

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Philippines

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS OFFICE

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PHILIPPINES

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TESTIMONIALS: The FOI Experience
Implementing agencies
Requesting parties
THE CHANGEMAKERS
FOI Project Management Office (FOI-PMO)
Policy, Planning, and Supports Division (PPSD)
Compliance Monitoring Division (CMD)
Communications and Capacity Development Division (CCDD)
Strategic Partnership Unit (StratPar)





Mission

1. To oversee the implementation of all FOI and e-FOI programs for all government agencies in the Executive Branch and monitor compliance;

> eFOI Portal 100% Compliance









50% Compliance





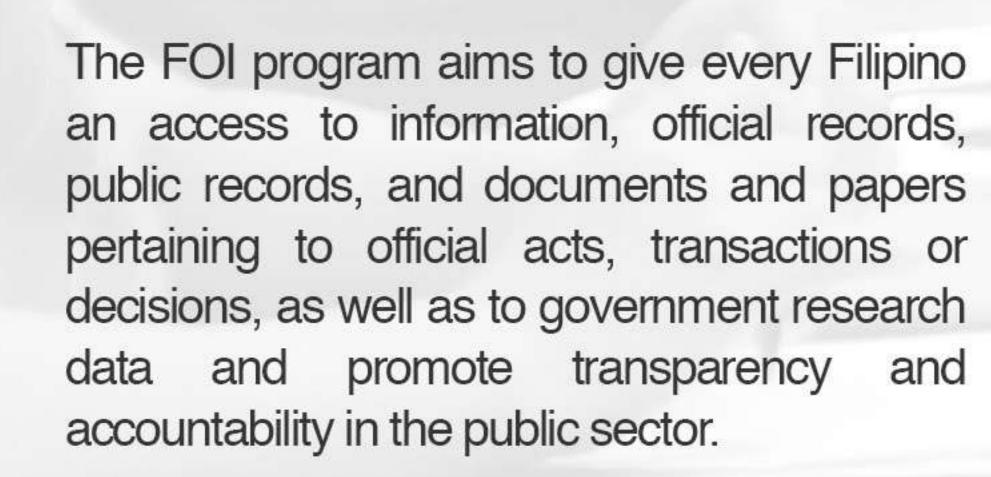




2. To develop programs and mechanisms to capacitate all government agencies in the Executive Branch, including assisting the Local Government Units in drafting their ordinances in implementing FOI in their respective jurisdictions; and

3. To conduct capacity building programs and information education campaigns.

Vision CORE(VALUES)













ccess to information is one of the key indicators of good governance. To achieve this, a country must fully embrace transparency initiatives to exact accountability from government officials, ensure effective policy implementation, and encourage people's participation in government processes. As a universal and fundamental human right recognized around the world, access to information is further supported by Article 19 of both the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which provides that every person shall have the right to freedom of expression and to seek and impart information.

Similarly, the United Nations launched the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) back in 2015, which focuses on 17 key areas that will help achieve a sustainable future for all. To that end, ensuring public access to information is specifically incorporated under Goal 16 target 10 of the SDGs.

In the Philippine context, the people's right to information is a constitutionally-mandated right enshrined in the Bill of Rights of the 1987 Constitution. For almost three (3) decades, people have been advocating for a Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation which calls for unfettered access to government documents vested with public interest.

Hence, on 23 July 2016, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Executive Order (EO) No. 2, s. 2016 which operationalizes the people's constitutional right to information through providing access to government information within the Executive Branch. A laudable initiative demonstrating the Duterte administration's commitment in fostering a culture of openness across the government.

In line with this, the FOI-Project Management Office (FOI-PMO) strongly supports the achievement of the SDGs. It is our vision to cultivate an informed and empowered citizenry through continuously promoting awareness-raising, capacity building, and knowledge sharing on the FOI Program.

The 2018/19 FOI Annual Report shall discuss the notable achievements of the FOI-PMO from 01 October 2018 to 30 September 2019:



Policies



Citizen Engagements



Implemented at the Local Level



Partnerships



Demand for information



Compliance to the FOI Program



Continuing **Professional Development**



Message from the President of the Philippines

My warmest greetings to the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) as it publishes its 2018-2019 Freedom of Information (FOI) Annual Report and holds the Annual FOI Awards.

After almost three years of implementing the FOI program in the Executive branch, we have noted important achievements in the areas of compliance, responsiveness and efficiency in various government agencies. Today, we recognize our partner individuals, organizations, and offices that helped us implement policies for improved inter-agency cooperation, strengthened partnerships with academic institutions for FOI integration in media literacy courses, and greater engagement of local government units in crafting their own FOI ordinance.

Accurate and timely information empowers our citizens to actively participate in nation-building. In the spirit of openness and transparency, we are duty-bound to publish information about out government transactions and operations, as deemed necessary and in the best interest of our national security.

As you chronicle your important strides in promoting greater awareness and support for the FOI program, may this annual report also serve as a reminder of our pledge to uphold integrity and good governance. Together, let s strengthen this constitutional rights and foster a more engaged citizenry as we strive to achieve a better future for every Filipino.

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES





Message from the FOI Champion

It has been three years since President Rodrigo Roa Duterte carried out his transparency initiative through the signing of the Executive Order no. 2, s. 2016. At that time, I was also honored to champion the Freedom of Information Program in government agencies.

The challenge of implementing a new program and embedding a new culture in public governance required pure dedication, hard work, and cooperation. The accomplishment of the FOI Program weaves government agencies in order to partner and work together for the enhancement of public service in delivering government information. As insularity is never an option for governance, fostering partnerships with agencies has proven to be critical for the further realization of our democratic principles.

The government, however unified, cannot achieve a great cause without citizen participation. The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) through the Freedom of Information – Project Management Office (FOI-PMO) recognizes the powerful role of the citizenry for nation-building. The type of information that are regularly provided to the people determines the direction of the nation. Proliferation of false news corrupts state-people relations and delays, if not obliterates, development, while dissemination of accurate information empowers the people, connects them to the government through the rebuilding of trust, which, in turn, inspires progress.

The government and its people are so interdependent that equilibrium, as far as practicable, must be a paramount consideration in its relationship. While the state wields immense power entrusted to it by the people, the exercise of said power can be placed under the lens of strict scrutiny through transparency, through the freedom of information.

Freedom of information, as meaningfully espoused by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, in order to be an effective tool for governance, must be implemented across the bureaucracy: the executive, legislature, judiciary, including the local government units. I still remain hopeful that our lawmakers will finally heed the call of the FOI-Project Management Office, the Civil Society Organizations, and the people, and pass the FOI Law.

JOSE RUPERTO MARTÍN M. ANDANAR

Secretary and FOL Champion

Presidential Communications Operations Office

Message from the FOI Program Director

The Freedom of Information - Project Management Office We recognize that FOI work is often an added task on top of the (FOI-PMO) is proud to present its efforts and progress in achieving already heavy workload of our FOI Officers. We wanted to help ease of access to government information for Filipinos for 2019. them identify their challenges, and guide them on how to Compared with the past years of program implementation, we had respond. To achieve this, we conducted 6 FOI Receiving Officers' a banner year as we took great strides in improving the program Hangouts. We also collaborated with StepUp Consulting and landscape and deepening engagement with our ever-expanding Hivos to launch the FOI Assessing Information Disclosure (AID) network of stakeholders.

The successful implementation of the program is not solely due to an agency contributes to the level of effectivity of FOI the FOI-PMO Team, but to the over 4,107 FOI Receiving Officers mechanisms. Only by addressing these concerns will we be able (FROs) and FOI Decision Makers (FDMs) who directly facilitate the to improve agency performance. people's requests for government information. Since it is part of our commitment to continuously capacitate and empower these FOI Officers, we conducted a total of 229 FOI Orientation and Onboarding Workshops.

Tool—a survey accomplished by FROs to determine the capacity and performance of agencies and assess how conditions within

This 2019, we recorded an increase in public awareness of FOI. eFOI Portal requests grew to a total 18,036, while standard FOI requests ballooned to 29,410. We also increased the number of government offices onboard the portal with 447, including 3 local government units. Our success rate also increased to 47% with an average processing time of 7 working days.

The creation of the eFOI Portal three years ago was our response to digital development. However, that does not mean we will neglect the traditional paper-based requests. We recognize that there are still many Filipinos who have no access to the internet, and so we maintain the standard FOI request mechanism. Accordingly, FOI-PMO drafted a template one-page FOI Manual to be reproduced and distributed by agencies to their stakeholder requestors. Moving forward, we plan to draft policies for monitoring the efficiency of brick and mortar offices in responding to the demands for information, and develop capacity development strategies for the delivery of standard FOI requests to areas with no access to eFOI.

We aim to effectively engage with both the public sector and the community at large. To ensure wider dissemination of the government's program, we organized and conducted a total of 16 PCOO Roadshows in select regions of the country. Heads of local government agencies, representatives from the private sector and civil society organizations, academe, and members of media were invited to serve as multipliers on how to ise civic awareness on transparency and rough the FOI program. We also conducted 16 vans, in conjunction with the Roadshows, to with public and private, secondary and tions through the incorporation of the FOI curricula.

hese accomplishments is geared aign. For 2020, our focus will be Il develop capacity building on how they can use n-making; and we will nication materials that we strive to have Thus, we expect

We are set to make the culture of demanding information contagious. You can expect our team to be all over the country, empowering FOI ambassadors in every campus, every office, every town, and even in the smallest of the barangays. These efforts will not be in vain because our main motivation is the Filipino people. Hence, we need the people's cooperation for our vision to be realized—a more comfortable life for the Filipino people through easy and fair access to government information.

Wiff Hame: Sequois Hotel - Magne

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Password bouliquely

2018/19 Annual Year at a Glance

299,559

records had been consolidated

from the submitted Agency

Information Inventory

47%

success rate in processing

requests in the eFOI portal

LU, TUU

Standard Paper-based

FOI Receiving Officers

working days average processing time

473

IEC activities had been organized and participated in by the FOI-PMO

overnment agencies are onboard the eFOI portal

equests received through the eFOI portal

across the age

69% FOI Manuals Overall Compliance Rate

ATTY. KRISTIAN R. ABLAN

Assistant Secretary and FOI Program Director Presidential Communications Operations Office

People's FOI Manual

Government agencies under the Executive branch are required to submit their People's FOI Manuals defining how it will facilitate FOI requests as provided under the EO No. 2, s. 2016. The Manual must be published in print format -- to guide ordinary citizens who do not have internet access, and in digital format -- for the public who wish to request without physically going to the government office.

All 190 National Government Agencies (NGAs), 102 (or 92%) Government-Owned and/or -Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), 106 (or 96%) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and 215 (or 41%) Local Water Districts (LWDs) complied with the set of requirements of the FOI Program.

COMPLIANCE RATE



90 offices



offices



111 offices



2016/17 - 181 2017/18 - 190 2016/17 - 69 62% 2017/18 - 102 92% 2018/19 - 102 2017/18 - 103 93% 96% 2018/19 - 105 2016/17 - 28 2017/18 - 197 38% 2018/19 - 215 41%

Did you know?

The following are the classification of government offices under Executive branch?

NGAs -GOCCs -

National Government Agencies
Government-Owned and
Controlled Corporations
State Universities and Colleges
Local Water Districts

FREE OF ATION

NFORMATION

OF 2016

EXECUTIVE OF 2016

EXECUTIVES OF 2016

EXECUTIVES OF 2016

OPERATIONALIZING IN THE EXECUTIVE POLICIES OF THE PEOPLE'S CONSTITUTE POLICIES OF THE PEOPLE POLICIES OF THE P









(- - 15 WORKING for simple request

+20 WORKING DAYS for complex request



Hi! your request has been...



Map for Requesting Party

Know the process on how to make an FOI request!

One-Pager Manual

The FOI-PMO produced a template containing an abridged version of the FOI Manual, which only includes the basic and essential provisions in the agency's Manual, such as the name of the appointed FOI Receiving Officer (FRO), contact details, details of procedures (the number of days allotted for standard request and for request with extension), flowchart, and remedy in case of denial. The said contents are designed to fit in one page only. Moreover, printed copies of the shortened manual will be distributed to citizens (prospective Requesting Parties) visiting any government office.

Freedom of Information Program

Agency: Presidential Communications Operations Office

Receiving Officer: Ms. Ma. Danica Orcullo Designation: Project Development Officer Office: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Special Concerns

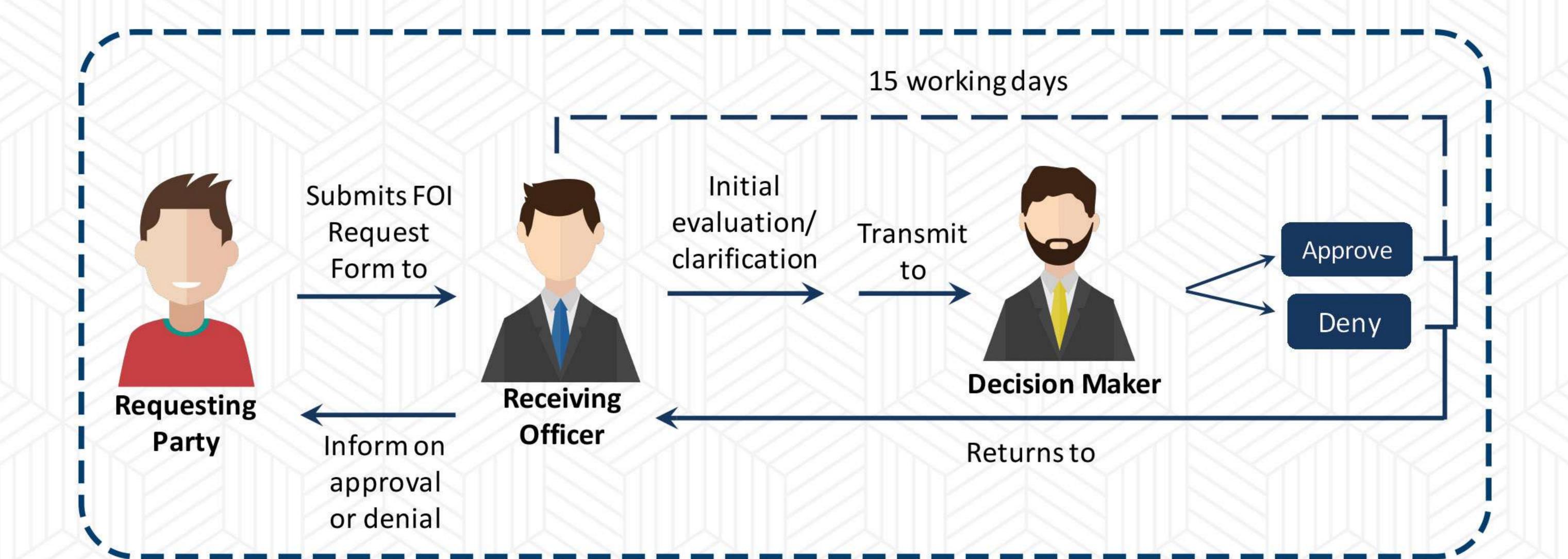
Receiving Office: FOI-Project Management Office, J.P. Laurel St., cor. Matienza St., San Miguel, Manila

Contact No: 8-588-0691 Email: foi@pco.gov.ph

Mode of request







FOI Appeals

If you are unhappy with the response to your FOI request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response by writing to foi@pco.gov.ph. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with the response, and should be made within 15 calendar days from the date when you received this letter. We will complete the review and tell you the result within 30 calendar days from the date when we receive your review request.

standard request

No. of days for

15 Working 8 35 Working days

No. of days for extended request

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PHILIPPINES

Be informed. Be engaged. Know your government better.

Operationalizing the FOI Program across the Judiciary and **Constitutional Commissions**

The FOI-PMO has been continuously reaching out to government entities outside the Executive branch to facilitate implementation of the FOI Program within their respective jurisdictions. In fact, the Supreme Court passed the Rule on Access to Information and ordered the creation of FOI Manuals in the entire judiciary (i.e., Court of Appeals, Sandiganbayan, Court of Tax Appeals, and all lower courts).

