

## IFC supports QC's pandemic response

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The International Finance Corp. (IFC) has agreed to help Quezon City in improving the local government's pandemic response efforts.

In a statement, IFC said on Wednesday, March 23, that it will provide advisory services to the Philippines' biggest city to "future proof" its vaccination strategy and testing facilities. Following an assessment of its existing Covid-19 response efforts, IFC said it will work with Quezon City to increase vaccination rates by improving and expanding vaccination centers, bolstering testing facilities, and strengthening vaccine logistics, among others.

"We expect that this partnership with IFC will help cover all bases and further solidify our programs and projects to combat Covid-19, especially our vaccination and testing initiatives," Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte said.

"While Quezon City is already considered as 'very low risk' for Covid-19, we should not rest on our laurels and there must be no room for complacency. We must not let our guard down until we achieve total victory over this virus," she added.

For his part, Jean-Marc Arbogast, IFC country manager for the Philippines said "we are delighted to partner with Quezon City as it seeks to improve its pandemic response efforts."

"Supporting subnational governments and cities, which are often at the forefront of climate change and pandemic response efforts, is crucial. We look forward to a long term and fruitful partnership with Quezon City and to supporting more cities in the Philippines," Arbogast said.

Supporting IFC will be International SOS, a leading global health and risk-management organization.

IFC, together with its sister organization the World Bank, is also supporting Quezon City in assessing carbon mitigation related investment opportunities with a focus on sustainable, safe, low-carbon, and resilient transport mobility and green corridors.