

## Information on the country strategy Philippines

For each partner country of VLIR-UOS, a country strategy has been developed. The country strategy represents the strategic niche for VLIR-UOS cooperation in a country, with specific **thematic areas** and an institutional and/or regional focus, based on the needs and national priorities of the country with regard to higher education and development. The [Philippines Country Strategy](#) fits with the national long-term vision 2040 and its aspiration for the country that Filipinos are smart and innovative. This is translated in the country strategy by means of 4 central themes: **'health'**, **'social development'**, **'food security'** and **'environment'**. 'Research support' and 'improving educational quality' have been identified as crosscutting themes. A **geographical focus** is not put forward, but attention for remote areas and islands should be encouraged. A specific **type of institution** is not put forward, as to explore cooperation possibilities in a first phase. Recognised higher education institutes and national research centres are eligible. Working with 'centres of development' of the national classification is stimulated. 'Centres of excellence' can play a supporting role, as to promote internal linkages and strengthen career opportunities for young academics.

## Information for potential synergy and complementarity

Synergy and complementarity (S&C) can improve the impact of development cooperation interventions and is a top priority of the Belgian minister of Development Cooperation and encouraged by the reform of non-governmental cooperation in 2016. In order to promote S&C, all Belgian non-governmental development actors were invited to elaborate a Joint Strategic Framework (JSFs) per country in 2016. These JSFs provide information about the goals to which the actors want to contribute, and also indicate potential for synergy and complementarity. In the table below, a general overview of relevant information from the **Joint Strategic Framework** Philippines is provided for each **thematic area** of the VLIR-UOS **country strategy**. The Joint Strategic **Goal** relevant for each theme is listed, together with the **Belgian non-governmental actors** which are active in **the Philippines** with funding of the Belgian development cooperation. By providing this list, VLIR-UOS wants to facilitate **synergy** and/or complementarity with programmes of other Belgian actors. Synergy and complementarity will also be integrated as an element in the **selection** of interventions, more in particular when discussing the (developmental) relevance of project proposals. The last updated version of the JSF Philippines can be found [here](#).

Thematic area of the VLIR-UOS country strategy	Potential match with the Joint Strategic Goal of the Joint Strategic Framework	Belgian Non-Governmental Actors active in this area
<b>HEALTH</b>	(2) A strong and vibrant public <b>health</b> system addressing the health needs of the poor giving due attention to the social determinants of health	G3W
<b>SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	(5) Respect for <b>human, children's and women rights</b> , and promotion of gender equality	KIYO, G3W, Solidagro, EF, 11.11.11, TRIAS, ETM
	(4) Promote inclusive growth through strengthening of <b>social enterprises</b> , enhance access to effective <b>government programs</b> , and advocate and assert adequate transparency and accountability mechanisms on trade, fiscal and public spending policies (Decent Work) Creating jobs and sustainable livelihoods, guaranteeing labour rights and extending social protection	KIYO, G3W, CSA Solidagro, EF, 11.11.11, TRIAS WSM-IIAV-BIS (regional level)

<b>FOOD SECURITY</b>	(1) <b>Agriculture</b> becomes a driving force in providing a sustainable livelihood to rural poor and building rural economies while addressing the impact of <b>climate change</b>	TRIAS, EF, Solidagro, CSA
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	(3) A sustainable management of <b>natural resources</b> , guided by the respect for HR, local needs, and of the needs of future generations.	11.11.11, Solidagro, CSA, G3W, EF, TRIAS, ETM
<b>HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH and INNOVATION POLICIES</b>	(6) Ensure and improve access to knowledge, improve <b>research</b> and stimulate innovation in order to contribute to development	VLIR-UOS, ARES, 11.11.11

More information about the other Belgian actors active in **the Philippines** with funding of the Belgian development cooperation can be found in the table below. Academics and ICOS elaborating a project proposal are invited to contact relevant organisations for more information and/or to enquire them on potential collaborations.

NGA	Short description of the activities in the Philippines	Name of the local partner(s)	Region(s)	Contact person
<b>11.11.11</b>	11.11.11 engages in partnerships with CSOs that are advocating for a more equitable and sustainable economy, in balance with the environment. The program will help to increase the pressure on government and private sector to ensure that human rights are protected and fulfilled as the partners continue to pursue ecological, economic, and gender justice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alyansa Tigil Mina</li> <li>• Bantay Kita</li> <li>• Freedom from Debt Coalition</li> <li>• Philippine Movement for Climate Justice</li> <li>• Focus on the Global South</li> <li>• Asian Peoples Movement on Debt and Development</li> <li>• NGO Forum on ADB</li> <li>• Reality of Aid</li> <li>• Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates</li> <li>• Tipanan</li> <li>• National Rural Women Coalition</li> </ul>	National level	<a href="#">Kris Vanslambrouck</a>
<b>Académie de Recherche et d'Enseignement Supérieur (ARES)</b>	Reducing the impact of volcanic disaster in the Philippines: towards improved capacities of human communities to cope with volcanic hazards Local adaptation, resilience & interpretation of socio-natural hazards, and environmental management in the Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of the Philippines</li> <li>• Ateneo de Manila University</li> </ul>	Manilla	<a href="#">Olivier Servais</a>

