

## UK Investments in Philippines Hit Record High

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— Categories: Economics



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Investments from the UK into the Philippines reached a record USD 764 million in 2024, according to figures released at the British Chamber of Commerce Philippines (BCCP) Midyear Economic Briefing. The landmark result underlines deepening economic ties as both countries gear up for their 80th anniversary of diplomatic relations in 2026.

DTI Undersecretary Allan Gepty highlighted robust activity in sectors such as renewable energy, business process outsourcing, and agricultural exports. Notably, solar investments

alone amounted to USD612.5million, driven by large projects like Actis’s USD600million Terra Solar development and a EUR9.8million plant in Batangas by Citicore.

The economic briefing also spotlighted three frameworks facilitating growth: the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS), which supports duty-free export to the UK; the Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO), which unlocks targeted UK financing; and the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

BCCP Executive Vice Chair Chris Nelson described a rising trajectory in bilateral trade, noting that total UK–UK–Philippines trade in goods and services hit £3.0billion in the four quarters to end Q1 2025. He also welcomed incoming British Ambassador Sarah Hulton and reiterated support for ongoing collaboration between BCCP and the British Embassy Manila.

Trade ties continue strengthening. In June 2025, the Philippine–British Investment Forum in London, co-hosted by PEZA and the BCCP, highlighted the role of PEZA ecozones, where 64 British registered companies have cumulatively invested PHP34.036billion since 1995.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., during a recent farewell call, said he looked forward to closer UK collaboration as the nations approach eight decades of diplomatic relations. “We are grateful for your efforts in strengthening cooperation on defence, trade, education, and regional peace,” he remarked.

Optional image suggestion: A map of Philippine economic zones with British investments highlighted. *(Image placement: midway through the article)*

As these figures show, UK businesses are expanding their footprint across the Philippines, especially in green infrastructure, energy security, and technology sectors. With policy reforms underway, the country is positioning itself as a favourable environment for further British investment.