INTEGRATED NDC X SDG INSIGHTS

PHILIPPINES

This initiative explores the NDC - SDG impact and leverages data, systems and finance analysis to pinpoint policy accelerators tailored to national context and sustainable development vision.

OBJECTIVES

This initiative explores the NDC-SDG connections by leveraging data, systems and finance analysis to pinpoint policy accelerators tailored to national context and a sustainable development vision.

A ROBUST CASE FOR NDC 3.0

Backed by national data and AI-driven tools, to pinpoint where key investments through NDCs can drive progress across national development priorities.

ALIGN POLICY PATHWAYS

Build coherence and common ground to help decision-makers maximize positive outcomes across climate and development goals.

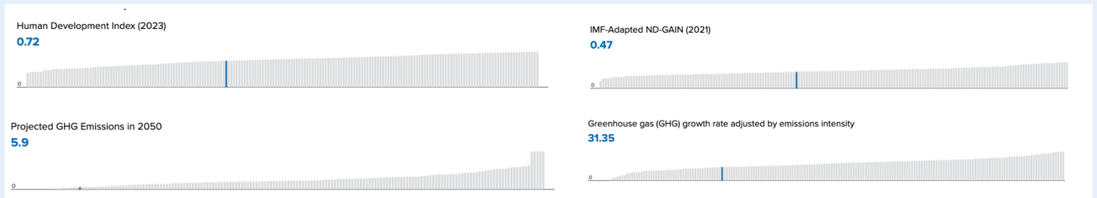
ACT WITH CONFIDENCE

Tailored recommendations on integrated policy approaches, investment strategies, and finance opportunities to implement national strategies that align climate actions with development goals.

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

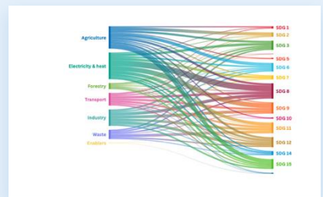
1

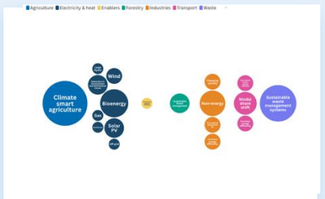
NDC x SDG Moment: human progress within planetary boundaries is the next development frontier. This section provides a snapshot of key climate and human development data.



2

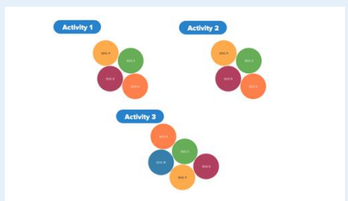
NDC x SDG Alignment: maps climate commitments and national development priorities using custom machine learning tool that draws from an SDG vocabulary of 100k terms.





3

NDC x SDG Interlinkages: identifies national-level actions through enhanced NDCs that accelerate SDG achievement and advances a robust development case.



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Finance & Stimulus: charts fiscal constraints and stimulus opportunities to ensure climate and development policy choices can be advanced with greatest impact.

NDC x SDG Moment

CLIMATE & DEVELOPMENT MOMENT:

As part of their mitigation policies and measures (PAMs), the Philippines has set a target of reducing emissions by	**990 MtCO2e (37%)**

Human activities are the primary driver of climate change with severe environmental and socio-economic consequences. Integrating climate action for emissions reduction and enhanced resilience into development strategies can **advance human development and provide multiple co-benefits**.

The Philippines is in the high human development category (117th of 193) and the country's IMF Adapted ND-GAIN index indicates continued vulnerability to climate disruptions and potential challenges to leveraging investments for adaptation actions.. Model-based projections indicate a score of 5.9/100 for projected emissions levels in 2050. The country's projected Biodiversity Intactness Index similarly points to moderate impacts on biodiversity by 2050.

