



REGIONAL NUTRITION COMMITTEE X
Resolution No. 8, s. 2021

**STRENGTHENING OF THE LGU NUTRITION PROGRAM THROUGH THE
CREATION OF LGU NUTRITION OFFICES AND HIRING OF NUTRITION
PERSONNEL, AND INCLUSION OF THE SAME IN THE DEVOLUTION
TRANSITION PLANS OF LGUS**

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991 mandates the decentralization and devolution of services to the local government units (LGUs), and thus, the implementation of services, including nutrition, is the responsibility of LGUs;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of RA 7160 emphasizes that the State shall provide for a more responsive and accountable local government structure instituted through a system of decentralization whereby LGUs shall be given more powers, authority, responsibilities, and resources;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree (PD) 491 or also known as Nutrition Act of the Philippines states that nutrition is vital and integral part of social and economic development;

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No. 138 dated 2 June 2021 entitled "Full Devolution of the Certain Functions of the Executive Committee Branch to Local Government Units, Creation of a Committee on Devolution and for Other Purposes," states that the substantial increase in the shares of the LGUs from the national taxes will empower LGUs in providing basic services to their constituents and aid them in the effective discharge of their devolved duties and functions;

WHEREAS, the national government's commitment to decentralization is an opportunity for LGUs to strengthen their nutrition program and other priority programs, which could not be implemented because of the lack of funds and personal services (PS) cap limitations;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition, which provides the framework for nutrition improvement, accompanies various laws and issuances that provide guidance to LGUs in the implementation of nutrition programs. Among these laws are the Republic Act 11148 (*Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act* or the First 1000 Days Law), RA 11037 (*Masustansyang Pagkain Para sa Batang Pilipino Act*), RA 10410 (Early Years Act), and RA 10028 (Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act);

WHEREAS, ensuring that constituents especially the target groups get the full benefits of the laws and issuances for good nutrition and health rests mainly on the LGUs who have the main responsibility to carry these out;

WHEREAS, the creation of a Local Nutrition Office with adequate staff is key to improved nutrition performance as it will ensure that there are personnel who will enable the LGUs to implement these laws, and target beneficiaries especially the vulnerable and high-risk groups are benefitted;

WHEREAS, it will make sure that various nutrition specific and nutrition-related/sensitive programs are planned and carried out in an integrated manner with the participation of all sectors contributing to reduced malnutrition and improved human capital development;



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WHEREAS, current data from the National Nutrition Council (NNC) Region X Office indicates that there are only 57% of provinces and highly urbanized cities with Nutrition Offices, of which only 29% have full time Nutrition Action Officers (NAOs) and 57% have full time local Nutrition Program Coordinators (NPCs). On the other hand, only 43% component cities/municipalities LGUs (C/MLGUs) are with Nutrition Offices, with only 23% of which have full time nutrition action officers and 25% with full time City/Municipal NPCs;

WHEREAS, the NNC issued a proposal in August 2021 for all Provinces, Cities and Municipalities entitled “Strengthening of the LGU Nutrition Program: Creation of LGU Nutrition Offices” which aims to aid LGUs by providing proposals for the creation of nutrition offices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) of Region X in a meeting duly assembled to adopt and support the NNC’s proposal entitled “Strengthening of the LGU Nutrition Program: Creation of LGU Nutrition Offices and staff complement”;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the RNC X advocates to the LGUs to adopt the recommendations identified in the document, which include the following:

1. Staffing for Provincial, City and Municipal Nutrition Offices, including position titles, organizational structure, and salary grades;
2. Roles and functions of nutrition offices;
3. Functions of nutrition office staff;
4. Roles and functions of Barangay Nutrition Scholars; and
5. Legal bases on financing and budgetary estimates for PS cost of nutrition offices.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to request LGUs to include in their respective devolution plan the minimum nutrition service package and integrate in the LGU’s development plans, namely, Comprehensive Development Plan, Executive-Legislative Agenda, and Annual Investment Program the nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive programs; and create nutrition offices with adequate nutrition personnel to ensure delivery of nutrition programs;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the NNC Region X, together with the RNC X, shall commit to provide assistance and issue guidelines in enabling nutrition devolution in the LGUs;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the NNC Region X being the Secretariat of the RNC X to furnish the NNC Central Office, all regional members of the RNC, all LGUs in the region a copy of this Resolution and elevate the same to the Regional Development Committee X for advocacy and support.

APPROVED, 19 October 2021
Joint RNC, RNCI and RTWG 2nd Semester Virtual Meeting
Via video conferencing through Zoom



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Certified Correct:

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Approved:

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