



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Sorsogon
CITY OF SORSOGON



Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE EIGHTH CITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SESSION HALL, CABID AN, EAST DISTRICT, SORSOGON CITY ON OCTOBER 25, 2022.

PRESENT:

HON. MARK ERIC C. DIONEDA
City Vice Mayor/ Presiding Officer

WEST DISTRICT

Hon. Peter Joseph J. Ravanilla
Hon. Nestor J. Baldon
Hon. Bryan J. Pingul

EAST DISTRICT

Hon. Maria Theresa H. Gonzalez
Hon. Lester R. Lubiano
Hon. Mark Jayson D. Jamisola
Hon. Angelu Magda P. Ravanilla

BACON DISTRICT

Hon. Jo Abegail C. Dioneda
Hon. Reynaldo C. Taladtad
Hon. Glenn P. Olbes
Hon. Danilo A. Deladia

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Hon. Bessie C. Diaz
Hon. Renalene Mae J. Duka

ABSENT:

Hon. Ma. Teresa D. Perdigon – on official business

Resolution No. 343, Series of 2022

(Author: Hon. Jo Abegail C. Dioneda)

RESOLUTION ENACTING AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE SORSOGON CITY “GAYON CIUDAD” TOURISM CODE OF 2022 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION AND REGULATION OF TOURISM ACTIVITIES AND INDUSTRIES IN THE CITY OF SORSOGON AND FOR SUCH OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Global Tourism Code recognizes the important dimension and role of tourism as a positive instrument towards the alleviation of poverty and the improvement of the quality of lives of the people while safeguarding the natural environment to satisfy equitably the needs and aspirations of the present and future generations;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act 9593, otherwise known as, the Tourism Act of 2009, provides that, “the State declares tourism as an indispensable element of the national economy and an industry of national interest and importance, which must be harnessed as an engine of socioeconomic growth and cultural affirmation to generate investment, foreign exchange and employment, and to continue to mold an enhanced sense of national pride for all Filipinos.”;

WHEREAS, Section 17 of R.A. 7160, or the Local Government Code of 1991, grants to local government units, such other powers and discharge such other functions and responsibilities, as are necessary, appropriate or incidental to efficient and effective provision of tourism facilities and other tourist attractions, including the acquisition of equipment, regulation and supervision of business concessions and security services for such facilities;

WHEREAS, it is hereby the declared policy of the City Government of Sorsogon to pursue a tourism development, that is, sustainable, transparent, inclusive and does not exploit, in any form any person regardless of age, sex, religion and status in life, as the city possesses natural, cultural, historical, man-made and special interests tourists' attractions;

WHEREAS, in its primordial concern to make the city a prime destination for both local and foreign tourists, the adoption of the New Sorsogon City Tourism Code could pave the way for the realization of a sustainable tourism development within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon;

WHEREAS, "Gayon Ciudad" is among the 10-Point Agenda of the Administration of Hon. Ma. Ester E. Hamor that prioritizes a beautiful Sorsogon by promoting sustainable tourism and environment-friendly programs where local tourism destinations and packages will be improved and developed;

WHEREAS, "Gayon Ciudad" also spans reforestation, sustained tree planting, coastal clean-up and an effective solid waste management programs, among others;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of **Hon. Jo Abegail C. Dioneda**, duly seconded by **Hon. Bessie C. Diaz**, resolved as it is hereby resolve to enact an ordinance institutionalizing the Sorsogon City "Gayon Ciudad" Tourism Code of 2022 for the development, promotion and regulation of tourism activities and industries in the City of Sorsogon and for such other purposes.

City Ordinance No. 010, Series of 2022

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE SORSOGON CITY "GAYON CIUDAD" TOURISM CODE OF 2022 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION AND REGULATION OF TOURISM ACTIVITIES AND INDUSTRIES IN THE CITY OF SORSOGON AND FOR SUCH OTHER PURPOSES

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod, in session assembled that:

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1 SHORT TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known as "**THE SORSOGON CITY "GAYON CIUDAD" TOURISM CODE OF 2022**"

SECTION 2 SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This code shall govern and regulate all tourism-related matters within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon and its political subdivisions.

The code provides activities, programs and projects for the total development and promotion of the tourism industry in the city of Sorsogon, making this place a liveable haven for its constituents, in consonance with all applicable existing and future governmental policies, laws and regulations related thereto.

The provisions of this Code shall apply to all political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities, non-government organizations, businesses and establishments for tourism, persons, whether natural or juridical, directly or indirectly involved in the tourism industry. The Philippine Tourism Act of 2009 or RA 9593, Republic Act No. 7160, as well as, other relevant and applicable laws, rules and regulations, issued by the national government, the Department of

Tourism and other local ordinances, shall guide this code.

SECTION 3 **OBJECTIVES**

For the general welfare and benefit of the general populace of the City of Sorsogon, the following shall be the objectives in the operation, management and administration of the Sorsogon City Tourism, Culture and Arts Office (SCTCAO):

1. Develop tourism products and destinations that would make Sorsogon City a new major destination in Bicol Region;
2. Identify infrastructure and institutional development programs to help support the tourism industry;
3. Strengthen public-private partnership programs for an inclusive, sustainable and competitive investment in tourism industry with the active participation of the community;
4. Promote competitive, sustainable socio-economic growth in the city.

SECTION 4 **DECLARATION OF POLICIES**

It is hereby declared policy of the city government of Sorsogon to pursue and enhance the development and promotion of city's tourism and tourism industry, as well as, achieve and improve sustainable socio-economic status and protected environment, as explicitly provided by R.A. 9563, otherwise known as, the Tourism Act of 2009. This aims to make the Sorsogon City Tourism Culture and Arts Office (SCTCAO) more responsive and an effective instrument of public service, significantly contributing to its local development. Towards this end, the City shall develop, regulate and standardize the general affairs, system and highly professionalizing public services, in terms of tourism aspects. Henceforth, the following shall always be observed:

1. Tourism ventures and resorts, located in the coastal areas, shall always make the beachfront open to the public, measuring twenty (20) meters from the point of the high tide. As such, a right-of-way shall always be provided by resort operators, preferably located in between resort properties, not less than one (1) meter wide, wherever applicable.
2. Upland resort developers shall put up a tree park or a similar project, comprising not less than ten (10) percent of its total land area, using endemic forest and fruit trees.
3. Local residents shall be given priority in the hiring of tourism workers provided, they possess the necessary qualifications, or tourism establishments have the option of hiring, at least, sixty (60) percent of their total workforce from the local residents.
4. For the purpose of strengthening the City of Sorsogon as a major tourist destination, proper facilities, administrative and personnel support is a priority in the preparation of the Annual Budget, Annual Investment Plan and Human Resource Development Plans.

SECTION 5

DEFINITION OF TERMS

In addition to the terms and phrases, duly defined in R.A. 9593 and its IRR and the Department of Tourism, the following are given their meaning in this Code:

Accreditation – a certification issued by the appropriate government agency that the holder is recognized as having complied with the minimum standards, required by the SCTCAO and the Department of Tourism (DOT), in the operation of tourism-oriented establishments and other concerned facilities.

- a. **Amusement** – refers to a pleasurable diversion or entertainment, as defined under R.A. 7160, otherwise known as, the Local Government Code of 1991. The word is also synonymous to relaxation, avocation, pastime or fun.
- b. **Beach front** – a swath of beach area for public use, measuring twenty (20) meters wide, going inward from the point of high tide.
- c. **Code** - refers to this particular ordinance.
- d. **Conservation** - includes all efforts towards the perpetuation, or preservation of the whole or part of the buildings and includes rehabilitation, or construction of a new one in its stead. Provided, that the facade showing its being a cultural heritage, landmark, historical or legacy building is preserved and restored.
- e. **Cultural resources** – include historic buildings, sites, monuments, shrines, cuisine, ethnic cultures, industry, government, religion, anthropological resources and local celebrities.
- f. **Culture of tourism** – local values exuded by persons, establishments related to the tourism industry which includes courtesy towards guests, preparedness of the place to receive visitors and readiness of the tour guides.
- g. **Customized/Special tour** – any tour with specific purpose, usually organized as regards to profession, event, study, research of the tourists/excursionists usually tailor-made.
- h. **Familiarization tour (Famtour)** – is an organized tour to make specific interest groups to be aware of the new tourism product or service.
- i. **Foreign visitors** – refer to all passengers using foreign passports.
- j. **Itinerary or program** – a document indicating the following purposes: purpose of the tour, areas/sites to be visited, using a specific route in a given time frame under the direction of a primary tourism or tourism enterprise with assigned tour guide.
- k. **Natural resources** – these refer to climate-seasons, water resources (lakes, streams, waterfalls), flora (forests, flowers, shrubs, wild edibles), fauna (fish & wildlife), geological resources (topography, soils sand dunes, beaches, caves, rocks and minerals, fossils) and scenery.
- l. **Physical infrastructures** – shall include, but not limited to, roads, bridges, administrative buildings, toilet and comfort room facilities, parking areas, rest areas, forest tracks, walkways, viewing platforms, cottages, wharves, boat landing facilities, solid and liquid waste facilities, security and service facilities, and communication centers.
- m. **Potential tourist properties** – these refer to sites and attractions not yet developed, existing, with potential and/or emerging, including but not limited to, lakes, waterfalls, volcanic hot springs, caves and rainforests.
- n. **Primary tourism enterprises** – refer to travel and tour services, land, sea and air transport services exclusively for tourist use; accommodation establishments, conventions and exhibitions organizers, tourism estate management services; and such other enterprises as may be identified by SCTCAO and DOT, after due consultation with concerned sectors.
- o. **Running tour** – is a kind of guiding where tourists are inside a moving van, coaster or bus while tour guides are pointing to sites of historic, cultural or economic significance without disrupting the traffic flow.
- p. **Sustainable development** – refers to a mode of human development, in which resource use, aims to meet human needs while ensuring the sustainability of natural systems and

the environment, so that these needs can be met, not only in the present, but also for generations to come.

