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Special Issue on Sustainability

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2022 EUROPA AWARDS



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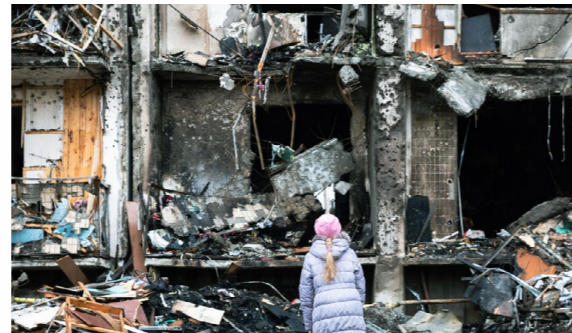


Table of Contents

10	2022 Europa Awards	74	Green and Inclusive Finance Solutions
14	2022 Europa Awards Panel of Judges	82	Water Resource Management
18	Welcome to Austria	90	Green Buildings
20	Leadership for Sustainable Development - the Danish Way	94	Green Workforce
22	Germany and Sustainability	100	Startup for Sustainability 2022
24	Lowering Emissions is Key to Saving the Climate	106	SGV's Climate Change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS)
26	Finland - Bringing Sustainable and Circular Solutions to the Philippines	107	SNAP-Magat 15th Anniversary and BESS Launch
28	Prime Infra: Building Today's Critical Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future	108	What's next for our planet? Let's make it smarter.
38	Smart and Safer Mobility	109	The Ukraine Crisis is a Child Rights Crisis
44	Clean and Green Energy	110	Sustainability Pioneer: Growing the Green Shoots of Sustainability in the Philippines
52	Energy Efficiency and Conservation	111	SIBOL Regenerates New-Found Hope For Corn Farmers in the Philippines
58	Waste Management	112	Republic Cement, Colgate-Palmolive Philippines Renew Partnership in the Fight Against Plastic Pollution
68	Sustainable Agri-food	114	2022 Europa Awards Event Partners and Sponsors

Editorial

Dear reader,

Deep dive with us in this special edition of ECCP's membership magazine into the topic of "Sustainability". A term that seems nowadays omnipresent, sometimes even being used inflationary, it continues to stand interchangeably with some of the biggest problems mankind has to face such as climate change, air pollution, and waste production, among others. The Philippine government continues to work towards achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with different stakeholders and policymakers.

The European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines continues to provide support to government efforts and engagement with the private sector on sustainability initiatives. As one of the leading concerns and efforts, sustainability remains at the forefront of the Chamber's advocacies. The ECCP presents the 2022 Europa Awards in its second year that continues to promote and recognize companies with exceptional performance and contributions to promoting sustainability in line with global standards and the Philippine Development Plan. This EuroPH Connect Special Issue on Sustainability aims to highlight the best practices and sustainability success stories and initiatives of companies across various sectors with the hope of inspiring others to take action.



We have ten(10) award categories namely, Smart & Safer Mobility, Clean and Green Energy, Energy Efficiency and Conversion, Waste Management, Sustainable Agri-food, Green and Inclusive Finance Solutions, Water Resource Management, Green Buildings, Green Workforce, and Startup for Sustainability 2022.

With the special theme of Sustainability, we invite you to read our cover story where we feature Prime Infra, the core infrastructure arm of the group of companies led by Filipino business visionary, Enrique K. Razon, Jr. and how they have established a strong presence in the water, energy, waste management, and construction industries which created various impacts in its continuous journey towards sustainability. Read on further as they share on their environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices, address various issues such as waste management and water demand-supply gaps through their projects, and other initiatives and programs gearing towards sustainability.

Take a look at the stories of our sustainability partners starting from page 18 with the Embassy of Austria, Royal Danish Embassy in Manila, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Manila, Embassy of Sweden in Manila, and Embassy of Finland among others. On page 14 we highlight our esteemed panel of judges this year as they lend their knowledge and expertise on sustainability.

With new award categories included in the roster, I am pleased to invite you to take a look and read about the different sustainability stories from our award finalists. For Smart & Safer Mobility, Aboitiz Equity Ventures touches on its BEST Bus project which is the first fully free-ride shuttle service in Mindanao while In1Go Technologies talks about the journey of digitized transportation. Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation shares how it invested on the swift transformation of its retail stations into mobility stations that welcomes all forms of mobility on page 38.

Under the Clean and Green Energy category, Citicore Renewable Energy Corp. present its AgroSolar initiative which incorporates its commitment to environmental stewardship and community development. Vivant Foundation, Inc. introduces Project RELY which is a European Union-funded project that combines energization through solar in 16 off-grid schools.

For Energy Efficiency and Conservation, we feature Citicore Renewable Energy Corp, the country's pioneer in maximizing land use where solar power generation and crop production co-exist. Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines highlight its climate action goals by sourcing 85% of its total power consumption from clean and renewable sources. Mondelez Philippines also shares their project on 100% Renewable Energy, Solar Collector, and Project Habagat.

On Waste Management, Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines run us through their multi-phased project on green technology for recyclable plastic PET packaging. Kuehne + Nagel, Inc remains at the forefront of sustainable logistics as the first logistics provider to be certified plastic neutral in the Philippines and its move to carbon neutrality. Laguna Water Corporation shares the launch of its flagship program TSEK ng Bayan with an approach to promoting proper sanitation that will cover all social classes. For being a known advocate of powering progress, Shell Business Operations Manila has a circular economy project that applies Bokashi food waste composting and rainwater harvesting. Meanwhile, Unilever Philippines is guided by its purpose to make sustainable living commonplace with its global strategy, Unilever Compass, which has made headway in working with local communities to address plastic waste.

For Sustainable Agri-food, we invite you to take a look at Century Pacific Food, Inc and its Protein Delivery which forms the cornerstone of their Sustainability Program and commits to responsible manufacturing and development of sustainable, healthier, and affordable food products to address local nutritional needs. Ikano Philippines Inc (IKEA) presents its initiatives in making sure to embed sustainability across the entire organization which includes food and bolsters its commitment to food sustainability which is to sell and serve environmentally certified marine products. Nestle Philippines, Inc. pursues its commitment to sustainability and beyond that accelerates regenerative agriculture among Filipino coffee farmers with its Project Coffee+ initiative that aims to enhance coffee farmers in sustainable farming among others.

On page 74, we share stories of Green and Inclusive Finance Solutions finalists, starting with ENGIE Services Philippines which develops its businesses around a model based on responsible growth to take on the major challenges of the transition to a low-carbon economy. We also have the Land Bank of the Philippines with the integration of environmental and social assessment into the lending operations as an important aspect of their sustainability framework. For Pru Life UK, their sustainability mission is to help Filipinos get the most out by making healthcare affordable and accessible and by promoting financial inclusion.

For the Water Resource Management category, Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI) focuses on its AIDFI Hydraulic Ram Pump which became its flagship technology, and also introduces its latest invention, the Mechanical Water Kiosk. Maynilad Water Services, Inc. shares how it has taken proactive steps toward enhanced water security and how it is also developing decentralized medium to small-scale water sources. NXTLVL Water Technology Inc. talks about how it aims to bring sustainable drinking water to every Filipino island community with its technology, the Hydra.

Let's deep dive into one of our new award categories Green Buildings. Under this category, Globe Telecom shares its efforts in standardizing green practices in its corporate headquarters which showcases the best use of technology in green building designs and operations. Union Bank of the Philippines is committed to bringing its sustainability agenda to life through its Ark branches which were remodeled from traditional branches to become a digital banking prototype where its customers truly feel the future of banking while upholding its sustainability thrust.

Check page 94 for the new award category on Green Workforce. Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. promotes the continuous improvement of its ESG performance with its holistic approach to enabling its workforce to learn and develop their skills, and its Aboitiz Academy includes an ESG Library with various on-demand learning videos and materials on the subject. Ascott Makati, on the other hand, highlights the property's practices to conserve energy and resources which aligns with CapitaLand's 2030 Sustainability Master Plan and some of its initiatives are installing sensor lights and Footprint Friday among others. Ikano Philippines Inc (IKEA) fulfills its vision of creating a better everyday life for people through its sustainability strategy to become people and planet positive in 2030 with IKEA co-workers playing an integral part in achieving this sustainability goal.

Last but not the least, another new award category is the Startup for Sustainability 2022 with Ampersand Design Think Lab Corp. sharing insights on its certified organic farm With Meraki Forest Farm to deliver accessible, seed-to-plate products and experiences with the "Live Better, Easier." Verne Energy Solutions launched a dedicated research arm to provide in-depth market insight to the energy industry and key policymakers. Lastly, Sustainability Standards was initially formed to award LGUs, NGOs, and corporations to assist them to upgrade their levels of sustainability by using their sustainability consultants and their latest products also include a kite-based wind energy system from Germany.

On page 114, we acknowledge our awards partners and sponsors, and sustainability, communications, and media partners. Read up on more content from our other partners starting on page 106.

On a final note, we would like to sincerely express our gratitude to companies and organizations for their efforts in achieving and moving towards sustainability. Your continuous support and achievements will surely go a long way in leading the business community to create smart solutions and adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. Let us continue to do our part in achieving a more sustainable environment.

I hope you enjoy this special issue of the EuroPH Connect and as always, thank you for your continuing support.

Florian Gottein
ECCP Executive Director

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2022 EUROPA AWARDS

For over four decades, the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) has developed ties with the Philippine government and has actively advocated for reforms to make the Philippines a more competitive destination for local and foreign investments. Moreover, the Chamber has been deeply involved in sustainability-related advocacies covering energy, water management, and circular economy, among others.

Recognizing the urgency of sustainability and in line with the European Commission's efforts on the European Green Deal, the ECCP is organizing its 2022 Europa Awards on 23 June 2022, which aims to promote and recognize companies with exceptional performance and contributions in promoting sustainability in line with global standards and the Philippine Development Plan.

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Award Categories

During the awarding ceremony, organizations with the most outstanding sustainability programs will be awarded in ten categories:



Smart and Safer Mobility

This will be awarded to the company that has continuously striven to create and implement innovative and sustainable smart and safer mobility solutions that can help address the issues and challenges (i.e., increased number of vehicles, lack of connectivity between public transportation, etc.) in the present transportation system within the country. The company has significantly contributed towards the upgrade of the local transport system with the end view of having a safer, more efficient and sustainable transport community.



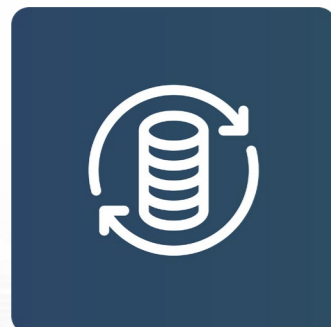
Clean and Green Energy

This will be awarded to the company that has successfully incorporated the use of clean and renewable energy sources in its day-to-day operations. The company has actively promoted the use of clean energy within the country, thereby aiding the government in its thrust to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions by 70% by 2030 as stipulated in the Paris Agreement.



Energy Efficiency and Conservation

This award will be given to the company that showcases best practice in and promotes energy efficiency and conservation (EEC). Through its operations and/or provision of EEC services, the company is contributing to attaining the country's sustainability targets.



Waste Management

This award will be given to a company who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and contribution to better waste management. This company is able to set an example in avoiding or recovering waste and protecting the environment through the management of waste streams generated by the community or industry.



Sustainable Agri-Food

This will be awarded to the company that has contributed to the enhancement of the agriculture and food industry in the Philippines by offering innovative products and services that helped implement and promote the concept of "sustainable agri-food systems". The awarded company has championed to increase agricultural production, minimise food loss, and increase awareness on the value of food nutrition through its programs and initiatives.



Green and Inclusive Finance Solutions

This will be awarded to the company that has shown active support to businesses engaging in green projects by promoting and supporting the flow of financial instruments and other related services for the development and implementation of sustainable business models, green investments, and policies promoting sustainability. This can also cover green products within savings, credit, insurance, money transfers and new digital delivery channels. This contributes to economic development as well as reduction of carbon emissions, climate smart adaptation and protection of biodiversity while strengthening local entrepreneurship and local communities.



Water Resource Management

This will be awarded to the company which best demonstrates excellence in the use of an Integrated Water Resource Management approach to water resources projects as well as innovative thinking, and application of solutions for wise water management and practices.



Green Buildings

This will be awarded to companies that showcase the best use of technology to establish green building designs. The awardee must be successful in integrating environmentally sustainable solutions in building designs and construction. The award entry should be able to show the excellent integration of the following components:

- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Water Efficiency
- Environmental Sustainability
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Operation and Maintenance & Other Green Features and Innovation



Green Workforce

This will be awarded to an organization with excellent programs and policies that support and promote the development and enhancement of green skills and jobs needed in a desired sustainable and low-carbon economy, covering all sectors and at all levels in the workforce. Emerging economic activities create new (or renewed) occupations.



Startup for Sustainability 2022

This will be awarded to a start-up company that has successfully developed sustainability and social impact initiatives through improving core business practices, through improving core business practices, driving innovations, and deepening partnerships.

2022 Europa Awards Panel of Judges



H.E. Luc Véron

**Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines**

Luc Véron is the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for the Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines. He is also the Head of the Human Resources Division of the European External Action Service since 2015. In this capacity, he handles talent management diplomats and other agents in the headquarters and overseas. Before this, he managed bilateral relations with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan as the Deputy Head of the Central Asia Division.



Mr. Jean-Marc Arbogast

Country Manager for the Philippines, International Finance Corporation

Jean-Marc, a French national, was formerly the Adviser to the Vice-President of Corporate Strategy and Resources, where he helped formulate and articulate IFC's strategic priorities while aligning resources to deliver on our ambitious agenda. Prior to that, Jean-Marc was a Senior Investment Officer in the Global Water team where he led the origination and execution of transactions in the sector globally, in close coordination with regional infrastructure colleagues. Before joining IFC in 2012, Jean-Marc worked as an investment banker at BofA Merrill Lynch in New York City, advising industrial and agribusiness companies globally on mergers and acquisitions and capital markets transactions.



Mr. Khalid Hassan

Country Director for the Philippines, International Labour Organization

Mr. Hassan has an extensive background in fundamental principles and rights at work, rural development, and primary education. Prior to the Philippines, he served for 17 years in ILO Country Offices for Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania, and Pakistan. In Africa, Mr. Hassan led teams in the fight against child labor, inequality, and poverty as Chief Technical Adviser of ILO Projects on Achieving Reduction of Child Labour in Support of Education (ARISE) in 2013-2016, and the Support to the National Action Plan on Child Labour (SNAP) in 2010-2013. The ARISE and SNAP Projects contributed to significantly reducing child labor while implementing national action plans in Africa. Mr. Hassan holds a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of Peshwar.



Ms. Ma. Victoria A. Tan

Chairperson, Global Compact Network Philippines

Ma. Victoria A. Tan, mostly known as "Vickie" by her peers, heads the Enterprise Risk Management and Sustainability Unit of Ayala Corporation, one of the largest and time-honored conglomerates in the Philippines with leadership status in various industries. Vickie implements group-wide policies and programs that are designed to increase awareness of and strengthen the commitment to risk management and sustainability. She is also a recognized leader in both fields of Risk Management and Sustainability and, most notably, she has been named in 2019 as one of Eco-Business' A-List of most influential corporate sustainability leaders in the Asia Pacific, as well as one of Asia's Top Sustainability Superwomen by CSR Works.



Mr. Christopher Ilagan

Chairperson, Philippine Water Partnership

Christopher A. Ilagan is the Chairperson of the Philippine Water Partnership. He recently joined Cargill Philippines Inc. last July 2019 as its Corporate Affairs Director. In this capacity, he provides strategic leadership in the company's corporate communications, government relations, corporate responsibility, sustainable development, and branding practice areas. He is a member of the company's Country Leadership Team.



Ms. Cherrie Atilano

President and Founding Farmer, AGREA Agricultural Systems International, Inc.

Cherrie Atilano is the President and Founding Farmer of AGREA Agricultural Systems International, Inc., a for-purpose and inclusive business, that is creating the first replicable one-island economy that is zero hunger, zero waste, and zero insufficiencies. Cherrie started teaching farmers at the age of 12, and has 22 years of vast experience in Sustainable Food Systems. She is a High-Level Ambassador of UN Scaling Up Nutrition, Food Systems Champion of the United Nations, Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum, Board Member of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and the Philippine Ambassador of Food Security.



Jose Bienvenido Manuel M. Biona, Ph.D.

Executive Dean, De La Salle University Enrique K. Razon Jr. Logistics Institute

Dr. Biona is currently the Professor of Mechanical Engineering and the Executive Dean of the Enrique Razon Jr. Logistics Institute of De La Salle University (DLSU). Concurrently, he is Executive Director of the Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines and thus has a very strong understanding and access to the whole eMobility value chain in the country. Likewise, he is a Technology Advisor of Tojo Motors Corp., one of the biggest local electric vehicle manufacturing companies in the Philippines.



Atty. Jose Layug, Jr.

President, Developers of Renewable Energy for AdvanceMent, Inc.

Atty. Jose M. Layug, Jr., or "Jay" is the President of the Developers of Renewable Energy for AdvanceMent Inc. or DREAM. He recently served as Chairman of the National Renewable Energy Board from 2016 to 2018. Jay was the Undersecretary of the DOE from 2010 to 2012 and headed the Renewable Energy Management Bureau, Energy Resources Development Bureau, Energy Utilization Management Bureau, Oil Industry Management Bureau, and Legal Services.



Ben Alderson

Manager for Strategy and Financial Planning, IdeaSpace / QBO Innovation Hub

Ben spent the first 10 years of his career working in Management Consulting and Strategy roles for both the UK Government and the corporate sector. A previous Startup founder himself, Ben performed the role of Snr. Head of Investments & Strategy at the IdeaSpace Foundation from 2020 to 2022, responsible for identifying promising early-stage startups for investment. Ben continues to provide financial modeling mentorship to the QBO and IdeaSpace startup accelerator programs today.



Mr. Angelo Tan

Country Lead for the Philippines, Climate Business Department, International Finance Corporation

Angelo Tan is the Country Lead for the Philippines at the Climate Business Department of the International Finance Corporation, a sister organization of the World Bank, and a member of the World Bank Group. In this role, he forges partnerships with various real estate stakeholders, toward democratizing green and resilient buildings through Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (EDGE) and Building Resilience Index (BRI). Angelo has a decade of real estate experience in mixed-use development management, commercial real estate transactions, and architecture business development.



Mr. Roderick De Castro

Executive Director, Business for Sustainable Development

Roderick De Castro has been operating for social development for over 20 years. In 2004, he joined the then Mirant Foundation (presently Team Energy Foundation) as Program Manager for Rural Electrification considered one of the most important CSR programs through the private sector that gave electricity to more than 300,000 households nationwide. Ricky also managed the Bridging Leadership program and taught at AIM. He held the Chairmanship of the League of Corporate Foundations and has been giving lectures and presentations in the areas of CSR, Resource Mobilization, Sustainable Development, and Strategic Management. He is also a member of the Advisory Council of the AFP Leadership Development Center. He is now the Executive Director of the Business for Sustainable Development organization.



Dr. Alma Bella P. Madrazo, Ph.D.

National Graduate School of Engineering, Energy Engineering Graduate Program
Professorial Lecturer, University of the Philippines

Dr. Alma Bella Madrazo a licensed Chemical Engineer with a Master's degree in Engineering Education and a Ph.D. in Energy Engineering from the University of the Philippines. She has more than 30 years of experience in environmental and energy management, impact assessments, hazardous waste management, remediation, project management, regulatory, and policy development. A visiting professor at the University of Portsmouth in England in 2002, and a visiting scientist at the Tokyo Institute of Technology in Japan in 1989 and 1994. She was also appointed as a member of the Pollution Adjudication Board (PAB) of the DENR representing the academe and served up to June 2003.

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Welcome to Austria - home to pioneers for green-tech and sustainability!

Embassy of Austria

We are all very much aware that innovative solutions on large scales are necessary to meet global environmental challenges. Austria might be small in size, but we are home to market-leading green-tech pioneers, who provide their expertise and solutions globally. These players are active in a wide variety of industry sectors but follow one common goal: to use Austrian expertise today in order to make our tomorrow more sustainable.

