

Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals in the Municipal Level: Local legislature Initiatives for Thriving & Sustainable Livelihood

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Abstract

Five years into implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development since its inception in 2015, countries like the Philippines have instituted a multi-level approach as a national strategy. It is then imperative to study the municipal councils' efforts to localize the Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]. The study's main objective is to determine the significant initiatives and measures passed by the Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc, Mountain Province, to address the thirty-six targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1 (eradicating poverty), 2 (ending hunger), 3 (ensuring health and well-being), and 6 (providing safe water and sanitation) from 2015-2020. The study utilized the qualitative method, employing key informant interviews and documentary analysis. The Sangguniang Bayan enacted thirty-six (36) salient measures. Analyzed in detail, the local legislature's initiatives under SDG 1, 2, 3, and 6 are internally, vertically, and horizontally coherent and synergistic. Under each SDG, there is harmonization and synchronization of initiatives. Moreover, there is coordination, synergy, and contextualization with the laws and regulations by higher authorities. Furthermore, there is horizontal coherence between the measures under one SDG with those of other SDGs. The translation of an international plan like Agenda 30 for Sustainable Development into the local level ensures the sustained improvement of the people's lives.

Index Terms—localization, sustainable development goals, coherence.

I. INTRODUCTION

On September 25, 2015, the Philippines and 192 states signed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which has seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs] and 169 targets for its centerpiece. This agreement attempts to create a shared global understanding of the developmental issues and problems [1] and to stir and shape policies and action aimed at ending poverty, fighting inequality and injustice, tackling climate change, bringing prosperity to all human beings, and ensuring no one will be left behind, using a holistic approach [2]-[4]. All countries have a shared responsibility for working towards the SDGs, despite the prevalent diverse preconditions and circumstances. Each country

then must delineate its approach that defines its national Agenda 2030 work.

Development literature recommends localization as the most viable approach to align the global aspirations of the 2030 Agenda with that of the local communities [5]-[7]. Localization conveys internationally agreed goals and decisions to the local level to make the aspirations of the SDGs tangible to communities, households, and individuals, particularly those at risk of falling behind. It includes generating strategies to integrate global development goals with communities' collective needs and hopes, including implementing them. The method may comprise setting goals and targets, defining the implementation processes, and using indicators

to measure and monitor progress, ensuring that all citizens who require it can benefit from the different plans.

Local governments are best positioned to facilitate and expedite the implementation of goals and programs from the international sphere and higher government authorities [8]. Their role regarding the SDGs is critical in mobilizing local development stakeholders within their respective localities, enacting local legislation, implementing such local measures, evaluating the operation and system of implementation, and harnessing enduring support from the various stakeholders. Furthermore, the local legislatures are directly in touch with the needs and circumstances of the populace. Therefore, these can pragmatically approach the SDGs and fit them into their specific contexts and needs.

In the Philippines, the local government units refer to provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays [9]. At the municipal level, the Local Government Code vests local executive power in the municipal mayor and the legislative power in the Sangguniang Bayan or the local legislature [10].

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been in progress since 2015. Many countries, like the Philippines, instituted a multi-level approach as a national strategy. However, most studies and literature on SDGs show an inclination towards country initiatives. There is a shortage of studies on the localization of the SDGs, at least at the Philippines' municipal level in the rural and hinterland areas, and more particularly, on the part of the municipal legislative councils. This lack of specific literature on localization prompted this study to take stock of the Sangguniang Bayan initiatives of Bontoc, Mountain Province (Philippines) from October 2015 – October 2020.

References [11] and [12] categorize the Sustainable Development Goals into seven and six clusters, respectively, based on SDG integration and implementation's overarching directions and critical focal points. This study uses the category titled “thriving lives and

sustainable livelihoods,” which encompasses Sustainable Development Goals 1 (eradicating poverty), 2 (ending hunger), 3 (ensuring health and well-being), and 6 (providing safe water and sanitation), and the 36 associated targets. Furthermore, the study will examine these legislative initiatives' internal, horizontal, and vertical coherence. The study will add to the existing body of knowledge on the localization of the SDGs through municipal legislative initiatives.

II. METHODOLOGY

The study utilized the qualitative method, employing key informant interviews and documentary analysis. The study also explored a subject matter which has not been surveyed and probed thoroughly. It allows a better examination of the coherence of SDGs to national and local goals.

