



NIRAS in the Philippines

The next generation consultancy
building future sustainable societies

NIRAS

NIRAS is a global engineering consultancy

NIRAS is a global engineering consultancy company founded in 1956 and one of the leading Scandinavian consultants. With our headquarters in Denmark and branch offices in Europe, Asia, North and South America and Africa, we have delivered over 7000 projects across 100 countries.

Owned by a foundation and a percentage of its employees, NIRAS Group is an international multidisciplinary consultancy firm with Nordic roots. It has continuously valued creating sustainable development solutions for a better, more equal and stable world since 1956. A well-consolidated company with an annual EBITA of around €22 million, NIRAS operates in Europe, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Americas, the Middle East and the Arctic Region. About half of the annual turnover is accrued from projects carried out internationally.

 **62**
Offices across
34 countries

 **3000+**
Professionals
55,000 experts
in our CVPT network

 **450+**
Projects
implemented annually
across **100+** countries

NIRAS has a fixed presence in 34 countries among our network of 62 offices, which include subsidiaries, branches, representative offices and joint ventures. Building on international experience in more than 100 countries, we provide technical expertise and results-oriented project management in our core competence areas. Our mission is to deliver tailored, innovative, value-creating and results-driven solutions to enable our clients and partners achieve their goals. We achieve this by providing transformative support for positive change, addressing root causes and magnifying impact through flexibility in implementation, capturing SDG-linked results and celebrating successes.

We work within a matrix organisational structure, which promotes an environment where continuous learning thrives and the adoption of good practices among different country and market contexts, clients and technical solutions is made easy. Cooperation across all our business units is a strength of NIRAS. All offices are closely linked through online project management tools and information management systems, ensuring that clients and partners always enjoy the same high quality services. Flexibility in project management is among our top priorities to ensure that for each individual assignment, we draw the best-suited team from all sectors.

NIRAS in the Philippines



In 2018, NIRAS established a permanent office in the Philippines to serve as its Philippines Country Office and Regional Office for Asia-Pacific (APAC). The goal was to build a strong presence in the Philippines, oversee and coordinate our development consulting operations in the Asia-Pacific region, and serve as an accessible knowledge hub for the Asian Development Bank. In 2023, NIRAS hosted NIRAS's renewable energy and infrastructure units, expanding its footprint in the Philippines and in the region.

The Philippines office employs around 30 full-time staff and close to 100 more personnel in our various projects in the country and others within the region, including Bangladesh, Pakistan and Viet Nam. We facilitate close interaction with project beneficiaries, national and local authorities, association partners, clients and other stakeholders, enabling immediate and effective collaboration and communication.

The office captures all the benefits that NIRAS provides as a global organisation: a strong, decentralised matrix organisation with certified systems of management and technical expertise, complemented by operational capabilities and an in-depth understanding of the local context.

This brochure provides more information on the services we offer and the projects we have completed and are currently implementing. We look to expand our experience base, local networks and operational capabilities across the country and the region.



**Infrastructure
International**



**Offshore
Wind**



**International
Development
Consulting**

Infrastructure International

Infrastructure development is a crucial aspect of a nation's progress, enabling economic growth, improving quality of life and fostering sustainable development. NIRAS is a leading international consulting firm with a strong track record in the infrastructure sector.

Committed to delivering top-tier services while minimising environmental impact, NIRAS has extended its excellence to the Philippines, aligning with its global standards. The company's Manila-based Infrastructure International (INIT) team, an extension of the NIRAS Infrastructure engineering team in our head office, is a driving force in advancing infrastructure development across the Philippines and the Asia-Pacific region. Our skilled team of Building Information Management (BIM) and Road design engineers and specialists possesses extensive expertise in engineering and transportation, playing a pivotal role in shaping resilient and efficient infrastructure projects in the region.

Working closely with in-house professionals based in Europe, NIRAS Asia Manila's dynamic and growing INIT team provides a wide range of services to clients. This includes project management, engineering consulting and support throughout the different stages of the project cycle.

NIRAS excels in designing, planning and managing marine infrastructure projects. From ports and harbours to coastal protection structures, we ensure the efficient and safe transportation of goods and people, all while safeguarding coastal communities and ecosystems. We take a holistic approach to roads, bridges, railways and airports, considering all aspects of the project – from initial planning and design to construction supervision and operation. The company is committed to delivering safe, sustainable and efficient transport projects that meet the needs of the community.

