

Subchapter 13.2

# ENHANCE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

A stable and accountable justice system remains essential in steering the Philippine economy toward a high-growth path, creating an enabling environment for business and investment, among others.

The justice sector’s initiatives towards addressing fragmentation in justice administration, promoting inclusive access, and mobilizing resources for persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) have advanced key sector targets. To sustain these gains and address remaining challenges, the sector will pursue institutional transformation and promote restorative justice through inter-agency collaboration, digitalization, localized justice delivery, expanded legal services in underserved areas, and implementation of multi-disciplinary rehabilitation mechanisms.

## Accomplishments

Table 13.2.1 Progress Report for Enhancing Administration of Justice

ENHANCE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE		
QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY IN DISPOSITION OF CASES IMPROVED	ACCESS TO QUALITY FREE OR AFFORDABLE LEGAL SERVICES BY FILIPINOS IMPROVED	QUALITY OF LIFE OF PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) IMPROVED AND PRODUCTIVE RE-INTEGRATION OF PDL IN THE COMMUNITY ENSURED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Establish and/or strengthen coordination mechanisms to improve sector efficiency and accountability</li><li>Create a Central Evidence Unit to store and handle evidence in criminal cases</li><li>Improve human resource allocation in the justice sector</li><li>Adopt sectoral training for all stakeholders in commercial disputes</li><li>Advance the use of ADR mechanisms at all levels</li><li>Maximize the use of digital technology and build a robust, efficient, and disaster-resilient ICT architecture for the justice sector</li><li>Implement the integration of the unified crime index uniformity of crime data</li><li>Streamline the rules on the disposition specialized and multi-party cases</li><li>Automate consumer complaints handling</li><li>Provide private sector-led redress mechanisms</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Promote free legal services access</li><li>Establish free legal aid public directory and referral system</li><li>Expand Justice on Wheels Program</li><li>Strengthen victim legal protection and assistance</li><li>Expand access to non-financial bail and periodic review of preventive imprisonment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Undertake construction and repair of penal facilities</li><li>Establish a unified penology and corrections system</li><li>Operationalize the National Preventive Mechanism</li><li>Expand the e-Dalaw system, livelihood and entrepreneurial opportunities for PDL, and multi-disciplinary rehabilitation mechanisms</li><li>Identify classes of PDL, who may be qualified for early release, and expand access to parole and probation for certain classes of offenses</li><li>Operationalize the unified referral and monitoring system for former PDL</li></ul>

Two years into the implementation of the PDP 2023-2028, significant strides have been made in enhancing the administration of justice. Although challenges in case disposition and penal facility decongestion remain, the justice sector has adopted strategic measures to address them. This includes greater coordination among justice sector agencies, adoption of reforms for digital interoperability, and mobilization of government resources.

**Coordination within the justice sector was bolstered, alleviating fragmentation in the criminal justice system.** This improvement was driven by increasing the number of Justice Zones, institutionalization of law enforcement-prosecution collaboration, and conduct of capacity-building on case build-up for 16,159 justice sector personnel. This led to a higher percentage of criminal complaints being resolved on preliminary investigation.

**Justice sector human and infrastructure resources were expanded.** The Office of the Regional Court Manager (ORCM)<sup>1</sup> was created. Human resource allocation was enhanced in the Judiciary and Executive offices. Additional prosecution office buildings were constructed. Consequently, the government surpassed its targets on completion rate of cases handled and disposition rate for all court levels. However, challenges remain as the justice sector fell short of its target for the indicators in case completion period in judicial dockets and successful prosecution. To address these, the SC piloted an AI-powered voice-to text transcription platform, which showed an average of 50 to 80 percent reduction in transcription time, enabling personnel to reallocate time on more substantial judicial functions.

**The use of ADR mechanisms was maximized.** The judiciary increased the number of accredited mediators for Court-Annexed Mediation (CAM) in various localities. Meanwhile, the DILG implemented the Lupong Tagapamaya Incentives Awards (LTIA), resulting in improved barangays' engagement in conflict resolution. This eased burden on court dockets with a 93 percent resolution rate in community disputes, resulting in PHP4.3 billion savings in litigation cost. To complement these, the OADR provided ADR skills training for Lupong Tagapamayapa in Justice Zones, requesting agencies and LGUs, and individual ADR practitioners in the public and private sectors.

