



**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 21
SERIES OF 2020**

**AN ORDINANCE ENACTING GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BAYAMBANG, PANGASINAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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Sponsored by all Municipal Councilors*

ARTICLE I

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 1. TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as the “Gender and Development (GAD) Code of the Municipality of Bayambang”.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES.

The Municipal Government of Bayambang adheres to international and national declarations regarding the rights of all individuals. With the Philippine Constitution that guarantees equal rights for men and women, the Municipal Government of Bayambang is obligated to ensure and promote this equality in all spheres and endeavors in life. Men and women are to be treated as equal partners in all efforts for the upliftment and development of a decent, progressive, and happy life.

Likewise, the municipality affirms its stand that women as equal and worthy partners of men in the challenging and continuing task of nation-building are endowed with dignity and worth to be promoted and respected. They have the right to equally share in all benefits that accrue from their labor and the general development efforts of their municipality and country. They have also the right to participate and decide on what is good for themselves, their families, communities, and country. They stand equal in front of the law and are at the forefront of the endeavors of the Municipality in enhancing their potentials, uplifting their status, and improving the quality of their lives.

Toward the realization of all these, the municipality shall consistently pursue and implement gender-responsive development programs and projects towards the empowerment of women, promotion of their economic status, and supporting their efforts at self-empowerment and self-determination adopting measures for the protection and promotion of their rights.

The Municipality of Bayambang in order to achieve these goals shall:

- 1) Mainstream gender-sensitivity and gender equality in all spheres through education, local legislation, and services that are responsive to the needs and circumstances of men and women in the Municipality of Bayambang;
- 2) Plan or adopt programs, projects, and activities that shall strengthen the promotion and protection of women’s rights;
- 3) Empower Bayambang women and narrow gender gaps through the different offices and agencies of the Municipality by ensuring women’s active participation and involvement in the planning and development of all programs and projects that affect them;
- 4) Through the Puroks, exert effort in increasing economic opportunities for women through worthwhile training and livelihood projects and extend strong support to those already employed in all sectors, the self-employed and especially the unemployed;
- 5) Ensure effective and accountable governance the fruits of which can be shared and felt by all the constituents in even the remotest corners of the Municipality;



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- 6) Strengthen the family by promoting values and practices that shall ensure peace, justice and equality, and prosperity for all.
- 7) Ensure that all departments and offices within Municipality of Bayambang shall review and revise all their regulations, circulars, issuances, and procedures to remove gender bias therein, and shall complete the same within two years after the enactment of this Ordinance;
- 8) Consult women's groups in the Municipality in all matters affecting them including those dealing with official development assistance or foreign aid so as to determine maximum opportunities and benefits for women and to remove gender biases and negative implications on women.

SECTION 3. THE UN DEFINITION AND DECLARATION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

Women rights are the rights of women that are defined and declared by the United Nations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and are hereby adopted as follows:

- a. Women have the right to the prevention of, and protection from all forms of violence and coercion against their person, their freedom, their sexuality, and their individuality.
- b. Women have the right to freely, and fully participate individually or collectively in the political processes of their communities and nations.
- c. Women have the right to the means for assuring their economic welfare and security.
- d. Women have the right to the necessary knowledge and means for the full exercise of their reproductive choice in accordance with the Constitution and their beliefs and preferences.
- e. Women have the right to choose a spouse in accordance with their values and preferences, maintain equality in marriage or its dissolution, and obtain adequate support for caring and rearing of their children.
- f. Women have the right to an adequate, relevant, and gender-fair education throughout their lives, from childhood to adulthood.
- g. Women have the right to adequate nutrition and proper health care.
- h. Women have the right to humane living conditions.
- i. Women have the right to nurture their person collectively and individually, to secure an image of themselves as a whole and valuable human being, to build relationships based on respect, trust, and mutuality.
- j. Women have the right to equality before the law in principle as well as in practice.
- k. And other rights provided in RA 9710 otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- a. **Bayambang Gender and Development Council (BGADC)** – in Municipality of Bayambang a body that shall be created to plan, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of national and local laws for women, study and recommend solutions for issues and concerns of women, and together with concerned agencies and offices spearhead programs, projects, and activities for/of women in the municipality;
- b. **Development** – is the improvement of the quality of life of all regardless of age, sex, gender, tribe, race, creed, and religion. It is characterized by an enrichment of Filipino indigenous resources, sustainable utilization of the natural resources of the country, and freedom from dependency;