The Philippines' existing Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) commits to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 75% for the period 2020 to 2030. Implementation of the NDC is guided by a range of policies and measures across five key sectors: agriculture, waste, industry, transport, and energy. The NDC integrates both mitigation and adaptation actions, with cross-cutting priorities that include biodiversity, governance, just transition, and support for vulnerable populations.

The 2023–2028 Philippine Development Plan (PDP) focuses on job creation, poverty reduction, and resilient growth. Climate action is embedded throughout the plan, including through a dedicated chapter on accelerating climate action and strengthening disaster resilience. The PDP outlines strategies to build adaptive capacity, reduce disaster risks, enhance ecosystem resilience, and support a low-carbon development pathway as well as the importance of governance, data systems, and institutional capacity.

Human Development

Human Development Index (2023)

0.72

Climate Impact and Adaptation

INFORM Climate Change Risk Index

● Historical (2022) ● RCP 4.5 SSP 1 (2050) ● RCP 8.5 SSP 3 (2050)

IMF-Adapted ND-GAIN (2021)

0.47

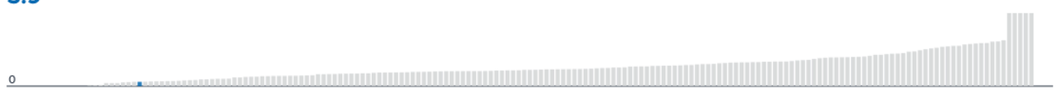
Mitigation

Greenhouse gas (GHG) growth rate adjusted by emissions intensity

31.35

Projected GHG Emissions in 2050

5.9



Biodiversity

Biodiversity Intactness Index

● Historical (2014) ● RCP 2.6 SSP 1 (2050) ● RCP 7.0 SSP 3 (2050)

Sources European Commission 2023 (INFORM Climate Change Risk Index), IMF 2022 (IMF-Adapted ND-GAIN Index); Environmental Performance Index 2024 (GHG growth rate adjusted by emissions intensity & Projected Emissions in 2050); Helen Phillips; Adriana De Palma; Ricardo E Gonzalez; Sara Contu et al. 2021 (Biodiversity Intactness Index).

NDC x SDG Alignment

NDC x SDG Alignment

Goal Level

These visuals are generated by analyzing the NDCs and National Development Plans **through the SDG framework at goal level. This analysis shows the most prominent SDGs in each of the two national strategies on climate and development.** This approach helps to **identify areas of common action and potential synergies across national climate and development priorities.**

NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION

Note: Based on NDC (2021) and NDC Implementation Plan 2020-2030 (2023)

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN(S)

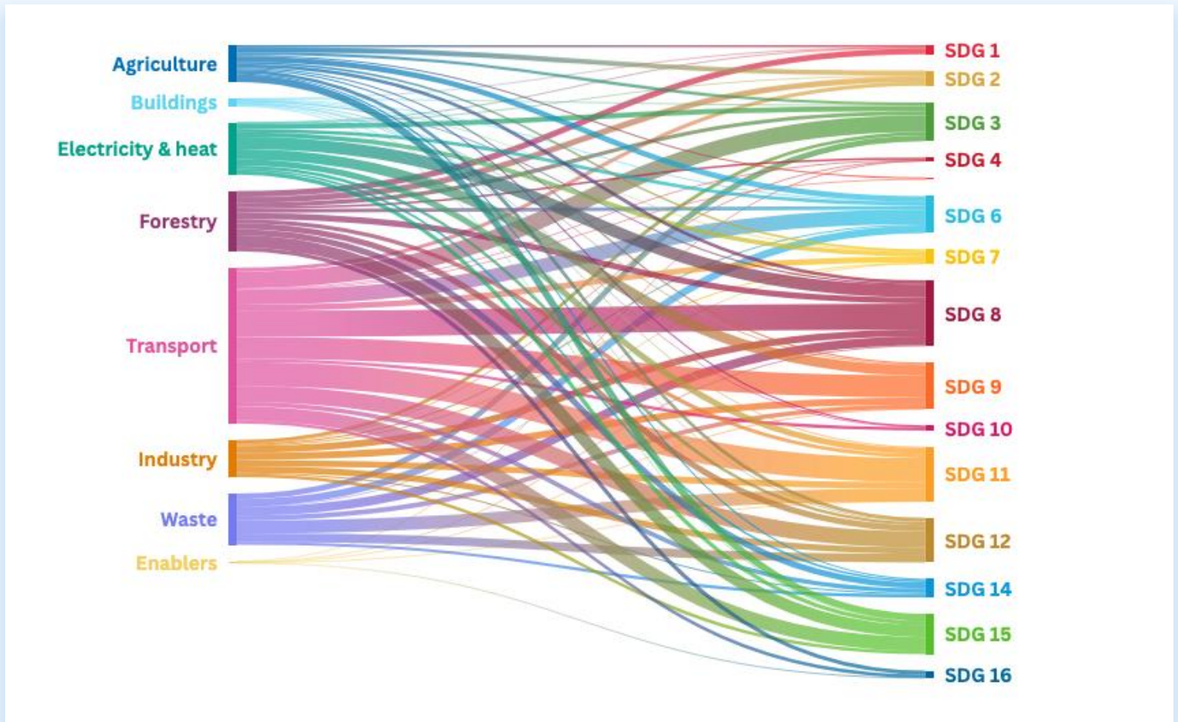
Note: Based on Philippine Development Plan (2023-2028)

