



Sustainable Davao City: A Three-Year Agenda (2019-2022)

Davao City has established a global reputation for its strong political will in enacting landmark policies that protect the environment and safeguard the welfare of its people. Since Mayor Rodrigo "Digong" Duterte became the Philippine President in 2016, Davao City has witnessed remarkable growth with local and foreign investments pouring in. This has resulted in better opportunities for an improved quality of life for more Dabawenyos. However, rapid development often threatens the ecological balance which brings long-term, permanent, and irreversible damages.

We have witnessed continuing decline in our urban greenery, increased temperature in urban centers, increased volume of waste and other pollution, traffic congestion, flooding, landslides, and increased resource extraction. All these negatively affect our food security, water resources, health, and overall quality of living in our city.

We are one with the City Government in improving the lives of Dabawenyos but **we urge the pursuit of development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.** Let us protect our local natural resources, enhance people's participation in environmental governance, and maximize opportunities to make Davao a more livable and sustainable City, true to our claim that **Life is Here!**

On this note, the Sustainable Davao Movement would like to submit our three-year sustainable agenda anchored on the Davao City Development Program and in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN-SDG) 2015-2030:

1. **ECONOMIC SYSTEM- SDG 1 AND 2**

1.1 Organic Agriculture Ordinance

- i. Develop a Comprehensive Organic Agriculture Program and ensure sufficient budget allocation;
- ii. Declare more areas as organic agriculture zone to ensure safe and secured food production;
- iii. Mainstream and enhance Urban Organic Container Gardening by providing technical support, skills assistance, and supplies (i.e seedlings, materials, soil / compost);
- iv. Ensure operation of existing Organic Trading Post (OTP) and create additional OTPs in every Congressional District;
- v. Establishment of One (1) City Open Pollinated Variety (OPV) Seed Bank Center and Barangay OPV Seed Bank Centers.

1.2 Sustainable Agriculture & Agribusiness

- i. Development of a state-of-the-art Management Information System (MIS)/Digital Market on Food and Agriculture and Agribusiness Marketing Assistance Information Database; and
- ii. Develop a program that will provide assistance to students pursuing Agricultural Studies and/or research grants to fund organic agricultural research/studies.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Pass an ordinance requiring all households, commercial establishments, and institutions to set-up a fully functioning **Urban Container Garden/Farm** to address food safety and security, and solid waste management especially in urban areas.
2. Formulate and enact the **Ecological-Agriculture Tourism and Heritage Protection ordinance** in line with the concept of sustainable tourism.
3. In connection with the exhaustive implementation of the organic ordinance, we also recommend the **passage of an ordinance regarding the Banning of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) and Genetically Engineered Seeds (GES)**. This measure will help address Food Security as it will ensure non-contamination of organic agricultural products.
4. Formulate and enact an **Ordinance on the Proper labelling of Food Products (GMO/Non-GMO)**. This supports pro-choice for consumers as they will be appraised of the food they buy.

2. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT – SDG 7, 13, 14 and 15

2.1 Continued full implementation of the Watershed Code of Davao City in order to ensure the protection, conservation and sustainable management of the city's watersheds.

- i. Declare Panigan-Tamugan Sub-watershed as a Watershed Reserve/Exclusion Zone;
- ii. Ensure completion of ground delineation and conduct project validation of delineated Conservation Zones through third-party validator;
- iii. Formulation and implementation of Integrated Watershed Management Plans for all the major watersheds;
- iv. Ensure active and functional Barangay Watershed Management Councils;
- v. Enforce the phase-out provision of the Watershed Code regarding plantations within conservation zones and the strict compliance of agro-industries to buffer zone requirements;
- vi. Ensure the immediate resolution of the environmental tax collection which is under protest before the Court of Tax Appeals. The environmental tax should be utilized for watershed conservation and management projects only;
- vii. Establish/update the city's watersheds baseline profiles in partnership with local research institutions; and
- viii. Ensure regular monitoring and evaluation of the watershed status by the Watershed Management Council/Watershed Monitoring Team.

