

Gender and Development Initiatives Report



Introduction

This report presents key Government Procurement Policy Board - Technical Support Office initiatives which respond to emerging Gender and Development trends in the Office and its clients guided by the following strategic goals area and their respective indicators around sectoral priorities as provided in the Philippine Commission of Women guidelines:

Strategic Goal Area	Sector/Thematic Area
Women's Social Development Rights	Education, Health, Vulnerable Groups, Women in Media, and Culture and Preservation of Cultural Identity and Integrity
Gender in Security, Justice and Peace	Access to Justice, Armed Conflict, Security, Peace and Development
Gender-Responsive Governance	Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance, and Institutional Mechanisms
Gender in Environment and Climate Change	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management - Climate Change Adaptation
Women's Economic Empowerment	Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, MSMEs, Trade and Industry, Tourism, Formal Labor, Informal Economy, Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos, and Infrastructure



CY

GPPB - TSO GAD
Initiatives Report

20

22



January



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Originally initiated in the year 2020 recognizing outstanding personnel and teams from CYs 2019 and 2020, the GPPB - TSO conducted its CY 2021 Personnel and Team awards in January 2022 during the celebration of its 19th anniversary.

These awards spotlighted team members (Going the Extra Mile Award and Rising Star Award), team (Next Dream Team Award and Dream Team Award), and team leaders (Salmon Award and Phronetic Leadership Award) who stood out in the year on a particular set of criteria mostly related to skills on leadership, teamwork, communication, work values, and integrity.

January



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights, Gender-Responsive Governance, and Women's Economic Empowerment

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups, Institutional mechanisms, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Entrepreneurship can create jobs, wealth, and social empowerment. During the pandemic, personnel and staff with financial investments increased by 27% which totaled to only 9 males, 26 females, and 2 LGBTQ+++. Since the pandemic posed a threat in most of the people's financial stability, the GPPB - TSO, through its Administrative Division, created the first ever GPPB - TSO Online Market Place where personnel and staff were enjoined to serve both as sellers and buyers. This initiative aimed to hone GPPB - TSO entrepreneurs, encourage raising additional profit, promote local suppliers and their products, and strengthen relationships between personnel and staff.

January



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Education, vulnerable groups, and Institutional Mechanisms

Focus: GPPB-TSO personnel and staff

Because only 27% of personnel and staff composed of 3 males, 15 females, and 1 LGBTQ+++ pursued and accomplished their graduate studies, the GPPB - TSO, through its Administrative Division, partnered with the Australian Government to offer personnel with Australian scholarships to encourage the attainment of higher education and dive in an educational environment with exciting new culture and people.

February



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

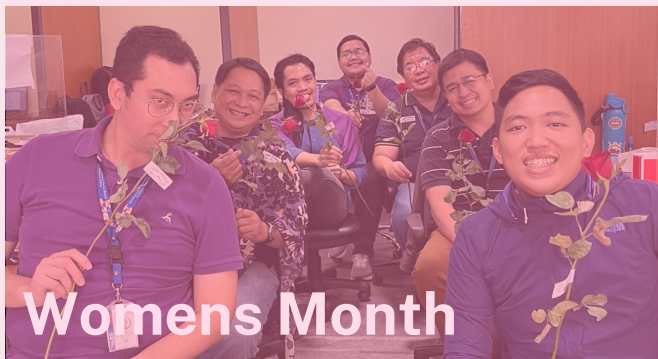
Gender Issue: Health, vulnerable groups, and Institutional Mechanisms

Focus: GPPB-TSO personnel and staff

A trend on stress peaked through during the pandemic. Personnel and staff who experienced stress increased by 46%, which totaled to 5 males, 20 females, and 1 LGBTQ+++, triggered by concerns on finances, family, friends, partners, co-workers, graduate studies, job assignments and deadlines, and daily commute. To complement Health Break activities launched in February 2019, the GPPB - TSO, through its Administrative Division, launched the Mind Your Health Campaign which involved the weekly dissemination of Monday Motivation and Friday Cap Off Messages for all personnel and staff. Employees are in for a treat as there are more exciting phases coming in the next quarters!

GPPB - TSO celebrated Women's Month by recognizing women for exercising their choices, taking chances to make their voices heard, and benefitting from and trailblazing changes. As a token of appreciation for performing their unique roles and modeling empowerment in the Office, roses were given to all female personnel and staff. More importantly, males were also highlighted for making change work for women because GPPB - TSO believes that above it all, nothing is possible without solid teamwork!