Likewise, Constitutional Commissions such as the Commission on Audit and the Civil Service Commission published their own FOI Manuals in their respective websites.





Republic of the Philippines 14/14 Supreme Court

EN BANC

NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court en banc issued a Resolution dated JANUARY 23, 2018, which reads as follows:

"A.M. No. 17-09-08-SC (Re: Memorandum of the Judiciary-Wide Committee on Performance-Based Bonus [PBB] relative to the Freedom of Information Manual).- The Court Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Judiciary-Wide Committee on Performance-Based Bonus, to APPROVE, subject to the amendments enumerated in the Letter of Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-De Castro, the respective Freedom of Information (FOI) Manuals submitted by the different courts, to wit:

> (i) The Rule on Access to Information About the Supreme Court;

(ii) The Court of Appeals Freedom of

(iii) The Rule on Access to Information About

(iv) The Rule on Access to Information About the Court of Tax Appeals; and

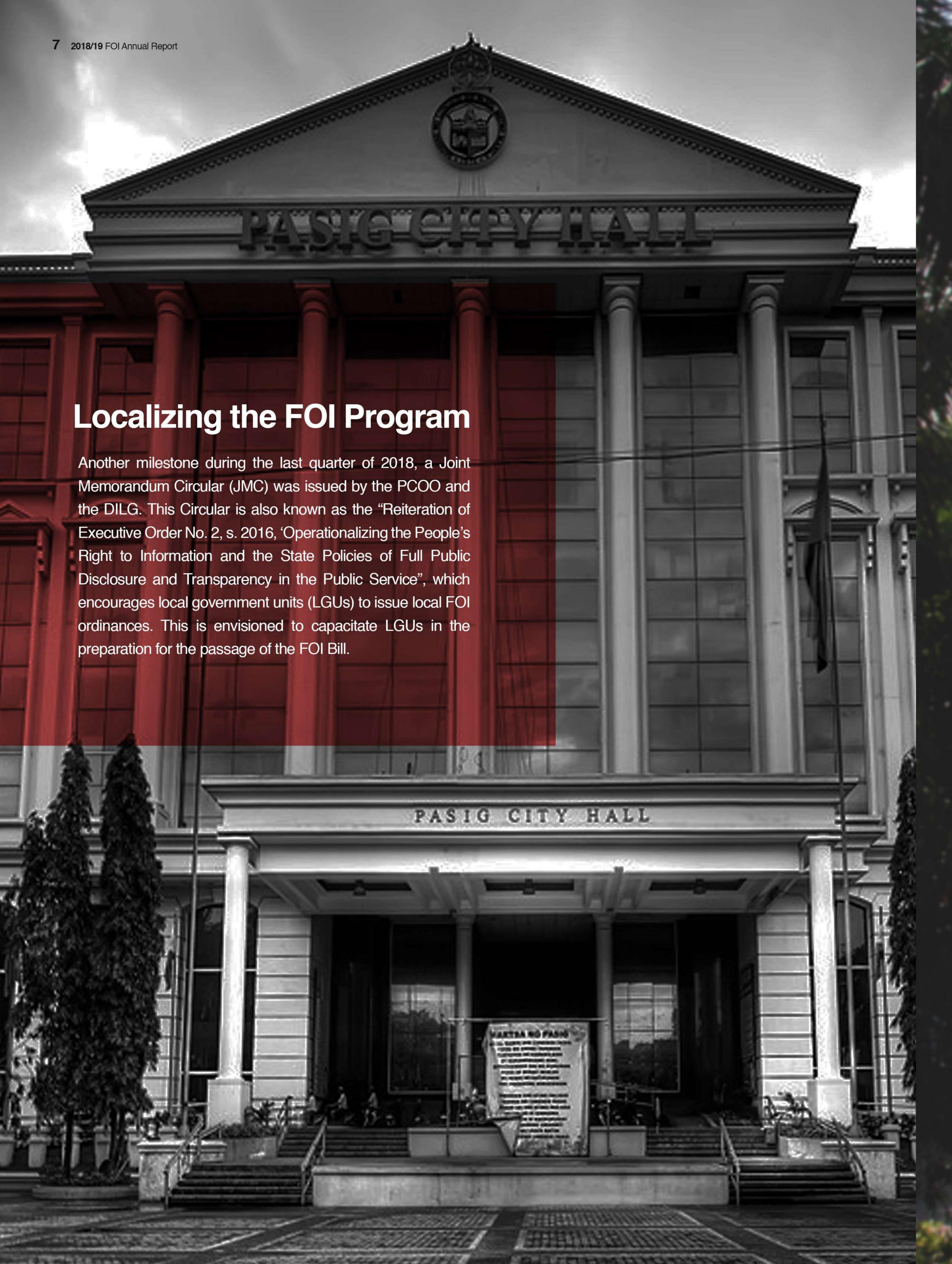
(v) The Rule on Access to Information About

Let the different courts be furnished with a copy of Justice Leonardo-De Castro's Letter to apprise them of the aforesaid amendments. Let the Appellate Courts be also furnished with a copy of the finalized text of The Rule on Access to Information About the Supreme Court." Caguioa and Martires, JJ., on leave.

Very truly yours, gg/20plyan-plane FELIPA'B. ANAMA Clerk of Court



The Office of the Ombudsman also issued its own FOI mechanism. Through the unceasing enthusiasm of public servants towards transparency and accountability, the FOI-PMO envisions that this endeavor will result in an FOI Program being operationalized throughout the whole of government.



Currently, seventeen (17) LGUs had successfully passed their ordinances:

Ordinance No.	Date of Approval	Title	Processing days	Appeals	Fees	
Provincial Ordinance No. 002-2016	16 September 2016	"Freedom of Information in the Province of Ilocos Norte"	24 hours from the receipt of the request	Office of the Municipal Mayor - 3 working days from the notice of denial Decided within 24 hours	Not specified	
City Ordinance No. 2017-037	15 May 2017	"Laoag City FOI Ordinance of 2017"	15 working days for simple additional 20 working days for complex request		Php 2/page for digital formate Certification of Official Record Php50/page for the 1st copy and Por succeeding copies of the same Printing/Photocopying - Php5/p20% discount for Senior Citizens Students, and Indigent Citizens	
Municipal Ordinance No. 2018-09	7 May 2018	"FOI Ordinance of 2018 of the Municipality of San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte"	15 working days for simple additional 20 working days for complex request	Office of the Mayor - 15 calendar days from the notice of denial Decided within 30 working days	Not specified	
Ordinance 018-018	31 July 2018	"Bohol Freedom of Information Ordinance of 2018"	15 working days for simple request	Not specified	Not specified	
Provincial Ordinance No. 18-234	20 August 2018	"Benguet FOI Ordinance of 2018"	15 working days for simple request and additional 20 working days for complex request	Governor - 15 calendar days from the	Certified Photocopy of Public/Official Records Php 35/page Photocopy - Php 10/page	
Ordinancce 041-2018	20 August 2018	"FOI Ordinance of 2018"	15 working days for simple request	Not specified	Not specified	
Ordinance No. 37, s. 2018	13 September 2018	"Pasig Transparency Mechanism Ordinance of 2018"	10 working days	City Mayor - 30 calendar days from the notice of denial	Printing (colored) -Php 5/pa Printing (black) -Php 2/pag Photocopying - Php 1/pag Mail - Actual postage rates	
Municipal Ordinance No. 2018-0095	9 October 2018	"Pakil, Laguna, Transparency Ordinance of 2018"	working days	Municipal Mayor - must be filed within 30 calendar days from the notice of denial decided within 10 working days	Certification of Official Record Php50/page for the 1st copy of Php5/page for succeeding cop Printing (colored ink) - Php 5/p Printing (black ink) - Php 2/page Photocopying - Php 1/page Mail - Actual postage rates	
Ordinance 2018-13	22 October 2018	"Provincial Freedom of Information Ordinance"	15 working days for simple request	Not specified	Not specified	



The FOI Bill

As the EO on FOI only covers the Executive Branch, the PCOO will push for the passage of the legislation on FOI to also include LGUs. The following are the status of the bills on FOI filed in Congress:

27 May 2019 & 07 June 2019

FOI-PMO met with Civil Society Organizations and non-government organizations to discuss the draft FOI Bill. So far, they gave their input on how to make government information easily accessible;

25 June 2019

FOI-PMO met with different NGAs an discussed the draft FOI Bill;

01 July 2019

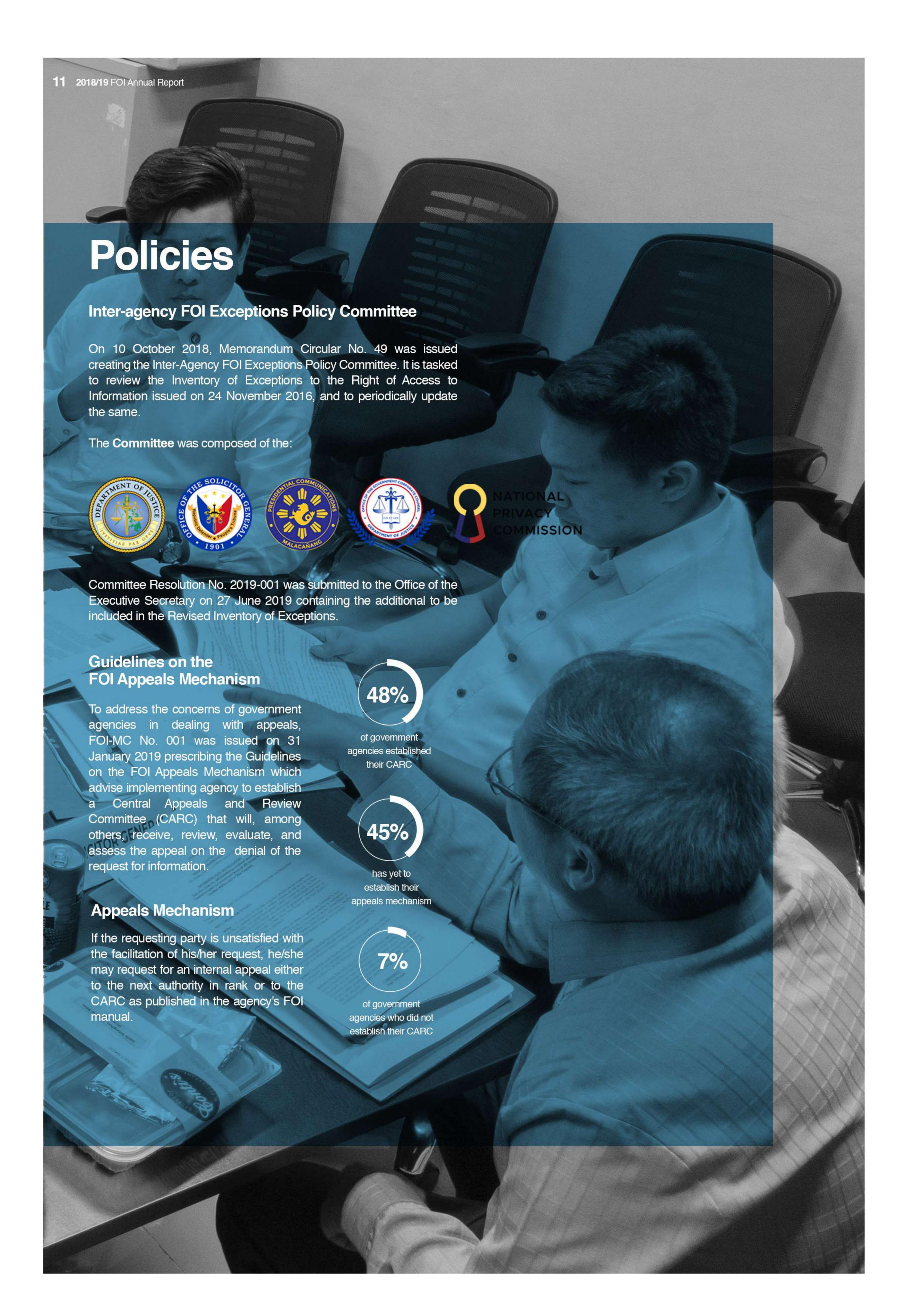
Congressman Raul del Mar filed FOI Bill in the House of Representatives;

02 July 2019

Senator Grace Poe filed FOI Bill in the Senate of the Philippines; and

15 July 2019

FOI-PMO endorsed the draft FOI Bill to the 18th Congress.





FOI Awards Criteria

Through FOI MC No. 2, s. 2019, the FOI-PMO set the guidelines and criteria for the 2019 FOI Awards to recognize the efforts of agencies, individuals, and organizations that contributed to the development and progress of the FOI Program. The call for nominations was opened from 1 September 2019 until 15 October 2019.



Redaction and Extraction

The FOI-PMO issued FOI MC No. 4 s. 2019, to provide guidelines on how to balance the disclosure of information with the protection of personal information when a document will be disclosed under the FOI Program in the Executive Branch pursuant to EO No. 2, s. 2016. Redaction is the process of ensuring that sensitive information is unreadable before disclosing to the requesting party. On the other hand, extraction is the process of separating/isolating specific information from a set of data.



Privacy Notice Effective May 11, 2018

In compliance with Republic Act 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012, the FOI Philippines is committed to ensure that all personal data that you share with us is safeguarded and protected. Whenever you engage with us by using our services, such as visiting the FOI Philippines sites, filing a complaint, and/or requesting information, we may collect your personal data to allow us to identify you as an individual.

A "requestor of information" is a user of a service of FOI Philippines, who registers and shares his or her personal information through online and/or offline interactions with us in order to request for information

As a "requestor of information," you will have to share your personal information with us, which allows identification of you as an individual and as a Filipino citizen (e.g., name, email, address, telephone number, affiliation, and citizenship). This Privacy Notice outlines the personal data that we may collect about you and how we use it. FOI Philippines reserves the right to revise and update this Privacy Notice at any given time. We encourage you to visit this page regularly to become notified of any changes that may be implemented.