**Affordable and quality legal services have become more inclusive.** The percentage of legal assistance requests acted upon within two hours by PAO has been consistently maintained. The justice sector implemented various programs to provide free or low-cost legal aid services, leveraging the services of public attorneys and law student interns through the *Katarungan* Caravans, REAL Justice, Revised Law Student Practice Rule, and Unified Legal Aid Service (ULAS), and the development of digital platforms, among others. These government interventions were further supported by bail reforms through

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<sup>1</sup> The ORCM serves as court manager in every judicial region to unburden trial court judges of their administrative duties so they can devote more time to deciding cases filed before their courts.

non-financial bail and recognizance, and programs on witness protection and victim assistance.

**Government resources mobilized for PDLs.** The government made progress in addressing the decades-old problem of congestion in penal facilities. The congestion rates in jail and prison facilities have been reduced, though they remain significantly high at 310 (vis-à-vis 390 in 2022) and 249 (vis-à-vis 304 in 2022) percent, respectively. This reduction is attributed to the expansion of prison facilities and improvement of jail facilities, and the transfer of 6,086 PDLs in 2024 and 951 in the first quarter of 2025 to facilities outside Metro Manila. PAO provided legal assistance to 797,430 PDLs, of which roughly 11.5 percent were released from detention on account of recognizance after service of minimum sentence, completion of service of sentence, and other legal reasons. Notably, the percentage of parolees and pardonees who were not recommitted into prison due to reoffending or other infractions has increased, underscoring progress in the sector's initiatives for the reintegration of PDLs. Nonetheless, the challenge of equipping PDLs to thrive in their new lives remains.

## Implementation of the Transformation Agenda

The chapter contributes to the transformation agenda on the role of the local and national government in development, digitalization, and a dynamic innovative system.

The quarterly launch of new justice zones provides a platform for local justice stakeholders to identify shared challenges and collaboratively devise solutions. Meanwhile, the implementation of *Katarungang Pambarangay* and the Remote Hearings and Equal Access to Law and Justice (REAL Justice) Program serves as a crucial measure in facilitating efficient and inclusive justice administration. Additionally, the institutionalization of law enforcement-prosecution collaboration has been instrumental in case build-up, resulting in improved prosecution of cases.

The justice sector adopted digitalization and innovation efforts by streamlining processes and facilitating data sharing. These efforts include the following, among others: National Justice Information System (NJIS), Online Legal Aid Directory, Judiciary Information and General Support System (JIGSS) through Facebook Messenger, electronic modified disbursement system (EMDS) for the release of victim assistance, Philippine Online Dispute Resolution System (PODRS), and the SC's AI-powered voice-to text transcription platform.

## Action Plan

Taking off from the progress and challenges in the past two years, the government will continue to improve efficiency and accountability in the justice system. This will be consistently pursued by (a) improving quality and efficiency in disposition of cases, (b)