Documentary analysis and interviews supply the data and information. The documentary analysis looks into local legislation initiatives' alignment, compliance, and conformity with national and international levels. The documents comprise, among others, the local enactments and the municipal development plans, including LGU projects and programs.

The study used an interview guide to collect data on the initiatives of the local legislators. The indicators per SDG are used with documentary analysis to determine the localization efforts' focus.

The study's primary data is the analysis of the various resolutions and ordinances passed by the municipal council of Bontoc from October 2015 to October 2020. Data and information from the interviews with municipality officials filled in the gaps.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc enacted necessary measures that address the issues under Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 3, and 6. We observed that some of these measures fall under all four SDGs while some fall under two or three of the SDGs.

Local Legislature Initiatives on Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, & 6.

The municipal council passed ten (10) significant measures relative to SDG 1 (eradication of extreme poverty) and its seven (7) targets.

As broad as the problem on poverty is, the local legislature's actions are as wide with the following essential initiatives: Comprehensive Development Plan 2017-2022 (Resolution No. 154, s. 2017); Local Development Investment Plan 2019-2022 (Resolution No. 46, s. 2019); Senior Citizen's Code (Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019); Comprehensive Child Support System (Resolution No. 303, s. 2018); Tourism Code (Resolution No. 271, s. 2015); Local Investments and Incentives Code (Resolution No. 284, s. 2017); and the Gender Equality and Development Code of Bontoc (Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017). The Comprehensive Development Plan (2017-2022) is the roadmap for developing and implementing projects across five development sectors: social, economic, physical, environmental, and institutional. The Local Development Investment Plan 2019-2022 is the measure to implement the Municipal Comprehensive Development Plan.

The COVID19 pandemic has both immediate and long-term economic consequences; thus, robust social protection systems are essential for mitigating the effects and preventing people from falling into poverty. As an immediate action to the pandemic, the local legislature passed Resolution No. 146, s. 2020 seeks to uphold the small resilience and capabilities of small business people who rent stalls at the local government-owned public market. Moreover, the local legislature passed Resolution No. 134, s. 2020 on the national government's social amelioration package and Resolution No. 143, s. 2020 on the Financial Assistance Fund for stranded indigent students and workers. Reference [13], however, shows that while the poor are more likely to stay at risk, the non-poor may also suffer the same consequence because of the socio-economic shock.

We observed that national laws and issuances

were the basis of these local initiatives. Furthermore, the provisions of these local legislature initiatives ensure that everyone has equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to essential services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, new technology, and financial services, including microfinance, irrespective of social status and wealth, and gender,

Documents show the local legislative initiatives to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture, range from instituting broad policies on ending hunger like the Comprehensive Development Plan, the Gender Equality and Development Code, and the Local Nutrition Action Plan of the Municipality of Bontoc (Resolution No. 169, s. 2020), to particular policies like the regulation of selling of junk food at school canteens or any stores within the barangay jurisdiction (Resolution No. 95-A, s. 2019), and authorizing the Municipal Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Social Welfare and Development-CAR to implement a supplementary feeding program (Resolution No. 80, s. 2019).

The local legislature adopted the Local Development Investment Program 2019-2022, which zeroed in on rural infrastructure. In Resolution No. 169, s. 2020, the local legislature expressed support for the National Food Authority's retention to ensure a low-cost rice supply in Bontoc and other municipalities.

The local legislature has yet to pass measures relative to technology development, gene banks, and agricultural research. Available documents show the municipal legislature has yet to pass measures on official development assistance plus other official flows to the agriculture sector. It has yet to pass measures on instituting agricultural research and extension services, technology development, and plant and livestock gene banks to enhance agricultural productive capacity.

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being (SDG 3) is necessary to develop

prosperous societies characterized by thriving lives and sustainable livelihood. The local legislature had done its utmost in this regard.

Significant to reducing the global maternal mortality and ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under five years of age are Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 that institutionalized a Comprehensive Child Support System and Resolution No. 218, s. 2017 which sought to establish birthing clinics in all villages of the Municipality. Ordinance 303, s. 2018 aims to formulate the Safe Motherhood Program, which caters to pregnant mothers' health and survival during childbirth. The same initiative seeks to promote child survival by mandating the Municipality to formulate, implement, and sustain the Primary Health Care Program.

On ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases, and other infectious diseases, the Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc passed Ordinance No 304, s. 2018 providing the courses of action to deal with the mosquito vector of dengue.