NDC X SDG ALIGNMENT (New PAMs)

Target Level

These visuals are generated by analyzing NDC actions through a custom-built AI tool, and categorized using the SCAN tool to surface relevant SDG synergies at the target level. This analysis provides a target level alignment of climate actions (mitigation and adaptation) with impact on the SDGs for the Philippines.

MITIGATION



ADAPTATION

For additional information on the NDC-SDG mapping, please visit**: https://ambitiontoaction.net/scan_tool/**

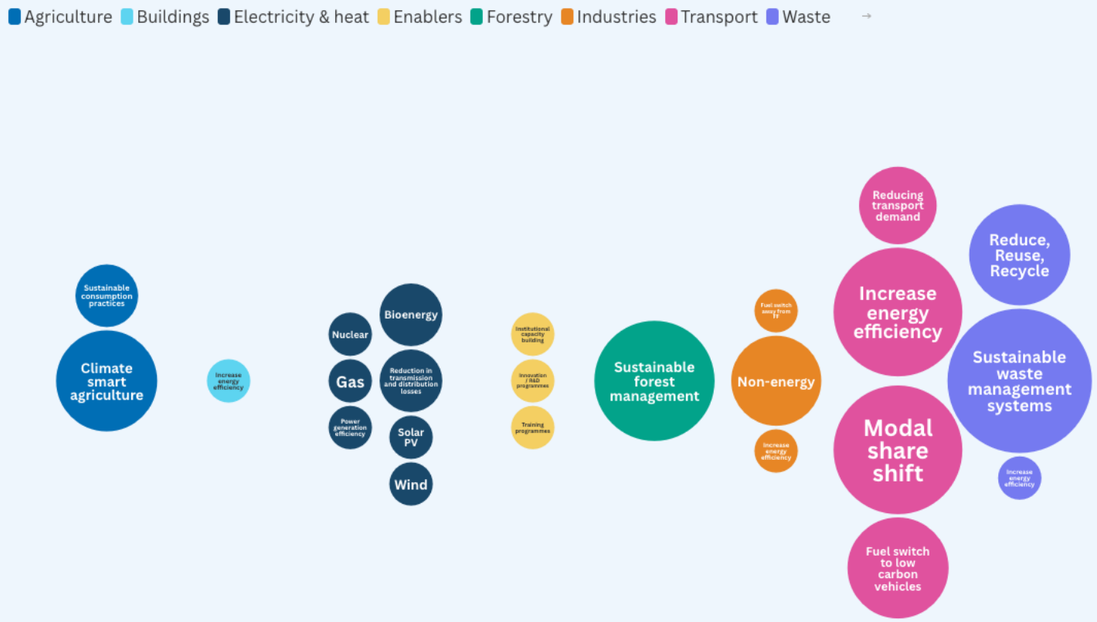
NDC X SDG ALIGNMENT

Action Level

This visual unpacks the NDC categories into the specific actions committed in the Philippines. The size of the bubbles reflects the number of NDC actions identified under each category, to identify NDC x SDG accelerators with precision.

