

## The Local Government Code's Decade of Taking Root: A Synopsis on the Decentralization and Devolution of Government

*Henedina Razon-Abad*

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This is a synthesis of several studies conducted with the objective of evaluating the state of decentralization 10 years after the implementation of the Local Government Code on the following agencies: the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Health, the Department of Social Welfare and Services, Oversight and Support Agencies, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Author outlined themes that were characteristic of the years since the passage of the Local Government Code in 1991. The following findings were made: that decentralization has already taken root despite personnel problems; that the constant changes in leadership in national government agencies has hindered a focused implementation of strategies; that partnership schemes have already solidified between local government units and national government agencies, that a slow transfer of resources is a poses a threat to decentralization; and that inflexible traditional frameworks caused the delay in decentralization. Given the difficult task of implementing the Local Government Code, inventive solutions have been put in place by the aforementioned agencies but said solutions still need to be institutionalized within the agency concerned.

Finally, the Author summarized recommended action points per agency that will help push the decentralization process from transition to stabilization.