

Social Accountability Learning-in-Action Program with Selected Mongolian Citizens Group and Few Gov't. Officials

Topic: Constructive Engagement
October 18, 2010
Astoria Hotel, Pasig City

CONTEXT

- The Problem: Corruption in the Agency
 - a. Low-level bureaucratic corruption
 - b. High-level political corruption

CONTEXT

- Department of Education (DepED) has a multi-billion peso annual allocation for:
 - Procurement of textbooks
 - Manufacture of school furniture
 - Construction of classrooms and school buildings
 - Other schools supplies and materials
- Procurement is one area prone to corruption.

CONTEXT

- Corruption in procurement
 - Over-pricing
 - Unqualified bidders winning bids
 - Under-deliveries or “short “deliveries” (“ghost” deliveries)
 - Substandard quality of textbooks
 - Substandard construction of classrooms and school buildings

□ Enabling Environment.... Passage of Law

Government Procurement Reform Act (R.A. 9184) passed in 2003 and achieved substantial results in the following:

1. Address call for good governance by reducing the opportunities and level of corruption in public procurement.
2. Creates greater transparency in the acquisition of goods and works, and consultancy services and opens up government procurement to competition.
3. Penalizes fraud, conspiracy, connivance and collusion for a period of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day but not more than fifteen (15) years of imprisonment.
4. Streamline the procurement process and develop a single omnibus law
5. Increase transparency in public procurement through increased civil society participation both in monitoring activities and policy formulation.

□ Constructive Engagement with Citizens Group

Reform-oriented official of DepED organized innovative partnerships with NGOs, media, the private sector and church groups to ensure delivery of textbooks to the public schools

I. Textbook Count 1-2-3: The Philippines' National Textbook Delivery Program

- DepED 2003 Textbook Procurement
 - 37 million textbooks and teachers' manuals
 - P1.3 Billion (approx. US\$ 30Million)

PARTNERS... Textbook Count 1

NATIONAL COORDINATOR:

Government Watch (G-Watch, Ateneo School of Government)

NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS:

NAMFREL*

Procurement Watch, Inc.

The Asia Foundation *Konsensyang Pilipino*

National Book Development Board (NBDB)

Transparency and Accountability Network (TAN)

Philippine Governance Forum

Government Procurement Policy Board

Coalition of Development NGOs (Code-NGO)

National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA, Catholic Church
social action centers)

Department of Budget and Management (DBM)

Textbook procurement in 2004

- > 13.6 million textbooks and teachers' manuals (addition of lesson guides in Math, HS Science, English)
- > P660 Million

PARTNERS... Textbook Count 2

NATIONAL COORDINATOR:

Government Watch (G-Watch, Ateneo School of Government)

NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS:

NAMFREL

The Asia Fdn

ACT Phils. Inc.

CAPRI

CCAGG

Social Watch Vis

Procurement Watch, Inc.

Konsensyang Pilipino

National Book Dev Board

E-Net

Kapatiran-Kaunlaran Fdn

Naga City People's Council

CODE-NGO

TAN

Girls Scouts of Philippines *

Boy Scouts of Philippines *

Alliance of Volunteer Educators

Government Procurement Policy Board

Assoc of Ministers and Ministries in Nueva Ecija

Negros Center for People Empowerment and Rural Development

Ten Outstanding Boy Scouts of the Philippines Association

GAINS

- Procurement reforms significantly reduced the costs of textbooks from an average of 100 pesos to 40 pesos per textbooks to a cumulative savings of about P3 Billion for the Government
 - International recognition of “Textbook Count” as best procurement practice
 - Improve DepED institutional integrity as “one of the 5 cleanest government agency” and serious in implementing reforms

Moving forward.....

☐ Mobilize

- Build a stakeholder base to support the reform
- Capacitate CSOs/NGOs

☐ Orient

- Processes and procedures
- Procurement tools
- Gains/limitations on participation

Moving forward....

☐ Network

- Establish alliances
- Local and international sharing of best-practices
- Media and policymakers

☐ Good governance

- Efficient use of resources
- Demand social accountability

Moving forward.....

■ Organize to succeed

- Conduct meetings/dialogue
- Use standards and indicators to uniformly assess impact

□ Learn

- From experiences, pilots, trials
- Mainstream lessons learned

Moving forward.....

☐ Innovate

- Different and better ways of doing what needs to be done
- Sustain partnerships

☐ Adopt

- Promising practices
- Local setting/applicability

Moving forward.....

- ☐ Mobilize
- ☐ Orient
- ☐ Network
- ☐ Good governance
- ☐ Organize to succeed
- ☐ Learn
- ☐ Innovate
- ☐ Adopt to local setting

Thank you for your attention

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