MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

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MSU-MAGUINDANAO SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

MSU-MAGUINDANAO
SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Foreword II
About MSU-Maguindanao III
Vision, Mission, Core Values V
Quality Policy VI
Program Offerings VII
MSU-Maguindanao Location VIII
SDG 1 : No Poverty 1-8
SDG 2 : Zero Hunger 9-25
SDG 3 : Good Health and Well-Being 26-31
SDG 4 : Quality Education 32-50
SDG 5 : Gender Equality 51-59
SDG 6 : Clean Water and Sanitation 60-67
SDG 7 : Affordable and Clean Energy 68-75
SDG 8 : Decent Work and Economic Growth 76-84
SDG 9 : Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure 85-90
SDG 10 : Reduced Inequalities 91-99
SDG 11 : Sustainable Cities and Communities 100-108
SDG 12 : Responsible Consumption and Production 109-116
SDG 13 : Climate Action 117-124
SDG 14 : Life Below Water 125-146
SDG 15 : Life on Land 147-168
SDG 16 : Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions 169-177
SDG 17 : Partnerships for the Goals 178-192



Dr. BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA
Chancellor, Mindanao State University - Maguindanao

FOREWORD

To the reviewers of the Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

In the Bangsamoro, sustainability is not an abstraction. It decides whether a farming family in a conflict-affected community can feed itself, whether a child learns to read, and whether a marsh still yields fish. This report sets out how Mindanao State University–Maguindanao answered those questions from January to December 2025, under five Goals: Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Quality Education (SDG 4), Life Below Water (SDG 14), Life on Land (SDG 15) and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). As you review it, I offer a brief account of who we are, why we chose these Goals, how they shape the way we work, and what comes next.

Who we are. MSU–Maguindanao is a constituent university of the Mindanao State University System, the only university in the Philippines created by law to integrate the country's cultural communities into the life of the nation. Founded in 1973, we serve the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, a region emerging from decades of armed conflict and still building its peace. Many of our students come from farming, fishing and former combatant communities, and a significant share are the first in their families to attend college. Our mandate and our setting shape everything that follows.

Why these five Goals. They are where our work runs deepest and where our region's need is greatest. Our people live by their land and waters, from the Ligawasan, whose name in Maguindanaon means marshland, to Lake Lanao, the Rio Grande de Mindanao and the uplands that feed them, and here hunger, environmental loss and conflict feed one another. Education opens doors long closed to those left out. Partnership makes the rest possible, and MSU–Maguindanao leads a research consortium of institutions across Mindanao, Sulu and Palawan. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) is not among our entries, yet peace is the thread through all five.

How sustainability is governed. The Goals are built into how the University runs, not added to it. Our admission policy deliberately weighs disadvantage. Every course syllabus integrates peace concepts and the SDGs, and our research agenda for 2025 to 2030 is written around them. We pioneered the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security, the first of its kind in Asia. Our quality management system is certified to ISO 9001, and beyond our five entries we have published progress reports on all of the seventeen Goals.

What comes next. We will build on this year's results so that our next report shows change, not only activity. Our research consortium enters its third phase, and our partnership on local climate adaptation continues. We submit this report as a record of what a university can do where the need is greatest, and of our resolve to do more.

Dr. BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA
Chancellor, Mindanao State University - Maguindanao

ABOUT
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAGUINDANAO

The Mindanao State University – Maguindanao is one of the eleven (11) campuses of the Mindanao State University System. The campus is strategically located along the national highway of Barangay Poblacion Dalican in the municipality of Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao. It is one of the state universities in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The University was established on October 10, 1973 by virtue of BOR Resolution No. 821 series of 1973 with its former name – MSU – Dinaig Agricultural and Technical College (MSU-DATC) under the leadership of the founding director, Dr. Macaurog Derogongan, who was later replaced by Director Atty. Usop Pendaliday, then by Director Maguid Malang, followed by Director Abudji I. Aradji, then Chancellor Bai Yasmin Q. Sinsuat, followed by Chancellor Nazarollah R. Macalandong, then Chancellor Bai Soraya Q. Sinsuat, and now with the newly elected Chancellor Bai Hejira S. M. Limbona.

It formally started its operation in the second semester of AY 1973-1974 with seven (7) faculty members, fifteen (15) members of the administrative staff, five (5) security guards, and one hundred twenty-six (126) students. The campus operation started with only three baccalaureate degree programs namely: Agriculture, Forestry, and Community Development. Initially, classes were held at the grandstand of Dalican Pilot Elementary School, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao with very limited facilities. In 1975, all the school facilities were razed to the ground by fire. However, disaster events did not end the noble mission of the school. It reintroduced and revived its operation with the support of the late Mayor Datu Odin Sinsuat, Sr. who sold, at a token price, the piece of property with an area of 55 hectares and now became the present site of the university.

From then on, the site has grown as an institution of higher learning. It was granted fiscal autonomy by virtue of BOR Resolution No. 482, series of 1982 and was renamed MSU-Maguindanao by virtue of BOR Resolution No. 482, series of 1982. Notably, in response to the increasing demand for graduate programs, the University acquired a lot located at Barangay Broce, also in Datu Odin Sinsuat Municipality for the graduate programs. From three (3) course offerings in 1973, it now has nineteen (19) baccalaureate programs, two (2) diploma courses, and nine (9) graduate programs. As an integral part of the MSU System, it is committed to uphold the integrity of MSU as a system and pursue quality education. It continually performs the mandated functions of Instruction, Research, Extension, and Production as it faces the challenges of time. The campus is devoted to assist the government in realizing the integration of cultural minority groups into the mainstream of the national body politic and provide trained manpower and technical know-how for the socio-cultural and economic development in the region by renewing its vision, mission, and core values and by strengthening its flagship programs in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

MSU
GRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL CO

VISION

A leading campus committed to excellence, innovation, and transformative education, nurturing empowered learners who create positive change.

MISSION

To provide quality, inclusive, and relevant education that develops competent, innovative, and socially responsible learners who contribute meaningfully to their communities and society.

CORE VALUES

Service and Integrity

QUALITY POLICY

Mindanao State University-Maguindanao commits to optimize its mandated services in delivering transformative instruction, student-centered services, advanced and relevant research, and strategic extension and community engagements that develop principled leaders for peace, governance, innovation, and sustainable transformation serving global communities.

Guided by its Vision of becoming a recognized leader in these fields and anchored on the Core Values of Service and Integrity, the University commits to continually improve its Quality Management System (QMS) to ensure compliance with applicable requirements, and enhance the effectiveness of its academic and administrative processes through sustained quality, accountability, and continual improvement.

Program Offerings

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- Doctor of Public Administration
- Doctor of Education major in English Language Teaching
- Master of Science in Animal Science
- Master of Science in Farming System
- Master of Public Administration (Plan A)
- Master of Public Administration (Plan B)
- Master of Public Administration major in Healthcare Governance
- Master of Public Administration major in Human Resource Management and Development
- Master of Public Administration major in Local and Regional Government Administration
- Master of Science in Sustainable Community Development major in Community Transformation
- Master of Arts in English Language Teaching
- Master of Arts in Peace and Development Studies
- Master of Science Education in Secondary Mathematics
- Master of Science Education in General Science
- Master of Arts in Islamic Studies
- Diploma in Women, Peace and Security
- Diploma in Environmental Planning

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture major in Agronomy
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture major in Animal Science
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture major in Extension Education
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business Management
- Diploma in Agricultural Technology major in Crop Production
- Diploma in Agribusiness Management Technology major in Food Processing

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
- Bachelor of Arts in Islamic Studies major in Shari'ah

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Secondary Education major in English
- Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Mathematics
- Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Science
- Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Social Studies
- Bachelor of Elementary Education
- Bachelor of Physical Education

COLLEGE OF FISHERIES

- Bachelor of Science in Fisheries
- Diploma in Fisheries Technology major in Fish Processing
- Diploma in Fisheries Technology major in Aquaculture

COLLEGE OF FORESTRY AND EVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- Bachelor of Science in Forestry major in General Forestry
- Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE

- Bachelor of Public Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Community Development
- Bachelor of Science in Social Work

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING SCIENCES

- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

COLLEGE BRIDGING PROGRAM

- College Bound Program
- Pre-University Program

INTEGRATED LABORATORY SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL

- Junior High School
- Senior High School

COLLEGE OF LAW

- Juris Doctor



N
W
E
S

PHILIPPINES

LUZON

VISAYAS

MINDANAO



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO
Dalican, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte



1 NO POVERTY

OVERVIEW

For many families in the Bangsamoro, the cost of a college education is what stands between one generation's poverty and the next generation's opportunity. Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) works to remove that barrier. Poverty in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) is falling fast: the Philippine Statistics Authority reports that poverty incidence among families dropped from 26.0% in 2023 to 12.8% in 2025, the most notable improvement of any region. Yet about one family in eight still lives below the poverty line, and higher education remains one of the surest routes out.

In Academic Year 2024–2025, MSU–Maguindanao enrolled **2,411 students**, including 811 new students. Nearly a quarter of these new students (**198, or 24.4%**) were the first in their families to attend university.

In 2025, the University channelled **₱5.42 million** in government financial assistance to its students through **421 awards** under the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP), its component for State Universities and Colleges (TDP-SUC), and the Scholarship Program for Coconut Farmers and their Families (CoScho), equivalent to about 17.5% of the student body. It also facilitated the **₱20-million** MNLF Transformation Study Grant Program, funded by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), which supports 287 children and next of kin of former Moro National Liberation Front combatants.

The University also widens the entrance itself. Board of Regents Resolution No. 105, s. 2025 created alternative admission pathways for applicants from underserved groups, and a free review program prepared 63 Grade 12 students in South Upi for the MSU System Admission and Scholarship Examination.

Beyond the campus, livelihood projects with OPAPRU in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar generated **₱224,654** in sales income for partner farmers and cooperatives in 2025.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES

Under the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (Republic Act No. 10931), MSU–Maguindanao students pay no tuition. Transport, food, books and devices, however, can still keep students from low-income households from enrolling or finishing their degrees. The University's Admission and Scholarship Office closes that gap. Working with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST), the Office identifies eligible students, verifies beneficiaries and releases grants on campus, so that students receive their assistance directly and on time.

Table 1 summarises the University's 2025 anti-poverty programs for students and applicants. The three grant programs for enrolled students made 421 awards worth ₱5,420,000: ₱2,077,500 under TDP-SUC, ₱772,500 under TDP and ₱2,570,000 under CoScho.

MSU–Maguindanao
ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS
for students and applicants, 2025

PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY	DATE	REPORTED FIGURE
Tulong Dunong Program - State Universities and Colleges (TDP-SUC)	**11 August 2025**	**277** students wtihout other scholarships each received a one-time grant of ₱**7,500** (total ₱**2,077,500**).
Tulong Dunong Program (TDP)	**11 December 2025**	**103** scholars each received a semester allowance of **₱7,500** (total **₱772,500**).
Scholarship Program for Coconut Farmers and their Families (CoScho)	**18 February 2025**	**41** scholars (31 new, 10 continuing) each received a ₱40,000 semester allowance; new grantees also received a **₱30,000** laptop grant (total **₱2,570,000**).
Free SASE Review Program, South Upi	**23 August to September 2025**	**63** Grade 12 students received four days of free review for the MSU System Admission and Scholarship Examination (MSU-SASE).
Revised Admission Criteria *BOR Resolution No. 105, s. 2025*	**14 April 2025**	Created alternative admission pathways for applicants from underserved and low-income groups.

STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY BECAUSE OF POVERTY

277 Students without Scholarships Receive ₱2.08 Million in Educational Assistance



TDP-SUC beneficiaries at the release of one-time educational cash assistance, MSU–Maguindanao, 11 August 2025

On 11 August 2025, the Admission and Scholarship Office, in coordination with CHED, released one-time educational cash assistance under the Tulong Dunong Program for State Universities and Colleges (TDP-SUC) to 277 qualified students for Academic Year 2024–2025. Each student received ₱7,500, a total of ₱2,077,500.

The grant reached students who held no other scholarship, the students most likely to fall through the gaps in existing aid. It helps them pay for transport, meals, books and supplies, easing the pressure on their families. By extending support beyond existing scholars, the University ensures that financial need, not prior scholarship status, decides who receives help.

Tulong Dunong Program: ₱772,500 in Allowances for 103 Scholars

On 11 December 2025, the Admission and Scholarship Office, with CHED–UniFAST, released ₱772,500 in allowances to 103 qualified scholars under the Tulong Dunong Program (TDP) for Academic Year 2024–2025. Each scholar received ₱7,500 for the semester.

The TDP targets students from economically disadvantaged households. The allowance elps scholars pay for transport, food, learning materials and other costs that free tuition does not cover, so that money is not the reason a student leaves university.

By verifying beneficiaries and releasing allowances on campus, the University makes sure that national scholarship funds reach its students in full and on schedule.



TDP scholars at the Admission and Scholarship Office during the release of scholarship allowances, 11 December 2025.

₱20-Million MNLF Transformation Study Grants



Overview of the MNLF Transformation Study Grant Program.

Peace lasts when the families of former combatants can build a different future. The MNLF Transformation Study Grant Program, funded by OPAPRU, invests ₱20 million in the education of 287 children and next of kin of profiled former Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) combatants.

MSU–Maguindanao hosted the program's first grant distribution on 17 December 2024, where each beneficiary received ₱25,000 and took part in Peace Formation Sessions. Support continued through 2025, with beneficiaries receiving ₱5,000 a month in educational assistance from January 2025 to help them stay in school.

Implemented with the MNLF–Government of the Philippines Committee, the program reaches families in Maguindanao del Norte, Maguindanao del Sur, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Basilan, North Cotabato, South Cotabato, Zamboanga, Davao and General Santos City. By linking education with peacebuilding, it helps break the cycle in which conflict and poverty reinforce each other.



Study grant beneficiaries with University officials and program representatives at MSU–Maguindanao.

SUPPORT FOR FARMING HOUSEHOLDS AND APPLICANTS

Scholarship Support for Coconut-Farming Families

On 18 February 2025, the Admission and Scholarship Office released assistance to students from coconut-farming families under the Scholarship Program for Coconut Farmers and their Families (CoScho). For Academic Year 2024–2025, the program supported 41 scholars: 31 new grantees and 10 continuing scholars.

Each new grantee received ₱70,000, made up of a ₱40,000 semester allowance and a ₱30,000 laptop grant. Each continuing scholar received a ₱40,000 semester allowance. In total, the program delivered ₱2,570,000 to students from coconut-farming families.

Farmers remain among the poorest sectors in the Philippines. CoScho gives their children the means to complete a degree, and the laptop grant closes a digital gap that could otherwise follow them through their studies.



CoScho scholars, with university representatives, following the distribution of scholarship grants for Academic Year 2024–2025

Free Preparation for Admission and Scholarship Opportunities



Participants, reviewers and partners at the close of the four-day review program in South Upi, Maguindanao del Sur on

Paid review classes are beyond the reach of many families in the upland municipalities of Maguindanao del Sur. To level the field, MSU–Maguindanao held a **free four-day review** for 63 Grade 12 students at Timanan Central Elementary School in South Upi, preparing them for the MSU System Admission and Scholarship Examination (MSU-SASE). Because the examination governs both admission and scholarship eligibility, preparation matters doubly for students from low-income households.

Sessions covered Mathematics, Science, English and Aptitude, with practice in analytical reasoning, critical thinking and time management. Delivered with partner secondary schools and the local governments of South Upi and Upi, the program brought examination preparation into the community at no cost to students.



