



THE IDEAL INVESTMENT DESTINATION

THE PHILIPPINES MAKE IT HAPPEN

boi BOARD OF
INVESTMENTS
PHILIPPINES



At the heart of the world's fastest-growing economies is the Philippines, the ideal investment destination. Our business is to make your enterprises grow. The opportunities from our diversified sectors, with its incredible consumer market, have excellent trade options both in the Asia-Pacific and beyond. Our business-friendly laws that draw multinational companies are backed by a government committed to creating a business-friendly landscape. There has never been a better time to make it happen in the Philippines.



OUR BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

We are committed to providing a business-friendly environment for all enterprises. Our consistent economic growth, one of the highest in Asia, and investment-grade credit ratings are backed by strong macroeconomic fundamentals, prudent fiscal policies, enabling laws, high foreign exchange reserves, and massive infrastructure build-up. But our distinct Filipino hospitality, that attention and care to make sure your every need is met, every concern solved, and whatever adversity you encounter overcome, is what we offer to make your journey in building your business here truly successful.

OUR STRATEGIC LOCATION

We are known as the Pearl of the Orient and since ancient times the center of trade and commerce in the region. Today, we are at the heart of ASEAN, providing access to a 600 million market. ASEAN as a block, considered the fifth largest economy in the world, expects to soar even further in the next five years. Our strategic location and competitive labor costs enable businesses to access one of the world's major hubs for manufacturing and trade.



110 MILLION
Population



1.42 MILLION
Number of Businesses



US\$360 BILLION
GDP



24%
Increase in ease of doing
business

OUR PEOPLE

We are home to educated and highly adaptable people who are mostly bilingual. Nearly all have a working command of English and can easily learn a second foreign language wherever and whenever it is needed. Sixty-five percent of our population, our professionals and skilled workforce, are productive and considered our nation's lifeblood. They add to the economic value of areas where they are based.

REGIONAL POTENTIAL

The Philippines' 7,641 islands and its four diverse economic regions boast of highly-developed infrastructure, available resources, highly-qualified professionals and skilled workers, and a low-risk, stable environment: the paragon of a business location. These areas are also teeming with natural resources and breathtaking wonders where leisure and recreation complement every entrepreneur's busy schedule. The diversity of the Philippines allows us to service international businesses from a wide range of industries.

METRO MANILA AND THE URBAN BELT



Metro Manila and the urban belt comprise the diverse cosmopolitan areas of the Philippines' capital that extend from the north that include Clark in Pampanga

and Subic in Zambales, to the southern adjacent provinces of Rizal, Laguna and Cavite. Its more than 22 million population reside at the center of a massive infrastructure build-up. It is the nation's seat of government and the center of commerce, education, IT-BPM Services, and other leading industries. The various special economic zones around it means a strong, reliable, and extremely competent workforce and attractive incentives for enterprises that cater to the industrial and agricultural sectors.

NORTHERN PHILIPPINES



North of the Philippines is made up of Ilocos, Cagayan and the Cordillera regions. Its mountainous topography, valleys, and plains adjacent to the seas are home to many agricultural businesses, already known to produce tobacco, rice, corn, sugarcane, livestock and seafoods. However, abundant

metal and mineral deposits such as gold, copper and limestone can be found from Cagayan to the Cordillera, making the mining industry rife for growth. The region has a population of over 30 million, and a 96% employment rate.

The region is serviced by domestic and international airports, including Clark International Airport which offers daily flights to major Southeast Asian cities. Its proximity to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and Korea and its more than 50 ports, make it ideal for import and export.

ECONOMIC REGIONS

METRO MANILA & THE URBAN BELT

Airports

- Ninoy Aquino International Airport
- Clark International Airport
- Subic Bay International Airport
- Subic Bay Airport

Seaports

- Port of Manila (*Manila North & South Harbor*)
- Manila International Container Port
- Subic Bay Port
- Batangas Port

Special Economic Zone

- Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (*SBMA*)
- Subic Bay Freeport Zone
- Clark Freeport Zone (*CFZ*)
- The Freeport of Bataan

NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

Airports

- Tuguegarao Airport (*Cagayan*)
- Vigan Airport
- San Fernando Airport (*La Union*)
- Laoag International Airport

Seaports

- San Fernando (*La Union*) Port
- Sulvec Port
- Salomague International Port (*Cabugao, Ilocos Sur*)

Special Economic Zone

- Cagayan Special Economic Zone
- Poro Point Freeport Zone

CENTRAL PHILIPPINES

Airports

- Mactan Cebu International Airport
- Kalibo International Airport
- Iloilo International Airport
- Bohol-Panglao International Airport
- Bacolod-Silay Airport
- Daniel Z. Romualdez Tacloban City Airport

Seaports

- Cebu Port
- Iloilo Port
- Tagbilaran Port
- Banago Port (*Bacolod*)
- Liloan Port (*Cebu*)
- Maasin Port (*Leyte*)
- Culasi Port (*Roxas City, Capiz*)

Special Economic Zone

- Mactan Export Processing Zone

SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

Airports

- Francisco Bangoy (*Davao*) International Airport
- Laguindingan Airport (*Cagayan de Oro*)
- Zamboanga International Airport
- General Santos International Airport

Seaports

- Mindanao International Container Terminal (*Misamis Oriental*)
- Cagayan de Oro Port
- Port of Zamboanga
- Port of Ozamiz
- Port of General Santos
- Davao Port

Special Economic Zone

- Phividec Industrial Authority (*Misamis Oriental*)
- Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone



CENTRAL PHILIPPINES

Also known as the Visayas region, Central Philippines is the country's main source of seafood. It is a tourism hub, boasting heritage sites, long stretches of white sandy beaches..

Cebu is the region's core and has the country's fastest-growing economy. Cebu City, its capital, is the center of commerce, trade, education, and industry in the region. With its maritime culture and history, it has become a global hub for shipping, furniture-making, tourism, business processing services, and heavy industries.



Its rich natural and mineral resources make it the preferred haven for mining. Though one of the smallest regions, its 11 million population has an exceptionally high employment rate of 93%.

Aside from the much-improved and now world-class Mactan International Airport, the region has two other international airports under construction, as well as the expansion of domestic airports that will cover flights from South Korea. Its seaports are well-known in the area. Its ports in Bohol and Cebu can handle over 20 million kgs. of cargo.

SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES



The island of Mindanao in Southern Philippines has the greatest concentration of natural resources in the entire country. Its lush terrain and fair weather, rarely disturbed by storms throughout the year, make it the best place for agriculture and related industries. The advent of a new Bangsamoro Autonomous

Region in Muslim Mindanao means even greater stability in the region and opens greater investment opportunities, particularly for the Halal sector.

Mindanao's 60 ports, including its international seaport and container terminals, are among the most efficient in the country. There are direct flights to Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore, plus Hong Kong and Doha, Qatar.

Many Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) infrastructure projects are lined up in Mindanao from an advanced railway system that will further stimulate commerce and the movement of people, to producing more renewable energy to cope with the region's economic surge. Its 25 million population and 95% employment rate sustain this region and its neighboring provinces.