The Philippines's NDC includes actions in these sectors:

Mitigation



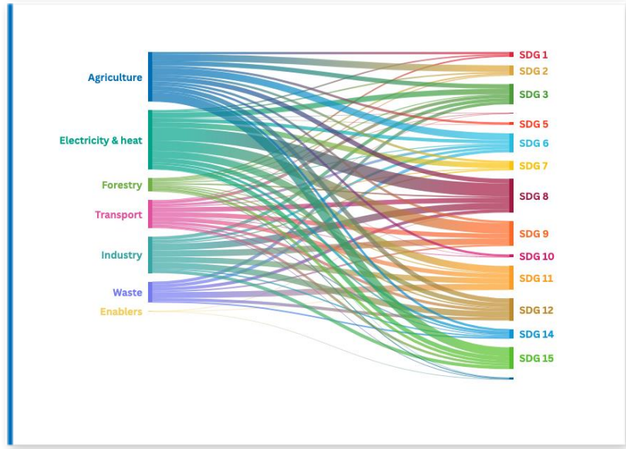
Adaptation

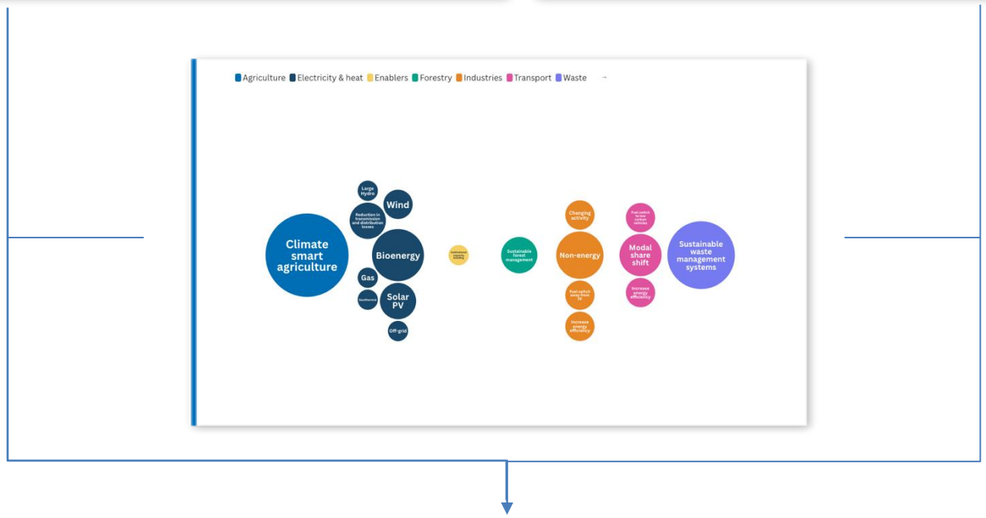
NDC x SDG INTERLINKAGES Overview

NDC-SDG interlinkages reveal how climate actions can impact SDG progress. Understanding these interactions can help the Philippines achieve the 2030 Agenda while fulfilling its climate ambitions and navigating trade-offs.