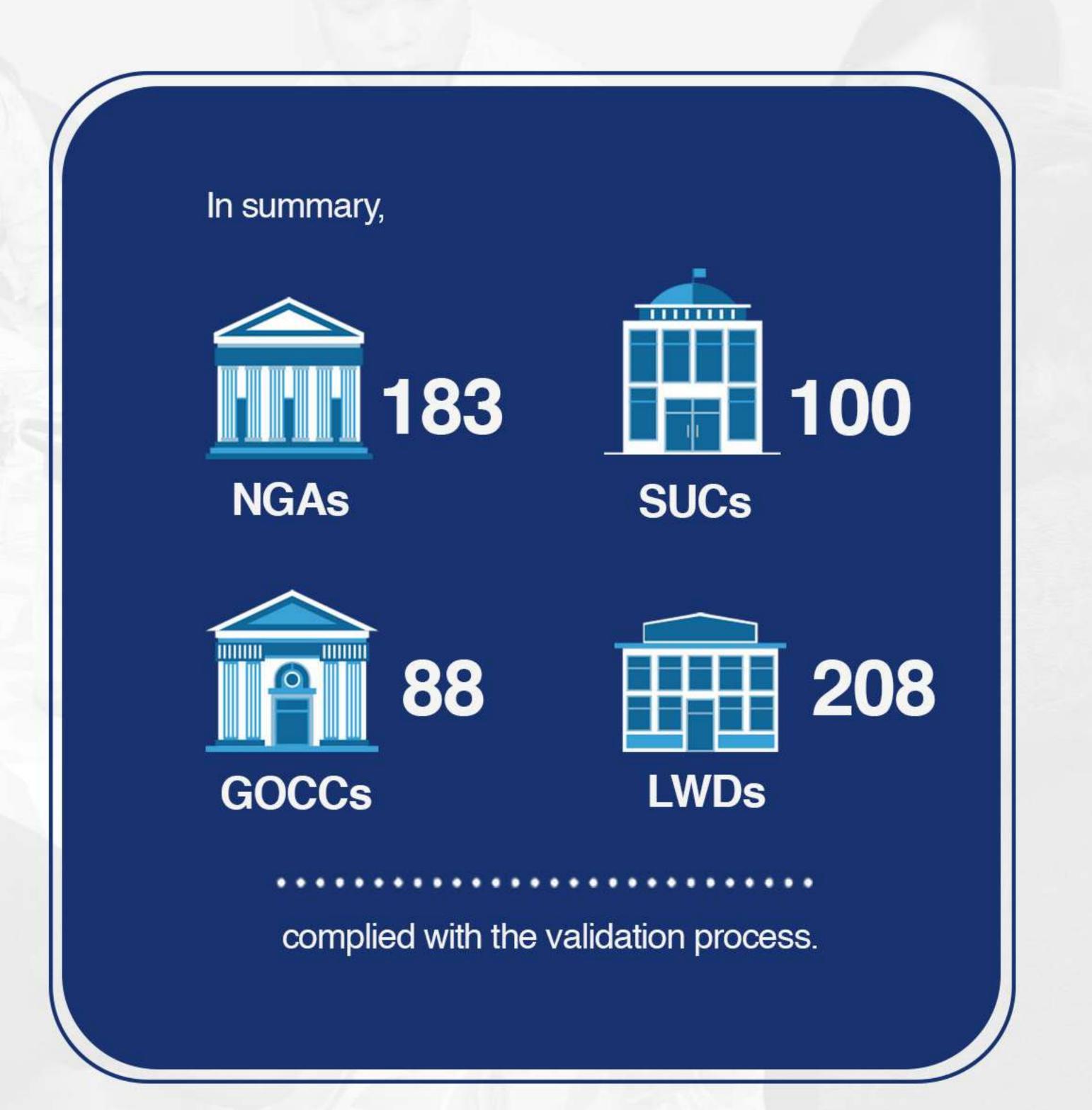


FY 2018 PBB Compliance

Pursuant to Section 6.5.b of the Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2018-1 issued by Inter-Agency Task Force on the Harmonization of National Government Performance Monitoring, Information and Reporting Systems (Task Force AO 25) provides guidelines on the grant of the Performance-Based Bonus (PBB) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, subject to compliance validation by the PCOO starting 30 September 2018.

FY 2019 PBB Compliance

Through the initiative of the DBM and PCOO, the FOI Program requirements (i.e. posting of agency FOI manual, FOI reports, and FOI logo in the agency's website) have been included as one of the criteria for the eligibility of the grant PBB for FY 2019 Performance Targets, under the Other Cross-Cutting Requirements category.





PERFORMANCE AND ANALYSIS:
Data Stories

FOI Registry and **Summary Sheet**

To facilitate a uniform tracking, monitoring, and system for FOI evaluation program implementation, the FOI Quarterly Registry and Summary sheet is accomplished by FOI Receiving Officers. All FOI requests should be logged in to this Excel sheet (the template provided by the FOI PMO) and should be updated accordingly.

The FOI Registry will be the basis for measuring agency performance and compliance alongside important FOI analytics to assess the initial financial costs of FOI implementation.

While requests through the eFOI Portal are regularly monitored by the FOI-PMO, the number and status of requests lodged through standard paper-based depends on the submission of the government agencies.



As of 30 June 2019 (Mid-year report), agencies reported a total number of 58,885 paper-based request. During 3rd quarter, we reviewed the submitted FOI Reports of SUCs and found out that frontline services (such as request for diploma & transcript of records) are included in their FOI reports and considered as FOI requests.

After consolidating the revised FOI reports, we gathered a total number of 29,490 paper-based requests for November 2016 -September 2019.



Browse Requests View Agencies Resources 2018 FOI Summit FAQ

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Access government records today.

Browse over 18036 requests and 447 government agencies

What do you want to know?

Search

eFOI Portal

The eFOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) was developed to easily provide users the ability to request for information, track their requests, and receive the information that they requested online. Likewise, in order to efficiently handle the influx of requests, the platform is designed to assist government offices in receiving, processing, and responding to the requests that they received.

Under the eFOI Portal, there was an increase of 80% in the total number of participating agencies from June 2018 to June 2019. A total of 447 government agencies are onboard the eFOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) in 2019 up from 274 government agencies in 2018.

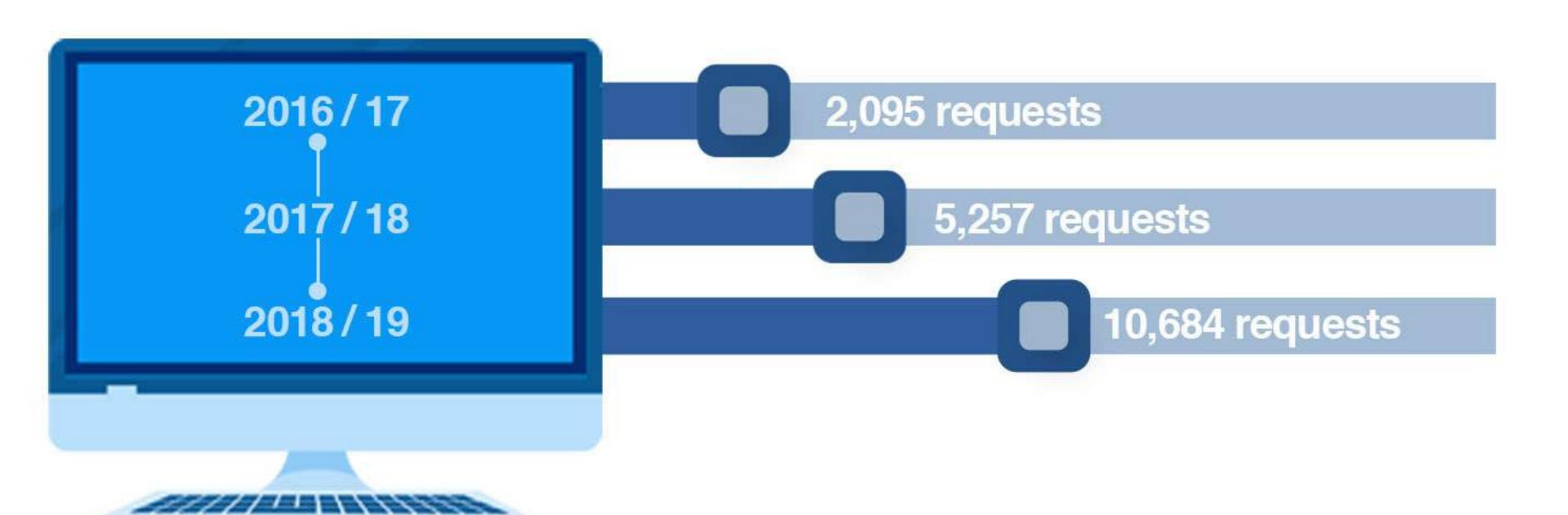


Growth Rate

In almost three (3) years of implementation, a total of 18,036 eFOI requests lodged to 447 government agencies were made.



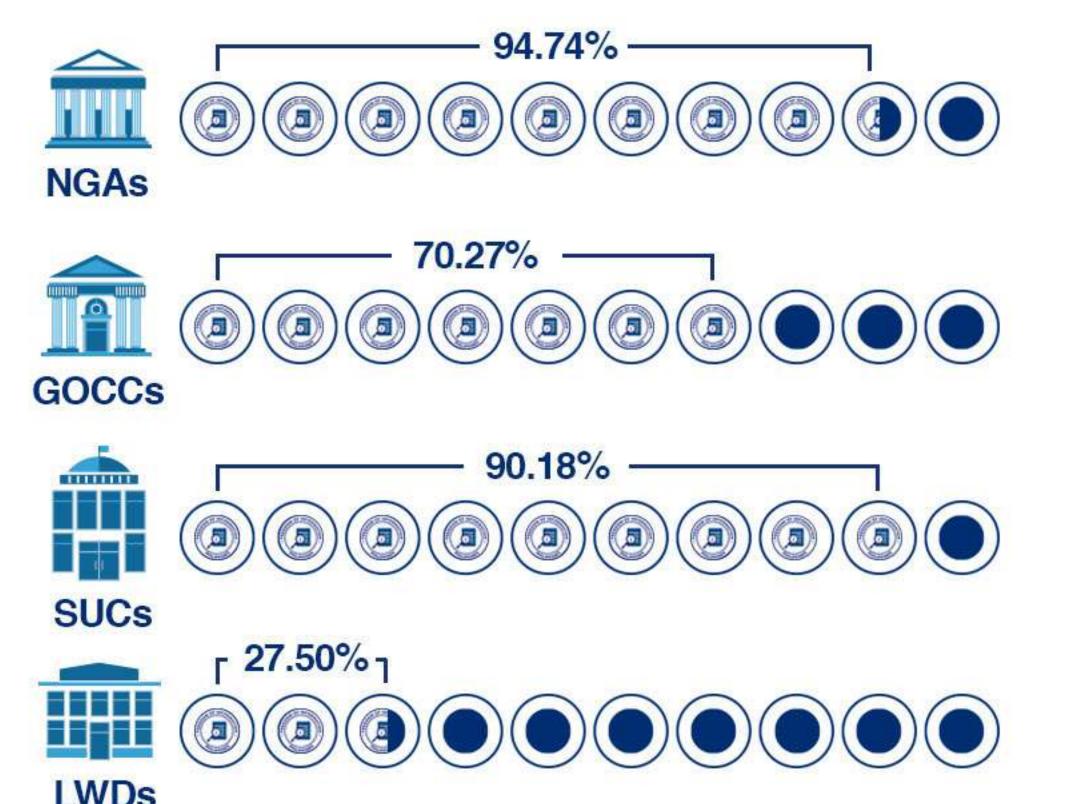
eFOI Requests per year



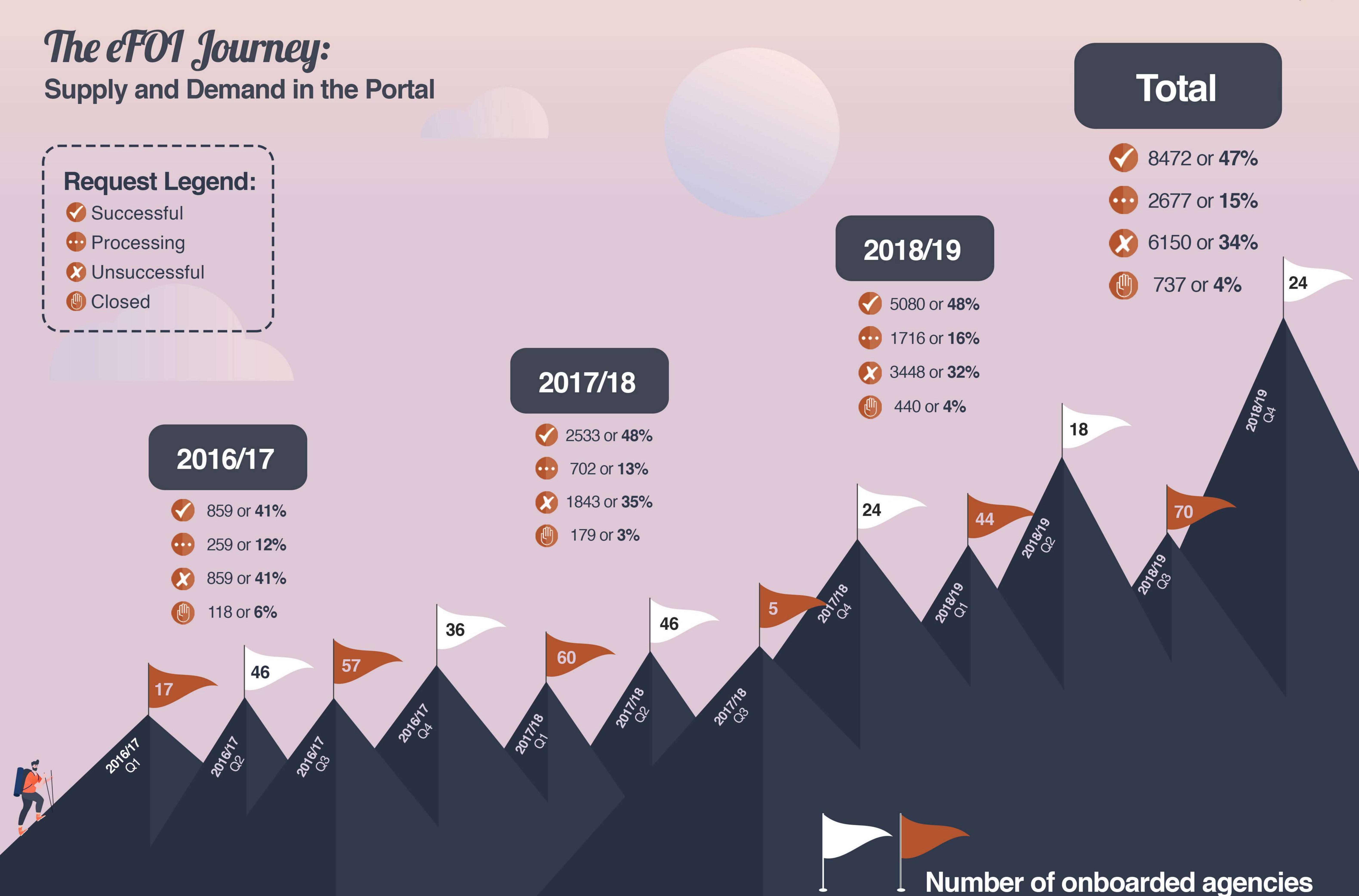
Did you know? The highest quarter of FOI Requests was last July - Sept 2019 with 4,131 or 23% eFOI Requests

FOI Logo

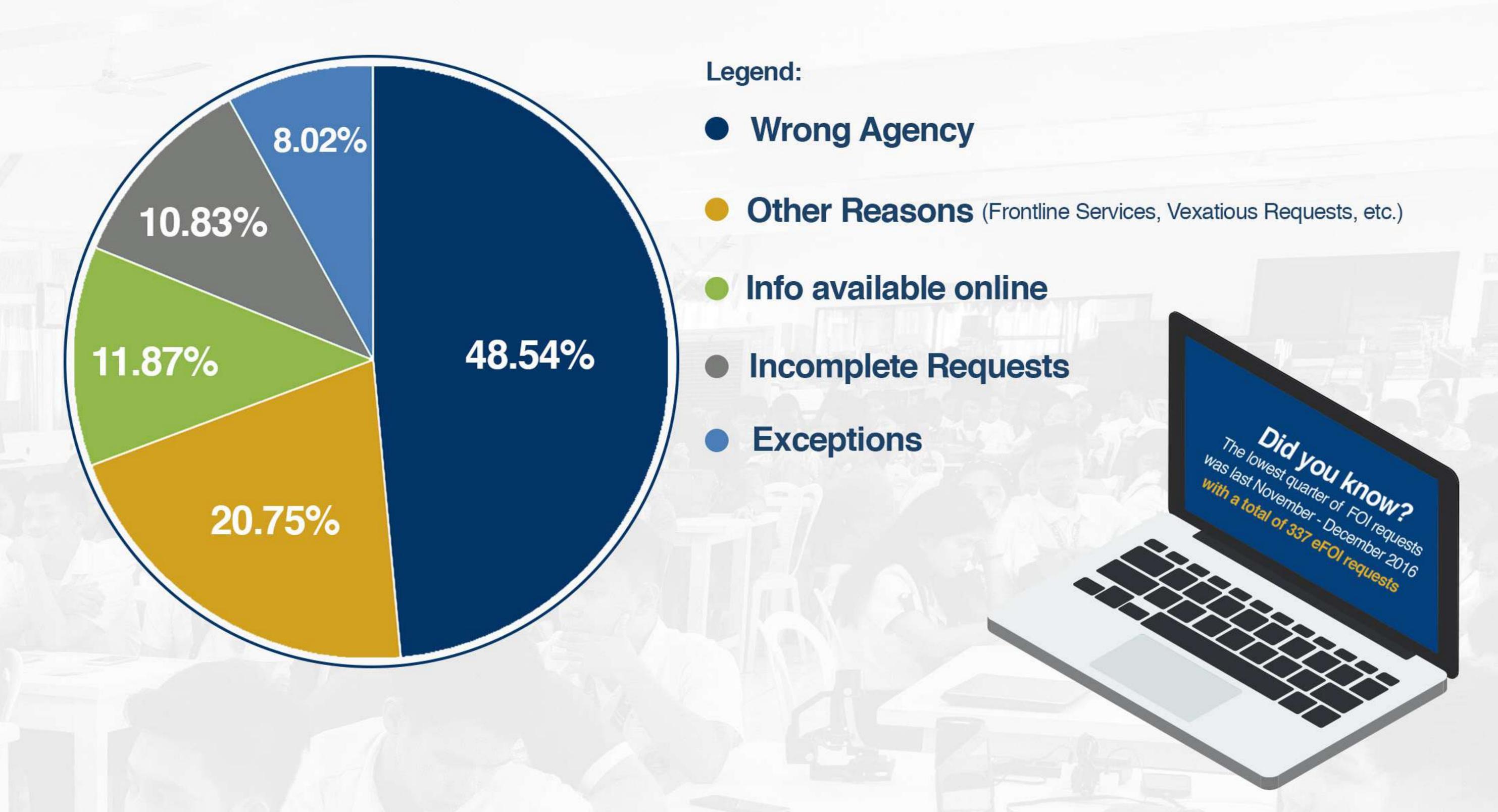
One of the requirements under the FOI Program is posting of an FOI logo in the agency's website homepage hyperlinked to the eFOI Portal. To date, 502 out of 932 (or 54%) government agencies posted an FOI logo to their respective websites.

