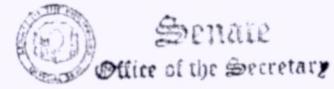


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE
S. No. 788

19 JUL 25 P 4:50

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICY**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Medium-term planning is part of the government tradition in the Philippines. At the start of each administration, the government draws up a six-year development plan that outlines its goals and objectives for the plan period, along with the strategies, policies, programs and projects required to meet them.

Indeed, sound policies and programs are major determinants of development. Thus, it is imperative to know if the policies and programs of the country are appropriate, being implemented correctly, and are achieving their objectives. Likewise, it is important to know if there are better policies or programs that can meet national goals more effectively, efficiently, equitably, and sustainably.

A policy or program proven useful in the past may not be as effective and relevant under present circumstances. In the same manner, policies and programs that have worked well in some countries may not succeed in others. Context is important to the soundness of a policy or program. Thus, systematic and context-specific evaluation of policies and programs is important.

Evaluation of planned, ongoing, or completed policies and programs provides the evidence to ascertain their relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability¹. It can also yield important lessons for improving policy and program formulation and implementation. Moreover, evaluation can contribute to good governance by promoting transparency and accountability.

¹ Valdez, Joseph, and Michael Bamberger. 1994. Monitoring and Evaluating Social Programs in Developing Countries. Washington D.C.: Economic Development Institute, World Bank

Unfortunately, evaluation has not been widely and systematically integrated in the processes and systems of government. Evaluation has been conducted on only a few and selected programs and projects, largely on the initiative of international development agencies. In 2015, the National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Budget and Management issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2015-01 establishing an evaluation policy framework to govern the practice of evaluation of programs and projects receiving budgetary support from the government. However, the Circular applies only to the agencies of the Executive Branch. And like other Executive Circulars, its implementation is subject to uncertainty especially when there is a change in government administration.

Recognizing the importance of evaluation, some countries have statutes institutionalizing variants of a National Evaluation Policy (NEP) that applies to all branches and levels of government, while many other countries are in the process of establishing their own NEP². A National Evaluation Policy defining the purpose, responsibilities, functions and organization of the public-sector evaluation function in a particular country can facilitate the development of an enabling environment and the institutional and individual capacities for evaluation to reach its full potential.

This Bill proposes the passage of a law mandating the establishment of a National Evaluation Policy to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the regular conduct of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the results of public policies, programs, projects and other forms of government intervention intended to promote sustainable development and uplift the living standards of all Filipinos, especially the poor and the marginalized. As pointed out by a Hon. Mayantha Dissanayaka, a Member of Parliament of Sri Lanka, in the Global Parliamentarians for Evaluation Conference held in Colombo on 17-19 September 2018, "the National Evaluation Policy (NEP) can be ignored by future Governments and Parliaments if it is not passed as an Act by Parliament."

² Rosenstein, B. (2015). Status of National Evaluation Policies. Global Mapping Report. 2nd Edition, Implemented by Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation in South Asia jointly with EvalPartners

Hence, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought

Risa Hontiveros Zarapelo
RISA HONTIVEROS

Senator

SENATE

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICY**

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

1 Section 1. *Statement of Policy.* — To improve the national government's
2 performance and to enhance the quality of public services, this National Evaluation
3 Policy (NEP) is enacted to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the
4 regular conduct of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the results of public policies,
5 programs, and projects.

6 Sec. 2. *Policy Objectives.* — The NEP intends to achieve the following
7 objectives:

- 8 a) Facilitate the development and strengthening of an integrated M&E
9 system of the national government to ensure the regular
10 measurement, reporting and improvement of the performance of its
11 agencies, policies, programs, projects and services;
- 12 b) Ensure the timely provision to national government policymakers and
13 managers of relevant, updated, valid and reliable knowledge about the
14 outputs, outcomes, impacts, and other results of public policies,
15 programs, projects and services;
- 16 c) Ensure the intensive utilization of M&E findings and recommendations
17 in the planning, programming, formulation, budgeting and
18 implementation of public policies, programs, projects and services;
- 19 d) Ensure the continuous improvement of public policies, programs,
20 projects and services to produce outputs, outcomes and impacts that
21 substantially contribute to the achievement of national development
22 goals and priorities;

1 e) Ensure the accountability of the national government and its agencies
2 and various public service providers to produce planned, expected or
3 promised results.

