



USAID | PHILIPPINES

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Partners in the Philippines' Development
*Working toward a more stable, inclusive, resilient,
and well-governed Philippines*

JULY 2024



Cover photo: A woman showcases her freshly caught fish from the waters of Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape. USAID works with local government units, environmental offices, and communities to protect and conserve marine resources in this protected area. (Photo credit: Blue Motus for USAID)



WHO WE ARE

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) leads the U.S. government's international development and humanitarian efforts to save lives, reduce poverty, strengthen democratic governance, and help people progress beyond assistance.

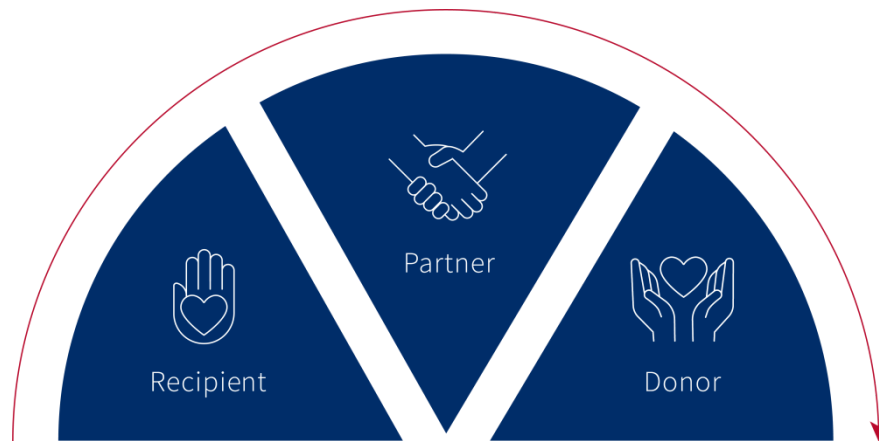
USAID has a long-standing history and reputation of partnering with countries around the world to implement long-term development efforts and working together with individuals, communities, and countries to improve everyday lives. For more than 60 years, USAID has exemplified the best of American values abroad—while advancing the safety and prosperity of Americans at home.

U.S. foreign assistance has always had the twofold purpose of furthering America's interests while improving lives in the developing world. USAID carries out U.S. foreign policy by promoting broad-scale human progress at the same time it expands stable, free societies, creates markets and trade partners for the United States, and fosters good will abroad.

USAID works in over 100 countries to:

- Promote global health;
- Support global stability;
- Strengthen good governance;
- Drive inclusive economic growth;
- Provide humanitarian assistance;
- Boost environmental resilience;
- Educate and train children and youth;
- Catalyze innovation and partnership; and
- Empower women, girls, and people with disabilities.

WHAT WE DO



USAID transforms. It transforms families, communities, and countries – so they can thrive and prosper. Whether by preventing the next global epidemic, responding to a devastating earthquake, or helping a farmer access tools to grow her business.

USAID is the world's premier international development agency and a catalytic actor driving development results. USAID's work advances U.S. national security and economic prosperity, demonstrates American generosity, and promotes a path to recipient self-reliance and resilience.

The purpose of foreign aid should be ending the need for its existence, and we provide development assistance to help partner countries on their own development journey to self-reliance – looking at ways to help lift lives, build communities, and establish self-sufficiency. Our efforts are both from and for the American people.

USAID demonstrates America's good will around the world; increases global stability by addressing the root causes of violence; opens new markets and generates opportunity for trade; creates innovative solutions for once unsolvable development challenges; saves lives; improves human capital; and advances democracy, governance, and peace. Central to these efforts, USAID's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion principles ensure that all individuals, regardless of gender or background, are empowered to participate fully in development and prosperity, fostering inclusive growth and sustainable progress.

COUNTRY PROFILE

A long-time ally of the United States and the oldest democracy in Southeast Asia, the Philippines is a key partner in promoting resilient and inclusive development in the Indo-Pacific. For more than 60 years, the U.S. government, through USAID, has worked with the Philippine government and local organizations to achieve shared development goals. Since 1961, USAID has invested nearly 290 billion pesos to support Philippine development priorities.

An archipelago of more than 7,500 islands, the Philippines spans three geographical areas — Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. The United States partners with the Philippines to drive inclusive and sustainable economic growth, foster strong democratic systems, uphold human rights, support quality health and education systems, promote responsible natural resource management, and enhance resilience for communities and the environment.

Focusing on strengthening economic growth, democratic governance, health, education, and environmental resilience, USAID partners with national and local governments, the private sector, civil society organizations, academia, and communities to advance sustainable, inclusive development while advancing the vision of a free and open, connected, prosperous, secure, and resilient Indo-Pacific.

USAID/PHILIPPINES

- Manages investments of approximately \$100 million annually
- Takes seriously its stewardship of these resources and reports regularly to the U.S. Congress and the U.S. administration
- Has over 100 staff of business professionals, doctors, lawyers, accountants, and other experts in the fields of governance, management, economics, environment, education, health, communications, gender equality and social inclusion, and monitoring and evaluation
- Designs projects that are inclusive, relevant to local conditions, and timely
- Conducts regular evaluations, audits, and on-site monitoring of all its investments
- Has the stature to convene meetings with bilateral and multilateral donor organizations
- Works in partnership with the government, private sector, and citizens of the Philippines
- Excels in cooperation with international and domestic partners
- Actively forges partnerships with the businesses, higher education institutions, and civil society organizations.

Economic Development and Governance

While the Philippines has emerged as one of the fastest growing economies in the region, many Filipinos are being left behind. USAID promotes inclusive economic growth and encourages investment by promoting reforms that create a favorable environment for private enterprise to thrive. This includes efforts to reduce regulatory bottlenecks and barriers to greater trade and investment; improve the environment for competition; enhance Philippine competitiveness; and support the digital transformation of the Philippine economy. USAID also partners with urban centers outside of Metro Manila to help them become engines of sustainable, resilient economic growth.



In addition, USAID collaborates closely with the Philippine government and civil society to uphold shared democratic values. Together, the U.S. and the Philippines work to strengthen local and participatory governance, reduce corruption, increase political participation, support the conduct of free and fair elections, enhance civic engagement and youth leadership, and expand access to justice. To promote peace and stability in Mindanao, USAID strengthens government institutions, supports policy development and reforms, and fosters engagement with civil society organizations to promote inclusive participation in the Bangsamoro transition. USAID also enhances the capacity of local organizations to provide assistance in the critical areas of trafficking in persons, food security, and disaster relief.

Health

The Government of the Philippines faces key challenges in its health sector that impede its ability to provide quality, accessible, and equitable healthcare to the over 100 million Filipinos living in the country. These challenges include global health crises and natural disasters, weak health systems performance, and gaps in the continuum of care. Underserved populations continue to suffer from a high prevalence of tuberculosis (TB)—including multidrug-resistant TB; a concentrated HIV epidemic; rising infectious disease outbreaks— including measles, dengue, and zoonotic diseases; high unmet need for family planning; high teenage pregnancy rates; and preventable maternal and newborn deaths. Out-of-pocket expenditure still accounts for a significant proportion of health spending, putting Filipino families at risk for impoverishment when accessing health services. Cross-cutting issues like gender inequality and the impact of climate change also affect people's access to quality healthcare.



To address these challenges, USAID works with government partners to strengthen health systems, promote positive social norms and behaviors, and improve the quality of primary health care. USAID also supports national and local governments in implementing the Universal Health Care Law by enhancing health leadership and governance, training healthcare workers, safeguarding the rights and welfare of community health workers, and establishing health care provider networks. In collaboration with the Department of Health, USAID integrates mental health services into primary care and ensures that gender equality and social inclusion are embedded in all aspects of healthcare delivery. USAID also focuses on strengthening public financial management, improving supply chain management, refining health information systems, and expanding coverage of quality health services. This comprehensive approach aims to build resilient health systems that can improve health outcomes for all Filipinos.

Environment

Millions of Filipinos rely on agriculture, forestry, and fisheries for their livelihoods, but frequent natural disasters, ineffective management, and lapses in environmental law enforcement threaten these critical natural resources. Water and air pollution levels exceed generally accepted health standards, and greenhouse gas emissions are increasing from rapid urbanization, land conversion, mismanaged plastic waste, and increased demands on the transport and power sectors. These drivers, coupled with the country's location in the Pacific, make the Philippines consistently rank as one of the world's most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters.



The U.S. government has a strong, decades-long partnership with the government of the Philippines on environmental conservation. Through USAID, the United States partners with the Philippines to protect the Philippines' vast natural resources, promote water and energy security, support the country's low carbon transition, combat illegal and exploitative fishing practices, and reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts and natural disasters.

Education

To support inclusive growth, USAID works with partners to improve the quality of basic education, technical vocational education and training, and higher education across the country for children and youth, including learners with disabilities.

In basic education, USAID invests in the next generation's foundational early-grade reading and math skills and supports inclusive education for deaf, blind, and deafblind learners. USAID also strengthens



education governance at the local level and is a major partner of the national government through the Department of Education.

USAID actively provides education, economic, and leadership opportunities to youth, including vulnerable out-of-school youth. USAID is also strengthening systems and the capacity of stakeholders such as national government agencies, local governments, civil society, universities, and the private sector to deliver education and training so that out-of-school youth may return to school, join the workforce, or start their own businesses. Through industry partnerships, USAID is providing unemployed youth with work-based training opportunities that can lead to quality jobs, and training workers to meet the rapidly evolving advanced manufacturing sector. In higher education, USAID is working with U.S. universities and industry to strengthen the capacity of local higher education institutions in their workforce development, research and innovation, and community development missions.

Humanitarian Assistance

Situated along the Western Pacific tropical storm region and the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines is among the most disaster-prone countries in the world. An average of 20 cyclones affect the country each year, triggering floods, landslides, and storm surges that frequently result in the loss of houses and other infrastructure, lives, and livelihoods. Located between two major fault lines and with more than 20 active volcanoes, the Philippines also experiences high levels of seismic and volcanic activity.



USAID supports robust capacity building and disaster risk reduction programs that coordinate with the Philippine government, local communities, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations to help vulnerable populations prepare for and respond to disasters, while addressing the long-term needs of at-risk communities. USAID also funds rapid emergency responses to natural disasters that address the humanitarian needs of people affected by sudden-onset events, such as Super Typhoon Rai (locally known as Odette). USAID support is critical in helping the Philippines to further develop its preparedness and capacity to deliver timely and effective assistance, as climate change exacerbates natural hazards facing the country.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE



Accelerate Women's Entrepreneurship for Peace and Prosperity in Mindanao (ACCELERATE)

Implementation Period: August 2020 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: The Asia Foundation

Total Estimated Investment: \$2.5 million

Geographic scope: Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

Despite the presence of conflict in BARMM, an increasing number of women are establishing successful businesses and micro-enterprises, particularly in agriculture, food production, textiles, brassware production, and other handicrafts. On top of the conflict, these businesses face challenges such as access to finance and markets, scaling-up, and networking. However, only a few policies or programs are designed to support women's economic development in the Bangsamoro. ACCELERATE aims to help strengthen peace and stability in BARMM by accelerating women's economic empowerment in the region. The project works to measure women's economic participation and entrepreneurship in Bangsamoro; empower women to succeed in the workforce and women entrepreneurs to launch and grow businesses; support women entrepreneurs and business leaders to build connections and access new markets; and improve the enabling environment for women's entrepreneurship and economic opportunities

Better Access and Connectivity (BEACON)

Implementation Period: June 2021 – June 2026

Implementing Partner: Nathan Associates

Total estimated Investment: \$33.3 million

Geographic Scope: Nationwide

Building the country's information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure is fundamental to improving its competitiveness for trade and investment, which would increase employment and income generation. Working with government and private sector partners, BEACON is improving the quality of ICT infrastructure; enhancing the enabling environment and regulatory governance for greater ICT investment; and strengthening cybersecurity protection. By addressing gaps in internet access and connectivity, BEACON hopes to reduce the cost of doing

business, improve productivity of private enterprise, and increase the benefits of the digital economy. Improvements in digital infrastructure will also enable the efficient delivery of public services, connect the underserved and remote regions, and expand economic opportunity.