Grade 12 students from South Upi in a free MSU-SASE review session at Timanan Central Elementary School

COMMUNITY ANTI-POVERTY AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS

MSU–Maguindanao and OPAPRU Turn Over Poultry House to Strengthen Livelihoods in Camp Badre



MSU–Maguindanao and OPAPRU representatives, together with cooperative members and project stakeholders, pose during the turnover ceremony of the newly constructed poultry house for halal poultry production in Camp Badre

Poverty reduction does not stop at the campus gate. Since July 2024, MSU–Maguindanao and OPAPRU have worked with partner farmers and community cooperatives in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar, camps covered by the camps transformation component of the Bangsamoro peace process, to build livelihoods in vegetable production, poultry and goat raising, fish farming and food processing.



MSU–Maguindanao project personnel demonstrate poultry production practices to cooperative members during the turnover activity in Camp Badre

The projects create income for former combatants, their families and women-led organisations, turning areas long defined by conflict into centres of production.

In 2025, partner farmers recorded ₱224,654 in sales of farm and processed products: ₱79,645 in Camp Abubakar, ₱78,775 in Camp Omar and ₱66,234 in Camp Badre (Table 2). Products ranged from vegetables, eggs and fish to banana chips, ginger powder, sinamak, ice cream and tapioca.

By pairing technical support from University researchers with products that sell, the projects help households move toward stable, self-sustaining livelihoods in post-conflict communities.



2 ZERO HUNGER

OVERVIEW

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao advances Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) through food assistance, affordable campus meals, food-waste management, and agricultural livelihood programmes. Its Sustainability Policy commits the University to protecting the food security of students, faculty, and staff through access to affordable, healthy, and safe food.

The University provides free iftar meals, emergency food packs, and meals during official activities. Campus canteens offer affordable rice and vegetable meals, while office pantries provide food access for employees. The University also measures canteen food waste to guide waste reduction and resource recovery.

Beyond the campus, the University supports farmers in the former MILF camps through training, farm inputs, and production facilities for crops, fish, and livestock. It also leads and participates in research and training on tilapia production and halal livestock systems. These initiatives strengthen local food production, farmer capacity, and community livelihoods.

CAMPUS POPULATION

A.Y. 2024-2025

FACULTY	227
STAFF	261
STUDENTS	2,411

HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 7	67
Grade 8	59
Grade 9	48
Grade 10	96
Grade 11	116
Grade 12	58

TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: 444

TOTAL CAMPUS POPULATION: 3,343

NUMBER OF GRADUATES

A.Y. 2024-2025

GRADUATE CATEGORY	NUMBER OF GRADUATES
Undergraduate Programs	774
Graduate Studies	143

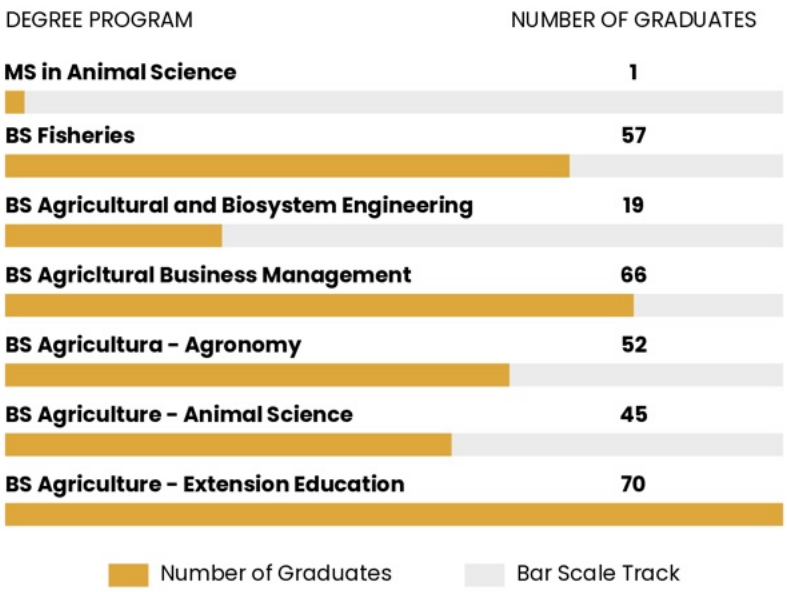
TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES

917

GRADUATES

AGRICULTURE AND AQUACULTURE GRADUATES

A.Y. 2024-2025 | PROHRAM-LEVEL SUMMARY



TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES FROM AGRICULTURE AND AQUACULTURE COURSES

310

GRADUATES

CAMPUS FOOD WASTE

University Canteen Food-Waste Assessment Establishes a Baseline

In 2025, BS Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering students and canteen concessionaires assessed food waste at the University canteen over 15 monitoring days. They weighed and classified waste into cooked-rice leftovers, fruit and vegetable peels, and fish and chicken bones. The assessment established a measured baseline for improving food-waste management.

The canteen generated 90.76 kilograms of food waste during the monitoring period, averaging 6.05 kilograms per day. The estimated annual volume was 2,208.49 kilograms (2.21 metric tons). Cooked-rice leftovers accounted for 82.08% (1,812.83 kg), fruit and vegetable peels for 16.21% (357.94 kg), and fish and chicken bones for 1.71% (37.72 kg).

Annual Food Waste

Food waste category	Weight recorded (kg)	Share of total
Cooked rice leftovers	1,812.83 kg	82.08%
Fruit and vegetable peels	357.94 kg	16.21%
Fish and chicken bones	37.72 kg	1.71%

TOTAL ANNUAL FOOD WASTE

2,208.49 kg

(± 2.21 metric tons)

Estimated annual food waste generated by the University canteen, by category.

Cooked-rice leftovers were the largest waste category, identifying meal portions and demand as priority areas for prevention. The assessment also informed the capacity of the biogas digester installed behind the canteen; collected food waste was used to test the digester. The results provide a baseline for reducing food waste and assessing organic-waste recovery on campus.

The assessment supports Article VII, Section 1 of the University Sustainability Policy, which requires campus food establishments to minimize food waste. Its findings give the University measurable data for planning waste-reduction measures and monitoring future changes.

STUDENT HUNGER

Free Annual Iftar Provides Meals for Dormitory Students During Ramadan

MSU–Maguindanao funds the Supreme Student Council's annual free iftar for students staying in the University dormitory. The March 14, 2025 activity provided meals to about 50 students, including those who live far from home, attend late classes, or have limited resources. The programme helps ensure that students can break their fast without the cost of a meal becoming a barrier.



Dormitory students receive University-funded iftar meals during Ramadan 2025.



Dormitory students receive University-funded iftar meals during Ramadan 2025.

The initiative implements Article VII, Section 7 of the University Sustainability Policy, which commits MSU–Maguindanao to upholding campus food security. The same policy supports affordable meals in the eight campus canteens, where a rice meal with a vegetable viand costs about ₱40.



A flood-affected student receives a food pack distributed by MSU–Maguindanao and DSWD in May 2025.

Emergency Food Packs Reach 246 Students Affected by Flooding

On March 22, 2025, the College of Engineering and Computing Sciences also provided free iftar meals to learners from three Islamic institutions in Datu Anggal Midtimbang, Maguindanao del Sur. The activity, supported by university organizations and professional partners, extended food assistance to learners in nearby communities. The University intends to continue the annual free iftar as part of its student food-security support.

Following severe flooding on May 20, 2025, the Division of Student Affairs and Supreme Student Council, in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, distributed food packs to 246 affected students. The distribution reached 308 recipients in total, including University employees.

Each family pack contained 6 kilograms of rice, 10 tins of canned goods, and 10 sachets of drink mix. University personnel and alumni volunteers, together with DSWD and the Ministry of Social Services and Development, distributed the packs at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium.

The assistance provided food to students whose households were affected by flooding and whose access to food and income may have been disrupted. Together with annual iftar meals and food support during University events, the response puts the University's commitment to campus food security into practice under Article VII, Section 7 of its Sustainability Policy.

The Division of Student Affairs will continue coordinating with DSWD, MSSD, and alumni volunteers to facilitate food assistance during future emergencies.

Section 7. Food Security and Overall Well Being (SDG 2, 3). MSU-Maguindanao shall ensure that food security and the overall well-being of academics, staff, and students are upheld on the campus. It shall further support food security and health programs for its surrounding communities. Specifically, the University shall:

a. Provide for affordable, healthy, and safe food options in canteens and cafes in the campus that have minimal impact on the environment,
b. Reduce food waste on campus,
c. Strive to provide mental health support facilities and services to University constituents,
d. Mainstream existing Psychosocial Online Hub which provides psychological first aid,
e. Provide sexual and reproductive healthcare services to University constituents,
f. Implement health-related outreach programs in the community,
g. Promote the consumption of local and sustainably harvested food, and
h. Support initiatives towards sustainable agriculture.

Article VII, Section 7 of the MSU–Maguindanao Sustainability Policy, which commits the University to uphold food security for students, faculty, and staff and to provide affordable, healthy, and safe food options on campus.

Campus Canteens Offer Vegetable Meals Using Locally Sourced Produce

University canteens serve vegetable dishes alongside fish and meat meals, with all campus food prepared in accordance with halal requirements. The Sustainability Policy promotes local and sustainably harvested food and encourages food options with lower environmental impacts (Article VII, Section 7).

Daily options include pinakbet, ginataang gulay, chop suey, eggplant, string beans, okra, squash, and fresh salads, alongside fish, chicken, beef, and egg dishes.



Vegetable dishes such as ampalaya with egg and sotanghon with pechay are served alongside chicken and fish viands at a campus canteen.

Canteen concessionaires source produce from nearby growers, including farmers in Makir and Dados, and from Dalican Public Market. This purchasing practice provides a market for local harvests while making vegetable-based meals available to the campus community.

The University aims to strengthen links between canteen concessionaires and farmer cooperatives and to improve the identification of vegetarian options in campus food stalls.

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h. Support initiatives towards sustainable agriculture.

Article VII, Section 7 of the MSU–Maguindanao Sustainability Policy promotes affordable, healthy, safe, and locally sourced campus food.

Affordable Canteen Meals Keep Food Within Students' Reach

Eight campus canteen stalls serve freshly prepared meals to students, faculty, staff, and visitors. A cup of rice costs about ₱15($0.25) and a vegetable viand about ₱25 ($0.42 USD), making a basic meal available for around ₱40($0.68 USD). This supports the University Sustainability Policy requirement to provide affordable, healthy, and safe campus food.



Freshly prepared meals, including vegetable and fish dishes, are served at a campus canteen.



Pastil, a traditional Maguindanaon meal consisting of steamed rice topped with seasoned shredded chicken, wrapped in banana leaves as a natural, biodegradable alternative to single-use plastic packaging.

Daily meals include rice with fish, vegetables, eggs, or chicken, as well as local dishes such as pastil. Snacks are generally priced between ₱5 and ₱15. Posted prices help customers make informed choices.

These prices help students and employees with limited budgets access filling meals on campus during the school day.

The University plans to work with canteen concessionaires to expand fresh fruit and vegetable choices at every stall.

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g. Promote the consumption of local and sustainably harvested food, and
h. Support initiatives towards sustainable agriculture.

Article VII, Section 7 of the MSU–Maguindanao Sustainability Policy, which commits the University to uphold food security for students, faculty, and staff and to provide affordable, healthy, and safe food options on campus.

Free Meals and Office Pantries Support Employee Food Security

MSU–Maguindanao's Sustainability Policy extends its food-security commitment to both teaching and non-teaching personnel (Article VII, Section 7).

The University provides free meals to employees during official meetings, seminars, and other institutional activities, including those scheduled during mealtimes.



Employees receive a meal during a University activity.



Food available to employees in the faculty lounge of the College of Education.

Office pantries also give faculty and staff access to food during the workday. Together with affordable canteen meals, these arrangements help employees access food while carrying out their duties.

Free meals at official activities, office pantries, and affordable campus canteen options support the food security and well-being of University personnel.

The University aims to sustain these measures as part of its continuing commitment to employee welfare.

NATIONAL HUNGER

Agricultural Livelihood Project Supports Food Production and Enterprise in Former MILF Camps

Women's cooperatives, former combatants, and their families in Camps Abubakar, Badre, and Omar are receiving support to produce food and develop community-based enterprises.

In 2025, partner-farmers received free training, farm inputs, and production facilities for climate-smart crop, fish, and livestock activities. The project is funded by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity (OPAPRU) and implemented by MSU–Maguindanao.



Members of the Calagan Women's Marketing Cooperative prepare fruit for jam during a food-processing workshop in Camp Abubakar.

Since July 2024, the Agricultural Livelihood Support Project has reached 305 partner-farmers in Maguindanao del Norte and Maguindanao del Sur, including women's cooperative members and former combatants. Support combines production training, farm facilities, food processing, product development, and cooperative management.

University specialists provided training in vegetable production, halal goat raising, poultry, fish culture, and food processing. The project also established facilities such as greenhouses with drip irrigation, livestock housing, fish cages and tanks, and solar-powered incubators, allowing participants to apply the skills gained.

Women's cooperatives received food-processing training for products such as banana chips, sinamak, banana ketchup, strawberry jam, tilanggit, and Spanish-style hito. Branding and packaging sessions helped prepare these products for market.

Training in financial and cooperative management supported members in organizing operations, managing funds, and planning their enterprises.

By linking food production with processing and enterprise development, the project supports household food availability and creates opportunities for community income.

Continued technical assistance and production monitoring are intended to help cooperatives sustain and expand their activities.



Partner-farmers tend strawberry plants in a greenhouse with drip irrigation established through the project.

LEARNING EXCHANGES HELP CAMP FARMERS IMPROVE PRODUCTION AND REACH MARKETS

In 2025, farmers and food producers from Camps Abubakar, Badre, and Omar joined learning visits, community dialogues, technology scouting, and trade fairs facilitated by MSU–Maguindanao. These activities connected 305 project partner-farmers with other producers, technical experts, and prospective buyers.

Funded by OPAPRU under the MILF Camps Transformation Plan, the activities provided free opportunities to observe production systems, discuss farming challenges, exchange practical knowledge, and promote community products.

The learning exchanges form part of the Agricultural Livelihood Support Project, which has supported 305 partner-farmers since July 2024.

Learning from fellow producers

In January 2025, members of the Calagan Women's Marketing Cooperative and G.K. Village Togaig Farmers' Marketing Cooperative visited model farms and the Department of Agriculture's Northern Mindanao Agricultural Crops and Livestock Research Complex in Bukidnon. The visits exposed participants to operating farm systems and practical production methods.

In April 2025, partner-farmers from Camps Badre and Omar visited farms in Sultan Kudarat, Koronadal, and General Santos City. They observed poultry, hydroponics, aquaculture, and dairy-goat production relevant to their community enterprises.



Members of two Camp Abubakar cooperatives visit the Department of Agriculture's Northern Mindanao Agricultural Crops and Livestock Research Complex in January 2025.

In April 2025, partner-farmers from Camps Badre and Omar visited farms in Sultan Kudarat, Koronadal, and General Santos City. They observed poultry, hydroponics, aquaculture, and dairy-goat production relevant to their community enterprises.

Sharing experiences through community dialogues

The College of Public Affairs and Governance facilitated *Kamustahan* sessions where cooperative members and project personnel reviewed progress, challenges, and next steps. These discussions supported coordination and follow-through within the participating communities.

Cooperative members also presented their experiences during the University's Women's Month activity in March 2025 and the project turnover and culmination activities in June 2025.

Connecting food producers with buyers

On March 1, 2025, the University facilitated cooperative members' participation in the MAFARamadhan Trade Fair Plus in Cotabato City, where they displayed products and met prospective buyers.

Members also joined the 10th Philippine Halal Trade and Tourism Expo in Davao City on June 18–20, 2025, to promote their products and explore market opportunities. The activities expanded farmers' access to technical knowledge, peer learning, and potential buyers beyond their communities.