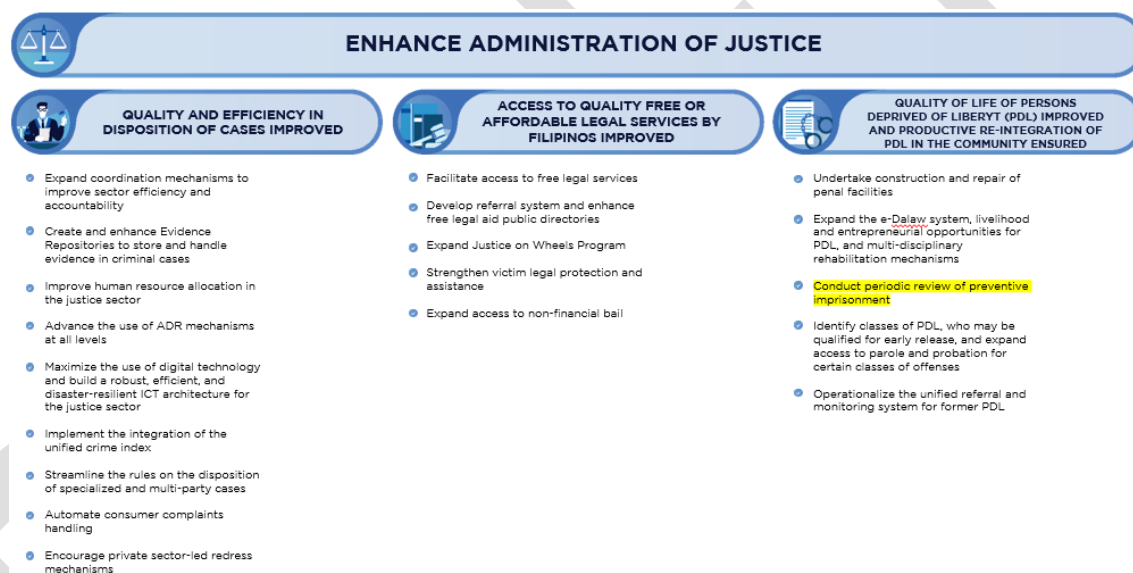
enhancing access to quality and affordable legal services by Filipinos, and (c) ensuring the quality of life of PDLs and their reintegration in the community.

The government will establish more Justice Zones and reinforce law enforcement-prosecution collaboration. The justice sector will also utilize IT-enabled systems, expand free legal aid and services, and improve infrastructure and services for PDLs, among others. Risks and challenges in achieving targets, such as limited human resources and lack of institutional capacity will be addressed through human resources rationalization and specialized training activities for all justice sector agencies.

## Updated Strategy Framework

The revised strategy framework (see Figure 13.2.1) showcases the government's commitment in sustaining efforts toward a stable, accountable, efficient justice system.

**Figure 13.2.1 Strategy Framework to Enhance Administration of Justice<sup>2</sup>**



## Strategies

### Outcome 1: Quality and Efficiency in Disposition of Cases Improved

*Expand coordination mechanisms to improve sector efficiency and accountability.*

<sup>2</sup> The following strategies were removed due to absence of concrete initiatives and plans: (a) Adopt sectoral training for all stakeholders in commercial disputes; (b) Establish a unified penology and corrections system; and (c) Operationalize the National Preventive Mechanism.

**The government will build on established justice sector coordination mechanisms.**

The Justice Sector Coordinating Council (JSCC) will establish one Justice Zone per quarter for the remaining years of the plan period. The JSCC will secure the support of LGUs to ensure the alignment between national and local justice reform efforts.

The DOJ's Department Circular (DC) No. 20, s. 2023 (Policy on Pro-active Involvement of Prosecutors in Case Build-up) and its related issuances will be fully implemented to fast track the resolution of cases by strengthening the role of case investigators and prosecutors. The Training and Education Program for Law Enforcement Officers (TEPLEO) and other mandatory training among law enforcers and prosecutors will be continued.

To ensure the uniform implementation of DC 20, the DOJ - National Prosecution Service (NPS), PNP, and NBI will integrate DC 20 in their respective standard operating procedures. The DC 20 will also be included in DOJ's mandatory training modules to ensure consistent application of said policy across the bureaucracy. Furthermore, the DOJ will institutionalize inter-agency performance assessments to monitor compliance and evaluate the impact of the policy.

*Create evidence repositories to store and handle evidence in criminal cases.*

**Justice sector agencies will boost evidence management within their respective systems.** Courts and government agencies with custody of evidence will each create or enhance their evidence repositories per Justice Zone to ensure a more efficient and secure storage in handling of evidence in criminal cases and investigations.

The DOJ will construct evidence rooms in NPS offices nationwide to support evidence management. Additionally, the PNP will continue its joint initiative with the Korean National Police Agency and the Korean International Cooperation Agency, namely "Establishment of Criminal Investigation Data Management and Analysis System." This will fully integrate all investigation systems, provide a cloud-based Data Center with the appropriate equipment and technologies, and capacitate PNP officers and personnel.