KEY INDUSTRIES

The Philippines has 33 preferred activities under its Investments Priorities Plan. Of these, five are key industries that investors may actively consider. Resources, partnerships, and opportunities are in place to enable these sectors to succeed and grow.



AEROSPACE

We are a newcomer in the aerospace industry value chain but have adequate capabilities in aerospace parts manufacturing, aircraft maintenance and repair (MRO) and aviation / aerospace / engineering trainings.

HIGH PERFORMANCE

We export more than US\$940 million aerospace parts and components annually – a 24% year-on-year increase. Our biggest export markets are the USA and France.

ASIAN GATEWAY

The Asia-Pacific is the fastest-growing region in the industry. Our strategic location is an ideal hub for the industry as it is only about four hours away from major cities in the region. The expansion of Clark International Airport, the creation of the Bulacan International Airport and the upgrade of the Sangley International Airport projects augured well for the industry in developing ancillary manufacturing areas for parts, including repair and maintenance of aircrafts.

THE RIGHT PEOPLE

Our young and vibrantly large population, highly skilled and trained to be customer-centric, provides an excellent base to help grow your business. Aviation skills training is comprehensive – from aircraft maintenance to aeronautical engineering and commercial pilot training.



US\$940+ MILLION

Value of aerospace parts exports



US\$2.2+ BILLION

Projected value of aerospace parts exports by 2022



31%

Increase in air passengers in recent years



100 MILLION

Projected number of inbound and domestic tourists by 2022



AUTOMOTIVE

The automotive industry continues to make the Philippines a competitive manufacturing base of motor vehicles and parts and components, serving both local and international markets, and acting as a global hub for automotive-related human resource development and process outsourcing.

The industry aims to have a 70:30 CKD:CBU market share ratio by achieving full capacity utilization and achieving a 150% increase in nationwide capacity by 2022.

ESTABLISHED INDUSTRY

Our automotive industry is already integrated with the major global value chains – companies like Denso, Fujitsu, Continental and Yazaki already know we help make it happen.

STRONG INDUSTRY LINKS

Investors in our automotive sector will benefit from the strength of our allied industries. From dies and moulds to our world-leading IT-BPM sector, we can respond quickly to changes in this fast-moving market.

GOVERNMENT BACKED

An extensive legislative and policy framework is already in place to support the development of the automotive industry. Significant transport and infrastructure projects will increase the demand for cars domestically. Through strategic initiatives, we also provide performance-based fiscal support for automotive companies that focus on the development of the electric vehicle industry.



US\$4.4+ BILLION
Annual automotive
parts export value



70,000
People employed in the
automotive industry



300,000
Cars sold annually



55+
Foundries in
supplying automotive
manufacturers



COPPER INDUSTRY

Our vast mineral deposits contain sizeable reserves of minerals dominated by copper, which is estimated at four billion metric tons—making the Philippines the fourth-largest copper producer in the world.

HIGH CLASS FACILITIES

Our world-class smelting plant and refinery supports a range of extraction techniques. Pollution abatement facilities, an air strip and an onsite training complex sustain our workforce.

STRONG DIVERSITY

We have developed multiple methods for extraction and manufacturing. Smelting, refining, rolling, and extrusion allow for the manufacture of a multitude of high-demand copper-based products such as cathodes, alloys, and foil.

PRIME LOCATION

Strategically located in the central Philippines, our smelting plant benefits from access to two large ports, two bays and a deep-harbour facility. It can accommodate large vessels with room for up to 5,000 metric tons of copper. The multipurpose port can handle both inbound and outbound cargo.



330,000 MT

Copper cathode capacity



300,000

Dry metric tons of copper concentrate produced annually



36,000 MTPY

Production of copper wires and cable



US\$2 BILLION+

Value of copper exports annually



I.T. AND BUSINESS PROCESSING MANAGEMENT

We continue to lead the industry and we intend to maintain our place by strengthening our domain expertise and leveraging on advanced technologies and ensuring that the current and succeeding talent pool are future ready. Voice remains a major strength. The sector has grown in the last decade, with a year-to-year average revenue gain of 17% and expanding to employ nearly 100,000 new specialists annually. Additional government support through incentives and our rich talent pool generate a very competitive offer to investors.

WELL-ESTABLISHED

For the last two decades, we have been a cost-competitive destination for major multinational companies whose businesses comprise 20% of our global IT-BPM sector.

ACCELERATION

In the Philippines, we are all about acceleration: strengthening existing capability, leveraging advances in technology, and ensuring a future-ready workforce.

EVOLUTION

The English-language skills and dedication of the workforce are the foundation of our IT-BPM industry. The same pool of talented professionals are ready to adapt and take on responsibility in higher-value services like finance, healthcare, IT support, graphic design, gaming, and applications development.



#1 IN VOICE-BASED
#2 IN NON-VOICE-BASED
 business and process
 management
 (BPM) globally



#2
 in the top 50
 digital nations



7.6+ MILLION
 people directly and
 indirectly employed in
 the industry



US\$28.4+ BILLION
 Annual industry
 revenues



ELECTRONICS

The Electronics industry remains our top exporter with over US\$32 billion worth of products. Dynamic and competitive, it continues to develop and strengthen the local supply chain, producing, and retaining the right talent to support higher value activities. By 2030, it is expected to generate investments of US\$10 billion, and export at least US\$120 billion worth of goods produced by close to 14 million workers. Part of its strategic roadmap is to expand research and development by creating more incubation laboratories and foster academic linkages.

TALENTED WORKFORCE

Our people deliver: we provide the high standards of quality and productivity at competitive costs that this global industry demands.

STRONG POTENTIAL

Proven capability in the semiconductor sector means we are ideally positioned to take advantage of shifting market dynamics and changing consumer demands.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

We offer generous fiscal incentives support to capital investments and the sourcing of raw materials. Reaching proven export markets from a base in the Philippines utilizing the country's network of free trade agreements (FTAs) or General System of Preference (GSPs) is already part of multinational companies' value chain.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Philippine government is investing in research and development to help the industries grow. The focused products and technologies include autonomous vehicle batteries, IC (integrated circuit) design, 3D printing, sensors, and SMART wearables.