Cities for Enhanced Engagement and Governance (CHANGE)

Implementation Period: July 2021 – June 2026

Implementing Partner: International City/County Management Association (ICMA)

Total Estimated Investment: \$15 million

Geographic scope: USAID Cities Development Initiative (CDI) sites – Batangas, Cagayan de Oro, General Santos, Iloilo, Legazpi, Puerto Princesa, Tagbilaran, Zamboanga, Tacloban, San Fernando, Tagum, Masbate, Himamaylan, Tanjay, Bais and Victorias

CHANGE supports strengthened democratic governance in the Philippines by making local governance more responsive. Working with CDI partner cities, the project seeks to achieve more responsive local governance by strengthening the enabling environment for decentralization; enhancing service delivery capacity, legitimacy, transparency, and accountability; and empowering citizens by increasing their participation in and oversight of local governance processes.

Democratic Governance Support to the Bangsamoro Transition (FORWARD Bangsamoro)

Implementation Period: October 2019 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: The Asia Foundation

Total Estimated Investment: \$4 million

Geographic scope: BARMM

In July 2018, the Philippine government ratified the Bangsamoro Organic Law, which established the BARMM. The six-year transition period is crucial to both the Bangsamoro and the Philippines to bolster local governance and nurture economic growth. USAID, in partnership with The Asia Foundation, works closely with key regional government institutions to improve their overall capacity; provide technical assistance on priority legislation and policy measures; and encourage community engagement with the BARMM and Bangsamoro Transition Authority. USAID assistance helps citizens of the Bangsamoro build a more effective and accountable government that is well-positioned to advance peace, security, and inclusive economic growth in the region.

Development Credit Authority Loan Portfolio Guarantee for 1st Valley Bank

Implementing Period: September 2018 – September 2028

Implementing Partner: 1st Valley Bank (1VB)

Total Estimated Investment: \$401,800

Geographic Scope: Mindanao

The Development Credit Authority (DCA) Loan Portfolio Guarantee for 1VB is structured to encourage lending to domestic, commercial businesses, predominantly small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME), in Mindanao – including Marawi and surrounding areas. This portfolio guarantee supports inclusive growth and employment across priority agribusiness sectors,

including agricultural supply chains and rural SMEs, while also promoting peace and stability in conflict-affected areas in Mindanao. Under this activity, DCA funds are used to provide up to 50 percent guarantee cover to potential net principal loss on qualified loans while 1VB uses its own funds to finance loans to qualifying borrowers in the target regions.

Greening Agri-Food Value Chains through Carbon-Based Inputs for Agriculture and Waste Recovery in Caraga Region, Mindanao (Greening CARAGA)

Implementation Period: October 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: Foundation for Rural Enterprise and Ecology Development of Mindanao

Total Estimated Investment: \$637,081

Geographic scope: CARAGA Region

The Greening CARAGA project supports pollution reduction and resource-efficient processes in agri-food value chains in the region, contributing to a greener economy and poverty reduction in the Philippines. To reduce waste in agricultural value chains and create economic opportunities for vulnerable communities in CARAGA, the activity promotes the use of carbon-based inputs (CBI) such as biochars, biofertilizers, and biopesticides that are produced from agricultural waste like rice husks and other agricultural crops. The project also develops the supply chain and business model for CBI to expand the market and demand for CBIs as a viable and greener alternative to traditional fertilizer.

Initiative for Advancing Community Transformation (I-ACT)

Implementation Period: July 2019 – Nov 2025

Implementing Partner: The Asia Foundation (TAF)

Total Estimated Investment: \$7,980,500

Geographic scope: Central Luzon, CALABARZON, Western Visayas, Central Visayas, Northern Mindanao

Founded on the Philippines' and the United States' shared democratic values, including respect for human rights, USAID, TAF, and other partners support over 150 local civil society organizations in using behavior science approaches for civic engagement. Collaborating with non-traditional democracy partners such as IT organizations and communications firms, I-ACT analyzed rights knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors to develop hope-based messages that can inspire digital communities to seek, affirm, and claim human rights. I-ACT is a partner of four major human rights coalitions in the Philippines: the Philippine Alliance for Human Rights Advocates, the Alternative Law Groups, Child Rights Network, and iDEFEND.

Initiative for Media Freedom

Implementing Period: July 2019 – November 2024

Implementing Partner: Internews

Total Estimated Investment: \$7.7 million

Geographic Scope: National level

The Initiative for Media Freedom aims to support an independent and free press, counter disinformation, promote political inclusion, and enhance democratic governance in the Philippines. In partnership with respected and credible organizations from media, civil society, and academia, the Initiative for Media Freedom implements activities organized along three objectives to 1) improve the environment for a free press; 2) bolster capacity of media and other organizations to address disinformation; 3) strengthen self-regulation of the media sector.

Local Works – Impact Pioneers: The Philippines’ First Impact Investment Network Activity

Implementation Period: August 2021 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: Villgro Philippines

Total Estimated Investment: \$500,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

Impact Pioneers supports a local private company to establish the first impact investor network in the country, seeking to bridge the “missing middle” lack of early-stage risk capital for impact enterprises. The activity will bridge gaps in financing by creating a strong pool of impact investors and unlocking local catalytic capital. The network also aims to address the gender financing gap in the Philippines.

Localworks – Rural-Urban Market Link: Establishing a Mechanism to Promote Inclusive Livelihood for the Marginalized Poor Activity (RUML)

Implementation Period: October 2022 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: Global Organic and Wellness Corporation (GLOWCorp)

Total Estimated Investment: \$1 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

RUML strengthens market linkages between rural producers and urban consumers to help increase farmer income and agricultural productivity while contributing to a more steady supply of safe, nutritious, and affordable food for urban communities. Project activities include establishing a functional market mechanism called People’s Business Center (PBC); providing steady supply of safe and nutritious agricultural products from small-scale rural producers who are expected to obtain fairer prices due to price incentive scheme of the PBC; establishing different market segments that interact effectively with the organized rural suppliers, and in the process generating livelihood opportunities within the value chain; and developing an integrated digital platform to facilitate data management necessary in the different stages of the value chain operations.

Philippines Performance Audit Partnership (PPAP)

Implementing Period: November 2018 –May 2026

Implementing Partner: U.S. Government Accountability Office

Total Estimated Investment: \$1.5 million

Geographic Scope: National level

Performance audits are effective tools for assessing the intended development results of public investments. USAID partners with the Center for Audit Excellence of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), a world leader in performance audit, to bolster the capacity of the Philippine Commission on Audit (COA). GAO experts upskills COA auditors in GAO-style performance audit and advises COA leadership in implementing organizational changes to institutionalize the audit model.

Political Participation for Greater Electoral Integrity (PARTICIPATE)

Implementing Period: August 2020 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: Ateneo de Manila University

Total Estimated Investment: \$4 million

Geographic Scope: Nation-wide with a special focus on BARMM

PARTICIPATE builds capacity for civil society oversight of elections, supports the improvement of voter registration and turn-out, particularly among youth, and enhances voter education and access to reliable information over digital and social media. Critically, PARTICIPATE also engages civil society and government and political leaders in support of the historic first election taking place under the newly formed Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Additionally, PARTICIPATE supports political and electoral policy reform in campaign and political finance, voter education and registration, and automation technology adoption, among others.

Regulatory Reform Support Program for National Development (RESPOND)

Implementation Period: April 2019 – April 2027

Implementing Partner: University of the Philippines Public Administration Research and Extension Services Foundation, Inc.

Total Estimated Investment: \$16 million

Geographic scope: National level

The Philippines faces critical challenges to attracting and facilitating trade and investment, including the quality of utilities and infrastructure, high entry barriers for new economic players, and complex processes to start and operate businesses. RESPOND improves regulatory quality to enhance competitiveness, and ultimately contributes to higher levels of investment and trade, inclusive growth, and self-reliance. RESPOND pursues interventions that enhance market competition and strengthen regulatory capacity and governance. To advance market competition, RESPOND supports reforms that reduce barriers to entry and reduce regulatory burdens and transaction costs for business. To strengthen the capacity of public officials to develop and implement quality regulations, RESPOND extends technical assistance that strengthens regulatory oversight, transparency, and accountability mechanisms. As a

cross-cutting objective, RESPOND expands citizen engagement and the participation of civil society organizations to advocate for fair and open regulations and a better business environment.

Strengthening Private Enterprise for the Digital Economy (SPEED)

Implementation Period: July 2022 – July 2026

Implementing Partner: Chemonics International

Total Estimated Investment: \$18 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

SPEED advances the participation of Philippines small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the digital economy. The project collaborates with the government and private sector, including chamber and industry associations, to mobilize and maximize available resources in the digital economy for enterprise-led economic growth. SPEED supports initiatives that promote the use of digital technologies to accelerate competitiveness, drive innovation, fuel job opportunities, and enhance the market reach of enterprises. SPEED has four objectives: improve SME capacity and access to e-commerce platforms; expand and increase the use of e-payment systems and other financial technology innovations; improve the integration of e-commerce platforms with logistical supply chains; and increase consumer awareness and protection.

Strengthening Local Systems and Partnerships for More Effective and Sustainable Counter-Trafficking in Persons in the Philippines (Strength CTIP-P)

Implementation Period: October 2019 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: Partnership for Development Assistance in the Philippines (PDAP)

Total Estimated Investment: \$5 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

The Philippines maintained the Tier 1 ranking in the 2023 U.S. Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report, having fully met the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and for demonstrating serious continued and sustained efforts in combating trafficking in persons. However, gaps in prosecuting traffickers and ensuring the availability of specialized protection and providing assistance and reintegration services to victim-survivors remained an issue. Strength CTIP-P strengthens the local system that prevents and responds to trafficking in persons and consequently reduces vulnerability at the community level. The project partners with the national Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) and its member government agencies, its counterpart councils at the local level, civil sector organizations, and the private sector. The project ensures a holistic approach by applying the four pillars of the U.S. government counter-trafficking strategy - prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership.

Trade Capacity Building and Technical Assistance III (Interagency Agreement)

Implementation Period: September 2022 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: USAID – Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

Total Estimated Investment: \$500,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

This project supports the U.S. Federal Trade Commission’s partnership with the Philippine government to promote and enforce competition law and policy. FTC assists in building the capacity of the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC), particularly with respect to regulations on mergers and acquisition and antitrust. FTC trains PCC staff on drafting and implementing regulations, conducting investigations, setting up review and notification processes, and building up cases. It supports the Philippine Department of Justice and the courts on competition law by training prosecutors and judges on jurisprudence on competition law.

Transforming Rural Agricultural Norms for a Sustainable Mindanao (TRANSFORM)

Implementation Period: October 2022 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: Kennemer Foods International

Total Estimated Investment: \$934,285

Geographic scope: Select areas of Mindanao

TRANSFORM supports rural communities in Mindanao to become resilient with sustainable livelihoods and enhanced ecosystems. The project builds partnerships among national and local governments, farmer communities, peoples’ organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to advance agroforestry, reforestation, and forest and biodiversity conservation activities toward carbon certification. TRANSFORM also supports reforestation and forest conservation activities that benefit sustained community livelihoods and conservation. In addition, it helps build the capacity of institutions to support environmental reforestation and forest protection.

Urban Connect

Implementation Period: August 2023 – July 2028

Implementing Partner: WSP USA Solutions, Inc.

Total Estimated Investment: \$11 million

Geographic scope: Cities of Batangas, Puerto Princesa, Legazpi, Iloilo, Tagbilaran, Tacloban, Cagayan de Oro, Zamboanga and General Santos (may expand to 2-3 cities in succeeding years)

Urban Connect supports secondary cities to become better governed and resilient growth hubs in order to disperse economic opportunity and improve quality of life outside of Metro Manila and other high-density areas. To advance local economic development, the project improves the local regulatory environment for private investment and enterprise growth and strengthens inter-local government units coordination and connectivity. To improve public service delivery, Urban Connect strengthens public financial management; advances e-government solutions; and improves delivery of health and education services. The project also engages the private sector, promotes resilience, and ensures gender and social inclusion.

