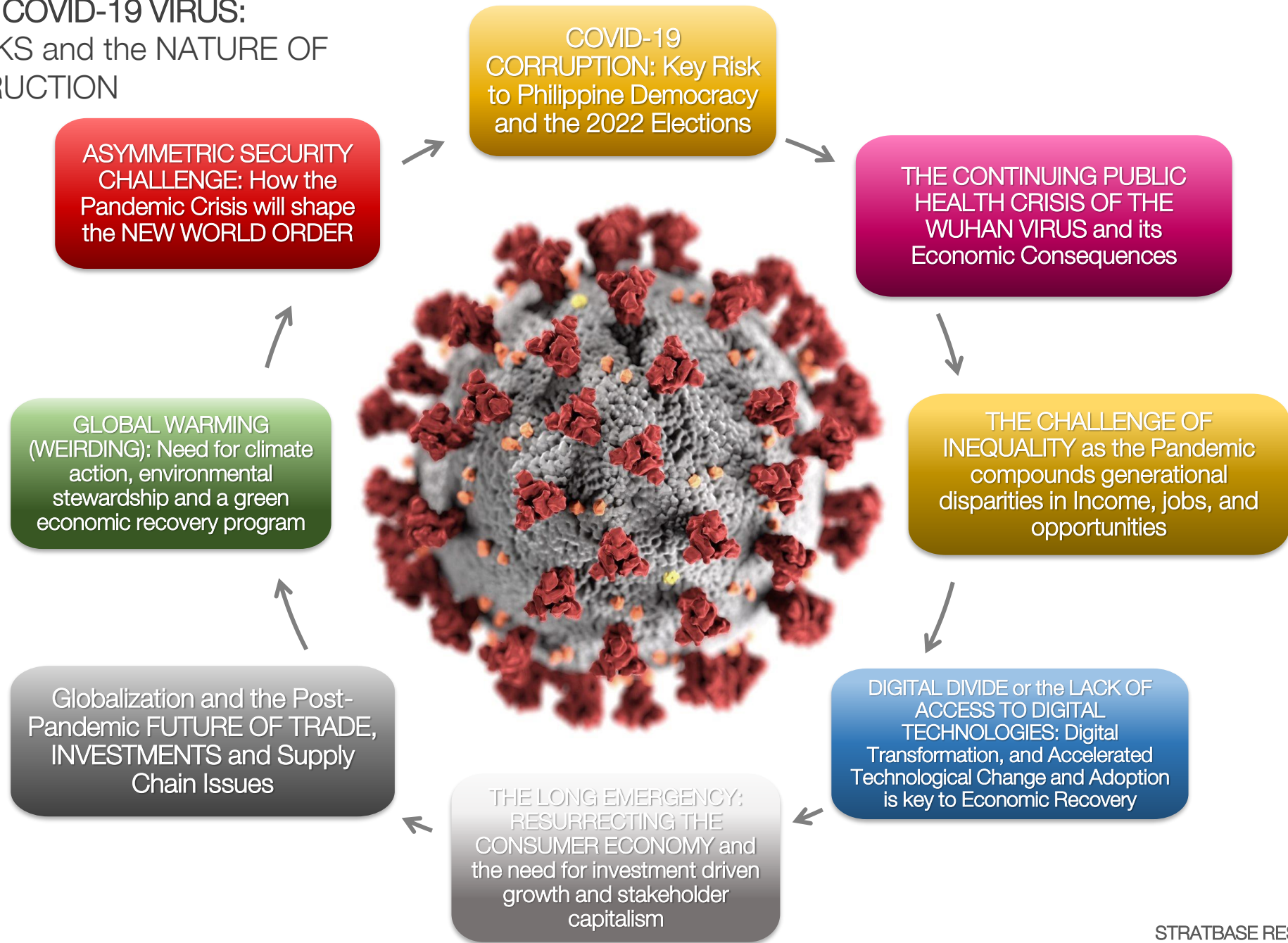


PILIPINAS CONFERENCE 2020

OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN
THE COVID-CRISIS:
TOWARDS TRANSPARENT &
ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

LIVING WITH THE COVID-19 VIRUS: 8 PANDEMIC RISKS and the NATURE OF CREATIVE DESTRUCTION



“In this time of pandemic, **democratic procedures and practices are the most likely victims of emergency situations and responses** that would involve the urgent allocation and release of public funds. Oversight mechanisms are largely set aside in the effort to mitigate the socioeconomic impact speedily...The lingering impact of the current health crisis on the people and the economy **should not blindside us to the threat of the abandonment of democratic governance procedures and practices in the name of expediency.**”

Despite COVID-19, the election must go on

Philippine Daily Inquirer, 30 October 2020

COVID-19 CORRUPTION: KEY RISK TO PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY AND THE NATIONAL ELECTION OF 2022