*Improve human resource allocation in the justice sector.*

**Recruitment efforts and adoption of innovative technologies will be pursued.** The SC will establish more ORCMs in judicial regions with two each for the Fourth Judicial Region and the National Capital Judicial Region. The DOJ will also create prosecution offices, including the NPS Regional Offices in Cordillera Administrative Region and Negros Island Region, to help achieve the required court to prosecutor ratio, while working to increase the number of public attorneys. Meanwhile, the BJMP and other justice-related agencies will assess staffing levels across areas with the most urgent personnel needs and allow targeted deployment of additional staff. In addition, the



judiciary will expand the use of AI-powered voice-to-text transcription in courts to reduce transcription time and better allocate personnel to other judicial functions.

*Advance the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms at all levels.*

**The justice sector will intensify the promotion of ADR as a critical factor in decongesting court dockets.** The SC will revisit the Rules of Court to include a filtering mechanism that will require litigants to first exhaust all available ADR mechanisms before judicial recourse. It will include a separate rule for Conditions to Action, which provides the essential elements that must be present for a valid and enforceable cause of action to exist.

The SC will expand the operation of CAM by recruiting and training mediators. Through the Philippine Judicial Academy and the Office of the Court Administrator, the SC will fully implement the recruitment and training of Family Mediators following the issuance of the Rule on Family Mediation in 2024 through AM No. 24-02-06-SC.

The DILG and OADR will expand advocacy activities on the Katarungang Pambarangay and capacitate *Lupong Tagapamayapa*. In partnership with the private sector, the OADR and other agencies in the Executive branch will sustain and expand the use of ADR through capacity-building, advocacy, and policy initiatives. Through Executive Order No. 68, s. 2024, the DILG and DOJ, through the LTIA, will continue to recognize the exemplary performance of barangays in handling conflict resolution effectively.

*Maximize the use of digital technology and build a robust, efficient, and disaster-resilient ICT architecture for the justice sector.*

**The NJIS will continually be enhanced.** To enable secure and seamless data exchange, the DOJ will develop NJIS' Interoperability Layer Application Programming Interfaces for data producer agencies and front-end portals for data consumer agencies and setup Virtual Private Network connection between agencies for secure connection. Once fully developed, the Judiciary's eCourt System Version 2.0 (eCourt PH ver 2.0) will be connected to the NJIS.

*Implement the integration of the unified crime index.*

**The Crime Index database will be improved.** The DOJ and the University of the Philippines Law Center will update the codebase of the Philippine Crime Index and the Philippine Crime Index Research System databases. The reach of these databases will be widened across data users in the justice sector.

*Streamline the rules on the disposition of specialized and multi-party cases.*

**Policies and standards for the swift resolution of specialized and multi-party cases will be adopted.** The SC will roll out the judicial curriculum on Philippine land registration through the Land Registration - Capacity Enhancement Training and publicize the Land Registration Training Manual. It will also incorporate a separate rule on Class Actions Suits to the proposed amendments to the Rules of Civil Procedure to streamline procedures for collective cases and promote judicial economy through the resolution of related claims in a single proceeding.

The NCIP, together with the DENR, DAR, and the LRA, will address jurisdictional overlaps concerning ancestral lands and land resource use. These agencies will work toward integrating indigenous rights in the unified framework on land titling, registration, and resource utilization.

*Automate consumer complaints handling.*

**Consumer complaints handling will be improved.** The DTI will enhance the PODRS and the Consumer Complaints Assistance and Resolution (CARE) System by improving user experience and interface and adopting AI tools. To complement these innovations, the OADR will continue capacitating consumer protection agencies on ADR.

*Encourage private sector-led redress mechanisms.*

**The DTI will broaden participation in the Bagwis Program by five percent increase from the 2,749 Bagwis Awardees.** This will allow more business establishments to comply with the Fair-Trade Laws and establish the Consumer Welfare Desk or the like inside the mall. To ensure effectiveness, monitoring systems will be strengthened to ensure continued compliance with the prescribed parameters of the program.

## **Outcome 2: Access to Quality Free or Affordable Legal Services by Filipinos Improved**

*Facilitate access to free legal services*

**Government resources and legal practitioners will be leveraged to provide free legal services.** The Revised Law Student Rule under Rule 138-A of the Rules of Court<sup>3</sup> will be fully implemented to address scarce legal services among the underprivileged.

