

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

22 SEP 21 P5:22

SENATE  
S. No. 1342

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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AN ACT  
ADOPTING INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT AS A  
NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE HOLISTIC AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT  
AND RESOURCES, ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL COASTAL  
GREENBELT ACTION PLAN, OTHER SUPPORTING MECHANISMS  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The management and protection of our coastal environment should be of utmost concern. As an archipelago of more than 7,100 islands, the Philippines contains enormous coastal and marine areas and is recognized as a global hub for marine species. The country's coastline spans more than 18,000 kilometers, and its coastal waters have an area of 266,000 square kilometers, with most major cities located within ten to twenty kilometers of the coastline.

Coastal environments are among the most productive and biologically diverse landscapes known to man. Firstly, ecosystems such as mangrove forests, beach forests, and seagrass beds are crucial for managing disaster risk and mitigating the effects of climate change. They operate as a natural barrier against storm surges and coastal erosion, hence reducing the adverse effects of natural coastal hazards on property damage and human life. Additionally, they act as carbon sinks to lessen climate change and as homes for fish with significant economic value.

Secondly, these coastal areas significantly contribute to our economy. Not only are they important sources of food, minerals, and raw materials, but they also help boost leisure, sports, and other social, cultural, and tourism-related activities. Fishing, maritime transportation, tourism, coastal mining, and offshore oil and gas development are examples of marine-related economic activities that considerably boost our country's gross domestic product and sustain livelihoods and job options for coastal residents.

Despite the tremendous benefits that the coastal and marine regions have on the daily lives of Filipinos, development planning in the country is still predominantly land-focused. The Philippines' maritime territory is seven times as large as its land area, yet there is no comprehensive strategy in place to utilize our vast marine resources sustainably. As such, the current trends in coastal migration and human activities on land, coasts, and seas put pressure on the ability of marine areas to sustain themselves.

This bill aims to adopt integrated coastal management as a national strategy to ensure the sustainable development of the country's coastal and marine environment and resources, as well as the connectivity of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, social and ecological systems, and the different human activities that take place there. This will encourage the most effective use of resources and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas.

For these reasons, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**LOREN LEGARDA**



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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

CHAPTER I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1  
2  
3 Section. 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Integrated Coastal*  
4 *Management Act.*"

5 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to ensure sustainable  
6 development of coastal and marine resources in consultation with all stakeholders.  
7 Towards this end, it shall adopt Integrated Coastal Management, hereinafter referred  
8 to as ICM, to address the connectivity of terrestrial and marine biodiversity, social and  
9 ecological systems and the different human activities taking place therein, to promote  
10 sustainable development, to achieve food security, poverty alleviation, gender  
11 equality, respect for sustainable traditional resource rights of indigenous peoples, and  
12 to reduce vulnerability to climate change and human-induced and natural hazards.

13 Sec. 3. *Scope and Coverage.* - ICM shall be implemented in all coastal and marine  
14 areas, addressing the interlinkages among associated watersheds and wetlands, by all

1 relevant government structures at the national and local levels in consultation and  
2 partnership with all stakeholders.

3       Sec. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall  
4 be defined as follows:

5       (a) “*Adaptation*” refers to the adjustment in natural or human systems in  
6 response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which  
7 moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities;

8       (b) “*Biological diversity*” or “*biodiversity*” refers to the variability among  
9 living organisms from all sources, including, inter alia, terrestrial,  
10 marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of  
11 which they are part. Biodiversity consists of a variety of species, their  
12 genetic make-up, and the communities or populations to which they  
13 belong;

14       (c) “*Climate Change*” is defined as a change in climate that can be identified  
15 by changes in the mean and/or variability of its properties and that lasts  
16 for an extended period of time, typically decades or longer, whether  
17 caused by natural variability or by human activity;

18       (d) “*Disaster Risk Reduction*” refers to the concept and practice of reducing  
19 disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and manage the  
20 casual factors of disasters, through reduced exposure to hazards,  
21 lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land  
22 and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events;

23       (e) The term “*coastal area*” or “*coastal zone*” refers to a band of dry land and  
24 adjacent ocean space (water and submerged land) where terrestrial  
25 processes and uses directly affect oceanic processes and uses, and vice  
26 versa; its geographic extent may include mangrove swamps, brackish  
27 water ponds, nipa swamps, estuarine rivers, sandy beaches, and other  
28 areas such as coral reefs, algal flats, seagrass beds, and other soft-bottom  
29 areas.

