



Deutsch-Philippinische  
Industrie- und Handelskammer  
German-Philippine Chamber  
of Commerce and Industry



Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Manila

THE 2025 SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

# THE GREEN ECONOMIES OF TOMORROW

The Philippines' NDC Progress and Climate Action

 **31 JANUARY** 2025  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

 **MAKATI SHANGRI-LA**

## BACKGROUND

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) play a vital role in global climate efforts, yet the Philippines' current targets indicate a gap in ambition, particularly within high CO<sub>2</sub>-emitting sectors. As urbanization accelerates, the urgency for sustainable business practices intensifies. Germany, a global leader in sustainability, offers valuable expertise in areas such as energy-efficient designs for buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces, alongside the creation of green jobs. These solutions can be adapted to the Philippine context to drive local progress.

On 31 January 2025, GPCCI, in collaboration with the German Embassy in Manila, will host the 2025 Sustainability Forum: “The Green Economies of Tomorrow”. The event will focus on key themes: Climate Action, evaluating the Philippines' progress on NDCs; Green Infrastructure, demonstrating how industries can adopt sustainable practices to lower energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions while improving urban resilience; and Green Jobs, highlighting the importance of skilled human capital to spearhead sustainable development across critical industries.



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## KEY TOPICS

### **The Philippines' Commitment to NDCs: Pathways to Achieving Climate Action Goals**

The discussion will focus on the Philippines' current status in meeting its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement, highlighting key actions and future pathways to achieve climate goals.

### **Green Infrastructure / Business Solutions: The Role of Sustainable Business Solutions in Achieving the Philippines' Climate Goals**

The discussion will explore how sustainable practices in infrastructure development and green business solutions can help the Philippines reduce emissions, enhance climate resilience, and achieve long-term climate goals.

### **Green Jobs: Empowering Jobs of Tomorrow for a Sustainable Future**

The discussion will explore how the Philippines can equip its workforce with the necessary skills and partnerships to thrive in a green economy and meet the demands of sustainable industries.

## PROGRAM

Time Allotment	Activity	Person-in-Charge
15 mins.	Registration	
5 mins.	Opening Remarks	<b>Ms. Marie Antoniette E. Mariano</b> President, GPCCI
5 mins.	Welcome Message	<b>H.E. Andreas Pfaffernoschke</b> German Ambassador to the Philippines, German Embassy Manila
<b>Part 1: Keynote Session</b>		
5 mins.	Introduction of Keynote Session	
15 mins.	Keynote: "The Philippines' Commitment to NDCs: Pathways to Achieving Climate Action Goals"	<b>Mr. Robert E.A. Borje</b> Vice Chairperson and Executive Director Climate Change Commission
15 mins.	Keynote Panel	<b>Panelists</b> <b>Mr. Robert E.A. Borje</b>

		<p>Vice Chairperson and Executive Director, Climate Change Commission</p> <p><b>Mr. Lucas Zaehringer (confirmed)</b> CEO, Planet 2050</p> <p><b>Mr. Edward Gacusana (confirmed)</b> Executive Director, United Nations Global Compact</p> <p><b>Ms. Naeeda Morgado (confirmed)</b> Senior Infrastructure Specialist (Climate Finance) - Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dr. David Klebs</b> Economic Counsellor, German Embassy Manila</p>
5 mins.	Break	Photo Opportunity/Awarding of Token
<b>Part 2: Green Infrastructure / Business Solutions</b>		
5 mins.	Introduction of Panelists and Topic	
25 mins.	Panel Discussion	<p><b>Panelists</b></p> <p><b>Usec. Rowena Guevara (confirmed)</b> Undersecretary, Department of Energy</p> <p><b>Arch. Felino "Jun" Palafox, Jr. (confirmed)</b> President &amp; Founder/Managing Partner, Palafoxassociates</p> <p><b>Mr. Ronald Mercado</b> Managing Director, BASF Philippines</p> <p><b>Mr. Jose Marie Enrico Buergo (confirmed)</b> President and CEO, Siemens Inc.</p> <p>Moderator: GPCCI</p>



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5 mins.	Break	Photo Opportunity/Awarding of Token
<b>Part 3: Green Jobs</b>		
5 mins.	Introduction of Panelists and Topic	
25 mins.	Panel Discussion	<p><b>Panelists</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Jaime Urquijo</b> Chief Sustainability &amp; Risk Officer, Ayala Corporation</p> <p><b>Ms. Jeanette Damo (confirmed)</b> Executive Director III, Department of Labor and Employment – Institute of Labor Studies</p> <p><b>Mr. Paolo Duarte</b> Managing Director, Bosch Philippines</p> <p><b>Mr. Khalid Hassan (tentatively confirmed)</b> Country Director, International Labor Organization Philippines</p> <p><b>Mr. Josef Werker (confirmed)</b> Co-founder and CEO, Humble Sustainability</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Mr. Tristan Arwen Loveres</b> Vice President, GPCCI</p>
5 mins.	Break	Photo Opportunity/Awarding of Token
5 mins.	Closing Remarks	