60%

Total exports from the Philippines annually



US\$40+ BILLION

Total value of the industry



3.2 MILLION

People employed in the industry



500

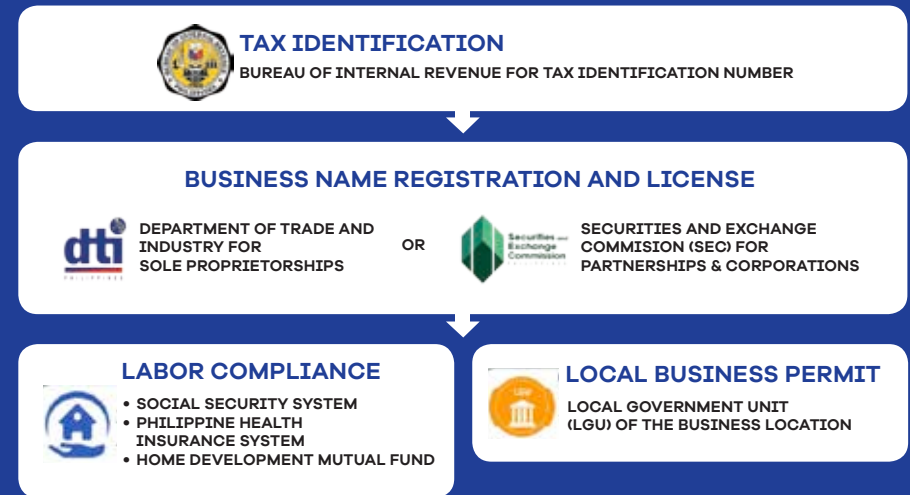
Active semiconductor and electronics companies

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR BUSINESS

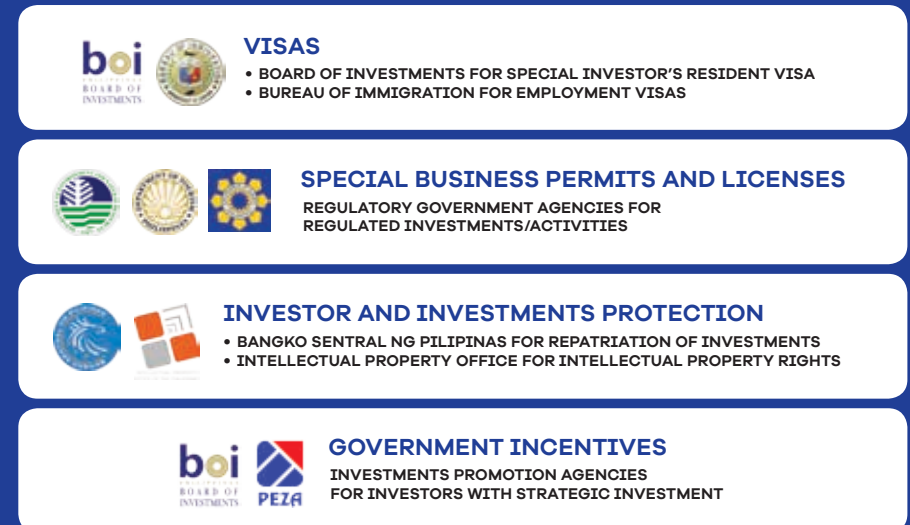


Now is the right time to start your business in the Philippines! The recently passed Republic Act No. 11032 s. 2018, otherwise known as "The Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 has made it convenient for businesses to set-up in the country. The law has streamlined the bureaucracy with a prescribed processing time, created a unified Business Application form, established a Business One Stop Shop (BOSS) and allowed Barangay clearances and permits to be issued at the city or municipality halls. The simplified measures are further boosted with the new Central Business Portal (CBP). This on-line platform is designed for a more efficient way of registering one's business, as well as securing and submitting business requirements. Hence, only four basic steps are needed before establishing your base in the Philippines:

APPLICATION FOR PERMITS, LICENSES, AND CLEARANCES FOR TIN



ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES



DIFFERENT TYPES OF COMPANIES:

SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP

Sole Proprietorship is a business structure owned by an individual who has full control/authority of its business and owns all the assets; personally owes and accountable to all liabilities and losses but enjoys all the profits. A sole proprietorship must apply for a business name and be registered with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – National Capital Region (NCR) or if located in the provinces, secures its business name and registration with the DTI regional/provincial offices.

PARTNERSHIP

Under the Civil Code of the Philippines, a partnership is treated as a juridical person, having a separate legal personality from that of its members. Partnerships may either be general partnerships, where the partners have unlimited liability for the debts and obligation of the partnership, or limited partnerships, where one or more general partners have unlimited liability and the limited partners have liability only up to the amount of their capital contributions. It consists of two or an indefinite number of partners.

DOMESTIC CORPORATION

It is a corporate structure organized under Philippine laws wholly-owned by Filipinos or 60% Filipino and 40% foreign-owned both of which are considered a domestic Filipino-owned corporation. It is considered a domestic foreign-owned corporation if it is more than 40% foreign-owned.

FOREIGN CORPORATION

A Foreign Corporation is one which is formed, organized or existing under laws other than those of the Philippines.

ONE PERSON CORPORATION

In the revised Corporation Code of the Philippines, a One Person Corporation (OPC) is a corporation with a single stockholder who can only be a natural person, trust or estate. In an OPC, the stockholder shall be its sole director and president. Among its features are: no minimum capital, perpetual existence, and allows for conversion to an ordinary corporation or vice versa.

SUBSIDIARY

A Subsidiary is a separate legal entity from the foreign company organized under Philippine laws with at least 51% equity of the foreign company. It will bear losses and liabilities that may be incurred from the host country.

BRANCH OFFICE

A Branch Office is an extension of the parent company that carries out the business activities of the head office and derives income from the host country. Its liabilities and losses are extended to the head office.



REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (RHQ)

The RHQ is an administrative branch of a multinational corporation engaged in international trade but does not derive income in the host country. It serves as a supervision, communications and coordination center for its subsidiaries, branches or affiliates in the Asia-Pacific Region and other foreign markets.



REPRESENTATIVE OR LIAISON OFFICE

The Representative Office deals directly with the clients of the parent company but does not derive income from the host country and it is fully subsidized by the head office. It undertakes activities such as but not limited to information dissemination, promotion, and quality control of the company's products.



REGIONAL OPERATING HEADQUARTERS (ROHQ)

The Regional Operating Headquarters is the foreign business entity of a multinational company engaged in international trading and it is allowed to derive income in the host country by performing qualifying services exclusively to its affiliates, subsidiaries or branches in the Asia-Pacific Region and in other foreign markets.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

A Public-Private Partnership (PPP) is a mutual agreement between the government and a private firm. These partnerships usually cover projects around designs, buildings, finances, and infrastructure. Both local and national governments enter into PPPs with contracts spanning from 20-30 years.

PPPs are not limited to implementing critical infrastructure and other development projects; rather it is more about empowering all stakeholders to participate in the improvement of the country's business environment. This reflects teamwork and the creation of synergy to enhance the operational efficiency as you begin your business here in the Philippines.

Moreover, there are relevant government agencies in the Investment Promotion Unit Network (IPU Net) that can assist you along the way. The IPU Net is a consortium of 36 committed government agencies seamlessly working together with the industry associations and other private sectors to make things happen for you, and even diversify your business.

Recognizing your major role as an investor in attaining the country's inclusive growth, our government guarantees fair and transparent transactions with you. The PPP Center's reformed policies has created an enabling environment and has consistently strived through capacity building initiatives in improving the competencies of implementing and oversight government agencies.

Should you consider entering in any project that is eligible for PPP in the Philippines, our government has streamlined the process into four stages:

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Submission of your complete Proposal |
| 2 | Assessment/Detailed evaluation and approval of the proposal |
| 3 | Procurement which involves advertisement and issuance of Notice of Award and Contract Signing, and the |
| 4 | Commissioning and the Implementation of the project |

VISAS AND IMMIGRATION

Our visa and immigration system helps you set up your business here with ease and efficiency. From 30-day visa-free entry to work visas for foreign nationals, we cover all the bases.

