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## **Irregularities in relation to Philippine Business for Social Progress' activities in the Philippines**

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support to Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), which is the local non-commercial partner in a consortium with Lionheart Farms Philippines, Bai-Ani Foundation and the Philippine Coconut Authority. The aim of the partnership project is to foster sustainable growth within the Philippine coconut sector. A total of DKK 12,416,986 has been granted for the period 2020-2026 of which DKK 8,092,821 has been disbursed to PBSP.

PBSP first reported suspected falsification of financial-related documents in their project "More with Less in the Philippine Coconut Industry", in August 2024. Following, an internal audit found that the suspected amount was DKK 1,615, and that the irregularities concerned four financial documents that were used to support excess claims of reimbursables.

Two employees were found to be involved in irregularities. Both employees have been discharged from their positions, and the amount of DKK 1,615 has been returned to the project funds.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed without loss of Danish funds.