Partner-farmers from Camp Abubakar observe crops during a January 2025 learning visit in Bukidnon.

Farm Inputs and Facilities Strengthen Production in Former MILF Camps

MSU–Maguindanao provided partner-farmers in Camps Abubakar, Badre, and Omar with seedlings, farm inputs, livestock, and production technologies. Greenhouses and livestock facilities established in the camps give cooperatives the infrastructure to apply improved farming practices.

Funded by OPAPRU under the MILF Camps Transformation Plan, the initiative has reached 305 cooperative partner-farmers in Barira, Datu Odin Sinsuat, and Datu Hoffer since July 2024.

The project team draws on expertise from the University's colleges of Agriculture, Fisheries, Engineering and Computing Sciences, and Public Affairs and Governance.



Vegetables grow inside a climate-smart greenhouse established for the Sigay Kutawato Women RTW Marketing Cooperative in Camp Badre.





The climate-smart goat house for the G.K. Village Togaig Farmers' Marketing Cooperative was turned over in January 2025.

Planting Materials and Crop Production Technologies

The University distributed seedlings, vegetable seeds, soil test kits, tools, organic fertilizers, and other farm inputs beginning in August 2024. These resources support crop production at community farming sites.

The project established climate-smart greenhouses for the Sigay Kutawato Women RTW Marketing Cooperative in Camp Badre and the AL JAASUWS OFW Agri-Business Association in Camp Omar. The Camp Omar facility, completed in March 2025, includes hydroponics, vermibeds, and a water system.

The Calagan Women's Marketing Cooperative in Camp Abubakar received greenhouse improvements and a strawberry seedling nursery. Supported farms have produced eggplant, tomatoes, pechay, green chilies, and cucumbers.

Livestock and facilities within the camps

Three cooperatives—G.K. Village Togaig Farmers' Marketing Cooperative in Camp Abubakar, Sif-Ku Producers Cooperative in Camp Badre, and Talibadok Kauyagan Farmers Marketing Cooperative in Camp Omar—each received 10 goats and a climate-smart goat house. Forage areas were also established to support livestock feeding.

The Matado Agrarian Reform Cooperative in Camp Badre and Limpongo Women's Organization in Camp Omar each received a poultry house stocked with 100 ready-to-lay heritage chickens. Cooperatives in Camp Abubakar also received chickens and poultry-house improvements.

A solar-powered incubator with a 216-egg setter was delivered to Camp Badre in March 2025 to support local chick production.

The farm inputs, livestock, and facilities were provided free of charge through OPAPRU funding.

Production outputs and access to University facilities

From January to June 2025, the Limpongo poultry house averaged 30–40 eggs per day, while Camp Abubakar flocks produced at least 25 eggs daily. These recorded outputs provide an initial basis for monitoring the productivity of the supported facilities.

Farmers and agricultural technicians also accessed the College of Agriculture's goat and cattle facilities in Dalican for practical training through the FAO-funded Halal Livestock Farmer Field School and Demonstration Farm.

Planned follow-up includes support for organic poultry feed banks and regular veterinary monitoring to help sustain livestock production.



The climate-smart poultry house for the Limpongo Women's Organization in Camp Omar was turned over in January 2025.

Taste of Peace Sales Promote Food Products from Former MILF Camps

MSU–Maguindanao, through its Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovation, and Sustainable Engagements, supported partner cooperatives in Camps Abubakar, Badre, and Omar to market vegetables, eggs, and processed food products. The Taste of Peace initiative forms part of the OPAPRU-funded Agricultural Livelihood Support Project.

At the MAFARamadhan Trade Fair Plus in Cotabato City, beginning March 1, 2025, cooperative members sold fresh produce and halal-processed products made from their harvests. Products included Spanish-style sardines, bottled hito, tilanggit, sinamak, banana ketchup, banana chips, and banana fries.



Vegetables grown in the camps are displayed with processed products at the Taste of Peace booth in March 2025.



Camp cooperatives promote locally grown and processed food products at the MAFARamadhan Trade Fair Plus in Cotabato City.

The University also facilitated orders for eggs and heritage chicks from Camp Badre, which buyers collected on June 16, 2025. University offices purchased camp products for meetings, events, and tokens.

The sales provided participating cooperatives with direct access to buyers and a venue to promote locally produced food. The initiative supports the Sustainability Policy provisions on local and sustainable businesses and consumption (Article VII, Sections 4 and 7).

The University aims to feature Taste of Peace products more regularly at campus events and consider camp cooperatives when sourcing food for official activities.

Farmers' Training Builds Capacity in Halal Livestock Production

MSU–Maguindanao, through its Colleges of Agriculture and Engineering and Computing Sciences, conducted a five-day Farmers' Training on Halal Livestock Production on October 2–6, 2025, in Dalican, Datu Odin Sinsuat. The training was delivered with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Agrarian Reform under the project on developing Halal agricultural production systems in Mindanao.



Participants observe a Shariah-compliant slaughtering demonstration during the five-day halal livestock training.

Farmers and agricultural technicians from Maguindanao and neighboring provinces practiced silage and salt-lick preparation, feed formulation using local ingredients, herd management, animal nutrition, biosecurity, disease prevention, animal welfare, and Shariah-compliant slaughtering. The practical sessions strengthened participants' knowledge and skills for managing halal livestock production.

MSU–Maguindanao Leads National Research Program on Saline-Tolerant Tilapia

The University's College of Fisheries leads Project 1 of the National Tilapia R&D Program, Program B: Productivity Enhancement of SPIN Tilapia Culture Systems. Supported by DOST–PCAARRD, the five-university programme aims to improve the productivity and cost efficiency of saline-tolerant tilapia farming, particularly in areas where salinity limits conventional production. The inception meeting was held at Capiz State University on June 19, 2025.



Representatives from Mindanao State University–Maguindanao and four partner universities gather at Capiz State University for the Inception Meeting of the National Tilapia R&D Program, Program B, Productivity Enhancement of SPIN Tilapia Culture Systems, on June 19, 2025.

The programme brings together five complementary projects covering hatchery and grow-out systems, feeding strategies, microbial-based nursery production, acclimation and transport, and local probiotics. MSU–Maguindanao leads the project on improved hatchery and grow-out systems.

The research aims to develop production technologies that help small-scale fish farmers maintain or increase output in salt-affected waters. If validated and adopted, these technologies can support farmer incomes and sustain an affordable source of fish protein. The programme also strengthens collaboration among the participating universities and government research agencies.

As programme lead, the University will coordinate the five projects and support the transfer of validated technologies to fisheries agencies, local governments, aquaculture enterprises, and coastal and rural communities.

POLICIES

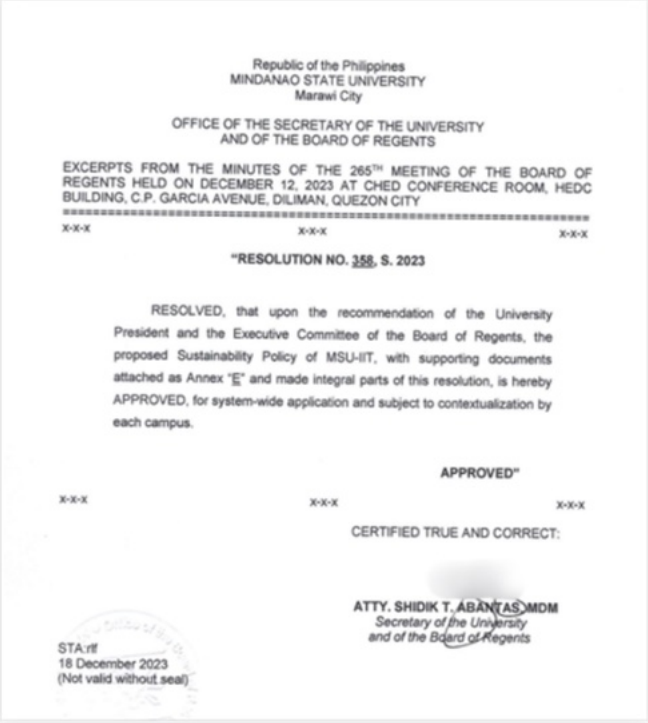
Policy Prioritizes Environmentally Responsible and Sustainable Procurement

MSU–Maguindanao's Sustainability Policy, approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, establishes requirements for responsible university procurement. Article VII, Section 4 directs the University to consider the environmental impact of purchases throughout their life cycle and the environmental practices of producers and suppliers.

Sections 4(a) and 4(b) prioritize environmentally and socially responsible products and services and products that use less energy or generate less waste. These provisions provide a policy basis for considering local suppliers and products when they meet applicable procurement and environmental requirements.

The policy embeds sustainability considerations in institutional purchasing and supports responsible resource use and opportunities for local suppliers. food sources.

Its contribution to SDG 2 is strongest when procurement supports local food producers and sustainable



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rtf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

Sustainability Policy Approved for MSU system-wide application



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

OVERVIEW

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao supports Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) through preventive healthcare, health education, community medical services, and institutional health policies. In partnership with local health institutions, the University provides vaccination services for employees, promotes voluntary blood donation, and conducts health awareness activities for students, personnel, and community members.

Through the University Infirmary, the University facilitated influenza and pneumococcal vaccination, as well as free Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for employees. It also organized a communicable disease awareness seminar and a community-based gender and health wellness programme that included discussions on Women, Peace and Security, maternal healthcare, and medical assistance. These initiatives are complemented by the University's smoke-free campus policy, which promotes a healthier environment for students, employees, and visitors.

Through these programmes and partnerships, MSU–Maguindanao strengthens preventive healthcare, raises health awareness, and extends medical support to its stakeholders and surrounding communities. These efforts reflect its commitment to promoting health and well-being and creating a safer, healthier university environment in line with SDG 3.

PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE FOR THE UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

MSU–Maguindanao promotes employee health and well-being by providing access to preventive healthcare services through collaboration with local health institutions. These efforts focus on disease prevention and making essential vaccinations accessible to University personnel.

Strengthening Employee Health through Preventive Vaccination

The University Infirmary, in coordination with the Rural Health Unit (RHU) of Datu Odin Sinsuat, conducted an influenza and pneumococcal vaccination activity at the Infirmary facility on 20 January 2025. The activity served 73 university employees, with RHU medical personnel administering the vaccines. By holding the vaccination activity on campus, the University made the service accessible to employees within their workplace.



MSU-Maguindanao, in partnership with the Rural Health Unit of Datu Odin Sinsuat, provided influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations to 73 employees on January 20, 2025.

Expanding Access to HPV Vaccination for Employees

The University Infirmary, in coordination with the Human Resource Management Office, facilitated free Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination for 111 university employees on 13 June 2025. The Datu Odin Sinsuat District Hospital provided medical support, while the Ministry of Health supplied the vaccines. Through this collaboration with public-health partners, the University made preventive healthcare services accessible to its employees on campus.



The University Infirmary and its public-health partners facilitated free HPV vaccination for 111 employees on June 13, 2025, supporting preventive healthcare and employee well-being.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MSU–Maguindanao extends its health initiatives to students and surrounding communities through health education, voluntary blood donation, and medical assistance. These activities encourage community participation, promote awareness of health concerns, and help improve access to essential healthcare services.

Mobilizing Voluntary Blood Donation to Support Community Healthcare

The University Infirmary and the Philippine Red Cross–Cotabato City–Maguindanao Chapter conducted a half-day mobile blood donation activity on 21 February 2025 at the University Field Stage. Thirty-seven (37) employees and students participated. The Infirmary coordinated campus participation and provided the venue, while the Red Cross contributed blood-donation expertise.

The initiative mobilized voluntary blood donors, successfully collecting 37 bags of blood, equivalent to approximately 17 liters, to support patients requiring blood transfusions and other medical treatments. It also promoted blood-donation advocacy and community participation, contributing to improved blood availability and healthcare support in the Bangsamoro region.





MSU-Maguindanao and the Philippine Red Cross mobilized student and employee donors, collecting approximately 17 liters of blood during the mobile donation drive on February 21, 2025

Strengthening Communicable Disease Awareness and Preparedness

The University Infirmary conducted a seminar and open forum on communicable disease awareness at Training Center Hall B on 30 May 2025, attended by 25 students and 25 university employees. Dr. Firkhan A. Estrella, University Physician, discussed disease transmission, signs and symptoms, prevention, early recognition, and appropriate care. Educational materials were provided to support the discussion, while the open forum allowed participants to raise questions and clarify information.

The activity gave students and employees access to clinician-led health education and documented its immediate reach through the 50 recorded participants.



The MSU-Maguindanao Infirmary engaged 50 students and employees in an Mpox prevention and awareness seminar on May 30, 2025, promoting health literacy and disease prevention.

Advancing Women's Health through Community Education and Medical Services

MSU - Maguindanao Gender and Development Office and University Infirmary conducted a gender and health wellness programme on 9 June 2025 at Sarilikha Village, Barangay Sarmiento, Parang with forty-seven (47) participants. Sessions on Women, Peace and Security and maternal healthcare were followed by a medical mission.

Associate Professor Bai Putri Morayah Ala Amil, Faculty of Diploma on Women, Peace, and Security of MSU-Maguindanao, facilitated the Women, Peace and Security discussion, while Warda M. Abdullah, RN, University Nurse, delivered the maternal-health session. The programme combined education with community medical assistance through coordination among University offices.





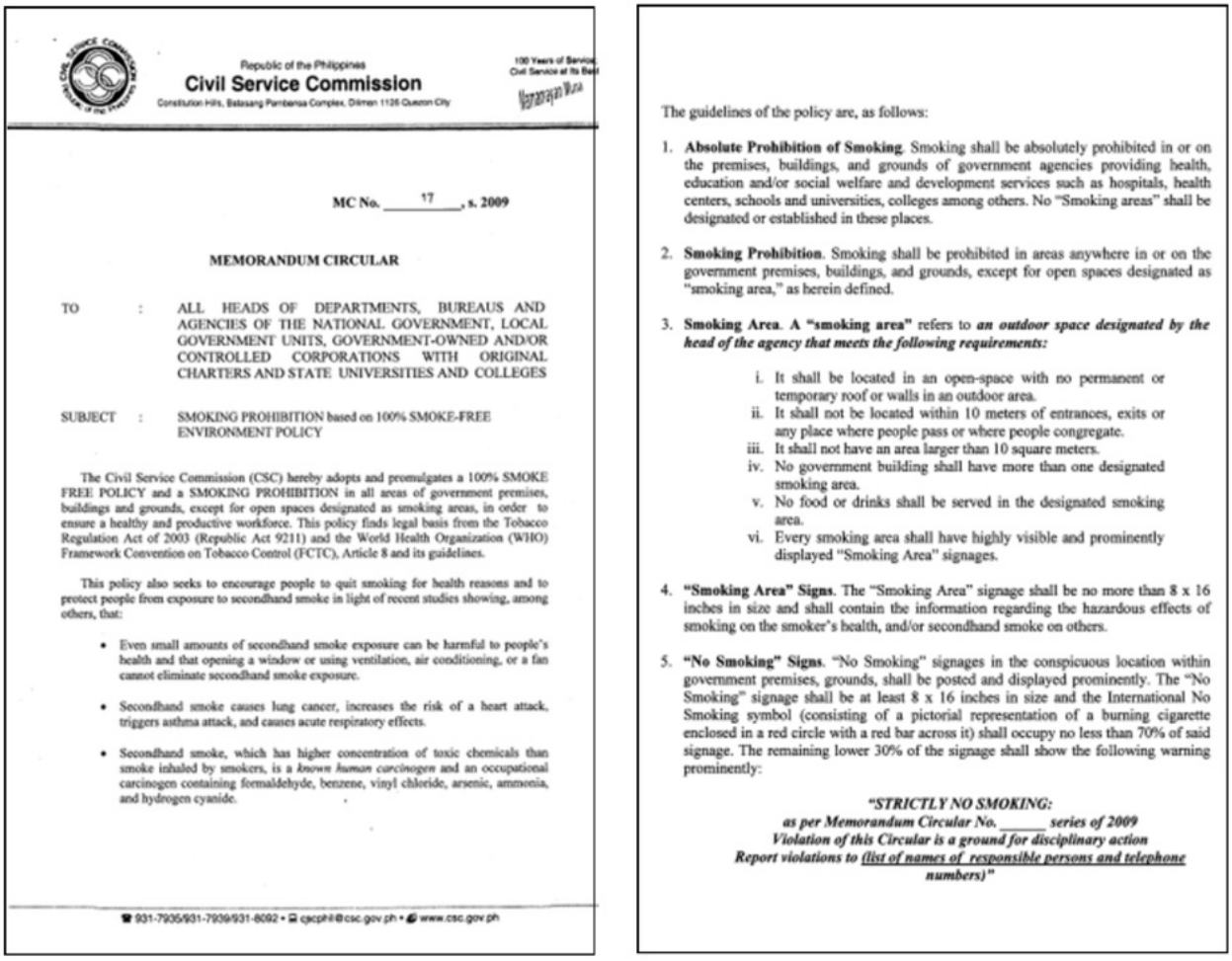
MSU-Maguindanao conducted a gender and health wellness program in Barangay Sarmiento, Parang, on June 9, 2025, engaging 47 participants through Women, Peace and Security discussions, maternal health education, and medical assistance.