- q. **Sustainable tourism development** – means tourism development that leads to management of all resources, in such a way that, economic, social, and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled, while maintaining cultural integrity, ecological, biological diversity and life support systems.
- r. **Responsible culture of tourism** – a positive character, concept activity that creates better places for people to live in and better places to visit.
- s. **Tourism** – a major city activity in which private sector’s investments, efforts and initiatives are extremely encouraged, fostered and supported and through which, socio-economic development may be accelerated and the province’s nature, history and culture may be appreciated with pride and commitment.
- t. **Tourism industries** – refer to industries or business enterprises, providing goods and services to tourists and all types of travelers, while they stay, travel, visit and enjoy the facilities and destinations.
- u. **Tourist transport service** – may mean by land, air and water transport services whose specific purpose under the special permit shall be to transfer tourists/excursionist from one place to another and governed by an itinerary.
- v. **Tour operator** – shall refer to any person or entity who extends to individuals or groups related to tourism services, whether or not, for a fee, commission, or any form of compensation.
- w. **Travel Agency**- an agency which has full knowledge of tourist products, destinations, modes of travel, climate, accommodation, and other areas of the service. It is a private retailer or public service that provides travel and tourism-related services to the general public and engaged in selling and arranging transportation, accommodations, tours, and trips for travellers.
- x. **Walking Tour** – refers to the tour of the tourists/excursionists with a tour guide, by walking along, using no vehicles through sites with historical, cultural and economic significance.

SECTION 6 ACRONYMS

The following words of acronym shall refer to mean, as:

- a. **DOT** - Department of Tourism
- b. **NCCA** - National Commission for Culture and the Arts
- c. **NHCP** - National Historical Commission of the Philippines
- d. **NCIP** - National Commission on Indigenous People
- e. **DENR** - Department of Environment and Natural Resource
- f. **DPWH** - Department of Public Works and Highways
- g. **DTI** – Department of Trade and Industry
- h. **LGU** - Local Government Unit
- i. **PO** - Private Organization
- j. **TESDA** - Technical Education and Skills Development Activities
- k. **PNP** - Philippine National Police
- l. **CDRRM** – City Disaster Risk and Reduction Management
- m. **LTFRB** - Land Transportation and Franchise Regulatory Board
- n. **BPLO** - Business Permit and Licensing Office
- o. **NGO** - Non-Government Organization
- p. **SCTDC** - Sorsogon City Tourism Development Council
- q. **SCTCAO** - Sorsogon City Tourism Culture and Arts Office
- r. **SCCHC** - Sorsogon City Cultural Heritage Council
- s. **BTC** - Barangay Tourism Council
- t. **IATF-SCTR** – Inter-Agency Task Force-Sorsogon City Tourism Rehabilitation

CHAPTER II
THE TOURISM GOVERNANCE

SECTION 7 **THE SORSOGON CITY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (SCTC)**

There shall be established the Sorsogon City Tourism Development Council (SCTDC) which shall be the highest coordinating and policy formulating body on tourism in the city.

SECTION 8 **COMPOSITION**

The SCTC shall be composed of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Honorary Chairman: | The City Mayor |
| Co-Chairmen: | SP Chairman, Committee on Tourism
SP Chairman, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Industry |
| Secretariat: | Sorsogon City Tourism Culture and Arts Office |
| Members: | The City Planning & Development Coordinator
The City Engineer
The Chief of Police
The LIGA President
Superintendent, Department of Education
City ENRO
City Agriculture Officer
City Information Officer
Department of Public Works and Highways
Public Safety Officer
CDRRMO
Business Permits and Licensing Officer
City Health Officer
City Legal Officer
Information Communication Technology Officer President
of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce- Sorsogon Chapter
All accredited Civil Society Organizations related to Tourism |

SECTION 9 **MEETINGS AND QUORUM**

The SCTDC shall meet, at least, once a quarter, or as often as may be necessary. A majority of all its members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 10 **ROLES AND DUTIES**

The SCTDC shall perform roles and duties, such as, but not limited to, as follows:

- a. Help identify, develop and promote potential tourism attractions, activities and products.
- b. Initiate and recommend the implementation of programs and activities on tourism in coordination with the DOT, private sector and other entities.
- c. Initiate private and public partnerships in implementing tourism development plans, programs and activities.
- d. Promote and support sustainable tourism by facilitating community-based tourism activities.
- e. Extend technical assistance and support to all tourism-oriented and related establishments.

- f. Advocate for a responsible culture of tourism among stakeholder and tourist alike.
- g. Create sustainable tourism programs and projects for the community.
- h. Create and promote awareness on the benefits of tourism through mixed media.
- i. Help in monitoring compliance of the requirements of standards and regulations set by DOT and other government agencies for the general welfare of tourists, visitors and community.
- j. Facilitate resource generation for tourism activities.
- k. Ensure the implementation of fair labor practice and equitable distribution of benefits.
- l. Such other related functions or activities, as may be approved by the Council.

SECTION 11 TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office of all officers and members of the Council shall be co-terminus with the City Mayor, who can replace or modify the council's composition, at any time, with or without cause, by virtue of an Executive Order.

SECTION 12 CREATION OF THE SORSOGON CITY TOURISM CULTURE AND ARTS OFFICE (SCTCAO)

Section 17 (xi) of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as, the Local Government Code of 1991 and Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the Tourism Act of 2009, provides for the devolution of tourism facilities and other attractions, including the acquisition of equipment, regulation and supervision of business transactions and security services for such facilities. Sorsogon City Tourism Culture and Arts Office (SCTCAO), is thereby created by virtue of City Ordinance No. 10, Series of 2010, otherwise known as the Sorsogon City Tourism Code of 2010.

SECTION 13 PURPOSE

The SCTCAO shall be the planning and implementing arm for the programs, policies and projects relating to the tourism industry in the City, as identified and approved by the Sorsogon City Tourism Council (SCTC). It shall pursue the development of the Sorsogon City tourism industry, in adherence to this Code, the Sorsogon City Master Development Plan and of Republic Act No. 9593, otherwise known as the Tourism Act of 2009).

SECTION 14 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

As the primary operating agency of the city government, the SCTCAO shall be responsible in the efficient and effective Implementation of RA 9593 and the policies, plans, and programs, as identified and approved by the SCTDC. Towards this end, the SCTCAO shall:

- a. Formulate, monitor, implement and/or coordinate tourisms plans and programs.
- b. Monitor and assist accreditation of tourism-oriented and related facilities and service providers.
- c. Conduct capability building trainings for tourism front liners and assist in the establishment of Barangay Tourism Councils.
- d. Conduct research, establish and maintain tourism information management system and web portal for the city. Web portal shall include, but not limited to city profile,
- e. People and culture, history, geographical and biophysical environment, geography, destination map, city guide map, regular events and city entrepreneurs such as:
 - i. Aqua sports
 - ii. Convention centers
 - iii. Gasoline stations

- iv. *Hotels/motels/apartelles*
 - v. *Land transportation*
 - vi. *Marine transportation*
 - vii. *Pension houses*
 - viii. *Rental services*
 - ix. *Travel and tours*
 - x. *Resorts*
 - xi. *Restaurants*
 - xii. *Swimming pools*
 - xiii. *Souvenir shops*
 - xiv. *Spa and wellness*
 - xv. *Ticketing offices*
 - xvi. *Tour guides*
 - xvii. *Tourists destinations*
 - xviii. *Information centers*
 - xix. *Safety and security services*
 - xx. *Banks*
 - xxi. *Health and medical centers*
 - xxii. *Telecommunication*
 - xxiii. *Courier and trucking services*
 - xxiv. *Other similar attractions/ entrepreneurs*
- f. *Establish linkage and networking with national government agencies, non-government organizations (NGOs) and People’s Organizations (POs) in planning and implementing tourism activities.*
 - g. *Conduct inventory of existing, emerging and potential tourism attractions.*
 - h. *Promote and market the City of Sorsogon, as premier tourist destination, regionally and globally, through exhibits, selling missions and production of marketing propaganda.*
 - i. *Operate and maintain City government-owned tourism facilities.*
 - j. *Advocate responsible culture of tourism among the students and all tourism stakeholders.*
 - k. *Perform such other functions related to sustainable tourism development.*

SECTION 15 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

As embodied in the Sorsogon City Tourism Development Plan and Civil Service rules and regulations, the SCTCAO shall be composed of One (1) Tourism Officer (SG 25) with the existing organizational structure and such other plantilla positions maybe created for the purpose.

SECTION 16 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The personnel in SCTCAO shall have their respective roles and responsibilities, as follows:

TOURISM OFFICER (SG 25)

- a. *Ensures the successful implementation of laws, polices, plans, programs, rules and regulations of the office.*
- b. *Approves application for licenses or renewal of same.*
- c. *Recommends to the Department of Tourism classification and accreditation of tourism establishment.*
- d. *Reviews information materials prepared by researchers for publication or dissemination.*
- e. *Reports to the City Mayor and coordinate with other government institutions, as well as, the private and civil society sectors.*

- f. Facilitates the safe, convenient and comfortable stay of tourists, as well as, the provisions of hospitable reception and mobility of visitors.
- g. Coordinates with the Department of Tourism in the development of infrastructure requirements supporting tourist areas.
- h. Regulates the operations of tourism oriented and related establishments operating in the city and monitoring of their compliance with the standards set for them.
- i. Supervises the information and promotional activities of the office.
- j. Performs such other functions, duties and powers as may be directed by the SCTC and by the City Mayor.

