

**REVISED CHILD FRIENDLY LOCAL GOVERNANCE AUDIT (CFLGA)
AND IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINE**

Reference Number:

Date:

Rev. No.

1. PREFATORY STATEMENT

The country's commitment towards the AmBisyon 2040 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires collaboration among local government units (LGUs), national government agencies (NGAs), and civil society organizations (CSOs). These efforts, strategically defined in the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) and the 3rd National Plan of Action for Children (3rd NPAC), are geared towards upholding the rights of Filipino children.

The State, under the 1987 Constitution, has the role of defending children's right to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty and exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development. Further, pursuant to the Local Government Code of 1991, LGUs are mandated to ensure the general welfare of their constituents and to provide basic social services, among others, for the care of abandoned minors, juvenile delinquents, abused children, persons of unsound mind, disabled persons, and other needy and disadvantaged persons, particularly children and youth below eighteen (18) years of age.

The Departments are in support of ensuring the progressive realization of the children's rights to survival, development, protection and participation through the Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA), a mandatory audit system implemented since 2014. The CFLGA assesses the LGU performance in the delivery of social services and programs for child and youth welfare. Further, the Seal of Child Friendly Local Governance (SCFLG), as a result of the audit, is used as input for the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) and the Presidential Award for Child Friendly Cities and Municipalities (PACFMC).

2. PURPOSE

This JMC is intended to provide LGUs, and other concerned agencies, guidance in the conduct of the CFLGA and ensure their commitment in the audit implementation.

Specifically, the purpose of the CFLGA is to assess LGU performance in delivering child-friendly policies, programs, and services. The audit-generated data and results will serve as basis for LGUs and NGAs to identify strengths and opportunities to enhance child rights responsive governance in the country.

3. SCOPE/COVERAGE

This JMC covers the following:

- a. All Provincial, City and Municipal LGUs (P/C/MLGUs);
- b. DILG Regional, Provincial, City and Municipal Field Offices;
- c. DSWD Regional and Field Offices; attached agency Council for the Welfare of Children and the Regional Committees/Sub-Committees for the Welfare of Children (RC/SCWCs);

- d. DepEd Regional Offices, School Divisions, and Public Elementary and Secondary Schools; attached agency Early Childhood Care and Development Council (ECCDC);
- e. DOH Regional and Centers for Health Development (CHD) Officers; attached agency National Nutrition Council; and
- f. others concerned.

4. POLICY CONTENT AND GUIDELINES

The mechanics in the conduct of the CFLGA, as provided in this Circular, are described in detail and expounded in a separate Handbook.

4.1. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Cognizant of the LGU functions, national plans and international commitments, all City and Municipal LGUs shall be assessed using the following indicators categorized under the four (4) core rights of children (survival, development, protection, and participation) and governance.

INDICATOR	
Survival¹	
1.1	Percentage coverage of Fully Immunized Children aged 0-12 months old
1.2	Prevalence of malnutrition among children aged 0-59 months
1.3	Percentage coverage of pregnant adolescents provided with prenatal and postpartum services
Development²	
2.1	Percentage coverage of children aged 3-4 years old provided with early childhood care and development (ECCD) services, both public and privately managed, and may be center, home, or community-based
2.2	Presence of ECCD services in all barangays, either private or publicly-managed (center, home, community, or other modalities)
2.3	Percentage of out-of-school children and youth (OCSY) assisted for enrolment/ re-enrolment to school, alternative learning system (ALS) or other flexible learning options
Protection³	
3.1	Management of reported cases of children in need of special protection (CNSP)
Participation⁴	
4.1	Child representation in the Local Council for the Protection of Children
4.2	Development of policy and programs, projects, and activity (PPAs) with children's participation in the planning, implementation or monitoring phase
Governance	
5.1	Database on children
5.2	Available and implemented local plans for children
5.3	Updated Local Code for Children (LCC) contextualizing/adopting recently issued national laws on children

INDICATOR

- 5.4 Budget allocated and utilized for children's programs
- 5.5 Functional LCPCs
- 5.6 Child-Friendly Facilities in all Barangays

- Note 1: Survival rights include the inherent right to life, the right to a name and nationality, the right to an identity and those dealing with parental and governmental duties and obligations, adequate and decent standard of living, access to basic health care and services, social security and rehabilitation.
- Note 2: Development rights refer to access to educational opportunities, relevant information, play, leisure, cultural activities and rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
- Note 3: Protection rights cover those rights which guard children against all forms of abuses, exploitation and discrimination and in areas where a child is considered to be in extremely difficult circumstances.
- Note 4: Participation rights pertain to the rights of freedom to expression and to have one's views taken into account, involvement in decision making and consultative process, freedom of association and assembly.

4.2. INTER-AGENCY MONITORING TASK FORCE (IMTF)

The Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (IMTF), or the audit team, at the City, Municipal, Provincial and Regional levels shall be composed as follows:

Chairperson : DILG (C/MLGOO, Provincial, Regional)

Co-chairperson : DSWD (LSWDO, PSWDO, DSWD FO)

Members:

- a. Planning and Development Office⁵
- b. Health Office (including the Nutrition Office)⁵
- c. Representative from DepEd
- d. Representative from Academe⁶
- e. Representative from nongovernment and/or interfaith organization⁶

The LGUs may include additional members such as, but not limited to, the Local Budget Officer, Accountant and Sangguniang Bayan/Panlungsod Representative, as necessary.

Note 5: At the regional level, offices referred to in items (a) and (b) are the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and the DOH and NNC Regional Offices. Also, to be included as a representative to the Regional IMTF are the Technical Staff of the respective RC/SCWCs.

