

Driving Transformation for the 2030 Agenda through SDG Localization, Collaborative Partnerships, and Innovative Statistical Developments

Main Messages

In 2015, as UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Philippines made a further commitment to undertake a voluntary national review (VNR) on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) implementation every three years. Following through on this commitment, we have produced VNRs in 2016, 2019, and 2022.

The last VNR reported on how the country addressed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and harnessed innovation to accelerate SDG progress. Since then, the Philippines has shown marked recovery and is now on a path of social and economic transformation towards inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development.

With the development of the “SDG Pace of Progress”, we are now in a better position to report on the country’s performance in achieving the Goals. This statistical tool shows the progress we have made since 2015, and how likely the targets will be achieved by 2030.

Guided by a shared vision for 2040, and with the Philippine Development Plan as our action agenda, the country has made notable progress in ten SDGs. Based on the 2024 Pace of Progress, these Goals include 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 4 (Quality Education), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 14 (Life Below Water), and 15 (Life on Land). Of these Goals, SDGs 2, 7, 8, and 9 were regressing in the 2022 Pace of Progress.

Aligned with the 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), this fourth VNR focuses on SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 5 (Gender Equality), 8, 14, and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). The “5Ps” of the 2030 Agenda serves as the reference framework for summarizing the country’s progress in these focus goals.

People. The Philippines remains committed to ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being of all Filipinos across all ages. To reverse the country’s decelerating progress in health, the country has been strengthening the implementation of the Universal Health Care Act. In line with its commitment to *leave no one behind*, the country also prioritized

initiatives that empower women and girls, address gender-based violence, and promote equal opportunities in all aspects of life.

Prosperity. The Philippines continues to be one of the fastest growing economies in the region and the world. To ensure that these gains are inclusive, the Philippine government endeavors to create more, quality, and green jobs. To this end, economic liberalization was pursued and a landmark law – the *Trabaho Para sa Bayan* (National Employment Master Plan) Act – was enacted in 2023 to ensure workers' welfare, competitiveness, and security.

Planet. As one of the countries most vulnerable to the effects of environmental shocks, the Philippines has implemented initiatives that focus on marine conservation, sustainable fisheries, and coastal resilience. These aim to protect the country's rich biodiversity while promoting sustainable use of marine resources and environmental resilience.

Peace. Promoting a peaceful, just, inclusive and high-trust society remains at the forefront of the nation's priorities. The Philippine government integrated digitalization into governance and service delivery to ensure that all Filipinos, especially the most vulnerable sectors, have access to public services and justice, and live in a peaceful, safe and secure community.

Partnership. Strengthening the means of implementation through partnership, data, and innovation is the highlight of this review. The country's initiatives and accomplishments were underpinned by statistical innovations that enabled the implementation of data-driven interventions. SDG localization and the establishment of the Stakeholders' Chamber on the SDGs ensured that all hands are on deck and resources are in place for the country to achieve the 2030 Agenda and our shared long-term vision of a strongly rooted, comfortable, and secure life for all Filipinos. END