

29 November 2024

To the OGP Steering Committee:

I am honored to write to you as the Mayor of Baguio City, Philippines, to present our **First Local Action Plan** for the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

Baguio City is a vibrant and iconic urban center in the northern Philippines. Known as the Summer Capital of the Philippines, our city is known for its cool climate, breathtaking landscapes, and rich cultural heritage. Over the years, Baguio has emerged as a hub for education and commerce, complementing its status as a premier tourist destination. This growth brings both opportunities and challenges, requiring innovative governance to balance development with sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience.

In alignment with our **City Vision 2043: A Livable, Inclusive, and Creative City**, we aspire to foster a community that thrives on creativity, inclusivity, and livability. Our participation in the Open Government Partnership reflects these aspirations, as we strive to deepen transparency, enhance civic engagement, and strengthen public accountability.

To ensure that this vision is rooted in the needs of our citizens, we conducted workshops and consultations involving the Baguio City People's Council, City Government Department Heads, and the academe. Participants identified pressing challenges, explored their impacts, and cocreated solutions guided by the principles of transparency, civic participation, public accountability, and inclusivity.

The outcomes of these collaborative efforts shaped the Baguio OGP Framework, which serves as the foundation of our Local Action Plan. This framework envisions Baguio City as "**a co-creative, sustainable, and resilient community**" and outlines actionable strategies to address critical challenges such as waste management, disaster preparedness, traffic congestion, breaching carrying capacity, and social entrepreneurship.

Through this OGP Action Plan, we reaffirm our commitment to a governance model that places citizens at the heart of decision-making. We believe that fostering co-creation and collaboration is key to achieving meaningful progress and ensuring that our initiatives reflect the aspirations of all stakeholders.

As a proud member of the OGP community, Baguio City is eager to contribute to and learn from the collective efforts to advance open governance principles globally. Together, we can build a future where inclusivity, transparency, and accountability define governance for generations to come.

Thank you for this opportunity to share Baguio City's journey. We look forward to working with the OGP community to further these shared goals.

Very truly yours,

BENJAMIN B. MAGALONG City Mayor