



ONE NEDA THROUGH THE YEARS:

Promoting Malasakit, Pagbabago, at Patuloy na Pag-unlad

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Published by:

Development Information Staff
NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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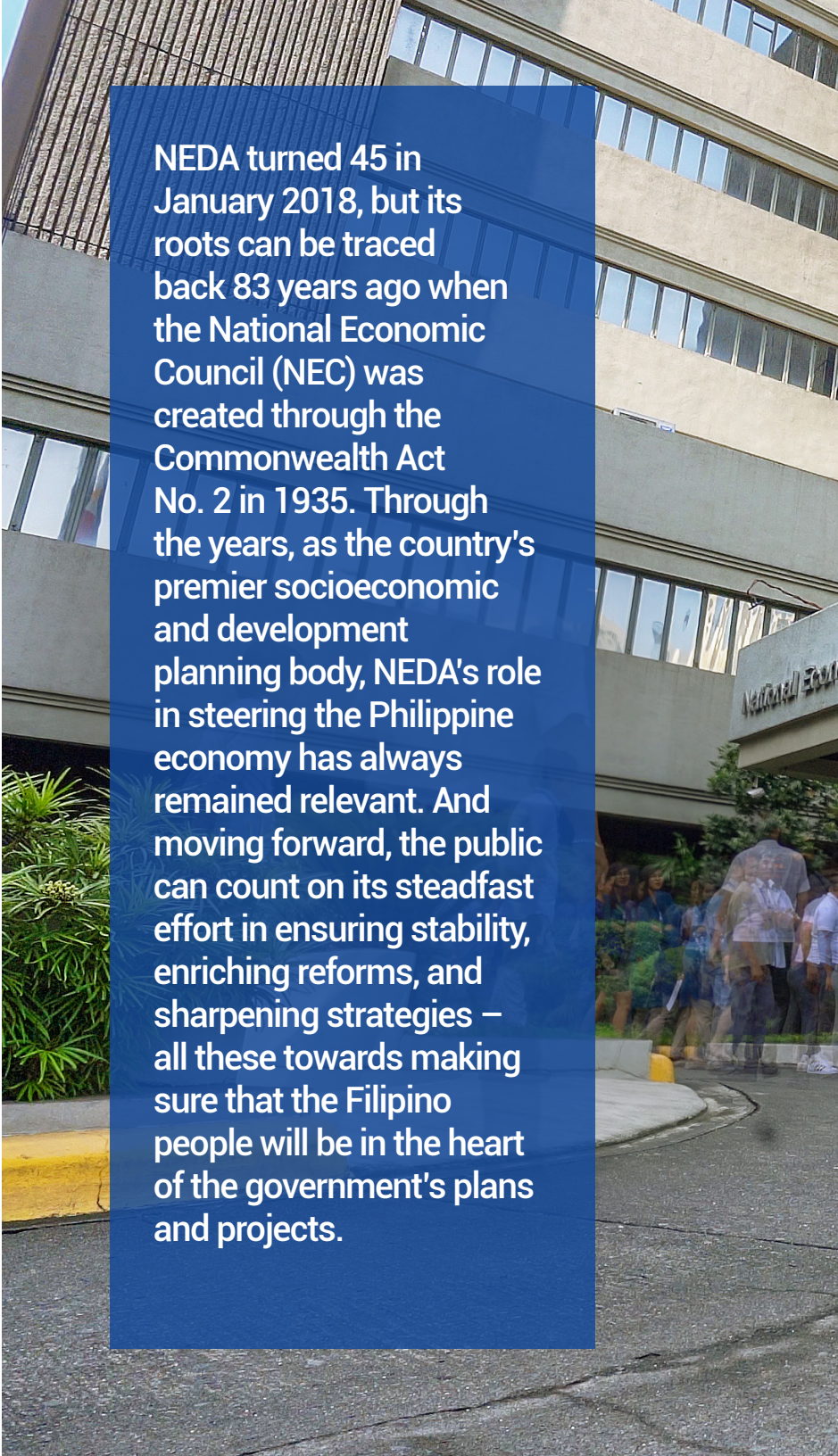
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NEDA turned 45 in January 2018, but its roots can be traced back 83 years ago when the National Economic Council (NEC) was created through the Commonwealth Act No. 2 in 1935. Through the years, as the country's premier socioeconomic and development planning body, NEDA's role in steering the Philippine economy has always remained relevant. And moving forward, the public can count on its steadfast effort in ensuring stability, enriching reforms, and sharpening strategies – all these towards making sure that the Filipino people will be in the heart of the government's plans and projects.



National Economic Development Authority
NEDA

THROUGH THE YEARS

1935

Creation of National Economic Council (NEC) through Commonwealth Act No. 2



1941

NEC ceased to operate during WWII



1947

Reorganization Committee recommended NEC's reconstitution



1955

EO No. 119 implemented Reorganization Plan No. 10 that created a new NEC



1962

EO No. 17 launched another planning agency, the Programme Implementation Agency (PIA)



The current structure of NEDA can be traced to several predecessor agencies. First is the NEC, which was created through Commonwealth Act No. 2 in 1935 as the focal point of development planning of the government. It handled the preparation of economic development plans, oversaw its implementation, initiated debates on major policy reforms, screened technical and foreign aid programs, and evaluated the economy's performance.

With the outbreak of World War II, the NEC ceased to operate in 1941. After the war, President Manuel Roxas, through his administration's reorganization committee, recommended the NEC's reconstitution in 1947.

