

JOINT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK Philippines

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1. Introduction

This Joint Strategic Framework (JSF) Philippines is based on the Common Context Analysis (CCA) Philippines, approved by the Minister of Development Cooperation, Mr De Croo at the end of December 2015. All items which are listed hereafter can be found in this CCA and are therefore not included in this JSF: context analysis, analysis of relevant stakeholders, risk analysis, the strategic targets and approaches, identification of opportunities for complementarity and synergies between accredited organizations, including common partners, description of the CCA-process (which is the base for this JSF), and in particular the elements to prove the active participation of accredited organizations and their local partners.

The participants have consulted the various strategy and policy papers during the CCA-process, such as the Middle Income Countries strategy paper. However, as Belgium has no direct partnership with the Philippines, there's no country specific paper available.

There are some changes in the participants of this JSF, compared to those who participated in drafting the CCA. However, those changes did not have an impact on the identification of the Joint Strategic Goals, and synergy projects. 11 CSOs and 1 IA have participated in this JSF, which was led by 11.11.11.

We also had exchanges with World Solidarity, as they are participating in the JSF Decent Work, and have a program in Philippines. The CCA Philippines referred to the CCA Decent Work for Asia, given the importance of this topic for the Philippines, and Philippines is one of countries where JSGoals on Decent Work are developed. Engagements on complementarity and synergy between the participants of the JSF Decent Work and those involved in the JSF are included in Chapter 3 of both this JSF and the JSF Decent Work. In this sense, the JSF Philippines and JSF Decent Work are complementary and should be read together. Together they constitute one overall strategic framework for the Philippines.

All participating NGAs are active in Belgium, and they make a direct link between the programs with their South-partners and South program and the North program (see JSF Belgium), they fuel and legitimize what is done in Belgium.

The participants used the methodology which was proposed by the umbrella bodies via the Manual which was distributed on February 8 2016. The process to determine the common targets consisted of: e-mail exchanges, two consultation meetings, one in Brussels on January 26 and in Manila on April 14, exchanges between participants and their partners during our preparatory meetings for the new 5 year program.

It is important to note that the legal framework was not published at the launch of the JSF-process, February 8 nor at the moment we finalized the JSF-process on April 20.

2. Joint Strategic Goals

2.1 Description of the JSGs

JSG 1	Agriculture becomes a driving force in providing a sustainable livelihood to rural poor and building rural economies while addressing the impact of climate change	
Contributions		CSOs & IAs
1A	Promote human rights and rights based approach, and advance specific support measures for farmers, IPs and fisherfolks organizations in rural areas. Build capacities of CSOs to engage governmental actors to contribute to an inclusive society	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA
1B	Set up and/or strengthen farmers, IP and fisherfolks organizations through capability building to strengthen leadership, enhance self-sufficiency and food sovereignty, entrepreneurship and market mainstreaming, influence duty bearers and establish strategic cooperation, improve the access to land and other means of production, and the access to government programs, with special attention for women and youth involvement	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA
1C	Build capacities of local CSOs to improve their support to rural communities, and build stronger networks among CSOs and other development stakeholders.	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA, ETM
1D	Increase productivity and/or competitiveness by enhancing skills and developing techniques in agriculture, especially SA and agro-ecology, value addition and commercialization while addressing the impact of Climate Change.	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA,
1E	Provide education to rural youth, organize youth and foster youth leadership through their organizations as basis for enhancing human rights, equality and achieving the right to food and food security, sustainable organizations and incomes.	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, ETM
JSG 2	A strong and vibrant public health system addressing the health needs of the poor giving due attention to the social determinants of health.	
Contributions		CSOs & IAs
2A	Strengthen local civil society through capacity building and/or coordination in research, campaigns and local or international networking directed towards health policy changes on various levels of governance	G3W-M3M, Red Cross
2B	Campaigns, organizing and awareness raising about the social determinants of health and the right to health	G3W-M3M
2C	Engage government health units and agencies at different levels, as well as other relevant actors with the aim to address to the basic health needs and to promote policy change	G3W-M3M
2D	Raise the capacity of CSOs to advocate and address gender issues and the right to health of vulnerable and marginalized groups	G3W-M3M
JSG 3	A sustainable management of natural resources, guided by the respect for HR, local needs, and of the needs of future generations.	
Contributions		CSOs & IAs
3A	Strengthen rural associations and federations (such as farmers, fisherfolks, women and IPs) to protect and sustainably manage their natural resources and ecosystems	Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA, 11.11.11