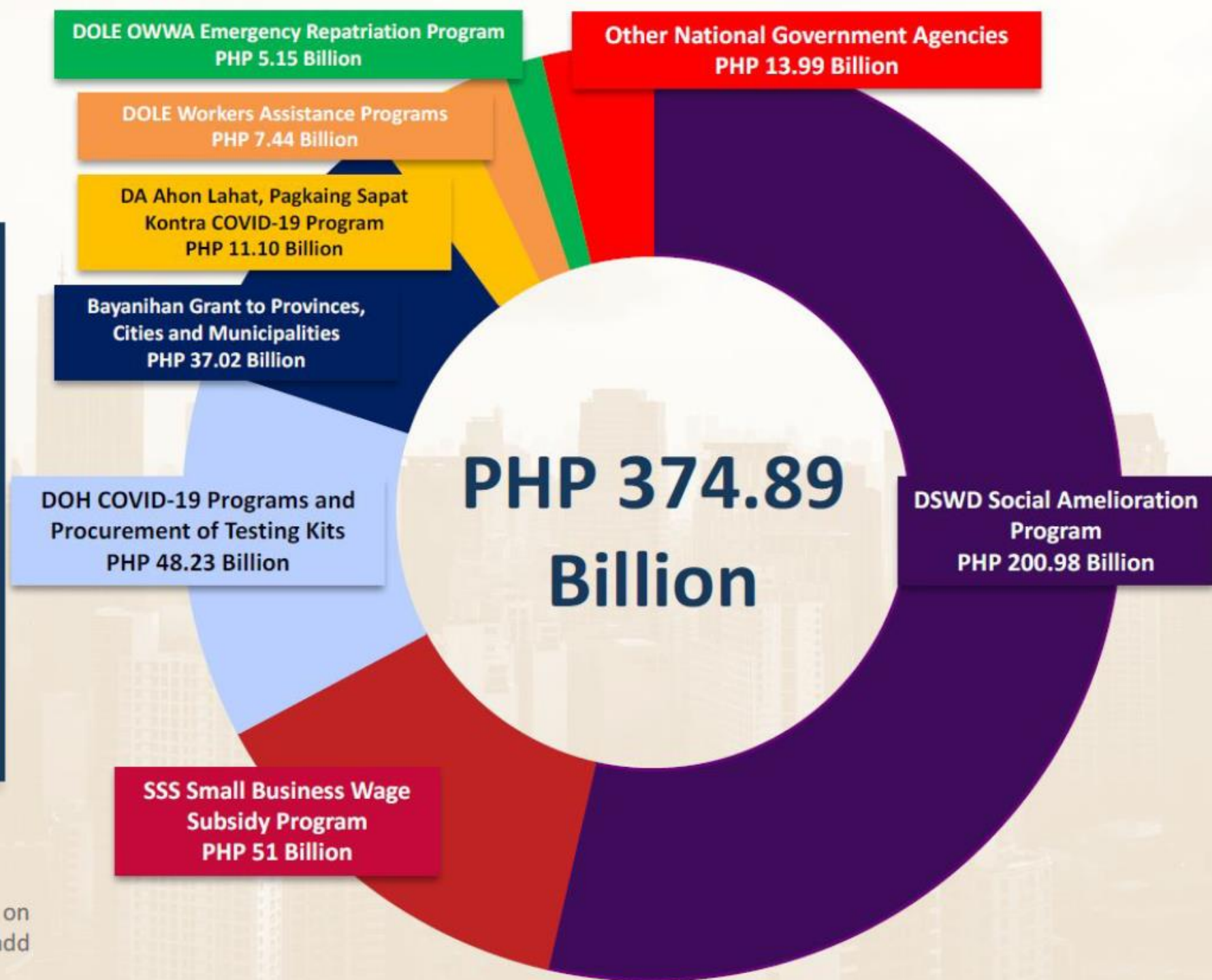
With this massive movement of funds, the current level of transparency and accountability leaves much to be desired. This issue builds upon to the issue of weak institutional bureaucratic mechanisms. **COVID-19 has given governments the opportunity to skip accountability measures and democratic procedures under the guise of "emergency powers".**

We need **responsive governance founded on the principles of transparency and accountability** to surmount the economic and health challenges we face in the wake of the "Wuhan Virus".

It is with such core principles, and matching institutions to cultivate them, that governments are able to move in cooperation with the various sectors of civil society, creating a culture of responsive public service and a mature democratic system.

Released Allotments for the Government's COVID-19 Response Programs

(as of June 30, 2020)



NOTE: Figures are subject to changes based on emerging COVID-19 needs. Values may not add up due to rounding-off.

EMERGING RISKS TO PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY

"In the health sector, undue influence can lead to misinformation or corruption of information...which can break down a health system's ability to function and have serious implications."

– Sarah Steingruber, U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Center

There is a rising threat of fake news, misinformation campaigns, and misrepresentation in digital spaces. Securing data is **not only a matter of private safety, but a matter of general public security**. These threats must be addressed if we are to move forward to the use of digital tools to facilitate transparency.

"The Philippines sovereignty and sovereign rights shouldn't be compromised with any form of aid or investments, let alone vague promises of them."

– Philippine Daily Inquirer, 10 July 2020

Corrosive capital is state-driven and private capital, usually from authoritarian nations, that **that lack accountability and transparency**. This makes it especially dangerous for emerging or weakened democracies as it **erodes the strength of the rule of law and enables corrupt practices**.

“But past mistakes should not hamper us from taking bold solutions. **Only with a ‘whole-of-society’ approach can we fight the deadly and invisible enemy.** This crisis is about saving lives, and a rare opportunity to fix our health care system and start a transformation toward good governance.”

Crisis, good governance, and opportunities

Philippine Daily Inquirer, 1 May 2020

THANK YOU!

