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## THE CHANGEMAKERS
- FOI Project Management Office (FOI-PMO)
- Policy, Planning, and Supports Division (PPSD)
- Compliance Monitoring Division (CMD)
- Communications and Capacity Development Division (CCDD)
  - Strategic Partnership Unit (StratPar)
Mission

1. To oversee the implementation of all FOI and eFOI programs for all government agencies in the Executive Branch and monitor compliance.

   eFOI Portal
   100% Compliance
   
   NGAs
   GOCs
   SUCs
   50% Compliance
   LWDe
   80% Success Rate
   100% LLLA with Ordinance
   eFOI 2.0
   eFOI document

2. To develop programs and mechanisms to capacitate all government agencies in the Executive Branch, including assisting the Local Government Units in drafting their ordinances in implementing FOI in their respective jurisdictions, and

3. To conduct capacity building programs and information education campaigns.

Vision

The FOI program aims to give every Filipino an access to information, official records, public records, and documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions or decisions, as well as to government research data and promote transparency and accountability in the public sector.

CORE VALUES

Accountability
Transparency
Good Governance
Citizen Participation

Access to information is one of the key indicators of good governance. To achieve this, a country must fully embrace transparency initiatives to exact accountability from government officials, ensure effective policy implementation, and encourage people's participation in government processes. As a universal and fundamental human right recognized around the world, access to information is further supported by Article 19 of both the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which provides that every person shall have the right to freedom of expression and to seek and impart information.

In line with this, the FOI Project Management Office (FOI-PMO) strongly supports the achievement of the SDGs. It is our vision to cultivate an informed and empowered citizenry through continuously promoting awareness-raising, capacity building, and knowledge sharing on the FOI Program.

The 2018/19 FOI Annual Report shall discuss the notable achievements of the FOI-PMO from 01 October 2018 to 30 September 2019:

- Policies
- Partnerships
- Citizen Engagements
- Demand for Information
- Implemented at the Local Level
- Compliance to the FOI Program
- Continuing Professional Development

Similarly, the United Nations launched the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back in 2015, which focuses on 17 key areas that will help achieve a sustainable future for all. To that end, ensuring public access to information is specifically incorporated under Goal 16 target 10 of the SDGs.

In the Philippine context, the people's right to information is a constitutionally-mandated right enshrined in the Bill of Rights of the 1987 Constitution. For almost three (3) decades, people have been advocating for a Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation which calls for unfettered access to government documents vested with public interest.

Hence, on 23 July 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Executive Order (EO) No. 2, e. 2016 which operationalizes the people's constitutional right to information through providing access to government information within the Executive Branch. A laudable initiative demonstrating the Duterte administration's commitment in fostering a culture of openness across the government.
Message from the FOI Champion

It has been three years since President Rodrigo Roa Duterte carried out his transparency initiative through the signing of the Executive Order no. 2, s. 2016. At that time, I was also honored to champion the Freedom of Information Program in government agencies.

The challenge of implementing a new program and embedding a new culture in public governance required pure dedication, hard work, and cooperation. The accomplishment of the FOI Program weaves government agencies in order to partner and work together for the enhancement of public service in delivering government information. As insularity is never an option for governance, fostering partnerships with agencies has proven to be critical for the further realization of our democratic principles.

The government, however unified, cannot achieve a great cause without citizen participation. The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) through the Freedom of Information – Project Management Office (FOI-PMO) recognizes the powerful role of the citizenry for nation-building. The type of information that are regularly provided to the people determines the direction of the nation. Proliferation of false news corrupts state-people relations and delays, if not obliterates, development, while dissemination of accurate information empowers the people, connects them to the government through the rebuilding of trust, which, in turn, inspires progress.

The government and its people are so interdependent that equilibrium, as far as practicable, must be a paramount consideration in its relationship. While the state wields immense power entrusted to it by the people, the exercise of said power can be placed under the lens of strict scrutiny through transparency, through the Freedom of Information.

Freedom of information, as meaningfully espoused by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, in order to be an effective tool for governance, must be implemented across the bureaucracy: the executive, legislature, judiciary, including the local government units. I still remain hopeful that our lawmakers will finally heed the call of the FOI-Project Management Office, the Civil Society Organizations, and the people, and pass the FOI Law.

JOSÉ RUPERTO MARTIN M. ANDANAR
Secretary and FOI Champion
Presidential Communications Operations Office
Message from the FOI Program Director

The Freedom of Information - Project Management Office (FOI-PMO) is proud to present its efforts and progress in achieving ease of access to government information for Filipinos for 2019. Compared with the past years of program implementation, we had a banner year as we took great strides in improving the program landscape and deepening engagement with our ever-expanding network of stakeholders.

The successful implementation of the program is not solely due to the FOI-PMO Team, but to the over 4,107 FOI Receiving Officers (FROs) and FOI Decision Makers (FDMs) who directly facilitate the people’s requests for government information. Since it is part of our commitment to continuously capacitate and empower these FOI Officers, we conducted a total of 259 FOI Orientation and Onboarding Workshops.

We recognize that FOI work is often an added task on top of the already heavy workload of our FOI Officers. We wanted to help them identify their challenges, and guide them on how to respond. To achieve this, we conducted 47 FOI Receiving Officers' Hargouts. We also collaborated with StepUp Consulting and Hexis to launch the FOI Assessing Information Disclosure (AID) Tool—a survey accomplished by FROs to determine the capacity and performance of agencies and assess how conditions within an agency contributes to the level of effectiveness of FOI mechanisms. Only by addressing these concerns will we be able to improve agency performance.

This 2019, we recorded an increase in public awareness of FOI. eFOI Portal requests grew to a total of 18,036, while standard FOI requests ballooned to 29,410. We also increased the number of government offices onboard the portal by 447, including 3 local government units. Our success rate also increased to 47% with an average processing time of 7 working days.