Youth Leadership for Democracy (YouthLed)

Implementation Period: August 2020 – July 2025

Implementing Partner: The Asia Foundation

Total Estimated Investment: \$11.9 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide with special focus in Metro Manila, Cagayan de Oro, Zamboanga, General Santos, Iloilo, Tagbilaran, Puerto Princesa, Legazpi and BARMM

Despite the acknowledged role of the youth and their potential contribution to good governance, they are under-represented in civic engagement and electoral exercises, where almost a third of registered youth voters failed to participate in the recent elections. There is little, if any, evidence that civic education in the Philippines has a concrete impact on youth political participation. Nevertheless, youth have tremendous potential to significantly influence democratic governance in the Philippines. YouthLed supports the growth of empowered, autonomous youth constituencies around issues that youth see as priorities, while amplifying the voices of young women and men in local and national political arenas. This issue-based approach will anchor leadership development, coalition-building, and civic education and engagement activities in contexts that are relevant to youth while supporting their meaningful participation in democratic governance and local and national elections.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

EDUCATION



ABC+ (Advancing Basic Education in the Philippines)

Implementation Period: July 2019 – June 2026

Implementing Partner: RTI International

Total Estimated Investment: \$47,500,000

Geographic scope: (Region 5) Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon, Naga City, (Region 6) Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Guimaras, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Bacolod City, Iloilo City, (BARMM) Maguindanao, Cotabato City, and Special Geographic Areas in Cotabato Province, (Region 4B) Puerto Princesa City, Occidental Mindoro, (Region 12) South Cotabato, Sarangani, General Santos City, (CAR) Baguio City, (NCR) Malabon City, Pasig City, Marikina City

Improving education outcomes for all children and youth remains a core challenge for the Philippine basic education system. At the root of the problem are the poor reading and math skills of many Filipino students, particularly in the early grades. The ABC+ project helps the Department of Education and education stakeholders to address the interconnected factors that contribute to low education outcomes in the poorest performing areas of the Philippines. This project identifies innovative and sustainable ideas to address the continuing challenges in literacy, numeracy and socio-emotional learning for children in the Philippines, with a particular focus on systems strengthening.

Advanced Manufacturing Workforce Development Alliance (AMDev)

Implementation Period: August 2022 – July 2027

Implementing Partner: UNILAB Foundation, Inc.

Total Estimated Investment: \$10.5 million (US\$5.2 million USAID and US\$5.3 million private sector leverage)

Geographic Scope: Metro Manila, Laguna, Batangas, Bataan, Pampanga and Cebu

AMDev seeks to create a highly skilled and adaptive workforce to meet the evolving requirements of the advanced manufacturing sector through better-defined, harmonized skills and qualifications descriptors, competencies, and training standards. The alliance also aims to contribute to the national discourse and policies on strategic human resources for the Philippines

as it attains high-middle income status, shapes businesses to be more internationally competitive, and positions youth to thrive in Industry 4.0.

Gabay (Strengthening Inclusive Education for Blind, Deaf and Deafblind Children)

Implementation Period: July 2019 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: Resources for the Blind

Total Estimated Investment: \$2.7 million

Geographic scope: Batangas City, Batangas Province, Sorsogon City, Sorsogon Province, Maasin City, Southern Leyte Province, Tanauan Leyte, Bacacay Albay, Los Banos Laguna

The Advisory Council for the Education of Children and Youth with Disabilities estimates that two million children have disabilities in the Philippines. Ninety-five percent of those children are not in school. Gabay strengthens the access of deaf, blind and deafblind children to quality education. Through Gabay, USAID enhances screening and referral systems for children with disabilities to appropriate schools and healthcare providers; trains teachers and parents in inclusive education strategies, provides assistive devices to community resource centers, and strengthens the capacity of disabled people’s organizations and parents to engage local governments for better targeted support for learners with disabilities. Innovations introduced by Gabay include strengthening and piloting a Filipino sign language curriculum, a Filipino sign language dictionary, and the Early Grade Reading Assessment for deaf and hard-of-hearing learners.

Improving Learning Outcomes for the Philippines (ILO-PH)

Implementation Period: August 2023 – September 2027

Implementing Partner: RTI International

Total Estimated Investment: \$5 million

Geographic scope: National Capital Region

As part of the broader Improving Learning Outcomes for Asia (ILOA) project, Improving Learning Outcomes for the Philippines (buy-in) supports a range of education programming, including early childhood education, basic and secondary education, youth and workforce development, and higher education. The project aims to provide responsive, on-demand technical assistance and support to the education sector through ongoing consultations and activity implementation with the Department of Education (DepEd). Through this partnership, USAID helps boost DepEd’s capacity in conducting and analyzing large-scale educational assessments. This includes technical assistance in the development of ‘online dashboards’ that track and measure the progress of Filipino learners through standardized tests, making education data more accessible to policymakers and other stakeholders. More broadly, USAID provides regular consultations and training to DepEd personnel in charge of developing the agency’s comprehensive learner assessment framework. ILO-Ph also aids DepEd in policy-relevant research and measuring learning recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, helping Filipino educators enhance their teaching methods and positively impact learning outcomes.

Opportunity 2.0: Improving Second Chance Opportunities for Out-of-school Youth in the Philippines

Implementation Period: March 2020 – February 2025

Implementing Partner: Education Development Center (EDC)

Total Estimated Investment: \$37.5 million

Geographic scope: Quezon City; Pasig City; Valenzuela City; Angeles City; Legazpi City; Cagayan de Oro; Davao; Iligan City; Zamboanga City; Iloilo City; Isabela City; Cotabato City; General Santos; Tagbilaran and Cebu

Over three million Filipinos aged 16-24 are currently not enrolled in school, not gainfully employed, or have not finished college or post-secondary education. More than half of these are in the bottom 30 percent based on their per capita income and are therefore doubly disadvantaged by their lack of education and their poverty. Opportunity 2.0 strengthens national and local systems to provide youth with education and skills training so they can return to formal schooling, seek employment, or become entrepreneurs by enhancing links between education institutions, markets, local communities, and the various programs that support them. Working with more than 60 private sector partners, the activity aims to provide over 180,000 youth with the skills and opportunities to improve their education, employment and livelihood outcomes across the Philippines.

U.S.-Philippines Partnership for Skills, Innovation and Lifelong Learning (UPSKILL) Project

Implementation Period: August 2023 – July 2028

Implementing Partner: RTI International

Total Estimated Investment: \$30 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

UPSKILL works with the government, industry, and academia, including U.S. universities, to strengthen the higher education, innovation, and workforce development systems that support broad-based and inclusive growth. To achieve this goal, the project strengthens the capacity of higher education institutions in innovation and entrepreneurship through faculty and staff training, improving curriculums, and increasing and improving community extension and technology transfer activities. It also supports higher education institutions' ability to provide relevant education and skills training for industry needs by establishing partnerships to connect academia and industries for structured work-based learning experiences for students, faculty engagement in industry, and similar activities. In addition, UPSKILL supports improving higher education governance structures at the institutional and systems levels and creates convergence around shared development goals.

YouthWorks PH

Implementation Period: June 2018 – September 2026

Implementing Partner: Philippine Business for Education

Total Estimated Investment: \$42 million (US\$8.8 million USAID and US\$33.2 million private sector leverage)

Geographic scope: Greater Manila Area, Cebu City, Bohol, Cagayan De Oro City, Iligan City, Zamboanga City, General Santos City, Sarangani, South Cotabato, Bukidnon, Benguet, Pangasinan, La Union and Clark City

With over 50 percent of its population under 30 years of age, the Philippine “youth bulge” is both a tremendous challenge and a great opportunity. However, despite the rapid gains in the Philippine economy, one in four young people aged 16 to 24 are not in education, employment or training, with youth accounting for almost half of the unemployed. Additionally, more than a third of the country's unemployed youth have at least some level of college education. This indicates a major mismatch between education and job opportunities. YouthWorks PH is an eight-year partnership between USAID and the Philippine Business for Education that engages and mobilizes the private sector to address the education needs of youth, as well as the skills requirements of employers. The project improves access to training and provides employment opportunities for 5,000 youth through an innovative and flexible work-based training approach. This approach allows youth to earn a competency certificate from the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, while working in partner companies.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

HEALTH



BARMM Resilience Activity

Implementation Period: January 2024 -January 2029

Implementing Partner: IOM (International Organization for Migration)

Total Estimated Investment: \$13 million

Geographic Scope: Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)

The project enhances the local capacity of the region (BARMM Ministry of Health, provinces and cities) to pursue key and cross-cutting reforms in health systems. It focuses on strengthening health governance, financing, supply chain and logistics, human resources for health, and health information systems to facilitate implementation of Tuberculosis, Family Planning and Adolescent Reproductive Health, and Global Health Security programs. To promote resilience in health, the activity fortifies local health systems, as well as local ownership and capacity in pandemic preparedness and response, while bolstering positive social norms and healthy behaviors, and improving the quality of primary health care services.

Expanding Access to Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program (RenewHealth)

Implementation Period: May 2019 – October 2024

Implementing Partner: University Research Co., LLC

Total Estimated Investment: \$15 million

Geographic Scope: National-level and eight regions - National Capital Region, Central Luzon, MIMAROPA (Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan), Bicol, Eastern Visayas, Northern Mindanao, SOCCSKSARGEN (South Cotabato, Sarangani, General Santos, and Koronadal)

In the Philippines, drug use is a national issue that impacts the health, social, and economic well-being of Filipinos. RenewHealth works in partnership with Philippine government agencies to improve the quality of community-based drug rehabilitation (CBDR) and recovery services, and ultimately reduce drug dependence in the Philippines. The project offers proven public health approaches to CBDR that persons who use drugs and their families can access without fear or prejudice. Working with the Philippine government and local stakeholders, the project enables healthy behaviors and demand for CBDR services; enhances the quality of patient-centered and compassionate CBDR services, and strengthens the policies and systems for sustainable CBDR service delivery. Having established the strong correlation between substance use and mental

health issues, the project assists the Department of Health (DOH) in integrating mental health with substance use management and services. The project also expands mental health promotion and interventions to settings such as schools and workplaces.

Family Planning and Maternal and Neonatal Health Innovations and Capacity Building Platforms (ReachHealth)

Implementation Period: October 2018 – September 2024

Implementing Partners: RTI International in partnership with Johns Hopkins Center for Communications Programs and Duke University Global Health Innovation Center

Total Estimated Investment: \$46 million (FP), plus \$15 million for COVID-19

Geographic scope: (Provinces) Agusan del Norte, Albay, Batangas, Bohol, Bukidnon, Camarines Sur, Cavite, Cebu, Iloilo, Laguna, Misamis Oriental, Negros Occidental, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Rizal, South Cotabato, Zamboanga del Norte and Zamboanga del Sur; (Cities) Angeles, Bacolod, Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cebu, Caloocan, Davao, General Santos, Iloilo, Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue, Manila, Naga, and Zamboanga

ReachHealth strengthens health services for Filipino families by improving family planning access, reducing teen pregnancy, and enhancing maternal and neonatal health outcomes. It enhances community knowledge and behaviors, expands access to quality care, and builds provider capacity. The project also bolsters health system governance, finance, and resources. Additionally, ReachHealth promotes demand for these services, addresses gender barriers, and collaborates with Philippine counterparts to tackle local health challenges. It also implemented COVID-19 response efforts, including national vaccination acceleration. Furthermore, ReachHealth integrates reproductive empowerment, establishes supportive and equitable gender norms and attitudes, promotes male engagement and involvement in family planning and maternal health, prevents gender-based violence, and fosters social inclusion.