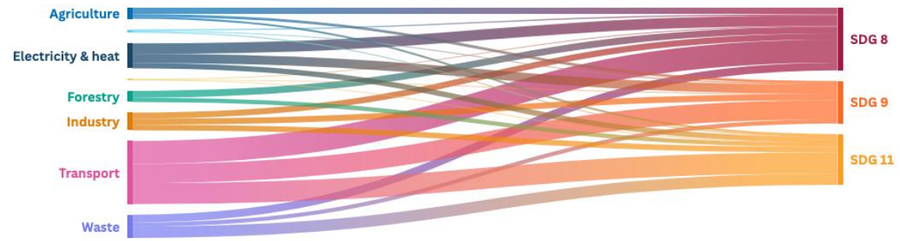
Building from the NDC actions and SDG priorities, the following integrated SDG pathways are identified as critical to achieve the Philippines' development outcomes:

- **SDG Target 8.2: Diversify, innovate and upgrade for economic productivity**
- **SDG Target 8.4: Improve resource efficiency in consumption and production**
- **SDG Target 11.6: Reduce the environmental impacts of cities**





ACCELERATION PATHWAYS



NDC X SDG Interlinkages

INTERLINKAGES

SDG 8.2 Diversify, innovate and upgrade for economic productivity

These two actions drive economic productivity (SDG 8.2) by diversifying the energy sector with advanced technologies. The large-scale push for renewables like offshore wind and emerging fields like green hydrogen can help create a new industrial sector, demanding a skilled workforce for manufacturing, installation, and maintenance. Incorporating nuclear power, particularly Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), can provide stable, baseload electricity. This reliability supports industrial output by securing energy supply and mitigating the cost of power interruptions. The strategic build-out of supporting infrastructure helps ensure a stable platform for economic growth.

Synergies with other SDG Targets:

SDG 3.9: Reducing emissions from fossil fuel power generation through the adoption of renewables and nuclear energy can help decrease the incidence of respiratory illnesses and premature deaths caused by air pollution.

SDG 9.2 & 9.5: The development of renewable and nuclear energy technologies promotes sustainable industrialization and fosters innovation. Building the requisite resilient infrastructure, such as upgraded ports and transmission grids, directly supports more advanced industrial capabilities.

SDG 11.2 & 11.3: Decarbonizing the power grid reduces urban air pollution, supporting sustainable transport systems and cleaner, more sustainable cities. A reliable, clean energy supply is fundamental to enhancing inclusive and sustainable urbanization.

Priority NDC Activities

Activity 1

Accelerated Renewable Energy Development

Activity 2

Deployment of Low-Carbon and Emerging Technologies in Transportation and Power Generation

NDC SYNERGIES WITH THE PRIORITY SDGs

Activity 1

Activity 2

INTERLINKAGES

SDG 8.4 — **Improve resource efficiency in consumption and production**

These two actions advance SDG 8.4 by decoupling personal and industrial transport (key for economic activity) from resource-intensive and polluting models. Planning integrated systems and promoting non-motorized transport shift mobility away from private vehicles, which are major consumers of fossil fuels, metals, and urban space. This transition improves resource efficiency by optimizing existing infrastructure (e.g., roads, hubs) for higher capacity use, reducing the need for new, resource-heavy construction. Lowering reliance on car-dependent mobility and imported fossil fuels can allow the economy to grow without a corresponding increase in environmental degradation from resource extraction and emissions.

Synergies with other SDG Targets:

SDG 3.9: Reducing vehicle emissions decreases illnesses and deaths from air pollution.
SDG 9.2 & 9.4: Fosters innovation in sustainable transport and improves resource efficiency.
SDG 10.2: Accessible NMT infrastructure promotes inclusion for marginalized groups.
SDG 11.3 & 11.4: Supports sustainable cities by reducing congestion and protecting cultural heritage from degradation.