4 Sec. 3. *Definitions.* — The key terms used in this law are defined as follows:

- 5 a) Evaluation refers to the systematic and impartial process of assessing
6 the results of public policies, programs, projects, and services
7 implemented or carried out by the national government and/or its
8 agencies or instrumentalities. It analyzes the level of relevance,
9 efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the expected and
10 actual outputs, outcomes and impacts of public policies, programs,
11 projects and services. It generates credible and useful evidence-based
12 information to substantially enable the results-oriented planning,
13 programming, budgeting, formulation and reformulation and
14 implementation of public policies, programs, projects and services.
- 15 b) Monitoring refers to the systematic and continuous collection of data
16 on agreed indicators to track the short-term and medium-term
17 progress and results of public policies, programs, projects or services
18 being implemented vis-à-vis planned targets and objectives. It
19 generates knowledge to guide government policy/decision makers and
20 managers of the necessary corrective actions to ensure that policies,
21 programs, projects or services being implemented produce their
22 intended results. While different from evaluation, monitoring is a
23 crucial pre-requisite for effective evaluations of policies, programs,
24 projects and services.
- 25 c) Results comprise the outputs, outcomes and impacts of policies,
26 programs, projects or services being implemented.
- 27 a. Outputs are specific goods and services produced by budgeted
28 and implemented public policies, programs, projects, services
29 and other interventions.
- 30 b. Outcomes refer to the actual finite and measurable changes in
31 the behavior or target individuals, groups, or organizations
32 and/or improvements in the quality of processes and services as
33 an immediate effect of specific interventions. Outcome
34 evaluations generate knowledge on the effectiveness of policies,
35 programs, projects and services in meeting their intended
36 objectives.

1 c. Impacts are the fundamental, broad sectoral and higher-level
2 societal changes, both intended and unintended, that take place
3 long after target individuals, groups, systems or organizations
4 have experienced the outputs and outcomes of specific
5 interventions. Impact evaluations

6 Sec. 4. *Coverage.* — The NEP shall apply to the following:

- 7 a) All departments, agencies, state universities and colleges (SUCs),
8 government-owned and/or controlled corporations (GOCCs),
9 government financial institutions and other instrumentalities of the
10 executive, legislative and judicial branches of the National Government;
- 11 b) All public policies, programs, projects, services and other activities
12 formulated and implemented by the above entities and funded by local
13 and foreign funds including those contracted to and executed,
14 produced and delivered by private sector and civil society
15 organizations;

16 The National Evaluation Council (NEC) created under Section 14 hereof may include
17 other entities and activities imbued with public interest in the coverage of the NEP.

18 Sec. 5. *Evaluation Principles.* — Evaluations of public policies, programs,
19 projects and services shall be guided by the following key principles:

- 20 a) *Key criteria.* Evaluations shall address, at a minimum, questions
21 pertaining to the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and
22 sustainability of public policies, programs, projects and services;
- 23 b) *Performance improvement.* Evaluations shall be designed,
24 implemented and used to ensure the continuous improvement of the
25 planning, programming, budgeting, formulation and reformulation
26 and implementation of the national government's public policies,
27 programs, projects and services.
- 28 c) *Value for money.* Evaluations should seek to determine whether the
29 outputs, outcomes and impacts of the national government's public
30 policies, programs, projects and services are commensurate to their
31 invested financial, physical and human resources.
- 32 d) *Minimum competencies of evaluators.* Evaluators shall have the
33 required minimum competencies to effectively evaluate public
34 policies, programs, projects and services;
- 35 e) *Ethics.* Those who commission, design, conduct, manage, and use
36 evaluations shall observe standards of ethics in evaluations.

1 Impartiality in the planning and conduct of evaluations shall be
2 always ensured.

- 3 f) *Best practices.* The conduct of evaluations shall be in accordance with
4 internationally recognized best practices and standards. Clear
5 standards shall govern the design, implementation, reporting,
6 dissemination and use of evaluations of public policies, programs,
7 projects and services. Partnerships with various stakeholders shall be
8 encouraged in the prioritization, design, implementation and use of
9 evaluations.

10 Sec. 6. *Evaluation Criteria.* – At the minimum, evaluations of national
11 government policies, programs, projects and services shall measure and report on
12 their efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, impact and sustainability.

