

Activating the Plan

Chapter 8

Organizations Involved

The success of the master plan's implementation depends on the following key organizations:

Iloilo City Government

The Iloilo City Government is a local unit of the Philippine government that consists of urbanized and developed barangays, and serves as a general-purpose authority for the coordination and delivery of basic, regular, and direct services and effective governance of the inhabitants within its territorial jurisdiction. The Iloilo City Government will be the forerunner in the implementation of this project as it will provide the necessary funding and legislative mandate to fully execute the action programs detailed in this master plan.

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

The Department of Public Works and Highways is a national agency that oversees all engineering and construction projects of the government and continuously develops its technology to ensure the safety of all infrastructure facilities and that all public works and highways have the highest efficiency and quality in construction. DPWH is presently in charge of the planning, design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure,

(e.g. national highways), flood control and water resources development system, and other public works in accordance with national development objectives.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is a national agency mandated to be responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources, including those in reservations, watershed areas and lands of the public domain, as well as the licensing and regulation of all natural resources utilization as may be provided by law in order to ensure equitable sharing of the benefits derived there from for the welfare of the present and future generations of Filipinos. It aims to be the force behind people's initiatives in the protection, conservation, development and management of environment through strategic alliances and partnerships, participating processes, relevant policies and programs and appropriate information technology towards sustainable development.

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) is national agency and a line bureau of the Department of Agriculture that ensures adoption of measures to achieve food security; guarantee the rational and sustainable development, management and conservation of the fishery and aquatic resources in the Philippine waters; protect the rights of fisherfolk; grant the private sector the privilege to utilize fishery resources under the basic concept that the grantee licensee or permittee.

Department of Agriculture (DA)

The Department of Agriculture is the principal agency of the Philippine government responsible for the promotion of agricultural development. DA provides policy framework, assists direct public investments, and in partnership with local government units (LGUs) provides the support services necessary to make agriculture and agri-based enterprises profitable to help spread the benefits of development to the poor, particularly those in rural areas.

Philippine Ports Authority (PPA)

The Philippine Ports Authority is a government corporation specially charged with the financing, management and operations of public ports throughout the archipelago through an integrated port system aimed at accelerating maritime trade and commerce and carry forward the government objective of transforming the Philippines into a newly-industrialized country.

Iloilo Business Club, Inc. (IBC)

The Iloilo Business Club, Inc. is a non-stock, non-profit association composed of over ninety (90) Senior Executives representing leading corporations of various industries (e.g. banking, services, manufacturing, financing, agribusiness, commerce and academe) in Iloilo City and the Philippines. Its main thrust is to promote Iloilo City and the Province of Iloilo as investment and tourist destination; and foster good working relationship between the government and private sector.

City Environment and Natural Resources (CENRO)

The City Environment and Natural Resources is a local administrative agency created for the proper protection, conservation, management and utilization of the Iloilo City's natural resources within the framework of sustainable development.

City Planning and Development Office (CPDO)

The City Planning and Development Office is another local administrative agency responsible for development planning of Iloilo City. CPDO integrates sectoral plans; coordinates projects, and formulate policies for consideration. Most importantly, it serves as a centralized management information system of the Local Chief Executive for rational decision making.

Iloilo City Urban Poor Affairs Office (ICUPAO)

The Iloilo City Urban Poor Affairs Office is a special body under the Office of the City Mayor created by City Ordinance No. 95-055. It is primarily responsible for the proper implementation of Republic Act 7279 otherwise known as the "The Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992" especially on the aspect of socialized housing programs, relocation and resettlement of the legitimate and qualified local government constituents.

Barangay Government

As the basic political local government unit, the barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects, and activities in the community, and as a forum wherein the collective views of the people are expressed, and considered, and where disputes may be amicably settled.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Iloilo River Development Council has been established to undertake the Iloilo River Management Program (*see annex 1*). Their primary task is to review all projects for planning and implementation especially those that has potential effect on the river's surrounding.