3B	Demand stricter monitoring of the current moratorium on logging, transparent FPIC processes and the enforcement of laws regarding environmental protection and respect for human rights to stop destructive exploitation of natural resources and land use conversion	11.11.11, Solidagro, G3W-M3M, E&F
3C	Enhance community based initiatives for CCA and DRRM and mitigation and collaborate with all stakeholders in rural and urban areas to make DRRM and CCA more operational, and promote reforestation or other greening programs	Trias, Solidagro, E&F, DISOP, CSA, G3W-M3M
3D	Organize and capacitate urban poor associations and Federations to become sustainable and resilient urban communities and help them participate in the urban planning and local governance	DISOP, ETM
3E	Study and promote alternative development models, including alternative approaches to mining and low-carbon development.	11.11.11, E&F
JSG 4	Promote inclusive growth through strengthening of social enterprises, enhance access to effective government programs, and advocate and assert adequate transparency and accountability mechanisms on trade, fiscal and public spending policies	
Contribution		CSOs & IAs
4A	Develop partners' capacity and systems to effectively deliver business management and economic services including market access services to small scale entrepreneurs, especially the subsistence entrepreneurs, women, youth and IPs	Trias, DISOP, E&F, CSA, Solidagro
4B	Ensure the conduct of appropriate market research and feasibility studies to improve partner business models, and support business management, product development and market access services for small scale entrepreneurs, especially the subsistence entrepreneurs, women, youth and IPs	Trias, DISOP, E&F, CSA, Solidagro
4C	Partner with relevant actors to provide access to training or train the urban and rural poor in technical and vocational skills which are in line with the needs of the population and/or demand of the market	Trias, DISOP, E&F, CSA, Solidagro, ETM
4D	Enhance capacity of CSOs to engage in trade, fiscal, and public spending policies through researches, campaigns and development of policy positions	11.11.11, G3W-M3M, CSA, KIYO
4E	Strengthen the organization of small entrepreneurs and CSOs into democratic and sustainable associations to promote an enabling environment for local industries that addresses the barriers for inclusion, and to access government economic support programs	Trias, DISOP, E&F

JSG 5	Respect for human, children's and women rights, and promotion of gender equality	
Contribution		CSOs & IAs
5A	Capacity building of CSOs and establishing platforms that promote HR and HRBAs	KIYO, G3W-M3M, Solidagro, E&F, 11.11.11, ETM
5B	Strengthen capacities of HRO and POs to document and investigate HRVs and demand accountability. Develop more diverse local and international strategies to expose HRV by armed forces and authorities, and promote the respect of HR	KIYO, G3W-M3M, Solidagro, 11.11.11, E&F
5C	Spread and popularize ESCR and UNCRC among the broad public, POs, local communities and target groups. Initiate preventive actions and a more effective implementation of relevant laws and international conventions concerning vulnerable groups to stop violations of human, children's and women rights, and promote social protection.	KIYO, G3W-M3M, Solidagro, 11.11.11, CSA, DISOP, ETM, Trias, E&F
5D	Addressing inequality through, among others, the promotion of gender intersectionality, capacity building towards gender mainstreaming, positive actions and crosscutting gender in partners' programs, structures and systems."	Trias, 11.11.11, E&F, KIYO, G3W-M3M, Solidagro
5E	Help urban poor associations acquire land tenure and socialized housing in a more sustainable urban environment."	DISOP
JSG 6	Ensure and improve access to knowledge, improve research and stimulate innovation in order to contribute to development	
Contribution		CSOs & IAs
6A	Improve the quality and provision of higher education through capacity building and partnerships in a gender sensitive and environmentally sustainable way.	VLIR-UOS, ARES
6B	Improve research practices of higher education institutions through capacity building and partnerships in a gender sensitive and environmentally sustainable way.	VLIR-UOS, ARES
6C	Promote extension and outreach of academic research.	VLIR-UOS, ARES
6D	Strengthen individual capacities through relative gender-balanced scholarship attribution.	VLIR-UOS, ARES, ETM
6E	Motivate research and higher education actors to promote a gender equal and environmentally sustainable approach (e.g. in the design of interventions).	VLIR-UOS, ARES, ETM