Meeting Targets and Maintaining HIV Epidemic Control (EpiC HIV)

Implementation Period: April 2019 – September 2026

Implementing Partner: FHI 360

Total Estimated Investment: \$26.8 million

Geographic scope: National Capital Region, CALABARZON, and Central Luzon

To control one of the fastest growing HIV epidemics in Asia and the Pacific, EpiC employs a range of differentiated, person-centered testing and treatment services that better respond to the needs of key populations who are disproportionately affected by HIV. The activity works in lockstep with the Philippine government and civil society to break through persistent barriers in diagnosing people living with HIV. USAID assistance is working to immediately start and keep people living with HIV on life-saving treatment and ensuring that they are virally suppressed so they cannot pass the virus onto their loved ones. It improves access to game-changing prevention and treatment interventions such as oral HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, and the transition to optimized HIV treatment regimens. To ensure a sustainable national HIV response, EpiC provides site-, regional-, and central level support for policy development, continuous quality improvement, and strategic information.

Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control - Global Health Security (EpiC GHS)

Implementation Period: April 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: FHI 360

Total Estimated Investment: \$1.2 million

Geographic scope: National

The activity aims to strengthen the Philippines' ability to prevent, detect, and respond to emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. It works closely with the Philippine government and other local partners to prepare for potential and future epidemics, pandemics, and other infectious diseases. In addition, EpiC helps strengthen the capacities of key health professionals and laboratory staff on biosafety and biosecurity systems, antimicrobial resistance detection and surveillance, laboratory diagnostic capacity, and specimen referral systems.

World Health Organization (WHO) - Global Health Security

Implementation Period: October 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: WHO Philippines

Total Estimated Investment: \$3 million

Geographic scope: National

USAID's Global Health Security Program seeks to prevent and mitigate the increasing occurrence and severity of epidemics, pandemics and other emerging infectious disease threats. In the Philippines, USAID works with the World Health Organization to bolster the Philippines' health emergency preparedness and response capacity at regional and local levels so it can effectively respond to pandemics and other disease outbreaks. Activities include enhancing laboratory and diagnostic capacity of pathogens, bolstering genomic and disease surveillance, aligning information systems, as well as strengthening antimicrobial surveillance and wastewater assessment in healthcare facilities.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) - Technical Assistance for Animal Health Systems to Address Emerging and Priority Zoonotic Diseases and Health Threats

Implementation Period: October 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: FAO ECTAD

Total Estimated Investment: \$3 million

Geographic scope: National

The project strengthens the Philippines' animal health systems to reduce the risks and impacts of emerging infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance and other biothreats through a coordinated and collaborative action of the human, animal, and environmental health sectors. Implemented in close coordination with key government agencies and other stakeholders, project activities will enhance national and regional collaboration to address animal and public health threats, bolster animal health capabilities for preparedness and response to public health threats, and implement key strategies to prevent disruptions in the value and supply chain.

Breakthrough Action- Global Health Security

Implementation Period: April 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: Johns Hopkins University

Total Estimated Investment: \$1.5 million

Geographic scope: National

The project works with Philippine government partners to improve the country's risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) capabilities. This helps ensure that Filipinos gain access to timely and accurate health information so that they are better prepared and able to adopt life-saving interventions especially during health emergencies. Activities include strengthening stakeholder communications and coordination on RCCE and creating a community feedback system for the Department of Health so it can effectively shape and implement effective community engagements on health.

USAID One Health Workforce - Next Generation (South East Asia One Health University network and Philippine One Health University Network)

Implementation Period: September 2022 – September 2024

Implementing Partner: University of California-Davis

Total Estimated Investment: \$1.5 million

Geographic scope: National

The project empowers university networks in Africa and Southeast Asia to become global leaders in One Health, a collaborative, multisectoral, and transdisciplinary approach — working at the local, regional, national, and global levels — to achieve optimal health outcomes recognizing the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. Activities include delivering state-of-the-art, scalable, and sustainable systems that are designed to create the next generation of health workforce highly capable of preventing, detecting, and responding to the world's greatest health threats.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

ENVIRONMENT



Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO)

Implementation Period: August 2019 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Tetra Tech

Total Estimated Investment: \$4.2 million

Geographic scope: Luzon (Batangas City, Puerto Princesa City, and Tuguegarao City), National Capital Region (Las Piñas City, Manila City, Parañaque City, Pasig City), Visayas (Iloilo City)

The Philippines is among the largest contributors to global ocean plastic pollution. The country generates an estimated 2.7 million tons of plastic waste each year, with approximately 20 percent ending up in the ocean. Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO) is USAID’s flagship program to address the global crisis of ocean plastic pollution. CCBO works in 10 countries to reduce ocean plastic pollution directly at its source by strengthening waste management systems and building circular economies, city by city. In the Philippines, CCBO (buy-in) helps develop, test, and implement new models that promote the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) and enhance solid waste management; facilitate partnerships and investment around key needs such as infrastructure; and strengthen local systems to build the Philippines’ resiliency. CCBO is piloting solutions to stop the flow of plastic pollution into the waters within and surrounding the country, including several of the most problematic areas. The project is working with partners to design and implement holistic strategies that address each step in the waste value chain—from production to its end use—prioritizing the most inclusive, economically viable, and environmentally sustainable solutions.

Climate Resilient Cities (CRC)

Implementation Period: October 2021 – October 2026

Implementing Partner: Catholic Relief Services

Total Estimated Investment: \$15,000,000 million

Geographic scope: Batangas, Legazpi, Borongan, Iloilo, Cotabato, Zamboanga

The Philippines, one of the fastest urbanizing countries in the East Asia and Pacific Region, is among the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change, ranking first in the 2022 World Risk Index. CRC advances resilience by helping Philippine cities adapt to, mitigate, and

manage the impacts of climate change and disasters. Project activities focus on enhancing the cities' capacity to understand, use, and communicate climate data – including vulnerability and risk data; improving the cities' abilities to access and manage climate financing; and enabling cities to implement or upscale innovative, nature-based solutions to conserve, restore, or sustainably manage the environment. The project works with various stakeholders such as the national and local governments, non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector. Under a donor to donor agreement, the Korea International Cooperation Agency buys-in to the CRC activity.

Energy Secure Philippines (ESP)

Implementation Period: November 2020 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: RTI International

Total Estimated Investment: \$33,999,010

Geographic scope: Nationwide

ESP supports the Government of the Philippines, primarily engaging with the Department of Energy and the Energy Regulatory Commission, in advancing the energy transition as envisioned in the Philippine Energy Plan for 2040, the core of which is centered on the pillars of ensuring energy security, expanding energy access, and promoting a low-carbon future through multi-stakeholder support and engagement. Working with the government and private sector, the project aims to improve the performance of electric utilities, increase the deployment of advanced energy sources and systems, and to enhance competition in the power sector while targeting to mobilize at least \$750 million of private investments into the energy sector and at least 500 MW of additional electricity generating capacity. ESP helps improve the operational performance of select electric distribution utilities, as well as support their financial viability and strengthen resilience against shocks and stresses, including cybersecurity vulnerabilities. The project also supports the increased deployment of advanced energy sources and systems. Specifically, the project supports implementation of key policies and regulations that will advance the use of renewable energy and promote energy efficiency, smart technologies, and physical and cybersecurity capabilities. ESP also enhances competition in the power sector so that more consumers can enjoy lower electricity costs. The activity also provides small grants to incubate and pilot novel and innovative solutions on various cross-sectoral issues.

Fish Right

Implementation Period: March 2018 – March 2025

Implementing Partners: University of Rhode Island and a consortium of Philippine NGOs and universities

Total Estimated Investment: \$32,948,716

Geographic Scope: Calamianes Island Group, Southern Negros, Visayan Sea, and Fisheries Management Areas 5 and 6

The Philippines depends on coral reefs for food and income valued at \$22 million annually. Fish provide more than 50 percent of Filipinos' dietary protein. However, unsustainable fishing practices and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing have affected coastal and marine

biodiversity. Fish Right promotes sustainable fisheries by improving local marine ecosystem management, establishing fishing regulations, “right-sizing” fisheries to increase fish stocks in government-designated fisheries management areas, and managing the impact of climate on fisheries and coastal resources. The program works with fisherfolk, provincial, and municipal governments and community-based organizations to improve management of marine key biodiversity areas. By 2025, the program expects to see a 10 percent increase in fish number and weight as a result of improved management of 2.5 million hectares of marine waters, benefitting more than two million people.

Forestry and Climate Change Support Program

Implementation Period: October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2026

Implementing Partner: U.S. Forest Service

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,000,000

Geographic scope: National Capital Region

Since 2011, USAID has partnered with the United States Forest Service to build the capacity of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), local governments, indigenous peoples, communities, and the private sector in designing and implementing forest protection and restoration activities as natural climate solutions, and monitoring their effectiveness. The renewed partnership under the program provides technical assistance on developing and rolling out of the national forest monitoring system to enable accurate and reliable measurement, reporting, and verification of greenhouse gas emissions from the forestry and land use sector; improving the design and implementation of the national forest resource assessment and forest inventory; and strengthening capacity for forest and grassland fire management.

Investing in Sustainability and Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Regenerative Ecosystems (INSPIRE)

Implementation Period: September 2021 – September 2026

Implementing Partner: Gerry Roxas Foundation

Total Estimated Investment: \$20,000,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

INSPIRE provides grants to civil society organizations (CSOs) and indigenous peoples’ groups in priority areas to implement local conservation and climate actions that advance environmental governance, promote inclusive growth, and restore natural ecosystems. The activity enhances the capacity of CSOs, indigenous peoples’ groups, and local communities to demand and participate in good natural resource governance; improves legal frameworks that support customary rights to land and water in biologically significant areas; and increases the transparency and accountability of various stakeholders about how natural resources are managed, extracted, and brought to market.

Local Works: Mindanao Bamboo Value Chain Development Program

Implementation Period: September 2021 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: Bukidnon Tagoloanon Mulahay Ha Kabukalagan Agriculture Cooperative (BUKTAMACO)

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,529,911

Geographic scope: Bukidnon and Misamis Oriental

In this Local Works activity, USAID partners with BUKTAMACO, the economic arm of the Bukidnon- Tagoloanon tribe, in establishing and developing an inclusive, locally-led, bamboo-based economy in Mindanao. This activity helps the tribe participate in the global export market using innovative solutions to address development challenges and create self-reliance. Specifically, this project will develop 1,500 hectares of giant bamboo plantations, interplanted with native hardwood trees; establish nurseries and post-harvest processing capacity to create a locally-led, sustainable value chain that meets global market standards for bamboo products; secure legal, financial, and carbon rights for indigenous peoples' ancestral lands; and develop a methodology and registering for carbon offsets. Through these activities, the project is providing sustainable incomes and livelihood for the marginalized indigenous communities and small landowners, improving environmental conditions in bamboo plantations, facilitating robust data collection, learning, and registration and verification for carbon credit trading; and empowering and providing financial autonomy for women.

Meloy Fund for Sustainable Community Fisheries

Implementation Period: September 2017 – September 2029

Implementing Partner: Meloy Fund GP, LLC, through Rare

Total Estimated Investment: \$30,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

The fisheries and seafood industry employs 1.4 million people in the Philippines, and fish accounts for up to 50 percent of the total intake of animal protein. While coastal fisheries help conserve biodiversity and protect communities from natural disasters, exploitation and overfishing are serious challenges that lead to reduced seafood production, lower incomes for fishing communities, and degraded coastal ecosystems. Sustainable fisheries is gaining wide support across the world, presenting a significant opportunity to support related enterprises and coastal communities, as well as mobilize private sector investments. However, businesses poised to take advantage of this opportunity find it difficult to obtain financing because they are often perceived as too small or too risky. They need loans to adopt new technologies, implement best practices, grow, and in some cases, start-up. The Meloy Fund is an impact investment vehicle that incentivizes the development and adoption of sustainable fisheries by making debt and equity investments in fishing-related enterprises that support the recovery of coastal fisheries. Partnering with the Development Finance Corporation, the Meloy Fund aims to mobilize \$17.5 million in financing over twelve years. This assistance helps borrowers expand their sustainable fish and seafood production and improve their incomes, and promotes more sustainable practices and technologies to protect coastal systems.