Typical examples of such projects are:

- All Infrastructure Projects (e.g. road network, bridges, promenade)
- Drainage
- Flood Control
- Mangrove Preservation and Development
- Dredging Activities
- Park Development
- Subdivision Planning
- Adaptive Re-use
- Mixed Use Development

The Iloilo River Development Council is headed by the Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas as the chairperson with Ms. Marissa Segovia of the Iloilo Business Club as co-chairperson. Senator Franklin Drilon and Congressman Raul Gonzales are the honorary chairpersons and the following agencies are involved:

- Iloilo City Government
- Department of Public Works and Highways (*DPWH*)
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (*DENR*)
- Bureau of Fisheries (*BFAR*)
- Rotary Club of Iloilo
- Department of Agriculture (*DA*)
- Philippine Ports Authority (*PPA*)
- Iloilo Business Club (*IBC*)
- City Planning and Development Office (*CPDO*)
- Office of the IRDC Executive Director (*City ENRO*)

Functions and Powers of IRDC

1. The IRDC shall approve the river plans, projects and programs; and issue rules, regulation and resolutions deemed necessary by the IRMO.
2. It shall promulgate rules and regulation; and set policies and standards for Iloilo River application governing the delivery of services, imposed fines and penalties.

Management Tools

Projects Review Process

The applicants should first ensure that the project is located in the Iloilo riverine area and necessary documentary requirements are obtained. In their preparation, applicants are encouraged to consult the various available guidelines for development within the Iloilo River area. These include:

- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – DENR/CENRO
- Local Fishery Code – City Agriculturist/BFAR
- Building Code – City Engineers' Office
- Urban Design Guidelines – City Planning
- Overlay Zoning – City Planning
- Infrastructure – DPWH/PPA
- Other Environmental Laws – DENR/CENRO

Before submitting the application to the IRDC it is useful to first discuss the project with the technical staff to determine:

- if the project is environmentally critical, then it is subject to EIS policies and guidelines;
- which agency will undertake the evaluation;
- if the project requires detailed environmental studies;
- additional information that is critical to the approval of application;
- whether the project concept and proposed site are consistent with the application criteria of the Master Development Plan e.g. land use, urban design guidelines, environmental policies, and overlay zoning.

After the appraisal is done and the necessary documentation is completed, the application is submitted to IRDC. The IRDC will then endorse the application to the concerned lead agencies for proper evaluation.

On issues where the function of IRDC with its participating agency is not allowed under the mandate of Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), the following agencies are available:

- City Zoning Board of Adjustment and Appeals - variances and exemptions
- Iloilo Zoning Review Committee – reclassification/amendments
- Iloilo City Cultural Heritage and Conservation – heritage preservation

If there is still difficulty in coming up with a decision, the IRDC can seek more information on the topic or set up a special task force and if necessary, hire consultants to deal with unresolved issues prior to making a recommendation.

The IRDC will make every effort to complete its coordinated environmental and physical response within 15 to 30 days. If there is still information required, applicant should comply within 15 to 30 days. When all information and requirements are complete, IRDC then decides on the project.

Land Use Plan

The existing land use plan and zoning of Iloilo City is also an important management tool because it defines specific uses of spaces surrounding Iloilo River. Area designations will also help identify the primary uses. People with interest in the Iloilo River project will find useful information as to what has been agreed to by the local government regarding the use of a particular area. Spaces for conservation, mix-use and infrastructure improvement will be earmarked to guide evaluation of projects.

Monitoring

A good practice to ensure effective implementation is to compare what is being done with what was proposed in the Master Plan. An essential feature of monitoring is to spot problems as they develop so that remedial action can be immediately taken.

Participating approach to monitoring of the Iloilo River Master Development Plan includes:

- a. Keeping records of all projects, plans & programs, steps taken and problems encountered.
- b. Updating group bookkeeping records for inputs, outputs, budget expenditures and financial evaluation.
- c. Keeping records of research works and observations carried out by the IRDC including its beneficiaries.

Evaluation

The IRDC should also take into account the needs and desires of the community and should involve all projects participants to strengthen capabilities for self-learning & joint problem solving.

Effective Evaluation Includes:

- a. Accomplishment of the intended projects
- b. Methodology used in evaluation terminal results and impacts. This involves people and the quality of participating process desired for concrete actions, e.g. extent of community participation; how well a self mobilized community has been assisted in carrying out activities to achieve greater results.
- c. IRDC impact evaluators should have a community based development orientation, carrying out careful impact evaluation of specific activities in relation to the overall vision of the Iloilo River Master Development Plan.

The effectiveness and efficiency of the IRDC will be gauged on how they will be able to achieve a sustainable environment for Iloilo River. A framework for good governance is needed.

THE PROJECTS REVIEW PROCESS

