

Section 14, Special Provisions of the General Appropriations Act (GAA) FY 2022, states that:

Sec. 14. **Project Related Expenses**. For infrastructure projects costing more than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00), the DPWH is authorized to deduct, but not to exceed the following percentages of the **project cost**, to be used for: (i) EAO expenses or (ii) MOOE:

- a) Three and one-half percent (3.5%) for releases to the Central Office;
- b) Two and one-half percent (2.5%) for releases to the Regional Offices (ROs);
- c) Two percent (2%) for releases to the District Engineering Offices (DEOs);
- d) One percent (1%) for infrastructure projects under the Basic Infrastructure Program undertaken by the Central Office, ROs and DEOs: PROVIDED, That the 1% EAO shall be given only to the implementing unit, regardless where the fund was released; and
- e) One-half percent (0.5%) for infrastructure projects of other agencies undertaken by the Central Office, ROs or DEOs.

For EAO expenses, the same shall be limited to: (i) administrative overhead including the hiring of individuals engaged through job-orders or contracts of service or such other engagement of personnel without any employer-employee relationship; (ii) preconstruction activities after detailed engineering; (iii) construction project management; (iv) testing and quality control; (v) acquisition, rehabilitation and repair of related equipment and parts; (vi) contingencies in relation to pre-construction activities. The EAO expenses shall be treated or booked-up as capitalized expenditures and form part of the project cost.

Disbursements or expenditures by DPWH in violation of the above requirements shall be void and shall subject the erring officials and employees to disciplinary actions in accordance with Section 43, Chapter 5 and Section 80, Chapter 7, Book VI of E.O. No. 292, and to appropriate criminal action under existing penal laws. Pursuant to the foregoing, the breakdown of allocation of the authorized Project Related Expenses from Project Cost is as follows:

For Foreign-Assisted Projects

Percentage of Deductions/Retentions from Project Cost						
CO/UPMO	Equipment	RO	DEO	Total		
2.25%	0.25%	0.25%	0.75%	3.50%		

For Locally-Funded Projects Released to Central Office

Percentage of Deductions/Retentions from Project Cost						
Implementing Office	СО	RO	DEO	Total		
Central Office/UPMO – Implemented	2.00%	0.50%	1.00%	3.50%		
RO – Implemented	0.50%	2.00%	1.00%	3.50%		
DEO – Implemented	0.50%	0.50%	2.50%	3.50%		

For Directly Released to RO and DEO

Percentage of Deductions/Retentions from Project Cost					
Implementing Office	RO	DEO	Total		
RO – Implemented	2.50%		2.50%		
DEO – Implemented		2.00%	2.00%		

The concerned Undersecretary for Regional/UPMO/Technical Operations shall approve all requests for project-related expenses on EAO and authorize the release of funds to the concerned implementing office.

This Order supersedes Department Order No. 9 series of 2021, and shall take effect immediately.

Please be guided accordingly.

ROGER G. MERCADO

Acting Secretary

Department of Public Works and Highways Office of the Secretary