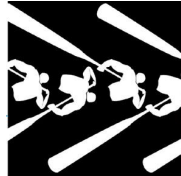




Solidaridad 2020



SOLIDARIDAD 2020 SOCIETY

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Crafting the National Development Agenda for the Philippines

After only a few meetings that started in a law office in Manhattan, New York City in June 2008, three Filipinos agreed to start the formation of a national movement for the development of the Philippines. The approach chosen is to formulate a platform for unity within the Filipino community in the U.S. for contributing to the economic development of our mother country. The meeting of the minds of these Filipinos, held together by fraternal ties in Freemasonry and for being alumni of the University of the Philippines, would lead to the formulation of the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda three years later in the year 2011.

Emiliano De Guzman, the owner of the law office, from the UP College of Law, Simplicio Endaya, from the UP School of Economics, and Eduardo Bacolod, from the UPLB College of Economics and Management, would meet from time to time in the law office in Downtown Manhattan to talk about the formulation of a development agenda. Bienvenido Jimenez, College of Business Administration alumnus, also a Freemason, participated in the discussion when he visited the U.S. in 2009. While the effort was slow and Simplicio Endaya went back to the Philippines, the resolve was sustained. Unfortunately, Emiliano De Guzman was one of the first victims of the COVID pandemic in April 2020. Bienvenido Jimenez also passed away during the pandemic.

Solidaridad 2020 Agenda is an ambitious rolling program that primarily considers for national development planning purposes the geography and natural and human resources of the Philippines. The principal concerns are the country's interisland geography, its river basins, its urban centers of population, and primarily its agro-industrial development potential. The agenda consists of four

parts, the Solidaridad 2020 Main Agenda clustering around the establishment of food and bioenergy parks as the main structure for agro-industrial development; the Solidaridad 2020 River Basin Agenda; the Solidaridad 2020 Interisland Agenda; and the Solidaridad 2020 Urban Agenda.

A) Solidaridad 2020 Main Agenda

The main agenda is guided by an integrated agro-industrial approach clustering around the food and bio-energy parks to be established in strategic locations in the country that provide structure and order for national development.

B) Solidaridad 2020 River Basin Agenda

Solidaridad 2020 River Basin Agenda builds the development framework for sustainable investment that has its foundation in the major river basins of the Philippines. The River Basin Agenda provides the geographical and physical planning dimensions to the Solidaridad 2020 Development Agenda. Therefore, the river basin of the Philippines serves as the physical and geographical foundation of a national socio-economic development agenda.

C) Solidaridad 2020 Inter- Island Agenda

The agenda is centered around the modernization of the maritime infrastructure nationwide, which focuses on contributing significantly to the modernization of all ports in the country, including fish ports, coupled with the upgrading of navigational system to international standards and the re-fleeting of passenger and cargo vessels.

D) Solidaridad 2020 Urban Agenda

The goal of the urban investment agenda is to respond to the challenge for national development by transforming the urban communities in the Philippines to be competitive for sustainable investment and development.

The Establishment of the Solidaridad 2020 Society

The Solidaridad 2020 Agenda requires an organizational arm and an advisory body for a national development movement. The first draft of the plan to be used in the preparation of the charter of the society was conceptualized right after the four-part Solidaridad 2020 Agenda was completed in the year 2011. The agenda would be eventually named **Solidaridad 2020 Society** for the time being.



The society's establishment is inspired by the Katipunan and the Royal Society in London. While Katipunan was largely a revolutionary movement against Spanish colonial rule in the Philippines, throughout its short life, it was organized for national unity and economic development of a country seeking independence.

On the other hand, the existence of the Royal Society in London was founded on the "invisible college" of philosophers and scientists who met weekly to witness experiments and discuss what would now be called scientific topics. The invisible college model from the Royal Society underscores the importance of building relationships through communicating with peers. Together, the patriotic zeal of the Katipunan, and the assembly of brilliant minds for scientific discoveries of the Royal Society, inspire the building of a progressive development platform for national unity and progress of the Philippines.

However, the plan to establish the Solidaridad 2020 Society was shelved because a funding opportunity that could be used to bankroll the implementation of the agenda did not materialize in the years 2012.