The creation of the eFOI Portal three years ago was our response to digital development. However, that does not mean we will neglect the traditional paper-based requests. We recognize that there are still many Filipinos who have no access to the internet, and so we maintain the standard FOI request mechanism. Accordingly, FOI-PMO drafted a template one-page FOI Manual to be reproduced and distributed by agencies to their stakeholder requesters. Moving forward, we plan to draft policies for monitoring the efficiency of brick and mortar offices in responding to the demands for information, and develop capacity development strategies for the delivery of standard FOI requests to areas with no access to eFOI.

We aim to effectively engage with both the public sector and the community at large. To ensure wider dissemination of the government’s program, we organized and conducted a total of 16 PDDO Roadshows in select regions of the country. Heads of local government agencies, representatives from the private sector, and civil society organizations, academe, and members of the media were invited to serve as multipliers on how to effectively raise civic awareness on transparency and accountability through the FOI program. We also conducted 16 FOI Campaigns, in conjunction with the Roadshows, to establish partnerships with public and private, secondary and tertiary schools, and institutions through the incorporation of the FOI Program in their curriculum.

The measure of accomplishment of these accomplishments is geared towards the public’s trust and confidence. For 2020, our focus will be on empowering the people. We will develop capacity building mechanisms to ensure everyone how they can use FOI. To achieve this, we will be producing FOI-PMO-approved communication materials that can be utilized by the FOI officers. As we strive to have FOI as an integral part of government, we expect FOI requests to be able to be processed.

ATTY. KRISTIAN R. ABLAN
Assistant Secretary and FOI Program Director
Presidential Communications Operations Office
People’s FOI Manual

Government agencies under the Executive branch are required to submit their People’s FOI Manuals defining how it will facilitate FOI requests as provided under the EO No. 2, s. 2016. The Manual must be published in print format — to guide ordinary citizens who do not have internet access, and in digital format — for the public who wish to request without physically going to the government office.

All 190 National Government Agencies (NGAs), 102 (or 92%) Government-Owned and/or -Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), 106 (or 96%) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and 215 (or 41%) Local Water Districts (LWDs) complied with the set of requirements of the FOI Program.

C O M P L I A N C E  R A T E

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Compliance Rate</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-17</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-19</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know?

The following are the classification of government offices under Executive branch?

- NGAs: National Government Agencies
- GOCCs: Government-Owned and/or -Controlled Corporations
- SUCs: State Universities and Colleges
- LWDs: Local Water Districts
Map for Requesting Party
Know the process on how to make an FOI request!
One-Pager Manual

The FOI-PMO produced a template containing an abridged version of the FOI Manual, which only includes the basic and essential provisions in the agency’s Manual, such as the name of the appointed FOI Receiving Officer (FRO), contact details, details of procedures (the number of days allotted for standard request and for request with extension), flowchart, and remedy in case of denial. The said contents are designed to fit in one page only. Moreover, printed copies of the shortened manual will be distributed to citizens (prospective Requesting Parties) visiting any government office.

Freedom of Information Program

Agency: Presidential Communications Operations Office
Receiving Officer: Ms. Ma. Danica Orfullo
Designation: Project Development Officer
Office: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Special Concerns
Receiving Office: FOI-Project Management Office, J.P. Laurel St., cor. Malintze St., San Miguel, Manila
Contact No: 8-588-0691 Email: foi@pcoc.gov.ph

Submit request form with ID and other necessary documents
Or
Lodge a request through the online portal (foi.gov.ph)

15 working days

Requesting Party

Submits FOI Request Form to
Receiving Officer
Inform on approval or denial
Initial evaluation/clarification
Transmit to
Decision Maker
Approve
Deny

15 working days
&
35 working days

No. of days for standard request
No. of days for extended request

FOI Appeals

If you are unhappy with the response to your FOI request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response by writing to foi@pcoc.gov.ph. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with the response, and should be made within 15 calendar days from the date when you received this letter. We will complete the review and tell you the result within 30 calendar days from the date when we receive your review request.

Operationalizing the FOI Program across the Judiciary and Constitutional Commissions

The FOI-PMO has been continuously reaching out to government entities outside the Executive branch to facilitate implementation of the FOI Program within their respective jurisdictions. In fact, the Supreme Court passed the Rule on Access to Information and ordered the creation of FOI Manuals in the entire judiciary (i.e., Court of Appeals, Sandiganbayan, Court of Tax Appeals, and all lower courts).

Likewise, Constitutional Commissions such as the Commission on Audit and the Civil Service Commission published their own FOI Manuals in their respective websites.

The Office of the Ombudsman also issued its own FOI mechanism. Through the unceasing enthusiasm of public servants towards transparency and accountability, the FOI-PMO envisions that this endeavor will result in an FOI Program being operationalized throughout the whole of government.
**Localizing the FOI Program**

Another milestone during the last quarter of 2018, a Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) was issued by the PCOO and the DILG. This Circular is also known as the “Reiteration of Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016, “Operationalizing the People’s Right to Information and the State Policies of Full Public Disclosure and Transparency in the Public Service”, which encourages local government units (LGUs) to issue local FOI ordinances. This is envisioned to capacitate LGUs in the preparation for the passage of the FOI BI.