30       (f) “*Integrated Coastal Management*” refers to a natural resource and  
31 environmental ecosystem-based management framework which  
32 employs an integrative, holistic management approach and an

1 interactive planning process in addressing the complex management  
2 issues of the coastal area. The major goal is to attain sustainable coastal  
3 development, including maintaining the functional integrity of  
4 ecosystems through effective coastal and ocean governance;

5 (g) "*Mangroves*" refers to a community of intertidal plants, including all  
6 species of trees, shrubs, vines, and herbs found on coasts, swamps, or  
7 the borders of swamps;

8 (h) "*Municipal Waters*" include not only streams, lakes, inland bodies of  
9 water and tidal waters within the municipality, which are not included  
10 within the protected areas as defined under Republic Act No. 7586 or  
11 the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act, as  
12 amended by RA No. 11038, public forest, timber lands, forest reserves  
13 or fishery reserves, but also marine waters included between two (2)  
14 lines drawn perpendicular to the general coastline from points where  
15 the boundary lines of the municipality touch the sea at low tide and a  
16 third line parallel with the general coastline, including offshore islands  
17 and fifteen (15) kilometers from such coastline. Where two (2)  
18 municipalities are so situated on opposite shores that there is less than  
19 thirty (30) kilometers of marine water between them, the third line shall  
20 be equally distant from the opposite shore of the respective  
21 municipalities;

22 (i) "*Watershed*" refers to a land area drained by a stream or fixed body of  
23 water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface run-off;

24 (j) "*Wetland*" refers to areas of marsh, peatland, or water, whether natural  
25 or artificial, permanent, or temporary, with water that is static, flowing,  
26 fresh, brackish or salt, including adjacent areas of marine water; and

27 (k) The "*State of the Coasts Reporting System*" refers to a tool to assist the local  
28 government units (LGUs) in assessing the progress and benefits of ICM  
29 implementation. It allows the LGUs to document and measure the  
30 effectiveness and impacts of policy and management interventions in  
31 support of sustainable coastal development and evaluate progress

1 towards local, national, and international targets for sustainable  
2 development.

3 CHAPTER II  
4 INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

5 Sec. 5. *National Coordinating Committee on ICM.* – There is hereby established a  
6 National Coordinating Committee on ICM, hereinafter referred to as the National  
7 Coordinating Committee, to coordinate the review and implementation of the  
8 National ICM Framework.

9 The Climate Change Commission (CCC) shall provide secretariat support to  
10 the National Coordinating Committee.

11 The National Coordinating Committee shall be composed of the following:

- 12 (a) The Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
13 (DENR) or his/her designated representative as Chairperson;  
14 (b) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) or his/her  
15 designated representative as Vice Chairperson;  
16 (c) The Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government  
17 (DUG) or his/her designated representative as Vice Chairperson;  
18 (d) The Secretary of the CCC or his/her designated representative as  
19 Secretariat;  
20 (e) The Director General of the National Economic and Development  
21 Authority (NEDA) or his/her designated representative as a member;  
22 (f) One (1) representative from the academe who specializes in ICM as a  
23 member;  
24 (g) One (1) representative from non-government organizations (NGOs)  
25 dealing with coastal management or fisheries as a member; and  
26 (h) One (1) representative from the private sector as a member.

27 The designated permanent representatives shall be chosen in a process to be  
28 determined in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

29 Sec. 6. *Powers and Functions of the National Coordinating Committee on ICM.* – The  
30 National Coordinating Committee shall exercise and perform the following powers  
31 and functions:

- 1 (a) Formulate, adopt, institutionalize, and amend, if necessary, the National  
2 ICM Framework, in consultation with other concerned agencies, sectors,  
3 and stakeholders within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act;  
4 (b) Identify ICM management areas such as bays, lakes, gulfs, river basins,  
5 watersheds, wetlands, protected areas, and other resources that are  
6 shared by two or more provinces and assign the coordination of the  
7 formulation and implementation of the required Inter-Provincial ICM  
8 Plan to the appropriate Regional Development Council;  
9 (c) Initiate the establishment and consolidation of baseline data on ICM,  
10 especially in relation to biodiversity;  
11 (d) Resolve ICM-related conflicts between or among provinces; and  
12 (e) Recommend to Congress for enactment of legislation or to the  
13 appropriate government agency for issuance of policies.

14 *Sec. 7. National ICM Framework.* - The National ICM Framework shall provide  
15 direction, support, and guidance to the local government units (LGUs) and  
16 stakeholders in the development and implementation of their local ICM plans. The  
17 National Coordinating Committee shall finalize the National ICM Framework within  
18 twelve (12) months from the effectivity of this Act.

19 The National ICM Framework shall include the following components of the  
20 framework for the sustainable development of coastal areas:

- 21 (a) Goals and objectives;  
22 (b) Strategies and action plans;  
23 (c) Required policy or legislation;  
24 (d) Information and public awareness campaign;  
25 (e) Financing mechanisms; and  
26 (f) Capacity building and the National ICM Training Program.