During the time of President Ramon Magsaysay in 1955, he created a new NEC through Executive Order (EO) No. 119, abolishing the Philippine Council for United

States Aid, the Economic Planning Board, the Tariff Commission, and the former NEC.

Another predecessor of NEDA is the Programme Implementation Agency (PIA), which was launched in 1962 under President Diosdado Macapagal through EO No. 17.

In 1966, the PIA was renamed the Presidential Economic Staff, under Macapagal's successor, President Ferdinand Marcos.

However, the Speaker of the House of Representatives during that time, Jose Laurel, proposed the concept of a single economic superbody that will guide all decision-making for the economy and the overall development of the country.

Thus, in 1972, President Marcos through Presidential Decree No. 1, created the National Economic Development Authority, without the conjunction “and” as we have today, to be the Philippine government’s central planning body. This decree merged the National Economic Council, the Presidential Economic Staff (formerly PIA), and other ad hoc bodies.

This decree was also known as the Integrated Reorganization Plan or IRP, which provided an integrated organizational complex for development planning and program implementation to correct the deficiencies of the system then existing.

In 1986, President Corazon Aquino issued EO No. 5, directing a government-wide reorganization to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness in the delivery of public services. Thus, in 1987, EO No. 230 was issued reorganizing the NEDA. NEDA commenced operations under its reorganized setup in 1988. The 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, which was ratified under President Aquino’s term, also established NEDA as an “independent planning agency of the government”.

In 2013, NEDA was further reorganized based on its Rationalization Plan and as pursuant to EO 366 issued by then President

Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in October 2004 which directed all agencies of government to conduct a strategic review of the operations and organizations of the Executive Branch to improve public service delivery. Thus, a newly structured NEDA was set in place in June 2013, enabling NEDA to take on greater leadership roles in policy analysis and coordination, planning, programming, and monitoring and evaluation. NEDA also redefined its functions, consistent with its goal of becoming a strategic decision-making body rather than simply providing technical assistance, as follows:

1966

EO No. 8 renamed PIA to Presidential Economic Staff (PES)



1967

House Speaker José Laurel, Jr. first proposed the concept of NEDA in his privilege speech*



1972

PD No. 1 implemented the Integrated Reorganization Plan (IRP), which merged NEC, PES and other ad hoc bodies into one entity called NEDA



1973

PD No. 107 officially established NEDA, with powers and functions outlined in the IRP and the 1973 Constitution



1987

The 1987 Constitution established NEDA as an “independent planning agency of the government” and reorganized NEDA into its current setup



- Coordinate the formulation of socioeconomic and physical plans, policies, and programs by issuing planning guidelines, conducting multi-sectoral and regional consultations, and communicating and advocating the Plan in pursuit of growth with equity;
- Evaluate and program public investments by appraising programs and projects, and by coordinating the formulation and updating of the investment program. These are towards ensuring linkage of programming with planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and towards facilitating public and private funding, particularly through official development assistance.
- Monitor and evaluate socioeconomic development plans, programs and project implementation, and prepare socioeconomic and other reports on the achievement of societal objectives.
- Provide technical and administrative secretariat services to the NEDA Board and its Committees, Regional Development Councils and other inter-agency bodies and other clients including the local government units

In line with these redefined functions, the NEDA has institutionalized the monitoring of international macroeconomic developments, monitoring of national government funded programs and projects, optimization of the use of physical planning in regional development, leveraging of knowledge or intellectual capital for development planning and policy coordination, and addressing governance issues in development planning.

45 YEARS
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NEDA Board Interagency Committees

There are seven Cabinet-level interagency committees assisting the NEDA Board in the performance of its functions:

1. **DEVELOPMENT BUDGET COORDINATION COMMITTEE (DBCC)** recommends to the President the level of annual government expenditures and the ceiling of government spending for economic and social development, national defense, and government debt service, among others.
2. **INVESTMENT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (ICC)** evaluates the fiscal, monetary, and balance of payments implications of major national projects.
3. **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE (INFRACOM)** provides advice on infrastructure development policies, programs, projects, and concerns.
4. **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (SDC)** advises the NEDA Board on social development, including education, manpower, health and nutrition, population and family planning, housing, human settlements, and the delivery of other social services.
5. **COMMITTEE ON TARIFF AND RELATED MATTERS (CTRM)** provides advice on tariff and related matters, and coordinates Philippine Government positions for international negotiations.
6. **REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (RDCOM)** formulates and monitors the implementation of policies that reduce regional growth disparities, and promotes rational allocation of resources among regions.
7. **NATIONAL LAND USE COMMITTEE (NLUC)** provides advice on matters concerning land use and physical planning including the preparation and update of the national physical and regional physical framework plans.

Attached Agencies



1. **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA)** conducts and publishes national censuses and surveys, sector statistics; and consolidates selected administrative recording systems and national accounts.



2. **PHILIPPINE STATISTICAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE (PSRTI)** develops comprehensive and integrated research and training programs on theories, concepts, and methodologies for the promotion of the statistical system.



3. **PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (PIDS)** produces comprehensive and integrated socioeconomic research on several development issues of the country.



4. **TARIFF COMMISSION (TC)** provides expertise on tariff, trade remedies, non-tariff measures, and international trade issues to enhance industry competitiveness and promote consumer welfare.