Resolution Numbers No. 130 and 176, s. 2020 are the so-called COVID-19 measures. The first prohibits the selling, dispensing, consuming liquor and intoxicating drinks, and resets the curfew for minors to 8:00 PM. The second calls for the strict implementation of Provincial Ordinance No. 372, s. 2020 which set guidelines on the implementation of the minimum health standards in Mountain Province. Cognizant of the need to prevent and treat substance and narcotic drug abuse, including the harmful use of alcohol, Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 and Resolution Number 148, s. 2020 are very vital pieces of local legislature initiatives.

Since the Municipality of Bontoc does not own a hospital and that the rural clinics cannot deal with cancer, kidney, and heart ailments, the Sangguniang Bayan approved Resolution No. 64, s. 2019 which seeks to release medical assistance to cancer, kidney, and heart patients in Bontoc.

To minimize and prevent road traffic deaths and

injuries, the local legislature passed Ordinance No. 309, s. 2018 setting the allowable speed limits to 10 KPH in the crowded streets of provincial and municipal roads.

The local legislature passed Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 seeking to provide the impetus for universal access to reproductive healthcare services and universal health coverage. Section 4 of the said ordinance mandates the municipal government to upgrade its health care delivery system using the reproductive health care approach.

Article II of Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019 or the Senior Citizens' Code grants to senior citizens twenty percent discounts and exemptions from the value-added tax on the purchase of medicines, purchase of vaccines and other essential supplies, on professional fees of health workers, prices on medical facilities, hotels and restaurants, and even on burial services.

With the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an artificial shortage of surgical masks, sterilium, and hand sanitizers in Bontoc caused by panic buying. The Sangguniang Bayan passed Resolution No. 131, 2. 2020 regulating the sale and dispensing of surgical masks, sterilium (ethyl or isopropyl), and hand sanitizers. Ordinance No. 284, s. 2017 or the Revised Local Investments and Incentives Code of Bontoc, Mountain Province lists research and development and testing laboratories in the list of preferred priority investment areas.

Resolution No. 844, s. 2015 which creates the Focal Person for Persons with Disabilities, highlights one of the vulnerable sectors of society.

Relative to the COVID 19 pandemic is Resolution No. 194, s. 2020 which endorsed to the Secretary of Budget and Management the list of programs and projects to be funded under Republic Act No. 11494 (Bayanihan to Recover as One Act). A study of the Municipal Mayor's list shows the ardent desire to boost its capability and readiness to manage the pandemic and its effects on the communities' vulnerable quarters. The list includes the procurement of an ambulance, an Emergency Response Vehicle, Food assistance, and other

relief goods, protective supplies, purchase of reagents and kits for COVID19 testing, medicine, and vital supplies, food and accommodation expenses of medical and frontline personnel, rental and temporary shelter for the homeless and overseas workers, and disinfectants. Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 lists the following projects and programs by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (MDRRMO): early warning system, disaster operation center, incident command system, evacuation centers, and system on forced or pre-emptive evacuation centers.

Documents show that the local legislature has yet to enact a measure to significantly reduce the statistics of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination, although the problem with dangerous chemicals and pollution, and contamination have yet to reach hazardous proportions in the Municipality. Furthermore, the Municipality has yet to seek support for the research and development of vaccines and medicines for communicable and non-communicable diseases, provides access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, and, in particular, provides access to medicines for all.

Bontoc is in constant search of viable water sources to supplement the existing water supply. To achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, the Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc had adequately explored all possibilities and opportunities to determine and develop possible water sources. In 2017, the local legislature authorized the Municipal Mayor to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on the provision of potable water and core local access road (Resolution No. 164, s. 2017) and with the Department of Agriculture on the improvement of the potable water systems under the Philippine Rural Development Projects (Resolution No. 247, s. 2017). Section 16, Article II of Ordinance 299, s. 2017 mandates all barangays to provide easy

access to a safe water supply by installing water systems. Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 targets regular water testing and disinfection within the Municipality. The spring development program ensures all households have a safe water supply in all identified water springs.

The Sangguniang Bayan acted to rehabilitate and improve existing water systems (Resolution No. 194, s. 2017 and Resolution No. 259, s. 2018). It realigned funds to construct water reservoirs (Resolution No. 78, s. 2019). Also, it authorized the use of specific creeks as water sources (Resolution No. 851, s. 2016). Furthermore, it sourced out funds to construct or improve water systems in the Municipality through Resolution No. 166 and 167, s. 2017.