SHORT STAYS

Most nationalities can enter the Philippines visa-free for 30 days – ideal for business trips to meet potential partners and to investigate opportunities.

LONGER STAYS

We make it easy for you and your team to establish yourselves in the country while you set up your business. You can apply for the following visas:

Special Investor Resident Visa: This grants your indefinite stay in the country for as long as your investments subsist.

Your business in the Philippines will have access to a talented local workforce. However, we also recognize the need to employ foreign nationals with the skills, qualifications and experience that are specific to your business. Several types of employment visa are available:

Pre-arranged employment visa or Sec. 9(g) is the privilege granted to a registered entity to employ qualified foreign nationals to a position where skills and know how is not available in the country. The visa has a validity of one (1) year, renewable annually but not to exceed five (5) years.

The Special Non-immigrant visa or 47(a) 2 visa is one of the incentives granted to registered companies of the Board of Investments (BOI) and the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) in employing / hiring qualified foreign nationals in elective positions (President, Gen. Manager, Treasurer) or its equivalent positions and for non-elective positions (machine operator, design/manufacturing engineers, consultants) for five (5) years in a Filipino company, and more than five years in a foreign-owned company. The visa is extended to the applicant's spouse and unmarried children below 21 years old.

There is a range of companies that can assist you through the process of obtaining visas, and accredited lawyers are on hand to provide support. You can find accredited law offices in the Philippines through the Bureau of Immigration.

The table below summarizes the various Visas that can be obtained by investors and their team. These are facilitated and granted by particular government agencies or offices.

| Type of Permits / Visa | Government Agency or Office Responsible |
|---|---|
| Alien Employment Permit (Certificate) | Department of Labor and Employment |
| Special Investor Resident Visa (SIRV) | Board of Investments or Department of Tourism |
| Special Retirement Resident Visa (SRRV) | Philippine Retirement Authority Eight document requirements for submission |
| 9G - Bureau of Immigration and Department of Labor and Employment | Bureau of Immigration and Department of Labor and Employment |
| 47a2 - Board of Investments, Philippine Economic Zone Authority and Department of Justice | Board of Investments and Department of Justice |

FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Philippines has a highly developed financial services sector with many global and commercial banks providing a full suite of business services.

Regulations have been put in place to ensure that your investments are protected. There are few requirements for foreign nationals setting up bank accounts in the Philippines, making your investment journey seamless at every stage.

We passed extensive legislation to give you the peace of mind you need to start your investment journey. We grant foreign investors the following legal protection:

- Protection of investment
- Repatriation of investments
- Remittance of earning
- Foreign loans and contracts
- Freedom from expropriations
- Requisition of investment (in the event of war or national emergency)

BANKS

There are more than 45 commercial banks with offices throughout the country that can meet your business needs. All banks are covered by legal protection and foreign nationals are free to set up accounts at any of the following leading banks.

| National Banks | International Banks |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Asia United Bank | Bank of America |
| BDO Unibank, Inc. | Bank of China |
| Bank of Commerce | Citibank N.A |
| Bank of the Philippine Islands | Deutsche Bank AG |
| China Banking Corporation | First Commercial Bank, Ltd. |
| CTBC Bank (Philippines) Corporation | Industrial Bank of Korea |
| Development Bank of the Philippines | ING Bank, N.V |
| | Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd. |
| | JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A |
| | ING Bank, N.V |
| | Standard Chartered Bank |

You may wish to continue transacting with your home bank by referring to any of the international banks registered in the Philippines.

For the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Registration Document (BSRD) details, please refer to BSP's contact details below:

| Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) | Processing Time |
|--|---|
| <p>Contact Details:</p> <p>A. Mabini St. cor. P. Ocampo St., Malate Manila, Philippines 1004 BSRD: Room 301, 5-Storey Bldg. BSP Manila (02) 8708-7107; iod_iog3@bsp.gov.ph</p> <p>For non-resident investors to:</p> <p>(1) Have access to the banking system for foreign exchange requirements</p> <p>(2) Back-up sources of foreign exchange funds</p> | <p>BSP will send notification once the Bangko Sentral Registration Document (BSRD) is ready for pick-up</p> |

HIRING SKILLED WORKERS

The Philippines is home to a talented pool of well-trained workers, whom investors can hire easily because of our business-friendly employment laws.

More than 60% of the population is of working age, providing a robust workforce determined to shape Asia's future.

Our government is committed to honing this talented workforce. Through a range of research and development opportunities, we are upskilling our workers and nurturing talent from our renowned universities, which consistently rank amongst the top five in Southeast Asia.

ACCESS TO TALENT

We continue to nurture our human potential. The Philippines has risen in the global talent rankings. Our workforce is full of graduates from leading universities, excelling in areas ranging from engineering, sciences, and technology to the arts.

Our people are skilled, creative, and hardworking, and, with English as one of the official languages, communication is easy. Our talented and resilient workforce is eager to help you expand your business and, whatever your sector, you can depend on our people to help you make it happen in the Philippines.

Labor-friendly laws and our high-achieving workforce enable us to maintain an employment rate of 95%.

EMPLOYMENT COSTS

As one of ASEAN's fastest growing economies, we provide investors with the ideal combination: competitive labor rates paired with high productivity.

We value our workers here in the Philippines. All employees are entitled to a minimum wage, 13th month pay and overtime. We do this to make sure workers are rewarded. We want to ensure that all our workers have access to welfare and healthcare, and as such all employers pay a social rate tax.

While labor costs are low, the government has put in place a mandatory minimum wage which varies per region. It is set between US\$ 5-10 a day. Employees earning less than US\$492 a year are exempt from income tax.

Businesses planning to hire employees must register with the government and ensure that their payroll is compliant with employment and national health insurance laws.



LEGAL SYSTEM

The Philippines' civil law system operates across corporate law, taxation, insurance, and labor relations.

EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

The Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 (RA 11032) is a game changer for all enterprises in the Philippines. It modernized the current systems and procedures of government services. This created several positive changes and the Philippines' ranking among countries in the Ease of Doing Business improved by 29 places in 2019. It resulted in a more efficient prescribed processing time:

- 1 Three (3) working days for Simple Transactions;
- 2 Seven (7) working days for Complex Transactions; and
- 3 20 working days for Highly Technical Applications

NOTARIES

Legal documents in the country must be certified by an official notary public. Notary publics are qualified lawyers who notarize a document to prove that they have verified the personal appearance of the signatories of legal documents. The Philippines is a signatory to the Apostille Convention, making your official documents legitimate to use abroad.



ARBITRATION

The Philippines embraces a pro-arbitration position. If you find yourself in a legal dispute you can avoid lengthy litigation and resolve commercial disputes through arbitration.

We follow a legal framework designed by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). Hence, the arbitral process is simple, reflects a global consensus and covers all aspects of the arbitral process – from the arbitration agreement, the composition and jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal and the extent of court intervention, through to the recognition and enforcement of the arbitral award.