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**Currently, seventeen (17) LGUs had successfully passed their ordinances:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ordinance No.</th>
<th>Date of Approval</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Processing days</th>
<th>Appeals</th>
<th>Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Ordinance No. 005-2018</td>
<td>16 September 2018</td>
<td>“Freedom of Information Ordinance of the Province of Ilocos Norte”</td>
<td>24 hours from the receipt of the request</td>
<td>Office of the Provincial Mayor - 3 working days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Ordinance No. 1074-2017</td>
<td>15 May 2017</td>
<td>“Pasaog City FOI Ordinance of 2017”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Php 350/page for digital format; Certification of Official Records - Php 200/page for the facsimile and Photocopy for succeeding copies of the same document, Teacher, Administrative Staff, and Indentig Citizens, 30% discount for Senior Citizens, PWDs, Students, and Indentig Citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Ordinance No. 2018-09</td>
<td>7 May 2018</td>
<td>“FOI Ordinance of 2018 of the Municipality of San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance 018-018</td>
<td>31 July 2018</td>
<td>“Policy: Freedom of Information Ordinance of 2018”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial Ordinance No. 18-294</td>
<td>20 August 2018</td>
<td>“Benguet FOI Ordinance of 2018”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Governor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Certified Photocopy of Public Records - Php 350/page Photocopy - Php 250/page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance 041-2018</td>
<td>20 August 2018</td>
<td>“FOI Ordinance of 2018”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance No.37, s. 2018</td>
<td>13 September 2018</td>
<td>“Pasaog Transparency Mechanism Ordinance of 2018”</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>City Mayor - 30 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Printing (cased) - Php 350/page Photocopy (Blind) - Php 250/page Photocopying - Php 150/page Mail - Actual postage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Ordinance No. 2018-005</td>
<td>9 October 2018</td>
<td>“Pakil, Laoag FOI Ordinance of 2018”</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>Municipal Mayor must be filed within 30 calendar days from the notice of denial decided within 10 working days</td>
<td>Certification of Official Records - Php 200/page for the facsimile and Photocopy for succeeding copies of the same document, Teacher, Administrative Staff, and Indentig Citizens, 30% discount for Senior Citizens, PWDs, Students, and Indentig Citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance 050-2018</td>
<td>22 October 2018</td>
<td>“Provincial Freedom of Information Ordinance”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance No.</td>
<td>Date of Approval</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Processing days</td>
<td>Appeals</td>
<td>Fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Order No. 03-6, 2019</td>
<td>28 January 2019</td>
<td>“Operationalize Freedom of Information in the City Government of Antipolo”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Local Chief Executive - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free however, charges may impose for printing, photocopying, and certification services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Order No. 11-2019</td>
<td>14 February 2019</td>
<td>“Executive Order Operationalizing the Freedom of Information Program in Legazpi City”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Local Chief Executive - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution No. 2019-30</td>
<td>15 February 2019</td>
<td>“Resolution Enacting Ordinance for the Operationalization of the Freedom of Information in the Municipality of Tondo”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Municipal Mayor - 15 working days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Ordinance No. 06-2019</td>
<td>18 May 2019</td>
<td>“FOI Ordinance of 2016”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Local Chief Executive - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinance No. 175-2019</td>
<td>26 June 2019</td>
<td>“La Union Freedom of Information Ordinance of 2019”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Ordinance No. 2019-171</td>
<td>17 July 2019</td>
<td>“Iloilo FOI Ordinance of 2019”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Ordinance No. 2019-11-G0003</td>
<td>23 September 2019</td>
<td>“Samaran Transparency Ordinance of 2019”</td>
<td>15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Ordinance No. 72-2019</td>
<td>For publication</td>
<td>“Freedom of Information and the Disclosure of Public Records”</td>
<td>10 working days</td>
<td>Office of the Mayor - 30 calendar days from the notice of denial</td>
<td>Digital format are free; OCR - P50/page for the first 5 pages and P20/page for succeeding copies of the same document. Black copy is P50.00, 2 color copies are P60.00, 3 color copies are P75.00, while full color is P90.00. Printing/photocopying P50/page (B&amp;W)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The FOI Bill

As the EO on FOI only covers the Executive Branch, the PCOO will push for the passage of the legislation on FOI to also include LGUs. The following are the status of the bills on FOI filed in Congress:

- **27 May 2019 & 07 June 2019**
  FOI-PMO met with Civil Society Organizations and non-government organizations to discuss the draft FOI Bill. So far, they gave their input on how to make government information easily accessible;

- **25 June 2019**
  FOI-PMO met with different NGOs and discussed the draft FOI Bill;

- **01 July 2019**
  Congressman Raul del Mar filed FOI Bill in the House of Representatives;

- **02 July 2019**
  Senator Grace Poe filed FOI Bill in the Senate of the Philippines; and

- **15 July 2019**
  FOI-PMO endorsed the draft FOI Bill to the 18th Congress.
Policies

Inter-agency FOI Exceptions Policy Committee

On 10 October 2018, Memorandum Circular No. 49 was issued creating the Inter-Agency FOI Exceptions Policy Committee. It is tasked to review the Inventory of Exceptions to the Right of Access to Information issued on 24 November 2016, and to periodically update the same.

The Committee was composed of the

Committee Resolution No. 2019-001 was submitted to the Office of the Executive Secretary on 27 June 2019 containing the additional to be included in the Revised inventory of Exceptions.

Guidelines on the FOI Appeals Mechanism

To address the concerns of government agencies in dealing with appeals, FOI-AMC No. 001 was issued on 31 January 2019 prescribing the Guidelines on the FOI Appeals Mechanism which affects implementing agencies to establish a Central Appeals and Review Committee (CARC) that will, among others, handle, review, evaluate, and assess the appeal on the denial of the request for information.

Appeals Mechanism

If the requesting party is unsatisfied with the decision or is感到 request, he/she may request for an internal appeal from the implementing agency to the CARC as published in the agency’s FOI manual.

48% of government agencies established the CARC.

45% of government agencies established the CARC.

7% of government agencies established the CARC.