The Sangguniang Bayan sought to widen access to sufficient sanitation and hygiene. Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 aiming to improve sanitation through public and household sanitary toilets while Resolution No. 871, s. 2016 and Resolution No. 851, s. 2016 sought to increase water-use efficiency and ensure sustainable withdrawals and freshwater supply to tackle water scarcity.

The Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc passed Resolution No. 87, s. 2016 adopting the Integrated Watershed Management Plan of BAAGMADOLI Watershed Management Unit, and Resolution No. 88, s. 2016 adopting the Integrated Watershed Management Plan of KABAMAAM Watershed Management Unit.

The Sangguniang Bayan has yet to enact measures to expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programs, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling, and reuse technologies. It has yet to pass measures on improving water quality.

The Sangguniang Bayan of Bontoc, Mountain Province enacted measures covering all SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 6 and almost all of their associated 36 targets. Indeed, the local level is a fertile ground for the sustainable development agenda. There is considerable potential at the municipal level to attain the goals of Agenda 2030.

Internal, Vertical, and Horizontal Coherence. The study looked into the local legislative initiatives' relationship from three perspectives: the internal, vertical, and horizontal.

Internal Coherence refers to the local initiatives' consistency to other parallel interventions or policies within one Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). Examined within each of the SDGs, the local legislative measures and initiatives show no risks of conflict. The initiatives show forms of complementarity, and they strengthen each other.

Fig. 1 shows the actions and initiatives under SDG 1 (No poverty) are interlinked and offer a form of synergy and complementation.

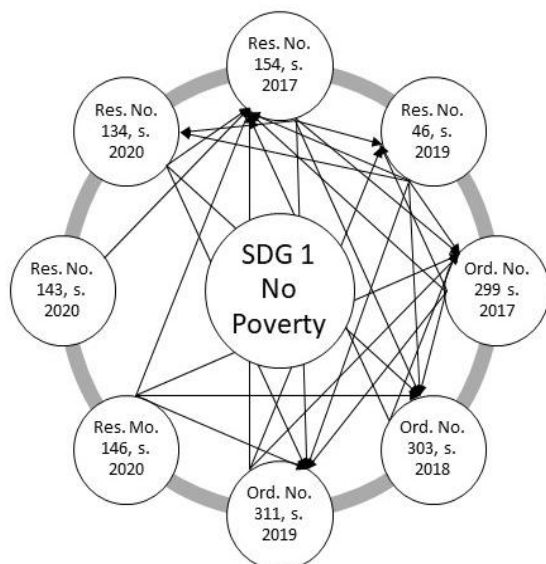


Figure 1. The Internal Cohesion of Initiatives

Under SDG 1

Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 (Comprehensive Development Plan, 2017-2022) reflects all the plans and targets of the Municipality of Bontoc. It inextricably links with all legislative initiatives except for Resolution No. 146, s. 2020 (waiving the rentals from the commercial stallholders in March-April 2020 during the Enhanced Community Quarantine cause by the COVID 19 pandemic) and Resolution No. 143, s. 2020 (financial assistance to stranded indigent students and workers during the Enhanced Community Quarantine). The Comprehensive Development Plan does not cover both legislative initiatives.

Res. No. 46, s. 2019 (August 27, 2019) or the Local Development Investment Program 2019-2022, which sets the financial requirements for projects and programs, indivisibly links with all other initiatives except Resolution No. 146 s. 2020 (waiving the rentals from the commercial stallholders in March-April 2020 during the Enhanced Community Quarantine caused by the COVID 19 pandemic) and Resolution No. 143, s. 2020. The Local Development Investment Program does not cover both initiatives since the Sangguniang Bayan approved these before the pandemic.

Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 or the Gender Equality and Development Code of Bontoc is a reinforcing initiative. It aids in the achievement of the objectives of Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019 (Senior Citizens' Code) and Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 (Comprehensive Child Support System). Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 is also an enabling initiative in that it creates conditions whereby Resolution No. 46, s. 2019 or the Local Development Investment Program 2019-2022 realizes its objectives.

Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 or the Comprehensive Child Support System reinforces Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 to realize its objectives. Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 creates conditions for Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 or the Gender Equality and Development Code to advance its goals.

Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019 (Senior Citizens' Code) underpins the attainment of the goals of Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 and Res. No. 46, s. 2019. Resolution No. 146 s. 2020 (waiving the rentals from the commercial stallholders in March-April 2020 during the Enhanced Community Quarantine cause by the COVID 19 pandemic) links itself to Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 (Comprehensive Development Plan), Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 (Gender Equality and Development Code), Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 (Comprehensive Child Support System), and Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019 (Senior Citizens' Code).

Resolution No. 143, s. 2020 (financial assistance to stranded indigent students and workers during the Enhanced Community

Quarantine) allows Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 (Comprehensive Development Plan, 2017-2022) and Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 (Gender Equality and Development Code) to advance their goals. The financial assistance to disadvantaged students allows the Comprehensive Development Plan to achieve its targets on the number of youth enrolled in schools and stall the increasing number of unemployed who need financial assistance.

The national government's social amelioration package (Resolution No. 134, 2020) during the Enhanced Community Quarantine impedes the number of citizens going hungry, thus, enabling the Comprehensive Development Plan to achieve its objectives. Furthermore, the social amelioration package benefits the senior citizens (Ordinance No. 311, s. 2019) and children (Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018) who are the vulnerable sectors of society.

Fig. 2 shows the initiatives emanating from the local legislature support SDG 2 and how they interlink.

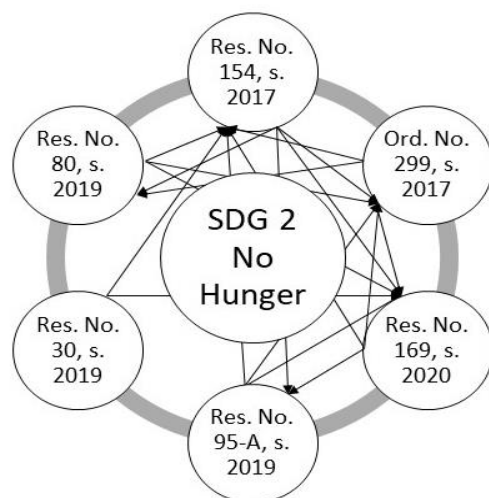


Figure 2. The Internal Cohesion of Initiatives

Under SDG 2

The Comprehensive Development Plan (Resolution No. 154, s. 2017) aids in achieving the objectives of the other initiatives, except for Resolution No. 30, 2019, which supports the retention of the National Food Authority in Bontoc. The Comprehensive Development Plan has no significant interactions with the latter.

Ordinance No. 299, s. 2017 (Gender Equality and Development Code) aids the achievement

of the goals of the Comprehensive Development Plan (Resolution No. 154, s. 2017). It creates conditions that further the Local Nutrition Plan (Resolution No. 169, s. 2020) and the Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Social Welfare and Development of the feeding program.

The Local Nutrition Action Plan reinforces the Comprehensive Development Plan and Resolution No. 95-A, s. 2019. Resolution Nos. 80 and 95-A, s. 2019 are enabling measures in that both create conditions for Resolutions No. 154, s. 2017, No. 299, s. 2017, and No. 169, s. 2020 to advance their respective goals. Likewise, Resolution No. 30, s. 2019 enables Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 and Resolution No. 169, s. 2020 to achieve their goals.

Fig. 3 shows some critical local legislative initiatives which support SDG 3 and its targets and how they intertwine.

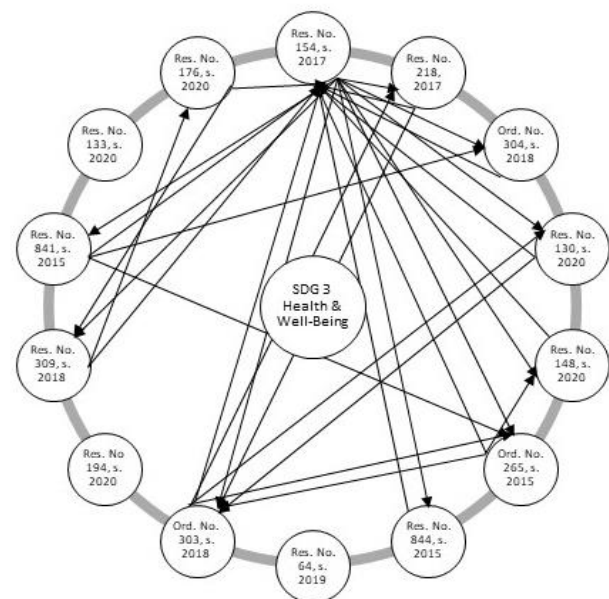


Figure 3. The Internal Cohesion of Initiatives

Under SDG 3

Figure 3 shows there is an interaction between the initiatives pertinent to SDG 3. However, document analysis bares there are no overlapping and risks of conflict between these measures.