SECTION 17 COMPENSATION AND REMUNERATION

The payment of compensation and other remuneration of all the SCTCAO's Personnel/Staff shall be taken from the funds of the Office, as provided for in the City's Annual Budget.

SECTION 18 CREATION OF THE BARANGAY TOURISM COUNCIL (BTC)

There shall be a Barangay Tourism Council (BTC) in every barangay, which shall be the coordinating and policy formulating body on tourism in the respective barangay of the city. Barangays with tourism potentials are encouraged to allocate funds intended for the sustainable tourism development, programs, projects and activities. The BTC shall be the implementing arms of the city government in the barangays in the preservation and conservation of all tourism destinations and tourism potentials in their respective area.

SECTION 19 COMPOSITION

The BTC shall be composed of the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Chairperson: | The Barangay Chairman |
| Vice Chairperson: | Barangay Kagawad in-charge of Tourism/Infrastructure |
| Secretary: | Barangay Secretary |
| Members: | |
| | SK Chairman |
| | Representative from Department of Education |
| | Two (2) representatives from the private sector |

SECTION 20 CREATION OF SORSOGON CITY CULTURAL HERITAGE COUNCIL

There shall be established and institutionalized the Sorsogon City Cultural Heritage Council (SCCHC) for the promotion of the city's cultural heritages, resources, native products and arts.

The SCCHC shall govern and regulate the promotion, preservation, conservation and expansion of cultural heritages and various arts of the City of Sorsogon, in coordination with government agencies and non-governmental organizations of the city.

SECTION 21 OBJECTIVES OF THE CREATION

The creation of the SCCHC has the following objectives, to wit:

- a. Preservation and conservation of cultural heritages within the city.
- b. Instill nationhood and cultural unity among the residents of the city.

- c. *Promote and develop cultural potentials and creativity in workmanship of arts and various products.*

SECTION 22 COMPOSITION

The Sorsogon City Cultural Heritage Council (SCCHC) shall be composed of the following:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Chairperson: | City Mayor (private person) |
| Co-Chairpersons: | SP Chairman on Education, Arts & Culture
SP Chairman on Tourism City Tourism |
| Secretariat: | CTCAO |
| Members: | City Planning & Development Officer
City Information Officer
DepEd, Schools Division Superintendent
Liga President
Sorsogon State University Representative
City Engineering Office
DPWH 1 st Engineering District
City Zoning Administrator |

SECTION 23 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SCCHC

The SCCHC shall have the following powers and functions, to wit:

- a. *Declares or designates a property/site, as having cultural heritage value.*
- b. *Prepares an annual plan on culture and the arts to be integrated in the Local Development Plan.*
- c. *Formulates programs and recommendations to develop local cultural and artistic talents.*
- d. *Ensures the protection, preservation and conservation of the local, cultural and historical heritage.*
- e. *In coordination with the private sector, conducts cultural events such as, cultural festivals, competition, lectures, seminars, tours and symposia and sets up exhibits during fiesta and other related activities.*

**CHAPTER III
CULTURAL HERITAGE, CONSERVATION, TOURISM VENTURES AND TOURIST
FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

SECTION 24 DEFINITION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES AND CONSERVATION

Heritage historical, landmark or legacy building shall have similar meaning and shall refer to buildings in existence for 50 years or more. Sites shall include parks and plazas and other places of historical value, as determined by the Council.

Old buildings, structures or sites in the City of Sorsogon always speak of the culture and history, not only for the Sorsoguenos, but for the whole Filipinos, as well. These historical or heritage buildings shall be fully conserved, developed and promoted, or else, they will only be considered as, “things of the past”.

SECTION 25 CRITERIA

Buildings, structures, landmarks or sites within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon shall be declared as having cultural heritage values based on, but not limited to, the following circumstances:

- a. Such building, structure, landmark or site possesses cultural, historical, architectural, archaeological, aesthetic, scientific or educational worth.
- b. The building, structure, landmark or site is within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon.
- c. Said building, structure, landmark or site has been in existence for 50 years or more.

SECTION 26 INCENTIVES

Private owners of buildings, structures, landmarks or sites which have been declared as, having cultural heritage and as certified as such by the SCCHC, shall be awarded of the following incentives:

- a. Fifty Percent (50%) tax incentive on annual basic real property tax on the declared properties as possessing cultural heritage.
- b. Could avail benefits for investment prioritized areas for tourism-oriented industries;
- c. Enjoyment of the fiscal incentives herein provided, for a fixed period with its corresponding actual amount of investment as follows:

INVESTMENT INCENTIVE PERIOD

- i. P 5 million but less than P 20 million for One year;
 - ii. P 20 million but less than P 40 million for Two years;
 - iii. P 40 million but less than P 60 million for Three years; and
 - iv. P 60 million and above for Four years.
- d. Reduction of Business Taxes. –A registered enterprise (existing and newly established) as certified by SCTDC, shall enjoy a reduction of business taxes, based on gross sales/receipts or realized during the preceding calendar year, to wit:
- i. First Year: 100%
 - ii. Second Year: 75%
 - iii. Third Year: 50%
 - iv. Fourth Year: 25%
- e. Non-Fiscal Incentives - A registered enterprise (existing and newly established) as certified by SCTDC, shall be entitled to the following non-fiscal incentives which include but not limited, to:
- 1. Assistance in securing additional business permits and other related data.
 - 2. Facilitating access to financial and technical assistance programs of the government.
 - 3. Facilitating service connections with local utilities and other services, as maybe recommended by the SCTC/SCTO/SCCHC.

SECTION 27 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AVAILMENT OF TAX INCENTIVES

The general requirements in the availment of the Fifty Percent (50%) tax incentives as provided herein are as follows:

- a. Letter of intent, addressed to the SCCHC and copy furnished the Office of the City Treasurer.
- b. Building Permit from the City Engineer's Office, attaching therein the SCCHC Conservation Clearance.
- c. Conservation Clearance, as pre-requisite.
- d. Certificate of Occupancy from the City Engineer's Office, attaching therein the SCCHC Certificate of Compliance, as pre-requisite.
- e. Certification by the SCCHC approving the application for tax incentives.

SECTION 28 MAJOR TOURISM VENTURES

There shall be major tourism ventures, conducted by SCTCAO, for the promotion, introduction and awareness of the tourism related business establishments and stakeholders, in particular and for the whole city populace, in general.

For purposes of this Code, the following shall be considered as major tourism ventures in the city:

- a. Resorts
- b. Tourist Inns/Hotels/Motels/Pension Houses
- c. Tourist Transport Operations
- d. Tour Operations

SECTION 29 ALLIED TOURISM VENTURES

Allied Tourism Ventures refer to those businesses or activities which are not primarily designed for tourism purposes, yet serve tourism needs like, photo developing shops, diving schools and others, as identified in this Code. The following shall be considered as, allied tourism ventures:

- A. Restaurants
- B. Shops/department stores
- C. Sports and Recreational Clubs
- D. Museums
- E. Training Centers
- F. Homestay Sites
- G. Wellness Centers
- H. Campsites
- I. One Town One Product (OTOP Souvenir Center)
- J. Transportation (by land and sea)

SECTION 30 RESTRICTIONS OF TOURIST FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The following restrictions are hereby imposed to tourist friendly communities, to enhance the image of the City of Sorsogon as a tourism area:

- a. Drinking of alcoholic beverages on sidewalks, walkways, outside of residence or outside of establishments catering to such services.
- b. Roaming around the city streets and public places, except in the open beach without donning proper upper clothing.
- c. Butchers and similar workers shall always carry their bladed implements in a concealed manner.
- d. Urinating on streets, lamp posts, trees other than the proper urinals.

- e. Defecating along the beach areas, beach fronts, beach heads, estuaries, any bodies of water and other public places.
- f. Throwing of cigarette butts, candy wrappers and other litters not in the designated receptacles.
- g. Drying of copra, coffee beans, palay, corn and similar agricultural inputs along the entire stretch/street in going to and from any identified tourism area.}
- h. Passenger jeepneys, buses and passenger tricycles, pedicabs for hire, plying the streets, roads and routes of Sorsogon City shall provide garbage receptacles in their vehicles, for use by passengers.
- i. Restrictions and regulations on the operation of Videooke/Video-5 Bars.

**CHAPTER IV
TOURISM SUPPORT, LINKAGES AND INCENTIVES**

SECTION 31 PHYSICAL AND SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

In consonance with the mandate of the Department of Tourism (DOT), that is, “to generate revenue, create jobs and livelihood for the Filipinos and ensure the safe, enjoyable and convenient stay of foreign and domestic tourists in the country”, the SCTCAO and all its instrumentalities shall implement, promote, support and/or encourage inclusive and sustainable tourism development of tourism-related establishments and facilities, either through public or private funding, or both, in the following means:

- a. Construction, maintenance and expansion of adequate road and drainage networks.
- b. Enhancing the provision of basic utilities, such as, water, energy and power, as well as, transportation and communication facilities.
- c. Provision of an integrated solid waste and sewage management system in tourist destination and tourism investment zone, in compliance with existing laws and ordinance on health and the environment.
- d. Establishment of tourism-related infrastructures, such as, accommodation facilities including convenience stores, shopping centers, healthcare centers, emergency and safety facilities.
- e. Supporting and encouraging local farmers to plant and supply food and food products needed by tourist facilities.
- f. Prioritizing local labor where available and appropriate to the construction needs of all tourism infrastructure.
- g. Providing uniform directional signages where appropriate.