Privacy Notice

Effective May 11, 2018

In compliance with Republic Act 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012, the FOI Philippines is committed to ensure that all personal data that you share with us is safeguarded and protected. Whenever you engage with us by using our services, such as visiting the FOI Philippines sites, filing a complaint, and/or requesting information, we may collect your personal data to allow us to identify you as an individual.

A “requestor of information” is a user of a service of FOI Philippines, who registers and shares his or her personal information through online and/or offline interactions with us in order to request for information.

As a “requestor of information,” you will have to share your personal information with us, which allows identification of you as an individual and as a Filipino citizen (e.g., name, email address, telephone number, affiliation, and citizenship). This Privacy Notice outlines the personal data that we may collect about you and how we use it. FOI Philippines reserves the right to revise and update this Privacy Notice at any given time. We encourage you to visit this page regularly to become notified of any changes that may be implemented.
**FY 2018 PBB Compliance**

Pursuant to Section 6.5.b of the Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2018-1 issued by Inter-Agency Task Force on the Harmonization of National Government Performance Monitoring, Information and Reporting Systems (Task Force AO 25) provides guidelines on the grant of the Performance-Based Bonus (PBB) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, subject to compliance validation by the PCOO starting 30 September 2018.

**FY 2019 PBB Compliance**

Through the initiative of the DBM and PCOO, the FOI Program requirements (i.e. posting of agency FOI manual, FOI reports, and FOI logo in the agency’s website) have been included as one of the criteria for the eligibility of the grant PBB for FY 2019 Performance Targets, under the other Cross-Cutting Requirements category.

In summary:

- **NGAs**: 183
- **SUCs**: 100
- **GOCs**: 88
- **LWDs**: 208

*compiled with the validation process.*

**Performance and Analysis: Data Stories**

**Higher Compliance**
Monitoring Performance

FOI Registry and Summary Sheet

To facilitate a uniform tracking, monitoring, and evaluation system for FOI program implementation, the FOI Quarterly Registry and Summary sheet is accomplished by FOI Requesting Officers. All FOI requests should be logged in to the Excel sheet (the template provided by the FOI PMO) and should be updated accordingly.

The FOI Registry will be the basis for measuring agency performance and compliance alongside important FOI analytics to assess the initial financial costs of FOI implementation.

While requests through the eFOI Portal are regularly monitored by the FOI-PMO, the number and status of requests lodged through standard paper-based depends on the submission of the government agencies.

Frontline Services

As of 30 June 2019 (Mid-year report), agencies reported a total number of 58,885 paper-based request. During 3rd quarter, we reviewed the submitted FOI Reports of SUCs and found out that frontline services (such as request for diploma & transcript of records) are included in their FOI reports and considered as FOI requests.

After consolidating the revised FOI reports, we gathered a total number of 29,400 paper-based requests for November 2016 - September 2019.

eFOI Portal

The eFOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) was developed to easily provide users the ability to request for information, track their requests, and receive the information that they requested online. Likewise, in order to efficiently handle the influx of requests, the platform is designed to assist government offices in receiving, processing, and responding to the requests that they received.

Under the eFOI Portal, there was an increase of 80% in the total number of participating agencies from June 2018 to June 2019. A total of 447 government agencies are onboard the eFOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) in 2019 up from 274 government agencies in 2018.

Growth Rate

In almost three (3) years of implementation, a total of 18,036 eFOI requests lodged to 447 government agencies were made.

eFOI Requests per year

- 2016 / 17: 2,055 requests
- 2017 / 18: 5,257 requests
- 2018 / 19: 10,684 requests

FOI Logo

One of the requirements under the FOI Program is posting of an FOI logo in the agency’s website homepage hyperlinked to the eFOI Portal. To date, 502 out of 852 (or 54%) government agencies posted an FOI logo to their respective websites.
The eFOI Journey: Supply and Demand in the Portal

Request Legend:
- ✔ Successful
- 🌞 Processing
- ❌ Unsuccessful
- 📚 Closed

**Total**
- ✔ 8472 or 47%
- 🌞 2677 or 15%
- ❌ 6150 or 34%
- 📚 737 or 4%

**2018/19**
- ✔ 5080 or 48%
- 🌞 1716 or 16%
- ❌ 3448 or 32%
- 📚 737 or 4%

**2017/18**
- ✔ 2533 or 48%
- 🌞 702 or 13%
- ❌ 1843 or 35%
- 📚 179 or 3%

**2016/17**
- ✔ 859 or 41%
- 🌞 259 or 12%
- ❌ 859 or 41%
- 📚 118 or 6%

Number of onboarded agencies
eFOI Portal Audit Monitoring System

The FOI-PMO regularly conducts an audit to check whether personally-identifiable information had been posted in the eFOI Portal. Said information is not limited to passports and identification cards (IDs), but also digital copies of letters containing home/business addresses, etc. which was erroneously or accidentally posted in the publicly-accessible part of the site.

To check if there is an accidental uploading of IDs and letters containing sensitive personal information, the FOI-PMO have designated nine (9) officers/staff to review each request lodged to the government agencies from December 2018 and back to November 2016, while two (2) officers/staff were assigned to review the requests from January 2019 up to present. During the conduct of review, the FOI-PMO removes/deletes such ID and/or letter which contains sensitive personal information. Google has likewise removed these kind of documents and images, if found uploaded.

Records Management System

Agency Information Inventory

Pursuant to FOI MC no. 1 s. 2016, government agencies are required to submit an Agency Information Inventory—a masterlist of all the information they hold, store, maintain, and archive providing the scope and limitations of each type of information. As of date, the PCOO had received Information Inventories from 411 (or 44%) government agencies.

