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Panel 1.6: Green Practices

How Green Business Initiatives Practiced Among Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Are Contributing to the Global Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Roles and actions of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are enormous in building a sustainable world. At large, MSMEs play a huge role in global economy, particularly in equitable income generation, employment creation, innovation and growth. The Global Green Growth Institute, through joint effort with the Government of the Philippines, namely the Department of Trade and Industry, conducted a case study on Best Green Business Practices among MSMEs in the Food Processing Industry.

Main findings of the case study suggest that as a food processing industry, majority of (40%) green interventions are implemented in areas of waste reduction and recycling. Also, food processing requires good amount of thermal energy, hence energy consumption is major cost of processing. Energy saving and efficiency interventions (31%), particularly in fuel switch, change of heating processes and replacement of light bulbs were notices. Rainwater harvesting and water reuse were common interventions in saving water resources (26%). There is also notable initiative resulted into greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Finally, based on this case study and relevant studies generated in the Philippines and other countries of the Asia and the Pacific, adoption of green business practices among MSMEs can lead to greater socio-economic impacts resulting cost savings, employment generation, drive innovation and competitiveness to create inclusive green growth.