5. **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE COORDINATING AGENCY (PNVSCA)** promotes and coordinates volunteer programs and services to empower individuals, groups, families, and communities for self-sufficiency and self-governing development.



6. **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) CENTER** provides technical assistance to government agencies, local government units, and private sector in developing critical public-private partnership projects.



7. **COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD)** formulates and adopts coherent, integrated, and comprehensive long-term plans, programs, and recommendations on population as it relates to economic and social development consistent with and implementing the population policy.

Directors-General and Secretaries through the years



GERARDO SICAT
1973-1980

reorganized the government planning body into the current NEDA and established the PIDS and the Philippine Center for Economic Development to boost research and training in the social sciences



PLACIDO MAPA
1980-1982

refined the Regional Development Investment Program and gave greater emphasis to the monitoring of economic issues and developments



CESAR EA VIRATA
1983

prioritized energy projects to lessen dependence on foreign-sourced energy



VICENTE VALDEPENAS
1983-1986

adopted a balanced agro-industrial development strategy and implemented a two-stage regional planning approach – giving general guidelines to regions to stimulate bottom-up input



SOLITA COLLAS-MONSOD
1986-1989

pushed for economic reconstruction including stabilization of inflation and exchange rates and lowering interest rates. The PDP then also focused on alleviating poverty and creating new jobs

Directors- General and Secretaries through the years



JESUS ESTANISLAO
1989

focused on the economic recovery and reform agenda of Cory Aquino's administration



CAYETANO PADERANGA
1990-1992, 2010-2012

refocused investment incentives and encouraged export development to attract more Private Sector Initiatives and lessen government intervention; established PPP Center in 2010



ROMULO NERI
2002-2005, 2006-2007

identified super regions– areas with common strengths and competitive advantages– with integrated development thrusts and concerns



AUGUSTO SANTOS
2005-2006, 2007-2008, 2009-2010

led NEDA during transition years and ensured that economic reforms are pursued



RALPH RECTO
2008-2009

helped craft and monitor the Economic Resiliency Program which increased spending for social services and infrastructure. NEDA also instituted value engineering in infrastructure projects to cut costs, minimize delays, and strengthen the ICC process



CIELITO HABITO

1992-1998

created LEDAC, which coordinated efforts between the Executive and Legislative. Project Development Assistance Centers were also established in regional offices to turn ideas into proposals worthy of development assistance



FELIPE MEDALLA

1998-2001

led NEDA during the readjustment period from President Estrada to President Arroyo. The country sought a restructuring of financial and corporate sectors. Angat Pinoy 2004 was also formed



DANTE CANLAS

2001-2002

linked national planning and budgeting through the Medium Term Expenditure Framework. NEDA rationalized investment programming by synchronizing the planning, programming, and budgeting of public investment



ARSENIO BALISACAN

2012-2016

led the formulation of *AmBisyon Natin 2040* – the country's long-term vision and the basis for planning efforts for the next 25 years



EMMANUEL ESGUERRA

2016

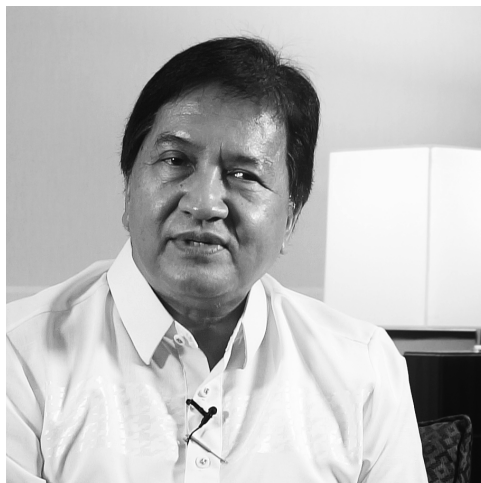
continued the work and ensured a smooth turnover to the current administration



ERNESTO PERNIA

2016-PRESENT

led the formulation of the PDP 2017-2022, the first PDP geared towards *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, and helped speed up processing of infrastructure projects



“NEDA IS REALLY A BASTION OF INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM THAT IS SOMEWHAT UNIQUE IN THE GOVERNMENT. AND THAT’S THE REASON WHY I’M PROUD TO HAVE BEEN PART OF NEDA AND I REMAIN A NEDAN AT HEART.

I continue to do work with NEDA. And for that reason, the eight years I spent - a tiny fraction of the 45 years of its existence now - is something that I treasure very much in my professional and even personal life. Sa mga taga-NEDA sa buong bansa natin bukod sa central office – sa mga NEDA regional offices – isang pagbati at mainit na pagmamahal sa inyong lahat.” **CIELITO HABITO**



“Congratulations to NEDA on its 45th anniversary. I’m proud to have been in NEDA and to have worked with such a big and great set of professional and very dedicated people. NEDA has done a lot of good for the government and the country.

I THINK IT’S BECAUSE OF NEDA’S CONTINUOUS POLICIES OVER THE PAST DECADES THAT WE ARE NOW EXPERIENCING ONE OF THE BEST GROWTHS IN THE REGION AND POSSIBLY IN THE WHOLE WORLD.” **ROMULO NERI**



“I THINK NEDA IS ONE OF THE PREMIER AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT IN TERMS OF ITS RELATIVELY CORRUPTION-FREE ATMOSPHERE AND ITS EFFICIENCY IN DOING THINGS.