Negotiation With the Philippine Government

There were also a few attempts to introduce the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda to the Philippine Government. Two vital projects were proposed to the Aquino Administration from 2011-2012. The first was the establishment of a network of food parks infrastructure for agricultural modernization, classified as international, regional, and satellite food parks. The second project was the reflecting program for converting the jeepneys into electric buses that would require the establishment of at least an assembly plant for electric buses in the year 2012.

It also discussed a collaboration with a New York-based Swiss banker who could arrange funding for Solidaridad 2020 Agenda. This banker, with a Filipino wife, who passed away in the year 2015, also suggested a vital project, the fishing fleet modernization in the Philippines. Aside from increasing fish catch, the fishing fleet modernization would serve as the defense for the West Philippine Seas and other territorial waters of the Philippines. The Swiss banker disclosed that the fishing fleet modernization was his priority project presented to the Ramos Administration with initial grant and technical assistance from Argentina and a funding program afterward that he could arrange. However, he did not receive any attention.

The Post-COVID Pandemic Development

The Solidaridad 2020 Agenda are greatly fitted to two important national development concerns. These are the recovery of the Philippines from the two-year COVID pandemic and the people's cry for change that reflect the unfulfilled promises of the February 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution. The revival of the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda movement and the formation of the Solidaridad 2020 Society are considered timely for addressing the said vital national issues.

As a result, the draft agenda entitled "The A to Z of National Development by The People of The Philippine" is formulated. It was later updated and with a new name, "The Philippines 2030

Collective Agenda” The people’s ownership of the national development platform is the principal tenet of the agenda.



Finally, the establishment of the Solidaridad 2020 Society is being proposed.


THE PHILIPPINES 2030 COLLECTIVE AGENDA

Together, No Sector is Left Behind in Rebuilding the Philippines


The Philippines 2030 Collective Agenda is inspired by the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda, which we first conceptualized in June 2008 inside a law office in downtown Manhattan, New York City. The first draft of the national investment model was completed in the year 2011 and updated two years later. It is an ambitious rolling program consisting of four parts. First is the Main Agenda that focuses on national agro-industrial modernization; second is the River Basin Agenda for the development of our major river basins; third is the Inter Island Agenda because the Philippines is an archipelagic state; and the fourth is the Urban Agenda for the development of our country’s major metropolises. Therefore, the four-part inclusive national development agenda focuses on the country’s interisland geography, its river basins, its urban centers of population, and primarily its agro-industrial development resources.

Presented from A to Z, the Philippines 2030 Collective Agenda outlines appropriate business models and pragmatic approaches for addressing vital national development concerns and opportunities. It starts with food security and agricultural modernization by proposing programs, projects, and policy directions cutting across the land and water resources of the archipelago, zoned according to the best agricultural land-use plan. It embraces the organized farming approach. Road, irrigation, farm mechanization, cold storage, agricultural processing, and marketing infrastructure, and support services that include research and development, credit assistance, and regulatory standards are all vital components for the modernization of the rice, coconut, dairy, livestock and poultry, sugarcane, and other commodity sectors. How the ecosystems of enterprises are going to be funded without the heavy burden of incurring government loans nor the issuance of sovereign guarantees are laid out. The list of development concerns and opportunities goes on, and each has a corresponding set of business models. Therefore, the principle of inclusive business models for agricultural modernization with dedicated funding programs also applies to forest and mineral resources utilization and conservation, public infrastructure, clean energy, education and vocational training, housing and settlement, health care, urban and rural transport, labor and employment, cooperatives, and other development concerns. The major reference to the identification of appropriate business models and policy directions is the publication entitled "Business Models for Collective Governance."



