



# #InfoDataQuest 2023

Motivation, insights, and recommendations

29 November 2023 |

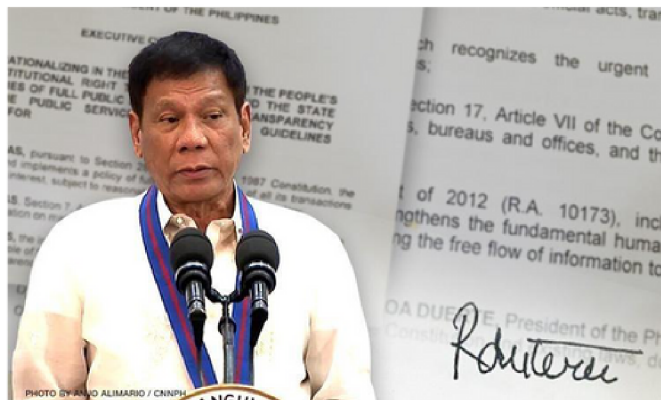
MARCO ZAPLAN  
Executive Director







# Opportunities and challenges



To increase transparency and accountability, the government launched various good governance initiatives including the country's implementation of the:

- DBM: Open Government Partnership, National Budget Circular 542 series of 2012, more popularly known as the Transparency Seal
- DoF: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
- PCO: Freedom of Information Program
- DILG: Full Disclosure Policy Portal

**Challenge:** hard to find, in formats that are not open and accessible (in PDF or JPEG), highly technical and not easily understandable



**#InfoDataQuest:**  
Strengthening Fiscal Transparency through Access to Information

**BETTER BUDGET MANAGEMENT THROUGH DATA-DRIVEN STORYTELLING**

**CHAMPION**  
Better Budget Management through Data-Driven Storytelling

**"Marco"**  
MARCO S. ZAPLAN

Data Storytelling Competition  
#FOIBridgingPeople #FOITulaySaKaalaman #PassFOILawNow



2021 STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS, ALLOTMENTS, OBLIGATIONS, DISBURSEMENTS  
Department of Trade and Industry

Agency name  
Department of ..

**TOTAL ALLOCATION**  
P25.62B

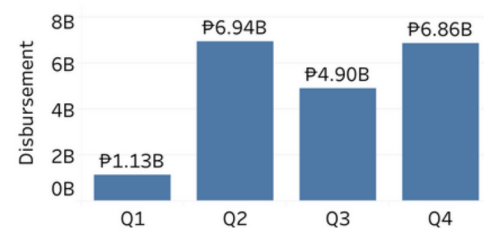
<b>PS</b> P5.98B	<b>MOOE</b> P17.69B	<b>FINEX</b> P0.00B	<b>CO</b> P1.94B
---------------------	------------------------	------------------------	---------------------

<b>OBLIGATED</b> P23.44B	<b>UNOBLIGATED</b> P2.18B	<b>UNRELEASED</b> P0.03B
-----------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------

**DISBURSEMENT**

77%  
DISBURSEMENT RATE  
% OF ALLOCATION

85%  
DISBURSEMENT RATE  
% OF OBLIGATION



Source: Department of Budget and Management (2022). STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS, ALLOTMENTS, OBLIGATIONS, DISBURSEMENTS fy 2018-2021 <https://www.dbm.gov.ph/index.php/programs/projects/statement-of-allotment-obligation-and-balances#tab:fy-2022>

Previous

## 2023 #InfoDataquest: Why the Better Budget Management through Data-Driven Storytelling Dashboard?

- To help data users from government and civil society to easily understand the data on budget utilization rates or BUR
- This metric is particularly helpful for policymakers, oversight agencies, civil society, and the media to hold implementing agencies accountable and recommend corrective actions to make spending more efficient and effective



# 2023 #InfoDataquest: Lessons learned from joining the Infodaquest

1. Growing awareness and demand from government and civil society about data storytelling
2. The leadership and openness to engage with civil society of government counterparts – DBM and PCO, enabled us to showcase and improve our work
3. Infodaquest can be a strategic platform for CSOs to advance data use, disclosure, and storytelling



Establishment of an efficient and effective technology enabled participatory validation and reporting mechanism for selected government infrastructure projects that supports the monitoring and evaluation policies of the Department.