TAXES AND INCENTIVES

INCENTIVES

Our government is committed to making business in the Philippines competitive. We have put in place incentives that create an investor-friendly landscape, allowing you to set up your business at a lower cost.

Foreign companies can benefit from the corporate income tax exemption where new and better rates will soon be approved.

We also offer tax and duty exemption credits on imported raw materials and capital equipment used in export industries in specific economic and freeport zones. Incentives may also be granted to business activities if considered strategic by an Investment Promotion Agency (IPA). Companies in special economic zones (SEZs) may be exempted from certain permits and licenses because of special laws.

TAXATION

Corporation Tax: Our tax system requires both foreign and domestic companies registered in the Philippines to pay the corporate tax rate on all profit made here.

Local Taxes: local taxes vary in each region.

VAT: the VAT rate is 12% except for export sales

Personal Income Tax: Income is taxed progressively from 5% up to 35%.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

We are committed to protecting your intellectual property. The Philippines is a member state of the World Intellectual Property Organization and signatory to a range of international treaties on intellectual property rights.

Businesses can access an easy-to-use digital service to protect your property and can easily file applications or report any infringements online. (<https://www.ipophil.gov.ph/>)



The Philippine government enforces strict regulation on Intellectual Property (IP) violations. The country has been excluded in the US Trade Representative Special 301 Watch List for seven (7) consecutive years due to its strong enforcement of IP rights.

TYPES OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

• Patents

An invention patent is a government-issued grant, giving exclusive rights to an inventor of a new product or process. Patents can be obtained from the Intellectual Property Office and are valid for 20 years.

• Trademarks

Trademarking will help protect your business name or logo. We have simplified this process through our online application, allowing you to protect your intellectual property with ease and efficiency.

Legal protection is given to the owner of any original work. 'Original work' is the production of any literary scientific or artistic works. Our copyright laws grant authors, artists, and other creators automatic protection for their literary and artistic creations.

- **Copyright**

Copyright is the legal protection extended to the owner of the rights in an original work. This refers to every production in the literary, scientific, and artistic domain.

Literary and artistic works provided in the IP Code include books and other writings, musical works, films, paintings and other works, and computer programs.

Copyright laws provide authors, artists, and other creators automatic protection for their literary and artistic creations, from the moment they create it.

- **Utility Model**

A registrable utility model (UM) is any technical solution to a problem in any field of human activity which is new and industrially applicable. It may or may not have an inventive step.

- **Industrial Design**

An industrial design is the ornamental or aesthetic aspect of an article. The Design may have three (shape or surface of an article), or the two (patterns or lines of color) dimensional features. Handicrafts, jewelry, vehicles, appliances - the subject of industrial designs range from fashion to industrial goods.

LAND AND PROPERTY

The Philippines has many properties ready to be leased or rented. Whatever your business requirements, you will be able to find the right kind of property or land.

LEASING

Foreign nationals can lease land for business purposes for a maximum of 75 years and we can assist in the process of finding a suitable location for your business and securing leasing contracts.

RENTING

There is a wide range of options available in the Philippines, whether you are looking to rent business or living accommodation.



BUYING

For larger companies looking to build, foreign nationals can acquire land by incorporating their company into a corporation in the Philippines, where maximum foreign equity is 40%.

Though foreign nationals cannot own land, they are eligible to purchase condominium units (apartment and office space) throughout the Philippines.

LAND USE PLANNING

Companies operating across the country can provide specialist support to businesses interested in conducting pre-feasibility studies or seeking guidance on the planning process.

Types of land available:

- Areas in special economic zones
- Business development centers
- Industrial parks
- IT parks and buildings
- New cities
- Agricultural
- Former military bases

INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOGISTICS

The infrastructure build-up in the Philippines has been ongoing for over a decade and will continue to expand every year. We have over 70 airports, and an expansive highway system spanning over 32,000 kilometers. We are continuously increasing our infrastructure by adding new roads, highways and investing in telecommunications to help your business.



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Our telecommunications is one of the most developed in Southeast Asia, offering exceptional systems to businesses.

There are major telecommunications companies operating in the Philippines providing internet mobile phone, landline, and data services across the country. Internet services are advanced, with broadband services available widely. 4G and 4G+ coverage is readily available in many regions while 5G technology is currently underway.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Air Travel**

The Philippines enjoys an extensive air network through direct flights from Manila to all cities in ASEAN and key cities in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America and connecting flights from Manila to 69 other airports across the country. The Ninoy Aquino International Airport offers flights to over 90 destinations and excellent connectivity options. Just hours away from cities such as Hong Kong, Tokyo, and Taipei, our airports offer excellent travel options with direct flights to New York, Abu Dhabi, London, and Toronto. Domestic flights are covered by all airports.

- **Ports**

The Philippines has over 800 commercial ports servicing a variety of businesses. The Port of Manila, largest seaport in the Philippines, is the country's international shipping gateway. With ports on every major island, the Philippines can handle over 200 million tons of goods. The port of Subic in the north remains one of Southeast Asia's key export ports, located just over 540 nautical miles away from the Asian mainland with an annual handling capacity of 600,000 TEU.

- **Road Network**

We have an extensive road network of over 32,000 kilometers that cuts across provinces and regions. As one of Asia's most advanced road networks, traveling to other parts of the country is safe and efficient. The on-going massive infrastructure development in the country only means that the network is continuously expanding.

- **Shipping**

Our accessible ports and extensive road network make it convenient for you to transport goods within the Philippines and beyond. Shipping and logistics specialists are available to transport your goods globally.

UTILITIES

- **Water**

Nineteen large dams all over the country provide water access and extend irrigation in populous areas all over the Philippines.

- **Power**

Our energy supply is extensive, so electricity is reliable and widely available in both urban and rural areas.



IMPORT AND EXPORT

GLOBAL TRADE

The Philippines is a founding member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), a primary global hub in manufacturing and trade. With a consumer market of over 620 million, it is one of the fastest-growing consumer markets in the world. Consumer demand in ASEAN is high and is expected to increase as GDP in the region continues to rise. Establishing your base in the Philippines provides key access to import and export to and from this market. There are also unique opportunities to benefit from the ASEAN free trade agreements that encourage trade and investment within the region and beyond.

| Free trade agreements: | GDP | Consumer Market |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA) | US\$ 285 trillion | 650 million |
| ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) | US\$ 12 trillion | 1.4 billion |
| ASEAN-India Free Trade Area (AIFTA) | US\$ 286 trillion | 2 billion |
| ASEAN-Korea Free Trade (AKFTA) | US\$ 285 trillion | 670 million |
| ASEAN-Japan Free Trade Area (AJFTA) | US\$ 288 trillion | 750 million |
| European Free Trade Association (EFTA) | US\$ 1.1 trillion | 14 million |
| Philippine-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (PJEPA) | US\$ 5.2 trillion | 230 million |
| Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) | US\$ 23.9 trillion | 2.2 billion |

| Other agreements: | GDP | Consumer Market |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| European Union GSP + Philippines | US\$ 18 T | 616 M |
| US GSP + Philippines | US\$ 19 T | 430 M |

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES AND INCENTIVES

We have packages of incentives to help you reduce your relocation and operating costs and make your products and services more competitive.