Promoting a Healthier Campus through Smoke-Free Policies

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao) adheres to the smoking prohibition provisions of Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 17, series of 2009, to promote a 100% smoke-free environment across its academic, administrative, and public spaces. Consistent with Republic Act No. 9211, or the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003, the policy establishes institutional standards for tobacco control, protects the university community from exposure to secondhand smoke, and promotes healthier learning and working conditions for students, faculty, personnel, and visitors.

Through this, MSU-Maguindanao reinforces its responsibility to provide a safe, inclusive, and health-conscious academic environment while supporting national efforts to reduce tobacco-related health risks.

Moving forward, the University remains committed to strengthening policy enforcement, expanding preventive health education, and periodically reviewing implementation practices to sustain a smoke-free campus and advance the long-term well-being of its stakeholders.



Republic of the Philippines
Civil Service Commission
Constitution Hills, Batasang Pambansa Complex, Diliman 1126 Quezon City

100 Years of Service
Civil Service at Its Best

MC No. 17, s. 2009

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS AND AGENCIES OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS WITH ORIGINAL CHARTERS AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SUBJECT : SMOKING PROHIBITION based on 100% SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

The Civil Service Commission (CSC) hereby adopts and promulgates a 100% SMOKE FREE POLICY and a SMOKING PROHIBITION in all areas of government premises, buildings and grounds, except for open spaces designated as smoking areas, in order to ensure a healthy and productive workforce. This policy finds legal basis from the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 (Republic Act 9211) and the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), Article 8 and its guidelines.

This policy also seeks to encourage people to quit smoking for health reasons and to protect people from exposure to secondhand smoke in light of recent studies showing, among others, that:

- Even small amounts of secondhand smoke exposure can be harmful to people's health and that opening a window or using ventilation, air conditioning, or a fan cannot eliminate secondhand smoke exposure.
- Secondhand smoke causes lung cancer, increases the risk of a heart attack, triggers asthma attack, and causes acute respiratory effects.
- Secondhand smoke, which has higher concentration of toxic chemicals than smoke inhaled by smokers, is a *known human carcinogen* and an occupational carcinogen containing formaldehyde, benzene, vinyl chloride, arsenic, ammonia, and hydrogen cyanide.

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The guidelines of the policy are, as follows:

1. **Absolute Prohibition of Smoking**. Smoking shall be absolutely prohibited in or on the premises, buildings, and grounds of government agencies providing health, education and/or social welfare and development services such as hospitals, health centers, schools and universities, colleges among others. No "Smoking areas" shall be designated or established in these places.
2. **Smoking Prohibition**. Smoking shall be prohibited in areas anywhere in or on the government premises, buildings, and grounds, except for open spaces designated as "smoking area," as herein defined.
3. **Smoking Area. A "smoking area"** refers to ***an outdoor space designated by the head of the agency that meets the following requirements:***
   i. It shall be located in an open-space with no permanent or temporary roof or walls in an outdoor area.
   ii. It shall not be located within 10 meters of entrances, exits or any place where people pass or where people congregate.
   iii. It shall not have an area larger than 10 square meters.
   iv. No government building shall have more than one designated smoking area.
   v. No food or drinks shall be served in the designated smoking area.
   vi. Every smoking area shall have highly visible and prominently displayed "Smoking Area" signages.
4. **"Smoking Area" Signs**. The "Smoking Area" signage shall be no more than 8 x 16 inches in size and shall contain the information regarding the hazardous effects of smoking on the smoker's health, and/or secondhand smoke on others.
5. **"No Smoking" Signs**. "No Smoking" signages in the conspicuous location within government premises, grounds, shall be posted and displayed prominently. The "No Smoking" signage shall be at least 8 x 16 inches in size and the International No Smoking symbol (consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it) shall occupy no less than 70% of said signage. The remaining lower 30% of the signage shall show the following warning prominently:

"STRICTLY NO SMOKING:
as per Memorandum Circular No. _____ series of 2009
Violation of this Circular is a ground for disciplinary action
Report violations to (list of names of responsible persons and telephone numbers)"

Smoke-free campus policy supports tobacco control and protection from secondhand smoke, promoting healthier learning and working environment.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

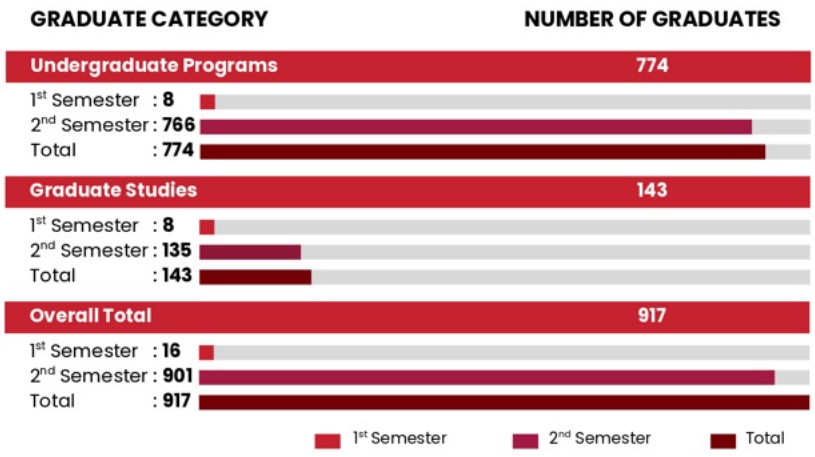
Mindanao State University–Maguindanao supports Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) through its academic programmes, institutional policies, and initiatives that promote inclusive and accessible learning. The University's College of Education (CEd) contributes to this commitment by offering undergraduate and graduate programmes that prepare future educators and strengthen teaching competencies.

The College offers the Bachelor of Elementary Education, Bachelor of Physical Education, and Bachelor of Secondary Education, with specializations in English, Mathematics, Sciences, and Social Studies. Its graduate programmes include the Master of Arts in English Language Teaching, Master of Science Education major in General Science, and Master of Science Education major in Secondary Mathematics.

The University also supports learning through free access to library resources and internet services, educational webinars, and literacy and numeracy activities for elementary pupils through community partnerships. Its revised admission criteria also provide alternative pathways for applicants who do not meet the regular MSU System Admission and Scholarship Examination (MSU-SASE) passing score.

Through these programmes and initiatives, MSU–Maguindanao develops future educators, widens access to learning, and promotes inclusive and equitable quality education in support of SDG 4.

SUMMARY OF GRADUATES



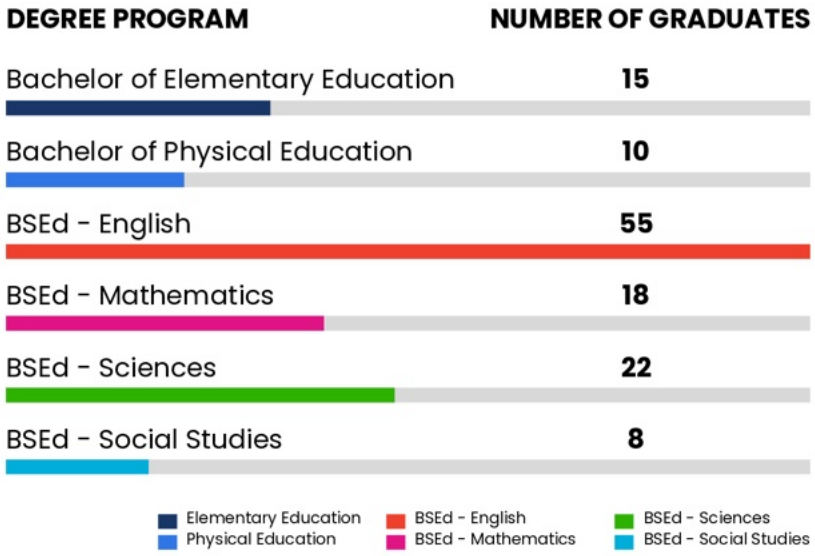
TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES

917

GRADUATES

Summary of graduates of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao for Academic Year 2024–2025, showing the distribution of graduates from undergraduate programs and graduate studies across the first and second semesters, with a reported total of 917 graduates.

GRADUATES QUALIFIED TO TEACH IN PRIMARY LEVEL



TOTAL QUALIFIED TEACHERS

128

GRADUATES

Number of graduates of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao who obtained qualifications entitling them to teach at the primary school level during Academic Year 2024–2025, disaggregated by degree program, with a reported total of 128 graduates.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

COLLEGE	ENROLLMENT
Agriculture	607
Arts and Sciences	228
Education	444
Engineering and Computing Sciences	233
Fisheries	294
Forestry and Environmental Studies	218
Public Affairs and Governance	387

TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

2,411

STUDENTS

Agriculture
Arts and Sciences
Education
Engineering and Computing Sciences
Fisheries
Forestry and Environmental Studies
Public Affairs and Governance

Student enrollment at Mindanao State University–Maguindanao for A.Y. 2024–2025, showing a total of 2,411 students distributed across the University's seven colleges.

STUDENTS STARTING A DEGREE

COLLEGE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Agriculture	200
Arts and Sciences	30
Education	141
Engineering and Computing Sciences	88
Fisheries	155
Forestry and Environmental Studies	50
Public Affairs and Governance	147

TOTAL STUDENTS STARTING A DEGREE

811

STUDENTS

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

198

STARTING A DEGREE

Agriculture
Arts and Sciences
Education
Engineering and Computing Sciences
Fisheries
Forestry and Environmental Studies
Public Affairs and Governance

First-year student enrollment at Mindanao State University–Maguindanao for A.Y. 2024–2025, showing 811 students starting a degree program, including 198 first-generation students. The figures present the University's incoming student population across its seven colleges and highlight its contribution to widening access to higher education, particularly for students who are the first in their families to pursue a degree.

LIFELONG LEARNING MEASURES

University Library Provides Free Access to Learning Resources for the Public

Mindanao State University – Maguindanao, through its University Library, continued its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) by providing free access to educational resources, library facilities, and digital learning opportunities to members of the wider community. Recognizing the importance of accessible information in supporting academic achievement, independent learning, and research, the University extended its library services beyond its enrolled students and personnel to accommodate external visitors from nearby schools, colleges, universities, and other recognized sectors. Through this initiative, the University promoted inclusive access to information and learning resources for individuals seeking academic, professional, and research-related materials.



The premises of the MSU-Maguindanao University Library, providing an accessible and conducive learning environment for students, faculty, and external visitors.

During the reporting period, the University Library recorded 214 external visitors who accessed its facilities and educational resources. These included high school, undergraduate, and graduate students from other educational institutions, as well as researchers, alumni, former faculty members, government employees, and other recognized stakeholders. Through its established Library Users' Guide and Policies, the University provided an opportunity for non-members to utilize its library facilities free of charge for up to five days per semester. This arrangement allowed individuals outside the University to consult available references, conduct academic research, and access materials relevant to their educational requirements without paying library usage fees.

The University Library provided access to a range of educational materials, including books, newsletters, manuals, theses, and other reference collections intended for academic, professional, and research purposes. External visitors from other educational institutions were accommodated upon presentation of valid identification cards and referral letters from their respective librarians. Representatives of organizations, associations, industries, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations were also permitted to use the facilities upon presenting valid identification. These established procedures enabled the University to extend its resources to qualified external users while maintaining an organized system for library access and utilization.



External visitors utilize the MSU–Maguindanao Library facilities and learning resources for reading, research, and academic study.

To ensure the responsible use and preservation of its collections, the University implemented guidelines governing the consultation and handling of library materials. Available resources were designated for room use only, while special collections, including theses, newsletters, manuals, the Qur'an, and Bibles, were made accessible for consultation but were not permitted to be photocopied. Library computers were likewise reserved for academic activities and lawful research purposes. These measures helped maintain the availability and condition of educational materials while ensuring that external visitors could continue benefiting from the University's learning resources.

Complementing its physical library services, MSU–Maguindanao also facilitated free public internet access through a Wi-Fi project of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT). Available within the University Library and nearby premises, the service enabled external visitors and other members of the community to access online educational materials, conduct research, and utilize digital information resources without incurring internet access costs. By providing both physical reference collections and digital connectivity, the University expanded opportunities for individuals to obtain information and participate in independent and technology-supported learning.

The recorded 214 external library visitors demonstrate the University's efforts to make educational resources available to individuals beyond its immediate academic community. The provision of free library access and public internet connectivity helped address barriers to information access, particularly for students and researchers from nearby educational institutions who may require additional learning materials and research facilities. These services also reinforced the role of the University Library as a shared learning environment that supports academic development and knowledge acquisition among different sectors of society.

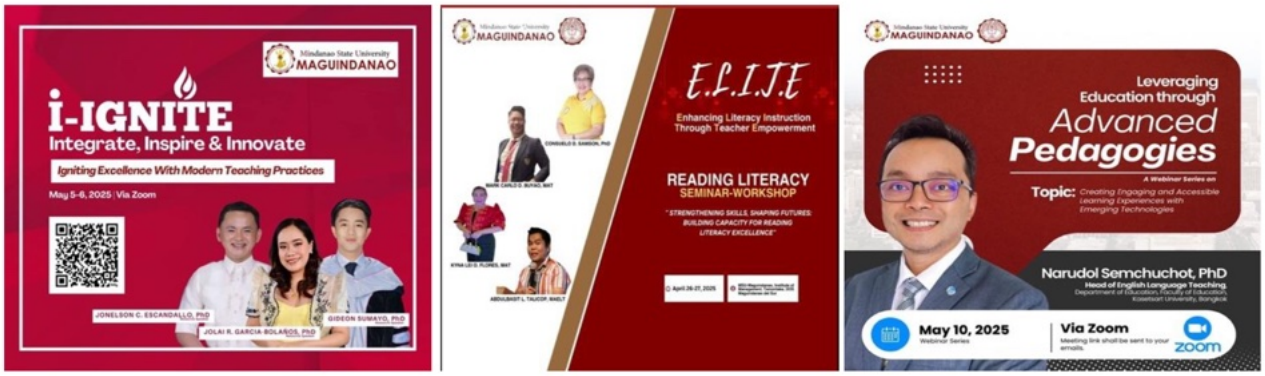
Through these initiatives, Mindanao State University – Maguindanao strengthened its contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education), particularly in promoting inclusive access to learning resources and supporting lifelong learning. By opening its library facilities to external users, maintaining accessible reference collections, and facilitating free internet connectivity, the University demonstrated that educational services extend beyond formal enrollment and classroom instruction. MSU–Maguindanao remains committed to sustaining these services and providing an accessible academic environment where students, researchers, and other community members can pursue learning, research, and the development of knowledge.

