

Chapter 2

Role, Functions and Responsibilities of the Council

Primary Role of Regional Development Council III

(EO 325 IRR Sec. B)

The Regional Development Council III, hereinafter referred to as the Council, is the primary institution in Central Luzon which sets the direction of economic and social development of the region and through which regional development efforts are coordinated.

It serves as the counter part of the NEDA Board at the subnational level and is responsible for ensuring sustainable, participatory, and equitable development.

Functions

(EO 325 IRR Sec. E)

The functions of the Council as stipulated under EO 325 IRR Sec. E are as follows:

1. Coordinate the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of short and long-term regional development plans and investment programs, regional physical framework plan and special development plans, including the formulation of policy recommendations;
2. Integrate approved development plans of provinces, and cities, line agencies, state universities and colleges, government-owned and controlled corporations and special development authorities in the region into the regional development plan;
3. Review, prioritize, and endorse to the national government the annual and multi-year sectoral investment programs of the region for funding and implementation;
4. Review and endorse to the national government the annual budgets of agency regional offices, state colleges and universities and special development authorities;
5. Promote and direct the inflow and allocation of private investments in the region, to support regional development objectives and strategies;
6. Review and endorse national plans, programs and projects proposed for implementation in the region;

7. As required by the Investment Coordinating Committee (ICC), review and endorse projects of national government agencies that have impact on the region and projects of local government units (LGUs) in the region requiring national government financial exposure which may come in form of guarantees, national government budget appropriations or subsidies, among others;
8. Initiate and coordinate the development, funding and implementation of regional and special development projects such as those involving several agencies or LGUs;
9. Coordinate the monitoring and evaluation of development projects undertaken by the government agencies, LGUs, state colleges and universities, government-owned and/or controlled corporations and special development authorities in the region; and,
10. Perform other related functions and activities as may be necessary to promote and sustain the socio-economic development in the region, such as:
 - a) Assist LGUs, when so requested, in the preparation of local development plans and programs and in fulfilling requirements for evaluation, of local government projects to be requested for Official Development Assistance (ODA) grants financing; and,
 - b) Provide capability building assistance to local government officials and staff, when so requested, in the areas of local governance, fiscal administration and project development and management.

Responsibilities
(EO 325 Sec F)

In the exercise of its functions, the Council shall have the following responsibilities:

11. Approve the Regional Development Plan, the Regional Physical Framework Plan, the Regional Development Investment Program, the Annual Investment Program, and other special development plans;
12. Ensure the consistency of local development plans and the regional development plans and priorities, through coordination with local development councils;
13. Submit an annual assessment of plan implementation and an integrated report on the annual performance of the economy of the region;
14. Ensure the preparation of integrated socio-economic profile of provinces with sub-provincial components which shall be updated every after three years by the local government units and, when requested, provide technical assistance thereof;
15. Ensure, through the process of evaluation, that nationally-funded programs and projects in the region have gone through the required consultation at the LGU

level, have secured the support of the local officials, and conform with the requirements of the ICC in terms of but not limited to, economic and financial feasibility, social acceptability and technical viability;

16. Submit reports on events and occurrences in the region requiring national attention;
17. Submit a semestral report on the activities of the Council including an assessment of the participation of its members within 30 days after each semester;
18. Identify and prescribe uniform systems, standards, methods and institutional arrangements in the preparation of reports, socio-economic profiles, plans and programs and other undertakings of the local government units and/or local development councils;
19. Appeal for financial assistance from the LGUs and other entities in support for its activities and projects; and,
20. Accept donations, contributions, grants, bequests or gifts in cash or kind from any source and submit report on the availability, utilization and/or disbursement thereof.