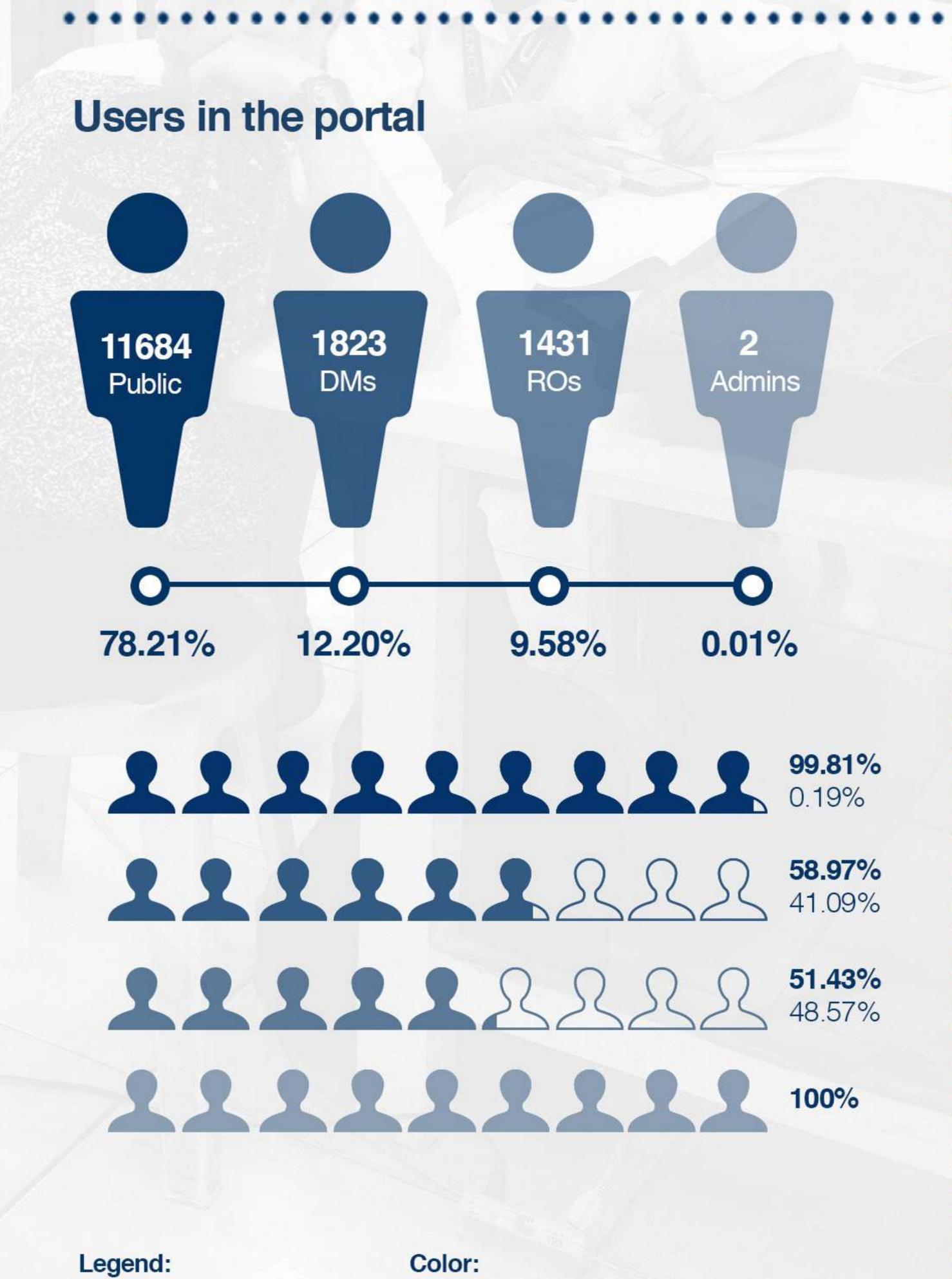


2018/19 FOI Annual Report 16



Reasons for Denial



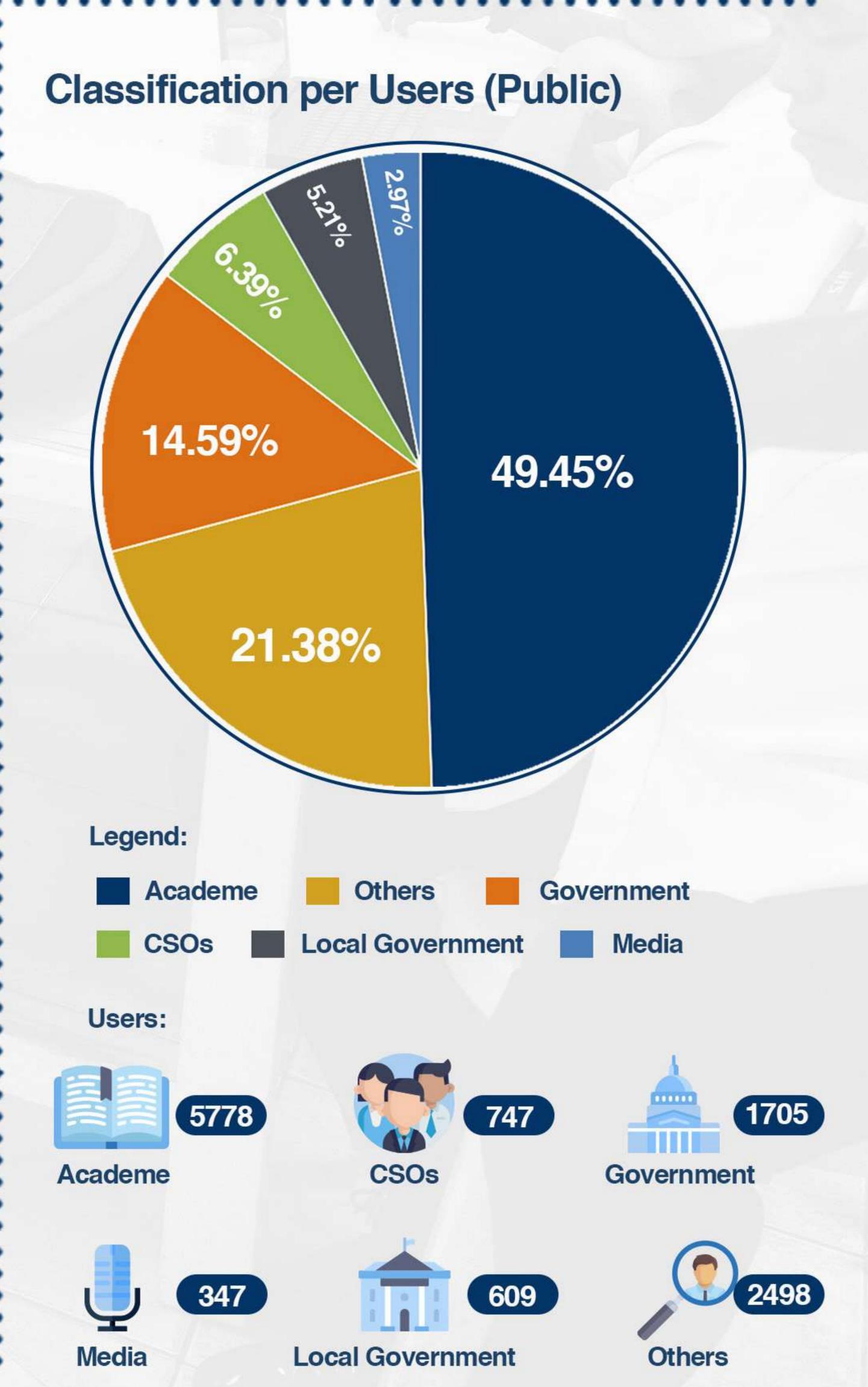


Terms used:

ROs - Receiving Officers

DMs - Decision Makers

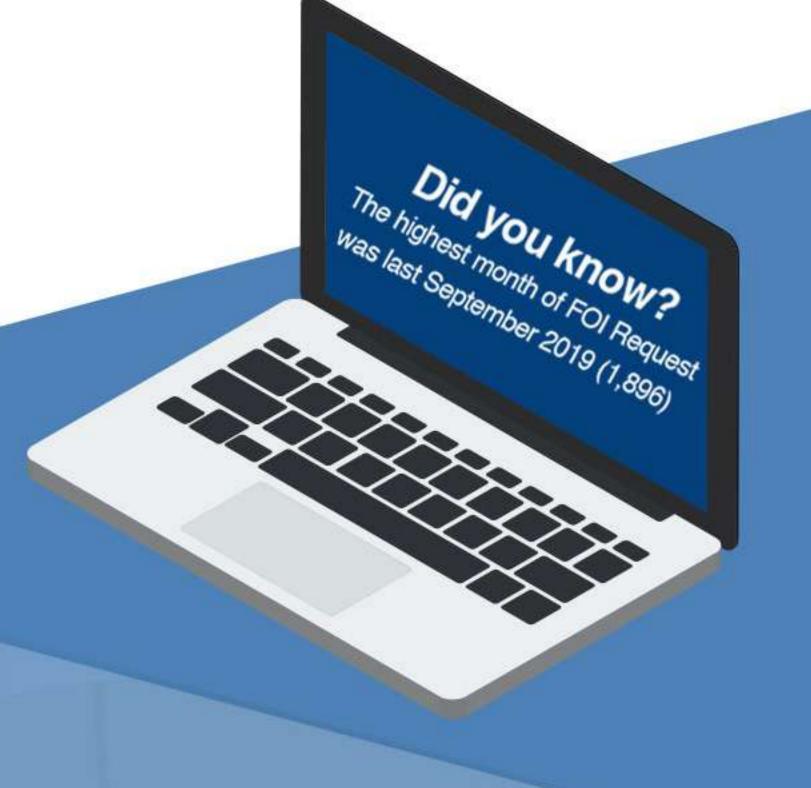
Public DMs ROs Admins



Top requested agencies and information

The FOI-PMO conducted a series of research to find out which agencies received the most number of information requests from the eFOI Portal and what topics/data are mostly requested. Based on the results, the following are the most requested information from the top requested agencies:





Top three information being requested



Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

- 1. Population
- 2. Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES)
- 3. Barangay Data



Department of Health (DOH)

- 1. Dengue Cases
- 2. Mortality Rate
- 3. Hospital-Bed Ratio



Department of Education (DepEd)

- 1. Number of Schools (Primary and Secondary)
- 2. Drop Out Rates
- 3. Enrollment Statistics



Department Transportation (DOTr)

- 1. LRT / MRT Passenger Traffic
- 2. Transport Terminal
- 3. Road Accidents



Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services (PAGASA)

1. Weather Report



- 2. Average Temperature
- 3. List of Flood-prone areas in Philippines



Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)

- 1. Electrical engineers working abroad
- 2. Employment Statistics



Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

- 2. Construction Projects and Expenses
- 3. Infrastructure Costs



eFOI Portal Audit Monitoring System

The FOI-PMO regularly conducts an audit to check whether personally-identifiable information had been posted in the eFOI Portal. Said information is not limited to passports and identification cards (IDs), but also digital copies of letters containing home/business addresses, etc. which was erroneously or accidentally posted in the publicly-accessible part of the site.

To check if there is an accidental uploading of IDs and letters containing sensitive personal information, the FOI-PMO have designated nine (9) officers/staff to review each request lodged to the government agencies from December 2018 and back to November 2016, while two (2) officers/staff were assigned to review the requests from January 2019 up to present. During the conduct of review, the FOI-PMO removes/deletes such ID and/or letter which contains sensitive personal information. Google has likewise removed these kind of documents and images, if found uploaded.

From 25 November 2016 up to 29 July 2019, a total of 11,991 requests were reviewed by the FOI-PMO lodged in the eFOI portal. The FOI-PMO also seeks assistance from participating agencies to report those requests which contains personal information of the requesting party so they can make the necessary actions. 1,004 out of 11,991 (8%) requests were identified with Personally Identifiable Information (PII) (i.e. IDs, email address, cell phone number, vehicle plate numbers). On 10 September 2019, 506 requests with PII were removed and 498 out of 1,004 requests were identified as existing uploaded PII. To date, FOI-PMO is in the process of removing the remaining PII in the eFOI requests.

Lastly, the FOI-PMO coordinated with the individuals whose documents (e.g. IDs, passports, etc.) were erroneously or accidentally "exposed" publicly and explained to them what happened.