A total of 299,559 records from 411 government agencies had been consolidated from the submitted Agency Information Inventory. The FOI-PMO advises government agencies to proactively disclose information that is considered as “public,” this is to reduce the burden on public administration of having to process requests for information that may be filed under Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016.

Proactive disclosure is an efficient and cost-effective means of providing citizens with information to which they are entitled.

Another benefit of proactive disclosure is that it encourages better information management. This responds to the growing public demand and the desire to provide opportunities for more efficient citizen-access government services.

From 25 November 2016 up to 29 July 2019, a total of 11,991 requests were reviewed by the FOI-PMO lodged in the eFOI portal. The FOI-PMO also seeks assistance from participating agencies to report those requests which contain personal information of the requesting party so they can make the necessary actions. 1,004 out of 11,991 (8%) requests were identified with Personally Identifiable Information (PII) (i.e. IDs, email address, cell phone number, vehicle plate numbers). On 10 September 2019, 506 requests with PII were removed and 498 out of 1,004 requests were identified as existing uploaded PII. To date, FOI-PMO is in the process of removing the remaining PII in the eFOI requests.

Lastly, the FOI-PMO coordinated with the individuals whose documents (i.e. IDs, passports, etc.) were erroneously or accidentally “exposed” publicly and explained to them what happened.

Feedback Mechanism

As the FOI-PMO commits for a fast and reliable service delivery, a feedback mechanism was established in order to generate valid and consistent feedback from stakeholders, which can be used to initiate strategies that will improve the implementation of the FOI Program.

Interventions


The FOI-PMO rolled-out the FOI Assessment Tool entitled Assessing Information Disclosure Practices for FOI (AID-FOI) Compliance Tool to the participating agencies. This tool assesses whether the conditions within an agency are appropriate for FOI mechanisms to be effective. It assesses whether the agency possesses the critical elements that will enable it to perform proactive disclosure of open agency data.

As part of its monitoring and evaluation mechanism, the FOI-PMO, in partnership with Step-Up Consulting and Hivos, developed the AID-FOI Tool which intends to determine the capacity and performance of agencies in complying with the FOI Program and their ability to respond to information requests.

For purposes of the assessment, AID-FOI Tool heavily draws from the work of the Carter Center’s Rule of Law Program that specifies a set of indicators to assess FOI implementation. These indicators revolve around the following key essential components: Leadership, Rules, Systems, Resources, and Monitoring.

Levels

As a result of this tool, the FOI-PMO shall establish mechanism in 2020 that shall evaluate the performance of government agencies.
FRO’s Frequently Asked Questions

Handling FOI Requests

How to balance FOI Program with Data Privacy Act (DPA)?

Both rights should be upheld. The DPA may restrict or limit but should not be used for fully preventing disclosure of information.

How not to disclose Personal/Sensitive Personal information in a government document?

FOI-MC No. 04 series of 2019 provides for the guidelines on redaction and extraction of information before disclosure to the public.

What if an investigating body has asked for the Statement of Assets Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN) of a government employee; can they release the SALN without redacting the personal and sensitive personal information of said person?

Yes, the government agency must release the unredacted SALN to the investigating body. The government agency should not deprive the investigating body of this SALN especially so if they are performing their functions as provided under their mandates. Also, the agency may refer the disclosure of the SALN with the proper repositories.

Can a government agency propose a list of exempted government information and official documents for disclosure in their agency’s inventory of exceptions?

Yes. If the agency considers the government information or official documents as ‘deemed confidential’ (e.g., internal documents).

However, there are government documents from one agency that might be considered confidential and to another agency it is not. PCOO cited the Quality Management System (QMS) documents as an example. The QMS documents have been raised during the IA-FOI-EPAC Meeting on 29 January 2019. Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) would want the Committee to include QMS documents as part of the inventory of exceptions. The members have conflicting views.

PCOO asked the agencies to submit their proposed list of their respective exceptions so that we can take this up in the upcoming July 2019 meeting.

What if an agency has disclosed an information (e.g., General Information Sheet (GIS) indicating the beneficial owners of the company), publicly and the beneficial owners are asking them not to disclose because of the Data Privacy Act of 2012?

In the case of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), it has adopted a policy that the GIS is a public document and can be disclosed.

PCOO responded that with regard to the disclosure of GIS with beneficial ownership, it has been prevalent even before the advent of the DPA of 2012. The GIS of companies are even posted online. This practice of disclosure is to assure possible investors to a company. This is called investors’ protection. Investors would want to have quick facts about the company by looking at their websites.

What if the requesting party asked for details about a certain employee in the agency, can these details be disclosed?

It depends on the details. If the details about the employee relates to his or her position or functions, like a fact that he or she is an officer or employee, his or her title, his or her business address, his or her office telephone number, his or her classification, his or her salary grade, etc., then these are not protected by the DPA. Thus, discloseable.

Can a request be considered as FOI request if lodged from a different platform (i.e., social media, email, etc.)?

Yes. As long as the requestor gives the title and period of document he/she is requesting and any proof of his/her identity to start the processing of his/her request.

Designation, rules and responsibilities of an FOI Receiving Officer

The functions of the FRO shall include receiving, on behalf of the agency, all requests for information and forward the same to the appropriate officer who has custody of the records; monitor all FOI requests and appeals; provide assistance to the FOI Decision Maker; provide assistance and support to the public and staff with regard to FOI, compile statistical information as required (FOI Quarterly Reports), and conduct initial evaluation of the request and advise the requesting party whether the request will be forwarded to the FOI Decision Maker for further evaluation or deny the request based on: A. Wrong agency; B. Incomplete information from the requesting party; and C. Invalid request.