In other words, NEDA has credibility and that is one thing that I would hate for it to lose. Folks, you have to try to maintain the professionalism and credibility that has been the hallmark of NEDA since time immemorial.” **SOLITA “WINNIE” COLLAS-MONSOD**



“Congratulations on your 45th year. I know that sometimes serving government is not easy, the pay is not so good and the job is not easy. But it’s an opportunity that few people get, and that is the opportunity to serve the nation. Keep up the good work.

I’M SURE THAT THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER CHALLENGES LEFT — ACHIEVING FASTER ECONOMIC GROWTH, GREATER GOVERNMENT REVENUES - THAT WILL CREATE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT SET OF CHALLENGES. BUT I’M VERY CONFIDENT THAT NEDA WILL BE EQUAL TO THE TASK.”

FELIPE MEDALLA

NEDA Stories

THE EARLY DAYS OF REGIONAL PLANNING

ESTELA M. PAREDES, RETIRED CHIEF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (EDS), 39 YEARS IN NEDA REGION VI

“With a station wagon and two second-hand owner-type jeepneys (remnants of the Vietnam war), RED Umadhay would go around Panay Island on a rough road for meetings with the governors and travel three hours by ship to Bacolod City. Curfew due to martial law did not hinder the work on development planning. The Regional Development Council (RDC)/NEDA staffs would work until the first siren would be heard, a reminder that it was already 11:00PM. As soon as the siren rung, NEDA drivers would be ready on the steering wheels to bring the staffs home. If military check points would stop them, they were ready with the answer or else they would end up in jail or stockade.

As inputs to regional planning, data had to be gathered from the five provinces and two chartered cities. To minimize long distance calls, which in

the 70s were quite expensive, a telegraph and two-way radios were set up in all NEDA Regional Offices. Invitations to the RDC meetings were then communicated through the two-way radios. Imagine interpreting the messages sent like telegraphs using Morse codes!

The first few years of regional development planning was like giving birth. There were times that NEDA was asked by the RDC members to explain fully how targets, projections, and estimates were computed. There were remarks that the technical terms in the development plan sounded like Greek and looked like Chinese characters. Planning Manuals and Planning Cookbooks were then prepared and distributed for better understanding and appreciation of everyone.”

CARING IN A TOUGH PLACE: THE 1990 EARTHQUAKE

JOSE H. DADO JR., SUPERVISING EDS, NEDA-CAR,
27 YEARS AS NEDAN

“The NRO-CAR was a fledgling office led by Dir. Joseph Alabanza and the pioneers from NRO 1 when the July 16 earthquake struck in 1990. There was devastation everywhere and first concerns were to secure our families and home repair. After two weeks, we went back to work to join the rehabilitation efforts for Baguio City and the rest of the region.

As we were recovering from the trauma, assistance poured in from other regions including NEDA Central and Regional offices. It was heartening to feel the solidarity of our colleagues through their words of comfort and donations in cash and in kind. This was the start of my appreciation of NEDA as a caring and nurturing organization. Meanwhile, the spirit of sharing and caring has also grown not only within the NEDA Regional Offices but across the NEDA units as well. We see this in the assistance provided when calamity strikes other NEDA offices or an accident or illness befalls a staff or an employee’s family. These exemplify the values that we share, a legacy we bequeath to future generations of our NEDA family.”

ON NEDA’S GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS

LISA GRACE S. BERSALES, PH.D.,
UNDERSECRETARY AND NATIONAL STATISTICIAN
AND CIVIL REGISTRAR GENERAL

“One of NEDA’s greatest achievements to date is the successful setting in motion of *AmBisyon Natin 2040*. Through NEDA, *AmBisyon Natin 2040* signifies the high prioritization of our government to improve the quality of life for all Filipinos and reaffirms our commitment as public servants to help the country achieve this collective long-term vision.

With NEDA as the primary catalyst, it is heartening to note that the momentum for realizing *AmBisyon Natin 2040* is continuously gaining pace. Truly, it is an honor to witness the agency’s unmatched efforts in advocating the vision.

On behalf of the Philippine Statistics Authority, I wish NEDA continued success in steering our nation towards economic advancement for the next 45 years and all the years to come!”

SELFLESS AND PRICELESS: THE NUMBER ONE VOLUNTEERS

JOSELITO C. DE VERA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE
COORDINATING AGENCY

“In the 17 years of the Search for Outstanding Volunteers (SOV), all regions have already been awarded their winners in the roster of 146 awardees. Through the SOV, PNVSCA has gained visibility as the agency for volunteerism and as part of the NEDA family.

Through the years, the NROs have been a key partner in this endeavor. While they do not step on stage to claim an award, I consider the NROs as PNVSCA’s NUMBER ONE VOLUNTEERS. Beyond the confines of their regular work, the NRO staffs selflessly devote precious time to document the seemingly small but certainly meaningful work of the volunteers, most often in far-flung places and marginalized communities. They act as PNVSCA’s champions in the regions and connect us with our stakeholders and the volunteer community, in general. Like volunteering, their assistance is priceless! And they tell us - “It comes from our hearts!”

