid-1970s.

1973-1977 (6.49%)

Real GDP growth (5-year moving average)

2010-2014 (6.2%)

Source: Calculations based on PSA data.
The rise in inflation rate is due mainly to rice price increases. Rice (staple food for low–income and vulnerable families, which usually accounts for 20% of their budget) inflation posted a double digit-growth of more than 11% in 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>S1 2013</th>
<th>S2 2013</th>
<th>S1 2014</th>
<th>S2 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Items</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-food</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
Consequently, the poverty thresholds, or minimum income deemed sufficient to meet basic requirements, rose by 9.4 percent (poverty) and 9.5 percent (food poverty)...

Monthly Food and Poverty Threshold for a Family of Five, 1st semesters of 2013 and 2014 (in PhP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Food Threshold for a Family of Five (PhP)</th>
<th>Poverty Threshold for a Family of Five (PhP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1H 2012</td>
<td>5,458</td>
<td>7,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1H 2013</td>
<td>5,593</td>
<td>8,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1H 2014</td>
<td>6,125</td>
<td>8,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
Note: 1H 2012 computation of food and poverty threshold is based on the first visit of the FIES; 1H 2013 and 1H 2014 computation of food and poverty threshold is based from the 2013 and 2014 APIS, respectively excluding Leyte (due to Typhoon Yolanda devastation) and Batanes (due to small sample size).
Employment is increasing but still not enough...

Source: DOLE
Income inequality

Source: WDI, World Bank
In summary…….

Progress has not been broadly shared (as shown in the previous slides).

Moreover, progress has not been sustained long enough to successfully meet all our MDG targets.
Macroeconomic (fiscal, financial, external) and political stability fuels positive expectations that lead to growth.
- Programs and projects towards the achievement of development goals, including those of the MDGs

Good governance has proven to be an effective platform upon which strategies should be implemented.
- Clear institutional responsibilities and arrangements that include the LGUs

Growth strategies need to have spatial and sectoral dimensions to ensure inclusivity.
- Engagement and partnership with various sectors with sustained and consistent commitment.

Need for appropriate data monitoring system to support the accountability mechanism.
The need to promote greater ecological integrity

Philippines’ Indicative State of Environmental Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENR Indicator</th>
<th>Indicator Value</th>
<th>Indicative Threshold/Standard</th>
<th>Index Rating</th>
<th>Index Rating Class</th>
<th>Sustainability Rating Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest Cover</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live Coral Reef²</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangrove Cover³</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>50 %</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seagrass Beds⁴</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish CUPE⁵</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.0-1.5 tm/hp</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife Endangerment⁶</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIPAS degradation⁷</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil erosion extent⁸</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Waste Disposal⁹</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Conversion Rate⁹</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>2,000 ha/yr</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of Air pollution¹⁰</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of Water Pollution¹¹</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Fair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance to Water Abstraction Limit¹²</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mine Tailings¹³</td>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>Very Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Index Rating¹⁴</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.07</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Low Sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Indicators</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>2015 Target</td>
<td>Actual Accomplishment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 1. ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population below national subsistence (food) threshold</td>
<td>17.6 (1991)</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>10.4 (2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 2. ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 3. PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in elementary participation rates</td>
<td>1 (1996)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education</td>
<td>1.1 (1996)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 4. REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-five mortality rate</td>
<td>80 (1990)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate</td>
<td>57 (1990)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 6. COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence associated with malaria</td>
<td>118.7 (1990)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7.9 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death rate associated with malaria</td>
<td>1.4 (1990)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.01 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS)</td>
<td>53 (2001)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>87 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Proportion of tuberculosis cases cured under DOTS</strong></td>
<td>73 (2001)</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>88 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 7. ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of families with access to safe water supply</td>
<td>73 (1990)</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>83.8 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of families with sanitary toilet facility</td>
<td>67.6 (1990)</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>92.2 (2013)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## GOAL 1. ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Indicators</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Target</th>
<th>Actual Accomplishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population below national poverty threshold</td>
<td>34.4 (1991)</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>25.2 (2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## GOAL 3. PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Indicators</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Target</th>
<th>Actual Accomplishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## GOAL 4. REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Indicators</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Target</th>
<th>Actual Accomplishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles</td>
<td>77.9 (1990)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>91 (2013)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Achieving MDGs: Low Probability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Indicators</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>2015 Target</th>
<th>Actual Accomplishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 1. ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of household with per capita energy less than 100% adequacy</td>
<td>74.2 (1993)</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>66.9 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 2. ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 6 (Cohort Survival Rate)</td>
<td>69.7 (1990)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>80.6 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary completion rate</td>
<td>64.2 (1990)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>78.5 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy rate of 15 to 24 years old</td>
<td>96.6 (1990)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>97.8 (2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 3. PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in primary education</td>
<td>1 (1996)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.9 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in secondary participation rates</td>
<td>1.2 (1996)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.1 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in tertiary education</td>
<td>1.3 (1993)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament</td>
<td>11.3 (1992)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>26 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 5. IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel</td>
<td>58.8 (1990)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>87 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraceptive prevalence rate</td>
<td>40 (1993)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>55.1 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent birth rate</td>
<td>50 (1993)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>57 (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOAL 6. COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence associated with tuberculosis</td>
<td>246 (1990)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>461 (2013)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wider fiscal space, coupled with budget reforms, provided government with flexibility to increase spending on social services...