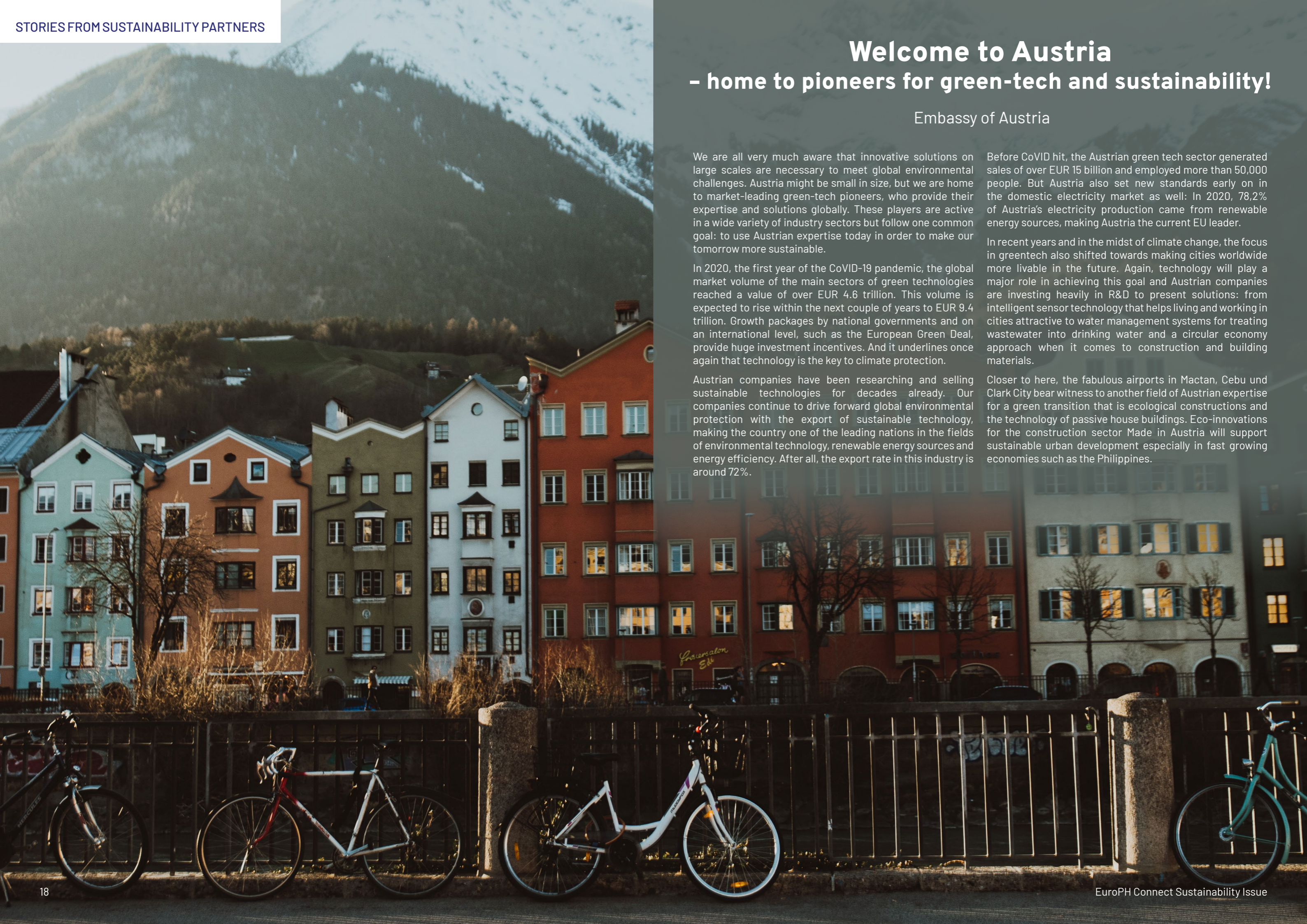
In 2020, the first year of the CoVID-19 pandemic, the global market volume of the main sectors of green technologies reached a value of over EUR 4.6 trillion. This volume is expected to rise within the next couple of years to EUR 9.4 trillion. Growth packages by national governments and on an international level, such as the European Green Deal, provide huge investment incentives. And it underlines once again that technology is the key to climate protection.

Austrian companies have been researching and selling sustainable technologies for decades already. Our companies continue to drive forward global environmental protection with the export of sustainable technology, making the country one of the leading nations in the fields of environmental technology, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency. After all, the export rate in this industry is around 72%.

Before CoVID hit, the Austrian green tech sector generated sales of over EUR 15 billion and employed more than 50,000 people. But Austria also set new standards early on in the domestic electricity market as well: In 2020, 78,2% of Austria's electricity production came from renewable energy sources, making Austria the current EU leader.

In recent years and in the midst of climate change, the focus in greentech also shifted towards making cities worldwide more livable in the future. Again, technology will play a major role in achieving this goal and Austrian companies are investing heavily in R&D to present solutions: from intelligent sensor technology that helps living and working in cities attractive to water management systems for treating wastewater into drinking water and a circular economy approach when it comes to construction and building materials.

Closer to here, the fabulous airports in Mactan, Cebu und Clark City bear witness to another field of Austrian expertise for a green transition that is ecological constructions and the technology of passive house buildings. Eco-innovations for the construction sector Made in Austria will support sustainable urban development especially in fast growing economies such as the Philippines.



Leadership for Sustainable Development – the Danish Way

Embassy of Denmark

In January 2022, Denmark released its new Foreign and Security Policy Strategy with climate diplomacy as one of its priority areas. This long-term strategy sets the direction for Denmark's international efforts.

Denmark has strongly advocated that climate ambitions must be raised if the Paris Agreement's 1.5-degree target is to be reached. Denmark has also taken active steps to accelerate the phasing out of fossil energy sources, especially coal. Following the COP26 in 2021, Denmark will plan to donate USD 14 million to efforts involving the purchase and decommissioning of coal power plants and encourage investments in new energy sources. This Danish contribution will go directly to the Climate Investment Funds' new program, "Accelerating Coal Transition" which includes the Philippines as one of the pilot areas.

As the world begins to shift away from fossil fuels, development of renewable sources of energy as the cleaner alternative has never been more important – and as a leader in the global green arena, Denmark does just that, and then some. Denmark will be housing the world's first energy islands that will serve as hubs for green electricity derived from offshore wind in the North and Baltic Seas, which can power at least 5 million households across Europe.

Denmark recognizes that addressing climate change is not an endeavour of one country alone. That is why part of the new policy strategy is pushing for climate action through strong international institutions. Denmark is mobilising green partnerships to ensure that all the world's countries – especially those who emit the most – accelerate the green transition. Danish climate posts and Embassies around the world help elevate national initiatives to discussions of international importance.

Consistent with Denmark's ambition to share its experiences on green transition, the Embassy has been actively supporting initiatives in the promotion of renewable energy

and energy efficiency in the Philippines.

The Embassy contributed to the completion of the Philippines' first offshore wind roadmap by the Department of Energy and World Bank Group. As the world's pioneer in harnessing offshore wind power, Denmark provides valuable insights in developing the Philippines' offshore wind industry to pave the way for the country's energy security.

Denmark acknowledges that generating cleaner and greener energy is not enough if power is not conserved accordingly or efficiently used. In this regard, the Embassy has organized events promoting energy efficiency and conservation (EE&C) such as roundtable discussions to assist local government units in complying with the EE&C Act along to showcase Danish energy efficient technologies available in the local market.

The Embassy's sustainability initiatives cuts across even beyond the energy sector. For instance, the Trade Council promotes sustainable fishing and smart agriculture. These projects are reflective of how sustainability is not only about protecting the environment but also about uplifting people's lives.

Constructing a sustainable physical environment is as important as preserving the natural environment in the battle against climate change. That is why the Embassy has been actively working with like-minded partners in their advocacy on green architecture, urban planning, active mobility, and sustainable cities. Pivotal to all these endeavors is Denmark's strong tradition for human-centered design that form a larger agenda of creativity-driven innovation and pushes the boundaries of sustainability towards circularity.





Germany and Sustainability

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Manila

Germany - being one of the world's most sustainable industrialized countries - has a long-term plan for how we can make the country future-proof: In 2002, Germany adopted its National Strategy for Sustainable Development, making sustainability a guiding principle for national policies. The Strategy, underpinned by concrete targets and sustainability indicators, also launched major cross-cutting initiatives on biodiversity, climate change, energy and resource efficiency.

In 2016, the strategy was comprehensively advanced and aligned with the 17 UN Sustainability Development Goals. Hence today, sustainability greatly influences Germany's policy making and subsequently any resulting economic consequences, which may be significant. Ecology and economy are to a mutual benefit and go hand in hand with one another.

Germany plans to keep their strong economic performance as one of the top largest economy in the world and is at the same time working towards carbon neutrality by 2045. Germany's energy supply is to be ensured largely with renewable energies. In line with this, the German Government under the leadership of Chancellor Olaf Scholz has re-structured several Ministries in order to prioritize Germany's efforts in the area of Climate Change and renewable energies. Focusing on the phase-out of coal as an energy source, with more renewable energies coming in and massive investments in green hydrogen, Germany's decarbonization is well on its way.

As an export oriented, industrialized country, Germany's endeavor is to expand the use of alternative fuels, renewable energies and other environmental compatible solutions and technologies in all relevant areas, including the industrial,

transportation, and building and household sectors. At present, the share of Renewable Energy in the electricity mix is at around 50%, on an upward trend.

In order to fast-track e-mobility, its infrastructure needs to be upgraded. Last October, the German Government put out new tenders for its € 2 billion investment into establishing a network of a thousand new fast e-charging stations across the country.

The information technology sector is now growing more sustainable, too. From smarter AI's for more energy efficient cooling to software that uses less computing power: this "green IT" niche is expanding. Since 2008, Germany has cut its IT emissions in half.

The EU and its member states, including Germany have restricted single-use plastics (and may eliminate them entirely), opening up opportunities for smart new packaging solutions. In accordance with this, Germany's circular economy is now on the rise, too. Germany's Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection's GreenTech Atlas put the market value of Germany's circular economy sector at € 24 billion - over 16% of the world's total in 2020. It also predicts an average annual growth of 5,6%, with a market value reaching € 32 billion by 2030.

As an Embassy, we translate these priorities and the strong commitment of the German government towards sustainability into dialogue with the Philippine government, the private sector and civil society organizations, as well as into funding of relevant projects and supporting promising initiatives. One example is the "Clean Affordable and Secure Energy for Southeast Asia" (CASE) project of the GIZ, which strives for energy transition in the region.



Lowering Emissions is Key to Saving the Climate: Find Out How Sweden Does It

Embassy of Sweden in Manila

The first country in the world to pass an environmental protection act in 1967, Sweden also hosted the first UN conference on the global environment in 1972. Since then, Sweden has not looked back, managing to grow its economy substantially while reducing carbon emissions and limiting pollution. More than half of Sweden's national energy supply comes from renewables and less than 15% comes from fossil fuels, and legislation combined with green technology initiatives aims at further reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For more than a decade, Sweden has been in the top ten of the globally respected [Environmental Performance Index](#) produced by Columbia and Yale universities, with exceptionally clean air and clean water alongside its low emissions.

Ambitious goals for sustainability

Climate change caused by the emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases is one of the foremost global environment problems today. The Swedish government has set ambitious goals for sustainability, including going fossil-free by 2045 and 100 per cent renewable energy.

Sustainability and development hand in hand

The Swedish green model means integrating business and sustainability. Sweden has emphasised that green growth can drive transition through technical innovation rather than pose a risk. This involves adapting society to cope with environmental changes already underway.

Sweden still has some way to go, but the innovations being made now show that safeguarding our environment and developing society are part of the same challenge. Seeing that Sweden has such a long history of speaking up for the climate, it's interesting to see that it took a teenager to make the world listen.

Greta Thunberg started striking for the climate in 2018. A year later, millions of schoolchildren around the world were protesting against climate change, and by the end of 2019 *Time* magazine named Thunberg <Person of the Year>.

Climate-smart cities

By 2050 two-thirds of the world's population will live in cities, according to the UN, and although Sweden has only ten million inhabitants in a geographical area one third larger than that of the Philippines, most people live in the southern part in which urbanization is growing fast. The capital of Stockholm is growing quickly and the soon to be two million people who live in the larger metropolitan area need to be supplied with good quality housing and public transportation solutions and clean energy.

In the developing world, the solution has often been to build more homes on forest and farmland, but in 1995 the city of Stockholm decided instead to found the world's first urban national park, to make it denser and protecting its national parks and green spaces at the same time. Several old industrial areas have been and are being redeveloped as efficient low-energy housing, and the city has extended its tram routes.

Sustainable housing

On the edge of Stockholm's urban park, the new 'eco-quarter' of Norra Djurgårdsstaden, Stockholm Royal Seaport, is using an old gasworks to build thousands of eco-friendly homes which for their energy supply use biogas produced from food waste. The borough also provides electric car chargers and plans a new tram line. But the real innovation is behind the walls and under the ground.

Future transport

Urban innovation is making waves in other parts of Sweden too. In Karlshamn in the south, the council now uses electric cargo bikes for some of its deliveries, rather than lorries. It's a solution with two-fold benefits: it's more environmentally friendly and safer for school children and people living in the area.

In Stockholm around 850,000 people use public transport on a normal day. The entire underground system runs on green electricity, and since 2017 all buses have been running on renewable fuels, which was actually the target for 2025.



The sharing economy has given birth to initiatives like the Toy library in Gothenburg, where families can borrow rather than buy toys. Photo: [Sofia Sabel/imagebank.sweden.se](#)

Changing consumer behavior

This approach focuses on service as much as on the products themselves. If things have to be scrapped, they can be recycled, but it is also a question of consumer behavior; the key to a sustainable economy is changing how people meet their consumer needs. This means that every product has a mapped life cycle, and that customers become users rather than owners. In 2015, the Swedish Government even made the circular economy part of its annual address to parliament.

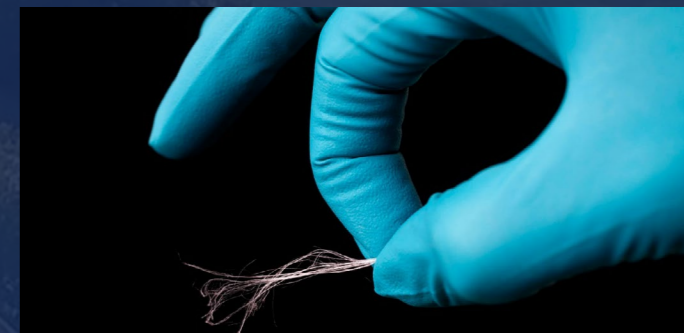
'When I came to design, I was very interested in the world around me and in ideas of social sustainability, and that guided me,' says Stina Behrens, a graduate of the Beckmans College of Design in Stockholm.

Several of her classmates are now working in similar roles, and one has started an environmental design consultancy to help green the economy, [Beteendelabbet](#), 'the behaviour lab', changing how people consume products.

Towards a circular economy

Behrens belongs to a generation of young people who have made sustainability their professional work. Swedish universities are now even obliged by law to integrate sustainable development into their curriculum, from literature to finance.

'This is an area where Sweden can take a leading role in moving to a more sustainable circular economy,' Behrens says. 'We're ready.'



This is nanocellulose, stiffer and stronger than spider silk, on a par with Kevlar. It's the result of research at RISE and KTH Royal Institute of Technology and could be used for anything from paper to food packaging. Photo: [Sofia Sabel/imagebank.sweden.se](#)

Turning wood into textiles

Sustainable textile fibres are no longer a distant dream. Research projects are turning trees into textile – and old textile into paper.

In the Gothenburg suburb of Mölndal, research institute RISE has a test bed for textile fibre development, where researchers are exploring methods and materials to produce fibres, yarns and nonwoven fabrics from bio-based and synthetic raw materials. In the future we might wear jeans made of Swedish cellulose, activewear made of bioplastics and T-shirts made of recycled fabrics.

[TreeToTextile](#) – owned by H&M Group, Inter IKEA Group, Stora Enso and LSCS Invest – is focused on developing the use of cellulose. The company aims to commercialise a new sustainable textile fibre, making it more widely available. Using a new technology, TreeToTextile produces bio-based textile fibres with a low environmental footprint, i.e. wood. In other words, the Swedish forest provides the raw material – the rest is clever technology.

References:

[Sweden and sustainability | sweden.se](#)

Residents in Stockholm Royal Seaport can follow their own current energy consumption, cost and climate impact – in real time.

Photo: [City of Stockholm/imagebank.sweden.se](#)

Finland – Bringing Sustainable and Circular Solutions to the Philippines

Embassy of Finland in Manila

The Embassy of Finland re-opened its doors in the Philippines in September 2020. The decision to return to Manila was easy as the country and South East Asia as a whole are developing fast and many opportunities are open here for Finnish companies. The Embassy of Finland is also focusing on providing immigration and consular services for clients as well as analyzing the security and political developments in the region.

The Embassy is here to assist Finnish businesses interested in entering the Philippine market. We assist companies in making contacts and networking, provide information services and help find solutions to acute market access issues, usually together with the EU delegation here in Manila. It has been positive to see that once the borders have been opening up after the pandemic, Finnish businesses have started making more and more visits to the Philippines.

Finland has two main focus areas for business in the Philippines, both closely linked to sustainability: 1) energy and built environment and 2) bio and circular economy. As the focus on infrastructure development is likely to continue in the Philippines, there are many opportunities for Finnish smart solutions in this sector. This can include Finnish know-how in smart building and planning; sustainable mobility; open data; circular economy; and energy transition. We have also excellent waste-to-energy solutions for example by the company Valmet, already introduced in the Philippines. Finland

is a forerunner in circular economy, and we are very happy that the Philippines is increasingly interested in sustainability and circular solutions. Finnish companies like RiverRecycle are already working on innovative plastic waste management in the Philippine waters, and possibilities can be seen in other areas as well, such as packaging and textiles.

Circular economy is much more than just recycling. It includes new business models and new ways to consider an item's life cycle. Finland has a history of developing circular solutions, even before the phrase "circular economy" was common. For example, a deposit scheme helped push the recycling of beverage containers to near 100%. The lack of fossil fuel deposits in Finland has also pushed the society towards circular solutions, including developing renewable energy production and utilizing waste streams as sources of energy. Finland's practical solutions are expanding. The circular economy is expected to add 3 billion euros to Finland's national economy in added value potential by 2030, according to The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra.

The Finnish Embassy in Manila looks forward to working with Finnish companies and partners in the Philippines to advance sustainability and environment-friendly solutions in the country.



Prime Infra: Building Today's Critical Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future

Prime Infra

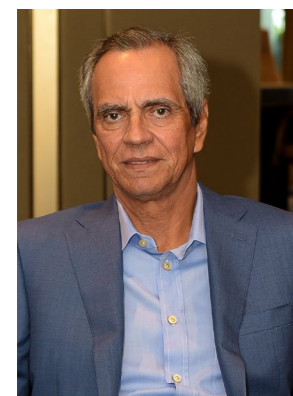
Making better lives and resilient economies through critical infrastructure is the passion and purpose of Prime Infrastructure Capital, Inc., the core infrastructure arm of the group of companies led by Filipino business visionary, Enrique K. Razon, Jr.

Since its inception in 2017, Prime Infra has established a strong presence in the water, energy, waste management, and construction industries generating positive economic, environmental, and social impacts along its young sustainability journey.



We created Prime Infra on the firm belief that infrastructure is the backbone of a strong economy and a modern society.

By addressing gaps in our infrastructure, we aspire to help emerging markets meet their challenges and realize their potential for rapid economic growth.



Enrique K. Razon, Jr.
Chairman

Built around ESG

Prime Infra is built and operates the company with environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices inherent and native to the business. From designing, planning, constructing, and operating key infrastructure assets, sustainable practices are embedded, unlike most enterprises and conglomerates that are just pivoting now to integrate ESG strategies in its operations.

This makes the company well-positioned to be purposive in its investments that fulfill its mission of building critical infrastructure for a sustainable future. Today, Prime Infra's portfolio of assets are focused on renewable power, access to clean water, integrated waste management, and construction.

"Infrastructure is the backbone of a strong economy and a modern society. Our business operates on this belief. By addressing the gaps in infrastructure, we aspire to help emerging markets meet their challenges and realize their potential for rapid economic growth," says Prime Infra chairman Razon.

It is no surprise then that in just five years of operations, Prime Infra has built a strong portfolio in both developed and emerging markets, creating meaningful impact on communities and economies. Since its inception, the company is able to achieve a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 228%, and yield a group revenue of Php15.2 billion in 2021.