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- c. **Differently-abled Persons** – are persons who are survivors of physical impairments and have different needs and potentials;
- d. **Discrimination Against Women** - any distinction, exclusion, or restriction made on the basis of sex which has purpose or effect of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise by women of their rights irrespective of their marital status.
- e. **Empowerment** –refers to a process by which women are mobilized to understand, identify and overcome gender discrimination;
- f. **Gender** – is a socially constructed difference between men and women. Differences are created artificially partly through socialization and partly through positive and negative discrimination in the various institutions and structures of society.
- g. **Gender and Development (GAD)** – shall refer to the development perspective which recognizes the equal contribution of women and men in all aspects/sectors of development. Such a perspective involves the process of searching for new innovative initiatives that transform unequal gender relations into opportunities that are equally/equitably beneficial to both men and women.
- h. **Gender Equality** – refers to the principle of asserting the equality of men and women and their right to enjoy equal conditions realizing their full human potential to contribute to and benefit from the results of development, and with the State recognizing that all human beings are free and equal in dignity and rights.
- i. **GAD Focal Point System** – is a mechanism that serves as a technical working group that catalyzes, coordinates, directs, and facilitates the preparation, implementation, and monitoring of the municipality’s GAD plan;
- j. **Gender Mainstreaming** – is the strategy of integrating gender and development concerns and issues at all levels of government undertaking.
- k. **Gender Sensitivity Training** – is providing people with a formal learning experience in order to increase their awareness. The overall purpose of the training is to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to recognize and address gender issues in the programming process. At the center of the learning process is the conscientization involving the ability to recognize the underlying issues of gender inequality which form a pervasive obstacle to program progress.
- l. **Hours of Work** – include (1) all-time during which an individual is required to be at a prescribed workplace, and (2) all-time during which an individual is permitted to work. Rest period duration during working hours shall be counted as hours worked;
- m. **Indecent Shows** –are shows which include nude or other provocative gestures which further project and exhibit men and women as sex objects;
- n. **Mail-Order Bride** – is a practice where a woman establishes personal relationships with a male foreign national via e-mail or similar means upon recruitment by an agency operating for the purpose;
- o. **Parental Leave** – under RA 8972, parental leave shall mean leave benefits granted to a solo parent to enable him/her to perform parental duties and responsibilities where physical presence is required;
- p. **Pornography** - is a written, graphic, or other forms of communications intended to excite lascivious feelings (The Grolier International Dictionary, Volume 2);
- q. **Psychosocial Programs** – is an intervention using a system approach to conditions of women as it views women’s differentiated needs in a social context;



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- r. **Reproductive Health** – is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system and its functions and processes. It constitutes such elements namely:
- i. Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
 - ii. Family Planning
 - iii. Prevention and Treatment of Reproductive Tract Infection (RT) including STD, HIV, and AIDS
 - iv. Prevention and Management of Abortion Complication
 - v. Education and Counseling on Sexuality and Sexual Health
 - vi. Prevention and Treatment of Infertility and Sexual Disorders
 - vii. Men's Reproductive Health
 - viii. Violence Against Women
 - ix. Adolescent Reproductive Health
- s. **Senior Citizen or Elderly** – refers to any Filipino citizen who is a resident of the Philippines, and who is sixty (60 years old or above. It may apply to senior citizens with “dual citizenship” status provided they prove their Filipino citizenship and have at least six (6) months of residency in the Philippines;
- t. **Sexual Exploitation** – refers to participation by a person in prostitution or the production of pornographic materials as a result of being subjected to a threat, deception, coercion, abduction, force, abuse of authority, debt bondage, fraud, or through abuse of a victim's vulnerability; (RA 9208);
- u. **Survivor's Support Group** – is an organized group to whom a survivor of violence voluntarily agrees to establish a professional helping process;
- v. **Women as Sex Objects** – is a condition when women become things or properties to be manipulated, utilized, or used for one's sexual desire or interest, usually in exchange for money or goods where women have no control or power to reject such utilization or use.