27 *Sec. 8. Elements of the National ICM Framework.* - The implementation of ICM  
28 Programs shall take into account the following elements:

- 29 (a) An inter-agency, multi-sectoral mechanism to coordinate the efforts of  
30 different agencies, sectors, and administrative levels;  
31 (b) People's participation in the formulation and implementation of the  
32 National ICM Framework;

- 1 (c) Coastal strategies and action plans that provide a long-term vision and  
2 strategy for sustainable development of the coastal areas, as well as a  
3 fixed-term program of actions that identify responsible agencies or  
4 institutions for addressing priority issues and concerns;
- 5 (d) Public awareness program to increase the level of understanding and  
6 appreciation for the coastal and marine resources of the area; and to  
7 promote a shared responsibility among stakeholders in the planning  
8 and implementation of the National ICM Framework;
- 9 (e) Incorporating the National ICM Framework into national and local  
10 government planning and socioeconomic development programs, as  
11 well as allocating adequate financial and human resources for  
12 implementation;
- 13 (f) Capacity building programs to enhance required human resource skills;  
14 scientific input to policy and planning processes; and enforcement  
15 mechanisms to ensure compliance with adopted rules and regulations;
- 16 (g) Integrated environmental monitoring for the purpose of measuring,  
17 evaluating, and reporting the status, progress, and impacts of  
18 management programs against established sustainable development  
19 indicators and for use in decision-making, public awareness, and  
20 performance evaluation;
- 21 (h) Opportunities for investment and long-term financing for  
22 environmental protection and improvement, as well as resource  
23 conservation;
- 24 (i) Disaster risk reduction and management as well as climate change  
25 adaptation and mitigation programs; and
- 26 (j) Knowledge management, research and development programs in such  
27 areas as carrying capacity, limits to acceptable change, and  
28 enhancement of the analytical and predictive value of scenarios for  
29 protecting sustainable futures.

30 Sec. 9. *Coordination of ICM Matters at the Regional Level.* - The Regional  
31 Development Councils shall mainstream ICM in the formulation of Regional  
32 Development Plans and Priority Frameworks, among other related documents.



1           Sec. 10. *Coordination of ICM Matters at the Provincial Level.* – The Provincial  
2 Development Council established under Section 107(c) of Republic Act No. 7160, or  
3 the Local Government Code of 1991, will coordinate the formulation and  
4 implementation of the ICM Plan at the provincial level. However, instead of the  
5 Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriation of the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan*, as  
6 provided in Section 107(c) of R.A.7160, the Chairperson of the Committee on  
7 Environment of the *Sangguniang Panlalawigan*, will serve as the second member of the  
8 Provincial Development Council, which will coordinate the formulation and  
9 implementation of the ICM plan at the provincial level. Aside from the members  
10 mentioned under Section 107 of R.A. Representatives from the Provincial Fisheries  
11 Office or the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, the Provincial Tourism Office, and  
12 the private sector shall join the Provincial Development Council to coordinate the  
13 formulation and implementation of the Provincial ICM Plan.

14           In cases where two or more provinces share a common resource such as bays,  
15 gulfs, river basins, lakes, watersheds, marine protected areas, marine biodiversity  
16 corridors, and upland ecosystems, the coordination, support, and assistance for the  
17 formulation, establishment, and implementation of the Inter-Provincial ICM Plan  
18 shall be provided by the concerned Regional Development Council established under  
19 Executive Order No. 325, series of 1996.

20           This provision, however, does not apply to provinces or common resources  
21 shared by multiple LCDs that have an existing ICM coordinating mechanism at the  
22 time this Act takes effect.

23           Sec. 11. *Additional Functions of the Provincial Development Council.* – In addition  
24 to the functions enumerated under Section 109 of R.A. 7160, the Provincial  
25 Development Council shall:

- 26           (a) Formulate a Provincial ICM Plan in consultation with all the  
27           municipalities and cities within the province;
- 28           (b) Submit the approved Provincial ICM Plan to the appropriate *Sanggunian*  
29           and recommend the issuance of an ordinance or ordinances to facilitate  
30           the institutionalization of ICM in the local government programs;

- 1 (c) Submit the approved Provincial ICM Plan to the appropriate Regional  
2 Development Council for integration with the Regional Development  
3 Plan for submission to NEDA;
- 4 (d) Coordinate the implementation of the Provincial ICM Plan among the  
5 relevant municipalities and city or cities within the province;
- 6 (e) Coordinate the efforts of provinces by sharing a resource to address  
7 issues that cut across their political boundaries;
- 8 (f) Coordinate the establishment and consolidation of baseline data on  
9 ICM, especially in relation to biodiversity; and
- 10 (g) Resolve conflicts arising from ICM between or among municipalities or  
11 cities or between an LGU and a body managing a specially administered  
12 area within the province.