Leadership by industry movers

Born out of the heritage of the International Container Terminal Services, Inc.'s (ICTSI) vast experience in successfully establishing and operating ports worldwide, Prime Infra has a strong reputation in project development and delivery, and long-term operations of infrastructure assets, all led by a new breed of business executives.

At the helm of Prime Infra is Guillaume Lucci, an industry leader handpicked by Razon to steer the company to a profitable and sustainable future. As the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Prime Infra, Lucci brings to the table expertise gained from over 20 years of experience in infrastructure development, executive management, and heavy civil and industrial project development. His experience spans five continents with a primary focus on emerging markets. Prior to joining Prime Infra, Lucci was ICTSI Vice President and Head of Global Engineering. Under his leadership, he delivered for ICTSI some USD6 billion of critical infrastructure in complex emerging markets.

Supporting Lucci is a management team composed of industry leaders who are dedicated to fulfilling the company's promise of creating sustainable and meaningful value for all stakeholders. Leveraging the team's combined expertise and experience, it has set in place a fast and lean management process that emphasizes reliability and speedy turnaround for deliverables.

Addressing water demand-supply gap, uplifting communities

Leading Prime Infra's portfolio is the Wawa Bulk Water Supply Project, an infrastructure flagship project of the Philippine government intended to address the water crisis and help mitigate recurring flood issues in Metro Manila and the province of Rizal.

The Tayabasan Weir, the fast track transitional first phase of the Wawa Bulk Project, has filled up its reservoir early in June, signaling its completion ahead of its scheduled delivery in October 2022. The Tayabasan Weir is a 25-meter high roller compacted concrete structure designed to deliver 80 million liters per day (MLD).

Phase 2 dubbed as Upper Wawa Dam will be completed in 2025 and will eventually deliver at least 518 MLD to off-taker Manila Water Company.

"True to our fast and lean management approach, Prime Infra through WawaJVCo has delivered a critical water infrastructure that supports the country's infrastructure development agenda with speed - as you all know, this phase of the project was finished ahead of schedule in the middle of a pandemic. The agencies at all levels should be commended for being proactive and supporting what is a critically important project for Metro Manila and the Province of Rizal," says Prime Infra President and CEO Guillaume Lucci.

The project has secured the necessary permits and most importantly, obtained the seal of approval for the social

aspects of the project further demonstrating its capability to deliver not only critical water infrastructure but also provide economic upliftment of local communities and environmental conservation. Moreover, there is a master plan to make Wawa an eco-tourism site that will provide long-term sustainable and a resilient positive impact to the community.



Leading Prime Infra's portfolio is the Wawa Bulk Water Supply project that will help address the water crisis and mitigate flooding. The project's first phase, the Tayabasan Weir, has filled up its reservoir in June, signaling project completion ahead of schedule.



Uplifting Communities

At the core of Prime Infra's business strategy is sustainability. Prime Infra works in close collaboration with its stakeholders to make sure its assets are environmentally resilient and socially relevant in line with the purpose of building better lives and resilient economies.



Stakeholder Collaboration

The full support of the Dumagat/Remontado Indigenous Peoples (IPs) of Antipolo and Montalban for the Wawa Bulk

Water Supply Project demonstrates Prime Infra's capability to deliver critical infrastructure, and provide economic upliftment of local communities and environmental conservation

Accelerating the shift into renewable energy

In the energy sector, Prime Infra has launched an ambitious program to deliver the world's largest solar power facility with a capacity of 2,500MW to 3,500MW combined with 4,000MWh to 4,500MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) boosting the supply of renewable energy in the country.

This will be undertaken by Terra Solar Philippines (Terra Solar), a unit of Terra Renewables Holdings, Inc., which is a renewable power subsidiary under Prime Infra's control and in partnership with Solar Philippines Power Project Holdings, Inc. From this power facility, Terra Solar will supply 850MW to off-taker Manila Electric Company (MERALCO), the largest electricity utility in the Philippines.

This record-breaking project highlights solar power's important contribution to strengthening the country's energy security. Solar, which is normally looked at for peaking, is now being made available by Terra Solar to answer MERALCO's mid-merit requirement, thereby addressing both the need for additional capacity and compliance with a national mandate for utilities to get power from renewable sources.

Prime Infra finds a sweet spot to pursue solar as it takes advantage of the steep decline in installation costs over the past decade and the improved battery energy storage system technology that allows it to build an economically critical and socially relevant infrastructure at a scale the world has never seen before.

When completed, these will be able to power over 200,000 homes while displacing a significant amount of fossil fuel utilization comparable to approximately 1.4M tons of coal per year.



Prime Infra's foray into the clean and renewable energy business is its investment in the expansion of a solar farm in Concepcion, Tarlac, which supplies power to the Luzon grid. The project helps save close to 65,000 tons of coal per year.

Setting sights on the Malampaya gas field

Prime Infra is poised to acquire a controlling stake in the Malampaya deep-water gas-to-power project, one of the biggest and most successful, commercial gas finds in the Philippines. The company is currently undertaking the acquisition process subject to the consent of various parties including the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Philippine National Oil Company Exploration Corporation (PNOC-EC). The transaction will also go through other regulatory and lenders' approvals within that period.

"Natural gas is a critical transition fuel and the modern, state-of-the-art infrastructure built to harness this valuable transition fuel attracted us to pursue this deal - all aspects of the project ticks off our ESG check list that will allow us to contribute more to the country's transition from expensive and volatile coal and imported fuel prices to affordable cleaner and domestic energy resources like natural gas," says Mr. Razon.

The entry of Prime Infra into the natural gas industry aligns with its purpose to create better lives and resilient economies through critical infrastructure coupled by its aspiration to help its customers transition to cleaner energy resources to fuel the economic growth of the Philippines.

Malampaya's service contract is set to expire in 2024 making it critical for Prime Infra's entry to be able to continue operating the project while applying for an extension so it can invest in its expansion, which will sustain the economic and social benefits that Malampaya is providing for the country. Malampaya supports up to 20% of the country's electricity requirements while reducing the need for imported oil.

Powering economic and social development in Iraq

Another significant project of Prime Infra is the Republic of Iraq's first fully automated gas-fired power plant, which was built within record time and ahead of schedule. The completion of the Umm Qasr power project is a significant milestone in Prime Infra's strategy to build up an infrastructure portfolio that delivers fast and critical investments to regions in need.

This critical infrastructure was designed to address the increasing challenge of power shortages at the Umm Qasr port. Suffering daily power outages of around 12 hours, Umm Qasr port needed a power plant that will service the industrial needs of Iraq's middle class, industrial zone, and port authority.

Equipped with the latest engines and control system, the power plant is designed to provide 24/7 baseload power supply to the Umm Qasr Ports Authority Zone. Uninterrupted power supply in the Umm Qasr port encourages port operators to do business in Iraq. The power plant will also reduce demand on the national grid, benefitting companies in Iraq and ordinary citizens. Likewise, the construction and the operations of the power plant have created job opportunities.



A significant milestone in the expansion of our energy assets is the construction and operation of the Umm Qasr power plant at the Basra Governorate in Iraq. The gas-fired power plant is a testament to Prime Infra's commitment to deliver critical projects and shape the socio-economic landscape of regions in need.

Addressing the waste management problem

In 2021, WasteFuel Philippines was established for a waste-to-fuel project in partnership with US-based WasteFuel Global. This year, it created Prime Integrated Waste Solutions, Inc. that will collect and dispose municipal solid, hazardous, industrial, and agricultural wastes.

These businesses are expected to develop an integrated waste ecosystem that will address the landfill need, and the processing, segregation and conversion of wastes into sustainable fuel products for the aviation and maritime customers, thereby enabling them to further achieve their net zero programs. More than this, Prime Infra's waste management business is a commitment to helping transform cities and communities into sustainable places by solving the municipal waste problem and minimizing methane emissions from landfills.

With the goal of turning waste into sustainable fuel, the company is eyeing to put up by 2025 a bio-refinery in Luzon. Wastefuel Philippines is set to work with various technology experts across the world to convert municipal solid waste and agricultural feedstock into fuels such as green methanol and SAF specifically for the maritime and aviation industries.

Wastefuel Philippines is working closely with off-takers such as Maersk and NetJets to develop the project and to serve the rapidly increasing demand for alternative clean fuel.

Standard bearer of sustainability in a brave new world

The world has changed during the pandemic and it will continue to do so as economies and societies all over the globe prepare for a resilient and sustainable future. One thing is clear: critical infrastructure is a crucial driver towards this kind of future - and Prime Infra is well equipped to make this happen because sustainability is built into its DNA.

Focused on its single minded proposition to build critical infrastructure for a sustainable future, Prime Infra is ready to expand its footprint and carry the torch of a Filipino-

owned company that is truly pioneering sustainability in every industry it operates. All subsidiaries under Prime Infra are established to support the environmental, social, and governance imperative of the company, providing the guiding philosophy as Prime Infra expands its portfolio worldwide.



Prime Infra-led PrimeBMD supported the country's pandemic response through the construction of the first mega vaccination site that served residents from Metro Manila and nearby provinces. The vaccination site is still in operation, and has administered close to 300,000 doses as of March.

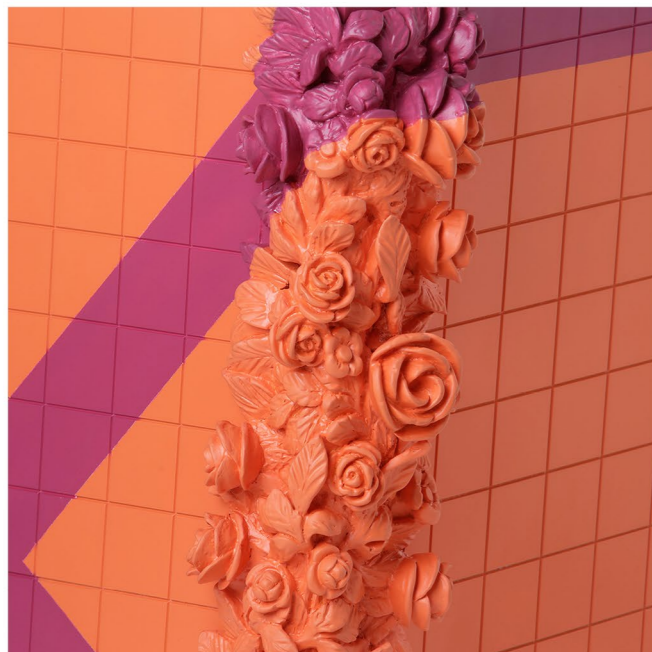
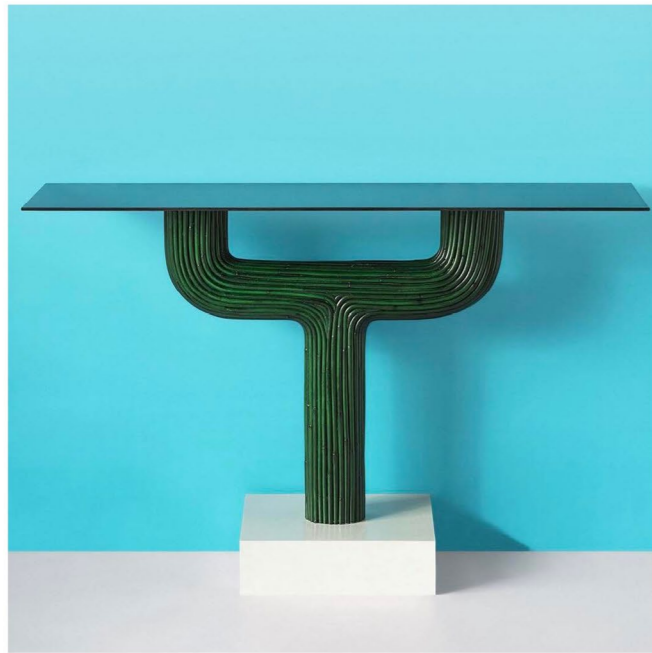
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Prime Infra is committed to delivering critical infrastructure that people depend on today and tomorrow, while ensuring that we enable our stakeholders to transition to their net zero targets, multiply social benefits, and promote inclusive economic growth.

”



Know more about Prime Infra at www.primeinfra.ph



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[^]P&G calculation based in part on data reported by NielsenIQ through its Retail Index Service for the toilet soap category (July2021)
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Smart and Safer Mobility Award

This will be awarded to the company that has continuously striven to create and implement innovative and sustainable smart and safer mobility solutions that can help address the issues and challenges (i.e., increased number of vehicles, lack of connectivity between public transportation, etc.) in the present transportation system within the country. The company has significantly contributed towards the upgrade of the local transport system with the end view of having a safer, more efficient and sustainable transport community.



BEST Bus: A year of sustainable and Green Transportation in Davao City

Aboitiz Equity Ventures

At a time of soaring fuel prices, inflation, as well as the convergence of health and climate crises, the need for safe, affordable, and sustainable transportation has never been greater. Seeking to uplift the lives of its stakeholders and communities, the Aboitiz Group, through its subsidiary Davao Light, partnered with the Davao city government, GET Philippines, and QEV Technologies to pilot the first fully electric, free-ride shuttle service in Mindanao – the BEST Bus project (Business for Environmentally Sustainable Transformation).

Launched in December 2020, the fleet of seven (7) buses provided fully air-conditioned, PWD-friendly, and wifi-ready transportation for the citizens of Davao. After a year of operations, the BEST Bus recorded 14 hours of service per day, with 258,401 kilometers traveled, 166,925 passengers shuttled, a total of 14,098 completed trips. More importantly, that's over 14,000 trips that are free from carbon emissions and that have, in some small part, provided ease and comfort to the lives of Davaoños.

In pioneering the concept of a safe and sustainable transport experience, the Aboitiz Group hoped to inspire a movement across the country as the program is highly replicable for major cities. Indeed, as of this writing, it is already being emulated by stakeholders from both the private and public sectors in areas where urban traffic and options for mobility are a concern.

Furthermore, through projects like the BEST Bus, road efficiency and foot traffic can also be improved and addressed. Vehicular carbon emissions will decrease and contribute to the climate change adaptation and mitigation plans of the country.



Moreover, the strong public-private partnership behind BEST Bus is a strong statement on how stakeholders can come together to create solutions that focus on environmental management, social responsibility, and good governance to ensure long-term value creation, financial growth, and business capability.

Smart Logistics for Safety & Sustainability

In1Go Technologies, Inc.

The transportation industry plays a major factor and provides a significant impact on the state of carbon footprint in the environment. As a tech-company, our focus has always been providing innovative supply chain and logistics solutions to meet the adverse impact of the evolving transport landscape driven by increasing city density, road network complexities, infrastructure developments, as well as changing business and industry preferences. We are driven by our goal to be the premier partner of organizations in their transport fleet resource and enterprise information management for sustainable, safe, and efficient transportation operations, as well as carbon footprint reduction.

The Digital Transformation Journey

The scope of transportation is one of the major segments in the Supply Chain industry that unfortunately is not yet fully digitized in the Philippines. Digitization and enablement of IoTs are significant in addressing connectivity and visibility elements of logistics. This prevents adverse industry business implications resulting to the usage of non-environment friendly processes and solutions.

In a fully digitized transportation setup, connectivity through IoTs and Applications (Fleet Management System, Last Mile Application, etc.) of transporters to supply chain processes prevent business disruptions. Fleet visibility optimizes the turn-around time and predictability of timeliness which increases production efficiency and product availability in the market. It also helps reduce energy utilization and unwarranted hoarding of supplies.

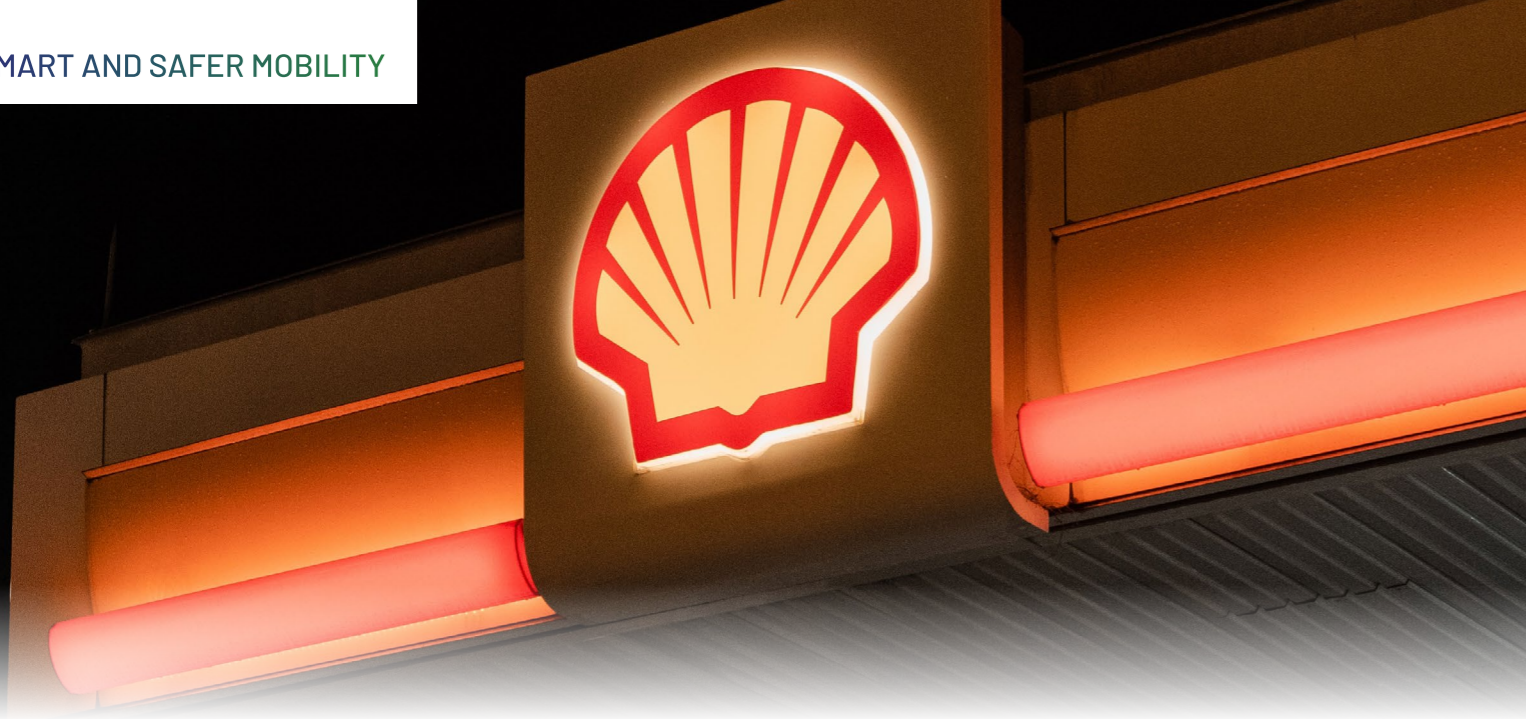
These digital solutions play a major role in the industry's ecological and sustainability equation by preventing unnecessary usage of energies that impact our environment.



A Commitment to the Industry and the Environment

By using data and analytics, we believe in making a difference by providing not just an optimization tool in the market but a solution for safety and efficient transportation operations where reduction of fleet km-distance travelled and maximizing truck load fill will result to the reduction of carbon footprint.

Sustainability is not just embedded in our products and services, but it is the key output of the processes and strategies we employ within the algorithm of our solutions. Hence, sustainability, safety, and efficiency are elements equated in our strategies as we develop our systems – that which benefits our customers, the industry, and the environment.



Smart and Safe Mobility

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation, an advocate of Smart and Safe Mobility in the country, aims to address the growing demand for a more accessible, convenient, and transformation journey for its customers.

Pilipinas Shell has invested in their retail stations to swiftly transition towards becoming mobility stations where spaces welcome all forms of mobility. Whether people choose to fuel up, walk, use bicycles or their electric vehicles, these stations will be an ideal location to pass by, rest, or even bond as their desired locations.



Shell's purpose of making the future, is exemplified through these "Site of the Future," which encourages Filipinos to explore alternative forms of traveling. These mobility stations have dedicated areas where cyclists can park, sit, and dine al-fresco. This is done to promote active transportation as more Filipinos embrace cycling as a viable form of transport that is beneficial for the health, and the environment.

With an eye towards the future, Shell's best-in-class sites put the customer first through global digital platforms from selling products to cultivating experiences and providing expert care with service champions that are trained professionally to look out for the safe journey of their customers. These mobility stations also offer life hubs that are dedicated flexible spaces for the convenience and needs of the community.