March



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: GPPB - TSO personnel and staff

GOY

GPPB - TSO GAD
Initiatives Report

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January



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights
Gender Issue: Health, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional Mechanisms
Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

The GPPB – TSO Human Resource Unit observed the drastic change in weight among personnel and staff since the implementation of the Alternative Work Arrangement. As part of the GPPB-TSO Anniversary activities in January 2021, the Office launched its first ever Biggest Loser Challenge open to all personnel and staff, regardless of sex and employment status, aimed to encourage a healthy lifestyle at the start of the year. Within ten (10) months, participating personnel and staff were tasked to practice healthy habits in order to achieve their appropriate weight. Whoever sheds the greatest number of pounds (in a healthy manner) will be hailed as the GPPB – TSO Biggest Loser and receives a grand prize.

January

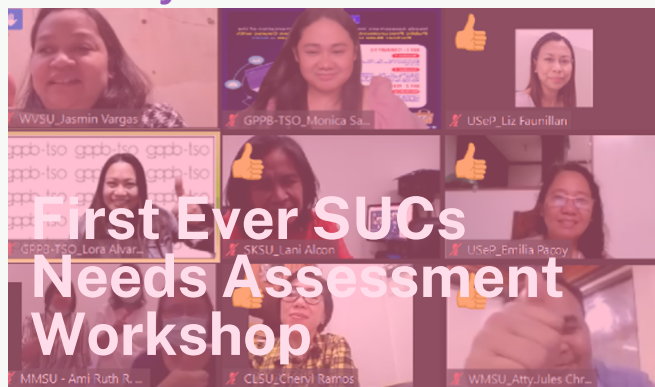


Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance
Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups and Institutional Mechanisms
Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

As part of the Leadership and Management Program initiated by Executive Director Ruiz in November 2020 and in support of an effective succession planning for the GPPB – TSO, Executive Director Ruiz instructed the conduct of a series of Leadership and Management workshops aimed to sharpen the mentoring and coaching skills of each team leader and empower the leadership potential of each team member, regardless of sex and employment status.

Phase 1 of the program is to strengthen the shared responsibility of the mission and vision of the Office by upholding the core values which will exemplify commitment towards Office mandate and functions, which is why GPPB – TSO personnel and staff were enjoined for a workshop on cultivating compassionate leadership in January 2021.

February



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance
Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance, and Institutional Mechanisms
Focus: GPPB-TSO clients: State Universities and Colleges

To further enhance the capacities of public procurement practitioners nationwide, one of the sustainable training program efforts established by the GPPB – TSO is the Public Procurement Specialist Certification Course (PPSCC) program with its valued partner State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) which began in the year 2017.

With the onslaught of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic in the year 2020, Executive Director Ruiz instructed its Capacity Developed Division to recalibrate its capacity development programs by shifting online to ensure that stakeholders are

timely and properly informed and guided on their daily procurement undertakings. This includes extending help to valued partners from the SUCs with the intention of identifying resources and technical support needed for the continuous efficient implementation of the PPSCC program amidst the pandemic.

Such help was then made possible through the conduct of the first ever SUCs Needs Assessment Workshop in February 2021. The workshop was participated by 29 SUC representatives composed of 11 males and 18 females. Through the same event, female participants were empowered in exercising their right to represent their institution and voice out their concerns and suggestions. And through this avenue of equal communication, they were able to take part of the decision-making process where the future of PPSCC programs rely upon.

March



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance, and Gender in Environment and Climate Change

Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management - Climate Change Adaptation

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

As a core member of the Asia Pacific GPP Network, Executive Director Ruiz represented the Philippines in the first Asia Pacific GPP Network Core Members meeting to prepare for the CY 2021-2022 plans and activities related to knowledge-sharing, monitoring the progress of GPP in the Asia Pacific region, and capacity building opportunities.

The Asia Pacific GPP Network involves core members who are key Officials from Bhutan,

Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka working on advancing GPP implementation in the Asia-Pacific region.