	Social justice implications of land use change in the Philippine uplands : Analysis of the socio-economic drivers and impacts on the land and its people			
<b>Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires (CSA)</b>	The program, while helping building a broad agri-cooperative movement and strengthening PAKISAMA's capacity to serve member organizations will focus its activities on the support of 21 member cooperatives producing organic rice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pakisama - Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka</li> </ul>	Luzon Visayas Mindanao	<a href="#">Judith Dufaux</a>
<b>Entraide et Fraternité (EF)</b>	The program developed by EF and its partners aims to strengthen the resilience of fishing communities and farmers against the harms of conventional agriculture and abusive exploitation, as well as against climate change, natural disasters, and socio-economic inequalities. The objectives of the program will enable targeted households to create alternative sources of income, better manage natural resources, reduce the risks associated with natural disasters and strengthen civil society networks and links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convergence of NGOs/POs in Zamboanga del Sur for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development</li> <li>• Demokratikong Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas – Lanao</li> <li>• Lanao Aquatic and Marine Fisheries Center for Community Development</li> <li>• Sumpay Mindanao, Inc.</li> <li>• Kilusang Maralita sa Kanayunan</li> </ul>	Mindanao	<a href="#">Guy Des Aulniers</a>
<b>Enfance Tiers Monde (ETM)</b>	Le programme d'ETM aux Philippines s'adresse aux enfants des rues, en conflit avec la loi, vulnérables. Un nouveau Centre d'orientation et d'accompagnement, dispensera des services sociaux de base à ces enfants en situation de vulnérabilité: appuis sur les plans médical, psychologique, administratif et légal; service spécialisé pour répondre aux problématiques prépondérantes et transversales de l'addiction aux drogues et de planning familial et santé sexuelle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virlanie Foundation Inc.</li> </ul>	Bacolod (Negros)	<a href="#">Johanna Vandamme</a>
<b>Geneeskunde voor de 3de Wereld – Kids &amp; YOUTH (G3W-KIYO-Solidagro)</b>	The three consortium partners will work in close collaboration to achieve a joint outcome, which is to mainstream the rights based approach (RBA) among Philippines national and regional/local civil society organizations (CSOs) in order to more effectively claim people's right. More specifically, the advocacy and campaigns on the right to health (with focus on advocacy for public health), the right to food (with focus on capacity building on and the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Association for the Rights of Children in South East Asia</li> <li>• Climate Change Network for Community Initiatives</li> <li>• Council for Health and Development</li> <li>• Children's Rehabilitation Center</li> <li>• GABRIELA</li> <li>• Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights</li> <li>• Philippine Network of Food Security Programmes</li> <li>• Alliance for Children's Concerns</li> </ul>	National Cordillera region Mindanao (Caraga and Davao region) Panay	<a href="#">Pascal Van Driessche</a>

	promotion of agro-ecology, and on land rights) and children's rights (with focus on the implementation of the ICRC) will be strengthened and better coordinated..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative Learning Center for Agricultural and Livelihood Development</li> <li>• Center for Development Programs in the Cordillera</li> <li>• Children's Legal Bureau</li> <li>• Cordillera Youth Center</li> <li>• Iloilo Children Welfare Foundation</li> <li>• Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation</li> <li>• IBON Philippines</li> </ul>	Cebu	
<b>TRIAS</b>	The programme seeks to substantially increase income and wellbeing of (subsistence) family farmers and small scale entrepreneurs, women and youth, and other excluded groups. Vehicle for the promotion and the sustainability of their development are their cooperatives and associations or member-based organisations with a mission and culture of inclusive economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tao Sa Kalikasan Foundation of the Philippines</li> <li>• Labo Progressive Multi Purpose Pooperative</li> <li>• Camarines Norte Federation of Cooperatives</li> <li>• Bicol Federation of Dairy Cooperatives</li> <li>• Gubat Saint Anthony Cooperative</li> <li>• San Dionisio Credit Cooperative</li> <li>• Ka-entrep Micro and Small Entrepreneurs Association of the Philippines</li> <li>• Pambansang Kalipunan ng mga Manggagawang Impormal sa Pilipinas</li> <li>• (National Federation of Informal Workers in the Philippines)</li> <li>• Alyansa Kan Parasira sa Sorsogon, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Alliance of Fisherfolks in Sorsogon)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Manilla Bicol Region	<a href="#">Marc Vogelaers</a>
<b>WereldSolidariteit Mondiale (WSM)</b>	The three partner organizations – two trade unions and one youth organisation – will promote better labour rights, decent wages and access to social protection for their respective target groups: precarious workers in the private sector, health workers in the public and private sector, young workers in the formal and informal economy..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alliance of Health Workers</li> <li>• Young Christian Workers of the Philippines</li> <li>• Kilusang Mayo Uno</li> </ul>	National	<a href="#">Jeroen Roskams</a>

More information can be found on our [Philippines page](#) of the website or by contacting the programme manager of VLIR-UOS [Inge Vandevyvere](#)