REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

1. The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) invites all eligible individual consultants to submit proposals for the **Consultant for Answering Critical Questions on Mining: Looking at Non-Metallics.**

2. The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) is **PhP761,600.00.**

3. Interested consultants must submit the following documents using PIDS the prescribed forms:

   a) ANNEX A - Curriculum Vitae of the proposed Consultant(s)
   b) ANNEX B - Technical Proposal Form
   c) ANNEX C- Financial Proposal Form
   d) ANNEX D - Filled out Data Privacy Notice and Personal Data Protection Form
   e) ANNEX E - Statement of Completed Contracts
   f) ANNEX F - Statement of All Ongoing and Awarded but Not Yet Started Contracts
   g) ANNEX G - Notarized Omnibus Sworn Statement (for ABC above PhP50,000.00)
   h) ANNEX H - Income/Business Tax Returns (for ABC above PhP500,000.00)
   i) ANNEX I - PhilGEPS Registration Number (certificate or screenshot)
   j) ANNEX J - Valid Mayor's/Business Permit (Firm) or BIR Certificate of Registration (Individual).
   k) ANNEX K - Image of Official Receipt or Service Invoice (*required for Individual Consultants during payment)*

4. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the Procurement Management Division via email at procurement@pids.gov.ph.

5. The Institute shall adopt the Quality-Based Evaluation procedure in selecting consultants based on the attached Terms of Reference.

6. The deadline for submission of proposals is on **April 13, 2026 (5:00 PM)** addressed to:

   The BAC Chairperson for Consultancy Services
   c/o The BAC Secretariat
   Procurement Management Division
   18/F Three Cyberpod Centris – North Tower, EDSA cor. Quezon Ave., Quezon City

   Proposals may also be submitted through email at procurement@pids.gov.ph .

7. PIDS reserves the right to reject any or all of the proposals, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is evidence of collusion, including any act that restricts, suppresses, or nullifies competition, or if there is a failure to follow the prescribed bidding procedures. PIDS also reserves the right to waive any required formality in the proposals received and select the proposal it determines most advantageous to PIDS.

CONNIE B. DACUYCUY, PhD
Chairperson
PIDS - BAC for Consulting Services
Reference No.: 2026-110

Note: PIDS is evaluating its consultant's performance based on the quality of services rendered, timeliness of delivery, customer/after sales service and overall quality of service.

Philippine Institute for Development Studies
TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANT
for
Answering Critical Questions on Mining: Looking at non-metallics

1. Background and Rationale

Amid efforts to diversity growth drivers, the Philippines is seeking to reinvigorate the mining industry as a potential new pillar of the economy. Recent policy reforms, such as the enactment of the Enhanced Fiscal Regime for Large-Scale Metallic Mining Act, are expected to support the sector's target of increasing its contribution to the country's gross domestic product to 2 percent (2%) by 2028, double its current share of almost 1 percent (1%).

Mining and quarrying remain one of the smallest contributors to the Philippine economy, accounting for just 0.7 percent of GDP from 2023 to 2025, as shown in Table 1. This unchanged share over the three-year period indicates a lack of growth momentum within the sector, even as other components of industry and services sectors exhibit gradual shifts.

Table 1. Percent to GDP by Sector

Sector	2023	2024	2025
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	8.6	8	7.9
Industry	29.1	29.1	28.3
1. Mining and quarrying	0.7	0.7	0.7
2. Manufacturing	18	17.6	17.3
3. Electricity, steam, water and waste management	3.3	3.3	3.2
4. Construction	7.2	7.5	7.1
Services	62.3	62.9	63.8

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority – National Accounts of the Philippines (Q1 2023 to Q4 2025)

This stagnation is also mirrored in the sector's production performance, which shows fluctuations but an overall downward trend in recent years (Table 2). The total gross output increased slightly from Php 317.5 billion in 2022 to Php 327.9 billion in 2023, before declining to Php 316.3 billion in 2024, and dropping sharply to Php 224.2 billion by Q3 2025. Large-scale metallic mining consistently dominated production, supported by rising gold sales to the BSP. However, declining non-metallic mining output has increasingly weighed on the overall sector's performance.