SECTION 32 MARKET AND MARKET LINKAGES

The City Government, through the SCTCAO, shall source out marketing of the city’s tourism, industry and products, by encouraging and motivating local and national government and non-government agencies, such as, the Hotel and Transport Operators, Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Marketing and advertising shall be extended to market sources and suppliers from neighboring cities and municipalities. The use of online, mobile, social media, signage, billboards and tarpaulins shall be fully utilized, for effective and efficient tourism services.

The City Government, through the SCTCAO, in partnership with the academe, shall conduct market research to develop tourism market products and services and shall likewise encourage investors for a Public-Private Partnership Agreements.

SECTION 33 SOURCES OF LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT

There shall be an enhancement and promotion of more sources of livelihood and employment, through the extensive production of farm crops, agricultural, industrial and fishery products. Transport services shall be boosted and shall offer easy access, convenience and mobility for fast moving consumer goods and products to nearby and far- flung markets for local utilization.

SECTION 34 TRAINING AWARENESS

The SCTCAO, in cooperation with DOT, DTI and such other national and local government and nongovernment agencies, shall aim to achieve high quality public services, by initiating and organizing training awareness information dissemination and programs to local communities and stakeholders, such as, but not limited to:

- a. Tourism Frontliner Trainings, for introduction of modules for frontline tourism services, in terms of food service, accommodation services, tour guiding.
- b. Training on Livelihood Programs.
- c. Tourism Enhancement Trainings on Scuba Diving, Cave Guiding Training, Nature Guide Training, Birdwatching Training and the like.
- d. Homestay Training
- e. Benchmarking
- f. Values Formation and Personality Development

CHAPTER V ACCREDITATION

SECTION 35 PRE-EMPTIVE PLAN

The SCTCAO shall pre-empt the plan and assist in securing authority from the Department of Tourism (DOT), for the grant of accreditation to local business establishments and concerned stakeholders of the city, after full compliance of requirements mandated by DOT.

SECTION 36 PURPOSES OF AUTHORITY

The purposes of securing authority to grant accreditation to business stakeholders are the following:

- i. To provide speedy public service to prospective business stakeholders.
- ii. To assist business stakeholders in the documentation procedurals to minimize effort, time and financial constraint.
- iii. To create opportunity in sourcing out financial resources to fund small scale tourism activities.
- iv. To organize and train a team of local trainers, in coordination with DOT and TESDA, to capacitate and improve delivery of services of transport operators, tour guides, drivers, boatmen, porter, and the like.
- v. To coordinate with concerned government agencies in monitoring and evaluate certified and accredited tourism industry workers annually, which will be the basis for renewal or revocation of certification and accreditation.
- vi. To incorporate the culture of tourism and values formation in all levels of education- primary secondary and tertiary, values of formation the culture of tourism, including but not limited to demography, geography, history of the city.
- vii. Special training for PNP and other law enforcement organizations personnel assigned to tourism destinations and zones, shall be done on a regular basis to protect tourists and maintain peace and order.

- viii. To ensure that tourism front liners are well-trained and qualified, provided with incentives and rewards, and organized based on their work affiliations.

SECTION 37 CONDUIT

The SCTCAO in its initial plan of securing authority to grant accreditation from DOT, shall coordinate with the Provincial Tourism Office and the Department of Tourism to serve as a conduit, in the issuance of a certification and accreditation to concerned tourism-related business establishments and stakeholders.

SECTION 38 PURPOSES OF CONDUITING

The purposes of the SCTCAO to serve as a conduit in the issuance of accreditation to business stakeholders, are the following:

- a. Regulate the quality of service and skills, provided by front liners and other tourism industry workers, and
- b. Provide financial and technical support for the education and professionalization of services and skills of local tourism industry workers;

SECTION 39 REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITATION

For requirement purposes, tourism-related establishments shall comply the following:

- A. Local Requirements: (1) Certificate Clearance with attached Monthly Tourist Arrival Report, (2) Disaster Risk Management and evacuation plan, as approved by the CDRMO.
- B. DOT requirements: shall abide with the DOT requirements online through its website [http:// accreditationonline.tourism.gov.ph](http://accreditationonline.tourism.gov.ph).

SECTION 40 INCENTIVES FOR ACCREDITED TOURISM-RELATED ESTABLISHMENTS

Tourism-related establishments, which are duly registered and licensed by the City Government, shall be entitled to the following incentives:

- a. Assistance to the processing of DOT Accreditation, permits and other licenses.
- b. “One-Stop-Shop” processing of registration and license which should be completed within a period of five (5) days.
- c. Free promotion in all publications, brochures, tourism flyers, leaflets, and other promotional materials.
- d. Inclusion in Lakbay-Aral Tours / tour packages.
- e. Endorsement to COMELEC for exemption from Liquor ban during Election-related events (for accommodation establishments and restaurants only).
- f. Endorsement to Embassies and Travel Trade Association/s for utilization of establishment’s facilities and services.
- g. Priority to DOT Training Programs.
- h. Issuance of DOT ID Card to bona fide employees.
- i. Endorsement to LTFRB for Issuance of Tourist Transport Franchise (for Tourist Land Transport, Vehicles only).
- j. Technical/Security/Facilitation Support or Assistance.
- k. Incentives, set forth by the Sorsosgon City Investment Code.

CHAPTER VI TOURISM RESOURCES, CLASSIFICATION, INVENTORIES AND ASSESSMENT

SECTION 41 **TOURISM RESOURCES**

The City of Sorsogon, through the SCTC and the SCTCAO shall identify, develop, promote and introduce city's capital resources, cultural resources, human resources, natural resources and other tourism resources related to the man-made and special interest tourism attractions that are being used, or can be utilized to attract, or serve tourists.

SECTION 42 **CLASSIFICATION OF RESOURCES**

The city's tourism-related resources shall be classified as follows:

- a. Capital Resources – refer to availability of capital/financing, transportation, roads, airports, railroads, harbors and marinas, trails and walkways, water, power, waste treatment and communications.
- b. Cultural Resources – these include historic buildings, sites, monuments, shrines, cuisine, ethnic cultures, industry government, religion, anthropological resources and local celebrities.
- c. Human Resource Infrastructures – these include the warm bodies in the tourism industry – the people operating the various establishments and facilities, the local population whose lives are intertwined with the development of tourism sites; the tourists whose quality of lives are enriched and enhanced by the beauty, history and culture of their destinations.
- d. Human Resources – Include hospitality skills, management skills, seasonal labor force, performing artists (music, drama, art), storytellers, craftsmen and artisans, other labor skills from chefs to lawyers to researchers and local residents.

SECTION 43 **INVENTORY, ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES**

The SCTCAO, in coordination with the SCTDC shall, periodically, make an inventory to identify, assess and classify the city's tourism-related resources and other tourism resources available, that can provide opportunities for tourism development, sustainable tourism development and responsible culture of tourism in the city.

SECTION 44 **PRIORITIZED TOURISM DESTINATION**

Tourism destinations, that are given higher classification category, shall be included among the priority for promotion and marketing. The classification will guide tour operators and tourist where to go and what to do.

SECTION 45 **PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION**

The SCTCAO and the SCTC, in coordination with the barangays/BTTF, shall ensure the integrity of all tourism resources for its protection and preservation, in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

CHAPTER VII
ACCOMMODATION HOUSES AND TOURIST ARRIVAL REPORTS

SECTION 46 **ACCOMMODATION HOUSES**

The following are the classification and location of accommodation houses in the City of Sorsogon:

- a. Pension House
- b. Hotel
- c. Apartelle
- d. Resort
- e. Homestays
- f. Bed and breakfast
- g. Motel
- h. Inns
- i. Hometels/homestay

SECTION 47 HOMESTAY

Local residents shall be encouraged to open their homes to be converted to homestay for tourists. The SCTCAO shall conduct an inventory of houses that may be considered and qualified as homestay facilities. The Office shall coordinate with the Department of Tourism or any of its recognized or accredited training center, for the conduct of Homestay Training. The office shall, further, maintain a registry of qualified homes as, homestays, for reference to tourists.

SECTION 48 MONTHLY TOURIST ARRIVAL REPORT

All owners/operators/proprietors of tourism related business establishments, such as hotels, apartelles, pension houses, lodging houses, homestays, cottages, beaches and the like, shall submit their respective monthly report of all tourist arrivals in the city to the SCTCAO for proper monitoring, information and guidance of the said office.

The Monthly Tourist Arrival Reports shall be analysed and shall be submitted to concerned government offices for recording, research, statistics and for other purposes.

SECTION 49 ANNUAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

All owners/operators/proprietors of tourism related business establishments of hotels, apartelles, pension houses, lodging houses, homestays, cottages, beaches and the like, shall secure an annual Clearance Certificate from the SCTCAO after compliance of the provision stated herein. Said clearance shall be a requirement in the issuance/or renewal of business permits.

**CHAPTER VIII
DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

SECTION 50 HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS IN BEACH AREAS

Building construction for beach resorts and those located along the beach areas, either for residential or commercial purposes, shall not go higher than the height of a full grown coconut tree, notwithstanding the provisions of the National Building Code. No building or any structure of any kind, whether commercial, residential or recreational, either permanent or temporary, shall be constructed on beaches within thirty (30) meters from the beach marker which shall be established by the City Government of Sorsogon, through the SCTCAO. Such space shall be referred to as, NO BUILD AREA. Height of buildings or structures to be constructed immediately after the NO BUILD AREA shall be, as follows:

- a. 3-storey structures shall only be constructed twenty-five (25) meters from the edge of the NO BUILD AREA.
- b. 2-storey structures shall only be constructed fifteen (15) meters from the NO BUILD AREA.