If you choose to locate in a special economic or freeport zone, your business will be exempt from paying taxes and tariffs on imported raw materials and manufacturing equipment.

The Philippines makes an excellent export base as there are several economic zones with specific export incentives. Companies located within these zones can enjoy special tax rates on modified gross income in lieu of national and local tax.

These economic zones include industrial estates, export processing zones, free trade zones, tourism ecozones, and IT buildings and parks. We are devoted to supporting the export sector and granting export businesses many fiscal incentives.

| Registration for Incentives: Outside the Economic Zones | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Government Agency | Processing Time |
| The Philippine Board of Investments For documentary requirement details, kindly contact BOI. | 10 – 20 working days |
| Registration for Incentive Availment: Inside Economic Zones | |
| Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) | One month |
| Subic Special Economic Zone & Subic Free Port Zone (SSEZ, SFPZ) | Three weeks to one month |
| Clark Development Corporation (CDC) | Two to three weeks |
| Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA) | 30 working days |
| Zamboanga Economic Zone Authority (ZEZA) | One month |
| PHIVIDECA Industrial Authority (PIA) | 10 working days |
| Poropoint Freeport Zone | One to three days |
| John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC) | Within 30 working days |

SOCIAL AND RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT

We are committed to making a positive impact on the environment and to society. Promoting research and development and climate-friendly businesses are two of our priorities. We are also dedicated to increasing the employment of women in agribusiness and funding projects in less developed areas. We offer special incentives (income tax holidays) to the following business initiatives.

PROJECTS BASED IN LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

Business in less developed areas that are building major infrastructure or facilities that will benefit local communities.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED PROJECTS

Businesses involved in projects that are energy-efficient, use natural resources and minimize pollution and greenhouse gases. Renewable Energy power generation projects can also benefit from these incentives.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

This covers businesses engaging in research and development, including clinical and drug trials, and the development of centers of excellence specializing in technical education and training.

NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

New and emerging technologies, especially those that focus on disaster mitigation. Businesses developing programs that monitor hazards or early-warning technology may receive government-funded R&D support.

INCLUSIVE BUSINESSES

Agribusinesses where a large proportion of the employees are women and agribusinesses that increase the productivity of individual farmers and fishermen.

NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS

Businesses that focus on labor-saving inventions and the conservation of natural resources, as well as those that promote the use of plant-based health products.



A. INVESTMENTS PRIORITIES PLAN

Preferred Activities:

1. All Qualified Activities Relating to the Fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic
 - a) Essential Goods
 - b) Essential Services
2. Investments in activities, subject to the determination by the Board supportive of Programs to generate employment opportunities outside of congested urban areas such as but not limited to the proposed Balik Probinsya Program or any similar Program that may be implemented by Government.
3. All Qualified Manufacturing Activities, including Agro-Processing
4. Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry
5. Strategic Services:
 - a. IC Design
 - b. Creative Industries / Knowledge-Based Services
 - c. Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) of aircraft
 - d. Charging / Refueling Stations for Alternative Energy Vehicles
 - e. Industrial Waste Treatment
 - f. Telecommunications
 - g. State-of-the-art Engineering, Procurement and Construction
6. Healthcare and Disaster Risk Reduction Management Services
7. Mass Housing
 - a. Economic and Low-Cost Housing
 - b. In-City Low-Cost Dwelling for Lease/Rent
8. Infrastructure and Logistics, including LGU-PPP
9. Innovation Drivers
10. Inclusive Business (IB) Models
11. Environment or Climate Change-Related Projects
12. Energy

B. PIONEER PROJECT*

A preferred area of investments may be declared Pioneer if the activity involves:

- Manufacturing and processing of goods, produced on a commercial scale in the Philippines
- Untried or New finished product from a system of transformation using design, formula, scheme method
- Engages in agricultural activities or services that advances the country's self-sufficiency program
- Produces non-conventional fuels; manufactures equipment utilizing non-conventional sources of energy
- Conforms to other criteria based on investments priorities plan

** Subject to change with the expected passage of the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Bill.*

C. ACTIVITIES COVERED BY SPECIAL LAWS

1. Industrial Tree Plantation (P.D. 705);
2. Mining (R.A. 7942) (limited to capital equipment incentive);
3. Publication or Printing of Books / Textbooks (R.A. 8047)
4. Refining, Storage, Marketing and Distribution of Petroleum Products (R.A. 8479)
5. Rehabilitation, Self-Development, and Self-Reliance of Persons with Disability (R.A. 7277)
6. Renewable Energy (R.A. 9513)
7. Tourism (R.A. 9593); and
8. Energy Efficiency and Conservation (R.A. 11285)

D. EXPORT ACTIVITIES

1. Production and Manufacture of Export Products
2. Service Exports
3. Activities in Support of Exports

E. BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM) LIST

1. Export Activities
 - a. Export Trader and Service Exports
 - b. Support Activities for Exporters
2. Agriculture, Agribusiness, Aquaculture and Fishery
 - a. Agriculture and Agri-business
 - b. Aquaculture and Fishery
3. Basic Industries
4. Infrastructure and Services
5. Industrial Services
6. Engineering Industries
7. Logistics
8. BIMP-EAGA Trade and Investment Enterprises
9. Tourism
10. Health and Education Services and Facilities
11. Halal Industry
12. Investment Operations under R.A. 11439 (An Act Providing for the Regulation and Organization of Islamic Banks)
13. Energy

F. INVESTMENT PROMOTION UNITS NETWORK DIRECTORY



The Philippine Board of Investments

Industry and Investments Building, 385 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave.,
Makati City NCR
8897-6682 loc. 248, 296; 8895-3512 TF
<https://www.boi.gov.ph> : E-mail: startup@boi.gov.ph
FB/Linkedin: boiphilippines
BOI Hotline: (0961) 680-5445



Department of Trade and Industry

361 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City NCR
Trunkline: (632) 7751-0384; 7791-3400; 896-1166 F
<https://www.dti.gov.ph>



Securities and Exchange Commission

3/F Secretariat Building, PICC Complex, Roxas Boulevard
Pasay City NCR
8818-0923; 8818-5767
inquiry@sec.gov.ph ; <http://imessagemo.sec.gov.ph/login.php>



Anti-Red Tape Authority

G/F HPGV Building, 395 Senator Gil J. Puyat Avenue, 1200 Makati City
8478-5091; 8478-5093; 8478-5099
info@arta.gov.ph; complaints@arta.gov.ph



Office of the Ombudsman

Ombudsman Building, Agham Road, North Triangle, Diliman
Quezon City 1101
Tel. No. (+632) 8479-7300, (+632) 5317-8300



Civil Service Commission

Constitution Hills, Batasang Pambansa Complex Diliman 1126 Quezon City
8931-8092; 8931-7939; 8931-7935; Hotline: 8951-2575; 8951-2576;
8932-0111
inquiry@csc.gov.ph ; email@contactcenterngbayan.gov.ph