NEDA Stories

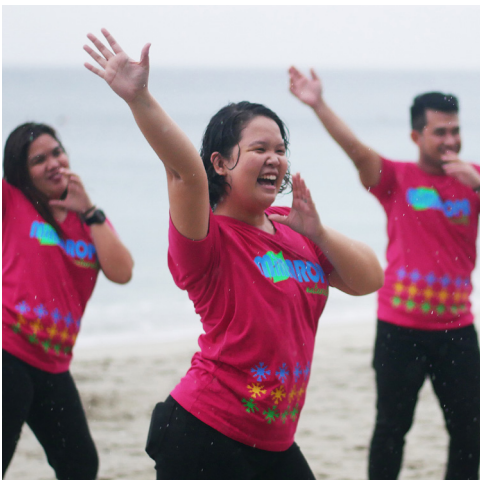


NEDA launched 'Tunog ng Progreso,' in 2017 as an anthem for the country's economic progress. The melodies of the song were developed from the country's economic performance in recent years. It aims to create understanding and better appreciation of the amount of progress we have achieved and inspire everyone to unite for a better future.

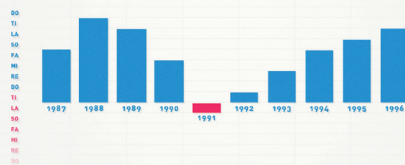
As part of this project, NEDA filmed its officials and personnel from the central and regional offices showcasing their dancing and singing skills as well as their creativity.



TUNOG NG PROGRESO: AN ANTHEM OF PROGRESS



GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority





PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

“My warmest greetings to NEDA on the occasion of its 45th Anniversary.

In the past four decades, NEDA has served as the government’s primary arm in steering our country towards genuine progress that translates to a better and more secure life for our people. Today, exceeding all projections, we are now experiencing continuous economic growth that we expect to sustain in the succeeding years.

These gains would not have been possible without the solid economic fundamentals

and corruption-free institutions that have created a more dynamic, competitive, and business friendly environment. In the next four years, we will further pursue policies that will not just encourage the entry of foreign and domestic investors, but will also enable ordinary people to embrace business and livelihood opportunities.

I am confident that as we implement the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, NEDA will continue to provide valuable guidance in policy formulation as we push our medium-term socioeconomic development strategy. Through your help, I am confident that we can fully realize our aspiration of eliminating poverty and laying the foundations of a truly prosperous Philippines.”

NEDA IN THE EYES OF ITS PARTNERS



VICE PRESIDENT MARIA LEONOR G. ROBREDO

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

“Warmest greetings to the NEDA as you celebrate your 45th Anniversary.

For decades, NEDA has demonstrated excellence in the facilitation of our country’s development. This celebration is a testament to your consistency in shaping our path to progress and adapting to the needs of the Filipino.

In our commitment to nation building, NEDA plays a critical role in the pursuit of sustained and inclusive growth, trustworthy institutions, and supportive socioeconomic environments.

We are one with the values of *AmBisyon Natin* 2040 of transforming the lives of our most underprivileged and marginalized countrymen by making them more strongly rooted, comfortable, and secure as we work together to bring millions out of poverty.”



COUNTRY DIRECTOR KELLY BIRD

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)

“My warmest greetings to the NEDA on your 45th founding anniversary.

Over the years, the Philippines and the ADB have forged a strong partnership in pursuit of the country’s development goals. That partnership grew in huge part because of the close relationship of ADB and NEDA, and its forerunner organizations – the NEC and the PES which were merged to create NEDA.

ADB’s support to the Philippines through the years has been framed by the government’s strategic priorities. The country’s development agenda, as detailed in the PDP crafted by NEDA, serves as a guidepost for ADB when it formulates its Country Partnership Strategy – which charts the course of its partnership

with the government – and the Country Operations Business Plan – a three-year plan outlining ADB’s assistance to the government.

There have been numerous meaningful and productive collaboration between NEDA and ADB in the past decades, starting in the early 1970s when we supported the government’s push to develop Mindanao’s infrastructure and economy. We look forward to more partnerships with NEDA in the years ahead, and stand ready to assist as the government implements reforms and policies to sustain the current strong growth momentum and realize the Filipino vision embodied in *AmBisyon Natin* 2040.

On behalf of the entire ADB, I send my sincere congratulations to all the hardworking men and women of NEDA.”



CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE YOSHIO WADA

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (JICA)

“I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to NEDA on your 45th Anniversary.

NEDA has been our steadfast partner since the beginnings of Japan’s Official Development Assistance and continues to be instrumental in facilitating JICA’s delivery of our programs in the Philippines. From the dispatch of the initial batch of volunteers in the 70s to the implementation of our growing portfolio of Loans, Grants, and Technical Cooperation, NEDA has been with us to ensure that our operations are consistent with the needs and aspirations of the Filipinos, and in

the process helping us become one of your biggest ODA partners.

As the bilateral relations between Japan and the Philippines continue to reach new heights, I envision that the partnership between NEDA and JICA will also become stronger especially in the context of the shared development challenges confronting our nations and our world.

As NEDA moves forward with its mandate, please be assured that you can continue to count on JICA as a trusted and reliable partner in achieving your next milestones.

Mabuhay ang NEDA!”



COUNTRY DIRECTOR MARA K. WARWICK

WORLD BANK – BRUNEI, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, AND THAILAND

“On behalf of the World Bank, I congratulate NEDA on its 45th year as the Philippines’ planning agency, playing a key role in charting the country’s development agenda over the last four-and-a-half decades.

The World Bank is honored to have partnered with NEDA over the years. We are pleased to have supported NEDA in some of its endeavors including in the dissemination of the country’s *AmBisyon Natin 2040* which now

serves as the long-term vision and aspirations of the Filipino people by 2040. Likewise, NEDA has helped us formulate a country strategy that would respond to the country’s development needs. It has provided critical inputs to our own planning and programming process and has actively engaged with us in our various consultations and knowledge-sharing activities.