Resolution No. 154, 2017 or the Comprehensive Development Plan links inextricably to all measures except four measures: (1) Resolution No. 176, s. 2020

which calls for the strict implementation of Provincial Ordinance No. 372, s. 2020, (2) Resolution No. 194, s. 2020 which endorsed to the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, the list of Programs and Projects to be funded under RA No. 11494, (3) Resolution No. 133, s. 2020 Municipality requested from the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management for One Million Pesos to purchase medicines to address the effects of COVID 19 in the Municipality, and (4) Resolution No. 64, s. 2019 which sought to release medical assistance to cancer, kidney, and heart patients in Bontoc. Thus, the first three resolutions are relative to the pandemic are not in the Comprehensive Development Plan of Bontoc.

The local legislature enactments under SDG 3 show some form of complementarity, coordination, and synergy. Resolution No. 218, s. 2017 ensures the health of citizens during birth, Ordinance No. 303, s. 2018 provides children's health, while Resolution No. 148, s. 2020 and Ordinance No. 265, s. 2015 guarantees good health and well-being of the youth and adults.

Fig. 4 shows some essential local legislative initiatives which support SDG 6 and its targets and how they interact.

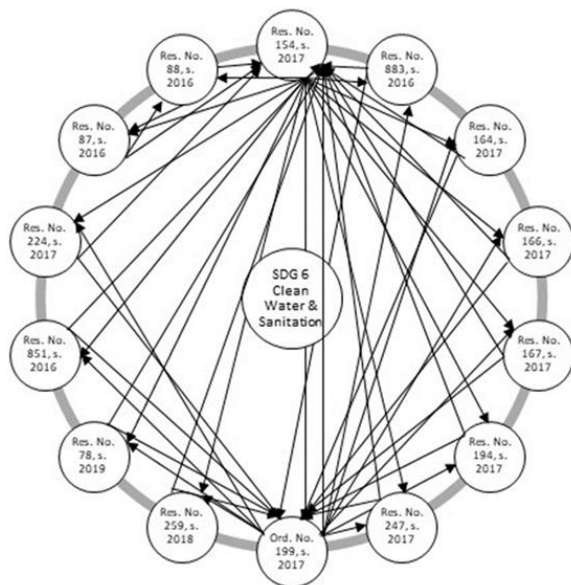


Figure 4. The Internal Cohesion of Initiatives

Under SDG 6

Document analysis shows all local legislative

measures under SDG 6 form part of the Comprehensive Development Plan (Resolution No. 154, s. 2017). These offer no hints of conflict and inconsistency. All the measures show a synergy of actions that the Municipality must pursue to provide the residents with clean water and sanitation. The different areas of action are an acknowledgment that it takes various coordinated strategies to pursue SDG 6. For instance, Resolution Nos. 166 and 167, s. 2017 are a recognition that it takes partnerships to pursue the various targets of the SDGs.

Reference [14] shows that employment of the multi-level governance approach necessitates aligning all actions across levels from the local to the national level. This calls for the national government to integrate global sustainability in policy-making. We took Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 (Comprehensive Development Plan 2017-2022) and made an investigation of its coherence with policies and measures enacted or promulgated by higher governance levels.

Fig. 5 shows the vertical coherence of Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 with promulgations and measures issued from higher authorities.



Figure 5. Vertical Coherence of the Comprehensive Development Plan with Policies from

Higher Levels of Governance

Section 9, Article XII of the Philippine Constitution mandates establishing an independent economic and planning agency

(National Economic Development Authority) to recommend and implement continuing integrated and coordinated programs and national development policies.

Executive Order No. 05, issued by President Rodrigo R. Duterte on October 11, 2016, adopts *Ambiyon Natin 2040* as the Philippines' twenty-five-year long-term vision and called for the crafting of the Philippine Development Plan anchored on “*Ambisyon Natin 2040*”. Executive Order No. 27, s. 2017 prescribed the following as the basis for the crafting of the PDP 2017-2022: the Philippine’s Long Term Vision entitled *AmBisyon Natin 2040*; the President’s 0+10 Point Socioeconomic Agenda; and UN Resolution No. 70/1 or the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With this executive order, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda becomes a basis for its medium-term national development strategy. The Philippine Development Plan (PDP) serves as the SDGs' implementation mechanism in the Philippines, with the 17 goals integrated into the Plan.