April



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance, and Gender in Environment and Climate Change

Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management - Climate Change Adaptation

Focus: GPPB – TSO clients: national and local governments, and the community

Executive Director Ruiz was invited by the World Bank to serve as a Technical Expert in its Ready to Rebuild: Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery Program which aimed to empower Filipino communities by building the capacity of national and local governments to recover better and faster from natural and human-induced disasters even before it happens. It covered the pre- and post-disaster activities from gathering disaster data, formulating rehabilitation and recovery plan and its subsequent financing and implementation, facilitating emergency procurement, crafting a communications strategy, and instituting monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

May



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Education, Health, Vulnerable Groups and Institutional Mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO clients: Recognized GPPB Trainers

Since October 2018, the GPPB-TSO has endeavored to be proactive in providing policy recommendations to the GPPB, responsive to the emerging needs and trends in implementing its capacity development programs, and adaptive to technological innovations in monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of the Philippine Procurement System. And these undertakings are barely possible without the strong partnership of the GPPB-TSO with the Recognized GPPB Trainers.

Recognizing that the new normal is here to stay, Executive Director Ruiz directed the recalibration of the Retooling Workshop for GPPB Recognized Trainers for CY 2021 to ensure that trainers will not only be able to sharpen their knowledge and skills in government procurement, but to also be provided with support on how to gauge their confidence and improve their delivery skills online, and nurture their mental-wellbeing during difficult times.

The workshop held in May 2021 was enjoyed by a total of 258 GPPB Trainers composed of 50 males and 208 females.

May



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Institutional Mechanisms and Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel

The GPPB – TSO forges the same vision as the Development of Academy of the Philippines (DAP) in fostering synergy and supporting the

development forces at work towards sustainable and inclusive growth. As part of the Leadership and Management Program initiated by Executive Director Ruiz in November 2020, the Office partnered with the DAP in the year 2021 for its Public Management Development Program (PMDP).

The PMDP aims to produce network of peak-performing, development-oriented, ethical, and committed government executives and middle managers in the Philippine bureaucracy. With the same objective in mind complementing the GPPB – TSO Leadership and Management Program, Executive Director Ruiz recommended Ms. Katrina B. Paala, one of the GPPB – TSO striving employees, to receive the DAP scholarship grant for the year.

June



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance, and Gender in Environment and Climate Change

Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management - Climate Change Adaptation

Focus: GPPB – TSO clients: national and local governments, and the community

Executive Director Ruiz recognize how the weight of available Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Philippines play in the efforts of achieving sustainable development in terms of contributions to economic growth, creation of decent jobs, provision of public goods and services, as well as poverty alleviation and reduced inequality. And because the government is the largest buyer in the market, there is the need to strengthen the capacity of these enterprises to have access in government procurement opportunities.

This is why in the year 2021, the GPPB – TSO collaborated with the Department of Trade and

and Industry to determine commonly raised procurement concerns by suppliers in the preparation for the conduct of the first ever procurement training specially designed for MSMEs. Aside from encouraging more supplier participation, especially those with green products and services, the event aimed to gather contact details of various suppliers in the Philippines to establish GPPB-TSO's own suppliers directory for succeeding capacity development programs. At the end of the successful run, the GPPB – TSO was able to identify and recognize 39 local businesses founded and managed by amazing Filipino women.

July



Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance
Gender Issue: Institutional Mechanisms and Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance
Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel

The GPPB-TSO's shared advocacy with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for greater transparency and accountability in government procurement is shown by their mutual desire to not only ensure publication of procurement information and participation of CSO observers in government procurement activities, but to continually strive to engage with each other as partners. Thus, the Office has been committed in providing avenues for varying engagements as well as capacity building for CSO stakeholders.

Executive Director Ruiz has always believed that for transparency and accountability to be truly successful, CSO partners regardless of sex and physical capabilities must be timely and effectively updated; and be empowered in their gargantuan task of enforcing transparency and accountability in government procurement. For this reason, Executive Director Ruiz directed the development

and conduct of the first ever training designed for CSOs in July 2021 which focused on guiding and encouraging more observers participation in government procurement activities.

Since the event served as an opportunity to collate and address commonly raised procurement and participation concerns, a pot of exciting new ideas was stirred at the end of the activity all thanks to 22 males and 23 females who have actively participated in the lively discussions. Through this activity, GPPB – TSO witnessed the power of female participants who have exercised their rights to speak freely and be heard as evidenced by their sound recommendations in strengthening transparency and accountability in government procurement.