Higher spending on social services
(Spending on social services, growth rate, in %)

1998-1998: 10.2
2000-2009: 8.0
2010-2013: 15.2
2014*: 18.2

Sources: BTr, DBM *Adjusted
Particularly on education, health and social protection...

Source: Department of Budget and Management, * Adjusted

Note: Others include Social Security and Labor Welfare, Land Distribution (CARP), Housing and Community Development, Other Social Services and Subsidy to Local Government Units
B. IN ACHIEVING THE MDGs

Enabling Factors:

1. Clear institutional arrangements
2. A plethora of policies supporting the MDGs
3. Programs and projects supporting the MDGs
4. Engagement and partnership with various sectors
5. Making champions from local chief executives
6. Capacitating local government units
7. Building the data: Using the CBMS, Regional MDG Watch, and Costing of LGU Menu of Options Templates
Lessons Learned

B. IN ACHIEVING THE MDGs

Constraints

1. Conflicting and overlapping policies
2. Weak implementation and monitoring at the local level
3. Wide geographical disparities
4. Insufficient timely and reliable data
5. Unequal prioritization of MDGs at the local level
6. Need to strengthen community participation
Review and recalibration needed:

a. Enhancement of the **economic structure** to promote investment in **people** and **nature**

b. Promote **less carbon- and resource-intensive economy**, create **decent jobs**, build resilient and efficient **infrastructure**, ensure access to **basic services** to all;

c. Revisiting **policies, plans and programs** to ensure **balance integration of SD dimensions** and contribute to achievement of national SDGs

- Avoidance of heavily skewed policies and programs towards economic growth to the detriment of environmental integrity and equity concerns;
- Address unsustainable and inefficient resource extraction, maintain dependence on fossil fuel energy, **high carbon**
- Consideration for social and environmental costs
Political Will

- **Creation of enabling policies** to create an environment for SDG implementation and localization
- **Review and harmonize** conflicting and overlapping policies
- **Strengthening policies and plans** that **build resilience of** communities, especially the poor, against natural and man-made hazards and economic shocks.
2. Capacities and Data

- Strengthen national capacities on **mainstreaming global SDGs** into the national and local policies, plans & programs.

- Enhance both **national and local capacities** (LGUs/LCEs) on data collection, dissemination & analysis, identification SDG indicators and monitoring & reporting of implementation, etc.

Enhance local institutions’ capacities to:
- address data gaps
- protect statistical integrity & quality
- enhance public numeracy.
Production/availability of evidence-based, high quality, disaggregated data - critical for **better goal setting**, **develop appropriate interventions** and provide **evidenced-based decision making** to support SDG implementation

- **Investments** on statistics and information
3. Monitoring and follow up

- **Strong governance structure** required at all levels to monitor, review and ensure accountability to follow up commitments

- **Multistakeholder participation** in the formulation, decision-making, implementation and monitoring and review of progress

- **Political buy-in of LCEs** and transparency in local governance
4. Financing

**Mobilizing international and domestic resources**

- increasing investment/expenditure on poverty reduction programs, social services and environmental protection
- allocate part of the tax (i.e. Excise tax) for SDG implementation
- Performance challenge fund
- Tap private sector resources (e.g. PPPs for school buildings, health facilities, and CSRs for environmental conservation activities)
- Remittances from overseas workers