Species Conservation through Protected Areas Management and Countering Wildlife Trafficking

Implementation Period: October 2023 – September 2026

USAID Partner: U.S. Department of the Interior

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,000,000

Geographic scope: National in scope with training locations in Palawan, Cagayan de Oro, Metro Manila, and Caraga Region

The project strengthens the capacity of the Philippine government to combat wildlife crimes, more effectively manage protected areas, and analyze geospatial data to monitor environmental programs through technical assistance delivered by the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) through its International Technical Assistance Program. The project continues the longstanding partnership between USAID and DOI, which has been ongoing since 2004.

Safe Water

Implementation Period: December 2019 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: DAI Global, LLC

Total Estimated Investment: \$18,440,127

Geographic scope: Palawan and Puerto Princesa, Negros Occidental and Bacolod City, Sarangani and General Santos City

The Philippines faces water security challenges that include a growing population, unsustainable land use, and severely deficient wastewater management. To address these challenges, the country requires an adequate and dependable supply of clean drinking water, elimination of open defecation in rural and poor communities, increased access to safely managed sanitation services, and sustainable water resources. The Philippines' vulnerability to climate change will make water security even more challenging in the future as drought, typhoons, and sea level rise threaten the country's watersheds, water resources, and water and sanitation systems. In partnership with the Government of the Philippines, Safe Water seeks to improve water security for water-stressed communities through increased access to water supplies and sanitation services, more sustainably managed water resources—including critical forests and watersheds, and a stronger policy and enabling environment. The project aims to provide local government units, water service providers, and watershed councils with the information, incentives, and partnerships to identify and address barriers to a water-secure future—yielding life-saving gains in access to water supply and sanitation services for unserved and underserved communities in the Philippines.

Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL)

Implementation Period: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2025

Implementing Partner: RTI International

Total Estimated Investment: \$25,299,696

Geographic scope: Luzon (Palawan, Zambales), Mindanao (Siargao Island)

SIBOL supports the Philippine government to achieve its goals of improving natural resource governance, sustainably managing natural resources, and reducing environmental crimes and unsustainable practices—leading to greater ecosystem stability and inclusive green growth. The project aims to support a resilient Philippines in which communities, the private sector, and government collaboratively protect the Philippines’ rich natural resources. SIBOL also aims to strengthen science-based conservation planning and natural resources management, provide economic incentives from conservation, and strengthen environmental law enforcement. Together with USAID, SIBOL works with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development.

U.S. Peace Corps Small Project Assistance (SPA) V for Environment

Implementation Period: August 2018 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: U.S. Peace Corps

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,260,000

Geographic scope:

- Coastal resources management: Ilocos Sur – Vigan City (Prov Govt and City), San Esteban; La Union – Balaoan, San Fernando City, San Juan; Pangasinan – Alaminos City, Bani; Zambales – Botolan, San Antonio; Antique – Culasi; Capiz – Roxas City (Prov Govt); Iloilo – Estancia, Carles; Bohol – Tubigon, Calape, Getafe; Cebu – Barili, Badian, Talisay City, Pilar, Tudela, San Francisco.
- Climate adaptation: Compostela, Cebu; Carmen, Bohol; Camiling, Tarlac; Magalang, Pampanga; and Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija

USAID continues to support the Peace Corps through small grants, training, and program design and management assistance on sustainable coastal resources management, effective marine protected area management, and climate adaptation. With USAID support, the SPA program advances strategic partnerships with local governments by developing local champions to lead community-based biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation programs. The SPA benefits more than 20 coastal municipalities that have high marine biological significance but are also highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Through the SPA, USAID partners with Peace Corps Philippines to strengthen the capacities of local environment and fisheries officers and communities to protect, manage, and sustainably finance the protection and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources. Volunteers work with community counterparts to identify common concerns, develop strategies to address these concerns, and implement small-scale community-level projects.

USAID-Philippine Ocean and Marine Science Support Program

Implementation Period: June 2022 - September 2026

USAID Partner: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Total Estimated Investment: \$1,500,000

Geographic scope: National in scope with special attention to Fisheries Management Areas (FMAs) 5 and 6

The Ocean and Marine Science Support Program, a buy-in to the Regional Development Mission for Asia's Interagency Agreement with NOAA, aims to strengthen the governance and resilience of coastal and ocean ecosystems. Under the renewed partnership between USAID and NOAA, the program supports the Philippine government institutions and coastal, ocean, and fisheries scientists and managers in addressing illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing; advancing sustainable fisheries management; and improving management effectiveness of national marine protected areas and networks through peer-to-peer scientific and technical research exchanges, training workshops, and technical assistance.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & RESPONSE



Disaster Risk Reduction

Area-Wide Business Continuity Management for Key Industries and Lifeline Utilities

Implementation Period: September 2022 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)

Total Obligated Investment: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Calabarzon Region

With support from USAID, PDRF develops sector-specific continuity capabilities in the Calabarzon Region through an area-wide business continuity management program for key industries, critical sectors, and lifeline utilities. This ensures that documented procedures and mechanisms are institutionalized within the key industries and critical sectors of selected local government units to identify risks and vulnerabilities, analyze impacts of disruptions to critical services, and establish continuity strategies and recovery measures for the immediate resumption of vital processes. The project also aims to improve coordinated efforts with other local government units, government agencies, private entities, and other stakeholders during and immediately after large-scale incidents or disaster events through established and documented procedures for continuity of operations, incident management, and emergency preparedness and response.

Bicol Resilience in Coastal Communities (BRICC)

Implementation Period: June 2023 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Catholic Relief Services

Total Obligated Investment: \$2,000,000

Geographic scope: Albay and Catanduanes provinces

BRICC increases resilience to disasters and climate shocks in vulnerable, small island coastal communities in Albay and Catanduanes provinces by leveraging best practices, lessons learned, and existing government relationships from previous disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and emergency response programming. The project improves government and community capacity to plan, prepare for, and respond to multiple hazards and climate related events in the Bicol region. BRICC also provides training, builds critical technical capacities, and supports improved community engagement and mobilization for enhanced household level

resilience and preparedness for two provincial governments, five municipalities, and 20 barangays. The project also helps vulnerable community members improve the resilience of their homes by training and certifying unskilled builders on construction practices that improve a home's safety in the face of flooding, earthquakes, wind, and other relevant hazards. BRICC is introducing financial and savings concepts to communities and assisting internal lending entities to facilitate savings among vulnerable individuals to develop improved financial resilience and link households with affordable microinsurance providers.

Capacity-building Support to the Government of Philippines for Improved Emergency Preparedness and Response

Implementation Period: August 2023 – February 2025

Implementing Partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,500,000

Geographic Scope: Nationwide

With USAID support, IOM is working with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Human Settlement and Urban Development (DHSUD), and other government agencies and stakeholders to provide enhanced shelter and camp coordination, camp management planning and response, data and information management, and coordination that meets nationally and internationally recognized standards. This project supports the transition of post-disaster shelter response and recovery programs responsibilities from DSWD to DHSUD, while strengthening each of their abilities to comply with their mandates through tailored training and tools. Additionally, the project works to enhance beneficiary registration and aid distribution systems and provide overall support for the transition of data and information management mandates from DSWD to DHSUD, strengthening decision-making processes by DHSUD, shelter agencies, and responders. Other activities include training for the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary members on humanitarian standards and principles in disaster response and capacity building support to first responders during disaster response. In this regard, IOM supports the Philippine government's response efforts through coordinated technical and tangible support to DHSUD and DSWD to strengthen the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Early Warning and Decision Support Capacity Enhancement in the Philippines

Implementation Period: July 2022 – July 2024

Implementing Partner: University of Hawaii

Total Obligated Investment: \$750,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

With USAID support, the University of Hawaii's Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) is supporting the institutionalization of the PhilAWARE system within national Philippine emergency operations of the Office of Civil Defense. The system enhances early-warning capacity to improve decision making to support national and sub-national disaster management coordination and achieve better disaster outcomes for the country, resulting in less loss of life and property, as well as fewer impacts to livelihoods. The project helps implement, institutionalize, and sustain the

PhilAWARE system, building capacity for early warning decision support in the Philippines. PDC is training PhilAWARE staff, trainers, and beneficiaries, as well as sub-national disaster management agency staff, on use of the system to support disaster risk reduction and management.

Enhancing Child Protection Preparedness through Stronger Collaboration of Local Government Units and Civil Society Organizations in the Localization of Comprehensive Emergency Program for Children

Implementation Period: October 2023 – February 2026

Implementing Partner: Save the Children (SCF)

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,450,000

Geographic scope: Eastern Samar, Maguindanao del Norte, and Lanao del Sur provinces

The project works with local governments to protect children affected by armed conflict and natural disasters from abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence through appropriate preventive and responsive child protection interventions. It ensures that targeted local government units have child protection preparedness and mitigation actions in place under the Philippine government's Comprehensive Emergency Program for Children, especially components that help access to and the quality of national and local child protection systems. The project prioritizes the establishment of child and women friendly transitional shelters, and a referral mechanism for orphaned, unaccompanied and separated children; stronger measures to ensure the safety and security of affected children; establishment of child-friendly spaces in evacuation centers and transitional sites; and promotion of children's rights. The project also works closely with civil society organizations based in the target provinces for child protection.

Preparedness and Response Excellence in the Philippines (PREP)

Implementation Period: May 2023 – October 2025

Implementing Partner: World Food Programme

Total Obligated Investment: \$3,800,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide

PREP works with Philippine government partners to prioritize local government units that are most impacted and vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly in BARMM and along the Philippine eastern seaboard from Cagayan Valley in Luzon to Northern Mindanao. The project trains partners to strengthen existing or draft new local climate change action and disaster risk reduction and management plans. PREP also trains the trainers to strengthen the knowledge and skills of DSWD staff at all levels, selected provincial and local disaster risk reduction and management offices, and academia. Participants are then extended to universities through their local centers and local non-governmental organizations. Training content and curricula focus on emergency operations center design, management, and standard operating procedure revision and creation; Incident Command System training; early warning systems; articulating emergency preparedness and response and climate adaptation plans; and other priorities identified by communities.

Resilient Island Local Government Units Actions for Disaster Preparedness and Climate Change (Resilient IsLA)

Implementation Period: June 2023 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Action Against Hunger-Spain (AAH)

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,500,000

Geographic Scope: Surigao del Norte, Southern Leyte

Resilient IsLA increases the resilience and disaster preparedness of coastal communities in Limasawa and Siargao Islands through a multi-sector approach. The project improves local government units' and island barangay communities' capacities in climate-informed preparedness actions; early warning systems and rapid response mechanisms, processes, systems, and planning; and shock-responsive social protection to reduce impacts of natural hazards and climate risks. The project also improves community-level water supply facilities and promotes improved water management practices and planning to increase access to safe water and create more resilient water systems to cope with disasters and climate shocks.

Scaling Across Integrated Risk Management at Local and National Levels

Implementation Period: September 2022 – September 2025

Implementing Partner: Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation (CDP)

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,200,000

Geographic scope: Pangasinan Region I

USAID is supporting the Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation to enhance the resilience and capacity of vulnerable communities in the flood-prone Agno River basin by analyzing and addressing risks, vulnerabilities, needs, and capacities. The project is reducing the risks and vulnerabilities associated with disasters while building the capacity of city and provincial officials to implement safety procedures. Program activities include advocating for public investment in risk reduction planning, establishing early warning systems, and working with local authorities to improve disaster readiness.

Strengthening the Government of the Philippines disaster preparedness and response capacities in Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication

Implementation Period: November 2023 – January 2025

Implementing Partner: World Food Programme (WFP)

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,200,000

Geographic scope: Nationwide, with a focus on BARMM

This project strengthens the capacity of national government disaster response agencies to prepare for and respond to disaster events, specifically in the fields of logistics and emergency telecommunications. With USAID support, the World Food Programme conducts training and establishes partnerships to strengthen national and regional emergency logistics response capacity, with a focus on the country's BARMM region. The project also strengthens the capacity of the Department of Information and Communication Technology to lead the Emergency

Telecommunications Cluster and provide direct logistics and emergency telecom support during emergencies.