- 13 a) *Efficiency* measures the cost and time by which the intended outputs
14 and short-term and medium-term outcomes and long-term impacts of
15 public policies programs, projects and services were
16 delivered-produced by national government agencies and
17 instrumentalities including their networks of private and civil society
18 service providers. Efficiency evaluations shall help government
19 policy/decision makers to ascertain whether the intended objectives
20 were achieved on time and at planned cost and to identify better and
21 efficient ways of meeting the objectives of policies, programs,
22 projects and policies.
- 23 b) *Effectiveness* measures the quality and timeliness of the intended and
24 unintended outputs and the short-term and medium-term outcomes
25 and long-term impacts of public policies, programs, projects and
26 services. Effectiveness evaluations shall measure the extent to which
27 valued development and societal impacts can be attributed clearly to
28 the public policies, programs, projects and services being
29 implemented by the covered entities;
- 30 c) *Relevance* measures the alignment and consistency of the results of
31 public policies, programs, projects and services with national
32 development goals and priorities and their responsiveness to
33 stakeholder needs;
- 34 d) *Impact* measures the fundamental, broad and higher-level societal
35 effects of public policies, programs, projects, services and other
36 national government interventions;

- 1 e) *Sustainability* measures the extent to which the benefits of policies,
2 programs, projects and services continue after funding ceased.
3 Sustainability evaluations shall help government policy/decision
4 makers to identify the major factors that influenced the achievement
5 or non-achievement of the sustainability objectives of public policies,
6 programs, projects and services.
- 7 The NEC shall adopt additional monitoring and evaluation criteria including but not
8 limited to development equity and inclusiveness for various stakeholders,
9 responsiveness to gender-equality goals, and achievement of national development
10 and sustainable development goals.

11 Sec. 7. *Evaluation Competencies.* – Organizations and individuals engaged in
12 designing, conducting and managing evaluations of public policies, programs,
13 projects and services shall have the following minimum competencies:

- 14 a) *Technical foundation:* Understands and makes appropriate use of
15 methodological concepts and practices in line with accepted
16 professional evaluation standards; gathers relevant evidence for
17 evaluation purposes from appropriate sources, assessing its quality
18 and identifying gaps; analyzes and interprets data fairly,
19 comprehensively and objectively in order to effectively address
20 evaluation questions.
- 21 b) *Leading, managing, and delivering evaluations.* Manages evaluation
22 resources and relationships with stakeholders to deliver high quality
23 evaluations on time and to Philippine government standards.
- 24 c) *Communicating and sharing evaluation findings:* Communicates
25 effectively orally and in writing in the context of all evaluation
26 activities; clearly reports evaluation methods, findings, conclusions
27 and recommendations; promotes awareness and use of evaluations
28 through effective dissemination and advice.
- 29 d) *Integrity:* Demonstrates honesty and respect in dealing with
30 project/program personnel, other interested personnel of the national
31 government, and all other evaluation stakeholders.

32 Sec. 8. *Evaluation Ethics.* – Evaluators or organizations and persons engaged
33 in designing, conducting and managing evaluation activities shall abide by the Code
34 of Conduct Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees (Republic Act No.
35 6713). They shall:

- 1 a) Respect the right of entities and individuals to provide information in
- 2 Confidence;
- 3 b) Ensure that sensitive data used in evaluations cannot be traced to its
- 4 source;
- 5 c) Give opportunity to all stakeholders involved in evaluations to review
- 6 and approve the statements attributed to them;
- 7 d) Be sensitive to the cultural, social and economic environment of all
- 8 stakeholders, and conduct themselves in a manner that is fair and
- 9 appropriate to this environment;
- 10 e) Be accountable for their performance and their products

11 Sec. 9. *Impartiality.* – The evaluation units (created under Section 18 hereof)
12 of entities and interventions covered by the NEP shall ensure that evaluations are
13 conducted with the highest possible degree of impartiality in order to maximize
14 objectivity and minimize the potential for bias. Where appropriate, they shall
15 commission independent third-party evaluators to undertake portions of, or the
16 entire, evaluations. Managers and other stakeholders of public policies, programs,
17 projects and services being evaluated shall not be allowed to influence evaluation
18 findings.

19 Sec. 10. Evaluation Capacity Building. – The NEC shall lead the formulation
20 and implementation of a comprehensive program to develop the monitoring and
21 evaluation capacity of the national government especially for those who design,
22 conduct, manage and use evaluations of public policies, programs, projects and
23 services. All entities by this policy shall design and implement their respective
24 evaluation-capacity building initiatives in line with this program and customized for
25 their respective organizational context, roles, and needs.