Under the Rules on ULAS, covered lawyers will render at least 60 hours of pro bono legal aid every three years in favor of indigent Filipinos. To ensure effective implementation, the SC will constitute the ULAS Board and establish ULAS Offices, in coordination with the DOJ. To entice more lawyers to render free legal services, tax incentives under the

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<sup>3</sup> Under Rule 138-A of the Rules of Court, law schools are required to establish legal aid clinics and provide accredited law students the opportunity to assist Filipinos who do not have representation in court.

Free Legal Assistance Act of 2010 will be considered. The private sector, including innovators, will also be encouraged to develop legal technology solutions<sup>4</sup> using generative AI tools, among others, for a more inclusive access to justice.

Through the support of the DBM and LGUs, PAO will augment human resources and increase office spaces to meet the public attorney-to-court ratio of 1:1. PAO will also coordinate with law schools in strengthening the latter's clinical legal education programs or law internship programs.

The DOJ Action Center (DOJAC) will provide free legal aid through the conduct of at least 20 *Katarungan Caravans*<sup>5</sup> in partnership with LGUs, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, and various law schools. The Legal Education Board (LEB) will complement services rendered by the Judiciary, PAO, and DOJ by conducting, among others, capacity-building activities, free legal aid services, awareness campaigns with law schools, and development of the Clinical Legal Education Program.

#### *Develop referral system and enhance free legal aid public directories*

**Digital platforms will be increasingly utilized to improve the accessibility of legal aid services.** The SC will regularly update its Online Legal Aid Directory. Along with the DOJ and PAO, the SC will enhance the Free Legal Aid Service Providers Database and develop a referral system, which aligns with the requirements of the Rules on ULAS. The SC will promote the use of JIGSS, a chatbot accessible via Facebook Messenger that responds to public queries on legal aid providers, trial court information, and online payment of fees, among others. To ensure expansion of legal services, the DOJ will establish two DOJAC Regional Offices per year for the remaining plan period.

#### *Expand Justice on Wheels Program*

**The SC will implement the REAL Justice Program, an enhanced version of the Justice on Wheels Program.** The program will deploy retrofitted buses in far-flung areas within the territorial jurisdiction of judges, providing alternative forms of transportation. The SC's Subcommittee on REAL Justice will promulgate rules to optimize the mechanisms of the program, including identifying the most efficient location and manner of allocation of the equipment or mobile complementary courts.

#### *Strengthen victim legal protection and assistance*

<sup>4</sup> During the National Innovation Day celebration on April 28-30, 2025, one of the 11 qualifiers for Filipinovation Awards 2025 NCR Sub-National Competition include Lex Pilipinas (LexAI Solutions Inc.).

<sup>5</sup> *Katarungan Caravans* provide free legal services, legal advice and counselling, prepare legal documents such as requests for Good Conduct Time Allowance (GCTA), and facilitate government referral/endorsement to concerned government offices, among others.



**Government capacity to provide victim and witness legal protection will be boosted.** The DOJ will professionalize personnel complement and enhance the safety, well-being, and benefits of protected witnesses and their families under the Witness Protection Program. The PNP will upgrade its digital information security to prevent identity leaks, cyberthreats, and unauthorized disclosures of sensitive information.

Under the Victims Compensation Program, the BOC will refer cases, involving extrajudicial killing and tortures, among others, to the CHR. Similarly, under this program, the CHR will refer victims to the BOC for evaluation of claims of compensation. The DOJ and the BOC will consider alternative modes of releasing compensation to beneficiaries, in addition to the ongoing adoption of the EMDS. The DOJ will conduct financial literacy programs to educate beneficiaries on managing their financial resources.

The PNP and the DSWD will develop guidelines on specific roles in providing support to victims in cases involving child and gender-based violence. The PNP will conduct capacity-building for local police officers on gender-based and child rights-based cases. It will also continue the implementation of Quality Assurance Support to Victims and Complainants and Project *Aleng Pulis* Everywhere.

#### *Expand access to non-financial bail*

**Enhancements on non-financial bail access will be reviewed and automated.** The DOJ will review the Recognizance Act of 2012 and the 2018 DOJ Bail Bond Guide to expand its application. Prosecutors will consider the financial capacity of the accused when recommending the amount of bail pursuant to DC 11, s. 2023.