2.2 Motivation

JSG 1	Agriculture becomes profitable and is a driving force in providing a sustainable livelihood to rural poor and building rural economies while addressing the impact of climate change
<p>-Landlessness and a lack of legal protection of small farmers hinder rural development which creates insecurity and discourages long term investment in agriculture. Land conversion, such as for mining, limits the availability of fertile land for small farmers. Climate change and deforestation affect soil fertility as well. Climate change risks affect productivity and profitability of small scale farming and fishing.</p> <p>-Big corporations promote industrial agricultural approaches with chemical inputs supported by the Department of Agriculture. Agricultural education mainly promotes this model as well. In this way, small scale farmers become dependent on hybrid inputs and seeds which are controlled by very few, are exposed to harmful chemicals, and their lands are depleted.</p> <p>- Farmers - especially in remote areas - have little access to education, business development services, affordable and appropriate credit and remunerative markets. Government institutions in agriculture have no comprehensive programs in support of small farmers. Corruption, bureaucracy and preferential allocation of programs for small farmers remain a serious concern.</p> <p>-Organizations of farmers, IPs and fisherfolk are committed and strong on political issues, however, in some cases, they face military intimidation and repression. Farmers' organizations have proven that they can make a difference. A lot of strong cooperatives limit their own democratic space to promote for agriculture and local economic development.</p> <p>-Family based agricultural productivity remains very low with limited technical knowledge and innovation especially in sustainable agriculture. Agricultural production is not based on local and national market demand but on traditional crops and animals. There is little value addition of agricultural products at the village level. The roles that cooperatives and farmers' organizations can play in market consolidation and trading are underdeveloped. There are cooperatives that are strong in providing economic programs, but often these are not appropriate to the specific needs of small farmers. There is a need for farmers organizations to cooperate and join efforts at the local and national levels.</p> <p>-Urban migration of the rural population, especially the youth, to the cities is an ever increasing phenomenon and this challenges the (future) participation of the family farmers' population in the rural economy and public spheres.</p>	
JSG 2	A strong and vibrant public health sector addressing the health needs especially of the poor while addressing the social determinants of health.
<p>Serious inequality and widespread poverty are reflected in the population's health conditions. Health indicators vary substantially according to social class and differences in health status are huge. Among the poor life expectancy is almost 10 years less than the national average while infant mortality may be two, three or four times the national average. This is not a coincidence: living conditions are far worse in poor neighborhoods and regions.</p> <p>The high out-of-pocket expenses for health care contribute to the fact that six out of ten Filipinos die without medical care. The Philippine government is among the Asian governments spending least on health, with a health budget corresponding to just 2.5-3% of Gross National Product, significantly below the generally accepted target figure of 5%.</p> <p>The poor's access to healthcare is at risk because of the gradual privatization of public healthcare. Personal contribution for example has been rising for the last decade. This situation has been made worse by the governments' promotion of overseas migration of medical staff. High education costs in medical studies, lack of employment opportunities, especially for young medical graduates, low wages and benefits in public hospitals particularly, force medical staff to seek employment abroad.</p> <p>Social determinants of health are plenty: many government policies or lack of it are detrimental to people's health, among them: working conditions, gender relations, poverty, traffic congestion, etc. As most actors who make part of the health sector are not very familiar with the importance of addressing the social determinants of health it is imperative to strengthen this approach through a range of activities including advocacy, training, campaigns etc.</p>	