Transforming Households and Local Organization Capacities for a Resilient and Vibrant Urban Ecosystem (THRIVE)

Implementation Period: June 2024 – June 2026

Implementing Partner: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Total Obligated Investment: \$2,000,000

Geographic scope: Metro Manila

CRS' THRIVE project is helping vulnerable households in at-risk communities in Metro Manila to manage, anticipate, recover from, and adapt to multi-hazard risks. Building on partnerships and assessments from the previous BHA-funded projects Preparing for Enhanced Disaster Response (PrEPD) and SHAKE Phases 1 and 2, CRS is enhancing the management of multi-hazard events at the household, barangay, city, regional, and national levels by reviewing and enhancing existing Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans through the incorporation of multi-hazard and rights-based approach risk assessment processes and engaging the private sector and other local humanitarian actors to be part of awareness-raising activities and dialogues to ensure a whole-of-society governance in DRRM. CRS is also working with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development and its regional counterparts to develop procedures and guidelines on emergency and recovery shelter options, and to develop and enhance subnational shelter coordination. At the community level, CRS is building the financial resilience of marginalized communities by improving savings and financial literacy, increasing access to financial services, and enhancing the capacity of micro, small, and medium enterprises to ensure their sustainability and enable them to provide essential services such as food, water, and shelter items to affected populations in times of emergency.

Inclusive Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Project

Implementation Period: August 2024 – January 2026

Implementing Partner: Plan International USA

Total Obligated Investment: \$1,500,000

Geographic scope: Eastern Samar, Western Samar

With USAID support, Plan International USA is strengthening the capacity of local government units, specifically Barangay and Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (B/MDRRMCs), and increasing awareness of disaster risk reduction, preparedness, and mitigation in Eastern Samar and Western Samar. The project targets communities, local structures, and vulnerable populations, especially girls and young women. The targeted provinces of Eastern and Western Samar are among the poorest provinces in the Philippines and among the most vulnerable to natural disasters including floods, typhoons, landslides, and earthquakes. To enhance the resilience of communities and government entities in the target provinces to these hazards, Plan is improving risk knowledge and early warning systems, developing tailored Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation plans, and applying good governance principles to ensure the continuity of basic services, particularly in remote areas.

Disaster Response

Emergency Flood Relief Assistance to Affected Population in Davao Region, Philippines (Mindanao Province Emergency Response)

Implementation Period: February 2024 – July 2024

Implementing Partner: Action Against Hunger-Spain (AAH)

Total Obligated Investment: \$625,000

Geographic scope: Davao Region XI

Action Against Hunger (AAH) is providing multipurpose cash assistance and responding to the water, sanitation, and hygiene needs of 7,500 displaced persons in the areas of Davao Region affected by flooding from January to February 2024. With support from USAID and in coordination with local authorities and WASH actors, AAH is providing 500 of the most vulnerable households (2,500 individuals) with hygiene kits and hygiene promotion sessions to mitigate and prevent the risk of water-borne illness within evacuation centers and affected communities. AAH is also distributing 250 water kits to promote safe water collection and storage in evacuation centers, host communities, and households. To enable the most vulnerable affected households to cover immediate food and other basic needs, AAH is also providing one-time unrestricted and unconditional cash transfers to 1,500 households (7,500 individuals).

Safe and Dignified Response to Davao Flooding

Implementation Period: February 2024 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Total Obligated Investment: \$625,000

Geographic scope: Davao Region XI

With USAID support, CRS is providing multipurpose cash assistance to meet the immediate basic needs of 2,000 internally displaced households (9,800 individuals) affected by flooding in Davao Region from January to February 2024. To allow vulnerable families and individuals access to this assistance, CRS is also supplying a transportation stipend to allow vulnerable families to reach the Financial Service Providers center. To ensure a coordinated and effective response, CRS has seconded an existing pool of trained partner staff to the project as Emergency Response Field Mobilizers, is providing findings from its assessments to both the WASH and Shelter Clusters, and is coordinating their response with Local Government Units and other actors, including AAH, to share learning and effectively address any logistics issues that arise during implementation. CRS is also mapping existing protection and gender-based violence (GBV) services and coordinating with other actors for referrals to address any protection or GBV concerns that implementing partners may not be able to provide specific services for.

USAID/PHILIPPINES PROJECTS

CROSS-CUTTING

Logistics Services in Mindanao (LOGISTICS 2)

Implementation Period: May 2020 – April 2025

Implementing Partner: WSP USA

Total Estimated Investment: approx. \$5 million

Geographic Scope: Mindanao

LOGISTICS 2 provides security risk management and transportation services and other administrative support services for short-term visits by USAID personnel and other U.S. government officials and visitors in Mindanao. The support services include conducting situational analysis; appraising USAID staff on security-related concerns in areas in Mindanao with U.S. government programming; and providing administrative support to USAID staff on organizing meetings, workshops, and high-level events.

Philippines, Pacific Islands, and Mongolia Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Activity (PIMMELA)

Implementation Period: January 2024-January 2027

Implementing Partner: MSI

Total Estimated Investment: \$21.7 million

Geographic scope: Manila-based, Mission Philippines and Mongolia, Mission Fiji, and Country Office Papua New Guinea/Solomon Islands/Vanuatu portfolio-wide support

High quality and consistent monitoring, evaluation, and learning are key to ensuring USAID programs achieve results. USAID Philippines, Pacific Islands, and Mongolia Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Activity (PIMMELA) will work collaboratively with USAID staff and their implementing partners across 14 countries to assist with performance management; third party monitoring and verification; evaluations and special assessments; and collaboration, learning and adapting. Through these services, USAID PIMMELA will help USAID improve program management, make informed strategic and management decisions throughout the program cycle, and advance Agency learning.

ANNEX: GRANTS

Grants Under Energy Secure Philippines

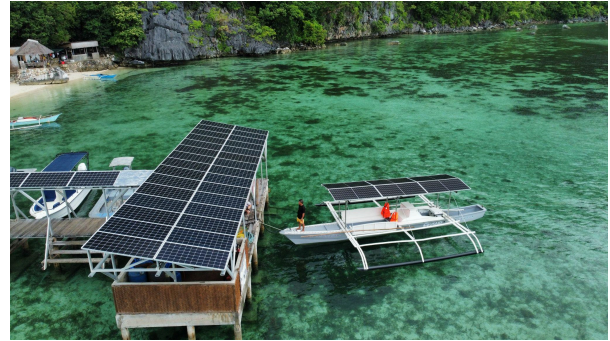
Productive Uses of Renewable Energy for Sustainable and Equitable Enterprise Development in Remote Off-grid Small Island Communities

Implementation Period: February 2022 – January 2024

Implementing Partner: One Renewable Energy Enterprise, Inc. (OREEI)

Total Grant: \$490,562

Geographic scope: Gilutongan (Cebu Province), Calutcot (Quezon Province), and Mararison (Antique Province)



Through the USAID grant, OREEI provided solar panels and post-harvest equipment, as well as training to help improve the livelihood of partner communities. USAID support provided nearly 800 households with access to viable service-oriented enterprises, including fish and seaweed drying services, to help augment the income of fishing communities.

Innovating Refrigerated Container Transportation

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: Go Gridless Philippines Corporation

Total Grant: \$454,138

Geographic scope: Cagayan de Oro City

The project strengthened Cagayan de Oro's logistics chain by providing portable, decentralized, and energy-efficient cold storage solutions. Through the grant, Go Gridless replaced traditional diesel-powered generators with sustainable and eco-friendly energy sources, resulting in improved logistics connectivity and increased efficiency.

Enabling a Sustainable Energy Transition in Dumaguete City

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: Manila Observatory

Total Grant: \$215,272

Geographic scope: Dumaguete City

Through the grant, USAID and the Manila Observatory enabled Dumaguete City to become more sustainable and efficient in its energy usage. The project helped establish a road map to achieve Dumaguete City's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050, while simultaneously increasing energy access, security, and supply, with co-benefits across other sectors.

CREATE: Establishment of CALABARZON Regional Energy Advancement Think-Tank Ecosystem

Implementation Period: December 2022 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: De La Salle University

Total Grant: \$218,158

Geographic scope: CALABARZON region (Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon, and Rizal)

USAID is supporting the creation of a digital platform that will provide access to energy statistics and information in the region required for energy planning, decision support, and awareness building toward the integration and interaction of various energy systems.

Establishment of an Energy Efficiency Incubation Hub in Northern Mindanao

Implementation Period: February 2023 – January 2025

Implementing Partner: CALCEF Innovations DBA New Energy (NEX)

Total Grant: \$90,909

Geographic scope: Northern Mindanao

The project aims to accelerate the utilization and implementation of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Law in Northern Mindanao. The hub fosters stakeholder engagement, knowledge sharing, and addresses commercialization challenges in support of the region's renewable energy goals.

Women Engineers as Instruments for Sustainable Engineering in Renewable Energies (WISER)

Implementation Period: April 2023 – January 2025

Implementing Partner: Philippine Technological Council, Inc. (PTC)

Total Grant: \$163,636

Geographic scope: USAID CDI Partner Cities

Through the grant, PTC aims to support Philippine innovation by strengthening the participation of women in the engineering and renewable energy (RE) sector. The project aims to increase the enrolment of girls in renewable energy allied engineering programs by creating awareness and appreciation of career opportunities in the RE sector and influencing the decision making of young girls in identifying their degree track for university.

Tanging Tanglaw: Turning IP Women into Solar Engineers (also known as Solar Lolos)

Implementation Period: May 2023 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Diwata- Women in Resource Development

Total Grant: \$527,272
Geographic scope: Bamban, Tarlac and Gala, Zambales

Through the grant, USAID is supporting Diwata, a women-led non-profit organization advocating for responsible development of mining and other mineral resources processing, a solar-powered water pump system that will provide a reliable water system for their agricultural requirements, household use and sanitation. Household savings generated from the use of renewable energy are used to fund community initiatives and livelihood projects.

Energy Knowledge Empowerment in Western Visayas

Implementation Period: May 2023 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Central Philippine University (CPU)

Total Grant: \$218,181

Geographic scope: Western Visayas

USAID is working with CPU to strengthen the region's core competency in renewable energy while also delving into the broader energy sector to include energy efficiency, among others. The project aims to help local governments in Western Visayas shift toward data-based energy policies and well-researched energy programs, projects, and activities that incorporate inputs from local energy stakeholders.

ESCO-led Innovative Energy Efficiency and Conservation in LGU

Implementation Period: June 2023 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: Tri-Sky Link Sales and Services, Inc.

Total Grant: \$1,072,070

Geographic scope: Lal-lo, Isabela and Cagayan Province

With support from USAID, Tri-sky is engaging local government partners to develop local energy plans utilizing the energy service company, or ESCO model to provide reliable energy services. The success of the program will later be utilized as a reference and showcase for energy efficiency stakeholders.

Enhancement of Energy Sector's Capacity to Respond and Recover from Disasters

Implementation Period: June 2023 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation, Inc. (PDRF)

Total Grant: \$745,454

Geographic scope: National Capital Region and Cagayan Province

The project enhances the capability of off-grid communities and the energy sector to prepare for, respond to, and recover from different disasters through capacity building activities and innovative technologies that will provide access to sustainable energy in far-flung communities. USAID and PDRF will also enhance the Department of Energy's Task Force on Energy Resiliency capacity by developing its systems and procedures, training its personnel, and establishing its Emergency Operations Center.

Smart Women-Led and Inclusive Transition on Climate-Resilient Technologies and Harnessing Renewable Energy Towards Development (SWITCHED)

Implementation Period: September 2023 – March 2025

Implementing Partner: Agrea Agricultural Communities International Foundation, Inc.