For over 100 years of service in the Philippines, Shell not only strives to be a global leader in the business of mobility and energy but also understands that making the future is not done alone but through collaboration with society and relevant private and government institutions.

Mpower Wins Gold in the 2021 Zuellig Sustainability Awards



Asia's leading health care services provider, Zuellig Pharma celebrates its meaningful partnerships with global suppliers by recognizing noble contributions towards sustainability. Zuellig Pharma Corporation is present in 14 countries across the Asia Pacific region each with individual vendor nominations. The 14 international nominees were evaluated based on four sustainability pillars (Impact, Innovation, Insights, and Initiative) and MPower bested all other international nominees. Following MPower are silver and bronze awardees Sodexo (India) and Agility Logistics (Thailand), respectively.

Mpower has been committed to delivering stable and reliable energy as well as best-in-class energy solutions and to driving flagship Corporate Social Responsibility programs in line with Meralco's sustainability agenda. The Kinder Classroom Project, which has built and inaugurated 9 classrooms with audio-visual learning materials, has benefitted more than 2,500 students, enabling more conducive learning spaces for the Filipino youth during their formative years. This multi-awarded program garnered 7 awards and has been recognized by the Department of Education and various local government units for its efforts to uphold quality Filipino education.

Mpower also conducted school electrification programs in off grid locations by way of donating and installing solar panels in selected schools. In addition, in the last two years, Mpower reached Php 1M in donations for 12 school beneficiaries in Luzon and the Visayas for its Back-To-School Donation Drive to support modular learning during the pandemic. To help counter the effects of climate change and to help realize decarbonization goals, CommuniTrees, an annual tree planting program with Mpower's partners, has planted 9,838 seedlings in total across Luzon.

In recent years, Mpower has also significantly ramped up its clean energy transition in support of the government's sustainability and decarbonization efforts by sourcing from renewable energy (RE) power plants. Mpower is the leading and most trusted Retail Electricity Supplier in the Competitive Retail Electricity Market, holding a 30% market share nationwide. It offers customized energy solutions to meet the needs of Contestable Customers with an average demand of at least 500 kW for the past 12 months.



Clean and Green Energy Award

This will be awarded to the company that has successfully incorporated the use of clean and renewable energy sources in its day-to-day operations. The company has actively promoted the use of clean energy within the country, thereby aiding the government in its thrust to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions by 70% by 2030 as stipulated in the Paris Agreement.



Energy Efficiency and Conservation in the Philippine Context

Alma Bella P. Madrazo, Ph.D.

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Energy is essential in our modern-day lives. We need it for lighting, heating and cooling our homes, for transportation, food production, and in different types of industries to produce basic needs for human convenience. A huge percentage of the world's energy supply comes from burning fossil fuels and historical and current energy systems are dominated by fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and gas which produce carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases which makes energy the biggest contributor to climate change. These carbon emissions contribute to **global warming** that leads to extreme weather events (strong typhoons, flooding, droughts, heat waves, wildfires, snow storms or extreme cold weather).

Every country needs energy for economic development but knowing that the emission of greenhouse gases is a by-product of energy generation and use, we have to manage energy consumption in our daily lives. The Philippine's Department of Energy (DOE) realized this decades ago and embarked on a more than three decade journey promoting Energy Efficiency and Conservation. The Philippine DOE continued to develop and implement strategies to promote the efficient utilization of energy which covered all aspects of the energy industry.

The plan was focused on the training and education of the various sectors on the aspects involved in the implementation of energy efficiency and energy conservation. The implementation of technical strategies by the DOE continued on a higher and more extensive level, and covered: energy utilization monitoring, consultancy and engineering services, energy efficiency testing and labelling program, and demand-side management programs for each sector. After several Energy Efficiency and Conservation related Administrative Orders and Department Circulars were issued over the more than three decades, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, Republic Act 11285 was signed into law by President Rodrigo Roá Duterte on April 12, 2019.

RA 11285 is an Act institutionalizing Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Enhancing the Efficient Use of Energy, and Granting Incentives to Energy Efficiency and Conservation Projects. The aim of this law is to institutionalize energy efficiency and conservation as a national way of life geared towards the efficient and judicious utilization of energy by formulating, developing, and implementing energy efficiency and conservation plans and programs. The main objective is to safeguard a sufficient, stable energy supply; cushion the impact of high imported fuel prices; and protect the environment in support of Philippine economic and social development goals.

This law defined Energy Efficiency as a way of managing and restraining the growth in energy consumption resulting in the delivery of more services for the same energy input. Energy Conservation was defined as the reduction of losses or wastage in various energy stages from energy production to energy consumption through the adoption of appropriate measures that are technologically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly and socially affordable. According to the US Energy Information Administration, Energy Efficiency is using technology that requires less energy to perform the same function. This is simply a method to reduce energy consumption with the use of less energy to produce the same output. In some countries such as the United States of America, energy efficiency is strongly implemented due to the increasing demand of energy and its costs. Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation are different but related. The terms energy efficiency and energy conservation have distinct meanings: **Energy efficiency** is using technology that requires less energy to perform the same function. Using a light-emitting diode (LED) light bulb or a compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb that requires less energy than an incandescent light bulb to produce the same amount of light is an example of energy efficiency. **Energy conservation** is any behavior that results in the use of less energy. Turning the lights off when leaving the room, shutting down your

computer after use, or unplugging your appliances when not in use are behavior based measures and part of energy conservation.

With the implementation of the RA 11285, these are the salient points that industry should be aware of: **Memorandum Circular (MC) 2020-05-0001-Directing all Designated Establishments (DE's) to Submit Energy Consumption Reports and Department Circular (DC) 2021-01-0001- Guidelines for the Qualifications, Assessment, Registration, and Certification of Certified Energy Conservation Officers (CECO), Certified Energy Managers (CEM), and Energy Auditors (EA).**

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (RA 11285) requires all Designated Establishments that register an annual average energy consumption of more than 4,000,000 kWh to employ the services of an Energy Manager. In line with the government's promotion of Energy Efficiency and Conservation, ENPAP 4.0, Inc. has been conducting free webinars to explain the different provisions and requirements not only to help improve compliance but to promote Energy Efficiency and Conservation because these are directly linked to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Government and industry have to work together in the promotion and implementation of Energy Efficiency

and Conservation initiatives to help mitigate climate change and help our country meet our committed Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the Paris Climate Agreement, because Energy Efficiency is the best source of Clean Energy.



I am a current Board of Trustee of ENPAP 4.0, Inc., an organization of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Management Professionals, and the Adviser of the Training, Education, and Consultancy Committee (TECC) of this professional association. ENPAP 4.0, Inc. is the network partner of the ASEAN Center for Energy (ACE) in Jakarta, Indonesia, and has conducted the Certified Energy Manager (CEM) Training Course under the ASEAN Energy Management Scheme (AEMAS) since 2010 in the Philippines.



Citicore Renewable Energy Corporation

Citicore Renewable Energy Corp. (CREC), one of the largest player in renewable energy business is committed to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions while contributing in the reduction of carbon emission by generating clean energy source.



Currently operating a total of 241.6 MW, which includes a Solar Rooftop project (6.6MW), a newly commissioned Phase 1 solar plant in Pampanga (72 MW), with another 44 MW on the way for Phase 2. We aim to ramp up our capacities to 1,500 MW of RE in the next 5 years.

We have around 600 MW of RE pipeline projects under different stages of development, most of which are solar projects in Luzon with one Run-of-River hydro project.

As of end 2021, our operating plants have contributed to the reduction of carbon emission of around 348,544 metric tons.



Our commitment to environmental stewardship and community development is also incorporated in our AgroSolar initiative, the first and only in the country. With our solar sites continuously generating clean energy to run industries and households, contributing to the reduction of carbon emission towards a net zero future, they will also serve as productive agricultural lands with high value crops planted within our solar plant facilities providing livelihood to small farmers. This will be the model of a balanced and sustainable business and has the potential to be a key strategy towards food security once expanded.

CREC looks forward in forging more partnerships with customers and stakeholders that share the same vision of a future powered by clean and renewable energy, contributing to the clean and green movement. As we endeavor to create greater impact in terms of development, further reduction of carbon emission, in more areas in our country.



Project Renewable Energy for Livelihood and Youth (RELY)

Vivant Foundation, Inc.

Project RELY is a European Union-funded project implemented by Vivant Foundation, sequa gGmbH and PROCESS Bohol under the EU's Access to Sustainable Energy Programme. It combines energization through solar of 16 off-grid schools, upgrading of the Technical-vocational Course for Electrical Installation and Maintenance (Tech-voc EIM) with training in solar technology, and community development to ensure the sustainability of the project.



When implementing the pilot project upon which Project RELY was based, VFI studied existing off-grid electrification programs using solar PV technology. Most of these programs did not fully electrify schools and many of these donations were in disrepair within a few years due to a lack of technical skills on maintenance and repair within the community.

In implementing off-grid electrification, Project RELY identified a senior high school offering Tech-voc EIM within the same municipality to partner with the off-grid school to maintain and repair the solar PV system. The EIM teachers were provided NC-II training and certification in PV Installation in order to create a curriculum combining the base EIM course with the solar PV course, enabling students to graduate with two NC-II certifications. The arrangement is mutually beneficial as off-grid schools receive maintenance and repair of PV systems while EIM students receive work immersion hours and hands-on experience with PV systems.

In addition to the replication of the pilot program, improvements were made with the learnings of the initial implementation and EU funding by conducting feasibility studies in job potential for EIM graduates, further developing the EIM with solar curriculum with TESDA and DepEd, conducting education campaigns for local government and business on the use of renewable energy, installation of community charging stations, and livelihood assistance for people's organizations in the remote villages, which are able to utilize excess energy produced by the school's PV system.

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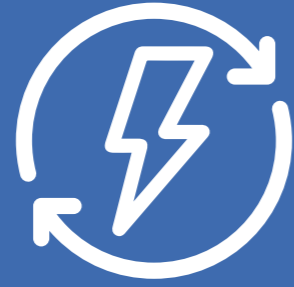
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Sabayan ang pagbangon nila araw-araw with NESCAFÉ.

Alamin pa ang NESCAFÉ Plan by scanning this QR code using your camera phone.





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Award

This award will be given to the company that showcases best practice in and promotes energy efficiency and conservation (EEC). Through its operations and/or provision of EEC services, the company is contributing to attaining the country's sustainability targets.



Citicore Renewable Energy Corporation

Coca-Cola Beverages PH at the forefront of energy efficiency

Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines, Inc. (CCBPI)

Citicore Renewable Energy Corp. (CREC), one of the pioneers and leaders in the renewable energy movement is committed to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions to empower the communities we serve.

Our total current operations of 241.6MW, which includes the newly constructed solar projects, use advanced digital cloud-based state-of-the-art SCADA system and Computer Maintenance Management System (CMMS) ensuring reliability of our operations and maintenance.

We also pioneered in the country the AgroSolar initiative maximizing the use of the land where solar power generation and crop production can co-exist.



Sustainability is our way of life ensuring that as we generate solar energy, we use our generated capacities in our own facilities. During daytime, our 8 commercially operating solar plants' monthly consumption of energy is 132,000.00 kWh, with average power cost of P3.00/KWh, enabling us to accumulate P396,000.00 monthly savings or around P4.75M annually.

To continuously conserve and efficiently manage our resources, our facilities will maintain our sustainable practices which includes using recycled water as multipurpose water for plant operations and crop production.

We know that building more RE facilities will not only expand our business but will also give back to the environment and empower more communities. Having established a strong relationship with host communities as a result of our development programs, we know all our efforts has created impact to the lives of the people.

We invest in energy-saving buildings like the solar rooftop project energized in partnership with the Authority Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), which resulted in line rental savings, from the monthly average power produced of 850,000kWh x average line rental price of P0.10/kWh, totaling to over a million savings annually. This project was also able to reduce carbon emission of 1,044 metric tons annually equivalent to 503,370 liters of gasoline or 550.3 metric tons of coal.

Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines, Inc. (CCBPI), the bottling arm of Coca-Cola in the country, is committed to further accelerating its energy efficiency roadmap—to better achieve its energy efficiency targets throughout its operations.

Three of its manufacturing plants have a total of approximately 14,000 solar panels in use: Bacolod, Misamis Oriental, and Davao del Sur. CCBPI is also pursuing a multi-phased 24,000 solar panel project, with the total capacity to produce a maximum of 9.4MW.

The Coca-Cola Company's climate action goals are to reduce absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2030 and to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Philippines operations aims to significantly contribute to achieving these goals by working toward sourcing 85% of its total power consumption from renewable and clean sources by 2025 and by continuously strengthening its energy savings initiatives to improve its energy use ratio (the amount of energy used per liter of beverage produced).



Aiming to consume less energy even as operations expand to produce more beverages, the Company is continuously improving its Energy Use Ratio (EUR)—the ratio of energy consumed in megajoule, and beverage produced in liters. The suite of energy savings initiatives has so far improved Coca-Cola's EUR by 3.56%.

Achieving a system-wide approach to reduce emissions, 30% of CCBPI's fleet are Euro IV-V compliant—with fleet units using full LED lighting in cooler equipment since 2017. Since 2019, new cooler units have also been operating using hydrocarbon refrigerant technology.

To date, as much as 65% of CCBPI's total power consumption is sourced from renewable and clean energy. In 2021, CCBPI converted to 100% renewable energy (RE) all its manufacturing sites that are viable for a transition to clean energy use—these sites are Sta. Rosa, Canlubang, Ilocos, Calasiao, Cebu, San Fernando in Pampanga, and Meycauayan. More sites are in the pipeline for full conversion to RE.



Mondelez Philippines, Inc.

Under the area of Energy Efficiency and Conservation, we have accomplished three major projects in the Philippines.

100% Renewable Energy. In our plant in Sucat, Parañaque City we are now powered by 100% geothermal energy as supplied by our partner, the Energy Development Corporation's (EDC) BaconManito Geothermal Project in the Bicol region. Few companies can make a claim to use 100% renewable energy.

Through our partnership with the Energy Development Corporation's (EDC) BaconManito Geothermal Project in the Bicol region, we have significant reduction of 2.2 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions since May 2019 or a 72% drop vs 2018. Our geothermal energy is further supported by solar panels and a biomass boiler, which utilizes rice hull and coconut husk instead of LPG.



Solar Collector. The chillers and air conditioning units in our Sucat plant previously contributed to 30% of our energy cost. To help reduce costs and emissions at the same time, we installed a Solar-powered Collector System. This is a device

that assists in heating the refrigerant by concentrating solar radiation from the sun without producing emissions.

Through our solar collectors, we eliminated 630 MT of carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to 29,000 trees planted starting March 2018. The initiative also brings in annual savings of Php 1.32MM



Project Habagat. We upgraded our air compressor system in our Sucat Plant to a more eco-efficient model, which provides an additional benefit of improved quality of compressed air. This eliminated issues on visible moisture which affected pneumatic systems of machines and auxiliaries of our plant. Likewise, the increased capacity of the compressor system will enable greater supply needs in the future.

Through our Project Habagat we have been able to reduce carbon emissions by 123MT since February 2018 and bring Php4.4MM in annual productivity and a one-time saving of Php 3.18 MM.

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Waste Management Award

This award will be given to a company who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and contribution to better waste management. This company is able to set an example in avoiding or recovering waste and protecting the environment through the management of waste streams generated by the community or industry.



A Residual Plastics Waste Diversion Project During Covid-19

Business For Sustainable Development

In these trying times of the pandemic, how do we implement a waste diversion project? The answer is not clear-cut as it seems. We have to prioritize the health and the exposure of the stakeholders over meeting the goals of the project given the timeframe that we have. Here is our story.



This waste diversion project to reduce leakage of plastic packaging to nature was conceptualized in 2019. The initial plan focused on Cebu, with General Mariano Alvarez (GMA), Cavite as a secondary site. With the Covid-19 lockdowns, travel was restricted. The Cebu portion of the project became unrealistic and the project focused on GMA. With a grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation, the project was slated to start in February 2020, but we only managed to start implementation in July 2020.

Initially, only two barangays participated in the first month. However, by the second month eight barangays were already engaged. Fifteen barangays and the wastepickers association are currently participating. The slow start has been attributed mainly to pandemic restrictions and the fear of getting sick by the stakeholders.

While we pushed the barangays to follow a certain process (refer to the diversion chain diagram), we understood that

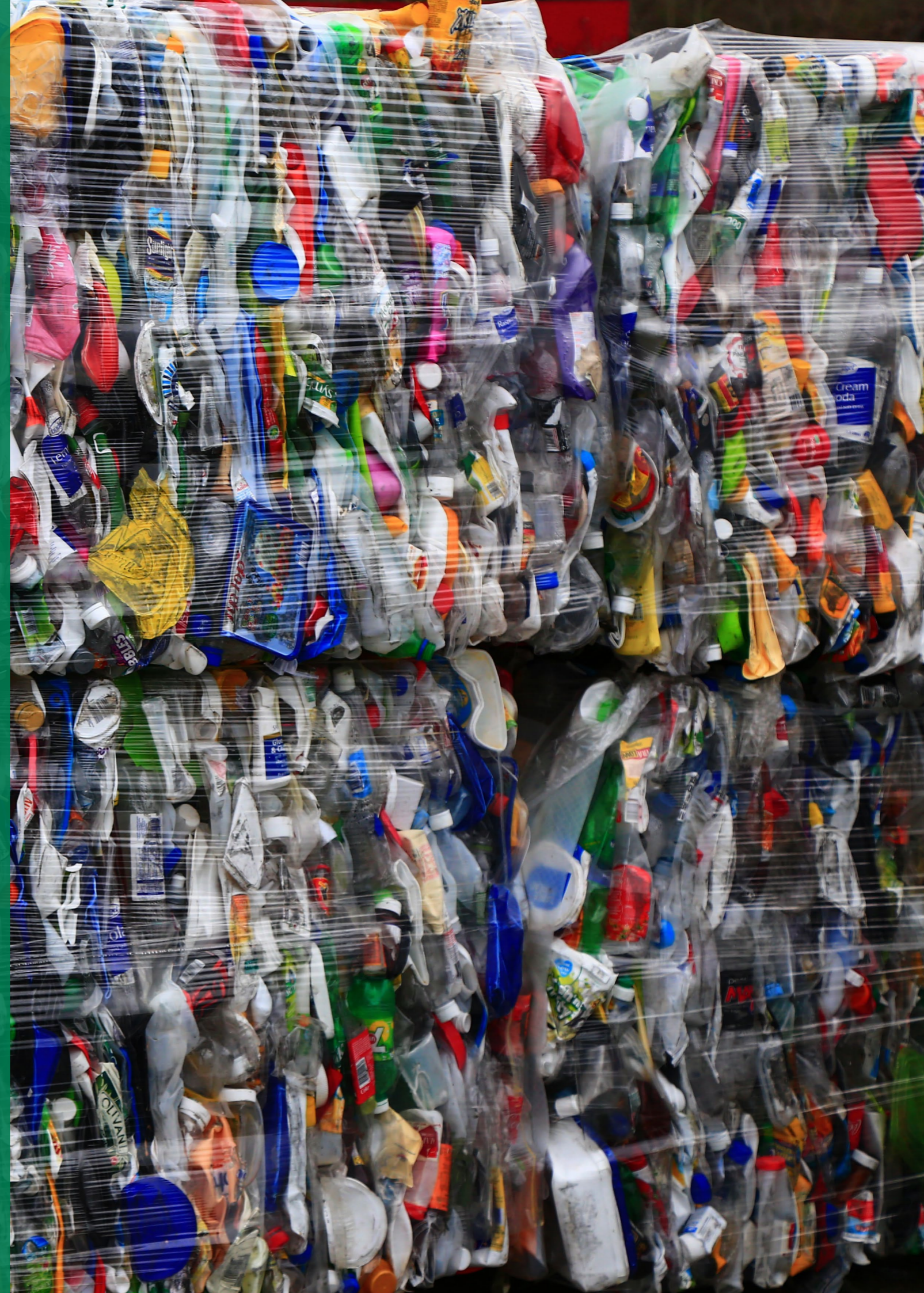
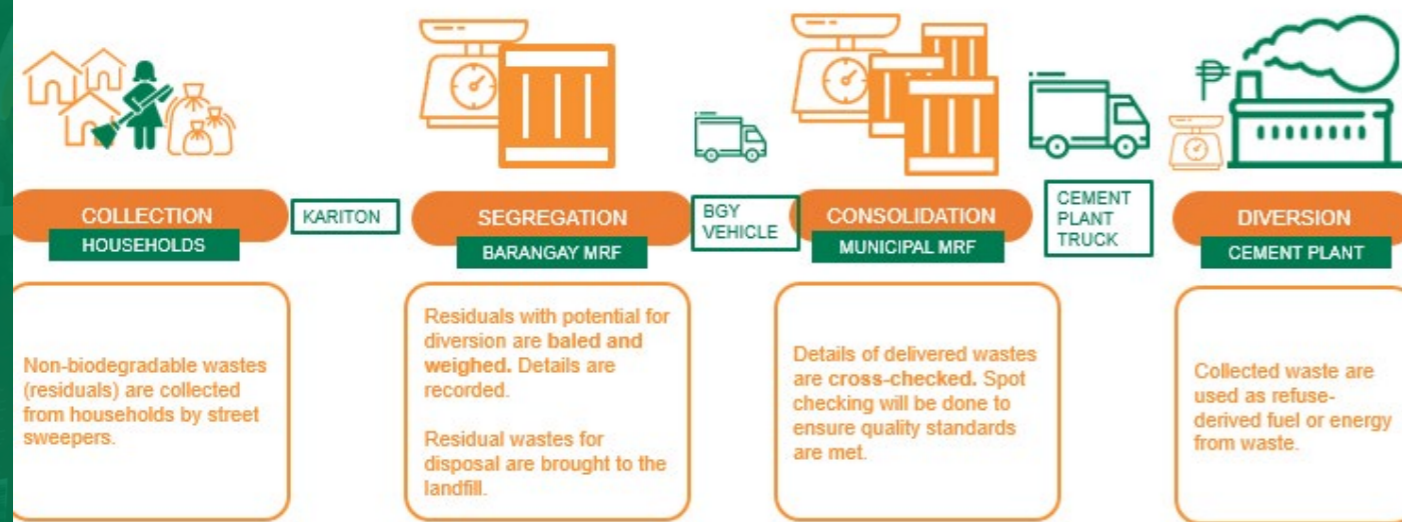
barangay capacities and capabilities differed, so we allowed some leeway into their own process.