JSG 3	A sustainable management of natural resources, guided by the respect for local needs, and of the needs of future generations.
<p>- Non-sustainable use of forests, mangrove, agricultural lands and marine areas has resulted in severely degraded quality of soil, water and air further affected by large scale destructive mining projects and the recent expansion of coal fired power plants.</p> <p>- As the country is extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change, it is prone to natural disasters. DRRM and CCA are now getting increased attention from government. Yes, it is important that CSOs get equipped and organized to play their roles to manage and mitigate risks and support their communities to adapt to climate change.</p> <p>-The urban environment is degrading, with ever increasing slums where people live in danger zones such as along (polluted) rivers and seashore. Urban planning seems non-existent for an ever increasing poor population flocking to the cities.</p> <p>-There are many government agencies in charge of managing the natural resources and public space, and many have overlapping functions and interests resulting in inaction or 'turfing' problems.</p>	
JSG 4	Promote inclusive growth through strengthening of social enterprises, access to effective government programs, adequate transparency and accountability mechanisms on trade, fiscal and public spending policies
<p>-The enabling environment for enterprise development is weak. Government and government services and incentives tend to be biased in favor of larger entrepreneurs. Small-scale entrepreneurs have a weak competitive position, are poorly organized, and have limited business management skills. They lack technical skills to diversify their sources of revenues and insufficient market considerations lead to failures and hinder sustainable growth of the sector. The majority of the small-scale entrepreneurs are women, they are somehow pushed into entrepreneurship to supplement family income, a contribution that is usually less valued. Youth entrepreneurship programs are scarce.</p> <p>- Organizations that promote small scale entrepreneurship are mostly focused on microfinance; appropriate insurance services and finance for the missing middle entrepreneurs is virtually absent, moreover there is an enormous needs for business development services, market access support, and advocacy for an enabling environment for the small scale entrepreneurs' sector, particularly the women and youth and other socio-economically excluded groups. Small-scale entrepreneurs' organizations are few and many are not sustainable.</p> <p>-Trade negotiations are lacking transparency and accountability. There is insufficient focus on the needs of MSMEs, and FTAs lack cost-benefit and social impact assessments.</p> <p>-The Philippine tax system is regressive and heavily relies on indirect taxes in the form of VAT attached to basic commodities, instead of going for a progressive tax system. Tax revenues are insufficiently optimized in the governments public spending to support basic services and develop the country in an inclusive way; they are still substantially used to service the government's debt. The government is inapt in addressing tax evasion and corruption, both are affecting the generation of correct and fair tax revenues and optimize its use for the development of the country in an inclusive way.</p>	
JSG 5	Respect for human, children's and women rights and promotion of gender equality
<p>-The Philippines has ratified the UN-CRC though UN periodical reviews point out important shortcomings at the level of participation of children, impact of labor migration on children, national and local budgeting public awareness on children's rights, milk code implementation, Human Right Violations against children and children in situation of armed conflict, child labor and economically disadvantaged children, among others</p> <p>-Women in the Philippines experience various forms of violence. Although the number of registered cases is quite low, it is assumed that most cases remain unreported.</p> <p>-State institutions cannot prevent the spate of extrajudicial killings, torture, and enforced disappearances. In some cases, there are strong indications members of the government security forces are involved.</p> <p>-The right to have a decent house in a secure environment is denied to a large number of urban poor population who reside in slums areas of big cities. Most of them live in temporary structures, without any basic services, on land which are not theirs (informal settlers), and often situated in danger zones prone to floods and fire.</p> <p>-The right to potable water remains unfulfilled for many urban and rural poor population.</p> <p>- Women are disadvantaged in all spheres of life. CSOs are generally insufficiently equipped to promote gender equality in the different spheres of society, state, market and organizations.</p>	