Agencies who wish to conduct FOI Orientation

Contact us for the schedule and send us a request letter indicating the time, date, and venue of the orientation addressed to the following details:

ATTY. KRISTIAN B. ABLAN
Assistant Secretary and FOI Program Director
Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)
BFB Building, P. Laurel St. cor. Maliclan St., Malacanang, Manila
Telephone no (02) 8-588-5691
Email: foi.pcoo@gmail.com
Can an agency create an FOI Committee?

Yes. Agencies may create their own FOI Committee for better implementation of EO No. 2. Agencies have their turning to create the same.

Can an agency designate an alternate receiving officer and/or decision maker?

Yes. Agencies may create a committee or they may designate an alternate Receiving Officers and/or alternate Decision Makers. This, in any way, addresses the concern of agencies in instance wherein the permanent receiving officers or permanent decision makers are on official business outside the office, absent or on leave.

Can requests via telephone calls be entertained?

Yes, agencies may entertain the requests made through telephone calls. However, EO No. 2, provides that a requesting party to provide his/her valid proof of identification.

To comply with the above, agencies may advice requesting parties to go through the FOI request process - electronic or standard.

What if the Requesting Party wishes to lodge his/her request through email?

The FRQ should advise the Requesting Party to create an account in the eFOI Portal in order to lodge a request. Also, FRQs should discourage requesting information through email as this will not follow the right procedure and process that is set in asking for government documents. Further, email requests are difficult to track, making it also a burden to the FRQs in consolidating FOI requests when submitting FOI Registry to PCCO FOI PMO.

Forgotten Password

FRQs and FDMs who cannot access their accounts because of a forgotten password may email the FOI PMO through foi.pco@gmail.com to provide them a new temporary password, in which they are requested to change immediately once their accounts are accessed.

Change of Name in the Portal

In order to change the name of the FRQ and FDM reflected in the eFOI Portal, the FOI PMO will have to deactivate the account and reactivate it with new name provided in the new account.

Do we have a standard format for the FOI reports?

Discussed the difference of the All FOI Registry and Summary, showed a copy of a properly filled out FOI reports. Then provided a brief walk-through on how to correctly fill in each column. Here is the link for the 2018 FOI reports template: bit.ly/2018FOIReports.

How many FRQs and FDMs are allowed to be enrolled under the eFOI portal?

I have advised the FRQs that there is no set limit to the number of FOI’s and OM’s that can be enrolled under the e-FOI portal. Highlighting further that due to the uniqueness of each Agency’s structure, it shall be the Management’s prerogative to decide on how to best support FOI implementation in their respective Agencies.
Information, Engagement, and Communications

The FOI Program is free and accessible (through the eFOI Portal at www.foi.gov.ph), all you have to do is ask. Ask a question from your government and get the answer straight from the source.

Followed by 51,721 people on Facebook and with the official hashtags “#FOIPh” and “#FOIKnowIt,” the FOI page posts daily updates. Its projects include: the FOI Program and eFOI Portal Technical Trainings, FOI Workshop for Librarians, Training of Trainers for different sectors, FOI Receiving Officers’ Hangouts, FOI Campus Caravan and PCCO Roadshows, FOI Midyear and Annual Conferences 2019, and more.

Reaching 66,407 people and 5,089 engagements on Facebook, the interactive map of LGUs implementing FOI ordinances all over the Philippines is the most liked post to date. Some comments include “Why isn’t that a law already?” and “Kayo pala nag-request ako for Capitol waiting info na available.” The latter voicing out encouragement for other LGUs to follow suit.

Building trust and confidence among our countrymen and the public service, through an interactive process, the FOI Program provides government information: research, statistics, data, reports, maps, and policies.

As FOI Program Director and PCOO Assistant Secretary Kristian Aplan highlighted,

“Our path is to empower citizens, to make them smart. We want to arm our citizens to be smart, to make better decisions, that’s why there is FOI,”

during the FOI Midyear Conference 2019 attended by national agencies, local government units, members of the academe, and development partners.

More advertisements and programs by FOI all over the Philippines were placed this second half of 2019 as it pushes the “demand for information” from Filipino citizens. Public can communicate with the FOI-PMO via official Facebook (@foiph), Twitter (@foi.ph), and Instagram (@foiph) accounts, and through eFOI portal at www.foi.gov.ph.”
2019 Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMMS)

The inclusion of FOI questions at the household FLEMMMS survey will provide baseline data on the knowledge, experience, behavior, and attitude of Filipino households on their right to access government information.

Objectives:

The main objectives of the survey are the following:

- Measure the level of awareness of Filipinos across the country on their right to access government information.
- Recognize and understand key behaviors which drive Filipinos to ask for government information.
- Assess the quality of community requested information from government agencies.
- Identify effective channels in communicating the FOI Program at the household level.

2018/19 Mid-year Report

The 2019 Mid-Year Compliance Report, which highlights the accomplishments of the FOI Program implementation from the 2019 targets and the things that are set to achieve before the year ends.

Accessible at www.foi.gov.ph/resources.

Capacity-Building Activities

The Multi-sectoral Roadshows led by PCOO Secretary Jose Ruperto Martin M. Andanar, involved discussions by key officials on press freedom, the FOI program, Rehabilitation, and gender equality. Each roadshow event aims to inform and engage 300 representatives from the national and local governments, civil society, and the media on the various initiatives of our current Administration.

The 2019 PCOO Roadshow aims to:

- Increase media and information literacy to promote responsible handling and sharing of information and end the proliferation of fake news;
- Disseminate information on the administration’s efforts to protect our local media through the Presidential Task Force on Media Security;
- Educate the public on Rehabilitation—the administration’s all-encompassing campaign against illegal drugs, through the PCOO Office of Brand Integration;
- Educate participants on the initiatives of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB);
- Increase awareness on Gender and Equality;
- Educate the participants on the FOI Program and the eFOI Portal.
As part of the 2019 Multi-sectoral Roadshows, the FOI-PMO hold the FOI Campus Caravan to educate members of the academe on their right to information and promote the use of the FOI Program as a tool for academic research. Each campus caravan event was attended by 500 students and faculty members from state schools, universities, and colleges.