Digital Information for Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME) Project			
July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2027			
<b>Brief Description of the Commitment</b>	The Digital Information for Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME) Project leverages the use of modern technologies such as satellites, drones and geotagging in monitoring and evaluating the status, progress, and activities of big-ticket government projects. It is aimed at augmenting the monitoring capabilities of national government agencies as transparency and accountability in government programs and projects.		
<b>Commitment Lead</b>			
<b>Supporting Stakeholders</b>	<b>Government</b> Department of Budget and Management (DBM)	<b>Civil Society</b> Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO), Gov Data Initiative (GDI)	<b>Other Actors (Pr</b>
<b>Problem Definition</b>			
1. What problem does the commitment aim to address?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This commitment aims to address the delayed implementation of infrastructure programs and projects. Government infrastructure projects are implemented and finished with significant delays, which has resulted in a delay in services to the general people. These delays were brought on by recurring issues that act as roadblocks and prevent completion within the allocated period. The most frequent of these challenges include, but are not limited to, bid failure, unusable sites, land ownership and ROW acquisition concerns, delayed engineering design preparation, unfavorable peace and order situations, and subpar contractor performance. If there had been adequate planning, consultation, and regular monitoring of the programs/projects, these challenges would have been avoided or mitigated. Regular tracking of progress in terms of scheduling, resource allocation and usage, and accomplishment of intended aims and outputs is possible through routine monitoring time frame and potential engagement with civil society and citizens.</li> </ul>		

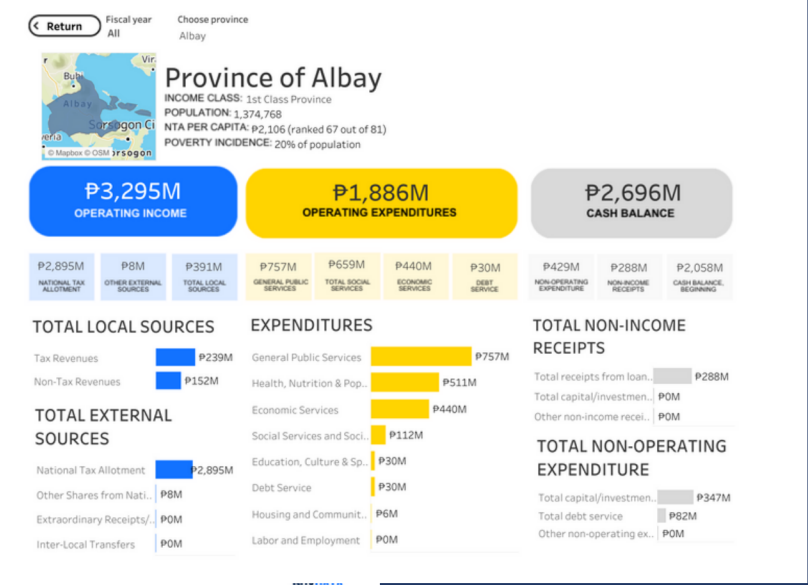
*2 DIME data stories published by NGO partners (1 each quarter) and publication in a major press outlets*





# 2023 #InfoDataquest: Ways forward for government and CSOs

1. **Capacity-building** for our data stewards in government and data users in civil society
2. Create **spaces** for trying new things to know what works best
3. Provide **resources and access to tools** to enable more people to create their own data stories
4. Sharing of **best practices** among practitioners from around the world
5. **Nurture this community** of government and civil society data storytellers and communicators
6. **Address barriers** to accessing data and institutionalize the use of open data and tools through an **enabling policy**







# Thanks!

— Toward a transparent,  
accountable, and  
responsive government

(+63) 976 098 1499

[team@govdatainitiative.org](mailto:team@govdatainitiative.org)