The plastic residuals that we collected from June 2021 to March 2022 show a marked increase from the initial 241 kg collected in June 2021 to the 33,664 kg collected in March 2022 (refer to graph). It shows a steady increase in waste residuals collection. Interestingly, it also seems to correlate with the effect of the pandemic. From June to October 2021 the increase was very minimal (the time when the pandemic and lockdowns were in full swing). It increased considerably in November when the IATF lowered the alert levels and with the coming of the Christmas season. It dipped again in January 2022 with the increase in alert levels due to the omicron variant. It increased again in February 2022 with the lowering of the alert levels.

Feedback on the program has been generally positive from the stakeholders. The GMA experience on waste residuals collection has been shared in various forums by the MENRO to other LGUs in Cavite, and in Region IV-A. Some LGUs have shown interest in replicating the program. All the stakeholders were very understanding of the COVID-19 situation, and health protocols were observed during project implementation.

While it took us awhile to fully implement the project, it was a learning experience worth the effort. We had to take into consideration differing protocols from the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) and the way these were trickled down and ultimately implemented by the LGUs. We tried to do most of our communications and payments via online applications, but in the implementation of projects such as this, face to face is the best possible mode.

Diversion Chain





PETValue Philippines pioneers green technology for recyclable plastic packaging

Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines, Inc. (CCBPI)

Paving a greener future with Kuehne+Nagel

Kuehne+Nagel



An industry-leading initiative, PETValue has been granted pioneer status by the Philippines' Board of Investments (BOI) in 2020. The BOI grants pioneer status to projects involving manufacturing or processing activities that have not been produced in the country on a commercial scale or which uses a system of transforming raw materials using new technologies, among other qualifications.

Established in General Trias, Cavite and launching its operations this 2022, PETValue's projected capacity—the amount of used plastic bottles it can process annually—is around 30,000MT, which is equivalent to approximately 2 billion pieces of plastic bottles.



PETValue Philippines, the country's first bottle-to-bottle, food-grade recycling facility is a joint venture between Coca-Cola Beverages Philippines, Inc. (CCBPI) and Indorama Ventures—a global leader in packaging solutions and green technologies. This 2.28PHP multi-phased project aims to establish a circular economy for recyclable PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic packaging, as it employs the most advanced, world-class recycling technologies in the Philippines.

Anchored on Coca-Cola's global World Without Waste vision—to collect and recycle, by 2030, the equivalent of every bottle and can that it sells—PETValue seeks to produce more sustainable packaging innovations to help improve the collection and recycling rates of PET plastic bottles: packaging that is 100% recyclable and therefore should be given limitless life within a circular economy.

Consumer demand has now placed carbon neutrality as a necessity, rather than a luxury, and has therefore shaped the logistics industry. And Kuehne+Nagel has made sure to remain at the forefront of sustainable logistics.



We are proud to be the first logistics provider in the Philippines to be certified plastic neutral. This was achieved after measurement and third-party verification of the plastic footprint introduced by the company into the local supply chain. We then secured an equal amount of credits to neutralise the footprint. With this, our customers can trust that the plastic waste brought by their logistics through Kuehne+Nagel were effectively offset.

On top of plastic neutrality, we have also moved towards carbon neutrality as a global company. Kuehne+Nagel is committed to the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), offering options to customers to decarbonize their transport with the use of low carbon sustainable fuels or avoid/reduce their emissions by providing alternative transport modes, routes and carrier options. These options are enabled

through our myKN and seaexplorer platforms, making it possible for our customers to make a difference in one click. Integrated in these options as well are the possibility to use Sustainable Aviation Fuel for air logistics and BioFuel (used cooking oil methyl ester) for sea logistics.

As an organisation in the Philippines, we did not settle with these efforts. Last year, we have planted three hectares of mangroves as added initiatives for our local LCL customers. We also provided 125 families with solar light systems and one community with a fully functional micro-farm, as well as funded a reforestation through 1,500 seedlings. Internally, we continue to move away from unnecessary use of plastics and paper through various digitalisation projects (QR codes, electronic invoices, etc.).



All of these efforts, we feel, are necessary because the time to make a change is now – through the companies of today and through us. Kuehne+Nagel will continue to make these small steps and help build a more sustainable world.



Laguna Water's Holistic Approach to Sustainability: Achieving Goals while Fostering the Environment and the Community

Laguna Water Corporation

Sustainability is at the very core of Laguna Water. More than the financial return, Laguna Water aims to protect and preserve the environment by investing in technologies that will reduce carbon footprint while pursuing advocacies that can lead to better environmental protection, sustainability, and health for the communities.

Wastewater Management

As an advocate of providing potable water and environmental services, Laguna Water launched its flagship program, *Tamang Sanitasyon Equals Kalusugan, Kalinisan, at Kaunlaran ng Bayan* or *TSEK ng Bayan* (Proper Sanitation Equals Good Health, Proper Hygiene and Cleanliness, and Community Development). This program consists of a three-pronged approach in promoting proper sanitation that will cover all social classes: (a) sewage management (for gated subdivisions and industrial parks), (b) desludging service (for open communities); and (c) portable toilet solution or communal toilet (communities with no toilets).

Proper collection, transport, and treatment of wastewater are always ensured through the company's Sewage and Septage Treatment Plant (SSTP), which has a treatment capacity of 11 million liters of sewage and 140 cubic meters of septage per day.

Recently, the SSTP has been upgraded to become compliant with the new DENR Administrative Order 2021-19 which requires a Biological Nutrient Removal system in the treatment process to ensure the removal of nutrients that will affect our marine ecosystems and public health.

In parallel, Laguna Water conducts TSEK ng Bayan Information, Education, and Communication campaign (IEC) – an advocacy campaign that seeks to raise public awareness about the importance of adequate sanitation. Together with the LGUs, it also encourages people to promote health and protect the environment through regular desludging.

Water Resource Management

Laguna Water is proactive in developing, protecting, and rehabilitating water sources, including watersheds and surface and groundwater.

The Company has commissioned a study (done quadrennially) to check the quality and condition of the aquifer and to simulate deep well extraction and projected demand. The simulation showed that groundwater in the covered areas is sufficient until 2070. To ensure the protection of natural resources, Laguna Water also conducts *Pasibol* (tree-planting activity) participates in clean-up activities initiated by LGUs and DENR.

Community Development

Laguna Water delivers water-related services and conducts sustainability programs that provide opportunities and hope to the people.

- a. *Ahon Tubig* aims to give low-income communities access to the water supply network by subsidizing the water connection fee and offering a favorable payment scheme.
- b. *Lingap Program* helps increase the learning ability, prevent absenteeism, and ensure the good health of students and teachers by providing handwashing areas and drinking facilities.
- c. *Ahon Sanitasyon* aims to promote proper sewage management and sanitation practices for all communities.
- d. *Pamilyang TSEK Program* implements a special discounted environmental rate, making services such as wastewater management affordable to low-income communities.

Laguna Water creates ripples of positive changes in the various communities it serves. The Company will continue to provide services and implement programs geared toward achieving sustainable development.



Achieving Circular Economy through Food Waste Composting and Rainwater

Shell Business Operations Manila

Shell has been a known advocate of Powering Progress, particularly in respecting nature by protecting the environment, reducing waste, and making a positive contribution to promoting biodiversity. For over a decade, the Shell Business Operations (SBO) Manila team has been making deliberate strides in sustainability initiatives. The pandemic may have temporarily hindered these efforts but the team managed to move forward as waste reduction champions through a Circular Economy Project that applies Bokashi food waste composting and rainwater harvesting.



Sights were set on a recycling process that is cost-efficient and can be easily implemented in the workplace. After performing a market scan and undertaking a partnership with Greenspace Pilipinas, the idea of Bokashi composting was introduced. The method redirects food waste that goes to the landfill which amounts to 30,800 kgs per year or 17.41% of the total waste. No machinery is required but only a drum, the Bokashi bran, and the microbe that is used to compost using generated food waste.



The drum is then picked up by the contract partner for further composting and afterwards used for live plants. Reducing freshwater consumption was another priority which eventually led to a joint effort with the property landlord to build a rainwater harvesting facility in the building where the project was located. After watering the plants with rainwater, the plants are then deployed in offices to replace artificial plants and promote biophilia.

Since the implementation, food wastes totaling 654 kilograms have so far been repurposed and freshwater consumption has been reduced by 2,650 liters. The Bokashi food waste composting is just one of the many ways in which Shell is promoting a circular economy.

As ever, Shell remains firmly committed to achieving its sustainability goals and will continue to source and develop innovative best practices to be future-ready.

One of Misis Walastik's key partners is Linis Ganda, an organization of waste pickers called eco-aides that collect recyclable waste from households and sell them to partner junk shops.



Purpose-led and Future-fit: Unilever's Guiding Principles For How we Create Value For All Our Stakeholders

Unilever Philippines

At Unilever, we are guided by our purpose to make sustainable living commonplace. What drives this are three key beliefs: Brands with Purpose Grow; People with Purpose Thrive; and Companies with Purpose Last.



Summit has put this into action by supporting micro-retailers like sari-sari stores by providing training sessions on fundamental business management skills and helping link them with microfinance institutions to access the necessary funds to help grow their business. To date, our training has reached over 600,000 micro retailers in over 600 areas. 95% are first-timers to this type of livelihood training; where 90% are women.



Our global strategy, the Unilever Compass, covers the whole spectrum of our business and is guided by our goal of becoming a leader in sustainable business, driving positive results that are purpose-led and future-fit.

In the Philippines, the Compass has already made headway in working with local communities to address plastic waste.

Misis Walastik, which focused on collecting flexible plastic waste of any type and any brand; has partnered with 400 communities, and engaged over 500,000 households, to collect over 5 thousand metric tonnes of plastic waste since 2012.



The Compass also set out commitments to helping 5 million small- and medium-sized enterprises from all over the world to grow their business by 2025. Since 2016, our **Kabisig**

Promoting positive nutrition is another pillar of the Compass and Knorr **Lutong Nanay** has been making waves in this space, addressing malnutrition in children since 2002. The program empowers every mother to take charge of her family's nutrition with home-cooked meals through simplified meal planning and preparation. Nearly 1.5 million individuals or about 300,000 families have been enjoying affordable and nutritious home-cooked meals since its launch.

Through our brands, people, and company, we continue to find opportunities to innovate and serve Filipino communities with products produced with sustainability at its core. This is how we stay fit for the future, and also how we stay true to our spirit of sama-sama, tulong-tulong, embodied by everyone in Unilever Philippines.

ECO Planet

ITAYO ANG KINABUKASAN ng susunod na henerasyon



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- ✓ The first general purpose blended cement with guaranteed* low carbon emission performance in the Philippines.
- ✓ Product targeted to early adopters of sustainable construction and designed to reduce the environmental footprint.





Sustainable Agri-food Award

This will be awarded to the company that has contributed to the enhancement of the agriculture and food industry in the Philippines by offering innovative products and services that helped implement and promote the concept of “sustainable agri-food systems”. The awarded company has championed to increase agricultural production, minimise food loss, and increase awareness on the value of food nutrition through its programs and initiatives.



Democratizing Nutrition for Everyone, Everyday, and Everywhere

Century Pacific Food, Inc.

"To Nourish and Delight everyone, everyday, everywhere." This is the vision that guides and inspires us at Century Pacific Food, Inc. We aim to provide our consumers with quality and affordable sources of nutrition, with a strong focus on protein.

Thus, Protein Delivery forms the cornerstone of our Sustainability Program. We commit to responsible manufacturing and development of sustainable, healthier, and affordable food products that address the nutritional needs of Filipinos. In a country where 80% of the population are from lower income classes, our expansive portfolio of brands that span from value-for-money to affordable premium can serve major segments in the Philippine market.



Our journey began with 555 Sardines and Century Tuna, household names in the Philippines. Both are quality protein sources, and beyond that deliver additional nutrients such as calcium, Omega-3, and DHA. Our meat products provide iron and zinc, nutrients found in our milk products as well. While our coconut products are good sources of potassium. As we grow our business, so does the extent by which we are able to provide nutrition to the Filipino people.

Through innovation, we continuously add healthier, better-for-you, and better-for-the-planet food offerings. Cognizant of consumers clamoring for more sustainable

protein sources and our desire to limit our impact on the environment, Century Pacific launched 'unMEAT', the first large-scale plant-based brand in the Philippines. unMEAT not only looks, tastes, and feels like real meat; it is also PRICED like real meat.

Key to this success was our decades-long experience in plant protein and nutrition science which enabled us to land a winning formula rich in protein and fiber, made from non-GMO plant-based ingredients, with no cholesterol, no preservatives, and no trans-fat. The production of unMEAT also costs less, requires lower consumption of water, land, and energy, and generates less greenhouse gas emissions compared to meat.

To date, unMEAT has been launched in major retail chains in the Philippines. We've partnered with 7-Eleven, among other food service chains, making it more accessible. We've also rolled out the brand internationally, increasing our reach and providing more affordable plant-based options to consumers at a global scale.

Plant-based alternatives are often hailed as the future of food, but we believe we can get there NOW. We just need to make it easy to eat, easy on the pocket, and easy to buy. That's what unMEAT is all about – democratizing sustainable nutrition for everyone, everyday, and everywhere.



Sustainability in Food

Ikano Philippines Inc. (IKEA)

Guided by its vision of creating a better everyday life for the many people, IKEA is making sure to embed sustainability across the entire organization—including food. To promote sustainable agri-food systems, IKEA Philippines garnered support from the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to tap local farmers to provide fruits and vegetables to the IKEA Pasay store. The two organizations were key in introducing the IKEA to different organizations enabling them to start conversations with some local suppliers.



"Finding local producers is a very important factor to consider in opening and running the restaurant. It's important for us to produce locally because we need to have the most efficient food supply chain," Georg Platzer, Store Manager of IKEA Pasay shared.



Another IKEA initiative to bolster its commitment to food sustainability is to sell and serve environmentally certified marine products. Today in its restaurants and Swedish Food Market, the seafood products sold and served are either ASC (Aquaculture Stewardship Council) or MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) certified.

When it comes to coffee, everything that's served and sold in store is both EU organic and UTZ-certified, a label that stands for more sustainable farming and better opportunities for farmers, their families, and the planet. Most notable in the Swedish company's efforts to sustainability is the development of the HUVUDROLL, a plant-based version of the famous IKEA meatball, which has just a 4% climate footprint compared to its meat-based offering.

Apart from the food products, the company also practices sustainability in the IKEA Pasay store kitchen through food waste measure and reduction. IKEA utilizes Waste Watcher, a tool that provides instant feedback on both the weight and cost of wasted food so that baselines and goals could be set. The kitchen is also equipped with digital scales to record weight and reasons for the waste.



Nestlé Philippines goes beyond sustainability, accelerates regenerative agriculture among Filipino coffee farmers

Nestlé Philippines, Inc.



Nestlé Philippines pursues its commitment to sustainability, and beyond that, accelerating regeneration as it propagates regenerative agriculture principles to improve food systems. Project Coffee+, an initiative to enhance coffee farming capacity under the NESCAFÉ Plan, has been training 1,500 participating Filipino coffee farmers in sustainable farming and regenerative practices promoting biodiversity and

barriers, composting, intercropping or multi-cropping, and rejuvenation and pruning as coffee tree maintenance techniques.



The latest third-party monitoring and evaluation survey by Rainforest Alliance reports that Project Coffee+ farmers grew yields by over 64 percent and earned 58 percent more income in 2021 compared to 2020.

The NESCAFÉ Plan, as a multi-stakeholder program that has reached an average of 8,000 Filipino coffee farmers annually from 2012 to 2021, helps them adopt sustainability and regeneration practices while strengthening the vitality and resilience of their communities.

As a result of better productivity among Filipino coffee farmers, Nestlé Philippines has increased its volume purchase of locally-grown green coffee beans by 41 percent.

health of soils and waterways. Nestlé believes the best way to support the new Philippine Coffee Roadmap's goal - raising local coffee production to achieve self-sufficiency and export capacity - is to upskill farmers in entrepreneurship and good agricultural practices through the NESCAFÉ Plan.

In 2021, Nestlé Philippines partnered with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to develop the COFFEE PRODUCTION LEVEL II Qualification, a set of competencies in sustainably and profitably planting coffee seedlings, growing and maintaining coffee plants, harvesting and drying coffee cherries, and marketing green coffee beans. Close to 500 farmers were provided scholarships by TESDA.

Project Coffee+ has expanded its Farmer Business School to teach regenerative agriculture methods including agroforestry, planting cover crops and shade trees for

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Green and Inclusive Finance Solutions Award

This will be awarded to the company that has shown active support to businesses engaging in green projects by promoting and supporting the flow of financial instruments and other related services for the development and implementation of sustainable business models, green investments, and policies promoting sustainability. This can also cover green products within savings, credit, insurance, money transfers and new digital delivery channels. This contributes to economic development as well as reduction of carbon emissions, climate smart adaptation and protection of biodiversity while strengthening local entrepreneurship and local communities.



Blue and Green Finance Key to Supporting the Philippines' Climate Goals

Jean-Marc Arbogast

IFC Country Manager for the Philippines

Angelo Tan

IFC Operations Officer (EDGE & Building Resilience Index Lead)

As COVID-19 highlights the urgency of a climate-smart roadmap, it is especially relevant in the context of the Philippines, the fourth-most vulnerable country to the effects of climate change.¹ In response, the country has pledged to reduce greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions by 70 percent by 2030.

Development and climate are symbiotic, which is why climate action needs to be paired with adequate investments. IFC forecasts \$115 billion of climate-smart investment opportunities in the Philippines by 2030. New green buildings alone account for \$57 billion of the projected amount, while transport, renewable energy, and waste are also likely to see big investment opportunities.

The Philippines is one of the largest GHG emitters among low- and middle-income countries, with the property sector as a major contributor and accounting for more than half of the total power consumption. Further, energy demand is expected to grow by 80 percent through 2040.

Green buildings, which are more resource-efficient, present a major opportunity to decarbonize the sector. Yet, they are often perceived as an expensive and complex option, resulting in slow uptake.

Addressing this problem, Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (EDGE), an IFC innovation, democratizes the green buildings market. Backed by a free, user-friendly app, EDGE integrates technology into the green building certification process, quantifying efficiencies, costs, and environmental impacts of sustainability measures. Additionally, it is more cost efficient.