ARTICLE II

GENDER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

SECTION 5. COLLECTION AND UPDATING OF SEX DIS-AGGREGATED DATA. Data collected in all offices of the Local Government Unit and in all other National Offices operating within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Bayambang shall be sex dis-aggregated and regularly updated so as to provide a realistic picture of women and men and their different circumstances.

SECTION 6. GENDER SENSITIVITY ORIENTATION AND TRAINING. All government departments and agencies, schools, institutions, offices, establishments or companies within the Municipality of Bayambang shall conduct or participate in gender sensitivity orientation and training to equip them with theoretical and practical knowledge on gender issues and concerns assessment tools for gender biases shall be developed by the tertiary educational institution within the municipality together with the Human Management Resource Office of the municipality and representatives from women's groups and business establishments.



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SECTION 7. SUPPORT TO GENDER STUDIES AND TRAINING. A sufficient amount shall be provided for gender sensitivity training (GSTs) conducted for government institutions, the municipality's departments and agencies, women and men's organizations, likewise for research, documentation, and development of materials that will promote and add to the municipality's database on Gender and Development.

SECTION 8. PRODUCTION OF GENDER-FAIR MATERIALS. The production and dissemination of gender-fair materials that promote a better understanding of gender issues and concerns shall be supported by the municipality.

SECTION 9. COMMUNITY-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS. Both men and women shall participate in pollution control, zero-waste technology development and management, preservation of the forest, marine and aquatic resources, and reforestation.

SECTION 10. WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROJECTS. The municipality shall recognize and promote the participation of women in environmental impact assessment projects.

SECTION 11. PROMOTION OF ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY. The municipality shall actively promote an alternative technology that is appropriate, safe, and if possible profitable, for everybody.

SECTION 12. SUFFICIENT BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES. A sufficient amount to help the neediest and those in extremely difficult circumstances shall be allocated for basic social services.

SECTION 13. TRAINING ON NON-TRADITIONAL OCCUPATION. Women shall be given the opportunity to acquire training and skills in a non-traditional occupation such as those related to science and technologies.

ARTICLE III
HEALTH AND SAFETY

SECTION 14. BUDGET FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH. An amount as may be necessary shall be set aside in the annual budget of the Local Government Unit for women's health, medicines and nutrition services. This shall be one of the major components of the GAD Budget.

SECTION 15. UPGRADING OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM. In consonance with the Department of Health's thrusts, the municipality of Bayambang shall strengthen the health delivery system. Quality health care and services that are not discriminatory on account of sex, age, financial status, and religion shall be implemented.

SECTION 16. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY. The Local Government of Municipality of Bayambang shall adopt the reproductive health (RH) care approach at all levels of health care delivery. Such approach interfaces many issues not previously considered central to population: sexuality, reproductive tract infection, gender power relations, and domestic violence and shall not limit to family planning and childbearing only.

SECTION 17. HEALTH EDUCATION. The Municipal Health Office shall continuously conduct education for women on health issues, common diseases, their causes and prevention, healthful living, and a clean environment.

SECTION 18. UPGRADING OF HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CENTER FACILITIES AND SERVICES. The Municipal Government shall endeavor the sustained upgrading of services and facilities of the Rural Health Units.

SECTION 19. PROTECTION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE. A special task force shall be created and sustained by the municipality for the protection against drug abuse and proliferation of illicit drugs in the Municipality.