We congratulate NEDA and its team of dedicated staff on its key role and contributions to the Philippines’ development agenda. As a long-standing partner of the country and of NEDA in particular, we look forward to continuing our partnership in the future.”



GOVERNOR NESTOR A. ESPENILLA, JR.

BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP)

“On behalf of the Monetary Board and the BSP, I extend my warmest greetings to NEDA on its 45th anniversary. Through the years, NEDA has forged a strong partnership and has continuously worked hand in hand with the BSP in pursuit of inclusive and sustainable development in the Philippines.

Our collaboration in estimating macroeconomic assumptions to determine the country’s fiscal resources and expenditures, and in setting macroeconomic targets and assumptions is crucial in ensuring the country’s continued macroeconomic stability. Also of

primordial importance is our coordination in formulating the Philippine Development Plan to achieve a sound, stable, and conducive macroeconomic environment.

On this occasion, the BSP affirms its commitment to join NEDA in the collective work to move our country forward toward self-sustaining and inclusive development and in the vision: *matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay* under *AmBisyon Natin 2040*. We expect this strong partnership to continue especially as we pursue greater financial inclusion and broad-based economic development in the coming years.

Congratulations NEDA! *Mabuhay!*”



SECRETARY CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

“Please accept my best wishes for NEDA on its 45th anniversary.

Since NEDA was established in 1972, the country’s most credible economists led and staffed this agency. It was charged with providing a vision for the nation’s economic development and a clear blueprint for taking us there.

Over the period of its existence, NEDA put together a series of medium-term economic

plans. These plans were accomplished with varying degrees of success, depending on the challenges and vagaries of each episode in our nation’s economic emergence.

On the whole, however, NEDA has acquitted itself well. It performed as one of the most credible agencies of the government and ensured a level of coherence for the major public investments undertaken.

I am sure the NEDA will continue to remain a beacon in our people’s quest for a humane, caring, and inclusive economy for our country in the coming decades.”



SECRETARY BENJAMIN E. DIOKNO

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT

“Congratulations to NEDA on your 45th year! Through the years, NEDA has built an institutional memory that ensures the stability of policies that govern many sectors in our society: health, education, demography, innovation, infrastructure, environment, energy, finance, and the economy. This is possible through NEDA’s strong commitment to sound, evidence-based planning and policymaking.

As a testament to this commitment, NEDA launched *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, possibly

NEDA’s most ambitious initiative to date that articulates the Filipino people’s collective vision by 2040. By forwarding a positive long-term vision for the country, NEDA allows the Filipino people a view into a future where they can live safely, securely, and comfortably.

On our part in the DBM, we will make sure to reflect in the budget the plans and priorities NEDA has set in its medium-term and long-term Development Plans. As one of our closest partners in government, we look forward to more productive collaboration with NEDA in the years to come. *Mabuhay ang NEDA!*”



PRESIDENT DANILO L. CONCEPCION

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM

“My heartfelt congratulations to NEDA as it celebrates the 45th anniversary of its founding. The existence of a central planning agency is critical to ensure that the Filipino dream of a prosperous, comfortable, and secure life is made into a reality. This noble goal may sometimes entail difficult and unpopular decisions, but these are bolstered by firm working relations with institutions.

UP is a proud partner of NEDA in its countless worthwhile initiatives. From institutional partnerships involving academic, technical, and extension work, to participation in *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, as well as the

tradition of sending interns, and eventually, graduates to NEDA to take part in setting the direction of national development as their way of giving back and serving the people, UP stood alongside NEDA through the years.

UP will remain a steadfast ally in NEDA’s many pursuits to curb economic blows, quash inequality, and eventually diminish poverty over the next 45 years and beyond. The improvement of the quality of Filipino life anchored on a strong economy will always be a top priority for the national university—accessible education and healthcare, improved literacy and employment rates, and resilient communities with just and lasting peace.

Congratulations again to NEDA on its 45th anniversary. *Mabuhay po kayo!*



PRESIDENT RAMON T. VILLARIN SJ

ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY

“On behalf of the Ateneo de Manila University, I congratulate NEDA on its 45th anniversary.

NEDA and Ateneo de Manila, especially through the School of Government and the Department of Economics, have a long history of working together to serve the Filipino people through our shared mission to generate policies and projects related to inclusive national development.

Most recently, Ateneo de Manila’s research centers and academic departments were involved in crafting *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, and are currently working with NEDA and the Philippine Economic Society on an outreach

project to provide economic and financial literacy seminar-workshops for high school teachers.

Ateneo’s researchers and professors are privileged to share their knowledge and expertise for the benefit of all Filipinos, especially those who live at the social peripheries.

We are truly grateful to NEDA for this privilege to serve our people. And we wish the men and women of NEDA a meaningful anniversary celebration, and attached to these wishes are our prayers for your continued strength and commitment to our people, particularly to those who subsist at the peripheries of Philippine society.”



PRESIDENT RAYMUNDO B. SUPLIDO FSC

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

“De La Salle University joins the members of the board, officials, and staff of NEDA in the observance marking the 45th anniversary of its establishment.

Over the years, faculty members, researchers, and research institutes from DLSU have been tapped by NEDA in various programs and projects specifically on monitoring and evaluation

of various projects as well as capacity building on impact evaluation.