Records Management System

Agency Information Inventory

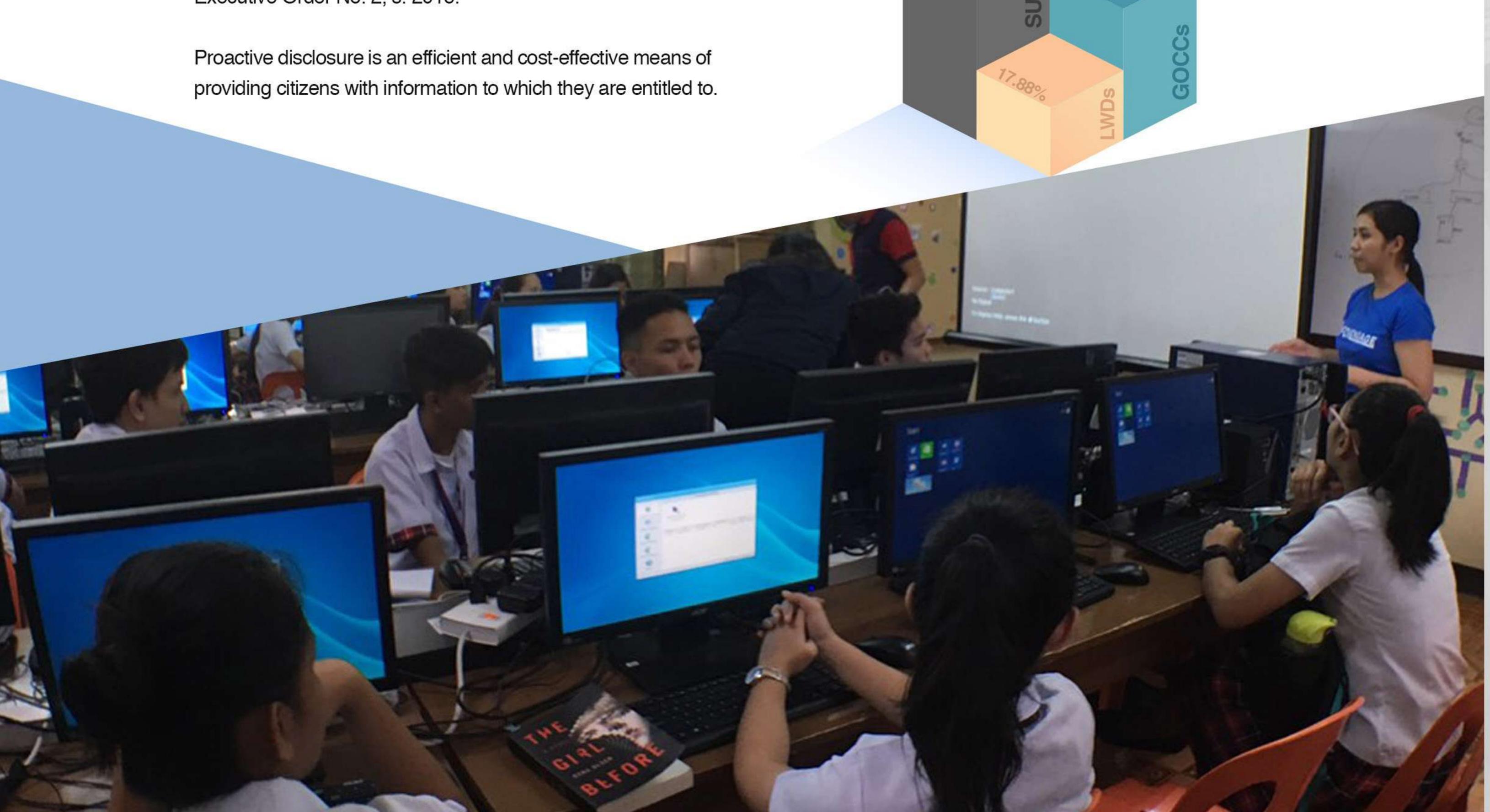
Pursuant to FOI MC no. 1 s. 2016, government agencies are required to submit an Agency Information Inventory – a masterlist of all the information they hold, store, maintain, and archive providing the scope and limitations of each type of information. As of date, the PCOO had received Information Inventories from 411 (or 44%) government agencies.

A total of 299,559 records from 411 government agencies had been consolidated from the submitted Agency Information Inventory. The FOI-PMO advises government agencies to proactively disclose information that is considered as "public," this is to reduce the burden on public administration of having to process requests for information that may be filed under Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016.

Another benefit of proactive disclosure is that it encourages better information management. This responds to the growing public demand and the desire to provide opportunities for more efficient citizen-access government services.

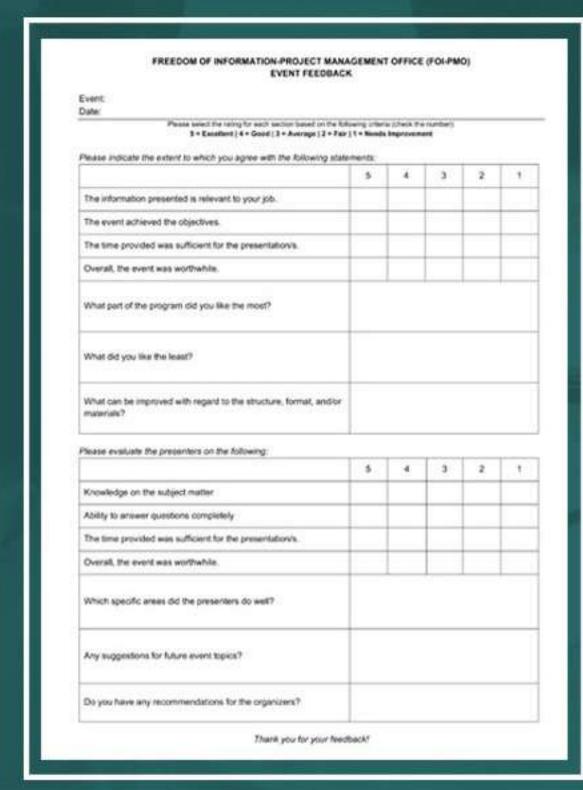
Compliance

Rate

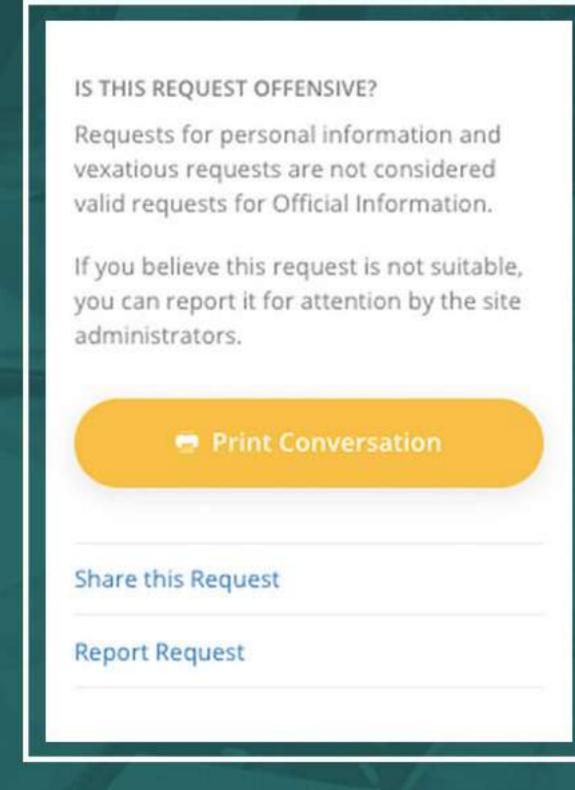


Feedback Mechanism

As the FOI-PMO commits for a fast and reliable service delivery, a feedback mechanism was established in order to generate valid and consistent feedback from stakeholders, which can be used to initiate strategies that will improve the implementation of the FOI Program.



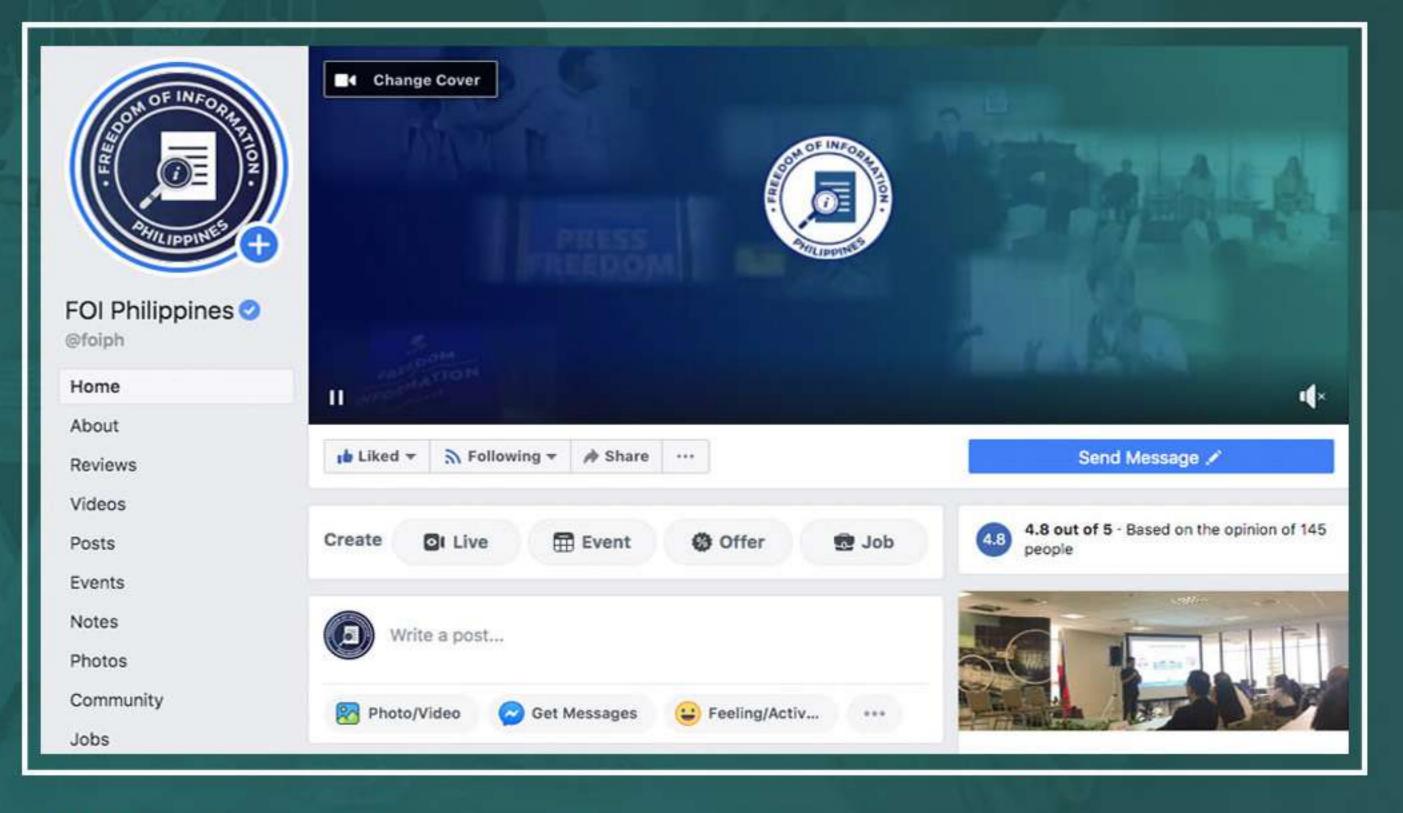




eFOI portal report feature



Coordination with 8888 Complaint Center



FOI Facebook page

Interventions

Assessing Information Disclosure
Practices for FOI (AID-FOI)
Compliance Tool

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The FOI-PMO rolled-out the FOI Assessment Tool entitled Assessing Information Disclosure Practices for FOI (AID-FOI) Compliance Tool to the participating agencies. This tool assesses whether the conditions within an agency are appropriate for FOI mechanisms to be effective. It assesses whether the agency possesses the critical elements that will enable it to perform proactive disclosure of open agency data.

As part of its monitoring and evaluation mechanism, the FOI-PMO, in partnership with Step-Up Consulting and HIVOS, developed the AID-FOI Tool which intends to determine the capacity and performance of agencies in complying with the FOI Program and their ability to respond to information requests.

For purposes of the assessment, AID-FOI Tool heavily draws from the work of the Carter Center's Rule of Law Program that specifies a set of indicators to assess FOI implementation. These indicators revolve around the following key essential component: Leadership, Rules, Systems, Resources, and Monitoring.

evels









As a result of this tool, the FOI-PMO shall establish mechanism in 2020 that shall evaluate the performance of government agencies.

FRO's Frequently Asked Questions

Handling FOI Requests



How to balance FOI Program with Data Privacy Act (DPA)?

Both rights should be upheld. The DPA may restrict or limit but should not be used for fully preventing disclosure of information.





How not to disclose Personal /Sensitive Personal Information in a government document?

FOI-MC No. 04, series of 2019 provides for the guidelines on redaction and extraction of information before disclosure to the public.





What if an investigating body has asked for the Statement of Assets Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN) of a government employee, can they release the SALN without redacting the personal and sensitive personal information of said person?

Yes. the government agency must release the unredacted SALN to the investigating body. The government agency should not deprive the investigating body of the SALN especially so if they are performing their functions as provided under their mandates.

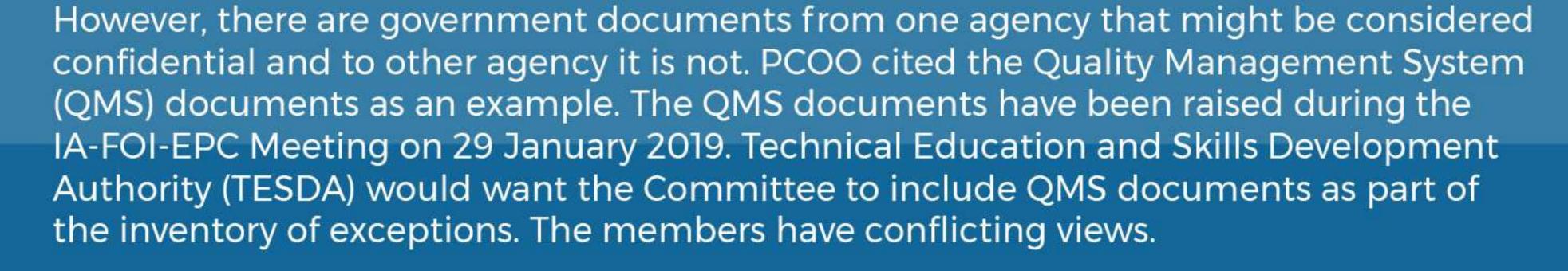


Also, the agency may refer the disclosure of the SALN with the proper repositories.



Can a government agency propose for a list of exempted government information and official documents for disclosure in their agency's inventory of exceptions?

Yes. If the agency considers the government information or official documents as "deemed confidential" (e.g.,internal documents).



PCOO asked the agencies to submit their proposed list of their respective exceptions so that we can take this up in the upcoming July 2019 meeting.

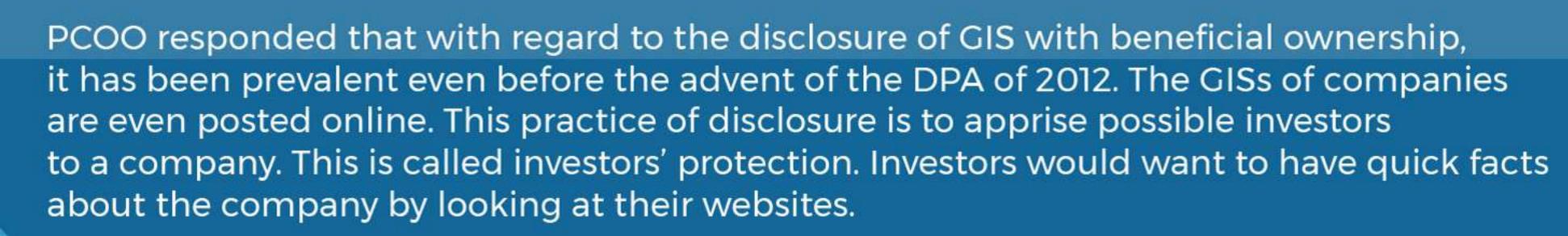






What if an agency has disclosed an information (e.g., General Information Sheet (GIS) indicating the beneficial owners of the company) publicly and the beneficial owners are asking them not to disclose because of the Data Privacy Act of 2012?

In the case of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), it has adopted a policy that the GIS is a public document and can be disclosed.





What if the requesting party asked for details about a certain employee in the agency, can these details be disclosed?

It depends on the details. If the details about the employee relates to his or her position or functions (e.g., a fact that he or she is an officer or employee, his or her title, his or her business address, his or her office telephone number, his or her classification, his or her salary grade, etc.) then these are not protected by the DPA. Thus, disclosable.





Can a request be considered as FOI request if lodge from a different platform (i.e. snail mail, social media, and email)?

Yes. As long as the requestor gives the title and period of document he/she is requesting and any proof of his/her identity to start the processing of his or her request.





Designation, rules and responsibilities of an FOI Receiving Officer

The functions of the FRO shall include receiving, on behalf of the agency, all requests for information and forward the same to the appropriate office who has custody of the records; monitor all FOI requests and appeals; provide assistance to the FOI Decision Maker; provide assistance and support to the public and staff with regard to FOI; compile statistical information as required (FOI Quarterly Reports); and, conduct initial evaluation of the request and advise the requesting party whether the request will be forwarded to the FOI Decision Maker for further evaluation, or deny the request based on:





Agencies who wish to conduct FOI Orientation

Contact us for the schedule and send us a request letter indicating the time, date, and venue of the orientation addressed to the following details:

ATTY. KRISTIAN R. ABLAN
Assistant Secretary and FOI Program Director
Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)
BFB Building, J.P. Laurel St. cor Matienza St., Malacañang, Manila

Telephone no: (02) 8-588-0691 Email: foi.pco@gmail.com



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Can an agency create an FOI Committee?