College of Education Provides Free Access to Educational Webinar Series

The College of Education of Mindanao State University – Maguindanao continued its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) by providing free educational webinars and professional learning opportunities to teachers, school administrators, college instructors, pre-service teachers, and other interested members of the public. Through these initiatives, the College extended its educational services beyond the University's academic community, allowing participants from different educational institutions and professional backgrounds to access expert-led discussions and exchange knowledge on relevant educational concerns.

Principles and Practices in English Language Teaching Webinar Series

The Doctor of Education major in English Language Teaching program of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao conducted a free webinar series titled "Principles and Practices in English Language Teaching" in April and May 2025. The initiative consisted of five sessions featuring eight resource speakers who shared their knowledge and experiences on literacy instruction, modern teaching practices, and the use of emerging technologies in education. The series aimed to strengthen the teaching competencies of educators and provide practical approaches to addressing the needs of diverse learners.

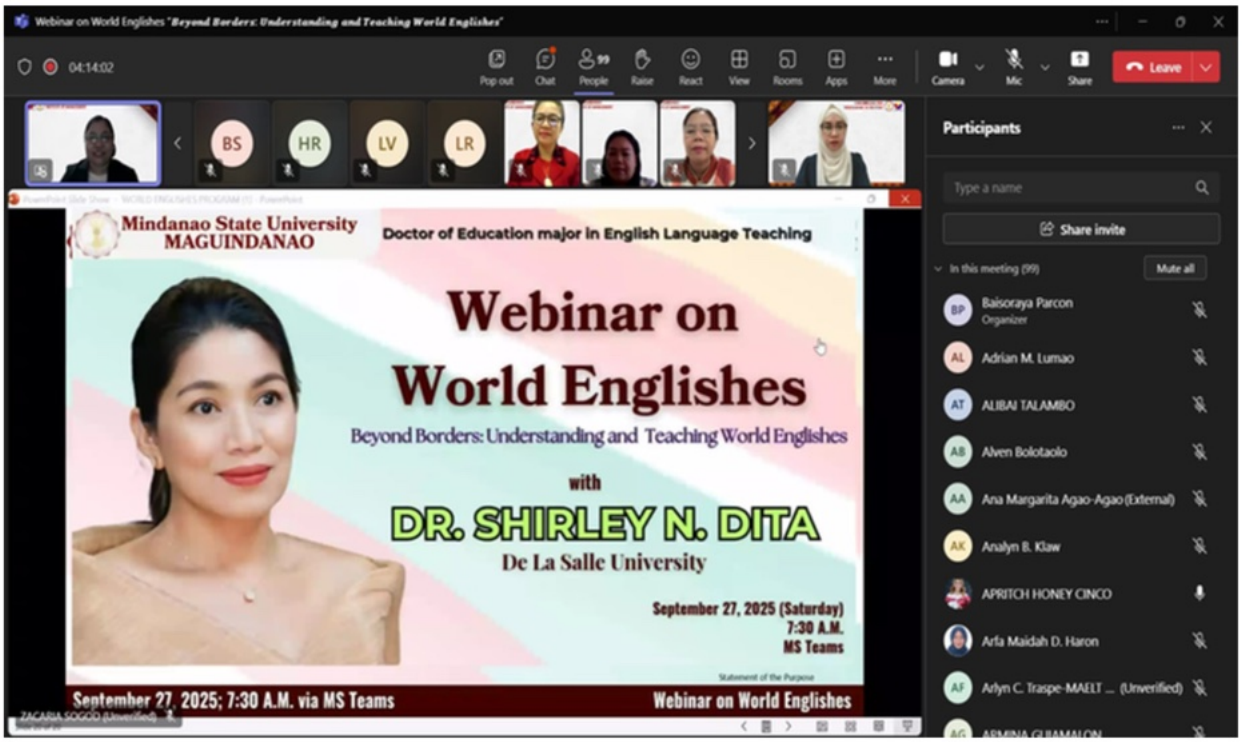


External visitors utilize the MSU–Maguindanao Library facilities and learning resources for reading, research, and academic study.

The series included three major activities: ELITE (Enhancing Literacy Instruction Through Teacher Empowerment), held on April 26–27, 2025, which focused on strengthening reading literacy instruction; IGNITE (Integrate, Inspire, and Innovate), conducted on May 5–6, 2025, which promoted the use of modern and innovative teaching practices; and LEAP (Leveraging Education through Advanced Pedagogies), held on May 10, 2025, which explored the use of emerging technologies in creating engaging and accessible learning experiences. The sessions featured resource speakers from various educational institutions in the Philippines and abroad. The webinar series recorded 237 participant attendance instances across the three activities. Through these sessions, MSU–Maguindanao provided educators and other participants with opportunities to gain new teaching insights, strengthen their instructional practices, and exchange ideas on improving English language education. The initiative reflects the University's continuing efforts to support teacher development and promote quality education through accessible professional learning opportunities.

Beyond Borders: Understanding and Teaching World Englishes

The Doctor of Education major in English Language Teaching program of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao conducted the webinar "Beyond Borders: Understanding and Teaching World Englishes" on September 27, 2025, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. through Microsoft Teams. The webinar featured Dr. Shirley N. Dita of the Department of English and Applied Linguistics, De La Salle University, Manila, who discussed the use of English across different cultures and communities and its implications for English language teaching. The session provided participants with insights and practical approaches for teaching English in diverse classrooms while promoting a broader understanding of English as a global means of communication. With 189 participants in attendance, the activity supported MSU–Maguindanao's efforts to strengthen teaching practices and promote quality education through professional learning and academic exchange.



Dr. Shirley N. Dita discusses World Englishes with participants during an MSU–Maguindanao webinar.

Equations for Equity: Advancing Mathematics Education for/through Social Justice

The College also supported discussions on inclusive and equitable education through the webinar entitled Equations for Equity: Advancing Mathematics Education for/through Social Justice, organized by students of the Master of Science Education major in Secondary Mathematics program on November 15, 2025. Featuring Dr. Bill Atweh of Curtin University, Australia, the activity gathered 45 participants through Zoom. The webinar explored how mathematics education can contribute to equity, quality education, and social justice. It provided a platform for mathematics educators and other interested individuals to examine teaching approaches that promote inclusive learning environments and equitable educational opportunities.

Collectively, these initiatives recorded 471 attendance instances across the reported webinar activities, demonstrating the College's efforts to reach a wider audience through accessible online learning opportunities. Participation was open to individuals from different educational backgrounds, including public and private school teachers, college instructors, school administrators, and students. By utilizing online platforms and publicly announced registration, the College helped reduce barriers to participation and provided opportunities for individuals to engage in educational discussions without the need to attend face-to-face activities.



Mathematics educators and students participate in the webinar "Equations for Equity: Advancing Mathematics Education through Social Justice" via Zoom.

These activities contributed to the promotion of lifelong learning by making academic knowledge, professional insights, and educational discussions available beyond the University's regular instructional programs. The participation of resource speakers from local and international academic institutions also exposed participants to varied perspectives and experiences in teaching and learning. Furthermore, the topics addressed during the webinars highlighted the importance of improving instructional practices, recognizing linguistic diversity, and promoting equity and inclusion in education.

Through its continued provision of free educational webinars, the College of Education demonstrates its commitment to extending learning opportunities to educators, students, and other members of the community. These initiatives support the University's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 4 by promoting ccessible educational opportunities, encouraging continuous professional development, and strengthening the role of higher education institutions in advancing quality and inclusive education.

University Conducts Specialized Training in Workplace Productivity and Halal Livestock Production

Mindanao State University – Maguindanao continued its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) by conducting specialized training and practical skills development activities for external beneficiaries, including local government personnel, farmers, agricultural technicians, and other community stakeholders. Through partnerships with government agencies and international organizations, the University provided learning opportunities beyond its regular academic programs, focusing on workplace productivity, organizational efficiency, agricultural production, and livelihood development. These initiatives aimed to strengthen the knowledge and practical competencies of participants by providing relevant training responsive to their professional responsibilities and community needs.

MSU-Maguindanao Advances Local Governance Through 7S and Productivity Training



Resource speaker discuss the 7S Housekeping to the participants.



Participants engage in an interactive activity on workplace productivity and organizational efficiency.

In partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE), the University conducted the three-day Capacity Building Seminar on 7S Methodology, Productivity Enhancement, and Labor and Human Productivity on May 26–28, 2025, at the University's Institute of Management. The activity gathered 30 participants, including personnel from Barangay Ambolodto, Datu Blah Sinsuat, and Matanog, as well as selected University employees. The seminar provided practical discussions and instruction on workplace organization, productivity improvement, operational efficiency, and effective management practices. Participants were also guided in preparing action plans that could be applied in their respective local government offices and workplaces. Through this activity, the University supported the professional development of local government personnel and promoted the application of improved workplace practices in public service institutions.

The Conduct of Halal Livestock Farmer Field School and Management of Halal Livestock Demonstration Farm for Goat and Cattle

The University also expanded its community-based training initiatives through a partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR). On July 28, 2025, it hosted the Orientation on the Conduct of Halal Livestock Farmer Field School and Management of Halal Livestock Demonstration Farm for Goat and Cattle at its Audio-Visual Room. The orientation gathered 100 farmers and agricultural technicians from various municipalities in Maguindanao del Sur and Maguindanao del Norte. Discussions focused on halal livestock production, the management of demonstration farms, and agricultural practices consistent with international halal standards. The activity provided participants with foundational knowledge of livestock production and introduced approaches that could support the improvement of their agricultural activities and farm management practices.

Following the orientation, the University conducted the five-day *Farmers' Training on Halal Livestock Production* on October 2–6, 2025, with 45 participants. The training combined lectures, technical demonstrations, and hands-on learning activities covering livestock management, biosecurity, animal nutrition, feeding practices, disease prevention, and halal slaughtering procedures. By incorporating practical demonstrations alongside classroom discussions, the activity allowed participating farmers and agricultural technicians to develop a better understanding of appropriate livestock management techniques and production practices that they could apply in their respective farms and agricultural operations.



Farmers orientation on Halal Livestock Production on MSU-Maguindanao's Audio Visual Room

Collectively, these training activities recorded 175 attendance instances across the three programs, comprising 30 participants in the workplace productivity seminar, 100 participants in the halal livestock orientation, and 45 participants in the subsequent farmers' training. These figures demonstrate the University's efforts to reach different groups of community stakeholders through specialized learning opportunities responsive to their respective needs. The activities also provided opportunities for participants to acquire practical knowledge and skills that could contribute to improved workplace performance, agricultural productivity, and livelihood-related activities.



Farmers and Agricultural Technicians participate in the opening session of the Farmers' Training on Halal Livestock Production at MSU–Maguindanao's Training Center.

Through these initiatives, Mindanao State University – Maguindanao strengthened its role as a provider of continuing education and community-based skills development. The collaboration with MOLE, FAO, and MAFAR demonstrated the importance of partnerships in delivering specialized training supported by relevant government agencies and international organizations. By extending these opportunities to local government personnel, farmers, and agricultural technicians who are not enrolled in its regular academic degree programs, the University helped broaden access to relevant learning and professional development.

These accomplishments contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education), particularly by promoting lifelong learning and providing opportunities for adults and community members to acquire practical knowledge and competencies. The University recognizes that education extends beyond formal classroom instruction and includes continuing professional development, technical training, and skills enhancement that respond to changing workplace and community demands. Through the continued implementation of similar programs and partnerships, MSU–Maguindanao aims to sustain its contribution to accessible, inclusive, and relevant learning opportunities for various sectors of society

University-Led Literacy and Numeracy Outreach at Adaon Elementary School

Mindanao State University - Maguindanao, through its College of Education and National Service Training Program (NSTP) Office, implemented the Basic English (Reading and Writing) Literacy and Numeracy Program in Barangay Adaon, Datu Anggal Midtimbang, Maguindanao del Sur. The initiative addressed foundational learning difficulties among Grade 1 and Grade 2 pupils at Adaon Elementary School by providing targeted instruction in reading, writing, and basic arithmetic.



A Literacy Training Service (LTS) student-tutor guides pupils in phonics, word recognition, and basic reading exercises.

The University implemented the community-based literacy and numeracy programme to address identified learning gaps among elementary pupils. Initial assessments at Adaon Elementary School showed that 26 of 28 pupils (92.86%) were non-readers or at the frustration level, while none could read independently. Difficulties were also observed in writing and basic arithmetic. The initiative served 30 identified non-reader pupils and engaged 29 Literacy Training Service (LTS) students as tutors under the supervision of College of Education faculty members. Funded by MSU - Maguindanao and implemented in partnership with the school and Barangay Adaon, the programme delivered 21 instructional sessions in reading, writing, and numeracy. Lessons included phonics, word recognition, comprehension, spelling, sentence construction, number recognition, basic operations, and problem-solving. Tutors used guided exercises, educational games, drills, and individual assistance to address pupils' learning needs.

POLICIES

Revised Admission Policy

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao promotes equitable access to education through its institutional policies and the provisions of the Mindanao State University Charter under Republic Act No. 1387, as amended. The University's commitment to inclusive education is reflected in its Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First-Year Students, approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 105, Series of 2025, which provides additional admission opportunities for applicants from disadvantaged, underrepresented, and marginalized sectors.

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 270TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 105, S. 2025

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First Year Students at MSU - Maguindanao, herein appended as Annex "TTTT" (under separate cover) and made as an integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

MSU-Maguindanao's Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First-Year Students was officially approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 105, s. 2025, on April 14, 2025.

Section 3 of the MSU Charter prohibits discrimination in student admission based on age, sex, nationality, religious belief, or political affiliation. This provision establishes the University's legal commitment to fair and nondiscriminatory access to higher education.

Consistent with this mandate, the revised admission policy provides additional consideration for applicants from different socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. These include non-Moro Indigenous Peoples (IPs), persons with disabilities (PWDs), first-generation college students, working students, children of combatants, orphans, children of solo parents, children of farmers and fisherfolk, and beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps). The policy also recognizes applicants with exceptional abilities in sports, arts, leadership, and community service.

Through these admission provisions, MSU–Maguindanao addresses barriers that may prevent disadvantaged students from pursuing higher education. The policy establishes additional admission criteria and opportunities while maintaining the University's academic standards and transparent selection process.

In accordance with its mandate under the MSU Charter, the University also provides educational and community-oriented programs, including public lectures, skills development, vocational training, livelihood activities, and agricultural and fisheries extension services.

These initiatives support the University's commitment to making educational opportunities accessible to different sectors of the community.

Through its institutional policies and educational programs, MSU–Maguindanao upholds equal opportunity, respect for cultural diversity, and nondiscrimination in the provision of education and community learning opportunities.

Program-Specific Retention Policies

College of Education

The Admission and Retention Policy of the Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) College of Education establishes clear and consistent standards for student admission and academic progression in teacher education programs. By defining requirements for admission, retention, shifting, and transfer, the policy promotes fairness, transparency, accountability, and academic quality across the College's programs. It also provides an institutional basis for monitoring students' progress as they prepare for the teaching profession. Through these measures, the policy supports efforts to expand access to quality tertiary education and strengthen the preparation of future educators.