13 Sec. 12. *Coordination of ICM Matters at City and Municipal Levels.* – The City or  
14 Municipal Development Council established under Section 107(b) of R.A. 7160 shall  
15 coordinate the formulation and implementation of the ICM Plan at the city, whether  
16 highly urbanized city (HUC), independent component city (ICC), or component city,  
17 and municipal levels. However, instead of the Chairperson of the Committee on  
18 Appropriation of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* or *Bayan* provided in Sec. 107(b)(2) of  
19 R.A. 7160, the Chairperson of the Committee on Environment of the *Sangguniang*  
20 *Panlungsod* or *Bayan* shall serve as the second member of the City or Municipal  
21 Development Council, which will coordinate the formulation and implementation of  
22 the ICM plan at the city or municipal levels. In addition to the members mentioned  
23 under Sec. 107(b) of the R.A. 7160, representatives from the City or Municipal  
24 Fisheries Office or the Office of the City or Municipal Agriculturist, City or Municipal  
25 Tourism Office, and the private sector shall join the City or Municipal Development  
26 Council to coordinate the formulation and implementation of the City or Municipal  
27 ICM Plan.

28 A position for a City Environment and Natural Officer (CENRO) or a  
29 Municipal Environment and Natural Officer (MENRO) shall be created or designated  
30 for the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the ICM-responsive  
31 Local Climate Action Plans (LCCAPs), Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and  
32 Comprehensive Development Plan.

1 This provision, however, does not apply to cities or municipalities that already  
2 have an ICM coordinating mechanism in place at the time this Act goes into effect.

3 Sec. 13. *Additional Functions of the City or Municipal Development Council.* – In  
4 addition to the functions enumerated under Sec. 109 of R.A. 7160, the City or  
5 Municipal Development Council shall:

6 (a) Formulate a city or municipal ICM Plan in consultation with all the  
7 barangays within the city or municipality;

8 (b) Submit the approved ICM plan to the appropriate *Sanggunian* and  
9 recommend the issuance of an ordinance or ordinances to facilitate the  
10 institutionalization of ICM in the city or municipal government  
11 programs;

12 (c) Coordinate the implementation of the City or Municipal ICM Plan  
13 among the relevant barangays;

14 (d) Coordinate the efforts of barangays sharing a resource to address issues  
15 that cut across their boundaries;

16 (e) Coordinate the establishment and consolidation of baseline data on ICM  
17 especially in relation to biodiversity; and

18 (f) Resolve conflicts arising from ICM between or among barangays or  
19 between a barangay and a specially managed or administered area  
20 within the city or municipality.

21 Sec. 14. *Representation of Other Agencies and Stakeholders.* – The LGUs must  
22 consider the representation in the development councils of other national agencies  
23 and stakeholder groups that will be affected by ICM issues.

24 Sec. 15. *Assistance from LGUs and/or National Agencies.* – The Local Development  
25 Councils may call upon any local official or any official of national agencies or offices  
26 within the LGU to assist in the formulation of local ICM plans.

27 In providing technical assistance and other forms of support related to coastal  
28 management and the implementation of development plans, the national government  
29 agencies shall give priority to LGUs with approved or existing ICM plans.

30 Sec. 16. *Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting of ICM Program.* – The National  
31 Coordinating Committee shall coordinate the preparation, consolidation, and  
32 submission of an initial State of the Coasts Report one year after the effectivity of this

1 Act based on available baseline data gathered, and such report shall be submitted to  
2 Congress. Every three (3) years thereafter, the National Coordinating Committee shall  
3 coordinate the preparation, consolidation, and submission of the State of the Coasts  
4 Report to the President and to Congress on the implementation of the local ICM plans  
5 in line with the National ICM Framework. The LCDs shall submit their respective  
6 progress reports on the implementation of their respective ICM plans to the National  
7 Coordinating Committee. Civil society organizations shall be involved in the  
8 monitoring of the implementation of the National ICM Framework and local ICM  
9 plans.

10 Sec. 17. *ICM Best Practices.* – The National ICM Framework and local ICM plans  
11 shall promote the application of best practices which include, among others, the  
12 following:

- 13 (a) Coastal and marine use classification, marine spatial planning, and  
14 harmonization of comprehensive land and water use plans as  
15 management tools;
- 16 (b) Sustainable fishing and conservation of living resources;
- 17 (c) Protection and rehabilitation of coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass,  
18 estuaries, and other habitats, particularly through the establishment of  
19 marine protected areas, nature reserves, and sanctuaries;
- 20 (d) Development of management approaches for the conservation of  
21 upland watersheds, catchment areas, and river basins;
- 22 (e) Integrated waste management, including sewage and solid, hazardous,  
23 toxic, and other wastes from major sources;
- 24 (f) Management of natural and man-made hazards;
- 25 (g) Water use and supply management;
- 26 (h) Payment for ecosystem services and equitable cost-benefit allocation;
- 27 (i) Integrated and bay-wide law enforcement;
- 28 (j) Disaster risk reduction and management in coastal areas;
- 29 (k) Climate change adaptation and mitigation in coastal areas;
- 30 (l) Community-led natural resource management; and
- 31 (m) Recognition of the concerns of indigenous peoples.