Yes. Agencies may create their own FOI Committee for better implementation of EO No. 2. Agencies have their leeway to create the same.





Can an agency designate an alternate receiving officer and/or decision maker?

Yes. Agencies may create a committee or they may designate an alternate Receiving Officer/s and/or alternate Decision Maker/s. This, in any way, addresses the concern of agencies in instances wherein the permanent receiving officers or permanent decision makers are on official business outside the office, absent or on leave.





Can requests via telephone calls be entertained?

Yes, agencies may entertain the requests made through telephone calls. However, EO No. 02, provides that a requesting party to provide his/her valid proof of identification.



To comply with the above, agencies may advice requesting parties to go through the FOI request process - electronic or standard.



What if the Requesting Party wishes to lodge his/her request through email?

The FRO should advise the Requesting Party to create an account in the eFOI Portal in order to lodge a request. Also, FROs should discourage requesting information through email as this will not follow the right procedure and process that is set in asking for government documents. Further, email requests are difficult to track, making it also a burden to the FROs in consolidation FOI requests when submitting FOI Registry to PCOO FOI-PMO.





Forgotten Password

FROs and FDM who cannot access their accounts because of a forgotten password may email the FOI-PMO through foi.pco@gmail.com to provide them a new temporary password, in which they are requested to change immediately once their accounts are accessed.





Change of Name in the Portal

In order to change the name of the FRO/FDM reflected in the eFOI Portal, the FOI-PMO will have to deactivate the account and reactivate it with new name provided in the new account.





Do we have a standard format for the FOI Reports?

Discussed the difference of the AII, FOI Registry and Summary, showed a copy of a properly filled out FOI reports. Then provided a brief walk-through on how to correctly fill-in each column. Here is the link for the 2018 FOI Reports template: bit.ly/2018FOIReports.



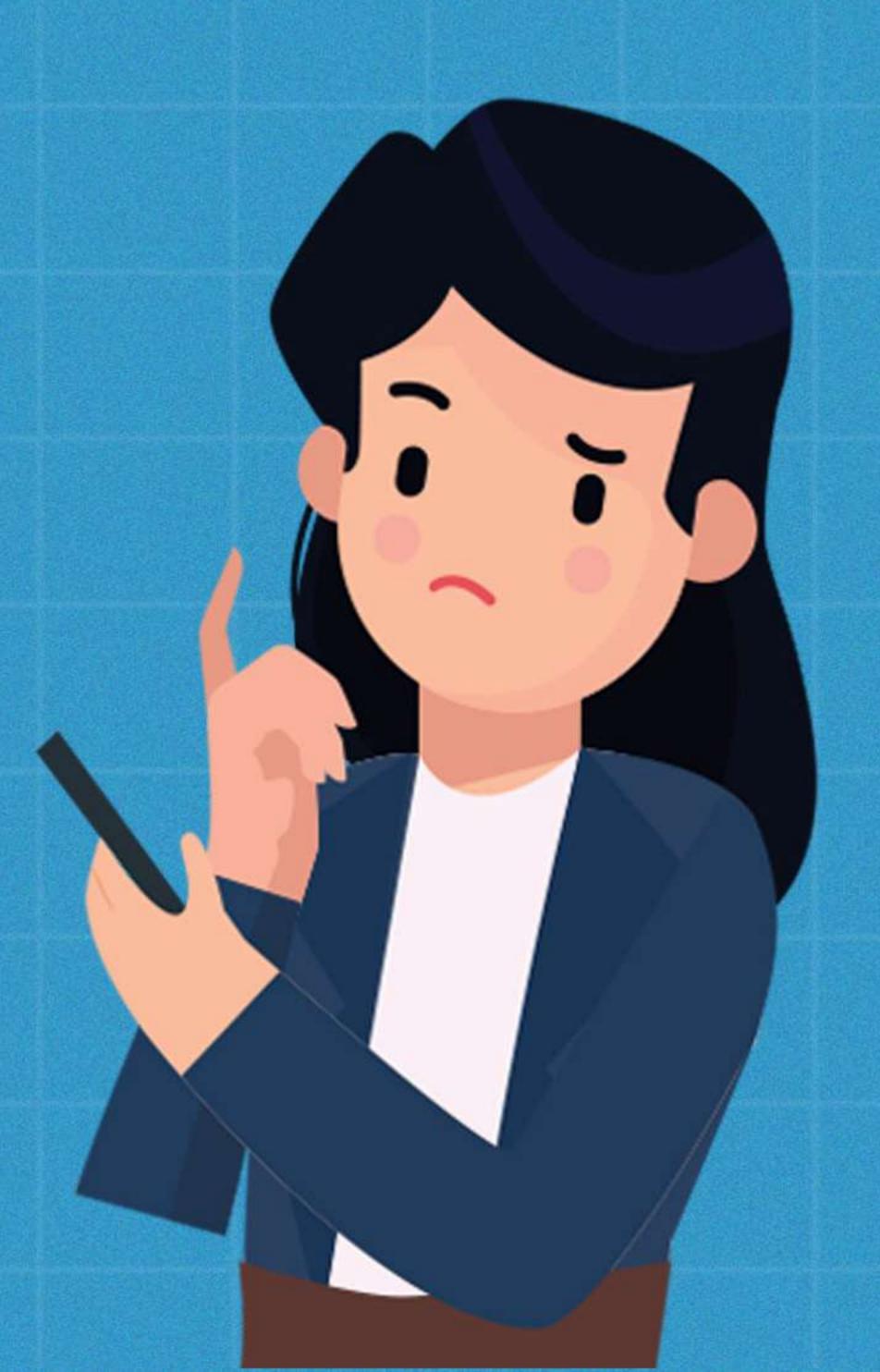


How many FROs and FDMs are allowed to be enrolled under the eFOI portal?

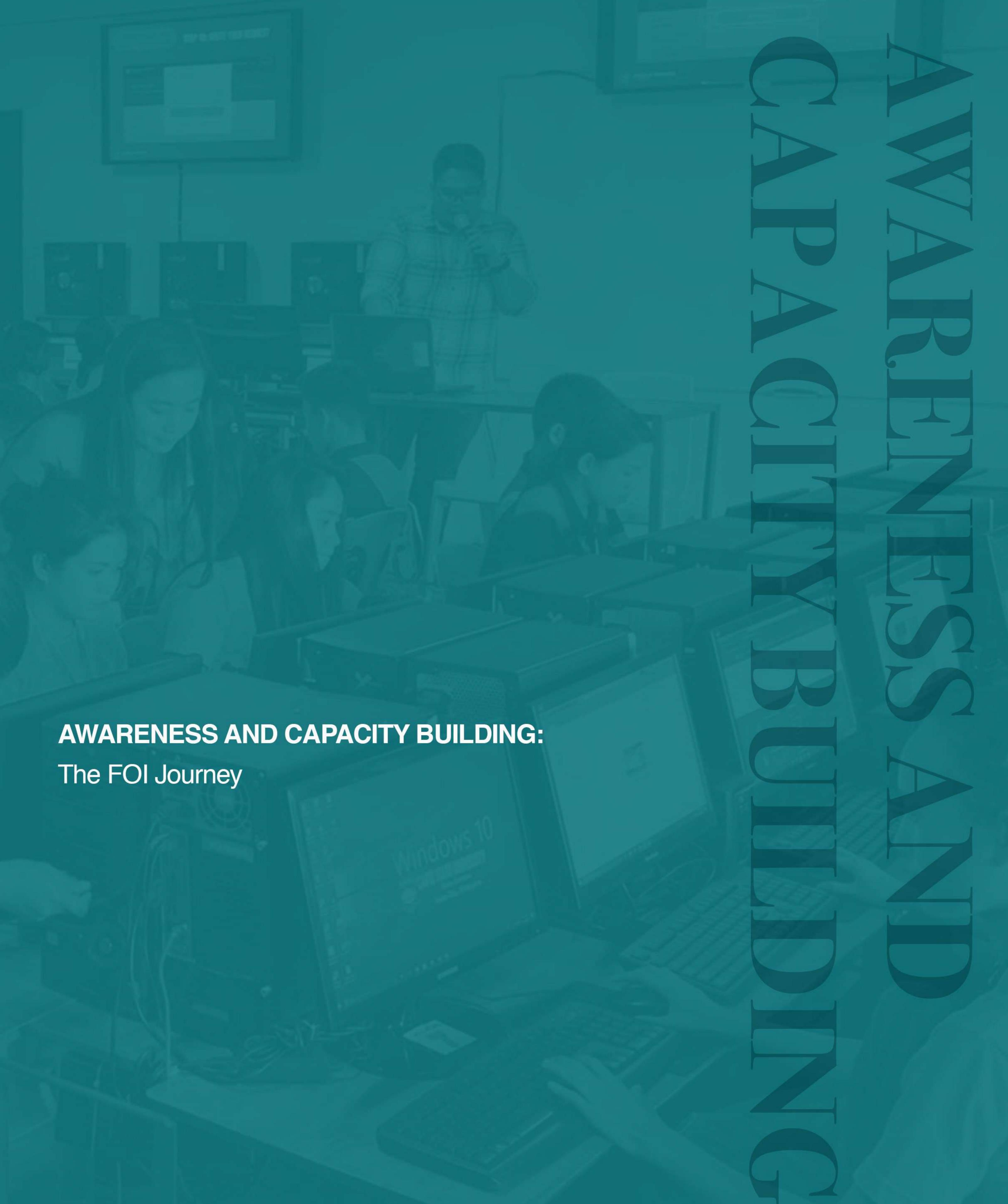
I have advised the FROs that there is no set limit to the number of RO's and DM's that can be enrolled under the e-FOI portal.

Highlighting further that due to the uniqueness of each Agency's structure, it shall be the Management's prerogative to decide on how to best support FOI implementation in their respective Agencies.









Information, Engagement, and Communications

The FOI Program is free and accessible (through the eFOI Portal at www.foi.gov.ph), all you have to do is ask. Ask a question from your government and get the answer straight from the source.

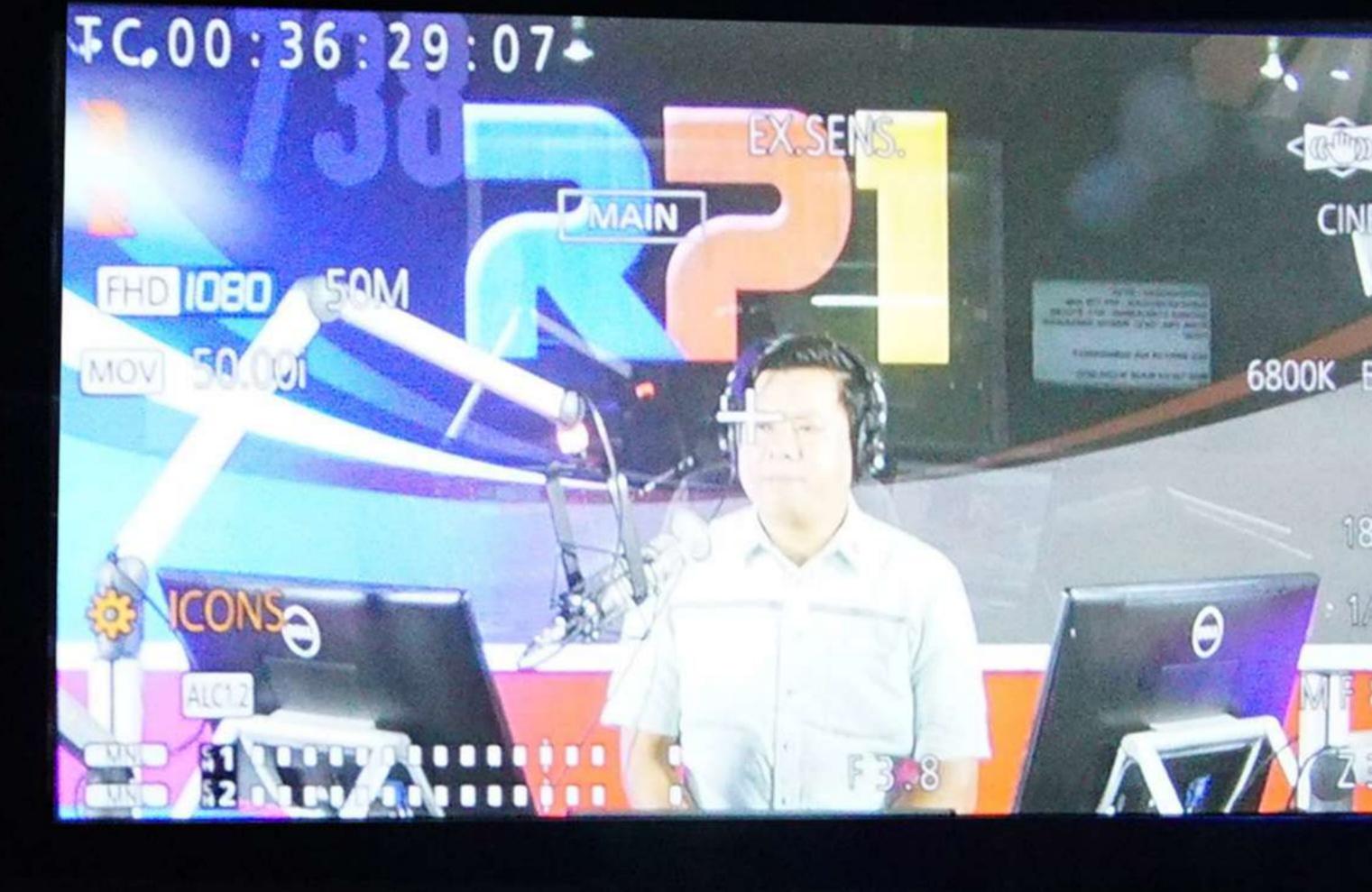
Followed by 51,721 people on Facebook and with the official hashtags "#FOIPh" and "#FOIKnowlt," the FOI page posts daily updates. Its projects include: the FOI Program and eFOI Portal Technical Trainings, FOI Workshop for Librarians, Training of Trainers for different sectors, FOI Receiving Officers' Hangouts, FOI Campus Caravan and PCOO Roadshows, FOI Midyear and Annual Conferences 2019, and more.

Reaching 69,407 people and 5,369 engagements on Facebook, the infographic map of LGUs implementing FOI ordinances all over the Philippines is the most liked post to date. Some comments include "Why? Isn't that a law already" and "Kaya pala nag-request ako for Capiz walang info na available." The latter voicing out encouragement for other LGUs to follow suit.

Building trust and confidence among our countrymen and the public service, through an interactive process, the FOI Program provides government information: research, statistics, data, reports, maps, and policies.

As FOI Program Director and PCOO Assistant Secretary Kristian Ablan highlighted,

"Our path is to empower citizens, to make them smart. We want to arm our citizens to be smart, to make better decisions, that's why there is FOI",



during the FOI Midyear Conference 2019 attended by national agencies, local government units, members of the academe, and development partners.

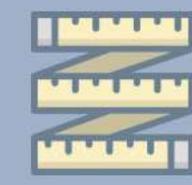
More advertisements and programs by FOI all over the Philippines were placed this second half of 2019 as it pushes the "demand for information" from Filipino citizens. Public can communicate with the FOI-PMO via official Facebook (@foiph), Twitter (@foi_ph), and Instagram (@foiph) accounts, and through eFOI portal at <www.foi.gov.ph>.

2019 Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS)

The inclusion of FOI questions at the household FLEMMS survey will provide baseline data on the knowledge, experience, behavior, and attitude of Filipino households on their right to access government information.

Objectives:

The main objectives of the survey are the following:



Measure the level of awareness of Filipinos across the country on their right to access government information.