Total Grant: \$527,272

Geographic scope: Del Carmen, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte

The SWITCHED project inclusively engages women in productive use of renewable energy that supports food security and livelihoods during pre- and post-disaster. USAID also works with partners to establish a disaster resilience hub to empower participating women to take the lead on renewable energy initiatives to help ensure reliable energy access for their communities.

Grants Under INSPIRE

Securing Sacred Areas, Culture, Rivers, and Endangered Biodiversity within Ancestral Domains at the Northern Pantaron Bioregion (SACRED)

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Philippine Eagle Foundation, Inc. (PEF)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Bukidnon, Davao del Norte



The project advances IP governance over ancestral lands by upholding respect for land rights; strengthens capacities to craft and enforce sustainable NRM policies and actions; and documents/revitalizes indigenous knowledge systems to enhance positive behaviors to protect biodiversity in the Northern Pantaron Range, home to the Philippine Eagle and the Pinsker's Hawk-Eagle. PEF also introduces IPs to the use of mapping and modern tools and techniques, new concepts (e.g., carbon stock assessment, carbon credits), and diversified income sources such as agroforestry/carbon forests, forest guarding and ecotourism.

Sustainably Accelerating and Fostering Equitable Fishery Market Engagement in Pilar Bay, Capiz (SAFE Project)

Implementation Period: August 2022 – February 2025

Implementing Partner: Sentro Para sa Ikauunlad ng Katutubong Agham at Teknolohiya (SIKAT)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Capiz

The project reduces the threats of illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing to coastal and marine habitats and fishery resources in Pilar Bay by integrating climate, biodiversity, and ecosystem aspects into policies, plans, and budgets to fisheries management and giving greater participation and representation of women and men fishers in the governance of coastal and marine resources. It establishes partnership among supply chain actors in the development of conservation-based enterprises that would broaden market options but remain compliant with resource management regulations and market standards, such as sustainable seafood sourcing.

Protecting the Verde Island Passage and the Sibuyan Sea Coral Reef Ecosystems by Employing Citizen Science Coral Reef Monitoring Methods

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation, Inc. (AFI)

Total Grant: \$513,022

Geographic scope: Batangas, Oriental Mindoro, Romblon

The project focuses on the protection of coral reefs in areas that are under stress from over extraction, abuse and development. It builds on established community reef monitoring programs and trains local community members and other stakeholders to become volunteer

citizen scientists in order to increase awareness on ecosystem conservation and its benefits to them. The project will also pursue the institutionalization of the monitoring system at the Fisheries Management Area or seascape level.

Strengthening Good Governance and Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration in FMA 6, Coastal and Marine Areas of the West Philippine Sea

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation, Inc. (JVOFI)

Total Grant: \$318,528

Geographic scope: La Union

The project promotes multi-stakeholder participation in fisheries management through the establishment of a Local Implementation Team composed of members from the government, academia, private sector, CSOs and fisherfolks. With USAID support, JVOFI trains partners on science-based data and tools to implement an ecosystems approach to fisheries management; supports in the preparation of resource management plans, local ordinances and conservation actions; and implements supplemental livelihood for fisherfolks.

Improve Ecosystem Governance to Enhance Blue Swimming Crab Stocks and Increase Resilience of Coastal Communities in Western Visayan Sea

Implementation Period: August 2022 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: NGOs for Fisheries Reform (NFR)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Capiz, Masbate, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Cebu

With USAID support, NFR builds on past initiatives to further enhance the awareness of communities and stakeholders to improve the status of blue swimming crabs stocks and habitat in the Visayan Sea. Strategic actions include zoning to designate priority management areas for blue swimming crabs; continuing educational campaigns; adoption of appropriate enforcement, reporting and monitoring tools and institutional arrangements; and partnerships with the private sector to promote increased participation in blue swimming crab regulations.

Posokaddoy: Empowering Indigenous Communities Toward Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Landscapes in Central Pantaron Range

Implementation Period: September 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Mount Apo Foundation, Inc. (MAFI)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: North Cotabato

The project promotes regenerative development within the Mt. Apo and Mt. Mahuson key biodiversity areas by empowering IP groups to undertake coordinated inter-tribal forest restoration, forest protection and biodiversity conservation initiatives within their ancestral domains. Utilizing traditional knowledge, systems, and practices, the project pushes for

culturally-driven natural resource management and culture-based, biodiversity-friendly livelihoods/enterprises.

Biodiversity and Sustainable ECosystem Restoration in Unprotected Rainforests of Western Visayas (Bio-SECURE)

Implementation Period: September 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. (PhilBio)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Antique, Aklan, Capiz, Iloilo and Negros Occidental

With USAID support, PhilBio secures the remaining unprotected areas on Negros and Panay Islands by improving the biodiversity information base of these areas, and bolstering the capacity of partners on biodiversity conservation to advance a science-based and landscape level approach to conservation advocacy, management, and decision making. The project also provides incentives to smallholder farmers to shift from destructive agricultural practices and wildlife poaching to reforestation and conservation activities.

Mt. Kalatungan BioCon: Creating Innovative Environmental Solutions and Sustainable Livelihoods

Implementation Period: September 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Bukidnon

XSF strengthens biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation initiatives in Mt. Kalatungan Range Natural Park by engaging IP communities, local government units and others in forest restoration, community forest protection and monitoring and conservation-based livelihood activities. The project is also empowering IP communities through activities that advance the unification of the Council of Elders for a stronger participation in the governance of Mt. Kalatungan; integrating indigenous and scientific knowledge and practices on natural resource management; and enhancing its school of living traditions to strengthen IP connection to Mt. Kalatungan forests.

SEApherd Project

Implementation Period: September 2022 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: PATH Foundation Philippines, Inc. (PFPI)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Palawan

The SEApherd project builds up the gains from previous projects to conserve and protect fisheries and marine resources of the Calamianes Island Group (CIG) and the larger Palawan waters. At its core is the CIG Fisheries and Marine Learning Hub which serves as catalyst for learning and exchange of effective marine/fisheries management approaches, the strengthening of CIG networks and delivery of Learning and Knowledge Products and good practices (e.g., marine

spatial planning, peer educators and conservation champions, fish catch monitoring, harvest control measures/right sizing) to replication sites.

Partnership for a Resilient Caraballo-Central Sierra Madre Bioregion

Implementation Period: September 2022 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Philippine Association for the Intellectual Development, Inc. (PAFID)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Aurora, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino

PAFID bolsters the capacities of environmental partners in the Caraballo, Cordillera and Central Madre Mountain Range, with special focus on Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representatives, so they can formulate effective ordinances for the conservation and development of ancestral domains. The project trains partners on basic forest and marine resources inventory and biodiversity monitoring, 3D map modeling and digitization, and environmental laws so they are better able to provide science-based inputs to planners and guide resource management planning, decision making, and policy formulation.

Habitat and Biodiversity Protection and Conservation in Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Visayas

Implementation Period: November 2022 – November 2024

Implementing Partner: Zoological Society of London – Philippines (ZSL)

Total Grant: \$320,000

Geographic scope: Aklan, Guimaras, Iloilo, Negros Occidental

ZSL strengthens the six Centers of Learning (CoLs) in the four provinces, which serve as venues for knowledge exchange and skills transfer, the development of local champions, and the dissemination of coastal and marine conservation practices that will enhance planning and decision-making for more sustainable resource management. This promotes the financial sustainability of the CoLs and augment the livelihoods of local communities involved in the management and operations of the learning centers.

Establishing West Philippine Seascape Program for Inclusive Resource Governance, Security, Resilience, and Sustainability

Implementation Period: November 2022 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: Impl Project Philippines

Total Grant: \$751,496

Geographic scope: Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Pangasinan, Zambales, Palawan

Impl Philippines is advancing inclusive resource governance, security, resilience and sustainability in 13 coastal municipalities along the West Philippine Sea (WPS), through site-specific actions designed to increase stakeholder engagement and participation in natural resource management and conservation. Implementation of its strategic approaches will result in national and local governments, local communities, private sector, and other stakeholders taking collective action to promote sustainable livelihood options that will help reduce local threats to natural resources in

the WPS and inspire environmentally-positive behavior within local communities.

Restoring the Resources for Economic Sustainability of West Philippine Sea (RESTORE-WPS)

Implementation Period: November 2022 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: Tanggol Kalikasan, Inc. (TKI)

Total Grant: \$747,732

Geographic scope: WPS provinces

The project provides sustainable fishing resources and livelihood for the communities in the WPS to address food security in the Philippines. TKI is working at the national level to establish a platform for information, coordination, data banking, and knowledge sharing, as well as develop and implement a science-based research, policy and advocacy agenda related to the protection, proper management, and sustainable utilization of resources in the WPS. The project also builds networks and capacities of national government agencies, CSOs, and local resource managers to address IUU fishing and other forms of resource degradation and formulate a policy environment that will facilitate livelihood creation and market access.

Enabling Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Through Responsible Seafood Economies

Implementation Period: March 2023 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: Community Centered Conservation (C3) Philippines

Total Grant: \$301,886

Geographic scope: Capiz and Palawan

The project transforms domestic seafood value chains and incentivizes improved fishing and trading practices to reduce the entry of IUU-caught products and to enhance protection of marine habitats, thereby contributing to the conservation of marine ecosystems and biodiversity. This entails a mix of interventions, including supplier (producer) assessments to understand the current supply of responsibly sourced seafood; consumer and producer awareness campaigns on RSS and seafood sustainability; and capacity and organizational development to prepare value chain actors in engaging new buyers and improving compliance and transparency in supply chains.

Pagpapakseg, Pagpapagayen It Lugtang Kagurang-Gurangan Baw Kadagatan Para Kat Kiya Apo-Apoan (Protecting and Restoring the Ancestral Domains/Lands And Waters of the West Coast Tagbanua of Aborlan and Puerto Princesa City: Strengthening Climate Change Resiliency Through Biodiversity Conservation for Future Generations)

Implementation Period: March 2023 – February 2026

Implementing Partner: Nagkakaisang Mga Tribu ng Palawan (NATRIPAL), Inc.

Total Grant: \$301,886

Geographic scope: Palawan

NATRIPAL promotes the Tagbanuas' rich culture, knowledge, systems, and traditional practices to effectively contribute to environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and climate change

mitigation. The project is assisting IP communities in the documentation of proofs and evidence and the survey of boundaries to advance their Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles applications. In partnership with the Palawan State University, the project is also updating biodiversity information on the ancestral domains to serve as a basis for integrating conservation in Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan and the IP policy and enforcement agenda, and in the identification of culturally-appropriate and biodiversity-friendly livelihood opportunities.

Ridge-to-Reef Ecosystems Resource Management in Dumaran Island, Palawan

Implementation Period: March 2023 – February 2026

Implementing Partner: Palawan Biodiversity Conservation Advocates, Inc. (PBCAI)

Total Grant: \$301,874

Geographic scope: Palawan

The project promotes a ridge to reef approach to the management and protection of the island's natural resources and biodiversity. This involves a range of activities, including biodiversity assessment of upland and mangrove forests, watershed management planning, community-based forest and coastal protection, mangrove restoration, MPA management, and conservation education. Additionally, PBCAI implements a sea turtle nest protection program, with trained Bantay Pawikan volunteers. With the LGUs of Araceli and Dumaran, the project is providing livelihood support (e.g., seaweed farming, eco-tourism) to create sustainable and diversified sources of income for local communities.

Climate Resilient Coastal & Marine Ecosystems in Cagayancillo, Palawan

Implementation Period: March 2023 – February 2026

Implementing Partner: World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Philippines

Total Grant: \$320,754

Geographic scope: Palawan

With USAID support, WWF improves the management of Cagayancillo's one million hectare-marine protected area (MPA), through policy development, scientific research particularly on its reef ecosystem, stakeholder engagement in MPA management planning and periodic management effectiveness assessments, sustainable financing, and partnerships to mobilize resources for conservation and development. Activities that advance biodiversity friendly enterprises in agriculture, fisheries, and ecotourism will potentially diversify sources of income of communities and thus lessen pressure on its coastal and marine resources.