- c. Single storey structures shall only be constructed five (5) meters away from the edge of the NO BUILD AREA Provided, that no structure, residential, commercial or recreational, be constructed on slopes over 25 degrees and on cliff, either from beside the beach, or upon the sea or on the edge of the cliff itself. Provided further, that structures to be built on cliffs and promontories should make use of light and indigenous materials reminiscent of local Philippine design and architecture and it must be supported by proper engineering design or study as, to the stability of the building a structure on cliffs and promontories.

SECTION 51 **WATER/AQUA SPORTS**

Water sports, such as, but not limited to, Jet Ski, banana boat rides, motor boating, etc., shall only be conducted three hundred (300) meters away from the beach head. Provided further, that water sports in the Marine Protected Area shall follow the rules and regulations imposed by law and/or ordinances.

SECTION 52 **VIDEOKE OPERATION**

Videoke activities in the food park are hereby regulated and shall strictly comply with the existing ordinance enacted for the purpose. The sound decibels shall conform to the provisions set forth by law.

SECTION 53 **SIGNAGES**

Putting up of banners, billboards, streamers and similar signs is strictly prohibited in the NO BUILD AREAS, except in entrances or buildable areas. No streamers or similar materials can be put up without the payments of the required permits and fees with the City Government of Sorsogon, as stipulated in the existing Sorsogon City Revenue Code.

Display of banners, billboards, streamers and similar signs is strictly prohibited in the NO BUILD AREAS, except in entrances or buildable areas and across the thoroughfares of the city, and on the sides of the streets or highways. Same shall be only be displayed after payment of necessary permits and fees from the City Treasurer's Office, in consonance with the existing Sorsogon City Revenue Code.

SECTION 54 **HEALTH AND SANITATION**

All tourism-related ventures shall strictly adhere to the provisions set forth by the Environment Code and Sanitation Code, National Building Code and other relevant local and national laws, more particularly on the segregation of disposal wastes, sanitation of comfort rooms, etc.

SECTION 55 **FLORA**

Any plan to cut endemic trees shall be incorporated in the project description of the development projects and shall be subject to the prescribed guidelines as mitigating measures by the DENR.

Cutting of trees shall strictly follow existing rules prescribed by DENR and/or local ordinances of the same nature. No trees shall be cut down along the side highways.

Planting of multi-species of trees, plants, shrubs, etc. shall form part of the development project in order to enhance bio-diversity conservation.

Planting of exotic and invasive species and likely to transfer disease plant species for landscaping purposes shall be subject to DA Plant Quarantine guidelines.

SECTION 56 FAUNA

Hunting and gathering of either live or dead fauna for selling, collection or preservation purposes shall be strictly prohibited.

All development projects should ensure that the natural seasons and habitats of native and migrating species are protected and not adversely affected by the development projects.

Introduction of exotic (non-indigenous) species shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the DA and the DENR.

SECTION 57 LAND CONVERSION

Existing laws, Executive Orders and/or Department Administrative Orders of concerned government agencies on land conversions shall be strictly observed, taken into consideration in planning and implementation of all development projects.

Development activities and projects should be undertaken in strict conformity with the prescribed land use of the city and the development plan for the tourism zones and clusters.

SECTION 58 MARINE/AQUATIC RESOURCES

Every establishment, along the coastline, must provide its own mooring buoys for all types of sea crafts to anchor.

Indiscriminate throwing of anchors on the corals shall be strictly prohibited and shall be penalized, according to existing local and national laws, ordinances, rules and regulations.

Discharging of wastes from ships, boats and all other sea crafts like, used oil, human waste, plastic and all other wastes shall be strictly prohibited within the territorial waters of the City of Sorsogon.

Sea crafts shall be prohibited within the established marine sanctuaries, in consonance with existing local and national laws.

The Philippine Commission Sports Scuba Diving (PCSSD) rules and regulations shall form part of the house rules of all hotels, resorts, restaurants, dive shops and other concerned tourism-related business establishments. Dive shops and other concerned business establishments shall strictly follow PCSSD rules and regulations, ordinances against illegal fishing and DA fishery laws and administrative orders.

All boats servicing tourists shall be duly-licensed by the Coast Guard/MARINA and shall provide safety devices, such as life jackets, etc., to protect tourists and other passengers. Boatmen shall be appropriately equipped with the necessary radio and other similar communication devices.

SECTION 59 WATERS

All water resources (ground, surface, marine and aquatic) shall be subject to regular tests by concerned agencies, such as the Department of Health to determine their safety. Test results shall be released to all concerned sectors of the city.

Waterways that flow through or traverse a tourist development area shall be relocated or blocked and any structure that will tend to impede the free flow of water shall not be allowed.

SECTION 60 AIR

Development projects that are determined to have adverse effect on air quality shall install high efficiency pollution control equipment/devices.

Transport operators shall be governed by existing exhaust emission guidelines of the Land Transportation Office and other concerned agencies. Their vehicles shall be further be subjected to regular tests to determine the level of exhaust/pollution generation.

SECTION 61 TOPOGRAPHY

Development projects shall not cause any major change in the topography of the island, but shall instead follow and adopt the island's topographic features.

Quarrying and extraction of sand and gravel shall be governed by existing laws, rules and regulations. Extraction and use of beach sand, however coral rubble shall be strictly prohibited and shall be punishable according to existing local and national laws.

SECTION 62 CARRYING CAPACITY

Development activities and projects must work within the prescribed carrying capacity of the tourism zones/area, as indicated in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) of the City of Sorsogon.

SECTION 63 HISTORICAL LANDMARKS/MONUMENTS

Development projects shall, in no way, destroy existing historical monuments and landmarks, but shall instead, work for its preservation and restoration. Negotiations/arrangement must be made with the City Government of Sorsogon on the transfer of ownership of site to the City Government of Sorsogon (if the site falls within private property), access of the public to the site, etc. Any development made therein shall be coordinated with the National Historical Commission.

**CHAPTER IX
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

SECTION 64 PROTECTION OF TOURISTS

To fully develop tourism in the city, the following guidelines shall be governed, to wit:

- a. All owners/proprietors of tourism-related business establishments are required to provide and promote the use of DOT-accredited services to their guests (i.e. transport services, tour guides, etc.), to protect tourist/s from becoming victim/s of unethical practices like, swindling, overcharging, etc.
- b. Standard rates for boat hire, tricycle fares, tour guides, private single motorcycle for hire (habal-habal) and other services shall be made known to tourists, by posting the list of standard rates in conspicuous places like, the front desk, airport reception desk, rent-a-car businesses, etc. and in different languages, in consonance with the existing Sorsogon City Revenue Code.

- c. All business establishments of swimming pool facilities and the like, within private/government properties, shall have, at least, one (1) lifeguard possessing the required training and expertise.
- d. Beaches and resort estates and the like, shall provide, at least, two (2) lifeguards and lifeguard stations.
- e. All tourism-related business establishments shall provide adequate security services within their respective areas, to ensure the safe stay of tourists such as evacuation and emergency escape plan, posting of emergency hotlines and infographic signages located inside the establishments and within its vicinity and other similar undertakings.

SECTION 65 CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Services and products to be offered by establishment owners and operators must, as far as practicable, be consistent with the traditions, values and mores and interests of the city.

SECTION 66 TRANSPORTATION CONCERNS

All tourism-related business establishments shall provide transfer and transport services duly accredited by the DOT and the City Government of Sorsogon, to ensure that the vehicles are at par with local and national tourism standards.

Rent-a-Car Enterprises shall be accredited by the DOT and the City Government of Sorsogon.

Jet skis shall be banned from the waters fronting resort establishments. As a water sports facility, jet skis will only be allowed on designated water sporting areas.

Transportation routes within tourism zones shall be designated by the City Government of Sorsogon, upon consultation with tourism-related business establishments/operators and the consumers.

Island hopping water transport or boats for hire shall strictly follow rules and regulations of MARINA, the Coastguard, DOT and other concerned agencies. These shall be subject to accreditation by the agency concerned, as well as, annual inspections to determine their sea worthiness.

SECTION 67 WATER SPORTS

Water sports operator shall strictly abide by the rules and regulations to be designed by DOT, City Government of Sorsogon and other concerned agencies, relative to the specific areas for operation, business hours, safety measures, etc.

Strict compliance with the rules and regulations of the Philippine Commission on Sports Scuba Diving (PCSSD) shall be strictly enforced by diving schools and diving shop operators.

SECTION 68 CLEANLINESS

All owners/proprietors of tourism-related business establishments shall be responsible of the cleanliness within the premises of its business and its surroundings.

**CHAPTER X
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

SECTION 69 RESORT ZONE DELINEATION

Along the coastal areas, the area of 100 meters inland from the shore line shall be known as the Beach Zone. Beyond this will be the Inland Zone.

SECTION 70 DENSITY REQUIREMENTS

To ensure that the carrying capacity of the environment will not be exceeded, the concept of gross density may be followed. This refers to the number of rooms that will be allowed to be built within a given zone or area. The following density standards may be needed:

- a. High density - 80 rooms/hectare
- b. Medium density - 45 rooms/hectare
- c. Low density - 15 rooms/hectare

SECTION 71 SPRAWLING TYPE

As a rule, construction of accommodation, establishments along the beach should adopt the “sprawling type” concept to preserve the aesthetic appeal of the City of Sorsogon.