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GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Solidaridad 2020 Society is to establish a functional organizational arm and advisory body for the unity of Filipino professionals and modern-day patriots to participate in inclusive national economic development guided by the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda. The specific objectives of the Solidaridad 2020 Society are:

- a) To establish the national charter of the society with a national headquarters and with various chapters all under only one jurisdiction,
- b) To inspire the best scientific, creative, and visionary minds in the Philippines to join the Solidaridad 2020 Society for the best application of the fields of science, agriculture, engineering, public governance, business, education, law, military science, economics and development studies, arts and music, and other fields of studies in line with the national development of the Philippines,
- c) To establish and maintain self-sustaining investment funds that will help in promoting the mission of the society for charity and business purposes, which will result in investment in various projects with agriculture, energy, health care, transportation, banking and finance, education, and other business opportunities as the priorities,

- d) To establish its own university system that will serve as the educational and research arm of the society,
- e) To establish its own health care system that will primarily serve the members and for general health care service and charity works. and
- f) To establish the Philippine Studies Center as international research and think tank center in the US, preferably in Ithaca, New York close to Cornell University, in honor of the Pensionados, the first boys and girls sent to America from 1903-1914, which will be also replicated in areas in the U.S. and in Europe where the Philippines has historical ties such as California, Hawaii, and Spain

MEMBERSHIP

Admission

Admission to the Solidaridad 2020 Society is both voluntary and by invitation but every applicant must be properly vouched for. Furthermore, admission to the society is an honor and the society will not ask for any application fee and annual membership dues. The general requirement must be any of the five qualifications as follows:

- a) Written works published or unpublished, which are original to the applicant.
- b) Proprietary invention works of arts, and business model.
- c) A distinguished career in his profession in the military service, government, business, sports, and the arts
- d) Proven leadership capability as founder or officer of a local, regional, and nationally recognized organization

Acceptance as Regular Member

To be granted full membership, every member is required to prepare research, scientific, or business paper following the standards set by the Grand Council and deliver this paper to the local college during a regular business meeting.

No Officer of the Society is Allowed to Run for Public Office

Member of the society is entitled to run in an election for any elective government position. However, he is not allowed to hold a position as an officer of the society and as an elected government official concurrently. He must resign from his position as an officer in the society and is required to file a leave of absence from Solidaridad 2020 Society before filing his candidacy.

Furthermore, the Society does not endorse any political party nor allows it to establish a political party.

Its participation in formulating a platform for a chosen candidate is allowed only during the transition stage, hence Leni Robredo's campaign is chosen.

AREAS OF BUSINESS INTEREST

Research

These activities of the society focus on collaborative research with private and public research institutions and universities. The collaboration is a two-way process, either the society provides its own expertise and in return is compensated by the research organization. On the other hand, the society provides funding for research works that are beneficial to the mission of the society. Areas of research interest of the society are handled by the specialized colleges to be formed.

Education

The Free **University System of the Philippines** is established by the society. It starts either by establishing a new college or buying an existing private college. The Solidaridad 2020 Agenda Main Agenda contains a proposal to establish the College of Business and Public Governance.

Finance

The society establishes its own investment fund, which spearheads the establishment of various funds, holding companies, and project companies that supply the funding requirements of priority projects and charity works.

Health Care

The society forms a management and holding company, in partnership with private investors, that establish and operate a network of health care facilities in the country. These facilities include hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, and retirement living facilities.

ORGANIZATION

The basic building block of the society is called College, which is patterned after the "Invincible College" of the Royal Society in England. Each college is formed or constituted only upon the authorization of the Solidaridad 2020 Society Grand College. However, the college is only constituted after meeting the required number of charter members approved by the governing council and with an approved plan; and with an adequate available fund for sustaining its operation.

Supreme Council

The supreme council is the highest governing body of society. Headed by the Grand Chancellor, it will have representatives from various Colleges as members of the assembly. The Grand Chancellor including its line of officers that serve as its governing council is elected for a fixed term, with a provision for extension of another term. From among the members of the assembly representing the constituted colleges, the Grand Chancellor appoints the members of his cabinet.

The Executive Secretariat

The Executive Secretariat is the executing arm of the General Assembly to be headed by the Executive Director. It has its own regular positions with staff to be recruited following an open system of recruitment.

The College

The charter of every college is issued by the Grand Chancellor based on the mandate entrusted by the Supreme Council. Specialization of a college, as well as geographical representation, are the principal requirements in the issuance of the charter. As every college has a specific mission based on geographical area and specialized purposes, there is no duplication of college charter in a specific geographical area or field.