2020

2020

2020



February

Taal Volcano
Eruption Outreach

Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights
Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups
Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff, and community

Following the Taal volcano eruption in Batangas last January 2020 which led thousands of displaced families, the GPPB – TSO arranged a donation drive to raise funds and purchase school, food, and hygiene supplies. GPPB – TSO volunteers delivered and distributed these supplies at Alfonso Cavite in February 2020 and shared a hand in the evacuation center's upkeep as they collected individual stories of fear and trauma caused by the calamity.

March

Green Public
Procurement Team

Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance
Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance
Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

In support to the Philippine Green Public Procurement (GPP) Roadmap efforts initiated in the year 2017, Executive Director Ruiz directed the creation of a GPP team in the year 2020 composed of 1 male and 5 females, and headed by a female to lead and monitor the GPP implementation in the Philippines.

March

Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Women's Economic Empowerment
Gender Issue: Education, Women in Media, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
Focus: GPPB-TSO clients: who are government procurement practitioners, suppliers, and Civil Society Organization Representatives

Because transparency in procurement also means empowering stakeholders, regardless of sex, with accurate and timely information, through effective and innovative channels; in order to bridge the gap on access to information brought about by this pandemic, the GPPB – TSO launched its first official social media platforms in April 2020.

As of 31 March 2022, the GPPB - TSO had more than 18,000 Facebook followers, 166 Twitter followers, and 620 Youtube subscribers. Among these social media platforms, GPPB - TSO clients mostly used Facebook composed of 34.60% male and 65.40% female.

April

Official GPPB – TSO
Social Media
Accounts

April



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Women's Economic Empowerment

Gender Issue: Education, Women in Media, and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Focus: GPPB-TSO clients: who are government procurement practitioners, suppliers, and Civil Society Organization Representatives

Beginning April 2020, the GPPB - TSO shifted to online learning conducted through the Zoom platform and streamed through the Official GPPB - TSO Facebook page. This initiative was complemented by the development and posting of Information, Education, and Communication materials on the same online space for better appreciation of procurement rules. Through this approach, GPPB - TSO clients, including women who juggle household and work responsibilities in light of a Work from Home Arrangement, can easily access recent procurement issuances and updates in their convenient time with just a click of a button as these are readily available in the GPPB website and its social media platforms.

With more than ninety (90) online training programs and webinars, participated by almost 22,000 procurement practitioners, suppliers, and Civil Society Organization representatives, and joined online by almost 400,000 Facebook viewers, the GPPB - TSO were able to effectively disseminate the changes and enhancements implemented to assist PEs in their procurement activities.

May



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups

Focus: GPPB - TSO personnel and staff, and community

With the construction of the GPPB - TSO building put to a halt, public transportation remains prohibited, and delays in processing of salaries brought by the implementation of a Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine in May 2020, contract workers of the GPPB - TSO building site ad troubles with their living expenses. As recipients of restriction effects, the GPPB - TSO then, in close coordination with the head of the construction workers, arranged a donation drive to raise funds for purchase of relief goods which include sacks of rice and canned goods.

June



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups

Focus: GPPB - TSO personnel and staff, and community

The restrictions imposed in the Philippines caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic indeed created a domino effect in the lives of all *Juans* and *Juanas*, most especially those living in marginal and informal settlements. The GPPB – TSO arranged a donation drive to raise funds for the *Almusal Pack* Project spearheaded by the *Yagit* group. Funds collected in the Office were able to produce 133 almusal packs for distribution to various frontliners and people in need, including displaced families with children and elderly, along the streets of Metro Manila.

Yagit group rounds up various young individuals from Valenzuela City who were raised in disadvantaged families. With such background, they easily understood the consequences of a Community Quarantine for fellow *Juans* and *Juanas* living in marginal and informal settlements. This gave them the lightbulb to spearhead a fundraising project designed to help support Filipino frontliners and those in special needs.

Strategic Goal Area: Gender in Security, Justice, and Peace, Gender-Responsive Governance, and Women's Economic Empowerment

Gender Issue: Armed Conflict, Security, Peace and Development, Institutional Mechanisms, and Infrastructure

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

As early as March 2020, Executive Director Ruiz crafted GPPB – TSO workplace protocols to prevent the possible transmission of Coronavirus Disease-19 while ensuring smooth business operations. Upon the issuance of Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 10, s. 2020, Executive Director Ruiz issued Office Order no. 59, s. 2020 which made particular attention to the following support mechanisms to ensure the safety of all GPPB – TSO employees, regardless of sex and employment status:

- Provision of free shuttle service, sufficient sanitization products, UV equipment, face masks and shields, and thermometer to personnel and staff;
- Installation of plastic acetate barrier inside the shuttle vehicle to avoid physical contact between the shuttle driver and its passengers; and in the front desk area to protect the Receiving Officer when dealing with external clients;
- Suspension of wearing of the prescribed uniform. Instead, personnel and staff were required to wear comfortable clothes with long pants and closed footwear;
- Use of Google Productivity tools in support of Alternative Work Arrangements to ensure business operations will not be hampered; and
- Establishment of an online facility for walk-in clients, guests, and visitors to communicate and do business with personnel and staff while maintaining no physical contact.

