



■ Country Strategy Philippines

Main Goal:

Minority groups and the most marginalized communities, particularly children and women, who are the most vulnerable, are aware of their rights and how to access available resources for a life in dignity - free from exploitation and abuse.

The impact of the interventions will be increased through a greater concentration of work (regionalization) in some of the most poverty-stricken rural and upland areas in Eastern Visayas and Bicol (including Masbate), with special focus on the Indigenous People (IP) in Mindanao. Irrespective of this regionalization, selected Children at Risk (CaR) projects will also be supported in urban areas.

Our partners - both existing and prospective ones - shall adopt a holistic child and community development approach towards a community-managed and self-sustaining project with a clear exit strategy through close cooperation with the other sectors of the community and the mobilization of local resources.

The main interest of our partners, particularly in conflict-affected areas where peace and order are much less stable, is inter-faith co-operation at community level bringing development in mutual understanding and respect.

Advocacy, especially stronger support for the advocacy of children's rights, is achieved through regional and national networking, alliances with other NGOs and institutions and joint measures and campaigns.

Due to frequently occurring natural calamities it is essential that precautionary measures and actions to be taken in order to reduce the risks and damages in emergency situations. Therefore, both disaster preparedness and environmental protection are considered important measures in achieving sustainability in the target communities.

With respect to coordination it is obviously in the interest of synergy to have the Country Coordinator and the Finance Consultant share a common office, preferably in Manila, where most of the other development agencies/organisations and government offices are located.