An analysis of the Regional Development Plan shows that the Cordillera Administrative Region shares the national government’s advocacy in bringing in change guided by the significant strategies. The Regional Development Plan highlights SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 6 in Chapters 11 (Reducing Vulnerability of Individuals and Families), 8 (Expanding Economic Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries), 10 (Accelerating Human Capital Development), and 19 (Accelerating Infrastructure Development), respectively. SDG 6 is further stressed in Chapter 20 (Maintaining Ecological Integrity, Clean and Healthy Environment).

The Provincial Physical Development Framework Plan of Mountain Province echoes the Cordillera Regional Development Plan and Philippine Development Plan aspirations. The targets of SDG 1, SDG 2, SDFG 3, and SDG 6 have corresponding actions in the Provincial Physical Development Plan. The same is valid with the Comprehensive Development Plan.

Therefore, there is vertical coherence between

Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 that localizes SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 6, and the policies and enactments by higher governance levels. Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 is integrated and coordinated with the programs emanating from the national, regional, and provincial levels.

The SDGs will unavoidably affect each other as the framers did not intend these to be independent of each other. Horizontal Coherence refers to the local initiatives' relation to similar interventions or policies across SDG 1, SDG2, SDG 3, and SDG 6.

Fig. 6 shows a case of how a sample of essential measures under SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, and SDG 6 are aligned and how they connect and relate to each other.

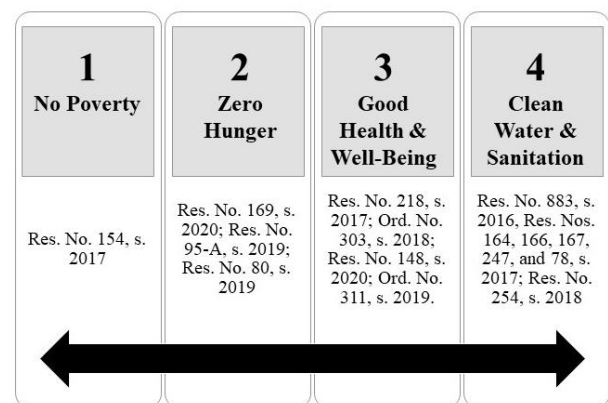


Figure 6. Horizontal Coherence of Legislative Measures Under SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 6

Eradication of poverty inextricably links to a well-fed workforce in good health capable of food and agricultural production. Sustainable food production requires integrated management of water resources. A healthy nation needs clean water and sanitation.

Resolution No. 154, s. 2017 embodies the desire and aspiration to attain a better and more secure life. It contemplates all measures in Fig. 6. The measures under SDG 2 call for nutrition security. The actions under SDG 3 guarantee good health and well-being from birth to adulthood. The initiatives under SDG 6 call for the construction, rehabilitation, and funding of potable water systems. Eradication of poverty necessitates a well-fed populace who are in good health. A well-fed citizenry requires clean water and sanitation.

Document analysis bares that there are no threats of potential conflict in the measures listed in Fig. 6. These legislative measures may overlap at some points, but they all demonstrate a form of synergy and integration.

IV. CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Analyzed in detail, the local legislature's actions and initiatives under SDG 1, 2, 3, and 6 are internally, vertically, and horizontally coherent and synergistic. Under each SDG, there is harmonization and synchronization of initiatives. No measure makes it impossible for other actions to be implemented. Therefore, we can conclude that the local legislative initiatives' goals redound to thriving lives and the people's sustainable livelihood.

It is recommended to sustain the SDGs' localization by the Sangguniang Bayan and consider enacting other measures to complete all targets under SDGs 1, 2, 3, and 6. The local legislature must consider using the mainstreaming or integration approach, highlighting the benefits of aligning national and local plans and institutional mechanisms and policy-making processes to the SDGs. Furthermore, studies must be made on the policy process and how the local legislature brings the implications of economic, social, and environmental sustainability into the general policy debates and sectoral policy agendas. Lastly, further studies may be done on the implementation of these measures and initiatives.

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