2.2 Strict implementation of the Rainwater Harvesting Ordinance.

- i. Develop guidelines on subsidies, tax rebates, and other incentives for best practices and conduct information drive;
- ii. Require Local Government Offices including Barangay halls to install rainwater catchment system as a model for the proper harvesting and utilization of rainwater;

- iii. Ensure compliance and utilization of harvested rainwater of private buildings (new or under major renovations/expansion), residential units, agricultural plantations, and other priority farms;
- iv. Review the Implementing Rules and Regulation and create functional monitoring team;
- v. Ensure proper monitoring, documentation, and regular reporting to WMC;

2.3 Full Implementation of the Ordinance Closing Off Davao City to Mining Activities.

- i. Review and introduce amendments on the types of resources that can be mined (Metallic and Non-Metallic);
- ii. Develop guidelines on strict regulation of quarrying and its compliance to the local ordinance.
 - Conduct threshold capacity research of areas with existing quarrying operations.
 - Ensure equitable sharing of income for all covered local barangays generated from quarry permittees.
 - Mandate permittees to compensate infrastructure, health, social damages and costs.

2.4 Full implementation of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Ordinance

- i. Ensure proper compliance of waste segregation and collection in the barangay level and strictly implement sanctions for violators;
- ii. Strictly enforce the “NO SEGREGATION, NO COLLECTION” and “NO COLLECTION OF BIODEGRADABLE WASTES” policy;
- iii. Strict enforcement of Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in every Barangay as mandated in the Solid Waste Management Ordinance and RA9003;
- iv. Creation of Barangay Solid Waste Management Council and development of Solid Waste Management Plan;
- v. Effectively promote waste recycling, reusing, upcycling and reduction across all types of wastes.

2.5 Implement the Ordinance Banning the Release of Plastic Balloons and Sky Lanterns.

2.6 Full implementation of the Septage and Sewerage Management Ordinance.

- i. Creation, operation, and maintenance of the Sewerage Treatment Facility in the City

2.7 Identification of local key biodiversity areas and the establishment of a Biodiversity Center in the City.

- i. Propagation and promotion of Philippine endemic plant species;
- ii. Enact a policy to protect the identified local key biodiversity areas;
- iii. Establishment and/or updating of baselines or profiles in watershed areas/biodiversity areas.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Prioritize the enactment of the **Environment Code of Davao City**.
2. Enactment of the **Ban Single-Use Plastics Ordinance**.
3. Enactment of the **Strict Regulation of Aerial Spraying in Davao City**.
4. Assert the Local Autonomy of Davao City in managing its water resources through the **enforcement of the Water Code of Davao City**.
5. Enactment of the **City Renewable Energy Plan** that would outline the city's gradual transition to renewable energy and ensure that no new Coal-fired Power Plants and Waste-to-Energy Facility will be built.

3. PUBLIC GOVERNANCE – SDG 17

- 3.1. **Ensure transparency and appraise the people, as well as guarantee participatory governance in all governmental affairs and activities** through means such as, but not limited to;
 - i. Ensure up to date posting of Council Session Agenda and minutes in the Sangguniang Panlungsod website for the Dabawenyos to be appraised of their discussions;
 - ii. Make available simplified copies of the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Comprehensive Development Plan; and
 - iii. Creation of Citizens Monitoring Group and CSO Desk at the City hall and/or at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Building.
- 3.2 Support regular partnership between and among government line agencies, BLGUs, and CSOs for collaboration, interfacing and synergy (e.g. Policy Development and legislation, and Project Development and Implementation identified as priority areas)
- 3.3 Initiate the unification/consolidation of all CSO networks working towards Sustainable Davao City and allocate budget for regular assemblies and capacity building.
- 3.4 Capacity building of the Barangay Local Government Units for effective governance and disaster preparedness and response.
- 3.5 Ensure Community based disaster preparedness and response.
- 3.6 Conduct a bi-annual conference between LGU, LGAs and CSOs which will include reports and updates on field monitoring of government programs and projects (Regional offices included).
- 3.7 Assert local authority by ensuring coordination between national, regional and local agencies.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Issuance of an Executive Order installing a **CSO Desk and hotline**, in which in-charge will be elected by accredited CSOs.
2. Support and ensure the **formulation and passage of the People Empowerment Ordinance** which guarantees sectoral representation in all governmental affairs, provide funds for general assembly, and capacity building and trainings for accredited CSOs.