JSG 6	Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning, sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation
<p>-Developing countries like the Philippines are often trapped in a vicious cycle, where economic development fails to provide sufficient incentives for their young people to pursue higher education, and without enough skilled people, the Philippine economy will not be able to move up to a higher and more sustainable development level. The Philippines has a better chance of catching up with more advanced economies when it has a stock of labor with the necessary skills. A critical mass of human resources with the necessary skills and knowledge can be a driver of change in the development of the Philippines.</p> <p>-Strengthening research capacity contributes to new knowledge and know-how and creates the necessary conditions for innovations in different themes/sectors. These new knowledge - and the extension to local communities, government, and the private sector – have the potential to contribute directly to the development objectives of a country. It is also a crucial factor in being able to find solutions to local (e.g. big scale mining, destructive plantation agriculture, see CCA p.55) and global challenges. It allows countries to develop new technologies themselves or to adopt and use foreign technology appropriate to the needs of the country.</p>	

3 Identification of complementarity and synergy

In the process of identifying synergy and complementarity, it was evident that most CSOs and IAs are already involved in synergy projects, and that there exists a high level of complementarity among them. Complementarity refers to activities, strategies, or policies that aim to strengthen mutually enabling projects or programs to exceed their individual limitations so as to reach a common goal. At present, there is already a sustained information exchange among the NGAs in both Brussels and Manila; some NGAs are sharing offices; and 3 NGAs recently decided to establish a consortium, and are moving from complementary programs to a synergized one. Some operational synergy projects are also taking place, such as joint PME and capacity building with several NGAs and/or with international NGOs. We also assessed that in general, there's not much complementarity between the NGA-programs, they are rather specific, and very well focused on specific sectors and different targets or regions.

The aim to achieve more synergy is to provide a concrete additional value to the individual NGA programs, and contribute to efficiency, expertise, consolidation of good practices, networking opportunities, expansion of program implementation, and far-reaching impact. Expanding the current synergy agenda has been discussed with the aim to identifying synergies across the board, beyond the limits of specific sectors or themes. During the JSF-process, we have narrowed down the list of potential synergy topics that were identified during the CCA-workshop in 2015, to concrete engagements and what organization will take the lead, or facilitate the process. There is consensus that more synergy is possible, and various informal exchanges have grown out of the dynamics of the CCA and JSF-process, however they need further exploration and elaboration, and implementation. All organizations involved are committed to contribute to this process.

SYNERGY - COMPLEMENTARITY	Between CSOs & IAs	Between CSOs & IAs and INGOs
<p>CROSS-CUTTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -<u>Annual meeting</u> of all Belgian NGAs in Brussels to discuss and follow up synergy and complementarity, and share intervention and risk management strategies, challenges for the partners, changes in the context, ...(this can include actors who are not part of this JSF) -Quarterly <u>NGA meetings in Manila</u> and at least one meeting a year with the Belgian Embassy - Sharing of resources, such as office, equipment, support staff -Three CSOs have established a <u>consortium</u> and will develop one joint country program based on the HRBA (Solidagro, G3W-M3M, KIYO): they will share expertise and mutual support for activities and campaigns on all relevant issues, such as right to food, SA, right to health, right to a healthy environment, sustainable management of NR, right to a sovereign development, human rights issues, and so on -<u>Knowledge management</u> by setting up a common platform to share information and expertise such as capacity building, PME, OD,.... -<u>Institutional networking</u> with international donors of common partners and or global networks with a similar thematic focus with the aim to have a shared approach -Share experiments on strengthening the <u>financial autonomy</u> of local CSOs -Joint ad hoc <u>workshops/conferences</u> depending on hot topics such as the impact of Trade agreements or Asean Community Market on agrarian sector -In case of a <u>humanitarian disaster</u>, a coordination will be set up to check whether joint action is opportune. -<u>Strengthen capacities of partners</u> (such as pool of trainers and joint trainings) with focus on leadership training motivation of youth, knowledge development, children's rights, RBA,... 	<p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p>x</p> <p></p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p></p> <p>x</p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
<p>JSG 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sharing of best practices and expertise with the aim to develop, common <u>policy & advocacy framework</u> on agriculture and SA, building resilient communities and getting access to climate finance for adaptation projects -<u>Institutional collaboration</u> between Trias, CSA, and other Agricord members -Share information on the informal and <u>rural Education sector</u> -Shared <u>capacity building</u> on leadership development and lobby and advocacy methodologies (Disop, EF, Trias, and other Agricord members) 	<p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p>	<p>x</p> <p></p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p> <p>x</p>