The policy establishes admission requirements for regular applicants, College Bound Program completers, students shifting from other programs, and transferees from other MSU campuses and State Universities and Colleges. Depending on the applicant category, these requirements include passing the System Admission and Scholarship Examination (SASE) or College Entrance Test (CET), meeting prescribed academic averages, completing qualifying examinations, and undergoing validation of previously earned academic credits where applicable. For enrolled students, the policy establishes semester-based retention requirements covering General Education, Physical Education, Professional Education, and major courses. It also defines the academic consequences of failing grades and repeated grades of 3.0 in specified course categories, subject to applicable University rules. These provisions provide students, faculty members, program coordinators, and administrators with a common reference for academic decisions and student progression.

Implementation is supported by the College of Education's academic leadership and program coordinators representing Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEED), BSED-English, BSED-Mathematics, BSED-Sciences, BSED-Social Studies, and Bachelor of Physical Education (BPED). The Dean provides College-level academic and administrative oversight, while program coordinators support the application of requirements within their respective programs.

The policy also requires compliance with MSU System and MSU–Maguindanao regulations, with higher University policies prevailing in cases of conflict. Its recurring semester-end retention assessment provides a mechanism for monitoring student performance and determining whether students meet the standards for continued enrollment. As an institutional policy output, it formalizes admission procedures, academic progression standards, and accountability mechanisms across the College of Education.

The policy's primary beneficiaries are prospective and enrolled students, faculty members, program coordinators, and University administrators. Students benefit from clearly defined admission pathways and academic expectations, while academic personnel gain a common basis for evaluating qualifications, reviewing student records, and communicating decisions. In the longer term, schools, future employers, and communities may benefit from the College's strengthened quality-assurance system for preparing future educators. The policy's strongest demonstrated contribution is the establishment of a structured and accountable framework for teacher education, supporting SDG 4 through transparent access to tertiary education and academic standards for future teachers. However, the available policy document does not provide quantitative evidence of changes in admission rates, retention, graduation, licensure examination performance, or employment outcomes. These results would need to be monitored and documented to establish the policy's measurable impact on educational quality and teacher preparation.

College of Engineering and Computing Sciences (COECS)

The Admission, Academic Progression, and Retention Policy of the College of Engineering and Computing Sciences (COECS), Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, establishes a framework for managing student admission, academic performance, progression, and retention through clear, consistent, and transparent standards. The proposed policy emphasizes documented decision-making and uniform academic expectations while recognizing that academic excellence should be demonstrated through the attainment of program outcomes and competencies. By setting defined requirements for academic progression and retention, the policy provides a basis for monitoring student performance and supporting the development of relevant knowledge and skills for engineering and computing careers. Its implementation may also help promote fair access to educational opportunities and consistent academic decision-making across the College.

The policy establishes procedures for admission, academic assessment, early identification of learning difficulties, and student progression. It provides mechanisms such as Academic Quality Alerts, Academic Probation, Academic Recovery Plans, controlled academic loads, tutorials, mentoring, bridging programs, and competency enhancement to help students address academic challenges. It also outlines written notification, grade verification, committee review, and appeal procedures to promote fairness and due process in significant academic decisions. Through these provisions, the policy aims to balance the maintenance of academic and professional standards with structured support for students who experience difficulties during their studies.

Implementation is designed to involve students, faculty members, academic advisers, program chairpersons, the College administration, and the proposed Academic Standards and Student Progress Committee. The policy assigns responsibilities for monitoring academic performance, preparing recovery plans, maintaining intervention records, and reviewing courses with unusually high failure, withdrawal, or incomplete (INC) rates. It also provides for an annual evaluation of admission, progression, retention, graduation, student-support access, and other academic indicators. These mechanisms establish a basis for evidence-based academic decision-making, institutional accountability, and continuous improvement in the delivery of engineering and computing education.

The primary beneficiaries are COECS undergraduate students, who may benefit from transparent admission requirements, clearly defined academic expectations, structured academic assistance, and fair review procedures. Faculty members, academic advisers, program coordinators, and administrators may also benefit from standardized processes for student monitoring, intervention, and academic evaluation. Indirect beneficiaries include future employers, partner institutions, and communities that may benefit from graduates equipped with relevant technical and professional competencies. However, the document identifies the policy as a proposed revised policy and does not provide evidence of formal adoption, implementation rates, or measurable improvements in student performance, retention, graduation, or licensure outcomes. Therefore, its present contribution to sustainable development is demonstrated through the proposed institutional framework; its actual educational impact will need to be assessed after approval and implementation.

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (BSES) Program

The revised Retention Policy for the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (BSES) Program of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao establishes clearer academic standards, student monitoring procedures, and requirements for academic progression. Developed through faculty deliberation and consensus within the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies, the policy recognizes the interdisciplinary nature of Environmental Science, which requires competencies in biology, chemistry, earth science, environmental management, research, laboratory work, and field-based learning. By promoting consistent academic expectations, student guidance, and institutional accountability, the policy supports efforts to improve the quality of tertiary education and help students develop the scientific knowledge and professional skills needed for environmental studies and related careers.

The revised policy establishes a minimum General Weighted Average (GWA) of 2.75 as an academic benchmark for student progression. It also provides for academic probation and monitoring for students who fall below the required standard or incur three Failed, Dropped, or Incomplete (INC) grades within a semester. These mechanisms are intended to identify academic difficulties early and provide students with opportunities to improve their academic standing before decisions concerning continued retention or shifting to another program are made. By defining clear academic expectations and procedures, the policy seeks to balance academic rigor with student support while helping ensure that students progressing to advanced coursework are prepared for the scientific, laboratory, fieldwork, and research requirements of the BSES curriculum.

Implementation is overseen by the Dean in coordination with the College Admission and Retention Committee, with faculty members and academic advisers participating in student performance monitoring and academic guidance. The policy also provides for orientation, dissemination, continuing evaluation, and review to promote consistent application and identify areas for improvement. Through these mechanisms, the College aims to strengthen academic governance and quality assurance in the BSES Program. The policy supports the preparation of future Environmental Science professionals who may contribute to environmental research, biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, natural resource management, and sustainable development initiatives in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and beyond.

The primary beneficiaries are BSES students, who are provided with clear academic expectations and a structured process for addressing academic difficulties. Faculty members, academic advisers, the College Admission and Retention Committee, and University administrators may also benefit from more systematic procedures for monitoring student progress and making retention decisions. Secondary beneficiaries include future employers, government agencies, research institutions, partner organizations, and communities that may benefit from graduates equipped with relevant environmental knowledge and competencies. The revised policy is scheduled for implementation beginning Academic Year 2026–2027; therefore, documented evidence of its long-term effects on retention, graduation, academic performance, or employment is not yet available. Its present contribution lies in establishing a structured academic monitoring and support framework, while its actual impact on educational quality and graduate preparedness will need to be assessed through future implementation data and policy reviews.



5 GENDER EQUALITY

OVERVIEW

In the Bangsamoro, where women have carried much of the burden of conflict and much of the work of rebuilding, gender equality is inseparable from peace. Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) is led by a woman Chancellor and four women Vice Chancellors, and it has made the education of women peacebuilders one of its signature contributions to the region.

In 2025, its Diploma in Women, Peace and Security (DWPS), a pioneering program in Southeast Asia, graduated its first cohort of 31 practitioners. Across three cohorts the program has enrolled 122 students, 92 of them women. The European Union now funds scholarships for DWPS students, and the program has begun to spread: in September 2025 the University signed an agreement with Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology to offer the Diploma jointly in Central Luzon.

The University also strengthened the rules that protect women and gender minorities on campus. The MSU Board of Regents approved its Equal Opportunity Principles (Resolution No. 469, s. 2025), which bar discrimination in recruitment, promotion and development, including on the grounds of sex, sexual orientation and gender identity. A Committee on Decorum and Investigation was constituted in July 2025 to receive and resolve complaints of sexual and gender-based harassment, and revised admission criteria opened alternative pathways for applicants from disadvantaged groups.

This report presents the University's 2025 contribution to promoting Gender Equality (SDG 5).

Women at MSU–Maguindanao in Numbers

The figures below are reported as data in the THE submission portal for Academic Year 2024–2025.

Measure	Women	Total
First-generation students starting a first degree	146 (73.7%)	198
Students starting a first degree	582 (71.8%)	811
Senior academic and administrative leaders (Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, deans, directors)	31 (57.4%)	54
Professors and associate professors	39 (56.5%)	69
Diploma in Women, Peace and Security students, three cohorts	92 (75.4%)	122

Women lead the University at its highest level. MSU–Maguindanao is headed by a woman Chancellor, Dr. Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona, and four out of five of its Vice Chancellors are women, placing women at the centre of institutional governance, planning and decision-making.



MSU–Maguindanao's Chancellor among women leaders of the Bangsamoro featured during 2025 National Women's Month.

ADMISSION OPEN TO ALL, WITH PATHWAYS FOR THOSE LEFT BEHIND

Equal access for women is written into the University's founding law. Section 3 of the Mindanao State University Charter (Republic Act No. 1387, as amended) prohibits discrimination in student admission on the basis of age, **sex**, nationality, religious belief or political affiliation. The provision applies to every campus of the MSU System, including MSU–Maguindanao.

In 2025 the University went further. The MSU Board of Regents approved Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First-Year Students at MSU–Maguindanao through Resolution No. 105, s. 2025, at its 270th meeting on 14 April 2025. The criteria add points for applicants who face particular barriers, including first-generation and working students, non-Moro Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, children of former combatants, orphans, children of solo parents, children of farmers and fisherfolk, and beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. Applicants below the regular passing score can still enter through the College Bound Program, the Pre-University Program, Technology Program Eligibility or Special Admission. Many of those these pathways reach are young women, especially daughters of solo parents and of low-income farming and fishing households.

Rubric for Conditional Admission under Revised Policy

Criteria	Points/ Weight	Required Evidence
MSU SASE Score	50%	MSU SASE score report
GPA in Senior High School for last the Semester	15%	Report card or Transcript
Note: A maximum of 35 points can be added to MSU-SASE score and GPA in Senior High School for the last Semester based on the following socio-economic and personal factors		
First Generation	10	Self-declaration or documents
Non-Moro Indigenous People (IP), Household Working students, or Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	10	Valid PWD ID or equivalent documentation
Son/Daughter of Combatant(s)	10	Documentation verifying MILF/MNLF Affiliation/Certificate from the BARMM
Orphan(s), Solo Parent, Children of Solo Parent, or students whose parents are both retired or unemployed	10	Solo Parent ID or other Valid Proof of Status Certification from the barangay
Son/Daughter of Farmers, Fisherfolks, or OFWs earning minimum income or below	10	Certification from MAFAR, LGU, barangay LGU, or equivalent offices, cooperatives, or associations
Students with exceptional skills in Sports, Arts, Leadership, or Community Services	10	Demonstration of skills and other documentation
Son/Daughter of 4Ps Beneficiaries	5	4Ps Identification Card or Certificate from MSSD

Rubric for conditional admission under the Revised Admission Criteria, giving additional points to applicants from disadvantaged groups.

Scholarships That Open the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security

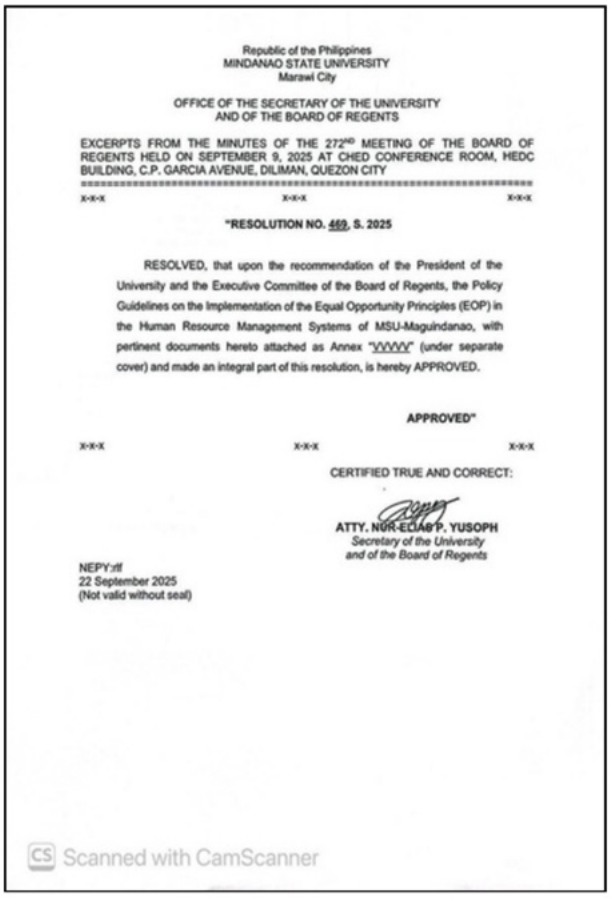
In December 2025, MSU–Maguindanao and the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy (PCID) signed an agreement under the European Union–funded project "Institutionalizing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Mindanao through Higher Education." The agreement provides scholarships covering tuition and miscellaneous fees for students of the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security for Academic Years 2025 to 2027.

Because women make up three in four DWPS students (92 of 122 across the first three cohorts), the scholarships open graduate-level training in peace and security, long a male-dominated field, to women from government, civil society, the security sector and conflict-affected communities who could not otherwise afford it.



The 31 graduates of the first DWPS cohort, Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium, 15 October 2025

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN EVERY STAGE OF EMPLOYMENT



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 272ND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 469, S. 2025

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Policy Guidelines on the Implementation of the Equal Opportunity Principles (EOP) in the Human Resource Management Systems of MSU-Maguindanao, with pertinent documents hereto attached as Annex "WWWW" (under separate cover) and made an integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. NUR-ECIAB P. YUSOPH
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

NEPY:rtl
22 September 2025
(Not valid without seal)

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MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 469, s. 2025, approving the Equal Opportunity Principles guidelines for MSU–Maguindanao.

On 9 September 2025, the MSU Board of Regents approved the Policy Guidelines on the Implementation of the Equal Opportunity Principles in the Human Resource Management Systems of MSU–Maguindanao through Resolution No. 469, s. 2025. The guidelines prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, among other grounds, in recruitment and selection, learning and development, performance management, and rewards and recognition.

The Human Resource Management Office, the Human Resource Merit Promotion and Selection Board, heads of offices and the appointing authority share responsibility for applying the guidelines. They give effect to the Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710) and to the non-discrimination clause of the MSU Charter. Every vacancy announcement states the salary grade of the post, so women and men appointed to the same position receive the same pay, and invites applications from persons with disabilities, members of Indigenous communities and people of every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

Protection Regardless of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The Equal Opportunity Principles approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 469, s. 2025 expressly cover sexual orientation and gender identity. No applicant or employee may be treated less favourably in recruitment, appointment, promotion or professional development because of their gender identity or expression.

This protection is reinforced by the Safe Spaces Act (Republic Act No. 11313), which penalizes gender-based harassment, including transphobic and homophobic remarks, in schools and workplaces, and which the University enforces through its Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The University's vacancy announcements make the commitment public by inviting applicants of every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

Paid Maternity Leave That Supports Women's Careers

MSU–Maguindanao grants maternity leave to its women employees under the Expanded Maternity Leave Law (Republic Act No. 11210) and Civil Service Commission rules: 105 days with full pay for live childbirth, with an additional 15 days for solo mothers, and 60 days with full pay for miscarriage or emergency termination of pregnancy. Employees may extend their leave by 30 days without pay, and their security of tenure is protected throughout.

The Human Resource Management Office processes maternity leave and ensures that women return to the same or an equivalent position. By protecting pay and position during childbirth and recovery, the policy allows women to continue their careers in teaching, research and administration.