Within the Asia-Pacific region, our team at INIT focusses on the following technical areas:



**Port and Maritime
Infrastructure**



**Water and
Sanitation**



**Process
Industry**



**Renewable Energy
and Energy
Optimisation**

Contributing to Infrastructure Development in the Philippines

The Philippines is characterised by rapid urbanisation, population growth and diverse geographies. NIRAS is uniquely positioned to address the following challenges and opportunities in the country:

Improving Connectivity

Connectivity is crucial for economic development and regional integration. The team plays a vital role in planning and designing port and marine infrastructure that ensures efficient transportation and enhances trade links among cities, provinces and nations.

Resilience to Natural Hazards

The Philippines is susceptible to natural disasters like earthquakes, tsunamis and typhoons. NIRAS's geotechnical expertise ensures that infrastructure projects are designed to withstand these challenges, minimising the impact on communities and economies.

Sustainable Coastal Development

As coastal cities expand, there is an increasing need for sustainable marine structures that protect coastlines and promote environmentally conscious development. Our IINIT team excels in implementing eco-friendly solutions that support marine ecosystems.

NIRAS collaborates with local governments, private developers and international organisations to deliver tailored solutions that address specific needs. By leveraging NIRAS's global network of experts and partners, the company brings international best practices and innovative approaches to infrastructure development in the Philippines.

Port & Maritime Infrastructure

- Strategy development
- Inception
- Feasibility & master planning
- Site investigations
- Outline / concept design
- Licensing & consents
- Detailed design
- Procurement
- Construction delivery
- Asset management
- Technical due diligence

Water & Utilities

- Water resources management
- NRW management & water loss control
- Smart water systems & digital twins
- Sewage systems & wastewater treatment
- Automation & control systems

Process Industry

- OPEX and CAPEX
- Process and product knowledge
- Industrial architecture, building and civil engineering
- Packaging, warehousing, & logistics
- Hygienic utilities
- Automation
- Supply chain optimisation
- Simulation
- Sustainability
- Turnkey solutions

Renewable Energy & Energy Optimisation

- Advisory services
- Due diligence
- Project management
- Planning, site selection & site investigations
- Operational studies
- Feasibility studies (economic and financial)
- Condition assessment
- Engineering design
- Maintenance planning
- Life cycle management planning
- Training and transfer of know-how

Offshore Wind



NIRAS provides multi-disciplinary environmental and engineering consultancy services to developers, investors and governments looking to realise the potential of offshore wind.

NIRAS has provided wind energy consultancy services for more than 30 years, from the very first offshore wind farm in the world to today's comprehensive offshore wind solutions. We have over 75 dedicated engineering and environment specialists, supporting different clients on project delivery in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

Our extensive in-house technical capability which includes expertise in:

- Permitting and consenting
- Marine spatial planning
- Wind resource assessment and Metocean studies
- Technical advisory
- Electrical systems
- Health and safety
- Market due diligence
- Engineering and design
- Marine spatial planning
- Construction
- Fabrication planning
- Environmental & social impact assessment
- Specialist advisory and assessment

PROJECT

ESIA Document to Support Due Diligence

Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners | Taiwan | 2019 & 2022



NIRAS was commissioned to support CIP achieve financial closure of the Chang Fang and Xidao Offshore Wind Project. The lender's due diligence report into the purchase highlighted areas of uncertainty in the local environmental assessment processes and a requirement to align with internationally recognised standards. We produced a suite of documents drawing on the International Finance Corporation's suite of performance standards on environmental and social sustainability, and associated guidance.

Permitting, Consenting & Feasibility Studies

When it comes to construction, land development or alterations to natural landscapes, obtaining permits and consents from government bodies is indispensable, particularly for offshore wind projects. But navigating this process can prove to be lengthy and bureaucratic; however, firms experienced in this undertaking can make it easier.

As a result of our decades-long track record in defining and obtaining permits and consents for offshore wind farms – as well as their associated infrastructure – we have developed a streamlined process for legal compliance to ensure the success of offshore wind projects in the Philippines. Moreover, we can perform risk management work and have proactively monitored potential hazards in previous projects.

NIRAS Asia Manila maintains close coordination with our Taiwan and European counterparts, drawing on their substantial experience with top offshore wind developers, including Ørsted and RWE. Our expertise, grounded in both local and global perspectives, fully equips us to build towards a successful offshore wind sector in the Philippines.