26 The national government, through the NEC, shall encourage and support the
27 formation and strengthening of national, regional and local professional evaluation
28 associations and network. The NEC shall also develop partnerships with state and
29 private universities and colleges in the development and conduct of comprehensive
30 evaluation courses.

31 Sec. 11. *Evaluation Scale.* – To meet the information needs of government
32 policy/decision makers and other stakeholders, different types of evaluations (i.e.,
33 diagnostic, formative and summative evaluations) of public policies, programs,
34 policies and services shall be conducted. To guide the design of public policies,
35 programs, projects or services prior to implementation, diagnostic evaluations shall
36 be required as needed. To ensure that their intended outcomes are achieved,

1 formative evaluations shall be conducted at the mid-point of period of
2 implementation of public policies, programs, projects and services. Summative
3 impact evaluations shall also be conducted six years after or at the end of
4 implementation of a major public policy, program, project or service.

5 The scale of each diagnostic, formative and summative evaluations should be large
6 enough to provide timely answers to critical evaluation questions with an adequate
7 level of certainty, but no costlier than necessary. The following factors shall be
8 considered in defining the scale of every evaluation:

- 9 a) level of ambiguity of outcomes especially for new interventions;
- 10 b) potential consequences especially of policies, programs and projects
11 whose failure can lead to severe negative consequences;
- 12 c) information needs of government policy/decision makers for policies,
13 programs and projects whose funding and renewal are at stake or
14 those with a high public profile;
- 15 d) magnitude of the policy, program and project intervention;
- 16 e) complexity of policy, program, project or service in terms of number
17 and variation of activities, size of target populations, regional reach;
18 and anticipated difficulty associated with acquiring relevant data;
- 19 f) uniqueness of the intervention with respect to outputs and
20 outcomes/impacts;

21 Sec. 12. *Evaluation Design and Execution.* – Within the defined evaluation 24
22 scale, evaluations shall use research methodologies in line with accepted professional
23 evaluation practice including but not limited to the following:

- 24 a) logic models/change theories that depict key
25 policy/program/project/service elements (i.e., inputs, activities,
26 intended outputs, short-term outcomes, medium-term outcomes,
27 long-term impacts, related higher-level and national priorities) and
28 the hypothesized causal links among the elements. Such logic
29 models/change theories shall guide the development of questions to
30 be answered by evaluations.
- 31 b) baseline data and/or ongoing project/program performance data
32 collected to support the evaluation;
- 33 c) research designs that can significantly establish the extent to which
34 outcomes and impact can be attributed to the policies, programs,
35 projects and services being evaluated. Research designs shall include
36 a mix of quantitative and qualitative research perspectives and

1 methods- e.g., random surveys, interviews and focus groups with a
2 diversity of audiences including project/program participants and
3 stakeholders; literature/document reviews, and administrative data
4 analyses;

5 d) scientific and rigorous sampling strategies that provide accurate
6 representation of the populations of interest;

7 e) valid and reliable research instruments;

8 f) comprehensive and accurate quantitative and qualitative data analysis
9 strategies that take into account the context of policies, programs and
10 projects being evaluated that can generate valid, reliable and
11 defensible findings for each evaluation question;

12 g) conclusions drawn from a synthesis of findings;

13 h) recommendations based on the findings and conclusions;

14 i) evaluation reports and related presentations that are concisely and
15 clearly written and communicated. Evaluation reports and
16 presentations shall ensure that all audiences including decision-
17 makers (i.e., project/program managers to senior officials and
18 legislators) can readily grasp key messages and make informed
19 decisions about the policies, programs, projects, and services being
20 evaluated.

21 The NEC and the entities covered by the NEP shall establish evaluation review
22 panels, advisory committees and other mechanisms to assure the high quality of
23 evaluations.

