

# FOREWORD

*A* major milestone in the pursuit of local government empowerment is the passage of the 1991 Local Government Code (LGC). The Code allowed the sharing of the broad powers of the national government to the local government units (LGUs) falling under the development activities such as infrastructure including school buildings and facilities construction, health, agriculture, environment and natural resources management, tourism and social welfare.

Consequently, the passage of the new LGC further strengthened the role of Regional Development Councils (RDCs) in the provision technical assistance to the LGUs along economic, physical and land use frameworks for local plans,. This is to ensure that all activities are more operational in nature and programs/projects oriented.

In the Ilocos-Pangasinan Region, the RDC-I proved to be vital in so far as providing assistance to its major stakeholders, particularly the LGUs, along planning, investment programming, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation (PIPBME). Over the years, RDC-I through its secretariat (NEDA Region I) has been producing reference materials in aid of PIPBME activities. Coupled with these products is the continuing assistance of the Council to its major stakeholders.

Recently, RDC-I embarked on a series of the development briefings to all provinces and cities in the region. This has been undertaken to get the pulse of the provincial and city officials about the development perspectives of the region. While the objectives of this activity had been achieved, the issue on the low level of awareness of LGUs on the programs and projects of national government agencies was raised by the policy-makers themselves. This prompted the secretariat to come up with a compendium of the programs and projects of the government agencies in the region.

Special thanks to the 32 institutions who contributed in the compendium arranged by sector. Their contributions signify that they are supportive of the RDC projects.

This compendium will serve as a ready reference for the LGUs in availing the products and services of the National Government Agencies(NGAs), Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the region. Likewise, the compendium aims to further strengthen the linkages of the LGUs with the agencies at the sub-national level. All of these are in line with the efforts of the RDC-I to improve the linkages of the agencies with the LGUs and vice-versa.