Bureau of Internal Revenue

BIR National Office Building, BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
8981-7000; 8929-7676
contact_us@bir.gov.ph



Department of Foreign Affairs

2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City NCR
(632) 8834-4000; 8551-0357; 8834-4881; 8834-4160; 8832-1597
Fosec@dfa.gov.ph ; osec.coord@dfa.gov.ph



Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development

DHSUD Building, Kalayaan Avenue Cor. Mayaman Street, Diliman, Quezon City
INFO@DHSUD.GOV.PH



Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Environmental Management Bureau
DENR Bldg., Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
Trunkline No. (632) 8929-6626/IP Phone Trunkline No. 8249-3367 loc. 2258;
8926-3011; 8920-4301
<https://www.denr.gov.ph> ; aksyonkalikasan@denr.gov.ph ; www.emb.gov.ph ;
<http://ecac.emb.gov.ph>



Department of Agriculture

Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
(632) 8273-2474 to 78; 8928-8741 to 65
info@da.gov.ph



Department of Labor and Employment

Muralla Wing cor. General Luna St., Intramuros, Manila City NCR
Trunkline: (632) 8527-3000 loc. 701, 703-705, 709; 8527-2121; 8527-5523;
8527-3494 F
<https://query.dole.gov.ph/queries/submit>



Department of Energy

Energy Center, Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City NCR
(632) 479-2900 loc. 320; 8840-2008; 8812-6194 F
<https://www.doe.gov.ph/eIPO> ; doe_ipo@yahoo.com



Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

A. Mabini St. cor. P. Ocampo St., Malate, Manila City NCR
(632) 8 708.7701
bspmail@bsp.gov.ph



Bureau of Customs

Bureau of Customs Bldg. G/F OCOM Bldg. 16th Street, South Harbor
Port Area, Manila City NCR
(632) 8705-6000; 527-1968 F
helpdesk2@customs.gov.ph ; info@customs.gov.ph



Department of Finance

DOF Building, BSP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila City NCR
(632) 5317-6363; 523-9219
<https://www.dof.gov.ph/talk-to-us/>



Food and Drug Administration

Civic Drive, Filinvest Corporate City
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
(632) 821-1176 / 821-1177 / 821-1162 / 821-1220
<https://www.fda.gov.ph/about/>



Bureau of Immigration

Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila City NCR
465-2400 TL
xinfo@immigration.gov.ph ; immigPH@gmail.com ; binoc_immigration@hotmail.ph



Department of Agrarian Reform

Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
(632) 8920-0380; 8929-3460
contact_us@dar.gov.ph



Department of Information and Communications Technology

DICT Building, C.P. Garcia Ave, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
Trunkline: (02) 8920-0101 loc. 1000
info@dict.gov.ph



Department of Public Works and Highways

Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila City NCR
(632) 5304-3000; 5304-3020
<http://www.dpwh.gov.ph/dpwh/contact>



Department of Science and Technology

Gen. Santos Ave., Bicutan, Taguig City NCR
(632) 837-2071 to 82; 837-2939; 837-2937 F
<http://helpdesk.dost.gov.ph/>



Department of Tourism

The New DOT Building, 351 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City NCR
(632) 8459-5200 to 30 loc. 602; 890-0634
<http://www.tourism.gov.ph/diroffices.aspx>



Department of Transportation

The Columbia Tower, Wack-wack, Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong City; and
Apo Court along Sergio St., Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga,
(632) 8790-8300; 8790-8400 loc. 209, 309; 8654-7727; 8726-7125
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iIT7YjmuoVb3d1KyJbeVr0TE8xZGHbUOb/view>



Manila International Airport Authority

MIA Road, Pasay City NCR
8887-1109
https://www.miaa.gov.ph/miaa/index.php?option=com_contact&view=category&catid=38&Itemid=10



National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

2/F N. dela Merced Bldg. corner West & Quezon Avenues, Quezon City NCR
575-1200; 8373-9787
resource@ncip.gov.ph



National Economic and Development Authority

12 St. J. Escrivá Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
(632) 8631 0945 – 56
nedapr@neda.gov.ph



National Intelligence Coordination Agency

V. Luna Road, Quezon City
(632) 8927-4245; 8928-6992
apimonteagudo@nica.gov.ph ; web_admin@nica.gov.ph



Philippine Overseas and Employment Administration

EDSA corner Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City NCR
722-1159, 722-1163, 724-3665; 724-3724 F
info@poea.gov.ph



National Food Authority

SRA Bldg., North Avenue, Quezon City NCR
8929-7319; 8926-7237; 455-2758; -454-7747
nfapublicaffairs@yahoo.com



Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines

28 Upper McKinley Road McKinley Hill Town Center, Fort Bonifacio
Taguig City NCR
(632) 7238-6300 loc. 1001 to 1003; 8553-9480 F
JosephineSantiago.DG@ipophil.gov.ph



Philippine Coconut Authority

7/F, PCA Bldg., Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City NCR
(632) 8928-4501 loc. 205; 927-8116 loc. 504
<http://pca.gov.ph/index.php/govmail#central-office>



Maritime Industry Authority

11/F MARINA Building Bonifacio Drive cor. 20th St., Port Area
Manila City NCR
526-0971; 523-9078; 524-2895
oadm@marina.gov.ph



National Competitiveness Council

Bureau of Product Standards
3/F Trade and Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City 1200
(632) 7 751.4700; Fax: (632) 7 751.4706
bps@dti.gov.ph



Export Marketing Bureau

DTI International Building, 375 Senator Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City 1200
(632) 8465-3300 local 110, 104
embkpd@dti.gov.ph



Public Private Partnerships Center

8/F, One Cyberpod Centris, EDSA cor. Quezon Avenue
Brgy. Pinyahan, Quezon City 1100
(632) 8709-4146
<https://www.ppp.gov.ph> ; info@ppp.gov.ph

INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCIES



Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan

AFAB Administration Bldg., Mariveles, Region III
Bataan Line: (047) 935-4004 loc. 8002, 8021; Manila Line: 236-5010
loc. 8002 8021
emmy.pineda@afab.gov.ph



Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority

1 Corporate Campus, Sitio Mating Brgy. Esteves, Casiguran, Aurora
Region II
Manila Office: Unit 702-3 Philflex Bldg. Coral Way Drive, Mall of Asia Complex
Pasay City
(632) 8737-9391
<https://auroraecozone.com/contact-us>



Cagayan Economic Zone Authority

Administration Complex, Centro, Sta. Ana, Cagayan, Region II; and
10/F, Greenfield Tower, Mayflower cor. William Sts., Greenfield District
Mandaluyong City NCR
(+6378) 377 2639; and (+632) 82916704 to 08
info@ceza.gov.ph



Clark Development Corporation

Bldg 2127, Elpidio Quirino St., Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Region III
(6345) 599-9000 local 802 to 804
info@clark.com.ph



The Clark International Airport Corporation

Andres Bonifacio Avenue, Clark Freeport Zone, 2023 Pampanga, Region III
(6345) 599 2044
crk@lipadcorp.com



Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA)