The college is hereby established following the geographical service area and fields of specialization as follows:

Regional College

- Ilocos College
- Baguio College
- Pangasinan College
- Tuguegarao College
- Santiago College
- Nueva Vizcaya College
- Kalinga-Apayao College
- Ifugao College
- Nueva Ecija College
- Malolos College
- Clark-San Fernando College
- Subic-Olongapo College
- Bataan College
- Diliman and Quezon City College
- Manila College
- Makati College
- Makiling College
- Cavite College
- Batangas College
- Mindoro College
- Lucena College
- Puerto Princesa College
- Naga College
- Legaspi College
- Iloilo College

- Roxas City College
- Antique College
- Bacolod College
- Dumaguete College
- Cebu College
- Tagbilaran College
- Tacloban College
- Samar College
- Zamboanga College
- Dapitan-Pagadian College
- Sulu, Basilan, Tawi-tawi College
- Butuan College
- Surigao College
- Cagayan de Oro College
- Musuan College
- Davao City College
- Tagum College
- General Santos College
- Kidapawan-Cotabato College
- Marawi-Iligan College

Research College

- Integrated Area Development College
- Military College
- Engineering College
- Business, Economics, and Law College
- Medical College
- Education and Culture College
- Agriculture College
- Environmental and Climate Change College
- Performing Arts College
- Sports College

FUND GENERATION AND MANAGEMENT

The society engages itself in charity, research, and development assistance works and at the same time in income-generating ventures. The society establishes a central investment fund. The society, however, does not confine itself to the financial definition of the fund. The fund is a depository of knowledge and considers intellectual property and professional and business connections as its own fund.

Solidaridad 2020 Investment Fund

The investment fund is established as the central funding system of the Solidaridad 2020 Society.

The seed fund comes from the projects of the Solidaridad 2020 Agenda. Once established, the fund is used in supplying the financial requirement of projects that the colleges will implement.

Holding Companies

The fund supports the establishment of holding companies for specific projects or for a bundle of projects. These companies are earning ventures, and the corporate charter of every holding company will be always in accordance with the mission of the society.

Project Companies

The holding companies invest in several project companies or will serve as the principal initiators of the project companies. Through these project companies, the mission of the society is principally realized by reaching the hearts and minds of its intended beneficiaries. The organizational structure that guides the society in reaching the beneficiaries in a more sustainable manner serves as a model for the Philippines.

Every college has administrative jurisdiction for every business or property that the society establishes and maintains in a specific area. As the administrator, the college has the right to exercise its power and authority delegated by the Grand Chancellor. Technical control, however, will depend on the nature of the business or property.

Benefits

Every member is given a share of stock for being admitted. He will match this with the minimum purchase of stock, which is voluntary. The stock earns a dividend. Every member has the privilege to purchase stock in the holding company or any project company based on the number to be allocated to every individual member. However, equitable ownership in every company's share must be imposed by putting certain ownership caps to be approved by the society.

ORGANIZATIONAL WORKS

Convening the Founding Members

The founding members are going to convene in Manila. Once the founding members formally convene, the organizational papers of the association are prepared and submitted to SEC for registration purposes.

Launch

Once the association is registered, the launch is held in Manila.

Recruitment of Members

The founding members draw the recruitment plan and policies and are consistent with the formation of the college by geographical area and by technical specialization.

Establishment of the Office

The office is to be established in Manila.