Priority NDC Activities

Activity 1

Promoting non-motorized transport

Activity 2

Planning for integrated transport systems

NDC SYNERGIES WITH THE PRIORITY SDGs

Activity 1

Activity 2

INTERLINKAGES

SDG 11.6 Reduce the environmental impacts of cities

The implementation of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) measures and the adoption of electric ferries are strategies that advance sustainable urban development, specifically SDG 11.6, by targeting air quality and energy waste. EEC reduces the energy demand from fossil fuel-powered electricity generation, the primary source of urban air pollution. Emissions of particulate matter and nitrogen oxides are curtailed by decarbonizing the energy system across industrial, commercial, and residential sectors, with resulting cleaner urban air. Furthermore, efficient technologies and practices minimize energy waste, indirectly reducing the waste streams associated with energy production. Concurrently, the shift to electric ferries on short-distance routes provides a direct, zero-tailpipe-emission mobility alternative, eliminating a source of local air and water pollution.

Synergies with other SDG Targets:

SDG 8.3 & 8.8: EEC drives productive activities and green entrepreneurship by creating jobs in auditing, retrofitting, and manufacturing. It also promotes safe and secure working environments by reducing pollution-related health risks for all workers.
SDG 9.2 & 9.5: The electric ferry initiative promotes sustainable industrialization and fosters innovation in green maritime technology and infrastructure.
SDG 14.1: Electric ferries prevent marine pollution by eliminating oil spills, reducing exhaust pollutants, and minimizing noise pollution in waterways, directly benefiting marine ecosystems.

Priority NDC Activities

Activity 1

Implementation of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EEC) Measures