2/F Bonifacio Technology Center, 31st St., Crescent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City NCR
(632) 8575-1700 TL; 8816-0996 F
bcda@bcda.gov.ph



John Hay Management Corporation

JHMC Office Complex, John Hay Special Economic Zone
Camp John Hay, Baguio City 2600
(074) 444-5823
mgmt@jhmc.com.ph



Mindanao Development Authority (MINDA)

Old Davao Airport Terminal Building, Old Davao Airport Road
Km. 9, Sasa, Davao City, Region XI
(082) 221-6929 TF
info@minda.gov.ph



Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA)

Building 5, DOE-PNOC Complex Energy Center, Rizal Drive, BGC
Taguig City NCR
(632) 8551-3451 loc. 612; 8551-3432; 8551-3455
www.peza.gov.ph; info@peza.gov.ph



Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA)

29/F Citibank Center, 8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, NCR
(+632) 8848-1412
https://pra.gov.ph



PHIVIDECA Industrial Authority

Terminal Complex, Administration Building Tagoloan
Misamis Oriental, Mindanao
Tel. Nos. (6388) 567-0315/890-1108, 890-1110 or (638822) 740-245/740-369;
Fax Nos. (6388) 567-0194 or (08822) 740-177
pia_mo@phividecaauthority.com.ph ; www.phividecaauthority.com.ph
PIA Makati Business and Liaison Office, 3/F, DAO1 Bldg, 189 Salcedo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
(632) 817-5330 / 750-67887



Poro Point Management Corporation

Gov. Joaquin Ortega Ave., (Formerly Pennsylvania Ave.)
San Fernando City 2500, La Union
(6372) 242-4016; (6372) 242-0683
ppmc@sflu.com; www.poropointfreeport.com



Regional Board of Investments – BARMM

ARMM Complex, 9600 Cotabato City
(+63 64) 4219202
info@rboi.armm.gov.ph; rboi@armm.gov.ph



Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority

Bldg. 225, Investment Center, Dewey Avenue, Subic Bay Freeport Zone
(6347) 252-7262 (252-SBMA); (6347) 252-4004
www.sbma.com



Subic Clark Alliance for Development (SCAD)

G/F, Building 2127, CDC Corporate Headquarters, E. Quirino Cor.
C. Garcia Streets
Clark Freeport Zone 2023
(045) 599 7418 / (045) 599 7499
info@scad.gov.ph



Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA)

6/F Tower 1 Double Dragon, Meridian Tower, Diosdado Macapagal Avenue cor.
EDSA Extension Bay Area, Pasay City, NCR
(632) 8249-5900 to 79 loc. 641, 643, 646; 8249-5987
traveltax@tieza.gov.ph ; ocoo@tieza.gov.ph



Tourism Promotion Board

4th Floor, Legaspi Towers, 300 Roxas Boulevard, 1004 Manila, NCR
(632) 85259318 to 27
info@tpb.gov.ph



Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone Authority

ZCSEZA, San Ramon, Zamboanga City; Region IX
Manila Office: 28/F, REGUSTEC TOWER 2,
The Enterprise Center, Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village
Makati City
(062) 992-2012 (Zamboanga); (632) 849-8484; 8849-8485; 8849-3907 (Manila)
ecozone@zfa.gov.ph ; zamboecozone.authority@gmail.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS THE GENERAL RULE OF THE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS ACT?

The Foreign Investments Act (FIA) of 1991 is the basic law that governs foreign investments in the Philippines. The FIA liberalized the entry of foreign investments in the Philippines as it allows full foreign ownership for strategic businesses, except if covered by special laws found in the Foreign Investment Negative List (FINL). The FINL is a shortlist of economic activities covered by special laws that the government periodically updates.

2. WHAT ARE THE CAPITALIZATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE FIA?

A foreign-owned domestic-market enterprise (production or services is rendered to the local market) or with more than 40% foreign-equity is required to comply with the minimum paid in capitalization of US\$200,000.00 and may be reduced to US\$100,000 should the activity involves: (a) Advanced technology, or (b) The enterprise employs at least 50 direct employees. The capitalization requirement does not apply to an enterprise that exports at least 60% of its output or a trader that purchases products domestically and export at least 60% of its purchases.

3. WHAT IS RETAIL TRADE LIBERALIZATION ACT?

The Retail Trade Liberalization Act is a special law that liberalized the entry and participation of foreign nationals in the Philippine retail trade sector with the interest of stimulating economic growth and empowering Filipino consumers through lower prices, higher quality goods, better services and wider choices. Foreign retailers should submit pre-qualification requirements to the Board of Investments.

4. WHAT ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES SHOULD I INVEST IN WHEN DOING BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES?

The strategic investments identified by the Philippines Government is listed in the Investment Priorities Plan (IPP). The IPP contains identified activities bringing both opportunities to the investors and to the country's economic growth. Qualified strategic investments are eligible for incentives administered by the Board of Investments.

5. WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGISTRATION AND AVAILMENT OF INCENTIVES WITH THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS? *

The general qualifications of the Board of Investments for the availment of government incentives are: (a) the applicant must be a citizen of the Philippines or an entity organized under Philippine laws at least 60% of which is owned by citizens of the Philippines. If less than 60% is owned by citizens of the Philippines, the applicant must engage in a pioneer project or export at least 70% of its products or services; (b) the applicant is proposing to engage in a business activity listed in the IPP; and c) The project to be registered must be new or expanding.

** Subject to change with the expected passage of the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Bill.*

6. WHAT IS SPECIAL INVESTOR'S RESIDENT VISA (SIRV)?

The SIRV entitles the holder to reside in the Philippines for an indefinite period with multiple entry / exit privileges extendible to the holder's spouse and children. This visa does not expire as long as the required qualifications and investments are maintained.

Aside from the BOI, the Department of Tourism also provides an SIRV to foreign investors of tourism-related projects under E.O. No. 63 Series of 1986.

7. SHOULD I FORM MY COMPANY AS A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, PARTNERSHIP, OR CORPORATION?

Forming a corporation is the most flexible option when establishing a juridical legal entity for doing business in the Philippines with the requirement of one to maximum of 15 incorporators. This option protects the owners from personal liabilities and exempts foreign nationals from residency requirements, unlike in sole proprietorships or partnerships. Corporations should register with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

8. WHAT IS THE NUMBER OF ESTIMATED DAYS WHEN SETTING UP A BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES TAKE?

If it is a simple business with complete documentary requirements and not covered by a special law, you can set up within 40 days and may be shortened up to seven days because the registration and submission of applications for business permits and licenses are through online.

9. WHICH GOVERNMENT AGENCY COULD BEST PROVIDE ANSWERS AND GUIDANCE TO BOTH FOREIGN AND LOCAL INVESTORS' INQUIRIES ON HOW TO INVEST AND BEGIN OPERATING A BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES?

The Board of Investments (BOI), is the lead government agency responsible for investments promotion in the Philippines. BOI assists Filipino and foreign investors to set up operations in the country by providing pre and post investments facilitation services. The BOI is a one-stop shop for doing business in the Philippines.

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT NOW TO SPEAK WITH OUR INVESTMENT SPECIALIST.