To date, EDGE has certified more than 875,000 sqm of space in the Philippines, preventing 23,000 tCO₂ per year and unlocking opportunities for key sectoral players. While EDGE is critical to mitigate climate change, climate change adaptation is equally vital. Resilience should therefore be the underlying factor for the country's buildings.

In this context, in 2021, IFC launched the Building Resilience Index to help developers assess applicable hazards based on their project locations, explore ways to improve resilience of their buildings, and disclose the resilience level to improve transparency. More than 10 real estate developers in the Philippines are now using this tool across 1.8 million square meters.

Given its massive investment needs, especially with COVID-19 straining public resources, the government needs private sector support to strengthen the nation's infrastructure. IFC is also creating a market for climate business through innovative financial products, including green and blue bonds.

Protecting the health of the oceans and water resources will also be key to advancing the country's climate goals and promoting sustainable livelihood especially among communities who rely heavily on the bounties of the ocean. Solid waste management and marine plastics are major issues for the nation, which is why in May 2022, IFC partnered with BDO Unibank, Inc., the country's largest bank, by subscribing to its maiden blue bond to help tackle marine pollution.

By supporting the first blue bond issuance in the country, IFC continues its tradition of supporting the development of capital markets through issuances of thematic bonds and mainstreaming climate finance in the banking sector. A robust blue economy will help create jobs and alleviate poverty while strengthening the marine ecosystem in the Philippines.

With the right investments and by joining forces with other climate champions, the Philippines can make significant headway in winning the battle against climate change.





ENGIE Services Philippines

ENGIE's purpose ("raison d'être") is to act to accelerate the transition towards a carbon-neutral world, through reduced energy consumption and more environmentally friendly solutions, reconciling economic performance with a positive impact on people and the planet. ENGIE develops its businesses - (i) low CO2 power generation, (ii) global networks, and (iii) customer solutions - around a model based on responsible growth to take on the major challenges of the transition to a low-carbon economy.



ENGIE APAC & China (APACC) has been successfully operating in the region and is of strategic importance to ENGIE's business globally. With nearly 5,000 employees across Asia Pacific covering Australia, China, Indonesia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Mongolia, Singapore, and The Philippines, and with its Asia Pacific headquarters now in Singapore, ENGIE APAC aims to capitalize on sustainable growth opportunities to help accelerate the region's energy transition.

In 2019, ENGIE APACC announced the completion of the divestment of its 69.1 percent stake in Glow, an independent energy producer that is listed on Thailand's stock exchange. After this disposal, ENGIE Group will no longer have any coal assets in the Asia-Pacific region. Coal will now account for only 6% of the Group's total electricity production capacity, down from 13% at the end of 2015. ENGIE APACC is currently focused on developing renewables in Australia and South East Asia (Malaysia, Philippines, and Indonesia), where we aim to build stronghold positions in all these markets. Our growth strategy is predicated on pursuing growth

through organic means, as well as M&A. Across the Asia-Pacific region, ENGIE has an ambition to add >4,000MW of renewable capacity by 2030.

In the pipeline, ENGIE APACC is also partnering with Springfield City Group, by investing in a revolutionary zero-carbon plan that will make Springfield a beacon of sustainability and innovation. The city which is located around 40km south-west of Brisbane in Queensland, Australia with a population of 45,000 is expected to triple within the next 20 years; up to 2.6 million sq meters of mixed-use buildings and more than 22,000 apartments will be built in its central business district. ENGIE APACC will develop green energy, usage of hydrogen for mobility, better energy efficiency and achieving net-zero energy by 2038.

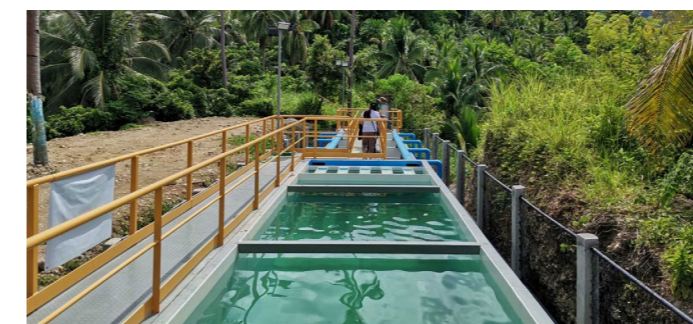


In Singapore, ENGIE APACC was also commissioned by JTC Corporation to build, own and operate an underground district cooling system (DCS) for the Punggol Digital District (PDD). Under this agreement, Engie will develop and construct the DCS plant that will be equipped with a cooling capacity of 30,000 refrigeration tons, equivalent to cooling 8,000 four-room apartments. The district cooling facility can provide sustainable and cost-effective air-conditioning to the different amenities in the district, including the business park and retail outlets. Additionally, the DCS will have a centralised four-kilometre piping network connected to customers in the district and is expected to reduce 3,700 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year at full development. It also seeks to achieve up to 30 per cent reduction in energy consumption compared to standard commercial buildings.



Land Bank of the Philippines

An important aspect of the LANDBANK's sustainability framework is the integration of environmental and social assessment (ESA) into the lending operations. The ESA is based on the globally accepted best practices which are aligned with the Equator Principle. For Banking and Lending institutions, the ESA is a very potent tool in promoting sustainability. Thru the ESA, sustainability principle/practices are not only confined to its own operation, products and services, but are expanded exponentially to its clients/borrowers by ensuring E&S compliance and promotion of best E&S practices for all its financed projects.



The ESA policy was formally adopted in 2004 with the promulgation of Credit Policy Issuance (CPI) 2004-02 or the Environmental Safeguards Policy Relative to Credit Delivery. It was enhanced through the issuance of CPI 2009-002 in 2009 and further enhancements were done to include climate change vulnerability, social & environmental benefits through EO No. 098 Series of 2020 entitled "Enhanced Environmental and Social Safeguards Policy Relative to Credit Delivery". The ESA is implemented from loan packaging/approval and monitored until it is fully paid. The conduct of ESA continued even during the COVID 19 Pandemic lockdown through online/remote assessment through interviews and utilizing available online ESA tools.

The policy is sustained/institutionalized as this is being managed by LANDBANK's Environmental Program Management Department, implemented by the Lending Units and the Internal Audit Group checks its implementation. The results of the policy implementation

are reported to the Sector Head on a semestral basis and to the Credit Committee and Investment and Loan Committee on an annual basis and made part of the GRI-aligned Annual Report.



To complete the measure of sustainability using the triple bottom line, the Bank's gross loan portfolio of Php 827.062 billion can be considered E&S compliant and no Bank-financed project were issued with a Cease-and-Desist Order by the DENR due to environmental/social violations. Thru the ESA, clients gained awareness and realized the necessary linkages between the economic, environmental, and social aspects for operating and sustaining their business/project activity. These show our influence to Bank's external clients in adopting Sustainability and Resiliency practices. This reflects the Bank's commitment to its corporate mission of promoting sustainable development anchored on good governance.

For CY 2021, a total of Six Hundred Thirty-Two (632) E&S project assessments or 102% of the annual target and 42% increase from previous year's number of projects assessed. This was done through online/remote assessment consistent with the approved EO 107, S. 2020 due to the extended quarantine period brought by Covid 19 Pandemic. This brings a total of 5,800 project assessments made since its implementation in 2004. As of May 31, 2022, a total of 162 E&S Assessments were conducted by EPMD.

The ESA policy is recognized by funders (GCF, WB, JICA, KfW, etc.) and it has gained numerous awards and recognitions for LANDBANK.



Pru Life UK’s sustainability mission: Help Filipinos get the most out of life

Pru Life UK

Pru Life UK’s sustainability mission is to help Filipinos get the most out of life by making healthcare affordable and accessible and by promoting financial inclusion.

This commitment was first set out in 2020 with the launch of the ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) Strategic Framework of its parent company Prudential plc. The framework focuses on ways to make positive, meaningful, and lasting impact to people on three areas, namely making health and financial security accessible; stewarding the human impacts of climate change through responsible investing; and building social capital.

Pru Life UK has since made progress in delivering on these ESG commitments for its customers, agents, employees and the communities that it serves.



To support insurance inclusion, Pru Life UK has launched more ESG-focused products and onboarded new partners to reach more Filipinos and their families, especially the unserved and underserved populations. These include making available in Pulse, the company’s AI-powered

health and wealth management app, “bite-sized” products whose premiums range from PhP175 to PhP750. These

inclusive products cater to the various protection needs of different populations ranging from critical illness protection, term insurance, accident and disability and infectious diseases. Among them are Pru Life UK’s first set of climate-smart products, PRUMedCare-Select Infectious Diseases and the two variants of PRUDengue MedCare, designed to provide protection against dengue, typhoid, measles and malaria. These infectious diseases are known to be particularly sensitive to climate changes. To make the dengue products even more inclusive, Pru Life has pioneered offering e-voucher of these products in Shopee.

Very recently, Pru Life UK also launched PRUHealth FamLove, an industry game-changer that shares critical illness coverage to up to four family members in one policy. FamLove supports diversity & inclusion as this is available for all Filipino families, including same-sex or common-law partners, parents, and adoptive children.

Beyond products, Pru Life UK has continued to live its purpose of Growth for Good through its community programs for financial education and building community resilience through safety. Some of the programs launched in support of these advocacies are the Cha-Ching financial education program for school children, Pru e-FinLit that provides financial education training to teachers and the provision of free personal accident coverage for Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) workers.

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Water Resource Management Award

This will be awarded to the company which best demonstrates excellence in the use of an Integrated Water Resource Management approach to water resources projects as well as innovative thinking, and application of solutions for wise water management and practices.

Groundwater: Making the Invisible, Visible

Christopher Ilagan

Chairman of the Philippine Water Partnership
and Steering Committee Members of the Global Water Partnership

This year's World Water Day theme of "Making the Invisible, Visible" may, at a first glance, seem a little myopic and narrow. After all, groundwater only makes up 12% of the world's entire available freshwater, which in turn only makes up 2% of the world's entire water stock. Groundwater, therefore, is a mere 0.0024% of the world's total water resource. As small as that sounds, how much it actually matters to modern civilization will blow your mind!

Groundwater represents almost half of all drinking water, 40% of irrigation and a third of industrial water use according to Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). SIWI also estimates that 2.5 billion people around the world solely depend on groundwater for their daily drinking requirements. After hearing that, I think we'd all agree that groundwater is certainly not as narrow-minded as we might first think, and certainly not a drop in the bucket – pun intended.

We have all heard the phrase, "You can't manage what you don't measure." It's really another way of saying you can't control what you don't see and a natural inference that emerges is that "Ignorance is bliss". And oftentimes, ignorance is bliss until the ugly head of the consequences of those ignorant actions rears its ugly head. In the context of groundwater, this comes in the forms of lower pressure at pumps, water unavailability or maybe the presence of water that is of poor quality due to either pollution or saltwater intrusion. In more extreme cases, though increasing in frequency of late, the unsustainable abstraction of water leads to land subsidence, which not only has the potential to damage property, but converts the landscape to the extent of becoming a perpetual flood zone. In a recent study entitled "Subsidence in Coastal Cities Throughout the World" by Wu, Pei-Chin et al., Manila, for example, was observed to be subsiding by 2 centimeters per year, which is 7 times faster than average sea-level rise! Subsidence plus sea level rise equals chronic flooding. How ironic it is that the once life-giving source of groundwater has turned instead to the life-taking origin of flooded sinkholes. Indeed, we all tend to take for granted something until it is gone or becomes the source of misery...and this is the mystery of groundwater when it remains invisible.

Groundwater suffers from the phenomenon we call the "tragedy of commons" where many with access to a common resource, in their self-interest and in an uncoordinated fashion, deplete the very same resource for lack of appreciation that their actions affect the sustainability of what is being consumed. Our administrative and legal procedures around water permitting and licensing are meant precisely to help us avoid this tragedy of commons problem. But we also know that with so many groundwater sources and users to regulate, it is often not practical to expect that our regulators can always enforce these things.

As such, it becomes incumbent on responsible citizens to make sure we keep ourselves and our neighbors disciplined in our use and management of our scarce groundwater resources. The notion of community-based groundwater resource management comes to mind and is very much in keeping with PWP's advocacy on Integrated Water Resource Management – **"a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximise economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems and the environment."** Our advocacy of IWRM can be summarized in a few key elements: (1) participatory, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral governance and management, (2) the management of water resources according to hydrological boundaries rather than man-made political or administrative ones and (3) an eye towards addressing the competing uses of water today against the water needs of future generations. These elements of IWRM are needed to pursue a whole-of-society approach to groundwater management across all communities in the country which will ensure that we preserve, conserve and responsibly use our limited groundwater resources. We know the consequences of not doing so.

Raising the public dialogue on the existence of sustainable groundwater use and policing among our own ranks, keeping each other accountable to use our groundwater wisely, is one solid way of getting us to move to responsibly use our precious groundwater resources. This is about making the invisible world of groundwater visible and a topic of appreciation and understanding in our communities.

Talking about it is certainly one way to raise awareness. But this can be helped by taking even more proactive steps to managing our groundwater by making it come to life with real data that can support local communities in their understanding of the true state of their groundwater resources. From metering private standalone pumps to conducting regular monitoring and surveillance of quantities and quality can go a long way in doing a better job of making the invisible, visible. NWRB continues to develop and implement policies to help us in this regard, though long-term, an empowered and well-financed Department of Water Resources may be in a better position to be able to introduce lasting reforms in our water sector that can help us address these sustainability issues of all our water resources, groundwater included. It is hoped that the next Administration will prioritize the passage of the DWR bill. In the meantime, however, we call on other community members and leaders to do their part in these things as well, keeping all groundwater users accountable all the way to the household level.

The buck stops with you and me and I pose to each citizen the challenge to be the groundwater warriors of your respective communities, inspiring action to treat our groundwater resources with the respect and care it deserves.

In a belated celebration of World Water Day 2022, allow me to share a personal poem I composed for the occasion:

An Ode to the Invisible

*Like a spirit, you wander, drifting through alleys
In crevices, through walls, and nooks and crannies
Passing by unperturbed, without a whisper or whimper
Our world's history each drop of your flow carries.*

The unseen blessing your essence gives.

The invisible force of all that lives.

A second there, a second gone.

Unreplenished by the rising sun.

And I wake up moved by the quench you offer

Cleansed and reinvigorated by your dropping shower.

Yet tomorrow I find myself having to borrow

From what should have been my own child's dower.

Let's protect our groundwater resources and come together to make the invisible, visible! Happy World Water Day 2022 to you all!



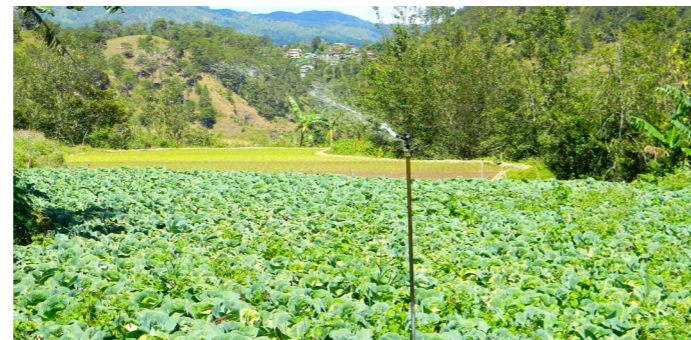
Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI)

AIDFI has since its founding as NGO in 1992 always been working around the issue of sustainability. The Vision of AIDFI from its start is still very much applicable: "A society where technology and development systems exist in harmony with nature and serves as foundation of growth and sustainable development where people share and live in abundance and happiness and where there is peace, freedom and equity".



Working on sustainable projects and programs for communities however can't be done if AIDFI itself is not sustainable. In Negros, where AIDFI has its base, during the period of low prices for sugar on the world market and the hunger of sugar worker families as effect, NGOs mushroomed. For different reasons only a very few NGOs survived and one of them is AIDFI. AIDFI itself is a sustainable organization which owns assets such as land, office-workshop, machines, trucks and cars and skilled personnel. Through a mix of fund sourcing, including sales of AIDFI products, AIDFI has become a stable organization.

From the 15 technologies for basic needs for the poorest, the AIDFI Hydraulic Ram Pump, became the flagship technology providing 85% of the work.



The ram pump, as a sustainable environment friendly technology is part of a holistic system for pumping water uphill to waterless villages and farms with the purpose of creating sustainable communities. Increased volume of water near the houses or farms 24/7 triggers further development. The key in the sustainability strategy are the water associations being set up. The key to AIDFI's work towards sustainability is innovation. Its latest invention is the Mechanical Water Kiosk, which is incorporated in the water systems to make the operation sustainable through a fairer distribution and increased collection of fees for. AIDFI is serving 590 upland villages with 290,000 beneficiaries with more to come.

Maynilad Water Services, Inc.

Maynilad is the largest private water concessionaire in the Philippines in terms of customer base. It currently produces 2,700 million liters of water (MLD) and serves more than 9.9 million people across 17 cities and municipalities in the West Zone of the Greater Manila area.

There has been increasing demand for water over the years owing to sustained population growth and economic activities, yet Metro Manila and nearby provinces still rely on just one major raw water source—the Angat Dam.

While it is primarily the government's responsibility to develop additional raw water sources, Maynilad has taken proactive steps toward enhanced water security by diversifying its water source options. It began tapping Laguna Lake as an alternate source back in 2010, enabling it to reach communities that have been waterless for decades. The company has since built two treatments plants in the area that produce a combined 300 MLD, and it is currently building a third that will add another 150 MLD.



To reinforce this, Maynilad is also developing decentralized medium to small-scale water sources, including the construction of modular treatment plants (ModTP) that will draw raw water from rivers. It is now also in the process of moving towards water reuse—i.e., converting the effluents of its Sewage Treatment Plants into potable water supply—

in line with the circular economy approach of maximizing resources to address crises on climate, biodiversity and pollution.

By expanding its surface water source options, the company is able to limit drawing from deep wells to emergency cases only, thus allowing for groundwater replenishment.

Maynilad is also aggressively reducing water losses through its Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Management Program—considered as one of the largest and most ambitious NRW reduction projects in the world—that adopts the District Metered Area approach, and involves network diagnostics, pipe and meter replacements, and leak detection and repair using state-of-the-art technology. As a result, Maynilad was able to reduce NRW from 66% in 2007 to 32% in 2021. This contributed significantly to the enhancement of service levels, with 98% of Maynilad customers receiving 24-hour water supply as of 2021 versus only 46% in 2007. Investments continue as the company aims to attain the internationally accepted NRW level of 20% in five years' time.

Maynilad is also heavily investing in its wastewater management programs to ensure 100% coverage by 2037.

On top of fulfilling its service obligations, Maynilad actively engages in initiatives that promote poverty alleviation, community development, and sustainable water management through its CSR programs. This includes its active participation in the government's call to rehabilitate the Manila Bay through "Project Kubeta Ko", a program which aims to prevent open defecation in Metro Manila waterways.

The effectiveness of Maynilad's processes was recently proven following its receipt of a citation as "Utility of the Future" from the World Bank.



The Future of Water is Tech

NXTLVL Water Technology Inc.

Five years ago, Agapita was in a banca on her way back home to Pamilacan Island, having just purchased her family's weekly supply of drinking water from the Bohol mainland at PHP 40 per jug. Suddenly, due to rough waters, the boat began to sink. At risk of drowning, she had to toss away the water jugs, which resulted in her family having no drinking water for days. This year, Agapita, now sixty, no longer needs to cross the sea to buy drinking water. This is because Pamilacan is now one of the few islands in the world with a fully solar-powered desalination facility that provides the entire island community of 2,500 with sustainable high-quality potable water cheaply at PHP 7 per jug.

NXTLVL Water, the company that brought its technology - called the "Hydra" - to Pamilacan, aims to bring sustainable drinking water to every Filipino island community. The Hydra is a modular, solar powered desalination system that is highly energy efficient, typhoon resilient, and was designed to provide environmentally-sustainable and low-cost potable water all year round to remote islands, especially those with no ports or grid power. To date, NXTLVL has deployed 10 systems across the Philippines, including in Cavite, Bohol and BARMM. Combined, these Hydra systems will service up to 100,000 Filipinos with year-round high-quality drinking water for decades using only the sea and sun as primary inputs.