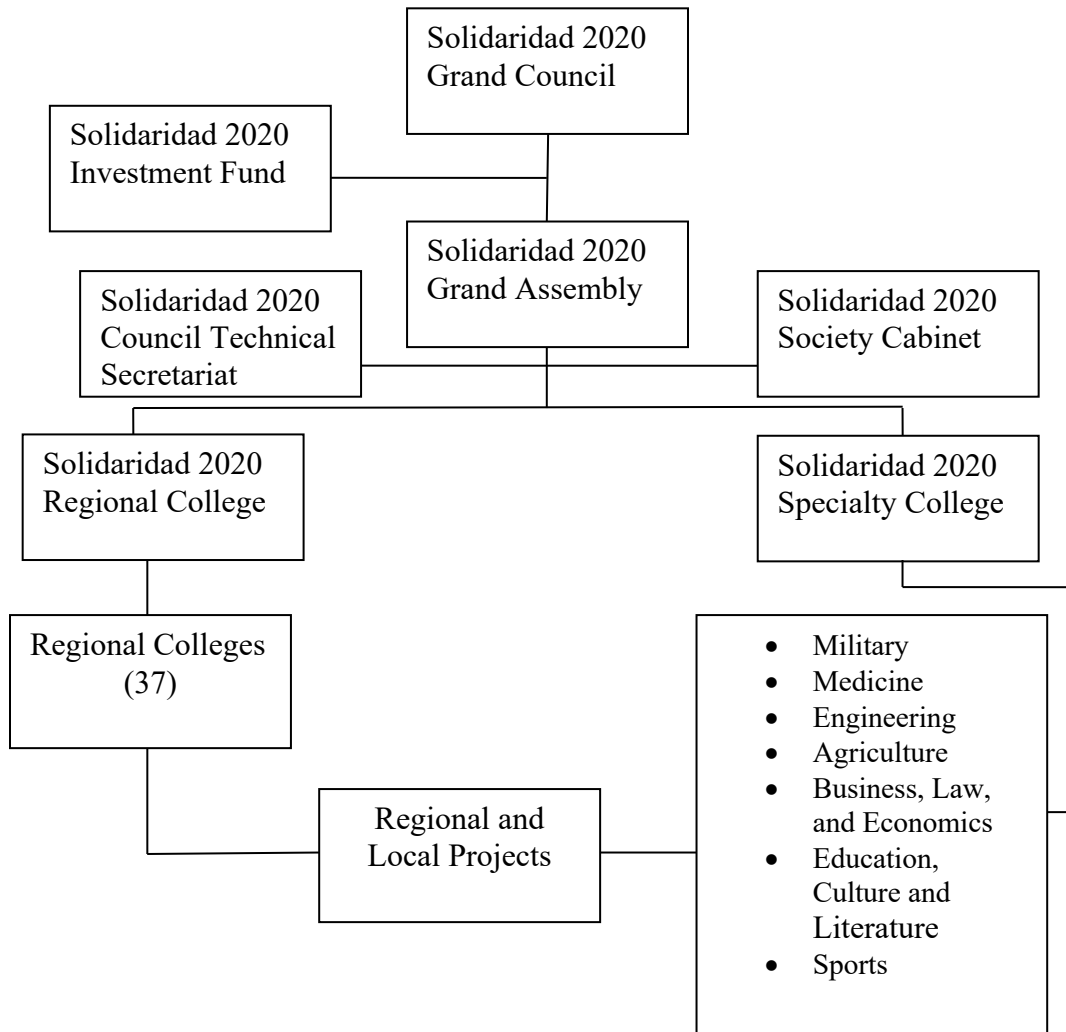
Establishment of the Investment Fund

The investment fund is organized as a stock corporation with the following as major shareholders.

- a) Solidaridad 2020 Agenda, 40 percent
- b) Individual College, 20 percent
- c) Individual Members, 20 percent
- d) Outside Investors, 15 percent

Organizational Chart

The society, once in operation, has all the permits, letterheads, web site in place.



CONCLUSION

The development initiatives in the Philippines must be in line with the new national and global socio-economic orders. The political and economic modernization of the Philippines requires an alternative leadership through an inclusive and organized community-oriented, intellectual, and patriotic transformation that utilizes the fund of science and industry for national development.

The Solidaridad 2020 Society is a new organization that is crystal clear in its intention for the Philippines and to be guided by a national vision by following a concrete, long term, and sustainable national development agenda. The Solidaridad 2020 Society shows to the people a responsible and accountable operating governance model, which eventually leads the way and helps in shaping a new progressive government for Filipino people. This approach aims to complement to long and hard process of transforming the electorate to be better educated in selecting their leaders. Furthermore, the Solidaridad 2020 Society nurtures intellectual courage that collectively supports a unified endeavor in performing duty to God and country through progressive education and open communication among members.