Workstations were also installed with plastic acetate barriers to maintain no physical contact among personnel and staff reporting to the Office. An infographic material on the same protocols was likewise developed and posted inside the Office and through GPPB – TSO Official communication platforms to easily guide personnel and staff on the safety measures.

June



July



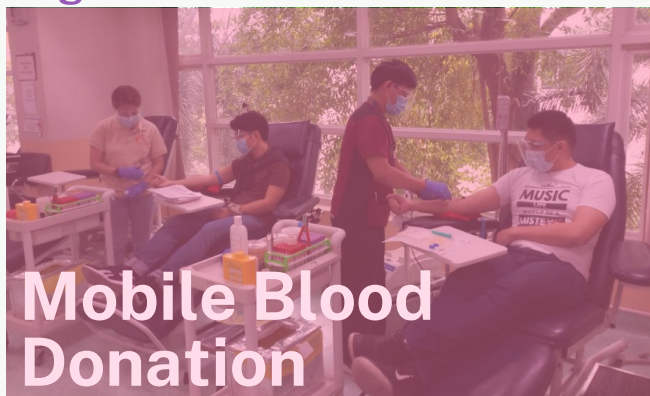
Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Alarmed by the rising cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 transmission in the country and recognizing its possible effects to a person's well-being, Executive Director Ruiz donated Rapid Diagnostics Test kits along with a personalized video on how to conduct the testing for all GPPB – TSO employees, regardless of sex and employment status, with no personal expenses required from them nor the Office. The Administrative Division was ordered to facilitate said testing with the help of GPPB – TSO personnel who had medical backgrounds (previous practicing nurse). At the end of the testing, results showed that all GPPB – TSO employees were negative.

August



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights

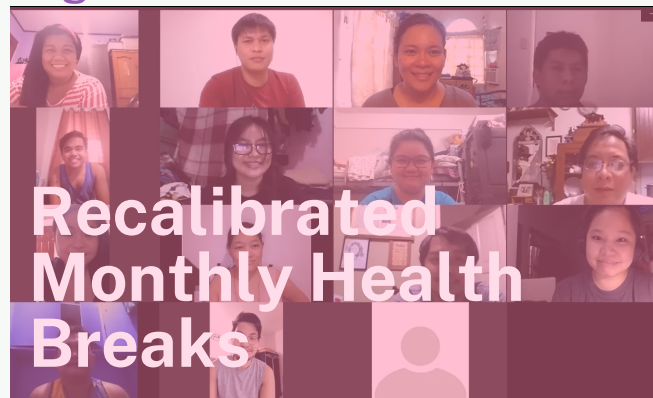
Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff, and community

The GPPB – TSO, in partnership with the Philippine Blood Center of the Department of Health (PBC-DOH), participated in the national blood donation drive in August 2020 which aimed to create vital public consciousness on how important blood donation is as it saves multiple lives of people.

The GPPB – TSO is one with PBC – DOH in its mission to encourage everyone to donate blood amidst the pressing situation of the pandemic crisis where blood donations and stocks significantly dropped to a low level while simultaneously demands for blood are still continuously increasing everyday.

August



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Health, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

In light of the Alternative Work Arrangements required and fear developed towards the rising cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in the country, Executive Director Ruiz instructed its Human Resource Unit in August 2020 to recalibrate its Monthly Health Break activities in order to focus more on physical fitness and incorporate webinars on maintaining good mental health. The Office allotted 1-3 hours for conducting these activities offered for free to all personnel and staff, regardless of sex and employment status.