4. LAND USE PLAN – SDG 11

4.1 Full Implementation of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

- i. **Establish additional Public Green Parks in the city.**
- ii. Require **every Barangay Local Government Units (BLGUs)** to develop **Public Green Parks**, especially in urban areas, as a Climate Change mitigation and adaptation measure;
- iii. Full Implementation and monitoring of the **ten percent (10%) more green spaces** provision in all land developments;
- iv. Develop **Shrine Hills as a flagship Development Project to serve as the City's Carbon Sink/Green Lungs**;
- v. Declaration of additional Ecological Enhancement Sub-zones;
- vi. Formulation of a Comprehensive Development/Management Plan for Shrine Hills in consultation with major landowners-developers, Civil Society Organizations, and Stakeholders.

4.2 Full implementation of the Permeable Pavement System Ordinance

- i. Government offices, BLGUs and public parks to model the permeable pavements.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Declare Geo-Hazard Zones as Green Zones in the Land Use Plan and Greenbelts in all major roads and conflicting zones.

5. INFRASTRUCTURES AND UTILITIES – SDG 9

5.1 Review the Davao Transport Road map and ensure pedestrian walkability and integration of bike lanes and sustainable transportation. Less car usage and safety and accessibility for PWDs.

5.2 Establish **bicycle parking racks or bike racks in public places** like parks, city hall, SP building, etc.

5.3 Require public and private offices/establishments to put up green parking spaces and establish green walkable areas, e.g. path walks, waiting sheds, among others.

5.4 Encourage private establishments to include in their architectural designs/buildings green initiatives or designs which include, but not limited to, roof top garden, utilization of solar panels, and installation of rainwater catchment system. The government shall provide incentives in a form of tax rebates and subsidies.

5.5 Require government offices/buildings (LGU and BLGU) to install Renewable-Energy efficient technologies.

5.6 Review and introduce necessary amendments to the green building ordinance.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Enact an ordinance for the **Formulation and implementation of a Renewable Energy Development Plan.**
2. **Enact an ordinance declaring Bicycle Hours / Days in Davao City.**

3. Formulation of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Bicycle Ordinance.

6. SOCIAL SYSTEM – SDG 3, 6, AND 16

6.1 Ensure completion and implementation of the Ten (10) year Comprehensive City Shelter Plan.

- i. Update data on the city's housing backlog and needs to help the city's housing agencies to better respond to the population's shelter needs; and
- ii. Rationalize the city's housing delivery services to focus on informal settlements which need immediate security of tenure.
- iii. **Develop relocation sites into sustainable communities** in which they establish community organic gardens, ensure harvesting and utilization of rainwater, establish community parks.

6.2 Formulate and adopt a City Migration Framework to address in-migration from conflict areas.

- i. Implement rationalized institutional arrangements among city and regional agencies to respond to in-migration; and
- ii. Implement barangay level anti-trafficking desks to address and resolve trafficking concerns among the city's displaced migrant population.

6.3 Ensure observance of the 10% provision for more green spaces in housing developments irrespective of its classification (low, medium, or high cost

Contact Organizations:

Interface Development Interventions (IDIS), Inc. – 299 4552
ADDU - Ecoteneo – 299 2404 loc 4112 or 4158

Member Organizations

1. Save Davao Shrine Hills Advocates
2. Movement for Imaginals for Sustainable Societies through Initiatives, Organization and Network (MISSION) Davao
3. METSA Foundation
4. Mindanao Land Foundation
5. Magsasaka at Siyentipiko para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura (MASIPAG)
6. Agro-Eco Philippines
7. Tacunan Organic Farmers Association
8. San Lorenzo Ruiz Foundation
9. Youth for Climate Justice
10. Our Rivers, Our Life (OROL)
11. ADDU – University Community Engagement and Advocacy Center
12. Brahma Kumaris
13. Tuburan Institute
14. Go Organic Davao City Network
15. Philippine Misereor Partnership – Davao Region Cluster (PMP-DRC)
16. Davao City Federation of Fisherfolks Organizations, Inc. (DCFFOI)
17. SALIGAN Mindanao
18. Tambayan Children's Rights Center
19. Ateneo Institute of Environment and Urban Studies
20. Blissful Village
21. San Pablo Parish represented by Ret. Judge Jesus Quitain
22. Philippine Eagle Foundation
23. SIMCARRD, Inc
24. Mamamayan Ayaw sa Aerial Spray
25. No Burn Pilipinas
26. Ecowaste Coalition