DLSU has also assisted NEDA’s national and regional staff in the development of a model to determine the industry-specific impact of the ASEAN Economic Community in the Philippines in trade services and industry. NEDA also involved DLSU in providing technical assistance for strengthening public-private partnerships, determining key drivers of poverty reduction, and developing economic

models for socioeconomic analysis, and evaluating the economic impact of disasters.

As a private educational institution, DLSU takes pride that a government agency like NEDA recognizes our training and research capability. More than the recognition, we thank NEDA for engaging DLSU in an important task of nation building.

Again, our warmest felicitation.”



PRESIDENT WINSTON CONRAD B. PADOJINOG

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE
PACIFIC

“On behalf of the University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P), I congratulate NEDA on its 45th founding anniversary.

Not only have we been neighbors in Pasig since 1975, our respective institutions have also had a long history of working together on our country’s development aspirations.

Dr. Jesus Estanislao and Dr. Bernardo Villegas - UA&P’s founders- shared with me their fond memories of working closely with NEDA when UA&P was then known as the Center for Research and Communication (CRC).

From the beginning, NEDA and CRC, and now UA&P, have collaborated in two areas: regional development and sectoral development. The engagements at the regional level focus on the drive to develop regions outside of Metro Manila to achieve regional autonomy but always in relation to the

overall national development goals. Work at the sectoral level, on the other hand, deals with forming our local industries - from agriculture to manufacturing to services- to be competitive to generate jobs, investments, outputs, and incomes.

We look forward to more collaboration with NEDA in the future as both our institutions continue to work toward achieving the aspirations for a peaceful, united, and prosperous Philippines in which every Filipino can be proud of.”

PHOTO GALLERY:

NEDA 45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



SECRETARIES' NIGHT

NEDA hosted a dinner for its former secretaries, honoring their contributions to the agency's role of mapping the country's socioeconomic development.



SPORTS FESTIVAL

Representatives from NEDA's Central and Regional Offices participated in the two-day sports festival featuring volleyball and basketball games.



TRADE FAIR

NEDA's Regional Development Office and Regional Offices organized a trade fair that exhibited a wide array of goods and products from each of the regions across the country.





CULMINATING PROGRAM

A culminating program was held on January 24, 2018 at the NEDA grounds in Pasig City. Among the highlights were the sharing of experiences and learnings of loyalty awardees and long-serving employees, and a singing competition. NEDAns, including officials and visitors, also grooved to the Tunog ng Progreso song right after the public viewing of its dance video.