SECTION 72 DEVELOPMENT DESIGN

The following types of accommodation development can be allowed within the project t area:

- a. Village type hotel, villas or row houses, especially within the integrated resort zone.
- b. Traditional typologies should be used for accommodation and facilities closer to the locals. Single detached, single story cottages or duplexes may also be allowed, particularly in the beach zone.
- c. A star-category hotel with urban amenities, such as, convention center, restaurants, indoors sports facilities, etc. may be allowed in the inland zone.

Development design, however, should first be reviewed and approved by the City Engineering Office and the CSCHC to ensure that the plan contributes to the aesthetic condition of the island.

SECTION 73 THE BEACH ZONE

The overall architecture and design shall conform to the landscape and the indigenous tradition of the city. New structures need not simply be replicas of traditional houses, but rather seek inspiration in the way that adopt to the environment.

The exterior of resort hotels and other tourism facilities and buildings, should reflect the “native look”, such as, the traditional “bahay kubo”, and its variants.

The block of the construction should harmonize with the topography of the site, avoiding overly rigid forms that would clash with the coastal landscape.

The visible building materials of all structures shall be carefully selected, so they will blend with the overall resort appearances. Extensive use of indigenous materials, such as, nipa or cogon, natural stones and tiles, is encouraged.

SECTION 74

HEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

- A. Beach Front - Resort establishments within the beach zone shall observe height limits, determined by a slope of 1:7, measured as a protection of the line from the point along the Mean High Water Level to the apex or ridge of a single storey structure, located 5 meters beyond the twenty-five (25) meters mandatory beach front easement. The apex of the roof shall not exceed 5.00 meters measured from the ground elevation of 0.00. The projection of the hypotenuse of the triangle formed shall be known as the Allowable height of Structures.
- B. Inland Zone – In high density clusters, two to six-storey structures may be designed, such as, a hotel complex with a convention center, restaurants and other urban amenities. Duplexes, quadruplexes or village type hotel structures, up to two storeys, are to be developed in the medium density areas. The projection of this angle will allow increasing heights of structures landward, so long as, they fall within the line Allowable heights of Structures.

SECTION 75

SETBACKS

- A. Beachfront Easement – There shall a mandatory beachfront easement along all coastal areas and shall be defined at 25 meters from the established Mean High Water Level measured landward and perpendicular to it. Exception to this rule shall be on areas with no pronounce beach head, such as, cliff areas. No permanent or temporary structures and signs of any nature shall be allowed within this beachfront, except those fixtures authorized by the City Government of Sorsogon, subject to the recommendation of the City Engineer. This area shall be properly landscaped in order to prevent erosion and to serve as buffer zone between the sea and developments. All permanent structures shall, at least, be ten (10) meters from the established high water level of magroves, swamps and freshwater lagoons.
 - B. Along cliffs or bluffs - observe 10 meters setback from the edge of established cliffs and a minimum of 20 meters, if there are potentials for erosions. Constructions along established waterways, intermittent or perennial, shall observe the 5.0 m. easement on each side of the waterway.
 - C. Additional mandatory vehicular access with a right-of-way of 3.00 meters minimum width shall be identified by the respective local government units concerned (barangay level) in consultation with resort operators, in the event that no agreement shall have been reached the City Government may exercise its power of eminent domain.
 - D. Distance between structures
 - a. Single storey with opening - 10 meters
 - b. Single storey without opening - 7 meters
 - c. Multi-storey with opening - 2 times the height of the building
 - d. Multi-storey without opening - 18 meters
5. Setbacks from roads: (a) Main road – 4.00 meters from the edge of the road right-of-way, (b) Secondary road – 3.00 meters from the edge of the road right-of-way, (c) Lateral road – 2.00 meters from the edge of the road right-of-way.

SECTION 76 **BUFFER ZONES**

Along the perimeter of each zone or area or golf course, there should be a minimum of 10-meter buffer zone, which shall be landscaped, visually concealing the inside developments.

A 10-meter buffer zone is planned along provincial or barangay road, as the case maybe, to provide visual and aural privacy to the tourism facilities inside.

Ten-meter buffer zones are also required from the edge of forest reserves, orchards, etc.

SECTION 77 **AIRPORT ZONES**

Government regulations require observance of the obstacle surface standards for airport. At runway strip sides which is 150 m. from both sides of the runway centerline, a transitional surface with a slope of 1:7 or 14.3%, measured in vertical plane perpendicular to the runway, is mandatory. The outer limit of the transitional surface shall be 4.5 m. above the nearest point at the runway centerline. At the end of the clearways of the runway, an approach/departure surface, with a slope of 2% above the horizontal in the vertical plane, containing the runway centerline, shall be established.

Buffer zones that would serve as, noise barrier, shall be provided 70 meters on both sides of the runway strip running parallel thereto. Within this buffer zone, planting of trees is strictly prohibited while agricultural crops may be allowed.

SECTION 78 **LANDSCAPING**

Owners of lots and establishments in the tourism zone shall be encouraged to plant and maintain ornamental or fruits or other edible forms of landscaping, to enhance their location. At least 30% of the lot area shall be landscaped.

Areas subject to landscaping are as follows:

- a. Open areas of lots already developed.
- b. Flower beds of all types.
- c. Road escarpments and divider strips.
- d. Areas designated, as public or private parks.
- e. Any other areas free of construction

Fences shall be limited to indigenous material or barbed fences to be covered with vegetation preferably, thorny shrubs or plants or hedges and maintained at a height of 1.70 meters. No fences will be allowed along the beachfront. Outside paving - pavements, walkways or terraces must be provided.

All existing trees with a trunk diameter of 4 inches and above shall be preserved.

SECTION 79 **SIGNAGES FOR DIRECTIONS**

Signs are intended to give direction, convey information or instructions. As such, they are controlled in their manner of display to achieve the best results.

Signs classifications are as follows:

- a. Public Locational and Directional Signs (streets, roads, plazas, landmarks, attractions, institutions, etc).
- b. Vehicular Traffic and Pedestrian Signs (warning signs, road/traffic signs).
- c. Establishments Signs (establishment name and limited ads/come-ons)

Sign Dimensions are as follows:

- a. Street/Road Signs - 400 cm. x 150 cm. mounted 200 cm from finished ground level.
- b. Locational and Directional Signs - 400 cm x 150 mm (to 300 cm max. width) mounted 120 cm from finished ground level.
- c. Historical Landscape - according to National Historical Commission requirements.
- d. Establishment Signs - 80 cm x 120 cm mounted on post 1.5 meters from the finished level ground.
- e. Materials for signs: As a rule, indigenous materials, non-metallic and non-corrosive shall be used.
 - i. Locational and Directional Signs and Traffic and Pedestrian Signs – reflectorized, all weather, gauge No. 10 anodized aluminum sheets with cathode protection.
 - ii. Establishment Signs – indigenous materials, such as, coco lumber, wood, planks, log sidings, bamboo and bamboo products, nipa, sawali, rattan, etc.

All signs must be considered from the aspect of aesthetics, in terms of proportion, color and location. The important thing is that signs should intrude into the sensibilities of the viewers or users and must not interfere with the panorama of an established view, whether contrived or natural. An area in the tourism Zones or clusters may be allowed for communal commercial signs.

SECTION 80 PARKING

In the design of parking spaces, regular rectangular lines of parking should be avoided. Landscaped cluster is preferable with vegetation, banks and variations in level to provide shelter and screening around the park.

Shade trees shall be planted along the islands between parking spaces and vehicle stops must be provided for each parking space. A minimum dimension of 2.5 meters by 5.0 may be observed for each parking space.

Parking areas should preferably be of concrete, gravel and in less intensely used areas, turfs are preferable.

One-way access should be used and parking outside the parking spaces should be made physically impossible.

Parking shall be located within 200-300 meters from the tourism facilities.

Major Tourism Ventures and Allied Tourism Ventures shall provide adequate parking space for their respective clients.

SECTION 81 ROAD NETWORK

Central lines, circumferential lines and lateral roads, leading to the integrated resort area, airport area and all other access roads, must be asphalted/concreted for convenience and accessibility.

All such roads shall have a road right-of-way conforming to the requirements of the DPWH and City Government of Sorsogon, with minimum pavement widths, as follows:

- a. For main road - 8 meters
- b. For secondary road- 5 meters
- c. For lateral - 4 meters 3.

Clusters on which apartments, row houses or group of single detached buildings, are built shall be powered with an access streets, directly connecting said buildings or units to a public street or alley, pursuant to Rule XI of IRR of the National Building Code.

All roads shall have proper drainage, pedestrians/sidewalks, sufficient roads signages, traffic signs and markers.

Bicycle lanes may be furnished along the sides of lateral and interior roads outside the shoulder lines or sidewalks.

CHAPTER XI SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

SECTION 82 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The following guidelines shall be adhered to in extending opportunities of employment:

- a. All business establishments and businesses shall employ their staffs in the order of priorities:
 - i. Displaced and affected families of the project.
 - ii. Residents of the concerned barangay and city.
 - iii. Residents of the Province of Sorsogon.
 - iv. Local suppliers, entrepreneurs and cooperatives in the City of Sorsogon, who are capable of providing the same goods and services.
- b. Employment on contractual basis is discouraged in positions necessary to the business operation, such as, hotels, resorts, restaurants and other related business activities.
- c. Establishments shall abide by the rules and regulations of the Social Security System (SSS) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) particularly relating to benefits and rights of employees.
- d. Governing laws on the employment of persons with disability (PWD) shall also be adhered to
- e. Resort owners/tourism establishments with five (5) or more regular employees shall provide organized transportation for their employees.
- f. Equal opportunities for employment and professional training and growth shall be provided to all, regardless of sex, and religion.