Activity 2

Developing low carbon ferry systems

NDC SYNERGIES WITH THE PRIORITY SDGs

Activity 1

Activity 2

Finance & Stimulus

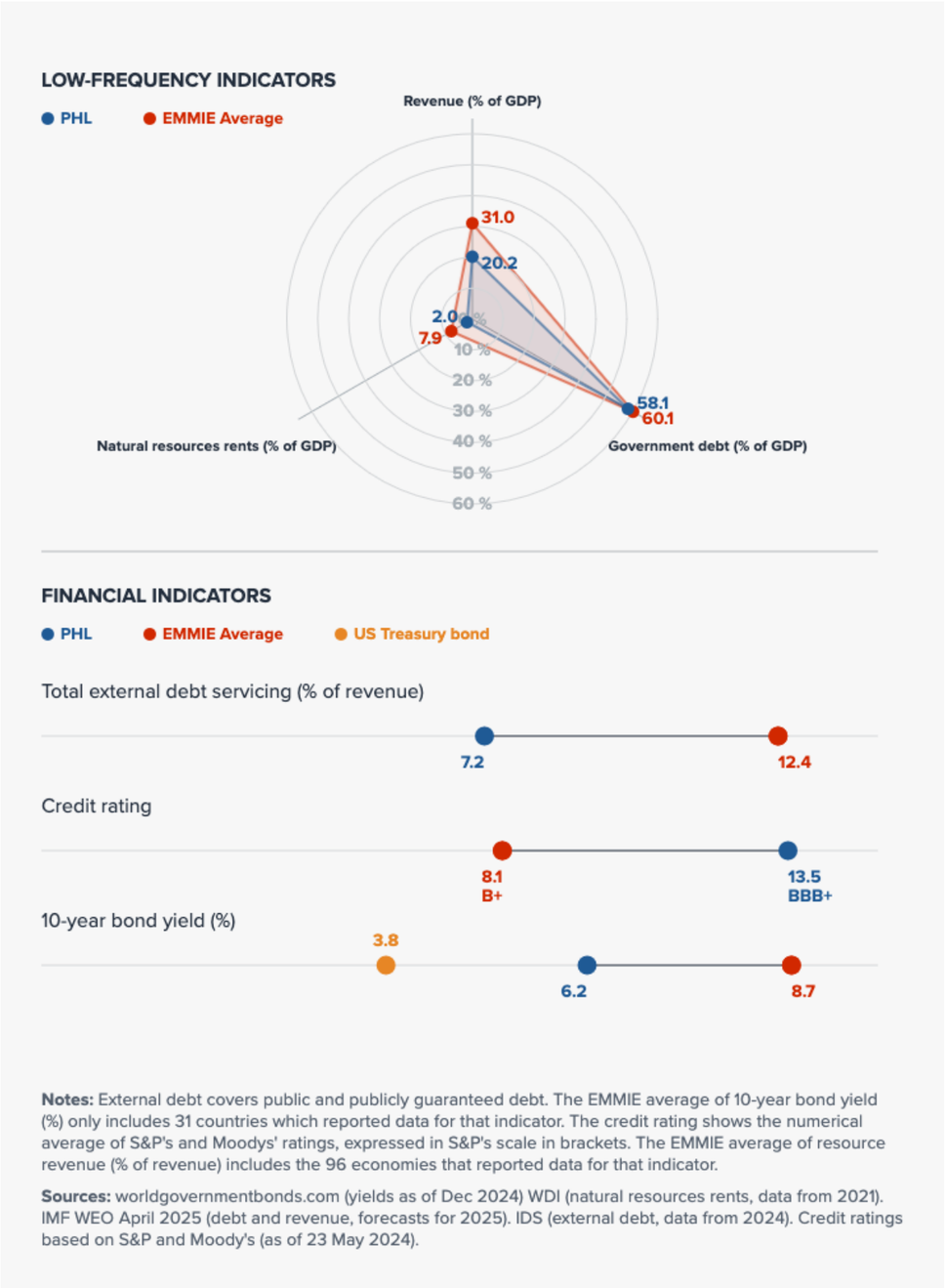
FINANCE & STIMULUS

Many countries are facing reduced fiscal space, high debt levels, rising interest rates and downgrades on credit ratings. Fiscal and financial constraints tend to slow or even reverse SDG progress.

The radar diagram shows low frequency data points linked to government revenue, debt and natural resources rents as a proportion of GDP. The financial indicator graphs show external debt servicing relative to revenue and the country's latest Debt Sustainability Assessment (DSA) risk rating.

The Philippine's gross government debt is expected at 62% of GDP in 2025, which is 210 percentage points (pp) above the middle-income countries average of 52.2%. The country is expected to collect 16% of GDP in revenue this year, thus 15 pp less than EMMIE average of 31%.

The Philippines's external debt servicing this year is expected to reach 13.8% of revenue, which is 1.4 pp above the EMMIE average of 12.4%. The country's credit rating is assessed as 'investment grade', and hence significantly above the EMMIE average of 'highly speculative'.



Notes: External debt covers public and publicly guaranteed debt. The EMMIE average of 10-year bond yield (%) only includes 31 countries which reported data for that indicator. The credit rating shows the numerical average of S&P's and Moodys' ratings, expressed in S&P's scale in brackets. The EMMIE average of resource revenue (% of revenue) includes the 96 economies that reported data for that indicator.

Sources: worldgovernmentbonds.com (yields as of Dec 2024) WDI (natural resources rents, data from 2021). IMF WEO April 2025 (debt and revenue, forecasts for 2025). IDS (external debt, data from 2024). Credit ratings based on S&P and Moody's (as of 23 May 2024).

PUBLIC FINANCE

Financing needs

- Close fiscal gap from high debt and low revenue.
- Fund climate resilience and infrastructure.
- Mobilize private investment for green projects.

Financing strategy

- Sovereign green bonds for international capital.
- Policy incentives to attract private finance.
- Dedicated funds like the People's Survival Fund.

Expenditures & budgets

- In 2025, Climate change expenditures totalling Php 1.020 trillion will support the strategic priorities of the National Climate Change Action Plan.
- Similarly, the government is allocating Php 2.9 billion in 2025 to preserve Philippine forests through reforestation and sustainable management of protected areas.
- The government is allocating Php 293 billion to strengthen disaster resilience through flood management infrastructure, disaster risk reduction, and rapid response funds.