Our services in this area

- Regulatory and legislative review
- Programming and budgeting
- Risk assessments, mitigation planning
- Technical survey design and management

PROJECT

Permitting and Consenting to Offshore Wind Energy

UNOPS - Energy Transition Partnership | 2023-Present

Initiated by the Department of Energy with backing from the Southeast Asian Energy Transition Partnership, the project “Permitting and Consenting to Offshore Wind Energy” aims to create a streamlined process for offshore wind development in the Philippines.

This critical project is being implemented in response to Executive Order No. 21, which mandates the establishment of an efficient policy framework for the successful development of offshore wind in the Philippines, and as a result of amendments made to the Public Service Act, which allows for the complete foreign ownership of public services, including renewable energy development.

The Philippines is highly conducive to offshore wind power generation. A roadmap by the World Bank Group and the Department of Energy anticipates a potential 21 gigawatts of energy produced through offshore wind in the country, and one gigawatt alone can provide power to nearly 900,000 households. This makes the project crucial in aligning government agencies as they pursue the advancement of offshore wind energy in the Philippines. It also stands as a testament to NIRAS's trusted services in both project delivery and preparation.



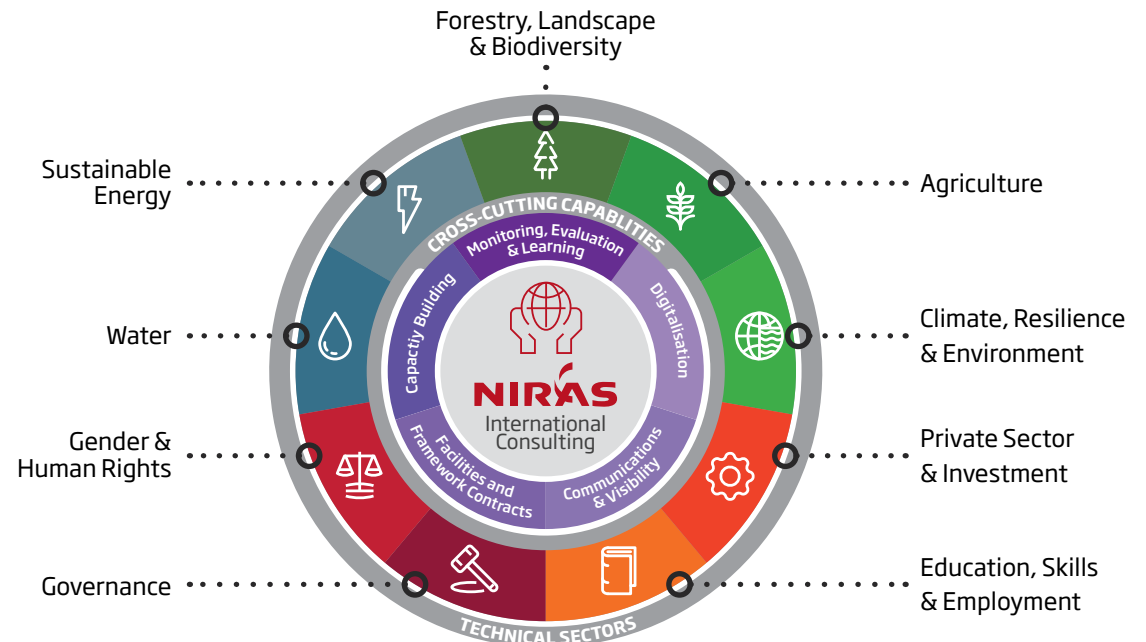
International Development Consulting



In fulfilling our purpose of building a more equal, stable and sustainable world, we aim to be a recognised driver of positive change and innovation in sustainable development at local and global levels.

NIRAS excels in delivering technical assistance across various service sectors. Among others, we focus on addressing the needs of developing and emerging countries in areas such as urban and rural development, good governance, sustainable energy, climate change and resilience, natural resource management and agriculture. Our institutional partnerships extend to international development organisations, donors, national governments, institutional investors and the private sector. Together, we collaborate in designing, managing and evaluating projects and services that create opportunities for people to improve their well-being in safe, equal, well-governed and climate-resilient societies.

Our Service Sectors



Social Development

The Philippines' natural resources are affected by rapid urbanisation, population growth and governance issues that can be addressed through inclusive development and human-centric solutions. Over the years, NIRAS has demonstrated its capabilities and expertise in enhancing livelihoods, well-being and resilience among vulnerable groups.

NIRAS has extensive experience in mainstreaming gender equality and adopting social safeguards for vulnerable persons for donor-funded projects. These include Resettlement Plans, Gender Action Plans, and Indigenous Peoples Plans.

In the Philippines, we have been working with the ADB in applying the "Graduation Approach", an innovative approach to reducing poverty and inequality.

Our services in this area

- Policy & Strategy Advice
- Technical design and analysis
- Institutional governance & support
- Network-building and Capacity development
- Resettlement Action Plans
- Livelihood Restoration and Improvement Plan
- Monitoring, evaluation & learning

PROJECT

Strengthening the Transition of Vulnerable Communities

Asian Development Bank | 2020-Present

The Malolos-Clark Railway Project (MCRP) and South Commuter Railway (SCR) financed by the ADB and Japan International Cooperation Agency are supporting the construction of two sections of the North-South Commuter Railway (NSCR) totalling 53.2 kilometres. The ADB and Department of Transportation (DOT) recognise the potential of the "Graduation Approach" to assist project-affected households (AHs) relocated under this project to achieve key milestones towards sustainable livelihoods and socioeconomic resilience.

The programme assists AHs to develop livelihood programmes based on their individual contexts and productive assets. The NIRAS-led consortium provides access to training, coaching and other support services to enable AHs to "graduate" from extreme poverty. Best practices and lessons learned from employing this model will serve to improve future policies governing resettlement.



PROJECT

Gender-Responsive Procurement (GRP) in the Asia Pacific: Assessment and recommendations for supporting women-led businesses

Asian Development Bank & UN Women | 2020-2021

Gender-responsive procurement is emerging as a powerful means to act as a bridge women's businesses to markets and support their viability and growth and will allow larger companies to put a gender-lens to their sourcing footprint and ultimately allow international trade to become more gender-equal. The purpose of the regional benchmarking study was to assess existing and future opportunities for gender-responsive procurement in the Asia Pacific, addressing both the public and private sectors. The project focused on Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and the Philippines. Among the project outputs, NIRAS developed an overview of GRP practices in the public and private sectors, value chain analysis of main sectors and companies where women's involvement is high and where women's businesses are concentrated, and provided recommendations through policies, tools and programmatic approaches based on global best practices.

Environment and Natural Resources

For over 50 years, NIRAS has tackled complex projects within the realm of natural resource management at the intersections of climate change, forestry, water resources, ecosystems, landscapes and institutional governance. NIRAS understands that the way in which natural resources are accessed, managed and controlled represents political, institutional, economic, environmental, social and cultural challenges.

Our highly experienced in-house experts have extensive knowledge and expertise in the sustainable management of resources, capacity development activities that include training and workshops, monitoring and evaluation services and the mainstreaming of climate action, disaster risk reduction and biodiversity conservation. Successful governance of natural resources ensures equitable access, sustainable management and conservation of public environmental goods, as well as tenure security and financial returns for legitimate land holders. We ensure that no one is left behind.

Our services in this area

- Policy & strategy advice
- Environment impact assessment (EIA)
- Initial environmental examination (IEE)
- Environment monitoring plan
- Monitoring, evaluation & learning
- Technical design and analysis
- Institutional governance & support
- Network-building and capacity development
- Awareness and environmental education

PROJECT

TA to the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN

European Commission | 2017-2023

In ASEAN countries, this project successfully enhanced biodiversity conservation and made effective the management of each nation's protected areas. It provided technical support to the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) primarily to reduce biodiversity loss.

Site-level interventions improved biodiversity conservation and protected area management, as well as supported the ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHP) Programme. National interventions emphasised the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and protected area management in development plans and educational systems among ASEAN countries by using and developing scientific knowledge as basis for biodiversity conservation.

On a regional level, the project highlighted capacity building and training, and capitalised on the institutional strengthening of the ACB as a regional mechanism that supported the ASEAN regional agenda on biodiversity.



PROJECT

Philippines: Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific - Public Awareness and Demand Reduction

Asian Development Bank | 2019-2020

This project combatted organised environmental crime in the Philippines through three key components: NIRAS's role was to implement the third component of the project, focussing on Public Awareness and Demand Reduction. The component aimed to (1) increase public awareness of the direct impacts of illegal wildlife trade on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning and services and (2) implement demand reduction measures for at least two priority illegally traded wildlife species in the Philippines.

PROJECT

Mindanao Irrigation Development Project

Asian Development Bank | 2020-2024

This project assisted the Philippine Government in improving the productivity and climate resilience of irrigated agriculture in Mindanao by: (1) strengthening irrigation planning, design and management capacities; (2) developing efficient and climate resilient irrigation systems; and (3) adopting climate-resilient irrigated farming practices. In the NIRAS-led consortium, NIRAS provided expertise and resources for international experts in water resources, agriculture development, geographic information system/asset management, climate change and social development specialists.

Climate Resilience and Adaptation

Among the many nations deeply affected by the climate crisis, the Philippines faces some of the most alarming consequences. Urban and rural regions tend to experience severe flooding and heat, destroying homes and putting the health of individuals at great risk. Agriculture is likewise impacted by extreme weather conditions, causing crop loss, water contamination, damage to farming and irrigation systems and loss of livelihoods.

Through NIRAS's global pool of experts and experience that stretches far beyond the Asia-Pacific region, we are more than adept at taking on projects that result in adaptive mechanisms addressing the increasing impact of climate change. Our approach to project management in this field takes into account not only considerations related to climate, environment and nature, but also the development needs of individuals living in concerned areas. NIRAS has also carried out over a hundred assignments in disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, strengthening our experience in this sector.

At NIRAS, we advocate for holistic and inclusive solutions tailored to the needs of both participants and clients. This ensures the seamless and speedy delivery of projects, bringing our planet so much closer to a green and sustainable future.

Our services in this area

- Policy analysis and formulation
- Project(s) preparation, implementation & MEL
- Capacity development
- Thematic event management services

PROJECT

Accelerating Climate Resilience in Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment

Asian Development Bank | 2023-2024

Accelerating Climate Resilience in Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment (ANRE) is an ADB-funded project that aims to curtail the effects of climate change in the Philippines by strengthening sectors - namely, agriculture, natural resources and the environment - drastically affected by this global phenomenon.

NIRAS's role involves preparing the implementation readiness of ANRE through diagnostic and analytical work, policy advice, capacity building and multi-stakeholder dialogues. Examples of project activities include supporting the research and development of non-GMO climate-smart technologies and preparing a medium-term agriculture insurance roadmap.

ANRE is the first of its kind as a project that will give rise to a policy-based loan for climate change. It falls under the Climate Change Action Programme, whose primary objective to enable vulnerable sectors adapt to climate change, as well as mitigate the carbon footprint of sectors that regularly pump out greenhouse gases (i.e., energy and transport).



PROJECT

Ex-Post Evaluation of the Disaster Risk Management and Institutional Strengthening of Local Government Units (DRM-IS) Technical Assistance

Agence Française de Développement | 2022

The independent evaluation assessed the DRM-IS Technical Assistance to the Government of the Philippines' Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and 52 local government units (LGUs). The TA aimed to achieve the Philippines' disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) vision of a "safer, adaptive, and disaster-resilient Filipino communities towards sustainable development" by enabling the LGUs to improve their institutional, technical and financial capacity for adequate performance and delivery of DRRM services.

The evaluation used the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) Criteria, and examined the TA against Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, and Sustainability. Moreover, the evaluation examined the extent of the project contribution in terms of increases in institutional capacity at the DILG and LGU levels. Lastly, the evaluation identified critical lessons to inform and frame future programs and investment of AFD in the Philippines, particularly in disaster preparedness and devolution of functions to LGUs.

Education

Education, skills and employment promotion play a key role in achieving national development visions and strategies. They are essential for promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth at a local level, while addressing global challenges such as economic migration.

We promote the adoption of a lifelong learning perspective and treat skills development in the context of the entire educational system, recognising that it can be school-based, in-company, cooperative, or informal in nature. Our goal is to improve the quality of existing education and training systems. We do this by working closely with national counterparts to strengthen local structures and institutions in the context of existing socioeconomic conditions.

Leveraging our global expertise in the education, skills & training sector, we have recently concluded our first education project in the Philippines.

Our services in this area

- Distance learning development
- Policy & strategy advice

PROJECT

EdTech Solutions for Last Mile Schools in COVID-19

Asian Development Bank | 2021-2023

As part of the Philippine Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, public education has transitioned towards blended learning modalities. The project aims to build on international experience on education technology (EdTech); test the approach in a disadvantaged, remote setting in rural Philippines; and identify best practices and lessons learned for EdTech solutions that can be implemented during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

In total, the NIRAS-led consortium was able to:



271 Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs)

turned into Digital Learning Modules (DLM) for junior and senior highschool students, exceeding the original target of 248 MELCs.



21 Schools supplied with network equipment and tablets

benefiting students in grades 7-10



8 Technical expertise and training courses organized

which tackled a range of topics, including the set up of learning management systems, design and creation of DLMS, and teaching in a post-pandemic context.



4 Last-Mile schools supplied with WiFi systems and Moodle servers



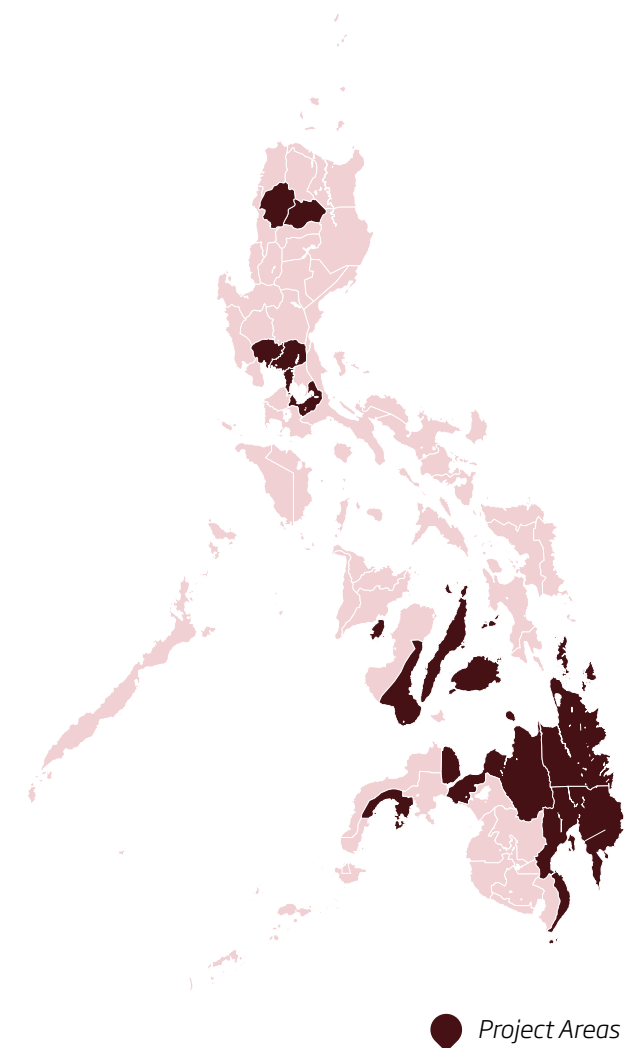
Project Overview

OUR PROJECTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Strengthening the Transition of Vulnerable Communities Affected by the Malolos-Clark Railway Project	Asian Development Bank 2020-2023
Strengthening the Transition of Vulnerable Communities Affected by the South Commuter Railway Project	Asian Development Bank 2023-Present
Implementation of Pilot Project on 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) in the Philippines	GIZ 2023 - Present
Permitting and Consenting to Offshore Wind Energy	UNOPS 2023-Present
TA-10009 PHI: Accelerating Climate Resilience in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and the Environment	Asian Development Bank 2023-Present
EdTech Solutions for Last Mile Schools in COVID-19	Asian Development Bank 2021-2023
Mindanao Irrigation Development Project	Asian Development Bank 2020-2024
TA to the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP)	European Commission 2017-2023
Ex-Post Evaluation of the Disaster Risk Management and Institutional Strengthening of Local Government Units (DRM-IS) Technical Assistance	Agence Française de Développement 2022
Protecting and Investing in Natural Capital in Asia and the Pacific - Public Awareness and Demand Reduction	Asian Development Bank 2019-2021
Gender-Responsive Procurement (GRP) in the Asia Pacific: Assessment and recommendations for supporting women-led businesses	Asian Development Bank & UNWomen 2020-2021
Identification of a Job Creation Programme for ARMM	European Commission 2016
Support to the Climate Change Commission Phase II (SupportCCC II) - Component 4: Renewable Energy Development and Energy Planning	GIZ 2016-2018

REGIONAL PROJECTS MANAGED

Cambodia - Integrated Water Resources Management	Asian Development Bank 2022-Present
Viet Nam - Climate Adaptive Integrated Flood Risk Management Project (CAIFRMP)	Asian Development Bank 2022-Present
Viet Nam - Design the EU-VN Forestry Support Programme	European Commission 2023
Marshall Islands - Final evaluation of energy sector reform contract	European Commission 2022-2023
Papua New Guinea - Short Term Technical Assistance to support the Informal Economy	European Commission 2020-2023
Bangladesh - Second Coastal Towns Environmental Infrastructure Improvement Project (51325-001)	Asian Development Bank 2021-2022
Pacific Islands - PacWastePlus Mid-Term Evaluation	European Commission 2023



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