

**Component Six**

***Environmental Protection,  
Management and Engagement***



## COMPONENT SIX

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Component 6: “Environmental Protection, Management, and Engagement” compiles information on a country’s activities involving the protection and management of its environment. Specifically, this component consists of information on expenditures, regulations, and other activities such as international agreements focusing on the protection of the environment and management of resources.

In the SEEA 2012 Central Framework, environmental protection activities are defined as activities whose primary purpose is to prevent, reduce and eliminate pollution and other forms of environment degradation. In this connection, Environmental Protection Expenditure statistics under Component 6 can be used to compile the Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts (EPEA), which aims to measure the society’s response to the degradation of the environment.

Aside from expenditure on environmental protection, the component includes information on the institutional strength of environmental authorities and other related agencies, as well as the regulations in place to preserve the environment by setting limits on pollution and extraction from the environment. These regulations act as instruments towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals on clean energy (SDG 7), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), protecting life below water and on land (SDGs 14 and 15), and climate change mitigation (SDG 13). The component also focuses on the country’s engagement on global partnership, which is anchored on SDG 17, “Partnership for Goals”.

Component 6 comprises four subcomponents: environmental protection and resource management expenditure; environmental governance and regulation; extreme event preparedness and disaster management; and environmental information and awareness. There are three core statistics recommended by the FDES under this component. One is under environmental protection and resource management expenditure, while the other two are under environmental governance and regulation.

## 6.1 Environmental protection and resource management expenditure

### 6.1.1 Annual government environmental protection expenditure

While it is recommended by the FDES to compile information on the expenditures for both activities of both private and public sectors, only the public expenditure on environmental protection is deemed a core statistic. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) provided information on funds allocated to each department for climate change related activities, waste and wastewater management, environmental protection research and development and other environmental protection related activities. Expenditure allocation for each priority of the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) was also compiled. The NCCAP is a plan translating the National Framework Strategy on Climate Change (NFSCC) in creating climate change resiliency. It contains strategic priorities such as: food security, water sufficiency, environmental and ecological stability, human security, sustainable energy, climate-smart industry and services, and knowledge and capacity development.

## 6.2. Environmental governance and regulation

### 6.2.1 List of regulated pollutants and description

Lists of regulated pollutants were gathered from existing laws and administrative orders of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. These instruments are enforced to limit the amount of pollutants emitted to air and water.

The Philippine Republic Act No. 8749, also known as the Philippine Clean Air Act, was signed into law on 23 June 1999 to enforce the right to clean air. It sets standards on air pollutants emitted by stationary (i.e. buildings and other immobile structures) and mobile sources (i.e. vehicles), and sets the national ambient quality guidelines for criteria-specific and source-specific hazardous pollutants.

Pursuant to RA 8749, several Department Administrative Orders (DAOs) were also implemented to set limits on mobile vehicle emissions. DAO No. 2010-23 and 2010-24 are recent administrative orders that contain a revised set of guidelines for regulating emissions from compression-ignition (e.g. diesel engine) and spark-ignition (e.g. gasoline engine) motor vehicles, and motorcycles/tricycles and mopeds, respectively. DAO 2013-13 establishes the national ambient air quality guideline for Particulate Matter 2.5, a type of pollutant. As of 2015, DAO No. 2015-04 enforces a set of emissions limits to be followed by Euro 4/IV and In-Use Vehicles. Euro IV vehicles are vehicles calibrated to release emissions following the European emission standards set by the European for cars emitted in the continent.

Apart from regulations on air emissions, the DENR issued administrative orders on regulating water quality. DAO No. 1994-26A revises the National Standards for Drinking Water of 1978 in pursuant of Presidential Decree No. 856, or the Code on Sanitation of the Philippines. It sets the acceptable values of parameters on the bacteriological, biological, chemical, physical, and radiological quality for drinking water, as well as the guidelines for sampling and evaluation.

Furthermore, quality guidelines are enlisted in DAO No. 2016-08 for water bodies. The administrative order sets limits to primary and secondary parameters for each category of fresh and marine surface water and groundwater. Primary parameters include biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), chloride, color, minimum dissolved oxygen, fecal coliform, nitrate (as  $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ), pH, phosphate, temperature and total suspended solids. Secondary parameters include several inorganics, organics and metals. The DAO also lists the significant parameters to be monitored for each industry, as well as the maximum allowable limits of effluents.

### **6.2.2 List of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)**

Table 6.4 lists 38 of the international conventions, agreements, and organizations that the Philippines is engaged with, as well as their objectives and the dates of signature, ratification, approval, adoption, and/or entry into force.

The oldest organization where the country is a member is the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). The organization was established in 1921 aimed at nautical navigation safety and marine environment protection.

The Philippines is also part of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA), the world's highest authority for global environmental agenda. During its first assembly, the UNEA tackled issues on air pollution, waste, and illegal wildlife trade.