



Republic of the Philippines
CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE
City Hall, Baguio City

22 December 2023

Mr. RUDI BORRMANN
Deputy Director
Open Government Partnership Local

Dear Mr. Borrmann:

I am writing with immense enthusiasm to throw my full support behind Baguio City's application to become a member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local initiative. As the Mayor of this vibrant city, I am genuinely excited about the transformative potential that OGP Local holds for Baguio.

Baguio City, under my leadership, has consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to community engagement and public service. We have been at the forefront of initiatives that prioritize transparency, accountability, and, most importantly, citizen engagement. Our aspiration to co-create an action plan involving local non-government organization, academia, the private sector, and our valued citizens is not just a promise; it is a reflection of our proven track record in inclusive governance.

What sets Baguio City apart is our dedication to being more than just a member of the global community through OGP Local; we are actively investing in the success of these initiatives. The commitment to allocate the necessary resources for the co-creation process, the implementation of commitments, and meeting evaluation and learning obligations underscores our seriousness and determination.

Our proposed lead office, the City Planning, Development, and Sustainable Office, supported by the CSO Desk and People's Council and assisted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Baguio, forms a robust framework to ensure the success of OGP Local initiatives. Atty. Brenner L. Bengwayan, the Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod, is our appointed high-level point of contact and brings with him the expertise needed to oversee OGP within our government.

I firmly believe that our involvement will not only fulfill national and global responsibilities but will also bring about substantial and innovative changes based on the world's best practices. This is a unique opportunity for Baguio City to elevate transparency, deepen citizen engagement, and implement effective anti-corruption measures.

Thank you for considering Baguio City, I am confident that our commitment to these initiatives, combined with the support of our engaged residents, will position Baguio City as an exemplary model of good governance on an international scale.

Very truly yours,


BENJAMIN B. MAGALONG
City Mayor





22 December 2023

Mr. RUDI BORRMANN
Deputy Director
Open Government Partnership Local

Dear Mr. Borrmann:

Our involvement in the OGP Local initiative aligns seamlessly with the core values that the Baguio City People's Council upholds. The People's Council serves as a beacon of participatory governance, providing a platform for residents to actively engage in decision-making processes, voice their concerns, and contribute to the development of our community.

Our city has made significant strides in initiatives, such as actively participating in planning and decision makings, that reflect our dedication to open government reforms. We believe that by joining the OGP Local community, we can further enhance our efforts to create a governance framework that is not only efficient but also actively involves and benefits every resident.

We are confident that through our collaboration with OGP Local, we can leverage the collective intelligence and creativity of our diverse community to address local challenges, improve service delivery, and promote innovative solutions. The OGP Local platform provides a unique opportunity for the City of Baguio to share our experiences, learn from others, and collectively contribute to the global movement for open and accountable governance.

Therefore, I would like to express our eagerness to actively participate in the OGP Local - Expression of Interest 2023 and contribute to the shared mission of building more open, responsive, and citizen-centric local governments.

Thank you for considering our expression of interest, and we look forward to the possibility of being a part of this transformative initiative.

Sincerely,


MARLENE DE CASTRO
Chairperson
Baguio City People's Council