<p>JSG 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening of the Philippine movement for the right to health through international networking with the People's Health Movement. (G3W-M3M) - G3W-M3M and WSM, actor within the JSF Decent Work, will also explore opportunities of collaboration with and between their local partners in the health sector. 	x	x
<p>JSG3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange of knowledge on DRRM and CCA 	x	x
<p>JSG 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Actors will seek opportunities for complementarity and synergy in the areas of capacity development, research, technology transfer and scholarship opportunities -Encounters between CSO's/IA's and interested academics will be stimulated in order to look for opportunities for complementarity and synergy -Academic research outputs will be shared with JSF actors and their partners (for potential extension/upscaling) - Actors will continually seek for opportunities for academic projects that are in synergy and complementarity with the interventions of other Belgian actors (modalities to be defined) 	x x x x	 x

Annex 1: List of participants JSF Philippines, April 2016

All NGAs planning to have a program in the Philippines in the next 10 years participated in the process resulting in this JSF-Philippines. It involved the following 12 organizations with their respective addresses and lead persons:

	NGAS	ADDRESS	CONTACT PERSON
1	11.11.11	Vlasfabriekstraat 11 1060 Brussels	Kris Vanslambrouck
2	TRIAS	Wetstraat 89 1040 Brussels	Gudrun Cartuyvels
3	Rode Kruis-Vlaanderen Internationaal VZW	Motstraat 40 2800 Mechelen	Bruno Haghebaert
4	Geneeskunde voor de Derde Wereld/ Médecine pour le Tiers Monde (G3W-M3M)	Haachtsesteenweg 53 1210 Brussels	Wim De Ceukelaire
5	Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires CSA	Bd Léopold II, 184 D, 1080 Bruxelles	Caroline Amrom
6	DISOP	Spastraat 32 1000 Brussels	Kathleen Deckmyn
7	KIYO	Brognezstraat 46 1070 Brussel	Iris Bogaerts
8	Entraide et Fraternité (EF)	Rue du Gouvernement Provisoire, 32 - 1000 Brussel	Vincent Melis
9	ARES – CCD	Rue de Namur 72-74 1000 Bruxelles	Olivier Servais
10	SOLIDAGRO	Mercatorstraat 81 9100 Sint-Niklaas	Pascal Van Driessche
11	KDW- ETM	Albertinaplein 2 1000 Brussel	Johanna Vandamme
12	VLIR-UOS	Bolwerksquare 1a, 1050 Brussel	Inge Vandevyvere

Annex 2: List of abbreviations

CCA: Common Context Analysis
 CCA: Climate Change Adaptation
 CSOs : Civil Society Organizations
 DRRM: Disaster Risk Reduction Management
 ESCR: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 FTA: Free Trade Agreement
 HR: Human Rights
 HRBA: Human Rights Based Approach
 HRO: Human Rights Organization
 HRV: Human Rights Violation
 IAs: Institutional Actors

IPs: Indigenous People
 INGOs: International NGOs
 JSF: Joint Strategic Framework
 JSG: Joint Strategic Goals
 MSME: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
 NGA: Non-Governmental Actors
 OD: Organizational Development
 PME: Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
 PO: People's Organization
 SA: Sustainable Agriculture
 UN-CRC: UN Convention on Rights of the Child