1           Sec. 18. *Incentives.* – The National Coordinating Committee shall develop a  
2 recognition and reward system for LCDs that:

3           (a) Regularly update their ICM programs or plans once every five (5) years;  
4           and

5           (b) Exhibit exemplary performance in the development and  
6           implementation of their respective local ICM plans in accordance with  
7           the National ICM Framework.

8           The details of the recognition and reward system will be provided in the  
9 implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

10          Sec. 19. *ICM Office.* – Each province may establish an ICM Office to act as the  
11 Secretariat to the Provincial Development Council with regard to ICM matters and to  
12 monitor the implementation of the Provincial ICM Plan in consonance with the  
13 National ICM Framework. This may be an office under the Provincial Planning and  
14 Development Office focused solely on matters or tasks relating to ICM. Otherwise, the  
15 Provincial Planning and Development Office will act as the Provincial Development  
16 Council’s secretariat.

17          Whenever the National Coordinating Committee deems it necessary, a city or  
18 municipality shall also establish an ICM Office to act as the secretariat to the City or  
19 Municipal Development Council with regard to ICM matters and to monitor the  
20 implementation of the City or Municipal ICM Plan in consonance with the Provincial  
21 ICM Plan and the National ICM Framework. This may be an office under the City or  
22 Municipal Planning and Development Office focused solely on matters or tasks  
23 relating to ICM. Otherwise, the City or Municipal Planning and Development Office  
24 shall serve as the City or Municipal Development Council’s secretariat.

25          Sec. 20. *Scientific Advisory Group.* – Each province shall, as far as practicable,  
26 establish a Scientific Advisory Group which shall ensure that ICM interventions have  
27 a sound scientific basis. It shall be composed of the following:

28           (a) A representative from the academe who is an expert in ICM or a related  
29           discipline;

30           (b) A representative from the Department of Science and Technology  
31           (DOST);

32           (c) A representative from the DENR;

- 1 (d) A representative from the CCC;
- 2 (e) A representative from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- 3 (BFAR); and
- 4 (f) A representative from the Philippine Association of Marine Science
- 5 (PAMS).

6 A city or municipality may also establish a Scientific Advisory Group for the

7 same purpose and the same composition as that of a province.

8 *Sec. 21. Role of National Government Agencies.* – All concerned national agencies

9 shall support the implementation of the National ICM Framework and local ICM

10 plans and promote ICM best practices that fall within their respective mandates. They

11 shall identify, prepare, and provide policy guidance and technical resource assistance

12 to the DENR, the development councils, and the LGUs in the implementation of the

13 National ICM Framework and local ICM plans and in the enforcement of relevant

14 coastal and marine policies and regulations, as well as regional and international

15 commitments or treaties. In the development and implementation of the National

16 ICM Framework and local ICM plans affecting coastal and marine areas in their

17 respective localities, these agencies shall directly consult with concerned LGUs.

18 All government contracts entered into and permits issued by the government,

19 such as foreshore lease agreements, forest management agreements, special land use

20 permits, and mining permits entered into or issued by the government and its

21 instrumentalities shall be in conformity with the National ICM Framework and local

22 ICM plans.

23 *Sec. 22. Consistency of Local ICM Plans and National Programs and Plans with the*

24 *National ICM Framework.* – LGUs and national agencies shall formulate and implement

25 their ICM plans and national programs and plans such as the Tourism Development

26 Plan and Infrastructure Program, respectively, in consonance with the National ICM

27 Framework. Existing ICM plans shall be reconciled and harmonized with the National

28 ICM Framework.

29 *Sec. 23. Specially Managed or Administered Areas.* – Specially managed or

30 administered areas such as river basis, Water Quality Management Areas (WAQMAs)

31 established under Republic Act No. 9275, special economic zones, freeport zones,

32 ecotourism zones, and protected areas, whether established under Republic Act Nos.

1 7586 and 11038 or by virtue of an ordinance, shall prepare their management plans in  
2 consonance with the ICM National Framework and relevant local ICM plans. Their  
3 management plans should incorporate ICM principles and best practices, taking into  
4 account the interlinkages between and among associated watersheds and wetlands.