The SC will continue implementing an automated notification system, which will eventually be integrated in the eCourt PH Version 2.0. This guarantees that the accused, availing of non-financial bail, is alerted and notified of approaching court dates.

### **Outcome 3: Quality of Life of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) Improved and Productive Re-Integration of PDL in the Community Ensured**

#### *Undertake construction and repair of penal facilities.*

**The BuCor will expand and upgrade regional prison facilities as part of the initiative for the phased decongestion and eventual closure of the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) by 2028.** It will ensure that the construction and repair of facilities adhere to international standards. It will also work towards identifying lands in the regions that may potentially be donated by private organizations, philanthropists, and LGUs in support of the BuCor Reorganization Plan.

*Expand the e-Dalaw system, livelihood, and entrepreneurial opportunities for PDL, and multi-disciplinary rehabilitation mechanisms.*

**Various initiatives for the holistic improvement of the quality of life of PDLs will be implemented.** BuCor will enhance the e-Dalaw system to maximize virtual visits of family, legal representatives, and other professionals, and to digitalize court hearings. BuCor, with the DA, will relaunch the Reformation Initiative for Sustainable Environment for Food Security (RISE) Project. BuCor, with the DA and DTI, will facilitate market linkages initiatives for PDL-made products.

The BJMP, with other government offices and the private sector, will implement a holistic approach in the reformation of PDL drug offenders, through interventions such as the *Katatagan, Kalusugan at Damayan ng Komunidad* (KKDK) Program.<sup>6</sup> As part of multi-disciplinary rehabilitation mechanisms, BuCor and the BJMP will continue to implement programs such as the College Education Behind Bars and Alternative Learning System.

*Conduct periodic review of preventive imprisonment*

**The courts, the BJMP, and BuCor will periodically review all criminal cases involving preventive imprisonment to safeguard the rights of preventively imprisoned persons against unreasonable prolonged detention.** The review will be reinforced by automated computation of time served and notification system, prompting judges on the release date of detainees. This will be integrated in the NJIS, facilitating better coordination processes between judicial and correctional operations.

*Identify classes of PDL who may be qualified for early release and expand access to parole and probation for certain classes of offenses.*

**The access of qualified PDLs to early release, parole, and probation will be promoted.** The BPP will revisit the Indeterminate Sentence Law. It will scale up information dissemination among PDLs on their rights to access parole. BuCor and BPP will refine its platforms for parole applications and establish partnerships for the efficient verification of PDL's eligibility.

*Operationalize the unified aftercare referral and monitoring system for former PDL*

**BuCor will actively support the nationwide implementation of the unified aftercare referral and monitoring system** through a three-year pilot program. It will also develop a unified database for tracking former PDLs. Education, skills training, and livelihood programs will be provided through the Aftercare Program.

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<sup>6</sup> The KKDK program is a psycho-educational modular drug intervention program developed by the Psychological Association of the Philippines, used for institution-based, outpatient, or community-based drug rehabilitation.

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## Targets

All of the original core indicators will be continuously monitored to measure the country's progress in the administration of justice. However, an indicator on the number of SUCs and HEIs that provide free legal services is added for a comprehensive picture of accomplishments under Outcome 2.

**Table 13.2.2 Updated Results Matrix: Enhance Administration of Justice**

Indicator	Baseline Value (Year)	Accomplishment		Updated Targets			Means of Verification	Responsible Agency/ Inter-agency body
		2023	2024	2026	2027	2028		
Outcome 1: Quality and Efficiency in disposition of cases improved								
Case completion period in judicial dockets improved (%)	86	86.66	82.37	90	91	92	SC Annual Report	SC
Percentage of successful prosecution improved	91.05	89.55	90.13	91.11	91.13	91.15	DOJ Annual Report	DOJ
Completion rate of cases handled improved (%)	40.74	41.78	42.71	45.24	46.84	48.44	PAO Office Annual Report	PAO
Disposition rate for all court levels improved	39	49	51	47	49	51	SC Annual Report	SC
Percentage of criminal complaints resolved on preliminary investigation improved	92.29	93.17	98.72	93	93.5	94 <sup>7</sup>	DOJ Annual Report	DOJ
Clearance rate of all courts improved (%)	93	107	95	101	103	105	SC Annual Report	SC
Settlement rate of ADR cases by the Katarungang Pambarangay improved (%)	77	83.51	92.83	82	83	84	DILG KP Case Statistics Report	DILG, Office for Alternative Dispute Resolution (OADR)
Settlement rate of ADR cases by the judiciary improved (%)	51	52	53	53	54	54 <sup>8</sup>	SC Annual Report	SC
Settlement rate of ADR cases by the executive branch improved	48.22	65	65	65	66	66 <sup>9</sup>	OADR	OADR
Outcome 2: Access to quality free or affordable legal services by Filipinos improved								