The FOI Campus Caravan aims to:

- Increase media and information literacy to promote responsible handling and sharing of information and end the proliferation of fake news;
- Nurture an academic community that not only knows its government better but is also able to contribute to nation-building;
- Educate the students and faculty on the FOI Program and the eFOI Portal and;
- Partner with educational institutions to include the FOI Program in their curricula and promote FOI as an academic tool for research.

**Project Summary:**

1. Metro Manila - 9 October 2019
2. Surigao - 11 February 2019
3. Naga - 25 March 2019
4. Legazpi - 26 March 2019
5. Taguig - 23 May 2019
7. General Santos - 31 July 2019
8. Cebu - 30 August 2019

As the lead communications arm on all matters of governance and public concern under the Executive Branch of the Philippines, the PCOO continues to stay true to its mandate in disseminating information, providing awareness, and communicating with various government initiatives under the Duterte administration. This includes the FOI Program, the Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMS) and Rehainbayan or Philippine Anti-Drugs Strategy as mandated by Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016, Administrative Order No. 1, and Executive Order No. 65, s. 2016, respectively.

In informing our stakeholders on the accomplishments of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte’s Administration, the PCOO launched the International Press Freedom Caravan—a program involving our international stakeholders and aims to provide an avenue to promote various programs and projects of the Philippine Government to a global audience. Target participants include the international media, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), and various Filipino organizations worldwide.

The main objectives of the International Press Freedom Caravan is to:

- Promote policies, programs, and activities of the Philippine Government;
- Disseminate accurate and reliable information on various pressing societal issues concerning the country and;
- Directly interface with stakeholders abroad, including the foreign media and Filipino communities, to instigate dialogue and further enhance citizen participation.

**Project Summary:**

1. PFC in Bangkok, Thailand - 16 January 2019
3. Brussels, Belgium - 17 February 2019
4. Geneva, Switzerland - 21 February 2019
5. Hong Kong, SAR - 25-26 April 2019
6. Tokyo, Japan - 1-2 June 2019
7. Jakarta, Indonesia - 24 July 2019
To ensure the most effective and efficient dissemination of the program to the broader community, the POCO recognizes the significant roles of key partner agencies and organizations in capacitating individuals and development stakeholder organizations in performing their roles and mandates, especially within the public sector.

The two-day training is divided into skills development sessions on becoming an effective FOI Ambassador. Methodology consists of lectures, structured-learning experience, interactive sessions, and small group workshops to ensure active involvement of the participants.

**Project Summary:**

At the end of the two-day workshop, the participants should be able to:

1. Discuss the following:
   1. Executive Order No. 02, s. 2016 and its implementing rules and regulations;
   2. The Data Privacy Act of 2012;
   3. The Local FOI Ordinance; and,
   4. The electronic FOI portal
2. Demonstrate skills in providing information on access to information;
3. Encourage target stakeholders to ask for government information through the FOI Program; and,

The DBM and the DILG, with the support from the POCO have concluded last 25 September 2019 the Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Townhall Meetings called “Dagyaw” which means Bayaran in Hiligaynon. Dagyaw had been conducted in 16 regions to discuss and communicate the good governance reforms of the administration, and provided a platform for regular citizens to raise local concerns that are relevant to their respective community’s development.

Dagyaw was attended by representatives from civil society organizations, academe, business groups, public sector unions, people organizations, local media and regular citizens. Various sectors were also present during the townhall meetings such as the Private Sector Representatives (PSRs) of Regional Development Council (RDCs), National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) basic representatives, and members of the Local Development Councils (LDCs) of the host provinces, capital towns and cities.

**StarBooks**

As part of its efforts in providing Filipinos access to information by operationalizing the FOI, the FOI-PMO is planning to partner with the Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), an attached agency of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), through its Starbooks Project, the first Philippine Science Digital Library.

The DOST-STII launched the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated Book Station (STARBOOKS) Project, a standalone information kiosk, which contains science and technology sources in text, video, and audio formats which can be accessed even without internet connectivity, especially in remote provinces.

Hence, the FOI-PMO partnered with STII by providing disclosed information and data (in different formats) which were uploaded in the electronic FOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) and the Starbooks platform.

The purpose of the partnership is to establish the terms and conditions under which the POCO and DOST-STII will need in support of an effective and efficient collaboration, maintain objectives and commitments with regard to all matters related to the STARBOOKS.

The POCO's main function is to provide raw processed and curated data stored in the eFOI Portal to the DOST-STII on its Starbooks database. While the DOST-STII shall be responsible for the processing and disseminating of submitted content.
2018 FOI Awards and Summit

To highlight the role of access to information in the narrative of good governance, the Department of Budget and Management and the Presidential Communications Operations Office co-organized an event on 28 November 2018 with the theme “The Philippine Open Government Partnership and the Freedom of Information Program: Placing Access to Information at the Heart of Open Governance” at the National Museum Auditorium of the National Museum of Fine Arts, Padre Burgos Avenue, Ermita, Manila.

The event gathered 200 partners from the central to the local governments, civil society organizations, the media, academia, the private sector, and development partners—all advocating for good governance and access to information. It aims to take stock of the FOI Program implementation, celebrate successes and milestones, identify major learnings, co-develop new mechanisms for collaboration, and look ahead to the future of the program using the OGP platform. The sessions will involve panel discussions supplemented by an interactive platform which will crowdsource questions and concerns from the participants.