24 Sec. 13. Reporting and dissemination of evaluations. – All final evaluation
25 reports shall contain the following essential contents:

- 26 a) adequate description of the policy, program, project or service being
27 evaluated;
- 28 b) adequate background and context including the purpose of the
29 evaluation and the evaluation issues and questions;
- 30 c) description of the actual evaluation methodology including
31 limitations and the approaches adopted to mitigate limitations;
- 32 d) clearly stated evaluation findings with the description of the
33 evidence on which each finding is based;
- 34 e) recommendations developed by the evaluator based on the findings;
- 35 f) response from the head(s) of the covered entities, describing
36 actions that will be taken in addressing each recommendation;

1 g) the identities of the principal members of the evaluation team and
2 the evaluation steering committees or advisory bodies tasked with
3 oversight and assuring the quality of evaluations;

4 The NEC shall issue additional directives as necessary.

5 Sec. 14. *Creation of the National Evaluation Council.* – A National Evaluation
6 Council is hereby established to act as the lead agency for implementing the NEP. Its
7 membership shall ensure adequate representation of the executive, legislative and
8 judicial branches of the national government. It shall also ensure that sufficient
9 participation of experts from the academe and private sector and civil society
10 stakeholders are taken into consideration in decisions of the NEC. Its organizational
11 and staffing pattern shall be in accordance with existing government policies, rules
12 and regulations.

13 Sec. 15. *Composition of the National Evaluation Council.* – The NEC shall 5
14 have eight (8) voting members:

- 15 1) A career Undersecretary of the National Economic and Development
16 Authority (NEDA) in charge of monitoring and evaluation; to be
17 appointed by the NEDA Secretary as his/her official representative to
18 the NEC;
- 19 2) A career Undersecretary of the Department of Budget and
20 Management (DBM) in charge of government performance reporting,
21 monitoring and evaluation and/or improvement as Co-Chairperson, to
22 be appointed by the DBM Secretary as his/her official representative;
- 23 3) The head of the Presidential Management Staff or his or her officially
24 appointed representative;
- 25 4) A career Deputy Secretary General/ Director General in charge of
26 policy planning, research and/or evaluation in the House of
27 Representatives, to be appointed by the House Speaker as his/her
28 official representative;
- 29 5) A career Deputy Secretary General/ Director General in charge of
30 policy planning, research and/or evaluation in the Philippine Senate, to
31 be appointed by the Senate President;
- 32 6) A Deputy Court Administrator in charge of performance monitoring
33 and evaluation of the judicial branch, to be appointed by the Court
34 Administrator as his/her official representative;
- 35 7) A Commissioner of the Commission on Audit (COA) to be appointed by
36 the COA Chairperson as his/her official representative;

1 8) The head of the Philippine Statistical Authority (PSA) or his/her
2 officially appointed representative;

3 Sec. 16. Functions of the National Evaluation Council. – The NEC shall 38
4 perform the following functions to implement the NEP:

5 a) formulate the basic guidelines for ensuring systematic and regular
6 evaluations 41 of national government policies, programs, projects
7 and services. The guidelines shall 42 cover the following matters:

8 a. administrative policy on the conduct of evaluations;

9 b. evaluation criteria and standards;

10 c. studying and acquiring information on the effects of government
11 interventions;

12 d. conduct of diagnostic, formative and summative impact
13 evaluations;

14 e. acquisition of experts with knowledge and experience in
15 evaluation;

16 f. utilization of evaluation findings in the planning, programming,
17 budgeting, formulation, reform, implementation of government
18 interventions;

19 g. publication of information related to evaluations;

20 h. other measures to ensure systematic and regular conduct of
21 evaluations.

22 b) serve as the national government's administrative policy center for
23 M&E, providing guidelines for monitoring, measuring and reporting
24 the performance of public policies, programs, projects and services;

25 c) lead in the formulation, coordination and implementation of a
26 comprehensive and continuous program to develop and strengthen
27 the evaluation capacities including the integrated M&E system of the
28 national government and its agencies and instrumentalities;

29 d) provide overall policy direction, coordination, formulation and
30 implementation of the evaluation agenda of the national government
31 and its agencies/instrumentalities;

32 e) monitor progress of M&E development and strengthening of the
33 national government and its agencies/instrumentalities;

34 f) lead the development of a comprehensive program to improve the
35 national government's performance;

36 g) lead and coordinate the preparation of the annual national

- 1 performance report;
- 2 h) facilitate or manage national or sectoral evaluations and special
- 3 evaluation studies, on top of those conducted by implementing
- 4 agencies;
- 5 i) work with the private sector and civil society to promote feedback
- 6 mechanisms as input to M&E of the national government and all its
- 7 agencies/instrumentalities;
- 8 j) facilitate the development of national and regional M&E professional
- 9 associations;
- 10 k) disseminate the results of evaluations to government policy/decision
- 11 makers and managers of programs, projects and services of the
- 12 agencies in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the
- 13 national government.