<sup>7</sup> **Percentage of criminal complaints resolved on preliminary investigation improved:** Targets have been increased since targets were exceeded in the past two years.

<sup>8</sup> **Settlement rate of ADR cases by the judiciary improved (%):** Targets have been modestly lowered following the discussion during the First Planning Committee Meeting on April 24, 2025.

<sup>9</sup> **Settlement rate of ADR cases by the executive branch improved:** Targets have been increased since ADR trainings have been expanded.

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Indicator	Baseline Value (Year)	Accomplishment		Updated Targets			Means of Verification	Responsible Agency/ Inter-agency body
		2023	2024	2026	2027	2028		
Percentage of hearings for which no unjustified postponement is sought by the PAO legal representative maintained	100	100	100	100	100	100	PAO Annual Report	PAO
Percentage of requests for legal assistance that are acted upon within two hours maintained	100	100	100	100	100	100	DOJ Annual Report	DOJ
Number of SUCs and HEIs that offer Juris Doctor (JD) Programs that include a subject/exercise, requiring law students to provide free legal services to the public <sup>10</sup>	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	≥65	≥66	≥72	LEB	LEB
Outcome 3: Quality of Life of PDL improved, and productive re-integration of PDL in the community ensured								
Average congestion rate in jail facilities reduced (%)	390	330	310	315	302	290	BJMP data	BJMP
Congestion rate in prison facilities reduced (%)	304	332	249	313	252	262	BuCor data	BuCor
Percentage of parolees and pardonees not recommitted into prison due to reoffending or other infractions improved	98.94	98.77	99.44	98.98	99	99.02	DOJ Open Government data	DOJ-PPA

## Legislative Agenda

Table 13.2.3 contains priority bills for the 20th Congress during the remaining plan period to enhance administration of justice.

### Table 13.2.3 Legislative agenda to Enhance Administration of Justice

<sup>10</sup> A new indicator, “Number of SUCs and HEIs that offer Juris Doctor (JD) Programs that include a subject/exercise, requiring law students to provide free legal services to the public” has been included to further measure the government’s progress in terms of providing affordable legal services.

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Legislative Agenda	Rationale/Key Features	Responsible Agency
Expansion of the <i>Katarungang Pambarangay</i>	Expand the jurisdiction of the <i>Katarungang Pambarangay</i> with respect to residence and cases covered, among others. It will amend the exemptions to ensure alignment with Republic Act No. 10951, which adjusted the fines and the property values on which penalties are based under the Revised Penal Code.	DILG
Amendment of Republic Act No. 7309 (Creating the Board of Claims under the DOJ for Victims of Unjust Imprisonment)	Amend certain sections of Republic Act No. 7309 to increase the amount of compensation and lengthen the period of filing, among others.	DOJ
Institutionalization of a comprehensive and holistic approach for PDL reintegration	Institutionalize a comprehensive and holistic approach for the reintegration of PDLs post-incarceration. It will include mechanisms to facilitate public sector employment opportunities for PDLs post-release, provide incentives to encourage private sector hiring, and establish systems to support coordination and continuity of reintegration efforts after release.	DOJ, BuCor, BJMP, DSWD, DOLE, CSC, and other relevant government agencies
Strengthening of the Parole and Probation Administration	Strengthen human resource allocation and support the social, moral, and economic well-being of PPA personnel to address the disproportionate number of PPA officers vis-à-vis the applicants, to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.	DOJ, PPA