Table 2. Production value in Mining (in billions PHP)

	2022	2023	2024	Q3 2025
Production Value in Mining*	**317.5**	**327.9**	**316.3**	**224.2**
Large scale metallic mining	214.9	218.9	215.9	187.8
Gold sold to BSP	22.8	30.8	37	32
Non-metallic mining	79.9	78.2	63.4	4.4

Note: * Production value refers to gross output of mineral extracted during the reporting period
Source: MGB Mining Industry Statistics 2025

Beyond short-term market conditions, these trends reveal a structural imbalance within the mining

sector. While metallic mining continues to benefit from stronger institutional and policy support, non-metallic mining has received comparatively limited attention in terms of policy support, regulatory coherence, or developmental prioritization. In 2025, the Philippine government enacted the Republic Act no. 12253, or the Enhanced Fiscal Regime for Large-Scale Metallic Mining Act, which modernizes the fiscal framework for metallic mining by introducing tiered royalties, margin-based windfall profits tax, project-level ring-fencing, and streamlined reporting requirements.

Non-metallic mining, in contrast, continues to operate under exiting legal frameworks such as RA 7942 and RA 7729, relying on excise taxes, permit fees, and local-level regulations. Beyond fiscal differences, non-metallic mining also faces more fragmented permitting systems, multiple layers of coordination between national and local authorities, and shorter exploration or operational periods. Additionally, metallic mining often receives greater policy attention for strategic, export-oriented minerals, while non-metallic mining is generally oriented toward domestic construction and industrial supply.

This study builds on the Philippine Institute for Development Studies' (PIDS), prior studies on mining, including studies on large-scale metallic mining, small-scale mining, and the open-pit mining ban, by focusing specifically on non-metallic mining. The study seeks to address existing limitations in sectoral data, strengthen research evidence, and provide more comprehensive policy insights, supporting the development of regulatory measures that balance economic growth with environmental sustainability and social considerations.

2. Objectives of the Study

Hearings in both the House of Representatives and the Senate have highlighted a substantial gap in available data, research and policy analysis on non-metallic mining in the Philippines, constraining informed legislative discussion. This work aims to address this gap by assessing the current state of non-metallic mining in the Philippines.

Specifically, it seeks to:

1. Identify applicable and baseline functional policy;
2. Examine the current state of the art of non-metallic mining in the Philippines;
3. Look at institutional oversight and key players in non-metallic mining; and
4. Propose actionable recommendations to strengthen regulatory and institutional oversight.

3. Objectives of the Consultancy

The consultant will provide expert-level inputs throughout the consultancy period to support the assessment of the non-metallic mining sector in the Philippines.

The consultant will be guided by the following research questions:

- What is the extent and state of the art of non-metallic mining in the Philippines?
- What domestic policies/regulations impact the operation and efficiency of non-metallic mining?
- How do we better capture the economic benefits and address the challenges within the subsector?
- What policy and institutional enhancements are needed?

4. Scope of Work, Deliverables, and Schedule of Payment Releases

Under the guidance and technical oversight of a PIDS Research Fellow who serves as the Project Director, the Consultant is expected to work with the Project Team and undertake the following tasks/activities[1]

1. Prepare and submit the deliverables in accordance with the table and schedule of deliverables below;
2. Lead the conduct of the review of related literature on non-metallic mining;
3. Design and finalize tools suitable to the objectives and the mixed-methods design (quantitative and qualitative) of the study:
    i. Lead the preparation of the guide questions for key informant interviews (KIIs) and/or focus group discussions (FGDs);
4. The Consultant, with the Project Team, shall conduct primary data collection and continuously monitor the progress and quality of its implementation. Data collection involves KIIs and FGDs with various stakeholders, including relevant DENR-MGB central and regional offices, mining permit holders and industry representatives, local government units, and other concerned agencies and sector actors;
5. The consultant shall conduct at least three case studies of existing non-metallic mining operations, analyzing the application of relevant policies and regulations in practice, operational arrangements, benefit-sharing mechanisms, measures undertaken to address environmental and social issues, and approaches to community engagement;
6. The consultant shall lead the interpretation and synthesis of results, supervising the data processing;
7. Write the Final Report/Discussion Paper or Policy Note, collaboratively with the Project Director and PIDS Project Team;
8. Present the study results in a PIDS Internal Research Workshop;
9. Attend meetings related to the study;
10. Sign a Non-Disclosure Undertaking with PIDS. Any information gathered and generated in the implementation of the project shall be processed subject to the applicable provisions of the Republic Act No. 10173, known as the "Data Privacy Act of 2012" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and relevant issuances of the National Privacy Commission (NPC).
11. Others as may be assigned by the Project Director.