14 The NEC shall meet every quarter or as often as necessary. It may authorize the

15 creation of technical committees, advisory bodies, and other mechanisms to ensure

16 high-quality evaluations.

17 Sec. 17. *Creation of the NEC Secretariat and its Functions.* – In the interim,

18 the Monitoring and Evaluation Staff of the NEDA shall serve as the NEC Secretariat.

19 Within six months after the enactment of this policy, the NEC Secretariat attached to

20 the NEDA shall be formally organized to provide technical, managerial and

21 administrative support to the NEC. The NEC Secretariat shall be headed by an

22 Executive Director.

23 Subject to the approval of the NEC and to existing government laws and regulations

24 on government organization, staffing, services and divisions as needed to effectively

25 support the NEC's functions and responsibilities shall be created. The NEC Secretariat

26 shall be an attached agency of the NEDA. The NEC Secretariat shall have the

27 following responsibilities:

- 28 a) recommend for the NEC's approval, evaluation policies, principles,
- 29 standards, criteria, strategies and guidelines for the effective
- 30 implementation of the NEP;
- 31 b) recommend to the NEC the format and content of evaluation plans and
- 32 reports;
- 33 c) monitor and report on progress and results of evaluation activities
- 34 undertaken by the NEC and covered entities;
- 35 d) serve as a repository of all evaluation plans and reports of the national
- 36 government and its agencies/instrumentalities;

- e) upload in its website within 15 days from completion of all final evaluation reports for public policies, programs, projects and services of the national government and its agencies and instrumentalities;
- f) notify the key stakeholders of the national government within 15 days from completion about final evaluation plans and completed evaluations of public policies, programs, projects and services;
- g) provide hard and soft copies of final evaluation reports to the following stakeholders of the Philippine Congress: the House Speaker; the Senate President; the concerned chairpersons and committee secretaries of congressional committees with jurisdictions over public policies, programs, projects and services being evaluated; and the support offices of the House of Representatives and the Philippine Senate performing budget and policy research and technical assistance to the members of Congress;
- h) disseminate evaluation plans and completed evaluation reports of the national government and its agencies and instrumentalities;
- i) conduct capacity-development activities on evaluation with partners from the government, private and civil society sectors;
- j) conduct/manage evaluations as authorized by the NEC;
- k) provide Secretariat support to the NEC;
- l) recommend sanctions and incentives;
- m) prepare a consolidated report of individual evaluations for the NEC's appropriate action.

Sec. 18. *Evaluation Agenda*. – The agencies and instrumentalities of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the national government shall identify public policy, program, projects service evaluations for inclusion in the six-year rolling National Evaluation Agenda (NEA). The NEC, with the assistance of its Secretariat, shall lead the coordination in preparing and finalizing the NEA. It shall adopt guidelines and criteria for selecting policies, programs, projects and services for evaluations. Such criteria shall include but not limited to the following:

- a) high-risk innovative policies, programs, projects, services;
- b) any public policy, program, project or service set up as a pilot or demonstration;
- c) large scale or high-profile policies/programs.

All agencies and instrumentalities of the national government from the executive, legislative and judicial branches shall formulate and maintain a continuously updated

1 six-year evaluation agenda, to coincide with the timeframe of the preparation of the
2 Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and Public Investment Program (PIP). The
3 evaluation agenda of the national government agencies and instrumentalities shall
4 specify public policies, programs, projects and services to be subjected to diagnostic,
5 formative and summative evaluations and their timelines.

6 The NEC, with the assistance of its Secretariat, shall review the six-year evaluation
7 agenda of national government agencies and instrumentalities to identify high-
8 priority evaluations for integration in the National Evaluation Agenda.

9 Sec. 19. Creation of Neutral Evaluation Units of Covered Entities. – The head
10 of any national government department, agency or instrumentality shall establish
11 capable and neutral evaluation unit initially at the central level subject to existing
12 policies, rules, and regulations of the DBM on organizational and staffing pattern
13 changes. The head of the evaluation unit reports directly to the head of the
14 department, agency or instrumentality.

15 To support the work of the neutral evaluation unit, the head of the national
16 government department, agency or instrumentality shall establish a senior-level M&E
17 advisory committee for support and oversight of M&E initiatives of the entity covered
18 by the NEP.