Note 6: The criteria for selecting the representative for items (d) and (e) is provided in the CFLGA Handbook.

4.3. AUDIT PROCESS⁷

The audit shall start on the 4th week of January with an orientation from the Regional IMTF wherein CFLGA Data Capture Forms (DCF) and Handbook are to be disseminated. It shall be concluded by July of the same year upon the LGU's receipt of the official audit result. The conduct of the actual audit involves an IMTF team at different levels that does the following:

- 4.3.1. Data gathering at the City/Municipal level from the 1st to the 3rd week of February. The IMTF shall meet at least three (3) times for (i) orientation, (ii) deliberation, and (iii) presentation of the CFLGA result to the LCPC which shall serve as the exit conference.
- 4.3.2. Data validation and review. First, at the provincial level from the 4th week of February to the 1st week of April. Second, at the regional levels from the 2nd week of April to the 1st week of May. This phase shall ensure completeness of the forms and its supporting documents as well as verify, and reconcile if needed, the reported data.
- 4.3.3. Evaluation and conferment at the national level which involves three steps. First is the review by the CWC Secretariat from the 2nd week of May to the 1st week of June. This is followed by the endorsement of the Technical Management Group (TMG) and the conferment by the Council Board from the 2nd to the 3rd week of June.
- 4.3.4. Post-Audit. Upon conferment, the CWC shall share the results to DILG, Regional IMTF, and RC/SCWCs which in turn, shall disseminate the results to their respective Provincial IMTF. Likewise, the latter shall inform the C/MLGUs of the results and identify areas for Technical Assistance and Resource Augmentation. The Regional and Provincial IMTFs are encouraged to organize and conduct an awarding ceremony for the C/MLGU audit passers. Communicating the audit result shall be concluded by the 3rd week of July.

Note 7: A step-by-step process is provided in the CFLGA Handbook.

4.4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The specific roles and functions of the concerned agencies, as provided in this Circular, are described in detail in the CFLGA Handbook.

- 4.4.1. There shall be instituted a CFLGA Core Group composed of representatives from the following NGAs and NGO:
 - 4.4.1.1. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), as the Chairperson of the IMTF, shall lead the conduct of the CFLGA.
 - 4.4.1.2. The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), as the lead government inter-agency body for children, shall support the DILG as needed.
 - 4.4.1.3. Other key government agencies responsible for the implementation of the audit are as follows: Department of Social Welfare and Development; Department of Education; Early Childhood Care and Development Council; Department of Health; National Nutrition Council; and the National Youth Commission.
 - 4.4.1.4. The National Council for Social Development (NCSD), a nongovernment organization, shall join the Group as a member.
 - 4.4.1.5. Members of the CFLGA Core Group shall be responsible for the following:
 - 4.4.1.5.1. Assist in the implementation of the CFLGA by providing technical support through the designation of a representative to the IMTF at all levels;
 - 4.4.1.5.2. Meet annually for a program review of the CFLGA for enhancement of the indicators, as needed, and to identify areas for improvement on the process and forms; and
 - 4.4.1.5.3. Provide continuing professional development program support, supplementary learning and reference materials to the LGUs based on the CFLGA results/ trends.

4.4.2. Local Government Units

- 4.4.2.1.** The Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC), through the IMTF, shall lead in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the CFLGA.
- 4.4.2.2.** Local CSOs shall be involved in the audit process as a member of the IMTF.
- 4.4.2.3.** Budget allocation for the conduct of the audit can be drawn from a share or portion of funds allotted for the LCPC.

5. REFERENCES

- 5.1.** 1987 Philippine Constitution
- 5.2.** Republic Act No. 7160, Local Government Code
- 5.3.** Philippine Development Plan
- 5.4.** 3rd National Plan of Action for Children
- 5.5.** 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- 5.6.** Memorandum Circular 2014-80, Child Friendly Local Governance Audit
- 5.7.** And all other related laws, executive orders, circulars, and other issuances.

6. ANNEXES

Annex 1. CFLGA Handbook

7. EFFECTIVITY

This JMC shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless otherwise superseded or modified by subsequent policies and other issuances. All other issuances inconsistent with the provisions of this JMC is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

8. MONITORING AND SUBMISSION OF REPORTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The Community Capacity Development Division of the National Barangay Operations Office (NBOO-CCDD) shall be responsible for monitoring LGU compliance to this policy, which shall be conducted on an annual basis. Parties involved shall submit the CFLGA Data Capture Forms to the Council for the Welfare of Children, copy furnished the NBOO-CCDD. Electronic copies will be sent via email through scflg-kms@cwcc.gov.ph and nboocdd@gmail.com, while printed copies should be sent to Council for the Welfare of Children, 10 Apo Street, Brgy. Sta. Teresita, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City and Department of the Interior and Local Government, NBOO-CCDD, 24th Floor, DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City. The monitoring unit specified herein, together with CWC, shall be in-charge of reviewing the requisites complied with prior to submission to the Office of the Undersecretary for Local Government (OUSLG).

9. APPROVING AUTHORITY

GEN. EDUARDO M. AÑO (RET.)

Secretary
Department of the Interior and Local
Government

ROLANDO JOSELITO D. BAUTISTA

Secretary
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10. FEEDBACK

Inquiries concerning this document should be directed/addressed to NBOO-CCDD through email address nboocdd@gmail.com, mailing address NBOO-CCDD, Department of the Interior and Local Government, NBOO-CCDD, 24th Floor, DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.