Recognize and understand key behaviors which drive Filipinos to ask for government information.



Assess the quality of commonly requested information from government agencies.



Identify effective channels in communicating the FOI Program at the household level.

5. ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION ade, received, or kept in or under the control and custody of any government office pursuant to law, execu-gulations in connection with the performance or transaction of official business by any government office. Anong uri ng impormasyon ang pinakahuling hiningi mo o kahit sino sa iyong sambahayan? G - minutes and transcripts Q - computer stored data R - any other like or similar N - sound and video recording Under which category of government information did you or any member of your household request most recently? Tungkol saan ang impormasyon na pinakahuling hiningi mo o kahit sino sa iyong sambahayan? J - Available financial services G - Environmental harm K - Crime-related data H - Public procurement Through what channel did you or any member of your household request that government information? Sa anong pamamaraan ka o kahit sino sa iyong sambahayan humingi ng impormasyon? 6 - www.foi.gov.ph In the next 12 months, do you or any member of your household plan to request information from the government? Sa susunod na 12 buwan, ikaw ba o sinuman sa iyong sambahayan ay may planong humingi ng impormasyon mula sa gobyerno'i 2 - No (Hindi) - GO TO Q9 Under which category of information would you or any member of your household plan to request from the government? Tungkol saan ang impormasyon na gusto mo o kahit sino sa iyong sambahayan na plano mong hingin J - Available financial services G - Environmental harm K - Crime-related data H - Public procurement Through what channel would you or any member of your household plan to request information from the government?



2018/19 Mid-year Report

6 - www.foi.gov.ph

The 2019 Mid-Year Compliance Report, which highlights the accomplishments of the FOI Program implementation from the 2019 targets and the things that are set to achieve before the year ends.

Accessible at www.foi.gov.ph/resources.

Capacity-Building Activities

To further widen the reach of the Program, a total of 473information, education, and communication activities had been organized and participated in by the FOI-PMO. These include media engagements, major events, orientation sessions, technical workshops, collaborative meetings, consultations and fora, press freedom caravan activities, and international events.

	EVEN	S			ONBOA	ONBOARDING CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS		IONS/FORA	TOT	INTERNATIONAL EVENTS		
	ORGANIZED	INVITED	ORGANIZED	INVITED	ORGANIZED	INVITED	ORGANIZED	INVITED	ORGANIZED	INVITED	ORGANIZED	INVITED
2016/17	<i>1</i> 5	13	6	20	9	3	7	59	2	3		6
2018	12	35	4	25	11	25	2	24	0	10	0	4
2019	31	8	7	74	6	38	0	1	3	1		7
TOTAL	58	56	17	119	26	66	9	84	5	14	2	17

The Multi-sectoral Roadshows led by PCOO Secretary Jose Ruperto Martin M. Andanar, involved discussions by key officials on press freedom, the FOI program; Rehabinasyon; and gender equality. Each roadshow event aims to inform and engage 300 representatives from the national and local governments, civil society, and the media on the various initiatives of our current Administration.

The **2019 PCOO Roadshow** aims to:

- Increase media and information literacy to promote responsible handling and sharing of information and end the proliferation of fake news;
- Disseminate information on the administration's efforts to protect our local media through the Presidential Task Force on Media Security;
- Educate the public on Rehabinasyon--the administration's all-encompassing campaign against illegal drugs, through the PCOO Office of Brand Integration;
- Educate participants on the initiatives of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB);
- Increase awareness on Gender and Equality; and
- Educate the participants on the FOI Program and the eFOI Portal.



Project Summary:

1. Surigao - 11 February 2019 2. Naga - 25 March 2019

3. Legazpi - 26 March 2019 4. Tuguegarao - 23 May 2019

5. Iloilo - 24 June 2019

6. General Santos - 11 July 2019

7. Cebu - 30 August 2019 8. Bohol - 24 September 2019



Naga & Legazpi Bicol State College of Applied Sciences and Technology & Bicol University

Cebu Normal University Bohol Island State University

Cagayan State University

SM City General Santos

FOI CAMPUS CARAVAN

As part of the 2019 Multi- sectoral Roadshows, the FOI- PMO hold the FOI Campus Caravan to educate members of the academe on their right to information and promote the use of the FOI Program as a tool for academic research. Each campus caravan event was attended by 500 students and faculty members from state schools, universities, and colleges.

The FOI Campus Caravan aims to:

- Increase media and information literacy to promote responsible handling and sharing of information and end the proliferation of fake news;
- Nurture an academic community that not only knows its government better but is also able to contribute to nation-building;
- Educate the students and faculty on the FOI Program and the eFOI Portal and;
- Partner with educational institutions to include the FOI Program in their curricula and promote FOI as an academic tool for research.



Project Summary:

1. Metro Manila - 9 October 2018,11 & 14 February 2019

Iloilo-

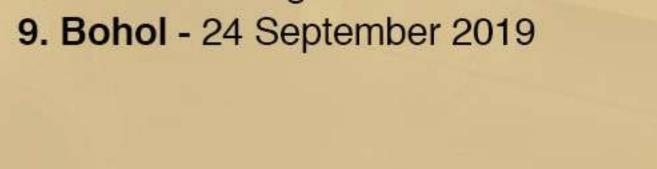
Surigao-

Surigao State College of Technology

Iloilo Science and

Technology University

- 2. Surigao 11 February 2019
- 3. Naga 25 March 2019
- 4. Legazpi 26 March 2019
- 5. Tuguegarao 23 May 2019
- 6. Iloilo 24 June 2019
- 7. General Santos 11 July 2019
- 8. Cebu 30 August 2019





Manila

Cebu Normal University Bohol

-Tuguegarao

Antonio A. Maceda Integrated High School, Far Eastern University, Technological University of the Philippines

Cagayan State University

Bohol Island State University

— General Santos Mindanao State University

PRESS FREEDOM CARAVAN

As the lead communications arm on all matters of The main objectives of the International governance and public concern under the Executive Branch of the Philippines, the PCOO continues to stay true to its mandate in disseminating information, providing awareness, and communicating with various government initiatives under the Duterte administration. This includes the FOI Program, the Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMs) and Rehabinasyon or Philippine Anti-Drugs Strategy as mandated by Executive Order No. 2, s. 2016, Administrative Order No. 1, and Executive Order No. 66, s. 2018, respectively.

stakeholders on the accomplishments of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's Administration, the PCOO launched the International Press Freedom Caravan--a program involving our international stakeholders and aims to provide an avenue to promote various programs and projects of the Philippine Government to a global audience. Target participants include the international media, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), and various Filipino organizations worldwide.

Press Freedom Caravan is to:

- Promote policies, programs, and activities of the Philippine Government;
- Disseminate accurate and reliable information on various pressing societal issues concerning the country; and,
- stakeholders abroad, including the foreign media and Filipino communities, to instigate dialogue and further enhance citizen participation.

Project Summary:

- 1. PFC in Bangkok, Thailand 16 January 2019
- 2. National Press Club 31 January 2019
- 3. Brussels, Belgium 17 February 2019
- 4. Geneva, Switzerland 21 February 2019 5. Hong Kong, SAR - 28-29 April 2019
- 6. Tokyo, Japan 1-2 June 2019
- 7. Jakarta, Indonesia 24 July 2019





FOI RECEIVING OFFICERS' HANGOUT

The FOI-PMO recognizes the valuable role of FOI Receiving Officers as the front-liners in ensuring the success of FOI Program implementation. This 2019, FOI-PMO conducted 2019 FOI Receiving Officers (FROs)' Hangout to convene agency FROs to discuss and provide feedback on FOI implementation.

The workshop aims to achieve the following:

- Share agencies' best practices and challenges on agency implementation;
- 2. Solicit feedback from FOI Receiving Officers on agency implementation;
- 3. Implement the FOI Assessment Tool to government agencies and;
- 4. Develop innovative solutions to further improve agency implementation.

A total of 165 NGAs and GOCCs attended the FRO:



15 June 2019 Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



3 July 2019 Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



18 July 2019 F1 Hotel, Bonifacio Global City



23 August 2019 Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



18 September 2019 Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



25 September 2019 Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



To ensure the most effective and efficient dissemination of the program to the broader community, the PCOO recognizes the significant role of key partner agencies and organizations in capacitating individuals and development stakeholder organizations in performing their roles and mandates, especially within the public sector.

The two-day training is divided into skills development sessions on becoming an effective FOI Ambassador. Methodology consists of lectures, structured-learning experience, interactive sessions, and small group workshops to ensure active involvement of the participants.

At the end of the two-day workshop, the participants should be able to:

- Discuss the following:
 - 1. Executive Order No. 02, s. 2016 and its implementing rules and regulations;
 - 2. The Data Privacy Act of 2012;
 - 3. The Local FOI Ordinance; and,
 - 4.The electronic FOI portal.
- Demonstrate skills in providing information on access to information;
- Encourage target stakeholders to ask for government information through the FOI Program; and,
- Draft an FOI Action Plan.

Department of Social Welfare

and Development (Batch 1)

Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City



Civil Society Organizations

Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City

20-21 June 2019

19-20 September 2019 Department of Social Welfare and Development (Batch 1) F1 Hotel, BGC, Taguig City 16-17 July 2019 Youth Alliance for FOI Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City 24-25 August 2019

Commission on Higher Education with selected SUCs Sequoia Hotel, Quezon City 27-28 June 2019

TRAINING OF

TRAINERS

FOI Workshop FOR LIBRARIANS

Librarians, being gate-keepers of information, have access to a wide variety of information materials and resources. With the emerging changes in the information landscape, the role of librarians has evolved to keep up with the latest developments across all mediums to be able to manage and provide quality information service to users, both in physical and digital formats.

As part of its ongoing initiatives, the FOI-PMO is expanding its reach to academic institutions and information specialists. The Office recognizes the significant role of our librarians in strengthening the effective implementation and utilization of the FOI Program, as they portray an essential function in providing public access to information.

This year, the FOI-PMO in partnership with the Philippine Association of School Librarians, Inc. (PASLI); Association of Librarians in Public Sector (ALPS); Philippine Group of Law Librarians, Inc. (PGLL); Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI); Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians (PAARL); and Philippine E-Library is set to conduct the FOI Program Workshop for Librarians. The Workshop is an accredited Continuing Professional Development (CPD) workshop by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) that covers broad discussion of the Program itself as a government mechanism which allows Filipino citizens to request any information about government transactions and operations.

This workshop aims to capacitate and enable our registered librarians with the essential knowledge and skills to implement the FOI Program in their respective libraries and learning institutions.

With the FOI Program Workshop, the registered librarians will be trained to independently guide all students and teachers if there will be questions asked regarding the FOI Program in the libraries. The PCOO will use public libraries and school libraries to cater the needs of learners and teachers in their research and thesis-making. Utilizing the FOI program will help the learners as well as teachers; especially so, if government information would form part of their research and thesis-making.

Project Summary:

Luzon Metro Manila University of Sto. Tomas 09 July 2019

Visayas

Cebu Cebu Normal University 09 August 2019

Davao University of Immaculate Conception 11 October 2019

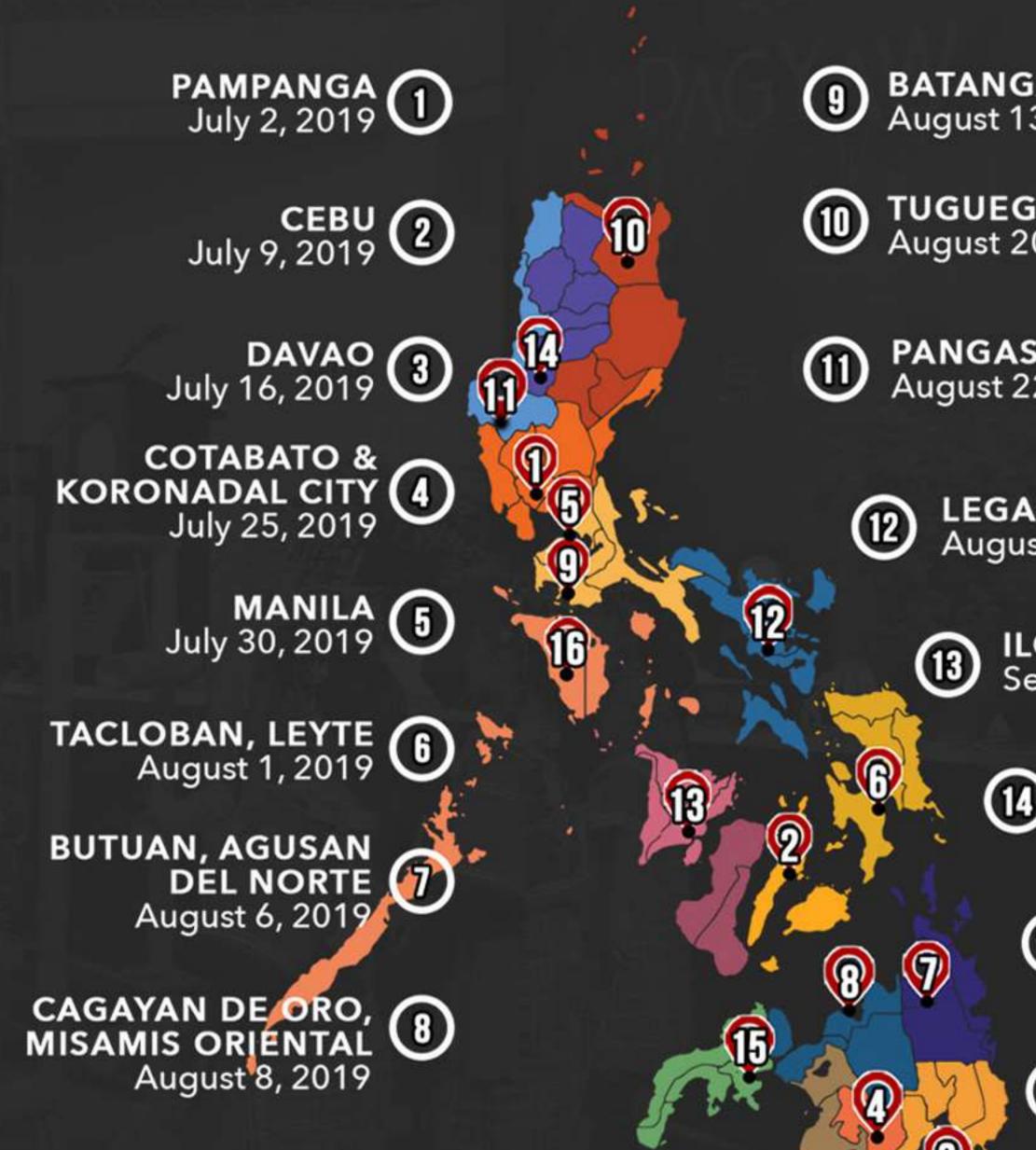
FOI Technical Training Program for SUCs, LWDs, and LGUs

The Workshop covered a broad discussion on the procedures, policies, and requirements for FOI Program implementation. The Workshop was aimed to capacitate FOI Officers of implementing agencies on the process, system, and technical operation of the eFOI Portal.



The DBM and the DILG, with the support from the PCOO have concluded last 25 September 2019 the Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Townhall Meetings called "Dagyaw" which means Bayanihan in Hiligaynon. Dagyaw had been conducted in 16 regions to discuss and communicate the good governance reforms of the administration, and provided a platform for regular citizens to raise local concerns that are relevant to their respective community's development.

Dagyaw was attended by representatives from civil society organizations, academe, business groups, public sector unions, people organizations, local media and regular citizens. Various sectors were also present during the townhall meetings such as the Private Sector Representatives (PSRs) of Regional Development Council (RDCs), National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) basic representatives, and members of the Local Development Councils (LDCs) of the host provinces, capital towns and cities.