19 Sec. 20. Functions of the Neutral Evaluation Units. – The evaluation unit of
20 national government departments, agencies and instrumentalities shall:

- 21 a) formulate and submit the agency's six-year rolling evaluation agenda
22 to the head of the agency, copy furnished the NEC Secretariat;
- 23 b) lead the implementation of the evaluation agenda of the department,
24 agency or instrumentality;
- 25 c) plan, conduct and manage evaluations of policies, programs, projects
26 and services within the mandated functions and responsibilities of the
27 department, agency or instrumentality;
- 28 d) ensure that evaluations are undertaken with due regard for impartiality
29 and in line with evaluation best practices;
- 30 e) manage the agency's evaluation budget and related activities;
- 31 f) submit to the agency head evaluation findings and recommendations,
32 copy furnished the NEC and its Secretariat;
- 33 g) serve as repository of all evaluation studies conducted/commissioned
34 by the department, agency or instrumentality;
- 35 h) upload in its website within 15 days from completion of completed
36 evaluation plans and final evaluation reports;

- 1 i) submit evaluation plans and final evaluation reports to the NEC
2 Secretariat in accordance with prescribed guidelines;
3 j) develop and strengthen the M&E system of the department, agency or
4 instrumentality;
5 k) prepare annual reports on the performance of policies, programs,
6 projects and services implemented by the department, agency or
7 instrumentality, and disseminate the same to the head of the
8 department, agency or instrumentality; the relevant committees and
9 support offices of the House of Representatives and the Philippine
10 Senate; and the NEC and its Secretariat.
11 l) provide input to budget and policy discussions.

12 The NEC shall issue guidelines governing the formation and operation of neutral
13 evaluation units of entities covered by this policy.

14 Sec. 21. *Utilization of Evaluation Findings and Recommendations.* – The heads
15 of departments, agencies and instrumentalities shall submit reports on their
16 management response and other actions on the findings and recommendations of
17 completed evaluations, to the NEC and its Secretariat, the Speaker of the House and
18 the Senate President and to the relevant committee chairpersons and support offices
19 of the two branches of Congress.

20 The heads of departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the executive,
21 legislative and judicial branches of the national government shall ensure that M&E
22 data, findings and recommendations are used to guide and improve the planning,
23 programming, budgeting, formulation, implementation and oversight of public
24 policies, programs, projects and services.

25 The NEC and its Secretariat and the evaluation units and M&E advisory committees
26 of the entities covered by this policy shall monitor the actions of the national
27 government and its agencies and instrumentalities, on evaluation findings and
28 recommendations.

29 Sec. 22. *Project/Program Proposals.* – All policies, programs, projects or
30 services put forward for annual budgeting shall include an evaluation plan in
31 accordance with the best practices. The policies, programs, projects or services for
32 funding shall consider the results of their completed evaluations and make reference
33 to relevant evaluation findings, recommendations, and resulting changes to the
34 proposed policies, programs or projects. In cases where evaluations
35 recommendations were not followed, the proposal for funding shall include an
36 explanation.

1 Sec. 23. *Mainstreaming of the NEP.* – The national government and its
2 agencies and instrumentalities in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of
3 the national government shall allocate at least three percent (3%) of their annual
4 budgets for implementation of the NEP. Such funds shall be used for:

- 5 a) evaluation capacity development;
- 6 b) ongoing salaries, recruitment and training to ensure an adequate
7 supply of internal personnel competent in evaluation;
- 8 c) operations and maintenance; and,
- 9 d) external professional service fees.

10 Sec. 24. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The NEC shall formulate the
11 implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Act. The IRR shall specify the target
12 outputs, short-term and medium-term outcomes, long-term impacts and other
13 intended results of this policy. The IRR shall provide for the conduct of formative and
14 summative evaluations of the NEP two and five years, respectively, after its initial
15 implementation.

16 Sec. 25. *Amendment.* – The findings and recommendations of the formative
17 and summative evaluations, in addition to the feedback of various stakeholders
18 including but not limited to the NEC and its Secretariat, neutral evaluation units of
19 entities covered by the NEP, and private sector and civil society organizations
20 including international donor agencies shall guide amendments of the NEP including
21 the basic guidelines for NEP's implementation formulated by the NEC.

22 Sec. 26. *Repealing Clause.* – All policies and issuances or parts thereof
23 inconsistent with the NEP are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

24 Sec. 27. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,