5       Sec. 24. *Review of Existing ICM or Related Programs and Plans.* – Provinces, cities,  
6 or municipalities, especially managed or administered areas such as special economic  
7 zones or freeport zones, ecotourism zones, bays, lakes, or marine protected areas  
8 (MPAs) with existing ICM or related programs or plans, shall review, revise,  
9 reconcile, and harmonize the same based on the National ICM Framework within  
10 three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act. Actual use shall be preferred over future  
11 or reserve use: *Provided,* That all existing locational clearances and zoning permits  
12 issued by the LGUs prior to the effectivity of this Act shall remain valid pending  
13 review of existing programs and plans and zoning ordinances (ZOs), and they shall  
14 not be invalidated solely because the new and approved programs and plans and ZOs  
15 have determined that they should be properly located in a different coastal use zoning  
16 area: *Provided, further,* That appropriate measures shall be adopted by the LGU  
17 concerned, the landowner, and the developer should any existing structures and  
18 facilities are found to be properly covered by a different coastal use zoning category  
19 in areas where they are currently located: *Provided, finally,* That existing structures and  
20 facilities within extremely hazardous and high risk danger zones which cannot be  
21 addressed by any mitigating or protective measures shall be required to relocate.

22       Sec. 25. *Role of LGUs.* – LGUs shall act as the frontline agencies in the  
23 formulation, planning, and implementation of ICM programs in their respective  
24 coastal and marine areas. The local ICM plan shall be in line with the National ICM  
25 Framework and shall be prepared in consultation with the stakeholders. The LGUs  
26 should regularly update their respective ICM plans to reflect emerging issues and  
27 changing social, economic, and environmental conditions. Also, the LGUs should  
28 ensure that their ICM plans are reflected in their annual work and investment plans.  
29 The LGUs shall furnish the DENR, within one month from adoption, with copies of  
30 their ICM plans and all subsequent amendments, modifications, and revisions. Local  
31 governments must mobilize and allocate the personnel, resources, and logistics  
32 required to effectively implement their respective ICM plans. Barangays will be

1 directly involved with municipal and city governments in prioritizing coastal issues  
2 and identifying and implementing solutions. Municipal and city governments should  
3 consider ICM as one of their priority programs.

4 Provincial governments must support municipal and city ICM plans by  
5 providing technical assistance, enforcement, and information management. Inter-  
6 LGU collaboration shall be encouraged in the conduct of activities related to  
7 protecting the country's coastal and marine resources.

8 *Sec. 26. Roles of Civil Society and the Private Sector.* – In the development and  
9 implementation of the ICM program, the NGOs, civic organizations, people's  
10 organizations, the academe, the private sector, and other concerned stakeholder  
11 groups shall be engaged in activities such as planning, community organizing,  
12 research, technology transfer, information sharing, investment, training programs,  
13 and monitoring, evaluation, response, and feedback systems.

14 *Sec. 27. Supporting Activities.* – The following activities shall be undertaken in  
15 support of the implementation of ICM programs:

16 (a) *ICM Education.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) and the  
17 Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall integrate the concept  
18 and basic principles of ICM into the primary, secondary, and tertiary  
19 education curricula, as well as in the textbooks, primers, and other  
20 educational materials;

21 (b) *ICM Training Program for LGUs.* – The CCC, in coordination with the  
22 DENR and DILG, through the Local Government Academy, shall  
23 develop and provide ICM training programs for LGUs. For this  
24 purpose, LGUs may allocate funds for scholarships on tertiary and  
25 graduate courses relating to ICM or source funds for such scholarships  
26 other than LGU funds;

27 (c) *Environmental and Natural Resource Accounting and Valuation for ICM*  
28 *Planning.* – The NEDA and the National Statistics Coordination Board  
29 (NSCB) shall incorporate coastal and marine resource accounting as  
30 well as estimates of their carrying capacity in the national and regional  
31 accounts; and



1 (d) *Coastal and Marine Environmental Information Management System.* - The  
2 DENR shall oversee the establishment and maintenance of a coastal and  
3 marine environmental information management system and network,  
4 in collaboration with other concerned national government agencies,  
5 institutions, LGUs, civil society organizations, and other academic  
6 institutions. The DENR will encourage the documentation and  
7 dissemination of best practices, as well as the replication and scaling up  
8 of ICM programs in the country. The concerned agencies, however, shall  
9 review the coastal and marine data prior to its public dissemination.

10 CHAPTER III  
11 NATIONAL COASTAL GREENBELT ACTION PLAN

12 Sec. 28. *National Coastal Greenbelt Action Plan.* - The National Coordinating  
13 Committee shall identify and convene all national government agencies responsible  
14 for foreshore management, mangrove and beach forest protection and utilization,  
15 coastal land and sea-use planning, coastal tourism development, social welfare of  
16 coastal communities, and other relevant mandates, to prepare an integrated National  
17 Coastal Greenbelt Action Plan (NCGAP) not later than twelve (12) months from the  
18 effectivity of this Act.