NXTLVL has also developed a portable version of its technology in the Emergency Water Response (EWR) system, a game-changer for Disaster Relief. The EWR is a rapid-deploy purification solution designed specifically for communities struck by typhoons. The first of these units were successfully deployed to islands in Bohol in the aftermath of Typhoon Odette to service about 4,000 affected islanders.

NXTLVL Water aims to be a champion for Filipino water sustainability and security. Through sustainable technology, NXTLVL Water sees a brighter future for our water.

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Green Buildings Award

This will be awarded to companies that showcase the best use of technology to establish green building designs. The awardee must be successful in integrating environmentally sustainable solutions in building designs and construction. The award entry should be able to show the excellent integration of the following components:

- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Water Efficiency
- Environmental Sustainability
- Indoor Environmental Quality
- Operation and Maintenance & Other Green Features and Innovation





Globe recognized for Green Solutions and Sustainability Programs in 2022 Europa Awards

Globe Telecom

Leading digital solutions platform Globe was recently recognized for their efforts in sustainable building management and energy efficiency and conservation in the 2022 Europa Awards organized by the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP).

The 2022 Europa Awards recognize companies with exceptional performance and contributions to promoting sustainability according to global standards and the Philippine Development Plan. Globe received commendations for their entries in the "Clean and Green Energy" and "Green Building" categories.

Employing sustainable solutions for responsible energy consumption

In line with the first category, ECCP cited the company for successfully incorporating clean and renewable energy sources in its day-to-day operations, particularly in 14 of its high-energy utilization facilities. The shift of facilities to 100% renewable energy via power purchase agreements started in 2019 and has steadily increased year-on-year, aligned with government programs on renewable energy.

"We are guided by our ambition of reducing carbon emissions and creating more opportunities for sustainable development. We will continue to monitor our environmental impact and strengthen partnerships with stakeholders to ensure that we make progress in each step we take," said Globe Chief Finance Officer Rizza Maniego-Eala.

Globe is also piloting an alternative off-grid solution for rural areas that may have limited or no access to digital services. It has a hybrid power solution that utilizes green technologies for deployment in off-grid sites and disaster-prone areas.

Likewise, Globe has invested in green network solutions to reduce emissions from fuel consumption of its gensets and increase energy efficiency in its cell sites and operating facilities.

Standardizing green practices in the workplace

Globe also received recognition for its efforts in standardizing

green practices in its corporate headquarters, under the "Green Building" category. The Globe Tower in Taguig City showcased the best use of technology in green building designs and operations aside from successfully integrating environmentally-sustainable solutions.

Since the tower's construction in 2011, Globe has already set its targets to make its headquarters a Green Building, in line with the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) metrics for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. It ensures as little environmental impact as possible by prioritizing energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste management.

Globe actively promotes clean energy to aid the government in its thrust to reduce the country's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 75% by 2030, as stipulated in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the Paris Agreement.

It has partnered with South Pole, a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions and Climate Action expert, to assist in developing the company's science-based targets for 2030 and implementation roadmap to achieve Net Zero GHG Emissions by 2050.

Globe onboarded AON UK Limited for guidance and consultation on its Climate Action Strategy and invested in a Sustainability Software through DNV-Synergi Life, to automate data collection of the company's ESG metrics.

Globe, as a company, is a staunch supporter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly UN SDGs 9 and 13, which focuses on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and fostering innovation, as well as taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, respectively.

To know more about the 2022 Europa Awards, you may visit: <https://www.eccp.com/events/1115>

To learn more about Globe's Sustainability efforts, visit <https://www.globe.com.ph/about-us/sustainability.html#gref>



The ARK: UnionBank's take on the future of branch banking

Union Bank of the Philippines

We are a 40-year-old bank whose digital transformation has brought us to greater heights driven by a high-tech yet high-touch workforce. We constantly innovate ourselves, our products, and our services, anchored on our vision to build a bank of enduring greatness. Our ESG mission of 'Teching up' the Philippines is driven by innovation that is not limited only to technology-driven ones but also by people and processes.

Our sustainability pillars are aligned with the Bank's strategy of Digital Transformation, Sustainable Finance, and Inclusive Prosperity. One concrete example of how we are committed to bringing our sustainability agenda to life is our Ark branches.



Our traditional branches were remodeled to become a digital banking prototype where our customers can truly feel the future of banking while we uphold our sustainability thrust. A number of our Ark branches are Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

(LEED)-certified, a green building certification program used worldwide.

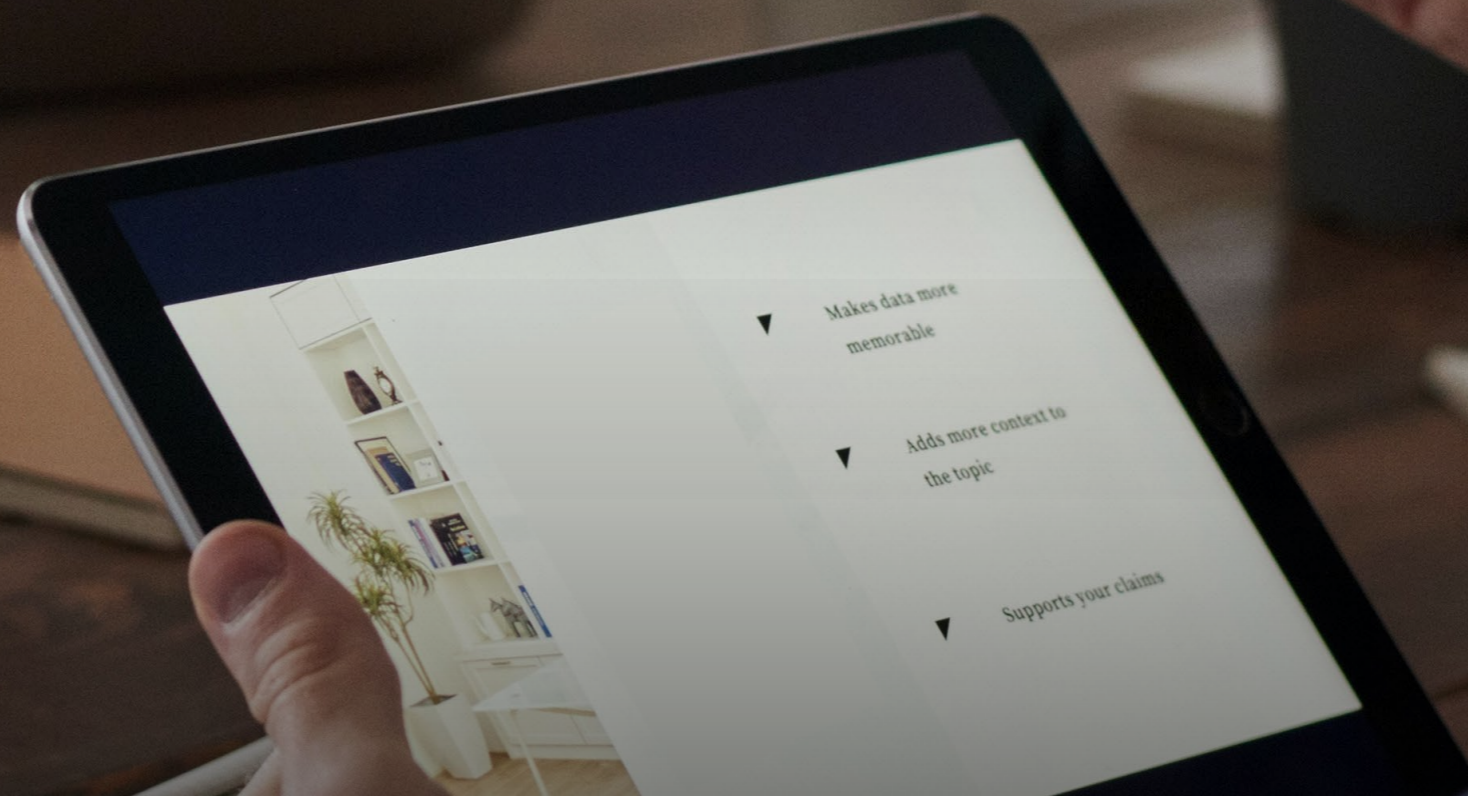
- Digital Transformation – In the branches, our customers transact via the digital transaction portal (DTP) where they encode their single or batch transactions ahead of time upon entering the bank. This process supports paperless banking, minimizes queuing time, and allows our Brand Ambassadors to engage in meaningful conversations with customers.
- Sustainable Finance – As our bank takes an active role in mitigating environmental and social risks in our financing activities, we lend to an ecosystem engaged in commerce and local economies such as MSMEs and SMEs. This customer segment is giving access to dedicated spaces in our Ark branches where they can meet and collaborate with their own customers and partners, free of charge.
- Inclusive Prosperity – We want to empower Filipinos by allowing them to be digitally enabled and maximize the use of our services. Our Branch Ambassadors play a vital role in our Promote-and-Convert program that aims to educate our clients on our digital services, regardless of age or client type.

The number of our Ark branches continues to increase year-on-year, starting from 50 in 2020 to 150 in 2021. We envision transforming all of our branches following the Ark prototypes by June 2022. Our goal is to continuously adapt and evolve to deliver meaningful

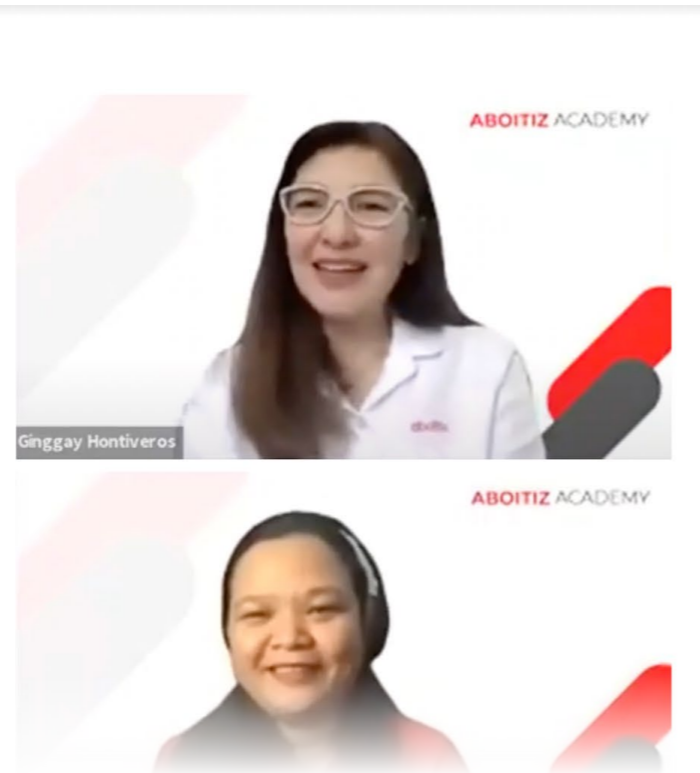


Green Workforce Award

This will be awarded to an organization with excellent programs and policies that support and promote the development and enhancement of green skills and jobs needed in a desired sustainable and low-carbon economy, covering all sectors and at all levels in the workforce. Emerging economic activities create new (or renewed) occupations.



ESG 101: Towards a Sustainable Future



Sustainability at the heart of the Aboitiz Group

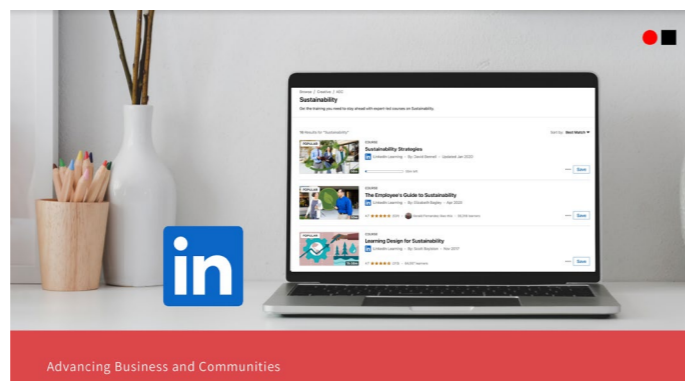
Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc.

Sustainability is deeply ingrained in the culture and operations of the Aboitiz Group. Guided by a strong leadership through its holding company Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc. (AEV), the organization promotes the continuous improvement of its environmental, social, governance (ESG) performance as evidenced by the alignment of its initiatives to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) that are relevant to its core businesses and ability to effect positive change.

Chiefly responsible for driving the sustainability mindset and initiatives of AEV is its dedicated **Sustainability team** which aligns its key performance indicators with the UN SDGs, amplifying their commitment to contribute solutions to poverty reduction, climate change, responsible consumption, disaster preparedness, and institutional partnering to achieve these goals.

AEV adopts a holistic approach towards enabling its workforce to learn and develop their skills in ESG and sustainability. The organization advocates for a **#StudentAlways** mindset or a

self-driven approach to learning which affords team members the freedom to learn topics of interest outside the scope of work. This also helps them to transition if they seek a career change or wish to upskill in line with the dynamic technologies.



The Aboitiz Academy, Aboitiz's learning arm, includes an ESG Library with various on-demand learning videos and reading materials on the subject from reputable sources. Enabled by remote working setups, the Academy recorded a total of 25,800 viewing hours by team members on topics such as climate change and sustainability—demonstrating a strong interest in honing green skills within the organization. The company also utilized platforms such as UNGC Academy and LinkedIn Learning, the latter of which earned us a place in the LinkedIn Talent Awards for Best Culture of Learning.

Aboitiz looks into the future of work, to the next 100 years, building robust learning and development on ESG to transform the company into a sustainable enterprise.



Ascott Makati Submits Official Nomination to ECCP's Europa Awards 2022

Ascott Makati

Ascott Makati, a property managed by The Ascott Limited, submitted its official nomination to the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) Europa Awards 2022. The nomination was submitted under the 'Green Workforce' category, highlighting the property's practices to conserve energy and resources aligns with Capitaland's 2030 Sustainability Master Plan. Since 2021, the Europa Awards recognizes companies with exceptional performance and contributions to promoting sustainability in line with global standards and the Philippine Development Plan.



The property's initiatives include installing sensor lights to save energy consumption in the common areas. Held on the first Friday of each month, "Footprint Friday" focuses on reducing the carbon footprint of guests and staff. This includes repurposing things and educating guests and staff on how they can help in the unprecedented climate change.

Other green initiatives that Ascott Makati implemented include encouraging guests to skip room cleaning and reusing their towels. Discarded linens were converted into ironing board covers and rags to eliminate waste. The property is also considered a pioneer in replacing single one-time-use plastic bottles with a 5-gallon water dispenser in guest rooms since 2019.

Additionally, Ascott Makati partnered with two external stakeholders, Gawad Kalinga (GK) and The Plastic Flamingo (PLAF). With GK, they identified a place to grow produce so the local community can have a decent livelihood. Clean and dry plastic are donated to PLAF, a social enterprise that collects and transforms plastic into durable eco-bricks for house building.

As a result, the property significantly reduced waste over the years that targeted three main areas – water, electricity, and waste management. The property successfully reduced water use from 15.55% in 2020 to 11.02% in 2021, while electricity usage was reduced by 6.29% in 2021 vs. 2022.

Ascott Makati continuously finds ways to create and implement innovative ideas that will not only benefit the property alone but the cluster as a whole. This aligns with Capitaland's goal to build a resilient and resource-efficient real estate portfolio, enable thriving and future-adaptive communities, and accelerate sustainability innovation and collaboration.



Green Workforce

Ikano Philippines Inc. (IKEA)

The vision of IKEA is to create a better everyday life for many people. One of the ways to fulfill this vision is a sustainability strategy to become people and planet positive in 2030, and IKEA co-workers play an integral part in achieving this sustainability goal.



At IKEA Philippines, there is no department dedicated to sustainability— sustainability is in the DNA of each and every co-worker and at the core of everything they do. For instance, the finance team constantly thinks of ways to reduce paper usage by transitioning to digital processes. Operations team ensure that energy consumption must not exceed the annual energy saving target. When it comes to food waste measure and reduction, IKEA food team uses Waste Watcher, a tool that provides them with instant feedback on both the weight and cost of wasted food so that they can set baselines and create a goal for every year.



The same commitment and mindset extend to its third-party partners. To reduce carbon emission on product deliveries, IKEA is working closely with its logistics partner into investing in E-trucks, thereby encouraging its third party vendors to start small sustainable steps. For the in-store sewing service, the company partnered with Rags2Riches, a social enterprise that supports local artisans and aligns with the global retailer's zero waste goal.



Beyond technological innovations on sustainable operations, IKEA inspires and empowers its co-workers to practice small ways in which they can live sustainably every day. An annual health week encourages every co-worker to switch to a healthier lifestyle and improve one's well-being. Sustainability is a way of life at IKEA. It's part of the actions and decisions of every department and co-worker—who live and breathe sustainability. Not only do these efforts contribute to a better planet, they also add financial value to the business. The IKEA team realizes this and knows that the business can only continue to thrive through sustainability.





Startup for Sustainability 2022 Award

This will be awarded to a start-up company that has successfully developed sustainability and social impact initiatives through improving core business practices, through improving core business practices, driving innovations, and deepening partnerships.



Ampersand Design Think Lab (ADTL)

Ampersand Design Think Lab's (ADTL) focus on culture and sustainability served as the impetus to create its certified organic farm, With Meraki Forest Farm. The goal couldn't be more clear: to deliver accessible, seed-to-palate products and experiences with the "Live Better, Easier" program on local community-focused, holistic and balanced living with ESG impact through permaculture design, certified organic and natural farming with business models based on co-creation and shared values with smallholder farmers, micro-SME makers, export-oriented food companies, and certified agriculturist, nutritionist, food technologist and wellness coaches.



"A world believed to be Better By Design," ADTL's tagline connects all stakeholders towards a clear, consistent and meaningful With Meraki purpose as a place and platform conducive to self-healing through earth care, people care, fair share and future care through nature and the healing arts.



With the steady growth of smallholder farm cooperatives from the Cordillera, Vizcaya, Tagaytay, and Batangas areas by at least 20 percent annually since we started, farmer training and organization, consumer and corporate-focused "Live Better, Easier" lifestyle change programs and experiences continue to develop and increase visibility through content partnerships and marketing with private and public entities.



Alternative lifestyles as a counter-strategy and response to ESG or SDG-based material issues practiced on an individual level as personal governance has been a major challenge but also an opportunity for major impact based on a collective transformed mindset and behavior for positive sustainable change towards individual to national healing. The company is strategically positioned to be a platform of applied sustainable consumer lifestyle practices.



Verne: leading the Philippines' Energy Transition

Verne Energy Solutions

Verne Energy Solutions has been at the forefront of the Philippines' energy transition since being founded in 2018. Headquartered in Metro Manila, Verne designs, develops, and implements projects across the nation ranging from renewable integration to energy efficiency retrofits.

As global value chains begin to form and shift around new energy systems, Verne utilizes a boutique pool of technology providers, investors, and institutional partners to ensure that solutions are robust and perfectly suited to solve energy issues in the Philippine context. Verne's technology partners come from across the globe, from Italy and Slovenia to Singapore and Australia.

"We are honored to be recognized in this year's Europa Awards. The energy industry in the Philippines is at a critical juncture- the next few years may determine whether or not the country will successfully transition to a sustainable energy system or remain stuck in a fossil-based past. We at Verne will continue working to ensure that the Philippines will come out of this paradigm shift as winners," said Altomonte.

Verne recently launched a dedicated research arm in order to provide in-depth market insight to the energy industry and to key policymakers. Ranging from their annual Energy Outlook to specific reports on the electric vehicle industry, Verne aims to inform investors and developers of the continuously shifting landscape of sustainable energy.



John Altomonte, Verne's founder and CEO, is a leading energy expert in academia and a prominent sustainability practitioner. In December of 2021, John was awarded Negosyante News' inaugural annual award for innovative and breakthrough startups in the Philippines.



Sustainability Standards

Sustainability Standards Inc. was initially formed to award LGU's followed by NGO's and corporations, who had proven their Sustainability as per current government standards, as well as our own standards, linked to UN Zero Carbon, and we shall help them upgrade their levels of sustainability by using our Sustainability consultants moving forward. The LGU's will become the driving force in promoting sustainability throughout the country. We are now also supplying sustainable systems primarily energy, whether hydro, solar or wind.



