
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (PEP) – PHILIPPINES PROJECT

Project No.	: A-32497
Project Cost	: US\$12 million (CIDA's contribution: Cdn\$5 million)
Duration	: 4 years to June 2009
Location	: Nationwide (with a focus on Mindanao)
Implementing Agency	: International Finance Corporation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

IFC's PEP-Philippines project, with support from AusAID and CIDA, supports the growth of SMEs in the Philippines, particularly in Mindanao. The project builds on IFC's experience worldwide in running similar technical assistance projects in other countries, particularly Indonesia. The project focuses on improving access to finance for SMEs and in rural areas, strengthening value chains in particular sectors such as seaweed, improving the business enabling environment, and ensuring its support promotes gender equality and environmental sustainability. The project has offices both in Manila and Davao.

PROJECT GOAL:

To reduce poverty and improve livelihoods by improving the economic value-added of SMEs, particularly in Mindanao and other economically lagging regions of the country.

PROJECT PURPOSES:

The project will provide support in line with the IFC's five global business lines for its technical assistance projects: Business Enabling Environment; Access to Finance; Value Addition to Firms; Sustainability; and Infrastructure.

Initially, the project will focus on three areas:

- 1) Governance reform at the local level to simplify business registration and improve investment promotion;
- 2) Strengthening access to finance for small and medium enterprises;
- 3) Strengthening the agribusiness value chains in Mindanao. Other projects are at the concept stage.