A Committee to Hear Complaints, and Protect Those Who Make Them

On 14 July 2025, Chancellor Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona constituted the University's Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) through Special Order No. 181, s. 2025. The committee receives, investigates and resolves complaints of sexual harassment and gender-based sexual harassment involving students, faculty and staff.

The committee gives effect to the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995 (Republic Act No. 7877), which requires educational institutions to create such a committee and to set procedures for investigation and sanctions, and to the Safe Spaces Act of 2019 (Republic Act No. 11313), which extends protection to harassment by peers, subordinates and others in the school community, including online. Confidentiality regarding handling complaints and no complainant or witness will be penalized for reporting is strictly observed.

Paternity Leave So Fathers Share the Care

MSU–Maguindanao grants married male employees seven days of paternity leave with full pay for each of the first four deliveries of their lawful spouse, under the Paternity Leave Act (Republic Act No. 8187) and Civil Service Commission rules. Under the Expanded Maternity Leave Law, a mother may also transfer up to seven days of her paid maternity leave to the child's father.

Solo parents among the University's employees are entitled to additional parental leave under the Expanded Solo Parents Welfare Act (Republic Act No. 11861). Together, these provisions let fathers take part in caring for newborns, easing the burden on mothers and supporting women's continued participation at work.

Educating Women Peacebuilders for the Bangsamoro and Beyond

The Diploma in Women, Peace and Security is the University's flagship contribution to gender equality. Developed with PCID and supported by UNDP Philippines and the British Embassy Manila, it trains government officers, civil society leaders, educators and security-sector personnel in women's rights, gender justice, governance and peacebuilding. Its first cohort of 31 graduated on 15 October 2025, each with a policy paper or program design for their own institution.

Spreading the program through partnerships

On 27 March 2025, MSU–Maguindanao signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Center of Excellence of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity on joint research, course development and capacity building in Women, Peace and Security, and on sharing the DWPS experience with other state universities and colleges. On 10 September 2025, at the Commission on Higher Education, it signed an agreement with Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology to offer the Diploma jointly, with a specialization in Indigenous Peoples' perspectives.
From 18 to 20 June 2025, a DWPS delegation signed agreements with Universitas Gadjah Mada, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta and Universitas Ahmad Dahlan in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and studied the role of women in the Aceh peace process and Indonesian campus programs against sexual violence. The exchange produced the DWPS learning book "Dialogue Beyond Borders," launched at the 2025 Philippine Conference on Women, Peace and Security on 28–30 October 2025.



MSU–Maguindanao and Universitas Gadjah Mada sign a partnership on Women, Peace and Security, Yogyakarta, 18 June 2025.



Launch of the DWPS learning book at the 2025 Philippine Conference on Women, Peace and Security.

Research and women's voices

On 6–7 November 2025, University faculty presented three papers at the 7th Congress of the Asian Association of Women's Studies at the University of the Philippines Open University. Assoc. Prof. Princess Sheryn Mamucao's paper on Bangsamoro women's roles in conflict resolution was a finalist in the research presentation category.

In March 2025, the University's SHETalks forum, "Empowered Women, Thriving Communities," brought together about 50 women, including members of women's cooperatives from Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar, who shared how they lead enterprises and community decisions. On 9 June 2025, the Gender and Development Office and the University Infirmary held a gender and health wellness program for 47 women in Barangay Sarmiento, Parang, combining sessions on Women, Peace and Security and maternal health with a medical mission.



SHETalks: Empowered Women, Thriving Communities, National Women's Month, March 2025.



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

OVERVIEW

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao advances SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), particularly Water Usage and Care, through water-quality monitoring, institutional partnerships, conservation policies, and pollution prevention initiatives. In collaboration with Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy (MENRE) of Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and local government stakeholders, the University supported the Brar River Pilot Water Sampling Program and strengthened waterway conservation through its Adopt-an-Estero partnership.

These efforts are reinforced by the Mindanao State University System Sustainability Policy (Board of Regent Resolution No. 358, s. 2023), the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy (BOR Resolution No. 18, s. 2024), and MSU–Maguindanao Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022, promoting responsible water use, waste management, and plastic reduction.

These initiatives demonstrate the University's commitment to sustainable water resource management, environmental protection, and responsible campus practices.

WATER USAGE AND CARE

Strengthening Water Resource Monitoring and Stakeholder Collaboration

MSU–Maguindanao supports water resource protection through technical collaboration and institutional partnerships that promote water-quality monitoring, environmental awareness, and coordinated conservation efforts.

Advancing Waterbody Classification and Monitoring

The College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES) of MSU–Maguindanao participated on June 30, 2025, in an orientation on waterbody classification and standardized water-sampling and monitoring protocols under the Brar River Pilot Water Sampling Program. The initiative, led by the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy–Environment Management Services (MENRE-EMS), aims to strengthen water-quality assessment and monitoring practices.

Held at the College of Forestry and Environmental Science Hall, the activity brought together University faculty and students, MENRE-EMS technical personnel, and representatives of the Local Government Unit of Datu Odin Sinsuat. The orientation facilitated knowledge-sharing on standardized field data collection and water-quality monitoring procedures, strengthening technical coordination among participating institutions.

The University's waterway engagement is further supported by its Adopt-an-Estero partnership with MENRE-BARMM, formalized through a Memorandum of Agreement signed on May 27, 2022, for collaboration on Brar Creek. This partnership provides an institutional foundation for continuing cooperation in waterway conservation and environmental protection.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate the University's participation in coordinated water resource management. Subsequent sampling results and monitoring records would provide additional evidence of their environmental outcomes.



MSU-Maguindanao, MENRE-EMS, and local government representatives during the Brar River waterbody classification and monitoring orientation on June 30, 2025.



Field activity demonstrating water-sampling procedures associated with the Brar River Pilot Water Sampling Program.

Promoting Water Conservation and Pollution Prevention

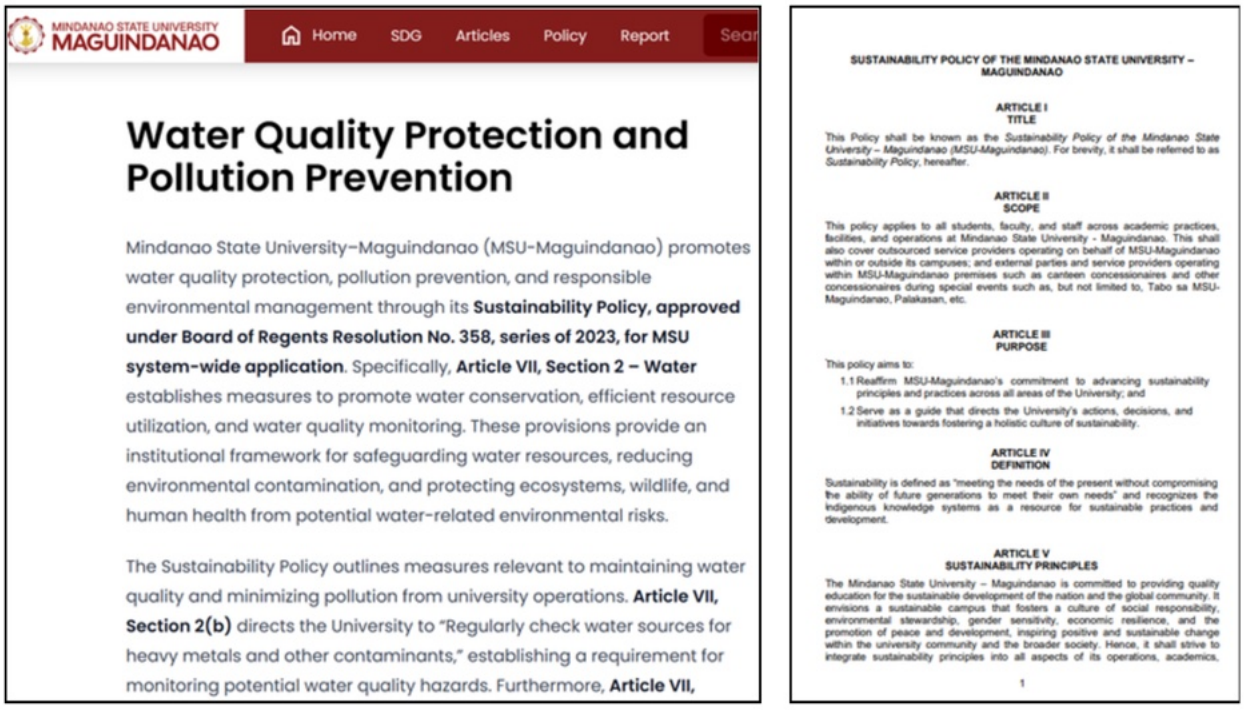
The University promotes responsible water use and environmental protection through institutional sustainability policies addressing water conservation, efficient resource utilization, and pollution prevention. These provisions establish a framework for sustainable campus operations.

Strengthening Institutional Water Conservation Policies

MSU–Maguindanao's water conservation framework is anchored in the MSU System Sustainability Policy, originally developed by Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology and approved for system-wide application through Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, subject to contextualization by each constituent campus.

Under Article VII, Section 2(a), the policy provides guidelines for reducing water consumption, implementing conservation measures, and promoting efficient water utilization across campus operations. These provisions are reinforced by Article VIII, Section 1(k), which supports awareness activities encouraging responsible resource consumption.

The policy provides a basis for water conservation programs and water-saving practices among students, faculty, and employees. Documented implementation and water-consumption records would help establish the effectiveness of these measures in improving campus water-use efficiency.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY MAGUINDANAO

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Water Quality Protection and Pollution Prevention

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao) promotes water quality protection, pollution prevention, and responsible environmental management through its **Sustainability Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, for MSU system-wide application**. Specifically, **Article VII, Section 2 – Water** establishes measures to promote water conservation, efficient resource utilization, and water quality monitoring. These provisions provide an institutional framework for safeguarding water resources, reducing environmental contamination, and protecting ecosystems, wildlife, and human health from potential water-related environmental risks.

The Sustainability Policy outlines measures relevant to maintaining water quality and minimizing pollution from university operations. **Article VII, Section 2(b)** directs the University to "Regularly check water sources for heavy metals and other contaminants," establishing a requirement for monitoring potential water quality hazards. Furthermore, **Article VII,**

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY OF THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY – MAGUINDANAO

ARTICLE I
TITLE

This Policy shall be known as the *Sustainability Policy of the Mindanao State University – Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao)*. For brevity, it shall be referred to as *Sustainability Policy*, hereafter.

ARTICLE II
SCOPE

This policy applies to all students, faculty, and staff across academic practices, facilities, and operations at Mindanao State University - Maguindanao. This shall also cover outsourced service providers operating on behalf of MSU-Maguindanao within or outside its campuses; and external parties and service providers operating within MSU-Maguindanao premises such as canteen concessionaires and other concessionaires during special events such as, but not limited to, Tabo sa MSU-Maguindanao, Palakasan, etc.

ARTICLE III
PURPOSE

This policy aims to:

1.1 Reaffirm MSU-Maguindanao's commitment to advancing sustainability principles and practices across all areas of the University; and

1.2 Serve as a guide that directs the University's actions, decisions, and initiatives towards fostering a holistic culture of sustainability.

ARTICLE IV
DEFINITION

Sustainability is defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" and recognizes the indigenous knowledge systems as a resource for sustainable practices and development.

ARTICLE V
SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

The Mindanao State University – Maguindanao is committed to providing quality education for the sustainable development of the nation and the global community. It envisions a sustainable campus that fosters a culture of social responsibility, environmental stewardship, gender sensitivity, economic resilience, and the promotion of peace and development, inspiring positive and sustainable change within the university community and the broader society. Hence, it shall strive to integrate sustainability principles into all aspects of its operations, academics,

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MSU-Maguindanao's sustainability policy provisions supporting water conservation, efficient resource utilization, and pollution prevention.

Advancing Pollution Prevention and Responsible Waste Management

The Sustainability Policy also addresses the responsible management of chemical, electronic, and biohazardous waste, alongside measures promoting reduced plastic consumption and the use of reusable materials.

These provisions seek to minimize potential sources of contamination affecting campus drainage systems and surrounding waterways. They establish institutional expectations for responsible waste handling, pollution prevention, and environmentally sustainable resource use.

The effectiveness of these measures may be assessed through documented waste-management procedures, inspection reports, water-quality monitoring, and corrective actions addressing identified environmental risks.

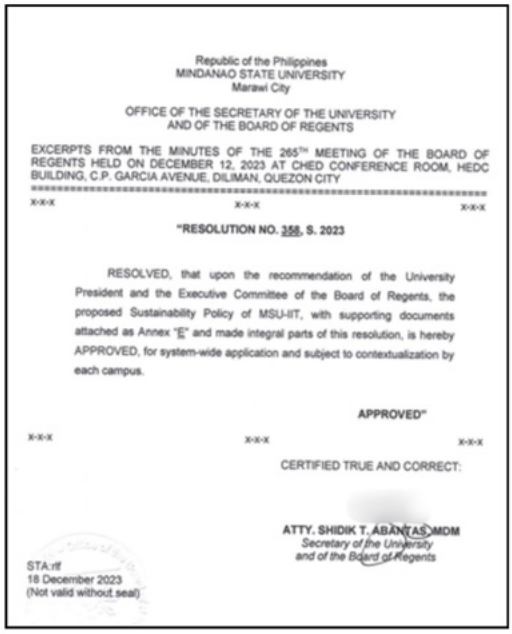

MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY MAGUINDANAO

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Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) establishes institutional provisions for responsible waste management, including the handling and disposal of hazardous materials, through its **Sustainability Policy, anchored in the MSU–Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) Sustainability Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, for MSU system-wide application.**

The policy provides an institutional framework for **minimizing waste generation, promoting proper waste segregation, handling, and environmentally responsible disposal practices, and mitigating potential risks to human health and the environment** arising from university operations. Its scope encompasses students, faculty, administrative staff, outsourced service providers, and external parties operating within university premises, reinforcing shared institutional responsibility for environmental protection and sustainable waste management.


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Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rlf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

REDUCING PLASTIC WASTE THROUGH INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES AND CAMPUS INITIATIVES

MSU–Maguindanao strengthens environmental protection through policies and campus measures aimed at reducing single-use plastics and encouraging sustainable alternatives. These initiatives complement water conservation efforts by addressing potential sources of plastic pollution in drainage systems and nearby waterways.