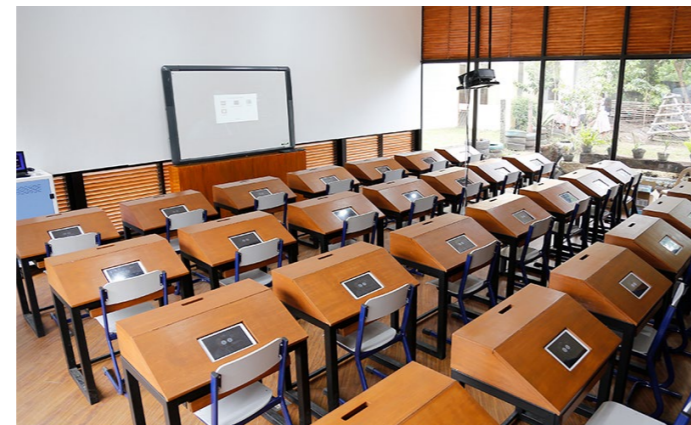
We have exclusivity for a number of exciting new products, including the exclusive rights to a kite based wind energy system from Germany, for South East Asia, but we shall start promoting this product in the Philippines, starting with resorts, and islands, where they are currently using diesel. We already have a short list of potential clients where we plan to install "try and buy" systems including mining companies as well.

The plan is to assemble and manufacture the kite based wind energy systems in the Philippines.

Next will be "waste to energy" projects, and we are even in discussions with a "clean" new nuclear alternative out of the UK.

Nico Leibenguth, a German energy engineer based in Lipa City, will head up the sustainable energy division.

Managed by German and British business men, as well as a seasoned Filipino management team that we are currently building.



We believe strongly that Sustainability Standards will lead the supply and support of SME based alternative energy systems in the Philippines, and later South East Asia, using a mixture of local and seasoned European professionals and local product engineers.

The Philippines can show the world that they can lead the way in supplying sustainable solutions, creating a safer, better way of living in the Philippines for all our people.





SGV's Climate Change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS)

SGV's Climate Change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS) Team, a specialized competency within the Assurance Financial Accounting Advisory Services (FAAS) sub-service line, helps clients address their needs in the sustainability, non-financial reporting advisory and assurance, climate change, and environment and health and safety (EHS) aspects of their business towards achieving long-term value and decarbonization. As a multidisciplinary team, CCaSS delivers the technical knowledge and guidance to help organizations assess and respond to environmental, societal and governance (ESG) issues. We support companies in their sustainability reporting journey, ranging from providing guidance in determining material sustainability issues, collecting and assessing relevant information for public disclosure and engaging with stakeholders, to developing a sustainability framework, strategies and plans to report in accordance with internationally recognized sustainability standards.

We offer third-party assurance to support the reliability of non-financial disclosures and provide access to innovative tools that aim to future-proof sustainability disclosures, strategies and initiatives. With a balance of skills and tailored services supported by global methodologies, we help businesses ensure regulatory compliance, build trust and maintain credibility among stakeholders, positioning them to create sustainable long-term value beyond the scope of their financials and operations.

The SGV CCaSS team also assists financial institutions in their journey towards incorporating sustainability in their investment and lending portfolios. We support issuers and investors in issuing green, social and other sustainability bonds to ensure that financing is provided to sustainable assets and operations that will benefit the environment and society. At the same time, the SGV CCaSS team also offers pre-issuance and post-issuance verifications of such bonds.

By providing guidance on mitigating the negative impacts of ESG issues and incorporating opportunities that arise during their sustainability journey, the SGV CCaSS team can help businesses recognize the benefits of understanding and evaluating their broader value impacts and outcomes beyond financial results and create long-term value for the company and its stakeholders.

In line with SGV's purpose in nurturing leaders and enabling businesses for a better Philippines, CCaSS' ambition to create long-term value for all stakeholders and mitigate the risks of disruptive climate change are the Firm's driving force towards the next big transformation. With SGV's increased focus to achieve sustainability and decarbonization in all aspects of the business, CCaSS is at the forefront of innovative solutions to carry out the Firm's sustainability targets and carbon negative ambition.



SNAP-Magat 15th Anniversary and BESS Launch

Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Alfonso G. Cusi led the 15th anniversary celebration of SN Aboitiz Power-Magat's (SNAP-Magat) and ground-breaking of its battery energy storage system (BESS) project on April 25, 2022 in Ramon, Isabela.

The hybrid event, which was also streamed online, was graced by Norway's Ambassador to the Philippines Bjorn Jahnsen, Isabela Governor Rodolfo Albano III, officials of AboitizPower and Scatec, and representatives from host local government units, and other stakeholders.

SNAP, a joint venture between Scatec of Norway and AboitizPower, recently secured the EPC contract and project financing for the 20-megawatt BESS project, which will be located within the Magat hydroelectric power plant in Ramon, Isabela.

In his keynote speech, Secretary Cusi congratulated SNAP-Magat on its 15th year and for the ground-breaking of its battery storage project. "What you are doing here is unprecedented in the energy industry," he said. "Having integrated renewable power sources from solar and hydro, show[s] how you maximize the use of resources efficiently." BESS, he added, would help the energy security and reliability of the country.

The energy secretary noted that 29% of the country's current energy mix comes from renewables and the agency would like to bring it up to 35% by 2030 or to 50% by 2040, as outlined in the Renewable Energy Roadmap. "What the government is doing is to really encourage investment in the different sectors," he said, citing sources such as geothermal, hydro, and offshore wind.

Ambassador Jahnsen said that in the Philippines, "RE is Norway's most important area of collaboration. Scatec, taking over from SN Power, represents Norway's largest investment in hydropower outside of Norway, and probably Norway's largest in Asia overall."

In a video message, Senator Win Gatchalian congratulated SNAP-Magat on 15 years of powering positive change. "Today, we stand as witness in a significant step forward in the renewable energy ambitions of the company and the country," he said. "Magat's BESS will serve as the country's model for future battery investment and hybrid renewable energy projects."

Rodolfo Indorte, Managing Director Philippines for Hitachi Energy, SNAP's EPC partner for the BESS project, said, "As the region propels towards economic growth, we see ourselves as partners in advancing a sustainable energy future for all. We are proud to be the partner of choice when it comes to innovative solutions needed to integrate renewables at scale, overcoming complexity and capacity issues, and help accelerate the energy transition."

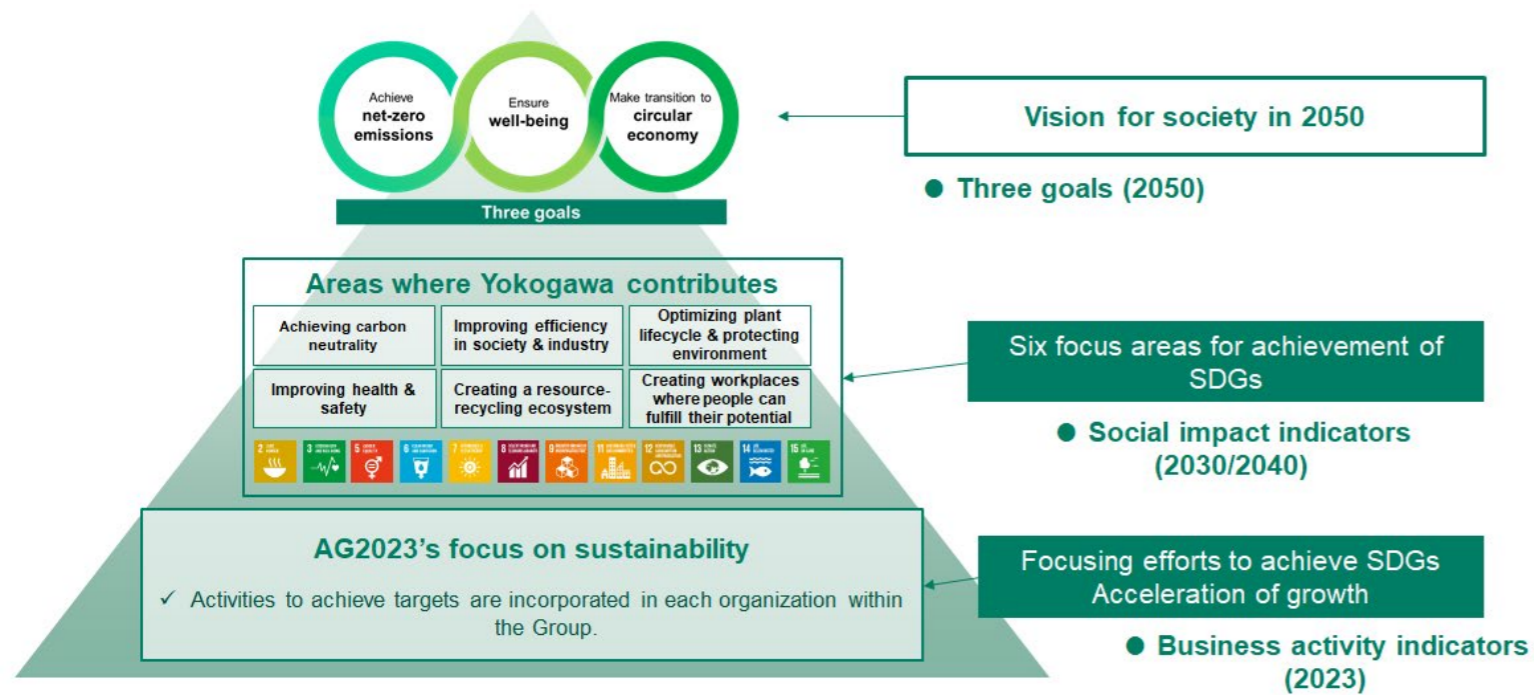
This was reinforced by SNAP President and CEO Joseph Yu. "There are new, innovative, and complementary technologies that will help facilitate the country's energy transition. This is where SNAP can once again contribute. We are excited and optimistic about the new paths [the Magat BESS project] opens up for us," he said.

The ground-breaking ceremony signals the start of the Magat BESS project's construction phase, which is targeted for commercial operation in the first quarter of 2024.

SNAP took over the ownership and operations of the Magat hydropower plant on April 26, 2007 following a successful bid under the government's privatization program. The facility, which has a nameplate capacity of 360 MW and maximum capacity of 388 MW, underwent half-life refurbishment in 2014. In 2017, the company inaugurated the 8.5 Maris hydro, and two years later, piloted the 200-KW floating solar on the Magat reservoir, its first non-hydro RE project.



On 25 February 2022 in Kyiv, Ukraine, a girl looks at the crater left by an explosion in front of an apartment building which was heavily damaged during escalating conflict.



What's next for our planet? Let's make it smarter.

Yokogawa

For well over 100 years now, Yokogawa has been motivated by more than the simple pursuit of business success. Our aim has been to make the world a better place. We will use our measurement, control, and information technologies to solve a variety of issues that concern us all and point the way forward to a future where all people can live in harmony with the Earth. Working with all stakeholders, we will take responsibility for ensuring a bright future for our planet.

Yokogawa's Purpose: Utilizing our ability to measure and connect, we fulfill our responsibilities for the future of our planet.

Yokogawa's Purpose expresses what gives us meaning as a company and serves as both a guidepost and a commitment to all. We measure things to precisely, identify their states, and create value through our power to connect information, organizations, and industries. These will always be our core



competencies. Through these, we make it possible for plants and infrastructure to operate safely and efficiently and facilitate cutting-edge R&D of solutions to issues that our society must address. In these ways, we are making our world more symbiotic, sustainable, and resilient.

A new story that weaves together people and the Earth

To help make this world in which we all can live sustainably, Yokogawa has set three goals for the year 2050 that call for net-zero emissions, well-being, and a circular economy. Based on these goals, we will play a leading role in providing solutions that reduce energy consumption, expand the use of renewable energy sources, ensure a stable supply of food and water, and enable the production of raw materials with a low environmental impact. By taking on these global challenges, we will create a better future for our planet.

THE UKRAINE CRISIS IS A CHILD RIGHTS CRISIS

UNICEF

What can business do for children and families?

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine poses an immediate threat to the lives and well-being of the country's 7.5 million children and is displacing a growing number of them from their homes. Children have been killed, wounded, uprooted and severely distressed by the escalating violence all around them. Hundreds of thousands of children and their families have been internally displaced and, to-date, over one million forced to flee the country in search of safety—the majority are women and children. Amongst those fleeing, many are unaccompanied children or have been separated from their parents or family members. As this crisis evolves, many more are expected to be displaced in the coming days and months.

The operating environment in Ukraine has become extremely complex, and humanitarian needs are rapidly multiplying both inside Ukraine and in refugee hosting countries. Access constraints, clashes, shelling and air strikes and rapidly changing front lines are affecting civilians and damaging civilian infrastructure, posing significant challenges to UNICEF and partners in delivering critical life-saving

services to vulnerable children and their communities. In response, UNICEF is scaling up its humanitarian response, with priority focus on child protection, health, WASH, nutrition, learning, cash interventions and social protection efforts.

UNICEF is also coordinating with refugee hosting countries to prepare and respond to the humanitarian needs emerging from population movements.

Given the scale of needs and complexity of the crisis, UNICEF calls on the global private sector community **to support our appeal for US \$624.2M for humanitarian response inside Ukraine and US \$324.7M appeal for its response in refugee-hosting countries.** Providing financial support is the most effective way in which business can enable the rapid provision of life-saving products and services for affected children and their families. If your company is interested in supporting UNICEF, please contact Ms. Beng Alcazar at ggalcazar@unicef.org



Reduce your emissions,
not your ambitions

Sustainability Pioneer: Growing the Green Shoots of Sustainability in the Philippines

ING Philippines

Just over three years ago, the first Peso-denominated ASEAN green bond was issued by RCBC, with ING acting as Sustainable Structuring Advisor and joint bookrunner. As part of this transaction, ING helped develop RCBC's Sustainable Finance Framework, which was the first in the Philippines to be aligned with the ASEAN Green and Sustainability Bond Standards 2018.

In the two years following the creation of this Framework, RCBC raised around US\$1.1 billion in green and sustainability bonds.

Indeed, sustainable finance is now no longer a nice to have, but an important consideration for companies looking to balance their books and yet minimise their carbon footprint.


A sustainability pioneer, ING launched the world's first sustainability-linked-loan back in 2017 to Dutch conglomerate Phillips. Then seen as an innovative product, SLLs incentivise companies to take concrete action to lower their own environmental impact by offering them more favourable loan terms if they meet ambitious, pre-agreed sustainability targets that are explicitly linked to the loan.

"Sustainability is at the heart of what we do, and we continue to press full steam ahead to partner like-minded companies so that we can protect the environment and create meaningful impact for communities," said Hans Sicut, country manager for ING Philippines.

Global green bond issuance crossed the US\$1 trillion-mark for the first-time last year, with growth trends for green debt on a similar trajectory in Asia. ING saw the number of sustainable deals it closed in the Asia Pacific double in 2021 compared to the year before.

This clearly demonstrates the potential for more to be done in the Philippines and in the region. The BSP has since launched its Sustainable Finance Framework and is encouraging more firms to go green.

With more than 30 years of history in the Philippines, ING remains well poised to support its clients looking to grow the green shoots of a more sustainable future.



Project SIBOL will launch with two pilot farms in the Isabela and Ifugao regions within 2022.

SIBOL Regenerates New-Found Hope For Corn Farmers in the Philippines

Syngenta Philippines, Inc.

A sustainable farming partnership by ASSIST and Syngenta Philippines aims to improve livelihoods and yields of over 20,000 farmers through soil health

Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST) and Syngenta Philippines, Inc. have announced an initiative to improve farmer livelihoods and yields through healthy soil. Project SIBOL will reach over 20,000 farmers to educate them on proper soil management and regenerative agriculture starting in the Cordilleras and Cagayan Valley, the top corn-producing region in the Philippines.

Corn is one of the most significant crops in the country but productivity in the region has been hampered by problems related to intensive farming practices, leading to significant soil erosion and degradation. Named after the Tagalog word for sprout, growth, or germinate, Project SIBOL aims to help farmers in Cagayan Valley and the Cordilleras improve productivity and double their corn yields within the next three years from current levels of four metric tons per hectare.

According to Ruby Eduarte, Business Sustainability Manager of Syngenta Philippines, Inc., "Farming should not only be profitable but sustainable as well, as the existence of our growing global population depends on it. The SIBOL project will bring better soil health, yield, and income to the farmers of Cagayan Valley, and for the Philippines, greater food security and climate resilience."

In addition to training farmers on climate-smart agricultural practices, the project aims to establish two model farms to showcase the benefits of adopting these sustainable

practices and Syngenta's innovative technology. The project's pilot phase will take place in Isabela and Ifugao, with plans to replicate this project in other corn-growing areas around the Philippines in the following years.

"As our population continues to grow, food scarcity and security are becoming an unavoidable problem. We believe that SIBOL not only addresses these issues but also helps our farmers boost agricultural productivity and yield in a sustainable manner while enhancing long-term soil health at the same time. Our farmers are faced with numerous challenges. They don't have to face these challenges alone," says Francis Macatulad, ASSIST's Executive Director.

"What distinguishes this project is the integration of multiple technologies. These technologies can help ensure that the lands remain productive and can assist many farmers in improving their livelihoods. We're all here to provide farmers with a better future through technology," added Allan Nieves, Head of Agronomy & Field Crops, Syngenta Philippines Inc.

Project SIBOL is created with the assistance of Ifugao State University; Isabela State University; Municipal Agricultural Office, and local government units.

75% of all croplands in the Philippines are vulnerable to soil erosion. This has impacted the country's corn farming sector, with erosion driving a decline in corn productivity by 80% over the last 25 years¹. Soil is also a key nature-based climate solution. Soil stores around 80% of carbon in terrestrial ecosystems, about two to three times more carbon than is in the atmosphere².

1 Bureau of Soils and Water Management and Department of Environment and Natural Resources
2 Ontl, T. A. & Schulte, L. A. (2012) Soil Carbon Storage. Nature Education Knowledge 3(10):35



Republic Cement CEO Roman Menz and Bulacan Plant Manager Rogelio Leonardo participate in the tree-planting activity.

Republic Cement, Colgate-Palmolive Philippines Renew Partnership in the Fight Against Plastic Pollution

Republic Cement

Norzagaray, BULACAN – Republic Cement, a leading construction solutions provider in the Philippines, and Colgate-Palmolive Philippines, a personal health and hygiene products company, renewed their partnership that aims to alleviate the pervasive plastic waste problem in the country.

The Philippines is one of the biggest contributors of marine plastic pollution, generating a staggering 2.7 million tons of plastic waste each year. Colgate-Palmolive Philippines' partnership with Republic Cement is a step towards addressing the plastic waste crisis, which also aligns with Republic Cement's commitment to environmental protection and sustainability.

Having worked together since signing the first Memorandum of Agreement in December 2020, both companies pledged to continue their partnership through **ecoloop** last March 23, 2022 at an event at Republic Cement's Bulacan Plant. **ecoloop** is Republic's resource recovery arm, which co-processes plastic waste and diverts it from landfills and waterways. "Colgate-Palmolive Philippines is committed to contribute to the betterment of the environment," said Colgate-Palmolive Philippines President and General Manager Arvind Sachdev. "We are very proud to be part of this system and part of the solution and are happy to have found such a strong partnership with Colgate-Palmolive Philippines," said

Republic Cement CEO Roman Menz. Republic Cement has been at the forefront of innovative waste management for nearly two decades. As the pioneer of co-processing in the Philippines, Republic Cement has the expertise and equipment for managing pre- and post-consumer waste.

Through **ecoloop**, the recovery of thermal and mineral properties of qualified waste materials and the manufacture of cement are combined in a single operation. This involves

using plastic waste as an alternative fuel, thereby also cutting down the reliance on fossil fuels like coal. Moreover, the co-processing method completely breaks down the organic molecules in the waste materials, thus reducing carbon emissions. Any by-product, such as ash, is fully integrated into the production of clinker, which is a key ingredient of cement. Thus, co-processing completely closes the lifecycle loop of plastic waste, preventing them from being leaked back into the environment in any way, whether through land, water, or air.

With a license issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Republic Cement is fully capable and authorized to use and dispose of qualified waste through the co-processing method. Republic Cement understands its environmental responsibility and is careful to operate in compliance with DENR standard. rther bolster their partnership, the two companies participated in a ceremonial tree planting activity. The renewed agreement signifies both companies' dedication to creating a healthier and more sustainable environment for future generations.

Through this partnership with Colgate-Palmolive Philippines, Republic Cement strives ever more earnestly towards building a greener, Stronger Republic.

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SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERS



