The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is assisting the Government of the Philippines in its immediate coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response measures, particularly in the health sector and structural reforms including labor and employment programs to aid post-pandemic recovery and overall economic resilience.

In 2021, more than half of ADB’s $2.2 billion total loan commitments to the Philippines focused on boosting the country’s health care service delivery amid the COVID-19 pandemic. This included $650 million in loans for two projects focusing on health system enhancement (HEAL2) and its additional financing. These helped the government procure life-saving COVID-19 vaccines for its national vaccination program. The COVID-19 vaccines purchased by the government using the HEAL2 loan comprised about half of the country’s total vaccine procurement in 2021. ADB also extended a $600 million policy-based loan to help the Philippines provide quality and equitable health services.

To date, ADB has committed 612 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling $27.4 billion to the Philippines. Cumulative loan and grant disbursements to the Philippines amount to $22.01 billion. These were financed by regular and concessional ordinary capital resources, and other special funds. ADB’s ongoing sovereign portfolio in the Philippines includes 28 loans worth $8.33 billion.1

In addition to its health-related support, ADB provided a $400 million policy-based loan to help the Philippines expand its youth employment and skills programs to assist young Filipinos find quality jobs and create a wider employment base for post-pandemic economic growth for the country.

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1 Sovereign portfolio consists of loans, grants, equity investment, and sovereign guarantee committed and not financially closed. Regional projects with loans/grants to multiple countries are reported separately.
On infrastructure, ADB committed a $175 million loan to help the government build three new climate- and disaster-resilient bridges over the Marikina River to improve road traffic flow amid the rapid urbanization of Metro Manila. Construction work on the Malolos–Clark Railway Project, part of the government’s flagship North–South Commuter Railway Project, also began in 2021. In addition, ADB is financing, through the Infrastructure Preparation and Innovation Facility, two large consulting services contracts signed by the government in 2021 for the detailed engineering design of a road network project and the Metro Rail Transit-4 project, which will link Manila to the eastern Rizal province. These projects are part of the government’s flagship “Build, Build, Build” (BBB) infrastructure development program.

To help improve local governments’ capacity to provide high-quality public services especially during the pandemic, ADB provided a $400 million policy-based loan to help strengthen local government units’ service delivery framework and modernize local public financial management.

**Nonsovereign operations.** Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of ADB’s nonsovereign transactions in the Philippines as of 31 December 2021 was $115.84 million representing 0.82% of ADB’s total private sector portfolio.

**Operational challenges.** The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns have caused temporary delays in the government’s BBB program. Despite this, ADB remains committed to support the Philippines in achieving its goal to increase public infrastructure spending to at least 5% of its gross domestic product (GDP) for 2021 and 2022, from 4.8% of GDP in 2020 and an average of less than 3% of GDP in past decades.

Government agencies’ capacity to roll out large and complex infrastructure plans will need to be further strengthened. ADB is supporting the government in this area through loans, grants, and technical assistance. The bank is working closely with the government to enhance the technical and institutional capacities of national and local agencies and staff; improve interagency coordination; and strengthen partnerships among the government, private sector, and development partners.

**KNOWLEDGE WORK**

ADB extended technical assistance to the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) for policy advisory and knowledge support. It is also helping NEDA assess its organizational structure and develop a strategy for change management and reengineering internal business processes. ADB is supporting a study on the optimal institutional and governance structure for the entire bureaucracy of the country. Another technical assistance will help the Department of Finance develop the Philippines’ long-term economic growth strategy to guide structural reforms toward more inclusive growth and steer the country to a high-income status.

ADB assisted the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in conducting consultations with government agencies and business and labor groups to develop recommendations for the National Employment Recovery Strategy. ADB with the DTI, DOLE, and the Department of Tourism also prepared

### Philippines: Share of Procurement Contracts for Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Goods, Works, and Related Services Amount ($ million)</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,621.08</td>
<td>20.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1,389.66</td>
<td>6.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2021)</td>
<td>17,449.28</td>
<td>7.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consulting Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount ($ million)</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>27.93</td>
<td>3.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>23.03</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2021)</td>
<td>564.40</td>
<td>3.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Procurement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount ($ million)</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,649.01</td>
<td>19.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1,412.69</td>
<td>6.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2021)</td>
<td>18,013.68</td>
<td>7.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 5 Contractors/Suppliers from the Philippines Involved in Goods, Works, and Related Services Contracts under ADB Loan and Grant Projects, 1 January 2017–31 December 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contractor/Supplier</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Contract Amount ($ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acciona Construction Philippines Inc.</td>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>538.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer, Inc.</td>
<td>HLT</td>
<td>154.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Abubakar Construction and Engineering, Inc. &amp; Sino Road and Bridge Group Co. Ltd. (JV)</td>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>28.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAC Builders &amp; Flat Construction Services (JV)</td>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>10.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webb Fontaine Asia Inc.</td>
<td>IND</td>
<td>6.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,455.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,194.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 5 Consultants from the Philippines Involved in Consulting Services Contracts under ADB Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects, 1 January 2017–31 December 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultant</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Contract Amount ($ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renardet S.A. Consulting Engineers</td>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>10.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Technology Management Corp.</td>
<td>EDU</td>
<td>8.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAS Asia Manila Inc.</td>
<td>ANR, EDU, PSM, TRA, WUS</td>
<td>5.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Rim Innovation &amp; Management Exponents Inc.</td>
<td>ANR, EDU, TRA</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save the Children Philippines</td>
<td>PSM</td>
<td>2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Consultants</td>
<td></td>
<td>67.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td>25.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>123.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Philippines: Ordinary Capital Resources Nonsovereign Commitments by Product

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2017–2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Transactions Signed (OCR)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Transactions Signed (Programs)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount ($ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity Investments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guarantees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.
an employer-led skills development grants matching program called SkillsUpNet Philippines to train workers in five priority sectors: agribusiness, construction, information technology and business process management, tourism, and women-led enterprises across the Philippines beginning in 2022.

In 2021, ADB adopted a more responsive country knowledge program in view of emerging development challenges, including the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The new knowledge program is better aligned with the Philippines’ long-term vision under AmBisyon Natin 2040 and ADB country partnership strategy priorities.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Financing partnerships enable ADB’s partner governments or their agencies, multilateral institutions, and private organizations to participate in ADB projects. The additional funds may be in the form of loans and grants, technical assistance, and nonsovereign cofinancing.

Cumulative cofinancing commitments in the Philippines:

• Sovereign cofinancing: $8.45 billion for 64 investment projects and $108.84 million for 71 technical assistance projects since 1972
• Nonsovereign cofinancing: $971.18 million for 11 investment projects since 1990

In 2021, the Philippines received a total of $550 million in loan cofinancing from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank for the Second Health System Enhancement to Address and Limit COVID-19 under the Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility.

A summary of projects with cofinancing from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2021 is available at www.adb.org/countries/philippines/cofinancing.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

ADB’s country partnership strategy for the Philippines 2018–2023 supports infrastructure investment, local economic development, and increased social support for the bottom 40% of the population.

ADB will focus investments on projects that will connect communities through infrastructure, support the development of progressive cities to ensure high living standards, and ensure sustainability of local economic growth. The bank will also support projects that will increase the resilience of communities as the country recovers from the economic impact of COVID-19.

These operations will be complemented by a series of sequenced policy reform programs to help the country achieve its strong climate commitments and accelerate economic recovery through greater private sector participation, job creation, food security, access to health care, and less exposure to prospective epidemics and disasters triggered by natural hazards.
ADB AT A GLANCE

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It has 68 members—of which 49 are from Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside. ADB headquarters is in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world, with 3,693 staff from 65 of its members as of 31 December 2021.

ADB maximizes the development impact of its assistance to its developing members by providing financing and tailored knowledge solutions through policy dialogue and advisory services, among others. It mobilizes financial resources through cofinancing from official, commercial, and export credit sources. ADB pivoted swiftly to answer the needs of its developing members and will remain agile and responsive in the years ahead. It has started to see the shoots of a green recovery, but the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and the outbreak of conflicts still threaten lives and prosperity. ADB will continue to work closely with members and development partners through these challenges to achieve a better future for all in Asia and the Pacific.

ADB operations. In 2021, ADB committed $22.8 billion in loans, grants, equity investments, private sector programs, and technical assistance both to the public and private sectors of its borrowing members. ADB bolstered its total support with cofinancing of $12.9 billion.

As of 31 December 2021, ADB’s cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at $342 billion covering 4,061 loans, $11.7 billion in 521 grants, and $5.2 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants. In addition to loans, grants, and technical assistance, ADB uses guarantees and equity investments to help its developing member countries.

Total commitments in nonsovereign loans and equity investments from ADB’s own funds in 2021 amounted to $1.2 billion for 35 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, finance sector, and agribusiness.

In 2021, ADB mobilized $1.7 billion of long-term project cofinancing and $5.8 billion of cofinancing through its Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of nonsovereign transactions funded by ADB’s own resources stood at $14 billion as of 31 December 2021.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2021

- $12.93 billion for 187 projects, of which:
  - $12.38 billion, 75 investment projects,
  - $134.67 million, 110 technical assistance projects,
  - $422.87 million transaction advisory services for 2 projects.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2021

- $140.43 billion for 3,165 projects, of which:
  - $136.6 billion, 1,098 investment projects,
  - $2.8 billion, 2,061 technical assistance projects,
  - $1.07 billion transaction advisory services for 6 projects.

PROCUREMENT

ADB’s Procurement Contracts, 2021

Goods, Works, and Related Services

ADB’s procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for goods, works, and related services under loan and grant operations:

- $22.93 billion in 2020
- $15.6 billion in 2021
- $232.16 billion covering 225,336 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

Consulting Services

ADB’s procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for consulting services under loan, grant, and technical assistance operations:

- $730.78 million in 2020
- $697.03 million in 2021
- $14.86 billion covering 71,348 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

MORE ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES AND ADB

Shareholding and Voting Power

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of shares held</th>
<th>252,912 (2.38% of total shares)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Votes</td>
<td>292,026 (2.2% of total membership, 3.37% of total regional membership)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Overall capital subscription: $3.54 billion
*Paid-in capital subscription: $177 million

*United States dollar figures are valued at rate as of 31 December 2021.

Contributions to Special Funds Resources

Philippines contributes to the Asian Development Fund (ADF) and the Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF). The ADF provides grants to ADB’s lower-income developing member countries. The TASF provides technical assistance grants to developing member countries to help prepare projects and undertake technical or policy studies.

Contributions to the ADF (committed): $2.48 million
Contributions to the TASF (committed): $0.67 million

ADB Governor: Carlos G. Dominguez
ADB Alternate Governor: Benjamin Diokno
ADB Director: Noor Ahmed (Pakistan)
ADB Alternate Director: Paul Dominguez (Philippines)

Annual Meetings


CONTACTS

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Established: 2000
Country Director: Kelly Bird

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Fax: +63 2 8683 1030
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Metro Manila, Philippines
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Useful ADB websites

Asian Development Bank
www.adb.org

Annual Report
www.adb.org/documents/series/adb-annual-reports

Asian Development Outlook
www.adb.org/publications/series/asian-development-outlook

ADB Data Library
data.adb.org

Notes: (i) Figures are estimated by ADB unless otherwise stated. “$” refers to United States dollars. (ii) Data are updated as of 31 December 2021 unless otherwise indicated. (iii) Front page photo by the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.