

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marcelo L. Tecson is a high school valedictorian and Certified Public Accountant (CPA), with some MBA units from De La Salle University. He took up finance, economics, and auditing subjects in his undergraduate business course at the University of the East, as well as in the executive development and financial management programs he attended at the University of Houston and the University of Texas at Dallas in the United States. His company-sponsored foreign training included orientation in three US government energy offices: Bonneville Power Administration in Oregon, Seattle City Light in Washington, and Solar Energy Research Institute in Colorado.

As a professional, the author worked in an auditing firm, then in the Phinma group of companies. He also served at different times as head of accounting, internal audit and systems, corporate planning, project planning and control, and Controller's group in the parent company and subsidiaries of the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) Group of Companies, listed then by *Fortune* magazine as one of the top 500 corporations outside the United States. In between, as a detailed official, he acted as Chief Accountant and later Finance and Management Service Chief of what is now the Department of Energy (DOE). Over the years, the two groups of companies where he worked produced one Executive Secretary in Malacañang and eight cabinet secretaries.

In his more than two decades of work in different capacities as part of the management team—including the team that conceived and implemented the oil industry OPSF and profit-rate regulation—the author reported in succession directly to alumni of the University of the East, Columbia University and Wharton Business School (University of Pennsylvania), Carnegie Mellon University, Texas A & M University, and Fordham University. Other company officers he worked with included an alumnus each from Harvard Business School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Tecson retired early as Controller of Petron Corporation, the country's largest oil company, to become one of the countless entrepreneurs who operate on their own and assume risks. In this capacity, he witnessed first-hand how IMF and central banks mishandled the Asian crisis. As a result, he wrote a book on it, *Puzzlers: Economic Sting*, published in 2005.

Today, still an entrepreneur, the author has been pursuing some good-governance advocacies on national issues, such as those treated in this book. He believes that all is not lost for our country.