November



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Education, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: Personnel from the Department of Budget and Management and its Regional Offices and Attached Agencies

In October 2020, there were 1,944 occupied CES positions composed of 1,128 males and 816 females out of the 2,720 total CES positions. As the DBM – NUCESO President, Executive Director Ruiz initiated and spearheaded the conduct of the first ever DBM - NUCESO Career Executive Service-Written Examination Coaching Session designed to help CESOs and CES occupying officials from the DBM and its regional Offices and attached agencies, regardless of sex, in conquering their CES eligibility examination stages, attain their next CES ranking, and encourage higher rates of female CESOs.

December



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights

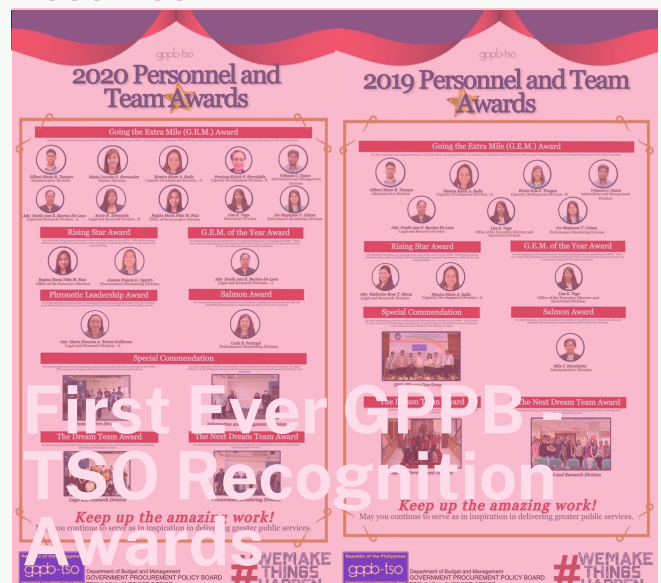
Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff, and community

37 dead, 22 injured, and 15 missing persons — News reports describe Ulysses as the worst typhoon to strike Cagayan region after 40 years. Social media platforms served as a tremendous help system for a widespread call for help during the calamity and the world witnessed it all. The floods that washed away many communities in the region, including several lives, likewise left the hearts of GPPB – TSO personnel and staff submerged with worry and fear for fellow Juans and Juanas.

Because typhoon Ulysses' reign of terror left thousands of families in the Cagayan region cry for basic household essentials to livelihood restoration and development, without a doubt, the GPPB – TSO partnered with the 'Abbag Mu, Mawak Ku' organization (Ibanag term for "Tulong ko, kailangan mo") and arranged a donation drive to raise funds for purchase of relief goods. The donation drive made it possible for the GPPB – TSO to prepare a total of 1,500 relief packs and were delivered to the same region in December 2020 with the help of the organization.

December





Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups and Institutional mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Since Executive Director Ruiz was trusted the helm in GPPB – TSO in October 2018, the Chevening Scholar has been rallying with her team [GPPB – TSO personnel and staff] for a responsive, proactive, and responsive Philippine Procurement System. The many procurement reforms and initiatives led by ED Ruiz was impossible to put into reality without the unrelenting efforts and extraordinary services provided by her team, fueled by the public's trust and support.

In recognition of GPPB – TSO personnel and team who have demonstrated admirable performance in achieving the agency's mandate in CYs 2019 and 2020, Executive Director Ruiz directed the conduct of the first ever GPPB – TSO Personnel and Team Recognition Awards in December 2020. These awards spotlight team members (Going the Extra Mile Award and Rising Star Award), team (Next Dream Team Award and Dream Team Award), and team leaders (Salmon Award and Phronetic Leadership Award) who stood out in the year on a particular set of criteria mostly related to skills on leadership, teamwork, communication, work values, and integrity.

GPPB – TSO Personnel and Team Recognition Awards are set to be conducted on the same month as the GPPB – TSO Anniversary effective January 2022.



2019

2019

2019



January

First Ever
Procurement
Forum

Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

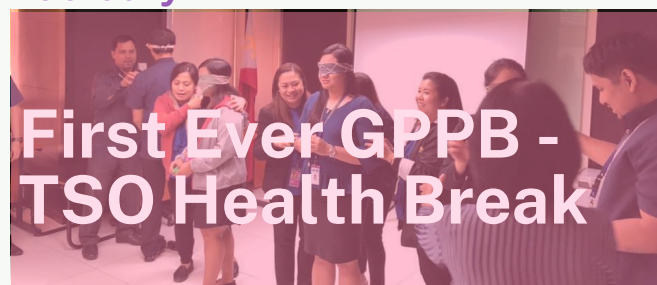
Gender Issue: Education, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional Mechanisms

Focus: GPPB-TSO clients: government procurement practitioners

Year 2019 has been the year of many firsts for the GPPB – TSO, starting with a stronger capacity development program through the conduct of the first ever Procurement Forum in January participated by 1,189 procurement practitioners composed of 48% males and 52% females. This training initiative introduced by Executive Director Ruiz is an event dovetailed with the Department of Budget and Management's Budget Forum to effectively emphasize the crucial role of procurement planning in the success of procurement projects.