BATANGAS August 13, 2019

TUGUEGARAO CITY August 20, 2019

PANGASINAN August 22, 2019

12 LEGAZPI, ALBAY August 27, 2019

13 ILOILO September 3, 2019

BAGUIO CITY
September 10, 2019

Tamboundary September 17, 2019

16 SAN JOSE, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO September 25, 2019

StarBoooks

As part of its efforts in providing Filipinos access to information by operationalizing the FOI, the FOI-PMO expresses its intent to partner with the under which the PCOO and DOST-STII will meet, in support of an Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), an attached agency of effective and efficient collaboration, maintain objectives and commitments the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) through its StarBooks with regard to all matters related to the STARBOOKS. Project, the first Philippine Science Digital Library.

The DOST-STII launched the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated Kiosk Station (STARBOOKS) Project, a standalone information kiosk, which contains science and technology sources in text, video, and audio formats which can be accessed even without internet connectivity, especially in remote provinces.

Hence, the FOI-PMO partnered with STII by providing disclosed information and data (in different file formats) which were uploaded in the electronic FOI Portal (www.foi.gov.ph) to the StarBooks platform.

The purpose of the partnership is to establish the terms and conditions

The PCOO's main function is to provide raw, processed, and curated data stored in the eFOI Portal to the DOST-STII on its StarBooks database. While the DOST-STII shall be responsible for the processing and disseminating of submitted content.

FOI 2019 Highlights

2018 FOI Awards and Summit

To highlight the role of access to information in the narrative of good governance, the Department of Budget and Management and the Presidential Communications Operations Office co-organized an event on 28 November 2018 with the theme, "The Philippine Open Government Partnership and the Freedom of Information Program: Placing Access to Information at the Heart of Open Governance" at the National Museum Auditorium of the National Museum of Fine Arts, Padre Burgos Avenue, Ermita, Manila.

The event gathered 200 partners for change from the central down to the local governments, civil society organizations, the media, academe, the private sector, and development partners--all advocating for good governance and access to information. It aims to take stock of the FOI Program implementation, celebrate successes and milestones, identify major learnings, co-develop new mechanisms for collaboration, and look ahead to the future of the program using the OGP platform. The sessions will involve panel discussions supplemented by an interactive platform which will crowdsource questions and concerns from the participants.





FOI Mid-year Conference

On 26 July 2019, the PCOO, through the FOI-PMO, held their 2019 Mid-Year conference in Hotel Jen Manila by Shangri-La. It was an informative and interactive event, successfully ending with 120 guests. All attendees were all excited to be updated on the progress of the FOI program and to raise each of their team's/department's concerns regarding the implementation in both the requesting and the receiving side.

An array of attendees from NGAs, CSOs, SUCs, to LGUs lined up and registered for the event where they were given sorted name tags in preparation to the breakout session happening in the afternoon.

International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC) 2019

The FOI-PMO was invited by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to attend and participate in the 11th International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC) held in Johannesburg, South Africa on 10-14 March 2019. FOI Program Director Kristian R. Ablan served as on of the concurrent panelists on the topic "Mechanisms to Implement Access to Information / FOI in Public and Private Sphere in the absence of enabling legislation."

The ICIC is established by Information Commissioners and Ombudsmen from different countries who discuss issues relative to the protection and promotion of the right to public information for the benefit of the citizens.



International Exposure Program

From period 20 to 27 July 2019, the FOI-PMO conducted an exposure program in the United Kingdom to capacitate PCOO officials and FOI-PMO members on the developments on access to information at the international level. The general objective is to learn about best implementation practices and innovations, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and information, education, and communication activities which may be replicated in the Philippines.



Office	Action Items	Office	Action Items			
ARTICLE 19 & Campaign for Freedom of Information	FOI-PMO to send a copy of the FOI-PMO proposed version of the bill.	The National Archives	Revisit discussions with the National Archives of the Philippines (NAP), DBM, and the DICT regarding the			
	FOI-PMO to explore development of formula for computing man hour limit.		formulation of a digital records management policy.			
Cabinet Office	FOI-PMO to explore publishing of its own FOI Code of Practice.		Development of standard Key Performance Indicators as basis for FOI Officer recognition.			
	Read-along session of the Executive Order within the FOI-PMO.	Meeting with Paul Gibbons	Development of different levels of modules for different stakeholders.			
	Revisit draft no wrong door policy of the FOI-PMO.		Development of FOI Certification Program with the Development Academy of the Philippines.			
Meeting with Lord Michael Wills	Invite Lord Wills to the 2019 FOI Summit.	Meeting with Jon Baines	Develop a (rebranded) public interest test applicable to Philippine context.			
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) Develop more written guidelines on handling requests for FOI Receiving Officers and Develop more written guidelines on handling requests for FOI Receiving Officer's Handbook).						



International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI)

Decision Makers (i.e. FOI Officer's Handbook).

On 28 September 2019, the FOI-PMO joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International Day for Access to Information (IDUAI) by organizing the first access to information festival in Manila, with a theme "Leaving No One Behind". The IDUAI Festival primarily aims to unleash the creativity of every Filipino in advocating the right to access to information through various art forms. The festival featured creative works from the youth who underscored the importance of such right in the form of spoken word poetry, photography, and essay writing.

The champions were Angelika Garcia for spoken word poetry, Michael Diosim for Essay Writing, and Hissah Macaraya for photography.

FOI Testimonials Departments/Agencies

As DepEd strives to deliver quality, accessible, relevant, and liberating basic education, it pledges its unwavering commitment to the full implementation of the FOI across all its governance levels: central, regional, division, and schools. Access to information shall also equip our 21st century learners with creativity, critical and analytical thinking, and innovativeness which shall empower them to become the future leaders and nation-builders that we envision them to be.

> LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES Secretary
> Department of Education (DepEd)



As a testament to its commitment for more transparent and accountable governance in all its undertakings, the Department took a step further and cascaded the FOI advocacy down to its regional, provincial, and municipal offices up to the local government units (LGUs).

Sa pagpapatupad ng FOI, kasama ninyo ang DILG, ang inyong kagawarang matino, mahusay at maaasahan para sa mapagkalinga at maunlad na mga pamahalaang lokal.

> EDUARDO M. AÑO Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)



The Department of Health recognizes the right of every Filipino to access health information. Freedom of Information is crucial in helping Filipinos make informed choices about their health.

> An open government enables empowered and healthier people.

FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MSc Secretary Department of Health (DOH)

CARP is a social justice program and we are aware that DAR needs to constantly address the concerns of the farmers, landowners and other stakeholders.

We trust the FOI will be of great help that provides a good avenue for the exchange of communication between and among DAR and its stakeholders to raise their problems, issues and complaints and eventually come up with a compromise resolution of their cases.

ATTY. JOHN R. CASTRICIONES Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)



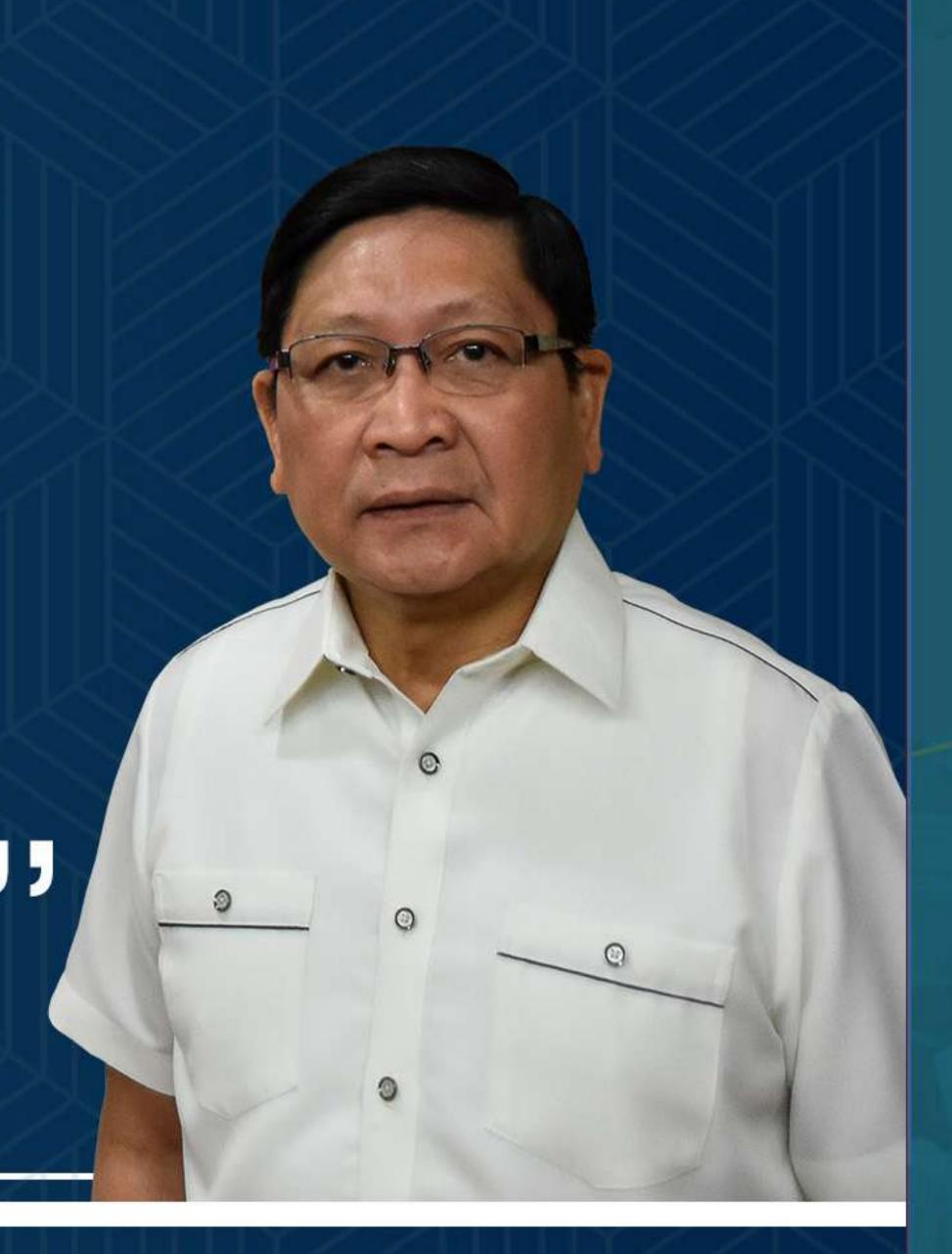
By arming our farmers and fisherfolk and all our stakeholders and citizens with accurate and truthful information, we are confident that FOI will strengthen our people's meaningful participation in crafting vital agricultural reforms and achieving food security and inclusive growth for all our countrymen.

EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL Department of Agriculture (DA)

The Freedom of Information (FOI) serves as an efficient tool to enable the public to request information from different government agencies.

Since the MMDA began the full implementation of its FOI platform on December 2017, we were able to serve the public efficiently by disseminating credible data and information.

DANILO D. LIM Chairman Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA)



Requesting Parties



The information I acquired from the eFOI portal helped supplement my position paper, as a member of the Heritage Conservation Society, in advocating the preservation and conservation of our built heritage. It helped me in my endeavor and it also assures other advocates that government's transparency shows **commitment** to the preservation,

EDWARD BRYAN CAISIP Bachelor of Library and Information Science University of the Philippines Diliman

sites of hospitals, in my

our built heritage. ??



One of the core benefits of the eFOI Portal is access to free information and the saving of time and other resources that get wasted in waiting in lines and other bureaucratic processes.

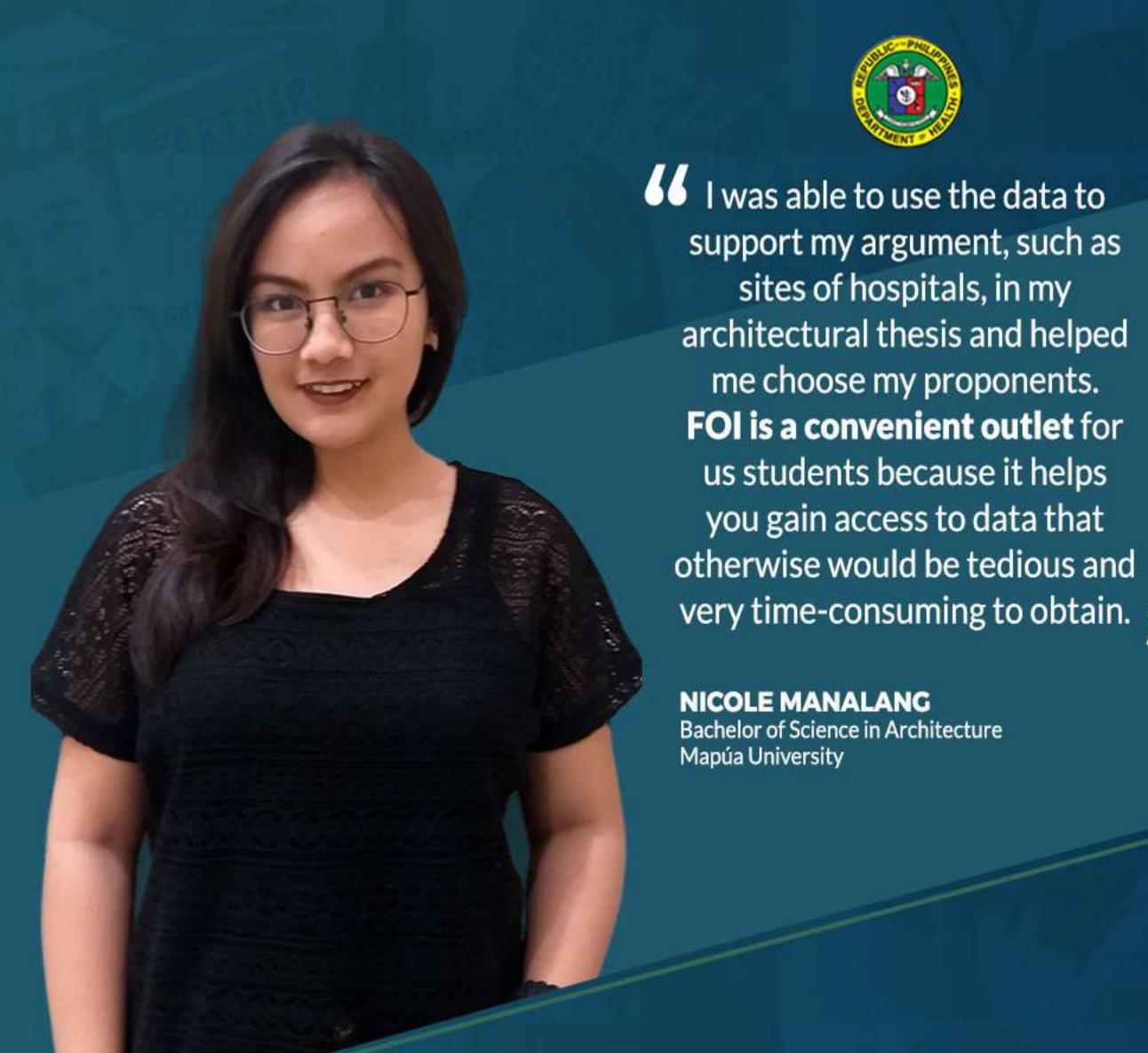
> SAMANTHA JAVIER Managing Partner PRAXIS Associates PH Co.



As a Filipino studying abroad, I find it really difficult to conduct research about the Philippines because most of the data that I needed are not available online. Through the eFOI Portal, I was able to request data among different government agencies, allowing me to finish my capstone project, and eventually my

There are, of course, some challenges and areas for improvement, but I am glad that the **eFOI Portal is a** start towards a more transparent and data-driven government.

PAUL JASON PEREZ Assistant Faculty UP School of Library and Information Studies



me choose my proponents. **FOI is a convenient outlet** for us students because it helps you gain access to data that otherwise would be tedious and very time-consuming to obtain.



Knowledge Innovation Transparency Empowerment

THE CHANGEMAKERS

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Project Development Officer II

Project Development Officer I

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FOI Champion



Jose Ruperto Martin M. Andanar Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office

FOI Program Director



Atty. Michel Kristian R. Ablan Assistant Secretary, Presidential Communications Operations Office