SECTION 83 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Business opportunities shall be encouraged for the promotion, development and enhancement of tourism in the city:

- a. Local residents shall be given opportunities to sell their agriculture, arts and crafts products at commercial areas designated by the City Government of Sorsogon.

- b. Alternative livelihood shall be provided to farmers and fisherfolks who will be affected by the project, in cooperation with the project proponent.
- c. Farm-to-market roads shall be improved for utilization and accessibility of concerned producers and consumers.
- d. The City Government of Sorsogon shall provide fiscal and non-fiscal incentives, as prescribed in its Investment Incentive Code.

SECTION 84 PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL VALUES AND ENHANCEMENT OF CULTURE

The following guidelines shall be properly observed in order for the traditional values of the city to be preserved and its culture enhanced:

- a. Developers, operators and other concerned parties shall be strictly governed by existing local and national laws in the prohibition in the use of their establishments for indecent and illegal activities, such as, but not limited to, drug and human trafficking, prostitution, pedophilia and gambling.
- b. Developers, owners and operators of tourism-related establishments and businesses shall assist the DOT, City Government of Sorsogon and other agencies concerned in the construction and management of a heritage cum handicraft village, which shall showcase the history, arts and culture of the City of Sorsogon.
- c. Establishment’s owners and operators are encouraged to promote cultural presentations (i.e. folk dances, folk songs, cultural revivals, etc.), as a form of entertainment.
- d. Establishment’s owners and operators are encouraged to promote and support traditional festivals.

SECTION 85 MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

To develop, encourage, promote and enhance pool of manpower resources, the following guidelines shall be strictly observed:

- a. Government and non-government organizations shall provide continuing programs, trainings, conferences, seminars to develop the skills and potentials of workers, for livelihood activities.
- b. People’s Organizations (POs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) shall assist in organizing local residents into cooperatives for the supply of goods and services.
- c. Government and non-government organizations shall conduct regular training on etiquette, hygiene, moral conduct, etc. for all tourism employees of establishments and frontliners (i.e. transport drivers, tricycle, boatmen, bus, guards, tour guides, waitresses/waiters, housekeepers, etc.).
- d. Educational, vocational, technical institutions shall encourage tourism-related courses.

**CHAPTER XII
BUSINESS PERMITS, FEES, CANCELLATION, SUSPENSION OF PERMITS**

SECTION 86 BUSINESS PERMITS

Any individual, partnership or corporation, who wish to establish, operate and maintain a tourism or tourism-related venture, as identified in this Code, shall first secure a business permit and comply with the other requirements, as provided forth by the existing Sorsogon City Revised Revenue Code.

SECTION 87 REQUIREMENTS OF BUSINESS PERMITS

Anent to the provisions stipulated in the existing Sorsogon City Revised Revenue Code, the following shall be requirements in the issuance of a business permit:

A certificate of clearance issued by SCTO, certifying the concerned tourism-related business establishments to have submitted a regular monthly tourist arrival report.

All other requirements, as mandated by the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO) and the Sorsogon City Revised Revenue Code.

SECTION 88 ENTHUSIAST'S FEE

Enthusiasts of spelunking, caving, eco-tours, eco-adventure competitions shall first secure a non-refundable permit fee of Three Hundred Pesos (P 300.00). The permit shall only be granted upon written request identifying therein the area/cave location and the proposed activities. The permittee shall accomplish an exit information sheet upon expiration of the proposed activity in the area. The City of Sorsogon shall have proprietary rights to any discoveries made in connection therewith.

SECTION 89 RATES OF BUSINESS PERMIT FEES

For purposes of this Code, the existing Revenue Code is hereby amended and the following tourism ventures shall pay the corresponding business permit fees, as follows:

- a. Promotional Services/Advertising - P 300.00
- b. Ferries/Tourist Transport Boat Operators - 750.00
- c. Gear Rental Shops - 300.00
- d. Resort Operators - 800.00
- e. Golf Links - 1,000.00
- f. Tourist Vehicle for Hire - 500.00
- g. Travel and Tour Operators - 750.00

SECTION 90 AUTHORITY TO GRANT SPECIAL PERMITS

The City Mayor shall have the sole power to grant the special permits for legitimate tourism-related activities, through the recommendation of the Supervising Tourism Officer, after compliance to the provisions set forth under existing local laws and paying the amount of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) for transport of not more than three days and Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) for a transport not exceeding one week.

SECTION 91 GUIDELINES

The following guidelines shall be strictly adhered to in securing a special permit for tourism-related activities within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon:

For organized City Tour:

- i. Tour operator/primary Tourism/Tourism Enterprise must be duly accredited by the Department of Tourism, a registered business entity in the City of Sorsogon and a holder of a business permit and Tourism license.
- ii. A letter-request for the city tour shall be approved by the City Mayor, through the recommendation of the Supervising Tourism Officer, containing the following information:
 - Nature of Tour

- Name of requesting tour operator, primary tourism/tourism enterprises
- Number of persons during the tour
- Duration of the tour Itinerary and routs or places to be visited
- Type and number of tour-related transport vehicles to be used
- Contract of service or letter of intent, duly signed by the tour operator, Transport Company and primary tourism/tourism enterprises.

SECTION 92 REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for tour-related transport operators are the following:

- a. Streamers/posters must be visibly placed on the vehicles to be used to identify the group on tour-convention/seminar/educational trip.
- b. Streamer/poster for the promotion of the City of Sorsogon, as tourists' destination, must be placed on the vehicles.

SECTION 93 DISQUALIFICATION

Any misrepresentation of information/data/documents, relative to the request for the issuance of a special permit, shall invalidate an already issued permit and disqualified the transport operator/tour operator/organizer primary tourism/tourism enterprise of any tour related event from future availment of a special permit privilege.

SECTION 94 GROUND FOR CANCELLATION AND SUSPENSION OF LICENSE OF TOUR GUIDES

The following are grounds for cancellation and suspension of license of tour guides:

- A. Cancellation of accreditation
 - i. Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; and
 - ii. Conviction of more than one of any of the acts as herein prescribed.

- B. Suspension of accreditation
 - i. Any overt act of dishonesty, misrepresentation or misconduct committed against a member of his/her tour group or against his/her employer or co-employee;
 - ii. Forced tipping or contributions from tourist; and
 - iii. Failure to comply with the requirements as to the compulsory wearing of identification cards.

SECTION 95 GROUND FOR THE CLOSURE OF TOURISM-RELATED ESTABLISHMENTS, IMPOSITION OF FINES AND/OR FORFEITURE OF BONDS

The following shall be the grounds for the closure of tourism-related establishments, imposition of Fines and/or forfeiture of bonds:

- a. Making any false declaration or statement or making use of any such declaration or statement or any document containing the same of committing fraud or any misrepresentation for the purpose of obtaining the issuance, grant or renewal of any certificate of registration/accreditation/reaccreditation of license;
- b. Failure to comply with or contravene any of the conditions set forth in the license;
- c. Failure to meet the standards and requirements for the operation of tourism establishments, as prescribed in this code;

- d. Serious physical injury or loss of life of any guest due to the fault or negligence of its official or employee (for resort/hotel/tourist inn/apartelle and other tourism-related establishments);
- e. Allowing or permitting the tourism establishment, including any of its facilities, to be used for illegal, immoral, illicit activities, such as: gambling, prostitution, etc. (for resort/hotel/tourist inn/apartelle and other tourism-related establishments);
- f. Violation of any of the conditions of the LTRFRB franchise (for tourist transport operation);
- g. Tolerance of gross misconduct, discourtesy, dishonesty, or misrepresentation and/or fraudulent solicitation of business committed by any of the officers or employees against their clients detrimental to tourism industry;
- h. Willful violation of agreements and/or contracts entered into by the tourism establishment and its clients;
- i. Failure to pay fine, as well as, fees, due and contribution imposed under existing rules;
- j. Non-settlement of accounts and/or non-remittance of collections due to carrier of their co-agencies, or any agency of the government or any individual within the period prescribed by law; and
- k. Any other acts/omissions that worked against the interest of the tourism industry.

**CHAPTER XIII
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

SECTION 96 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following are the rules and regulations governing in the implementation of this Code:

1. All owners/operators/proprietors of tourism-related business establishments such as accommodation houses, hotels, apartelles, pension houses, lodging houses, homestays, cottages, beaches and the like accommodation houses, including homestays, shall keep a registry of guests, at all times. Upon arrival, guests shall be required to fill in forms, containing the following details:
 - a. Full name of guest
 - b. Nationality
 - c. Passport Number or any competent proof of identity
 - d. Address and Place/Country of Origin
 - e. Occupation and place of employment
 - f. Time and date of arrival
 - g. Expected duration of stay and exit destination.
2. Any visitor, brought/invited by guest/s to the accommodation house, shall also be required to register in a separate book for visitors. In the event that the visitor invited is a minor, the accommodation house shall promptly inform the Sorsogon City Social Welfare Development Office, for verification of the visitor's purpose of stay/visit.
3. Concerned tourism-related business establishments shall submit a monthly report of tourist arrivals and duly accomplished forms and registry books, to the SCTCAO, for data gathering, clearance issuance regulation and supervision purposes.
4. No person shall be allowed to work as tour guide in the City of Sorsogon, unless, he has secured a certificate as a tour guide, issued by the SCTCAO, the Provincial Tourism Center and/or the Department of Tourism.
5. No foreign tour guides/escorts shall be allowed under this Code, except when there are no available local tour guides/escorts speaking the language of a particular foreign tourist market, in which case, the travel/tour organizers shall be required to hire accredited local tour guides until the duration of such tour.