The same event launched the newly developed module on project costing and technical specifications writing to participants from the National Government Offices and Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations that enhances the participants' ability to craft and propose projects for funding.

February

First Ever GPPB -
TSO Health Break

Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Health, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional Mechanisms

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Originally introduced by Executive Director Ruiz during her time in the Department of Budget and Management – Legal Service, the GPPB – TSO conducted its first Health Break in February 2019 aimed to promote work-life balance that helps reduce stress and chances of burnout while maintaining quality public services; and foster a warm comradery among personnel and staff which complements its continuous hiring efforts.

June

Observer Status in
the World Trade
Organization

Strategic Goal Area: Gender-Responsive Governance

Gender Issue: Women in Bureaucracy, Politics and Governance

Focus: GPPB – TSO personnel and staff

Year 2019 marked yet another milestone not only for the GPPB and its TSO but more importantly for the Philippines when the application of the GPPB - TSO for an Observer Status to the World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement made in May 2019 was approved. This gave the Philippines, represented by Executive Director Ruiz, the opportunity to take part of the Committee discussions on Government Procurement and gain access to its working documents. All of which would deepen the knowledge and understanding of government procurement principles and concepts as applied in other countries and international best practices that would further elevate the status of the Philippine Government Procurement in the international arena.

December



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights
Gender Issue: Vulnerable Groups
Focus: GPPB-TSO clients personnel and staff, and community

In celebration of the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women, the GPPB – TSO spearheaded a Christmas program for the Haven for Women in December 2019. More than demonstrating the spirit of giving, GPPB – TSO volunteers were able to spend time with Filipino women and children, and provided them with various lenses of violence in the Philippines.

The Haven for Women is a facility that provides temporary shelter and protective custody to women ages 18-59 years old who are victims of involuntary or forced prostitution, illegal recruitment, battered/abused women, victims of sexual abuse, women in detention, women victims of armed conflicts and others.

December



Strategic Goal Area: Women's Social Development Rights and Gender-Responsive Governance
Gender Issue: Education, Vulnerable Groups, and Institutional Mechanisms
Focus: GPPB-TSO clients: GPPB Recognized Trainers

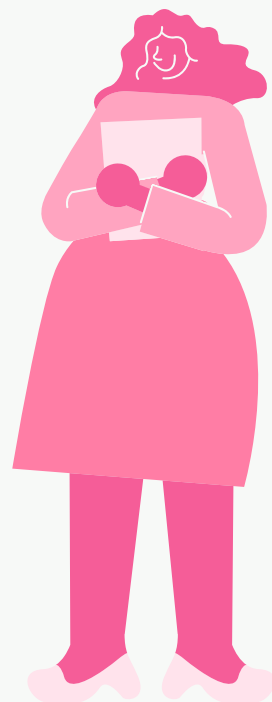
Executive Director Ruiz advocates for life-long learning as it allows room for developing new skills, remain relevant in the field of procurement, and realize bigger dreams toward strengthening the Philippine Procurement System. This was the lightbulb behind the conduct of GPPB – TSO's first ever Retooling Workshop designed for GPPB Recognized Trainers in December participated by 117 GPPB Recognized Trainers composed of 57 males and 60 females.

The workshop served as an avenue to further strengthen the confidence, knowledge, and skills of GPPB Recognized Trainers composed of procurement practitioners and public officials from Executive Departments, National Government Agencies, Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations, Government Financial Institutions, State, Universities, and Colleges, and Local Government Units who are tasked to acts as Resource Persons and conduct training seminars on Republic Act No. 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Acts and its associated rules, guidelines, and procedures nationwide.



Disclaimer: this report may be updated without prior notice.

Thank you for your continued support in our efforts to achieve gender equality and women empowerment among GPPB - TSO personnel and staff, its clients, and community.



Collaborate with GPPB - TSO!

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