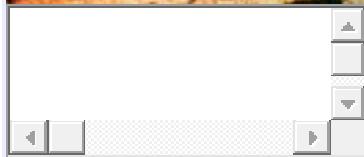


# [OPINION] Creating a green recovery pathway for the Philippines

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*'Jumpstarting a green recovery with more decent jobs, and healthy and resilient societies, is crucial to building back better and greener'*

Almost a year has passed since COVID-19 hit, causing job losses and increasing poverty levels. Sadly, this has impacted people unevenly, particularly women, youth, the poor, and informal sector workers.

A recent United Nations Development Program (UNDP) survey showed many households (27%) earning below P10,000 lost all income during lockdowns. Estimates from the International Labor Organization (ILO) further revealed that 10.9 million workers in the Philippines have had their livelihoods disrupted – equivalent to 25% of total employment in the country. Women and youth are particularly impacted, especially those studying, training, job-hunting, or working part-time. As the pandemic continues, socio-economic recovery remains uncertain. The World Economic Outlook (2020) projections showed a glimmer of hope for the Philippines, but slowly striding on the path to recovery in 2021 and beyond. Sustainable recovery requires building back better in new ways. To do so, we need to work collaboratively.

Expanding digitalization is one approach. The ILO's Future of Work in the Philippines Report recommended promoting competitive, innovative industries, and advancing productive employment, but noted that it must be accompanied by upskilling or reskilling workforces – particularly those in technology-supporting sectors, or those most impacted by COVID-19 or changes to traditional work – as well as investing in the digital and green economies.

Jumpstarting a green recovery with more decent jobs, and healthy and resilient societies, is crucial to building back better and greener. Although modest compared to some countries, the Philippines is considered well on its way towards effective recovery thanks to the significant actions taken by the government.

<https://www.rappler.com/voices/thought-leaders/opinion-creating-green-recovery-pathway-philippines>