

CITIZEN PARTICIPATORY AUDIT: Tool for Transparency & Accountability and an Anti-Corruption Measure

ICGFM 33rd Annual International Training Conference May 13, 2019 / Miami, Florida

By: Assistant Commissioner CARMELA S. PEREZ Commission on Audit (Supreme Audit Institution of the Philippines)



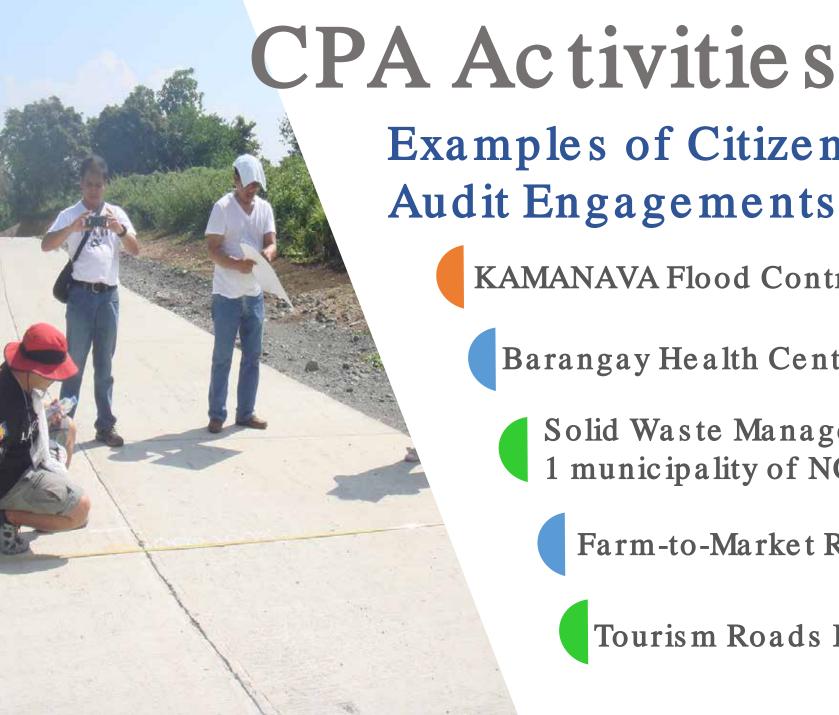


- 1. The birth of the Citizen Participatory Audit (CPA) November 26, 2012:
- **Philippine Constitution**
- The Volunteer Act of 2007
- **q** The COA's mandate
- Commitment to theOpen GovernmentPartnership (OGP)

- 2. Participatory pilot audits, capacity building, and policy formulation
- With technical assistance from development partners

- 3. Institutionalization:
- q In the national budget
- **Q Office managing the CPA was created**
- Policy institutionalizing the CPA issued
- q In the COA's Strategic Plan up to 2022
- In the Philippine National Action Plan for OGP

A technique in conducting audits with citizens / civil society as members of audit teams of the Commission on Audit



Examples of Citizen Participatory Audit Engagements

KAMANAVA Flood Control Project (DPWH)

Barangay Health Centers (Marikina City)

Solid Waste Management (16 cities, 1 municipality of NCR)

Farm-to-Market Roads

Tourism Roads Infrastructure Projects

A mechanism for sharing of aspirations, goals, and objectives between the COA and civil society



CPA Dialogues

COA officials, citizens/civil society organizations meet to share and co-create goals, objectives, and agenda



A technique for citizen/civil society partnership in other areas of the COA's work



CPA Activities



Republic of the Philippines COMMISSION ON AUDIT Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City



RESOLUTION

No. Date 2018-006

SUBJECT Adoption and Institutionalization of the Citizen Participatory Audit in the Commission on Audit

WHEREAS, the Philippines is one of the founding members of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) which was launched in 2011 to provide an insemanismal platform for governments to be more open, accountable, and responsaive to claims. (

WHEREAS, responding to the call for involvement of Government Entitles in open government partnership, the Commission on Audit (COA), with technical assistance from the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAD) (now Department of Forcign Affairs and Trade), the World Bank, and Making All Voices Count (MAVC), implemented the Citizen Participatory Audit (CPA), on a pilot basis from August 2012 so 2015.