19 The NCGAP shall, at the minimum, contain the following:

- 20 (a) Spatial representation, or if feasible, quick/rapid inventory of the status  
21 of coastlines and foreshores, including the status of mangroves, beach  
22 forests, settlements, structures, and fishponds within one hundred (100)  
23 meters therein;
- 24 (b) Assessment of priority areas to be designated as Coastal Greenbelt  
25 Zones for each coastal province, city, and municipality. The criteria for  
26 designation of priority area shall be based on its vulnerability to storm  
27 surges, waves, tsunami and the like. This shall be completed within one  
28 (1) year from the adoption of the NCGAP;
- 29 (c) Designation of priority areas for coastal greenbelts that are already  
30 included as either as a protected area under RA. No. 11038 or as a fish  
31 refuge or sanctuary under R.A. No. 10654 as amended, otherwise known

1 as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of The Philippines," or as a local  
2 marine protected area as may be declared by municipalities and cities  
3 through ordinances. The designation shall be completed within six (6)  
4 months from the completion of the assessment. Designation shall also  
5 be done through a proposal to the appropriate agency, municipality or  
6 city as may be deemed necessary. If an area is designated as a priority  
7 area, no structure shall be allowed therein unless it is approved by the  
8 DENR or DA through the BFAR;

9 (d) Operational plan for the rehabilitation, reforestation, or afforestation of  
10 designated priority coastal greenbelts with ecologically appropriate  
11 mangrove and beach forest species, not less than one hundred (100)  
12 meters in width, existing forests or plantations greater than the  
13 minimum width shall not be reduced. The program for rehabilitation,  
14 reforestation or afforestation shall be community-based, long-term and  
15 implemented through the municipality or city government. The  
16 Operation Plan shall indicate that the program for rehabilitation,  
17 reforestation and afforestation must cover a minimum target area of  
18 twenty percent (20%) of the designated priority areas in the first five (5)  
19 years for maximum protection of the most vulnerable communities in  
20 the city or municipality. The remaining priority areas must be  
21 completed within ten (10) years from the designation as priority area;

22 (e) Operational plan for the reversion of all abandoned fishponds to  
23 mangroves through natural regeneration or replanting with locally  
24 appropriate species. The NCGAP shall indicate that the identification  
25 and recovery of possession from delinquent fishpond lease agreement  
26 holders shall be completed within twelve (12) months from the adoption  
27 thereof. All fishpond areas to be reverted to mangroves shall form part  
28 of the minimum target for the first year of implementation of the  
29 NCGAP;

30 (f) Operational plan for the removal of illegal structures (such as,  
31 breakwaters, permanent residential/commercial structures, and the  
32 like), in the identified priority coastal greenbelts. The NCGAP shall

1 indicate that the declaration and notice to persons responsible for  
2 removal of illegal structures shall be completed within twelve (12)  
3 months from the start of rehabilitation, reforestation or afforestation of  
4 these areas shall form part of the minimum target for the first year of  
5 implementation of the NCGAP; and

6 (g) Monitoring and evaluation plan, with quantitative and qualitative  
7 targets consistent with subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) above, appropriate  
8 indicators, and reasonable means of verification. The plan shall become  
9 an integrated part of the NCGAP-responsive LCCAP.

10 *Sec. 29. Designated Areas for Coastal Greenbelt.* – In designating areas for coastal  
11 greenbelts, landscape types will be classified into natural, rural, and urban areas,  
12 including mangrove areas, areas previously vegetated with mangroves, or mangrove  
13 areas converted into fishponds and other uses.

14 *Sec. 30. Implementation of the NCGAP.* – In addition to the functions of the  
15 National Coordinating Committee on ICM outlined in Section 5 of this Act, the  
16 National Coordinating Committee shall take the lead in implementing the  
17 components of the NCGAP.

18 The Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development shall provide  
19 an appropriation for the relocation of the families or individuals who will be affected  
20 by the designated areas. The relocation of the affected families or individuals shall be  
21 included in the Local Shelter Plan of the LGUs in accordance with R.A. No. 7160 and  
22 R.A. No. 7279, otherwise known as the “Urban Development and Housing Act of  
23 1992,” as amended by R.A. No. 10884.

24 Other agencies that participated in the preparation of the NCGAP-responsive  
25 LCCAP shall implement their commitments thereto. The actions required of the  
26 National Coordinating Committee are immediately executable based on the agreed  
27 NCGAP-responsive LCCAP and on the existing mandates, programs, or budgets of  
28 the members of the National Coordinating Committee that are aligned with the action  
29 plan, without the need for formulating implementing guidelines, rules, and  
30 regulations for this Act.