6. No entity shall be allowed to conduct local tours, unless they have complied with DOT and business permit and licensing requirements of the city. Outside tour operators, doing business in the city, shall be required to secure a special permit or accreditation from the SCTCAO.
7. No foreign tour operator shall be allowed to conduct local tours, unless they have engaged a local tour operator counterpart for the duration of the tour.
8. The tourism-related establishments shall prepare a disaster risk management and evacuation plan, duly approved by the City DRRM Office.
9. Standard rates for accommodation house, tourism facilities services of tour guides, including fares for all kinds of transport services, shall be posted in conspicuous places, for proper guidance, reference and information of tourists.
10. All accommodation houses and tourism establishments shall maintain cleanliness and sanitation of their facilities, at all times, in accordance with the existing Environment Code and the Sanitation Code of the city and other relevant local and national laws.
11. When the volume of the visitors in the tourism establishment reaches the maximum, as declared, the establishment shall provide a notice of such condition in strategic places to forewarn incoming visitors.
12. The establishment may coordinate with the Barangay Tourism Council (BTC) in the dissemination of such information.
13. In the implementation of the provisions of this Code, reference shall always be made to existing national and local laws, rules and regulations. For this purpose, the SCTC shall draft and issue directives to carry out the provisions of applicable relevant laws.

SECTION 97 PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

All owners/ operators/ proprietors of tourism-related business establishments, such as, accommodation houses, hotels, apartelles, pension houses, lodging houses, homestays, cottages, tourist inns, motels, bed and breakfast, resorts beaches and the like are strictly prohibited/restricted to do the following acts/omission:

1. Non-submission of monthly Tourists Arrival Report to the SCTCAO;
2. Making any false declaration or statement, or making use of any such declaration, or statement, or any document containing the same, or committing fraud or any act of misrepresentation for the purpose of obtaining the issuance, grant or renewal of any certificate of registration/accreditation/reaccreditation or license;
3. Failure to comply with, or contravene any of the conditions set forth in Accreditation;
4. Failure to meet the standards and requirements for the operation of tourism establishments, as prescribed in these rules;
5. Serious physical injury or loss of life of any guest, due to the fault or negligence of its official or employee (for resort/hotel/tourist inn/apartelle/other tourism-related establishments);
6. Allowing or permitting the tourism-related establishment, including any of its facilities, to be used for illegal, immoral, illicit activities, such as: gambling, prostitution, etc. (for resort/hotel/tourist inn, apartelle and the like);
7. Managers and/or Operators of tourism-related establishments shall exert all possible efforts not to permit a person, whom they know, to be drunk and/or have reason to believe, either to be a prostitute, a pedophile or a bad character, to occupy any room or to frequent the premises. Presence of any of these things, within the tourism-related establishments, shall be reported immediately to the nearest police station.
8. Violation of any of the conditions of the LTFRB franchise (for tourist transport operation);
 - i. Tolerance of gross misconduct, discourtesy, dishonesty, misrepresentation and/or fraudulent solicitation of business committed by any of the officers or employees against their clients to the detriment of the tourism industry;

9. Willful violation of agreements and/or contracts entered into by the tourism-related business establishment and its clients;
10. Failure to replace or renew the Surety Bond within fifteen (15) days the date when said bond is ordered forfeited not confiscated in accordance with these rules or cancelled and/or revoked for whatever, cause (in case of travel agency);
11. Failure to pay fine, as well as fees, dues and contributions imposed under existing laws;
12. Employment/hiring of employees (Tour Guides) who are not holders of license issued by the BPLO or non-Filipino employees, whether contractual or permanent, without valid working visa and working permit;
13. Any other acts/omissions that may endanger the interest of the tourism industry.

**CHAPTER XIV
GOVERNING LAWS AND PENAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 98 GOVERNING LAWS

The following relative local and national laws, among others, shall govern in the implementation of the provisions of this Code, as follows:

1. R.A. 7160, known as the Local Government Code of 1991
2. R. A. 9593, otherwise known as the Tourism Act of 2009
3. R.A. 10066 known as the Heritage Act of 2010
4. Civil Service Resolution No. 97-0404 and CSC MC # 1, Series of 1997
5. P.D. No. 1096, or the National Building Code
6. City Ordinance No. 028, Series of 2015 or the Sorsogon City Investment Code
7. The existing Sorsogon City Revenue Code
8. Sangguniang Panlungsod ordinances related to tourism, environment and sanitation.

SECTION 99 PENALTIES

Any violation of any provisions contained in this Code, shall be meted with the following fines and penalties:

1. 1st Offense - Cash fine of Php 1,000.00
2. 2nd Offense - Cash fine of Php 3,000.00 and violator shall render eight (8) hours of community service under the supervision of the SCTCAO, or its duly authorized representative.
3. 3rd Offense – Cash fine of Php 5,000.00 and cancellation of business permit, and closure of business.

**CHAPTER XV
POST PANDEMIC TOURISM REHABILITATION**

SECTION 100 INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE- SORSOGON CITY TOURISM REHABILITATION (IATF-SCTR)

As the city government prepares to adopt the new normal, the Inter-Agency Task Force-Sorsogon City Tourism Rehabilitation (IATF-SCTR) is hereby created to serve as the policy making and recommending body for the rehabilitation of the tourism of the city of Sorsogon.

SECTION 101 COMPOSITION OF INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE- SORSOGON CITY TOURISM REHABILITATION (IATF-SCTR)

The following shall compose the IATF-SCTR:

Chairperson:	-The City Mayor
Vice-Chairperson:	-SP Chairman of the Committee on Tourism and Investment Promotion
Members:	-City Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer -SP Chairman- Committee on Environmental Protection -SP Chairman- Committee on Climate Change and Solid Waste Management -SP Chairman- Committee on Peace, Public Order and Safety -SP Chairman- Committee on Trade, Commerce and Industry -Sorsogon Provincial Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer -City Planning and Development Officer -City Engineer -City Health Officer -City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer -Public Safety Officer -City Legal Officer -Information Communication Technology Officer -City PNP Chief -Commanding Officer of the Philippine Coast Guard- Sorsogon -President of the Liga ng mga Barangay -SK City Federation President -DTI Provincial Director -Representative from Transportation Sector -Representative from Primary Tourism Establishment Sector -Representative from Civil Society Organizations involved in tourism
Secretariat	-City Tourism, Culture and Arts Office

The IATF-SCTR may also invite other government agencies and private sectors to participate in specific programs and meetings whenever certain issues and subject matters may arise that needs their expertise and knowledge.

SECTION 102 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE IATF-SCTR

The IATF-SCTR shall have the following duties and functions, to wit:

1. Coordinate with different agencies in the implementation of the new guidelines adhering to the provincial and national policies for the rehabilitation of Sorsogon City's tourism in the new normal.
2. Formulate policies and protocols necessary for the smooth transition and rehabilitation of the tourism sector of Sorsogon City.
3. Sets direction and regulations for all tourism related activities in line with the provisions of this code.
4. Review and approve tourism-related protocols within tourism areas.
5. Initiate the review of the established protocols and recommend amendments to make it consistent with this code and relevant to the new normal and existing conditions.

All agencies involved, offices, departments and sectors in the city of Sorsogon shall submit to the IATF-SCTR a monthly report of data from their respective offices on tourism and relative concerns.

The IATF-SCTR may recommend to the Local Chief Executive on some government and private sector-led ecotourism and related development proposals, with necessary findings, prior to the approval and implementation of such proposals.

SECTION 103 MEETING OF THE IATF-SCTR

The IATF-SCTR shall meet every quarter. However, within one (1) month after effectivity of this code, the majority of the members of the IATF-SCTR shall call and ensure the holding of the first meeting/conference to decide and determine among other important matters, the venue and date of their quarterly meetings that shall be held regularly. Special meetings shall be called by the Chairperson or by the majority of its members, as the need arises.

**CHAPTER XVI
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

SECTION 104 CONFIDENTIAL CHARACTER OF CERTAIN DATA

Information and documents received by or filed with the SCTCAO in pursuance of the requirements of this ordinance shall be treated as confidential and shall not be divulged without the consent of the party concerned when public interest so requires. Any official or employee of the SCTCAO including those that are temporarily assigned therewith, who shall violate the provision of this Section shall be penalized based on appropriate laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 105 IMPLEMENTING RULES

The City Mayor is hereby authorized, from time to time, to issue rules and regulations as she/he may deem fit and necessary for the effective implementation of this ordinance.

SECTION 106 FUNDING

The funds necessary for the implementation of this ordinance shall be taken from the annual appropriations and shall be included in the preparation of the Annual Budget of the City Government.

SECTION 107 FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT/OTHER SOURCES

Specific tourism projects may be undertaken with funding support from the National Government and other sources, through proposals made by the SCTCAO, as endorsed by the SCTC.

SECTION 108 MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The SCTCAO, in coordination with the SCTC, shall establish a monitoring and evaluation system, in order to evaluate the economic, social and environmental impact of the tourism activities. This should cover all elements that are crucial to sustainability of the tourism resource, in compliance with the provisions of this Code. Monitoring and evaluation indicators should include service quality and participation of local communities.

**CHAPTER XVII
FINAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 109 REPEALING CLAUSE

All ordinances, resolutions, and regulations, or any part(s) thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 110 SEPARABILITY

If any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this ordinance shall to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 111 EFFECTIVITY

This ordinance shall take immediately upon its approval by the Sangguniang Panlungsod and after compliance with the law on public dissemination and of publication.

DATE APPROVED : October 25, 2022

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution and ordinance.


ROYAN E. DOMASIÁN
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:


MARK ERIC C. DIONEDA
City Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


MA. ESTER E. HAMOR
City Mayor