The Consultant will prepare the following outputs based on the schedule below:

Activities and Deliverables (see sample set of deliverables)	**Due Dates**	**Payment Tranches**
Inception Report following PIDS template	One month from signing the contract	15%
Progress Report including the assessment of the Research Instrument Development, overall progress of the project, data collection plan and updates on other related tasks that may be assigned by the Project Director **Finalized guide questions for KIIs and FGDs**	Two months after the issuance of signed contract	10%

[1] If the consultant needs to undertake physical/face-to-face interviews and data collection and related activities, the consultant has to ensure compliance with existing and future policies, rules, and resolutions as may be issued by concerned government agencies pertaining to health and safety.

Draft report[2] following PIDS template; **Research workshop presentation**	October 30, 2026	45%
Final Report addressing comments to the Draft Report and comments from the Research Workshop[3]; **Policy note** **Terminal Report** **Turnover of draft and materials used** together with Certification indicating the turnover of as well as the deletion of such data and that it will allow PIDS to verify if the data is complete.	November 30, 2026	30%

NOTE: Payments will be based on the acceptance and approval by PIDS of the corresponding outputs

5. Qualifications of the Consultant

The Consultant should have the following qualifications:

- **Educational Background**
  - Minimum: At least a Master's degree in Mining Engineering, Geology, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Public Policy, Economics or a related field.
  - Preferred: Doctoral degree (PhD) in Mining Engineering, Geosciences, Environmental Management, Public Policy, Natural Resource Management, Economics, or a related discipline.

- **Professional Experience**
  - Must have strong knowledge of the Philippine mining sector, particularly policies, regulations, and institutional arrangements governing non-metallics mining operations including familiarity with relevant laws and issuances;
  - Must have a minimum of 5 years of relevant policy research and writing experience in the environment sector.
- **Desirable**
  With advanced technical writing and verbal communication skills and the ability to manage technical queries and correspondence as needed.

[2] For applicable outputs, the draft and final reports submitted by the consultants should be aligned with the following guidelines: PIDS' Guide in the Preparation of Manuscript for Publication and General Guidelines in Preparing and Formatting a PIDS Discussion Paper, Guidelines in the preparation of Policy Notes.

[3] For research outputs that will be released as a PIDS Discussion Paper (DP), the consultant shall prioritize the publication outlets of PIDS, particularly the peer-reviewed Philippine Journal of Development (PJD) and Research Paper Series (RPS). If the DP is not selected by PIDS Management for publication either as a PJD article or an RPS issue, the consultant may identify other dissemination outlets outside of PIDS. Guidelines for Authorship in PIDS Research Projects shall apply.

6. Project Duration

The engagement will commence upon the signing of the contract until **November 30, 2026**, on a part-time basis. The Consultant's work must be completed by within this period, and no person days will be chargeable after this date.

7. Approved Budget for the Contract

The approved budget for this consulting service is up to Php 761,600.00, depending on the qualifications. This amount does not include the costs of data collection, which will be defrayed by PIDS. PIDS shall not cover the cost of insurance, hospitalization, and other health-related expenses of the consultant as no employer-employee relationship exists between the PIDS and the Consultant.

8. Evaluation Criteria

a. Evaluation Criteria:

Consultants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Consultant's Qualifications: • **Education** At least a Master's degree (PhD preferred) in Mining Engineering, Geology, Environmental Science, Natural Resource Management, Public Policy, Economics or a related field. • **Experience** Professional or research experienced in Philippine mining sector, particularly policies, regulations, and institutional arrangements governing non-metallic mining operations including familiarity with relevant laws and issuances; At least 5 years of relevant policy research and writing experience in the environment sector. • **Desirable** With advanced technical writing and verbal communication skills and the ability to manage technical queries and correspondence as needed.	60%
Plan of approach and methodology: a. Clarity, feasibility, innovativeness, and comprehensiveness of the approach b. Incisive interpretation of problems and reflection on suggested solutions	40%
Total	100%

b. Detailed rating sheet (see attached file)

Prepared by:

Sonny N. Domingo, PhD
Fellow II/Project Director

Reviewed and approved by:

Christine Ruth P. Salazar
Officer-In-Charge, Research Services Department