31 All existing laws, rules, and regulations providing protection to coastlines,  
32 foreshores, and priority areas shall remain in full force and effect, and shall

1 supplement the provisions of this Act, unless otherwise terminated, modified, or  
2 amended.

3       *Sec. 31. Local Coastal Greenbelt Action Plan.* – Each coastal municipality and city  
4 in the identified priority coastal greenbelt areas shall prepare a Local Coastal  
5 Greenbelt Action Plan (LCGAP) which shall be integrated with the LCCAP,  
6 investment program, or other local government’s development plans, for the  
7 facilitation of the implementation of mandated actions in the NCGAP. The roles of the  
8 municipality or city, as provided in the local LCGAP-responsive LCCAP, shall be to:

9       (a) Facilitate the implementation of the mandates of the national agencies  
10       under Section 29, by providing local data and other supporting  
11       measures;

12       (b) Implement complimentary programs to assist the local communities  
13       and local businesses that are affected by the actions under Section 29,  
14       such as relocation sites with basic services such as livelihood and  
15       transportation programs, zoning or re-zoning of the priority coastal  
16       greenbelt areas, as appropriate, and the like;

17       (c) Provide the actual inventory of affected families in Designated Areas  
18       and to ensure that a just and humane process of relocation done;

19       (d) Lead in the actual implementation of rehabilitation, reforestation and  
20       afforestation, through the coastal barangays;

21       (e) Integrate the identified coastal greenbelts in the LCCAP;

22       (f) Provide data and qualitative feedback to the Key Implementing  
23       Agencies, as may be relevant.

24       The provincial government shall provide the technical and budgetary support  
25 to component coastal cities and municipalities sharing a common priority coastal  
26 greenbelt area.

27       The CCC shall evaluate, review, and assess the LCGAP-responsive LCCAP  
28 submitted by the LGUs which must be consistent with Sections 6 and 29 of this Act  
29 on the elements of the National ICM Framework and National Coastal Greenbelt  
30 Action Plan. The CCC shall also make the necessary recommendations for compliance  
31 by the LGUs on matters pertaining thereto.



1           Sec. 34. *Other Funding Options.* – The National Coordinating Committee, the  
2 local development councils, the LGUs, and the national government agencies may  
3 source local and international grants, bequests, and donations in support of ICM  
4 implementation.

5           The Land Bank of the Philippines, the Development Bank of the Philippines,  
6 the People’s Credit and Finance Corporation, and other relevant government financial  
7 institutions shall formulate and identify loan and financing mechanisms that will be  
8 made available to support local ICM programs, including alternative livelihood  
9 projects for small-scale fisherfolk and cooperatives.

10          Sec. 35. *Tax Exemption.* – All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and  
11 contributions made to the National Coordinating Committee, the local development  
12 councils, the LGUs, the DA, and the DENR that will be actually, directly, or  
13 exclusively used for the implementation of the ICM shall be exempted from the  
14 donor’s tax and the same shall be allowed as a deduction from the gross income of the  
15 donor for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with  
16 the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

17          Sec. 36. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DENR, together with the DA  
18 and the CCC, in consultation with concerned agencies and stakeholders, shall  
19 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within one hundred  
20 eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act.

21          Sec. 37. *Annual Report.* – The National Coordinating Committee shall submit an  
22 annual report to the Congress and the Office of the President on its compliance with  
23 its functions under this Act, the implementation of the ICM Framework, and the State  
24 of the Coasts Report on or before March 30 of every year following the effectivity of  
25 this Act.

26          Sec. 38. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.* – There is hereby created a Joint  
27 Congressional Oversight Committee to monitor the implementation of this Act and to  
28 review the implementing rules and regulations promulgated by the DA, DENR, and  
29 CCC for a period not exceeding five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act. The  
30 Committee shall be composed of five (5) Senators and five (5) Representatives to be  
31 appointed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
32 respectively. The Oversight Committee shall be co-chaired by the Chairpersons of the

1 Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change of the Senate  
2 and the Committee on Climate Change of the House of Representatives.

3 The secretariat of the Committee shall be drawn from existing personnel of the  
4 Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change and  
5 Committee on Climate Change of the House of Representatives.

6 Sec. 39. *Non-impairment Clause.* – Nothing in this Act shall be construed to  
7 diminish, impair, or repeal the prohibitions contained in existing laws, presidential  
8 decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations, and other issuances.

9 Sec. 40. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
10 unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of the Act or any provisions hereof that are  
11 not affected shall remain in force and effect.

12 Sec. 41. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
13 order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent or contrary to the  
14 provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

15 Sec. 42. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
16 complete publication, either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers  
17 of general circulation.

Approved,