WHEREAS, the CPA is a broad program that provides

- A strategy for reform to uphold the people's primordial right to a clean government and the prodent stillization of public resources, founded on the premise that public accountability can prosper only with a vigilant and involved citizency, for the promotion of transparency and effectiveness.
- A technique in conducting audits with citizens as members of COA Audit Teams, to make the government more effective, transparent, and accountable;
- A mechanism for strategic partnership and sharing of aspirations, goals, and objectives between the COA and civil acciety,
- A technique for citizen and civil society involvement in other areas of the COA's work, as partners;

WHEREAS, the COA has exclusive authority to define the scope of its midit and examination and establish the techniques and methods required therefor, and promulgate accounting and auditing rules and regulations, including those for the prevention and disallowance of irregular, unnecessary, excessive, extravagant, or unconscionable expenditures, or uses of government finds and properties.²



*http://www.opcisgovpormership.org/. *Section 2(2). Article (X-D, 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Participatory policy formulation



COA Resolution No. 2018 – 006 dated 1 Feb 2018

Institutionalizing the CPA

CPA Activities

Capacity building



- Understanding the COA & the basics of the public audit process (COA 101)
 - Understanding civil society organizations (CSO 101)
 - How to conduct audit of specific topics
 - Data analytics and visualization
 - Geotagging

CPA Activities



Simplification of audit reports

q The 1-page
Audit in Brief



People's Citizen Participatory Audit Report



Ecological Solid Waste Management Program of the LGUs in the National Capital Region 2014

A visual presentation of the Narrative CPA Report

What we found out Survey was conducted by CSO-partners in 36 selected barangays resulting in the following information..... mamamayan sa pangkalahatang kalinisan Are the people satisfied with 62%

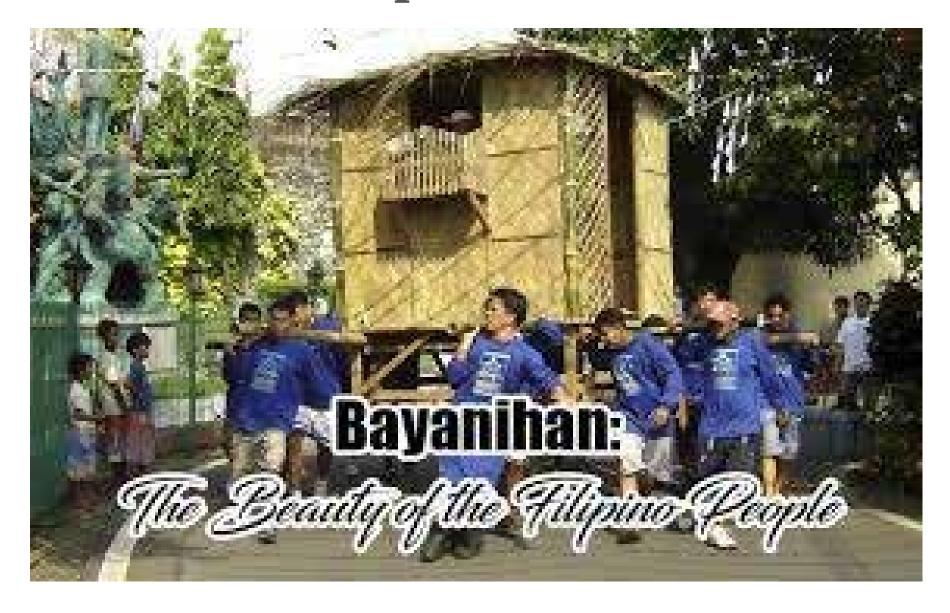
📓 No answer 📓 Very satisfied 📓 Satisfied 📓 Somewhat satisfied 📓 Not satisfied at all

Simplification of audit reports

The
 People's
 CPA Report

A strategy for reform – to make civil society more involved in governance; founded on the premise that public accountability can prosper only with a vigilant and involved citizenry,

... a renewal of the spirit of volunteerism





OUTCOMES: Transparency

- Citizens better understand & appreciate:
 - government operations, and
 - the public audit process
- Documents which are otherwise only for the eyes of the state auditors were made available to citizen-auditors

OUTCOMES: Accountability & Anti-corruption

- Auditees implement audit recommendations faster when citizen-auditors are part of the audit team
- Citizens are empowered to articulate their sentiments on government services with citizen-auditors in the audit team

OUTCOME: COA complies with ISSAI 12

COA, as a supreme audit institution, demonstrates its ongoing relevance to citizens per International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI) 12

Citizen-auditors and their civil society organizations strengthen COA's audit teams

An important gain of the CPA



Anthony Septimo

- Former critic of COA
- Became a Citizen-Auditor in the CPA of KAMANAVA Flood Control Project
- Now, a staunch champion of COA

"I truly believe that good governance is never the sole responsibility of the government..

The best approach to combating corruption and making good governance work is constructive engagement between government and its citizens. I am happy to be part of the CPA where I saw firsthand this dynamics at work."

Suggestions, comments, questions will help us grow.

Thank you



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