

## Supporting Information

### When Legislators Don't Bring Home the Pork: The Case of Philippine Senators

Nico Ravanilla & Allen Hicken

*Note: The following material is intended for online publication only*

#### **Summary of the procedure for the release of Constituency Development Funds (CDF).**

The procedures governing the identification, fund release, implementation, and reporting of projects funded under the PDAF and DPWH-CA is as follows:

1. Upon approval of the General Appropriations Act (GAA), the President, through the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), decides on the schedule of fund releases (i.e., number of tranches, amount per tranche, and the dates of release) for PDAF and DPWH-CA.

2. The legislators then prepare their respective lists of proposed projects in accordance with the menu of qualified projects spelled-out in the GAA. The lists of projects are submitted to the House Committee on Appropriations or the Senate Committee on Finance. They include the nature or description of the project, project location, fund requirement or project cost, and implementing agency.

3. The legislators' lists are then jointly endorsed to DBM by the Appropriations Chair and the Speaker in the case of the House of Representatives, and the Finance Chair and the Senate President in the case of the Senate.

4. The DBM reviews and evaluates the legislators' lists to ascertain their compliance with the project menu in the GAA. The review is conducted by the DBM Budget and Management Bureau G for the PDAF, and Budget and Management Bureau A for the DPWH-CA. Upon satisfactory compliance, the DBM Secretary issues the Special Allotment Release Order (SARO). This document obligates funds for a project to its implementing agency. SARO copies are also given to the DBM Budget Technical Services, DBM Budget and Management Bureaus, DBM Regional Office, and the Commission on Audit (COA). A Notification Letter is also sent to the legislator concerned.

5. The cash allocations are subsequently released based on the national government cash program and percentage of project completion. Notice of cash allocation (NCA) is sent to the government depository bank, and Advice of Notice of Cash Allocation Issued (ANCAI) is sent to the implementing agency (copy furnished to legislator), signaling that agency can already pay its obligation with its contractor.