Landscape Partnership towards Building Regenerative Communities in the Province of Davao Oriental

Implementation Period: May 2023 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: BaiAni (Triple 20 Foundation, Inc.)

Total Grant: \$311,167

Geographic scope: Davao Oriental

This project preserves the biodiversity and forest resources of three key biodiversity areas of Davao Oriental by fostering partnership among tribal communities, government, private sector, CSOs and the academe, along a wide range of activities that include education and information, public outreach, regenerative agriculture, and forest restoration. The project is also establishing a sustainable model farm that will form as a nucleus for small grower households and a livelihood consolidation center (for cacao, abaca, forest trees and fruit trees), and also serve as a source of technical knowledge and buying center of smallholder produce.

Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation Practices in Western Visayas through Caritas Bamboo Forests

Implementation Period: June 2023 – May 2026

Implementing Partner: CBCP Caritas Philippines Foundation, Inc.

Total Grant: \$301,857

Geographic scope: Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental

The project establishes bamboo forests in Iloilo, Capiz, and Negros Occidental for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation. Additionally, the project initiates the establishment of self-help groups and at least three community-based organizations with transitional and bamboo-based social enterprises.

Enhancing Governance Structures and Stakeholder Capacities to Protect Danajon Bank Double Barrier Reef (Protect Danajon)

Implementation Period: May 2023 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation, Inc. (CCEF)

Total Grant: \$318,514

Geographic scope: Bohol, Southern Leyte

The project promotes collaborative seascape governance of the Danajon Bank by strengthening existing governance structures to make them more effective platforms for advancing the protection and conservation agenda for the entire seascape. Activities include improving the information base for planning and decision-making, increasing awareness of stakeholders about Danajon Bank and its benefits; deepening their capabilities and engagement in resource management and local law enforcement; building partnerships with the private sector; and the aligning policies and programs so they promote sustainable fishing practices within the seascape. CCEF is also supporting efforts of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for the proclamation of the seascape as a protected area.

Breaking the Cycle of Illegal Wildlife Trade in Palawan

Implementation Period: September 2023 – June 2026

Implementing Partner: Diliman Science Research Foundation, Inc. (DSRF)

Total Grant: \$376,871

Geographic scope: Palawan

The project contributes to reducing the trafficking of 10 target Palawan species by disrupting the supply chain for illegal wildlife trade in order to conserve their populations and maintain the ecosystem services they provide. Specifically, the project identifies the supply chain of selected taxa in key areas in Palawan; develops a coordination protocol for government enforcement agencies and a uniform protocol for the chain of custody for confiscated specimens; and develops courses and educational materials to raise awareness among target communities. The project will also establish a DNA Barcoding Laboratory in a university in Palawan to serve as a training facility for wildlife enforcement officers.

Multi-Actor Partnerships towards Enhanced Local Climate Action (MAP-ELCA)

Implementation Period: June 2023 – May 2026

Implementing Partner: Institute of Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC)

Total Grant: \$315,482

Geographic scope: Samar, Eastern Samar

ICSC seeks to enhance strategies for preserving forest and mangrove ecosystems in Samar and Eastern Samar through research and communications, building a network of youth and other advocates, and the piloting of nature-based enterprises that are not very dependent on unsustainable natural resource extraction.

Eastern Mindanao Environmental Restoration for Growth and Equity (EMERGE) for Watershed

Implementation Period: May 2023 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: Surigao Economic Development and Microfinance Foundation, Inc. (SEDMFI)

Total Grant: \$311,797

Geographic scope: Surigao del Norte

The project addresses the deforestation in Mt. Hilong-hilong key biodiversity area through the establishment of three critical watersheds. Activities include strengthening governance arrangements and management plans, implementing community awareness campaigns, and creating livelihood enterprises that are biodiversity friendly, non-extractive and promote alternative production practices and farming technology. The project aims to conduct massive reforestation activities covering a total of 30,000 hectares.

Siquijor Island Conservation & Restoration: Toward a Regenerative Ecotourism Destination

Implementation Period: May 2023 – November 2025

Implementing Partner: University of Sto. Tomas-Research Endowment Foundation, Inc. (UST-REFI)

Total Grant: \$311,825

Geographic scope: Siquijor

UST-REFI supports local efforts to promote sustainable and responsible ecotourism in Siquijor. Activities include the analyses of the carrying capacities of the 10 most visited tourist destinations in the island; promotion of ecological solid waste management practices; advancement of important cultural practices (e.g., natural healing, festivals); environmental conservation education; and livelihood training on tourism-related and auxiliary skills. This will contribute to the development of a sustainable and regenerative ecotourism plan for the island province and for each municipality that considers environmental conservation, cultural preservation and disaster risk management in the face of climate change.

Strengthening Community-based Restoration, Conservation and Protection of Mangrove Forests and other Marine Ecosystems of Zamboanga Sibugay

Implementation Period: May 2023 – May 2025

Implementing Partner: Xavier Agricultural Extension Service Foundation, Inc. (XAESFI)

Total Grant: \$337,578

Geographic scope: Zamboanga Sibugay

The project strengthens the management of mangroves and other coastal ecosystems that support the livelihoods of fisherfolks, particularly women, youth, and IPs in Zamboanga Sibugay. The project bolsters existing provincial and baywide coordination bodies for coastal resources and fisheries management, and works for the harmonization and complementation of coastal zoning, law enforcement and reporting systems, other fisheries-related ordinances, and community-based mangrove rehabilitation and monitoring across local government units. The project will also train relevant stakeholders to become effective community educators, law enforcers, bantay-mangrove volunteers, and entrepreneurs.

From Ridge to River: A Holistic Approach to Forest Conservation in the Northern Sierra Madre

Implementation Period: May 2023 – May 2026

Implementing Partner: Mabuwaya Foundation, Inc. (MFI)

Total Grant: \$302,003

Geographic scope: Cagayan

MFI addresses illegal logging, forest land conversion and coastal ecosystem degradation by protecting the remaining intact forests in the Northern Sierra Madre of Northeast Cagayan. Activities include establishing local conservation and marine protected areas, promoting security of tenure of indigenous communities, and creating sustainable community eco-enterprises, forest-based livelihoods and permaculture agroforestry farms. To raise awareness and knowledge, the project initiates a variety of communication materials and campaigns to reach a large and varied audience of men and women, including youth.

Local Empowerment and Advocacy Disability Inclusive Climate Actions led by Persons with Disability (LEAD)

Implementation Period: March 2023 – August 2025

Implementing Partner: Humanity & Inclusion (HI)

Total Grant: \$1 million

Geographic scope: Bohol

The project strengthens the resilience of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to climate change impacts and equip them to become community champions, advocating for disability-inclusive climate actions and governance.

Climate Resilience of the Deaf: Signs for Inclusive Governance and Development

Implementation Period: September 2023 – August 2024

Implementing Partner: Oscar M. Lopez Center for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management Foundation (OMLC)

Total Grant: \$1 million

Geographic scope: Nationwide

The project reduces inequality for people with disabilities in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation by improving the adaptive capacities of the Deaf community, increasing their accessibility and participation in climate and DRR programs, and building the capacity of policymakers in inclusive governance and resilience building.

USAID LEADERSHIP



Samantha Power **USAID Administrator**

Samantha Power was sworn into office as the 19th Administrator of USAID on May 3, 2021.

In leading the world's premier international development agency and its global staff of over 10,000 people, Power will focus on helping the United States respond to four interconnected challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic and the development gains it has imperiled; climate change; conflict and humanitarian crises; and democratic backsliding. Power will also ensure that USAID enhances its longstanding leadership in areas including food security, education, women's empowerment, and global health. Additionally, Power is the first USAID Administrator to be a member of the National Security Council, where she will ensure that development plays a critical role in America's responses to a range of economic, humanitarian, and geopolitical issues.

Prior to joining the Biden-Harris Administration, Power was the Anna Lindh Professor of the Practice of Global Leadership and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School and the William D. Zabel Professor of Practice in Human Rights at Harvard Law School. From 2013 to 2017, Power served in the Obama-Biden Administration as the 28th US Permanent Representative to the United Nations. During her time at the UN, Power rallied countries to combat the Ebola epidemic, ratify the Paris climate agreement, and develop new international law to cripple ISIS's financial networks. She worked to negotiate and implement the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals, helped catalyze bold international commitments to care for refugees, and advocated to secure the release of political prisoners, defend civil society from growing repression, and protect the rights of women and girls.

From 2009 to 2013, Power served on the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights. At the NSC, she advised the Obama-Biden Administration on issues such as democracy promotion, UN reform, LGBTQ+ and women's rights, atrocity prevention, and the fights against human trafficking and global corruption.

An immigrant from Ireland, Power began her career as a war correspondent in Bosnia, and went on to report from places including Kosovo, Rwanda, Sudan, and Zimbabwe. She was the founding executive director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, and has been recognized as one of Time's "100 Most Influential People," one of Foreign Policy's "Top 100 Global Thinkers," and by Forbes as one of the "World's 100 Most Powerful Women." Power is an author and editor of multiple books, and the recipient of the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction. Power earned a B.A. from Yale University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.



Michael Schiffer
USAID Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Asia

From 2012 to 2022, Mr. Schiffer was a senior advisor and counselor on the Democratic Staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. From 2009 to 2012, he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs.

Before joining the Department of Defense he was a program officer at the Stanley Foundation, responsible for the Foundation's Asia programs as well as a range of other U.S. national and global security issues and in 2004-2005 was a Council on Foreign Relations Hitachi International Affairs Fellow in Japan. From 1995 to 2004, he worked on the staff of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), including as her senior national security adviser and legislative director. Prior to that, he was director of international security programs at New York University's Center for War, Peace, and the News Media and was co-manager of the Poipu Bed and Breakfast Inn in Poipu, Kauai.

Mr. Schiffer received his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and graduate degrees from the London School of Economics and New York University.



Ryan Washburn
USAID Mission Director for Philippines and Mongolia

A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ryan Washburn is the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director to the Philippines, Pacific Islands and Mongolia, and previously served as Mission Director to Indonesia and USAID Principal Officer to ASEAN.

Before arriving in Jakarta, he was posted to Washington, where he oversaw the Agency's \$4 billion annual assistance program in East and Southern Africa as the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Africa Bureau. Prior to his appointment as Mission Director, Mr. Washburn served as the USAID Indonesia Deputy Mission Director.

Before returning to headquarters in 2014 as the East Africa Office Director, Mr. Washburn spent his career with USAID on the African continent. He served as the Deputy Mission Director in Zambia, having previously worked in Rwanda, Ghana and Mali designing and managing agriculture, trade, education and governance programs. Prior to joining USAID as an economist in 2000, Mr. Washburn worked at the International Food Policy Research Institute analyzing the impact of conditional cash transfer programs. He started his career in international development as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic.

Mr. Washburn holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Spanish from Cornell University and a Master's Degree in International Development Economics from Yale University.

U.S. EMBASSY IN THE PHILIPPINES



MaryKay Loss Carlson

U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines

Ambassador MaryKay Loss Carlson was nominated by President Biden on February 4 as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of the Philippines. She was confirmed by the Senate on May 5. Ambassador Carlson is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister-Counselor.

She previously served as the Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Prior to her assignment to Argentina, she served as Deputy Chief of Mission and Chargé d'affaires in New Delhi,


India, and held the position of Principal Deputy Executive Secretary for the Secretary of State in Washington, D.C. A Foreign Service officer since 1985, she has served in the U.S. Diplomatic Missions in China (twice), Ukraine, Hong Kong, Mozambique, Kenya, and the Dominican Republic. Her domestic assignments include Director of the Secretary's Executive Secretariat Staff and Deputy Director of Korean Affairs.

A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Ambassador Carlson received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish and International Studies from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee. She holds Master's Degrees from Georgetown University (International Relations) and the National War College (National Security Studies). She is married to retired Foreign Service officer Aubrey Carlson, and they have two daughters.



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