FOI Mid-year Conference

On 26 July 2019, the PCOO, through the FOI-PMO, held their 2019 Mid-Year conference in Hotel Jen Manila by Shangri-La. It was an informative and interactive event, successfully ending with 120 guests. All attendees were all excited to be updated on the progress of the FOI program and to raise each of their team/department’s concerns regarding the implementation in both the requesting and the receiving side.

An array of attendees from NGOs, CSOs, city of local government units (LGUs) lined up and registered for the event where they were given printed name tags in preparation to the breakout session happening in the afternoon.

International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC) 2019

The FOI-PMO was invited by the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) to attend and participate in the 11th International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC) held in Johannesburg, South Africa on 10-14 March 2019. FOI Program Director Kristan R. Albay served as one of the concurrent panelists on the topic “Mechanisms to Implement Access to Information / FOI in Public and Private Sphere in the absence of enabling legislation.”

The ICIC is established by Information Commissioners and Ombudsmen from different countries who discuss issues relative to the protection and promotion of the right to public information for the benefit of the citizens.

International Exposure Program

From 20 to 27 July 2019, the FOI-PMO conducted an exposure program in the United Kingdom to capacitate PCOO officials and FOI-PMO members on the developments on access to information at the international level. The general objective is to learn about best implementation practices and innovations, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and information, education, and communication activities which may be replicated in the Philippines.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Action Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOI-PMO to send a copy of the FOI Code of Practice</td>
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<td>FOI-PMO to conduct a workshop for the development of formula for computing man-hour rate</td>
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| Meeting with Lord Michael Willis |
| Invitation to Lord Willis to attend the FOI Summit |

| Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) |
| Develop written guidelines on handling requests for FOI requests |

| The National Archives |
| Review discussions with the National Archives of the Philippines (NAP), DMM, and the DICT regarding the formulation of a digital records management policy. |

| Cabinet Office |
| Development of standard Key Performance Indicators as basis for FOI Officer recognition |

| Meeting with Paul Gibbons |
| Development of different levels of modules for different stakeholders |

| FOI-PMO to explore publishing of its own FOI Code of Practice |
| Visit to the Cabinet Office |

| Meeting with Jon Baines |
| Development of a (rebranded) public interest test applicable to Philippine context |

International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUA)

On 28 September 2019, the FOI-PMO joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International Day for Access to Information (IDUA) by organizing the first access to Information Festival in Manila, with the theme “Leaving No One Behind”. The IDUA Festival primarily aims to unleash the creativity of every Filipino in advocating the right to access to information through various art forms. The festival features creative works from the youth who underscored the importance of such right in the form of spoken word poetry, photography, and essay writing.

The champions were Angelica Garcia for spoken word poetry, Michael DeSilva for Essay Writing, and Hesah Macaraña for photography.
FOI Testimonials
Departments/Agencies

"As DepED strives to deliver quality, accessible, relevant, and liberating basic education, it pledges its unwavering commitment to the full implementation of the FOI act. The Department of Education recognizes its role in ensuring that all Filipinos have access to fair, open, and accountable education systems. The Department has incorporated the principles of FOI into its policies and procedures, ensuring that all information is readily available to the public.

LEONLORD MAGDOLIS BRIDGES
Director of Education (DepEd)

"As a testament to its commitment for more transparent and accountable governance in all its undertakings, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) continues to prioritize the implementation of the FOI act. The DENR recognizes the importance of empowering citizens to access information and make informed decisions. The Department has established a transparent approach to decision-making, ensuring that all information is accessible to the public.

EDUARDO M. ABO
Director of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

"The Department of Health recognizes the right of every Filipino to access health information. Freedom of Information is crucial in helping Filipinos make informed choices about their health. An open government enables empowered and healthier people.

FRANCISCO T. DUGGE III, M.D.
Secretary of Health (DOH)

"CARP is a social justice program and we are aware that there needs to be a constant dialogue between the government and its stakeholders to address their concerns. One of the key principles of CARP is the exchange of information and the resolution of issues and problems. We trust the FOI act will be of great help to provide a good avenue for the exchange of information between the government and its stakeholders.

ANTHONY J. CAGTICONE
Secretary of Agriculture (DA)

"The Freedom of Information (FOI) act is a fundamental right that empowers the public to seek information from government agencies. It is the cornerstone of transparency and accountability in governance. The Department of Agriculture has been at the forefront of implementing the FOI act, ensuring that all information is accessible to the public.

EMMANUEL T. PINOL
Director of Agriculture (DA)

"As a Filipino, I have experienced the benefits of the FOI act. I was able to access health records for my project and was able to share this information with my colleagues.

SARAH L. VARELA
Director of Health (DOH)

"Knowledge is power. The information I acquired from the FOI portal helped me in my research project. It also assisted me in making informed decisions about the health of my patients.

EMMANUEL T. PINOL
Director of Agriculture (DA)

"FOI is a powerful tool that empowers citizens to hold the government accountable. The Department of Agriculture is committed to promoting transparency and accountability in our operations.

SARAH L. VARELA
Director of Health (DOH)

"Once I needed to access some information about a local government agency. Through the FOI portal, I was able to obtain the data I needed. I am grateful for this service. It's a great way to stay informed about what's happening in our government.

JOEL R. VERA
Director of Information and Communication (DICT)

"Knowledge is power. The information I acquired from the FOI portal helped me in my research project. It also assisted me in making informed decisions about the health of my patients.

EMMANUEL T. PINOL
Director of Agriculture (DA)

"Knowledge is power. The information I acquired from the FOI portal helped me in my research project. It also assisted me in making informed decisions about the health of my patients.

EMMANUEL T. PINOL
Director of Agriculture (DA)
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FOI Program Director

Jose Ruperto Martin M. Anda
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