Debt instruments

- Sovereign Green Bonds: Issued under the Sustainable Finance Framework to raise international capital (e.g., ~USD 3.55 billion total, including bonds in the Japanese Samurai market).
- Concessional Loans: Provided by government financial institutions for green projects, as mandated by laws like the Renewable Energy Act.

International climate finance

- International resource mobilization based on the Sustainable Finance Framework
- By October 2023, this framework has subsequently facilitated the successful execution of four sovereign transactions, mobilizing a total of approximately USD 3.55 billion in international capital. A significant component of this includes a JPY 70.1 billion (USD 550 million equivalent) bond issuance in the Japanese Samurai market.

PRIVATE FINANCE & ECONOMY

Policy & Regulatory Measures:

	Established	In Progress	Not Initiated	Comment
Sustainable Finance Taxonomy				The Monetary Board approved the Philippine Sustainable Finance Taxonomy Guidelines (SFTG) on 14 February 2024, a classification tool to help banks identify environmentally and socially sustainable economic activities
Sustainability / Social bonds				Cumulative USD 3.55 billion until 2023 in four tranches (three Sustainability Bonds and one Samurai Bond)

Innovative Instruments:

- Green bond issued in 2023 by Bank of the Philippine Island (BPI) to raise capital for financing green assets, with a USD 250 million buy-in by the IFC (IFC. 2023)
- Third offering in 2025 of a sustainability bond by BDO Unibank , raising USD 947 million (Business World, 2024)
- The Philippines has also participated in the issuance of a new sovereign catastrophe-linked bond (“CAT-bond”), arranged through the World Bank, which is structured to provide up to US$225 million in coverage over a three-year period (World Bank, 2020).

International Investment:

- UAE's State energy firm Masdar carried out a USD 15 billion investment in 2025 to develop solar, wind and battery energy storage systems, providing it with up to 1 gigawatt of clean power by 2030. (Department of Energy, 2025).
- Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners will invest USD 3 billion to build its first offshore wind farm in Camarines Sur. (PowerPhilippines.2025)

Domestic Investment:

- BDO Unibank financing the world’s largest integrated solar and battery storage project, MTerra Solar (USD 2.5 billion) in Nueva Ecija. (BDO,2025)

SDG Investor Map

12 Investment Opportunity Areas (IOAs) that contribute to the government’s NDC priorities and meet SDG needs. The priority IOAs span **7 climate adaptation-relevant sectors** in the Philippines:

RENEWABLE RESOURCES AND ENERGY	INFRASTRUCTURE	FOOD AND AGRICULTURE	HEALTHCARE
EDUCATION	FINANCE	TECHNOLOGY	

METHODOLOGY

NDC X SDG MOMENT

Methodology
Assesses challenges and opportunities in national growth trajectories with insights on environmental sustainability.

Data Sources
- UNDP 2024 (Human Development Index)
- European Commission 2023 (INFORM Climate Change Risk Index),
- IMF 2022 (IMF-Adapted ND-GAIN Index);
- Environmental Performance Index 2024 (GHG growth rate adjusted by emissions intensity & Projected Emissions in 2050);
- Helen Phillips; Adriana De Palma; Ricardo E Gonzalez; Sara Contu et al. 2021 (Biodiversity Intactness Index).

ALIGNMENT & INTERLINKAGES

Methodology
NDC activities from Philippine´s NDC submission are extracted. These are mapped with Mitigation or Adaptation Actions defined by SCAN-Tool initiative, which finds interlinkages between these Actions and the SDGs. Accordingly, synergies and trade-offs between NDC activities and the SDGs are identified.

Data Source
NDC activities data are from NDC-SDG Connections(Connecting climate action to the Sustainable Development Goals | NDC-SDG Connections (idos-research.de)); Mitigation or Adaptation Actions are defined by SCAN-Tool (Scan tool - Ambition To Action).

FINANCE & STIMULUS

Methodology
Provides an overview of the financing options for NDC implementation.

Data Source
WDI, IMF WEO, IDS, worldgovernmentbonds.com