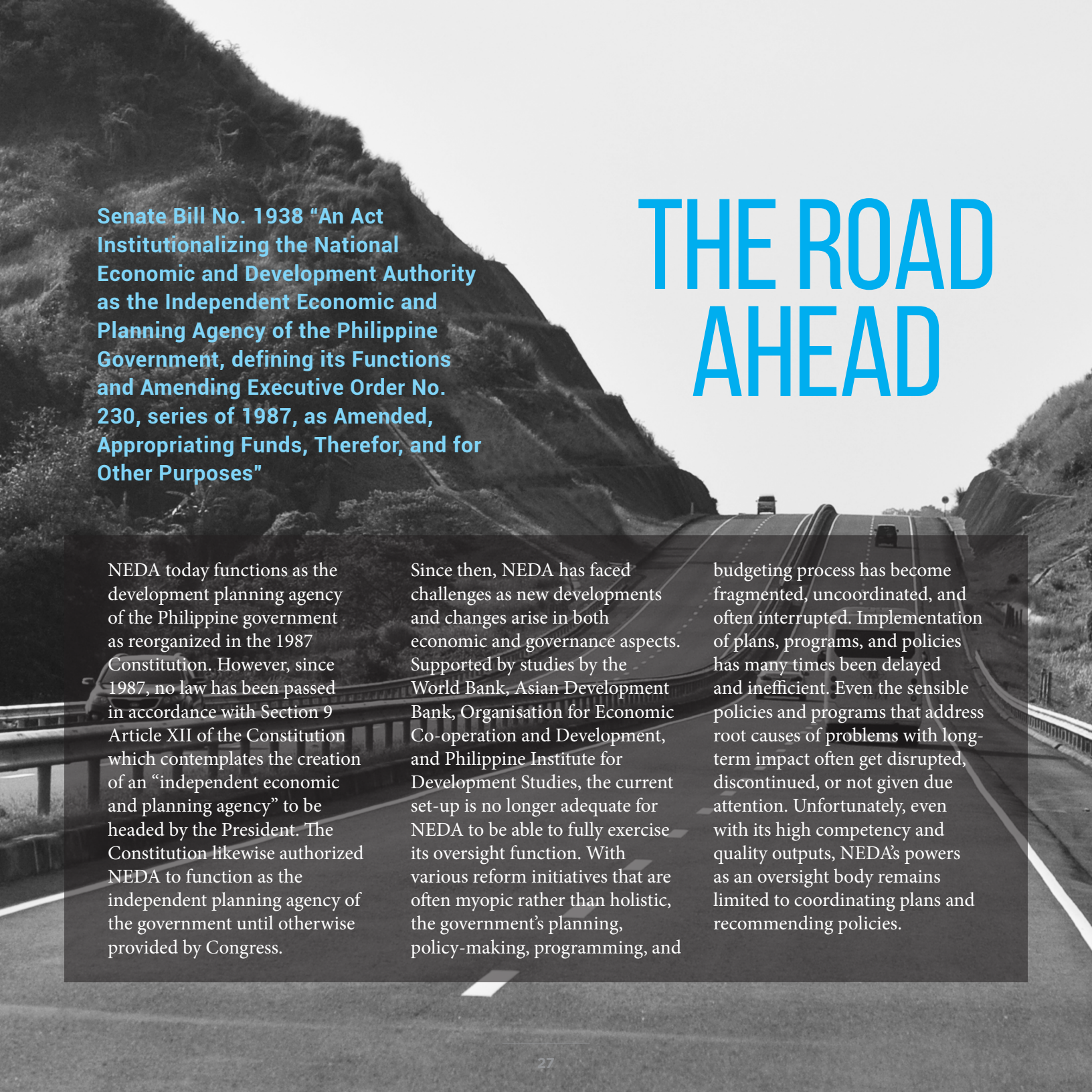




ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION WITH PRESIDENT DUTERTE

President Duterte graced the 45th Founding Anniversary celebration of NEDA on February 6, 2018 at the NEDA Central Office in Pasig City. He lauded NEDA for its achievements in development planning, policy formulation, and investment programming and commended the agency for its efforts in crafting the PDP 2017-2022 and *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, which were both created through a people-centered and participatory process.





Senate Bill No. 1938 "An Act Institutionalizing the National Economic and Development Authority as the Independent Economic and Planning Agency of the Philippine Government, defining its Functions and Amending Executive Order No. 230, series of 1987, as Amended, Appropriating Funds, Therefor, and for Other Purposes"

THE ROAD AHEAD

NEDA today functions as the development planning agency of the Philippine government as reorganized in the 1987 Constitution. However, since 1987, no law has been passed in accordance with Section 9 Article XII of the Constitution which contemplates the creation of an "independent economic and planning agency" to be headed by the President. The Constitution likewise authorized NEDA to function as the independent planning agency of the government until otherwise provided by Congress.

Since then, NEDA has faced challenges as new developments and changes arise in both economic and governance aspects. Supported by studies by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and Philippine Institute for Development Studies, the current set-up is no longer adequate for NEDA to be able to fully exercise its oversight function. With various reform initiatives that are often myopic rather than holistic, the government's planning, policy-making, programming, and

budgeting process has become fragmented, uncoordinated, and often interrupted. Implementation of plans, programs, and policies has many times been delayed and inefficient. Even the sensible policies and programs that address root causes of problems with long-term impact often get disrupted, discontinued, or not given due attention. Unfortunately, even with its high competency and quality outputs, NEDA's powers as an oversight body remains limited to coordinating plans and recommending policies.

It is noteworthy that we now have *AmBisyon Natin 2040* which articulates the country's long-term vision based on people's aspirations, and has been adopted by the President as a guide for long-term development planning across administrations. Yet our stakeholders often express concern that this will suffer the same fate of other well-intentioned government initiatives if NEDA is not sufficiently empowered and effective as an economic manager and development leader.

Thirty-one years after the 1987 Constitution, NEDA welcomes a landmark legislation introduced by Senator Sherwin Gatchalian that would strengthen NEDA's role in development planning. It was officially filed at the Senate as Senate Bill (SB) No. 1938 on August 8, 2018. Four (4) counterpart Bills have also been filed at the House of Representatives (HOR) from August to November 2018 as House Bill (HB) No. 8124 by Rep. Arthur Yap last, HB No. 8189 by Rep. Wes Gatchalian, HB No. 8527 by Rep. Joey Salceda, and HB No. 8635 by Speaker Gloria Arroyo. Speaker Arroyo's version of the bill was adopted by the HOR Committee on Economic Affairs as the substitute bill that will be sponsored by all the authors. This version institutionalizes the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as a lead integrator of economic development programs and policies to achieve the following objectives:

- Facilitate the planning, collaboration, and coordination among the relevant government agencies;
- Improve access to national program information, data, and funding opportunities, support research of leading edge, world class economic development practices and information dissemination efforts;
- Ensure that economic resources are aligned and invested in support of identified and well-defined timely strategies and projects in non-duplicative activities;

- Encourage strategic investments that strengthen competitiveness and foster job creation;
- Promote energy independence, help fight poverty, and build prosperity for the greatest number of Filipinos; and
- Produce transformational economic diversification and work force development outcomes for our country's long-term sustainable economic future.

In its introduction, the Bill states that SB 1938 or the NEDA Act "seeks to institutionalize a new and truly independent department that will implement long-term, continuing, integrated, and coordinated programs and policies for national development". The Bill also emphasized that the NEDA being created under the SB 1938 is a "hybrid institution that is different from regular line agencies but it's also not (at par) with constitutional bodies" and that "(the current) NEDA has crafted good long-term socio-economic development plans over the past years and yet, most of the plans are only used as reference instead of being implemented."

That is why the only way forward is for NEDA to be institutionalized as the independent economic and planning agency that shall recommend to Congress national development policies and programs for budget appropriation purposes. In accordance with the Constitution, the NEDA shall also be empowered to oversee and ensure the implementation of said policies and programs for national development.

As aptly stated by Secretary Pernia, the passage of the law that will institutionalize NEDA's independence and strengthen its oversight functions will surely drive NEDA to greater heights to move the country forward towards "self-sustaining and inclusive economic growth that empowers every Filipino to live a *matatag, maginhawa at panatag na buhay*."

ONE NEDA THROUGH THE YEARS:

Promoting Malasakit, Pagbabago, at Patuloy na Pag-unlad



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