Strengthening Institutional Policies on Single-Use Plastics

The **Mindanao State University System Sustainability Policy,** approved through **Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023,** provides institutional provisions for reducing plastic waste and promoting responsible consumption.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

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"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

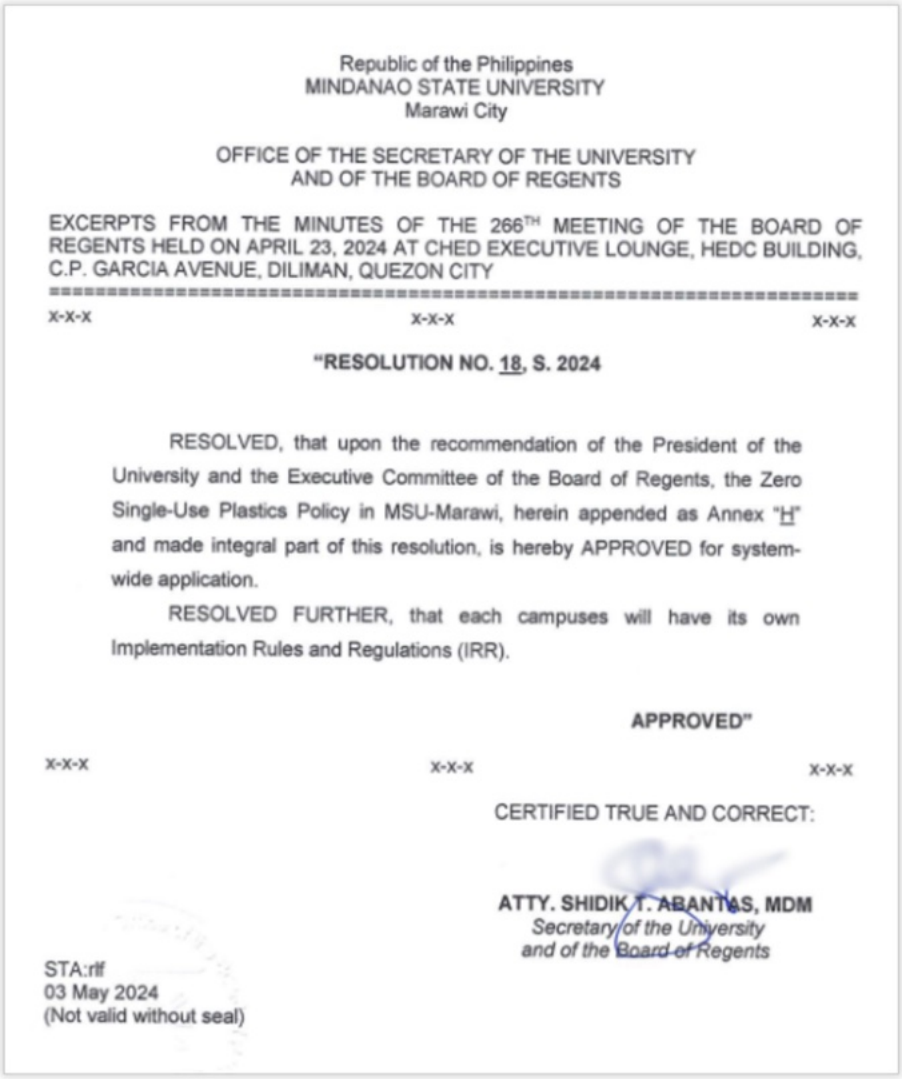
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MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, approving the Sustainability Policy for system-wide application, subject to campus contextualization.

Under **Article VII, Section 1(f–i),** the policy calls for reducing food and plastic waste, promoting reusable and recyclable packaging, prohibiting Styrofoam and specified disposable plastic products, and encouraging practices such as "Bring Your Own Tumbler/Container/Utensil" and "Clean As You Go."

These provisions are reinforced by the **Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy**, approved through **BOR Resolution No. 18, s. 2024,** for system-wide application. The resolution also directs each constituent campus to establish its own Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to guide policy implementation.

Together, these policies establish a framework for reducing disposable plastic consumption and strengthening sustainable waste-management practices across University operations.



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Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 266TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 23, 2024 AT CHED EXECUTIVE LOUNGE, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 18, S. 2024

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy in MSU-Marawi, herein appended as Annex "H" and made integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED for system-wide application.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that each campuses will have its own Implementation Rules and Regulations (IRR).

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rlf
03 May 2024
(Not valid without seal)

MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 18, s. 2023, approving Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy and requiring campus-specific implementing rules and regulations.

Under **Article VII, Section 1(f–i),** the policy calls for reducing food and plastic waste, promoting reusable and recyclable packaging, prohibiting Styrofoam and specified disposable plastic products, and encouraging practices such as "Bring Your Own Tumbler/Container/Utensil" and "Clean As You Go."

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Together, these policies establish a framework for reducing disposable plastic consumption and strengthening sustainable waste-management practices across University operations.

Promoting Plastic Waste Reduction and Campus Compliance

MSU–Maguindanao has reinforced its commitment to plastic waste reduction through campus-level measures, including Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022, issued by the Office of the Chancellor on October 21, 2022. The memorandum prohibits students from bringing single-use plastics onto campus and directs the Security and Investigation Office to inspect students' bags for compliance.

The University also displays Single-Use Plastic-Free Campus Policy signage, identifying prohibited items such as plastic straws, bags, bottles, cups, disposable spoons and forks, and balloons. These notices communicate the University's environmental requirements to the campus community.

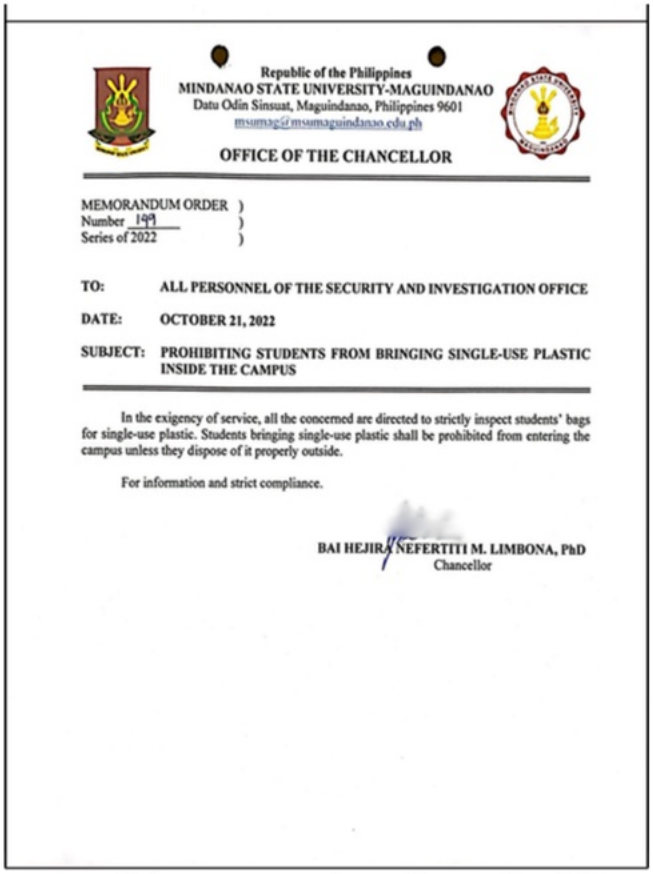
The continuing campus action plan emphasizes reducing disposable plastics in offices, canteens, concessionaire operations, meetings, seminars, and other institutional activities. It promotes reusable tumblers, food containers, utensils, environmentally responsible packaging, waste segregation, and proper disposal practices.

These documented policies and awareness measures support the University's efforts to prevent plastic pollution and promote responsible consumption. Further monitoring of compliance and waste-generation data would help assess their measurable environmental impact.





Single-use plastic-free campus signage identifying prohibited disposable plastic products at MSU-Maguindanao.



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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM ORDER)
Number 149)
Series of 2022)

TO: ALL PERSONNEL OF THE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION OFFICE

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2022

SUBJECT: PROHIBITING STUDENTS FROM BRINGING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC INSIDE THE CAMPUS

In the exigency of service, all the concerned are directed to strictly inspect students' bags for single-use plastic. Students bringing single-use plastic shall be prohibited from entering the campus unless they dispose of it properly outside.

For information and strict compliance.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA, PhD
Chancellor

MSU-Maguindanao Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022, prohibiting students from bringing single-use plastics onto campus and directing compliance inspections.



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

OVERVIEW

In 2025, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) advanced affordable and clean energy on three fronts. It put solar power to productive use in conflict-affected and Indigenous communities, it developed renewable-energy technologies through student research, and it began upgrading academic buildings under a board-approved Sustainability Policy that sets energy-efficiency, carbon-reduction and fossil-fuel divestment commitments for the University.

In Camp Badre, one of the camps under the normalization track of the Bangsamoro peace process, the University installed a solar-powered food-processing facility and a solar-powered egg incubator as part of a climate-smart mixed-farming program that reached 695 beneficiaries in four barangays. Renewable electricity now supports food processing and poultry production in the community, with organized women's groups taking part in processing.

The University also tested its own technology with the people expected to use it. In Nangi, Upi, Indigenous participants evaluated a solar-powered banana chipper developed at MSU–Maguindanao against three manual methods. The solar chipper recorded the fastest slicing rate, at 18.95 kilograms per hour, and earned the highest ratings for uniformity, safety and overall satisfaction. Student research added a hydraulic-press briquetting machine that turns rice husk and sawdust into fuel briquettes, processing 52.37 kilograms of feedstock per hour.

On campus, the University broke ground on 7 March 2025 on ₱132 million in Department of Budget and Management–funded upgrades of two academic buildings. This work is governed by the MSU Sustainability Policy, that requires energy-efficient renovation and green building design, energy conservation and monitoring, greenhouse gas reduction, periodic carbon audits and divestment from coal and oil.

MSU–MAGUINDANAO HARNESSES CLEAN ENERGY WITH COMMUNITIES

Solar power for food processing and poultry in Camp Badre

From July 2024 to August 2025, MSU–Maguindanao implemented the Development of Science and Technology-Based and Climate-Smart Mixed Farming System in Camp Badre, with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), the Joint Task Force on Camps Transformation and the Municipality of Datu Odin Sinsuat. Camp Badre is one of the camps under the normalization track of the Bangsamoro peace process. The program reached 695 beneficiaries in Barangays Sibuto, Bugawas, Sifaran and Kinebeka.

The program installed a solar-powered food-processing facility and a solar-powered egg incubator. Renewable electricity now supports two productive uses in the community: processing farm produce and hatching poultry. Organized women's groups took part in processing and other livelihood activities, alongside vegetable production, fish farming and goat raising.



Established photovoltaic cells -power the kitchen processing facility to support sustainable food processing and climate-smart farming in Camp Badre.



Poultry farmers receive solar-powered incubator for egg hatching in Camp Badre

Solar banana processing tested with Indigenous users in Nangi, Upi

An innovation of BS Agricultural and Biosysyems Engineering student Johaira A. Belon brought a solar-powered banana chipping machine, developed at MSU–Maguindanao, to a group of indigenous participants in Nangi, Upi, Maguindanao del Norte. Through orientations, demonstrations and hands-on use over a seven-day evaluation, participants compared the solar chipper with three methods already familiar to small-scale processors: knife slicing, a mandolin slicer and a manually operated commercial slicer. The study measured slicing consistency, operating time, safety, operational quality and user satisfaction.

The solar chipper recorded a highest processing rate at 18.95 kg/hour and received the highest ratings for uniformity and safety compared to the manual commercial slicer.

Testing the technology where it will be used, with the people who will operate it, gave the University both performance data and community feedback to guide the next version of the machine.

Student research on renewable biomass fuel

In a 2025 Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering study, students Bai Rehan M. Manisi and Yashir C. Esmail fabricated and evaluated a modified hydraulic-press briquetting machine that compacts agricultural and wood residues, including rice husk and sawdust, into solid fuel briquettes. The work turns locally abundant farm waste into a renewable fuel.

The study addressed two important challenges in the Bangsamoro region: the underutilization of agricultural waste and the need for accessible alternative energy technologies. Agricultural activities in Maguindanao generate residues such as rice husk and sawdust, which are often discarded or improperly managed. To address these concerns, the researchers developed a locally fabricated hydraulic-press briquetting machine that converts agricultural residues into solid biomass fuel, transforming waste materials into a useful energy resource.

The research involved the design, fabrication, and systematic evaluation of the machine using locally available materials and agricultural biomass. The researchers assessed its operational performance, production capacity, briquetting efficiency, energy requirements, and the quality of the resulting briquettes. They also examined important fuel characteristics, including moisture content, ignition time, and resistance to breakage, alongside the machine's economic feasibility through benefit-cost analysis. These evaluations provided technical and economic evidence for assessing the machine's effectiveness in converting agricultural residues into usable fuel.



Agricultural residues, the hydraulic briquetting machine, and the resulting biomass briquettes developed through MSU–Maguindanao student research on renewable fuel production.

The study produced a locally fabricated briquetting machine and documented findings on its performance, briquette quality, and economic viability. It demonstrated the application of engineering research to an actual agricultural and environmental problem in Maguindanao. The research also strengthened the technical competencies of researchers and students in machine design, fabrication, testing, and data analysis. Through this initiative, MSU–Maguindanao advanced its commitment to developing practical, locally appropriate technologies that address regional development needs.

It establishes a technical foundation for utilizing locally available biomass, reducing the underuse of agricultural residues, and diversifying energy options in rural communities. The study also supports responsible resource utilization by demonstrating how agricultural by-products can be processed into a more useful form. Its contribution lies in research, technology development, and performance evaluation, providing a basis for further application of biomass energy technologies in the Bangsamoro region.

The primary beneficiaries are farmers, rural households, and agricultural communities in Maguindanao and across the Bangsamoro region. The technology provides a practical approach to adding value to rice husk and sawdust by converting these materials into biomass briquettes. This process creates an alternative use for agricultural residues and establishes opportunities for small-scale briquette production, rural enterprise development, and additional income-generating activities. For rural households and other fuel users, biomass briquettes offer an alternative solid-fuel option, subject to their availability, affordability, and suitability for local use.

Moreover, the research also provides valuable technical information for local government units, agricultural agencies, energy-sector stakeholders, and development organizations working on renewable energy, agricultural waste management, and rural livelihood development. Its findings offer a scientific basis for improving briquetting technology and assessing the practical use of locally available biomass materials. By combining engineering innovation with agricultural resource recovery, the study strengthens local research capacity and supports the development of technologies responsive to the environmental, economic, and energy needs of the Bangsamoro region.



Researchers and participants discuss the developed briquetting technology during the product innovation pitching in the 1st Mindanao Forum in Waters and Natural Resources

UPGRADING OF EXISTING ACADEMIC BUILDING WITH HIGHER ENERGY EFFICIENCY

On 7 March 2025, MSU–Maguindanao broke ground on the upgrading of the College of Fisheries and the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies buildings. The Department of Budget and Management funds the two projects with a combined allocation of ₱132 million for modern classrooms, laboratories and research spaces. Sustainable and climate-resilient practices are among the projects' stated objectives.

As renovations of existing buildings, both projects fall under the policy's requirement for energy-efficient renovation (Article VII, Section 3(a)) and its direction to integrate sustainable elements into existing buildings (Section 6). The policy's emphasis on reducing heat absorption applies directly to buildings in a hot, humid climate, where cooling drives electricity demand



Groundbreaking for the College of Fisheries and College of Forestry and Environmental Studies building upgrades, 7 March 2025.

Energy efficiency standards

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao) upholds energy efficiency standards for new construction and building renovations through its Sustainability Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, for MSU system-wide application, subject to campus contextualization. Specifically, Article VII, Section 3(a), and Section 6(b), (c), and (d) establish provisions for energy-efficient renovation, green building designs, and sustainable construction practices. **This is in line with Republic Act No. 11285, or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act**, which promotes energy conservation, efficient energy utilization, and environmentally responsible infrastructure development.

The policy establishes guidelines for considering green building elements in all construction and renovation projects, including designs that reduce heat absorption, minimize energy consumption, and explore on-site electricity generation. Article VII, Section 3(b) further provides for a comprehensive energy conservation program. These provisions support the application of relevant national standards, including the Philippine Green Building Code where applicable, to encourage resource-efficient building design and sustainable infrastructure development.

Through these measures, MSU-Maguindanao promotes responsible energy consumption, improved building efficiency, and reduced environmental impacts associated with campus infrastructure. Moving forward, the University remains committed to strengthening energy efficiency considerations in infrastructure planning, construction, and renovation while advancing sustainable and climate-resilient campus development.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

OVERVIEW

In the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), which has the highest poverty incidence in the Philippines, a secure job with fair pay can change a family's future. For Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, decent work is therefore both a duty to its own employees and a promise to the young people it educates.

This report presents the University's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth, during calendar year 2025.

The report first sets out how the University treats its own workforce. Every plantilla employee is paid under the national salary schedule. In 2025, the lowest rate on that schedule, ₱14,061 a month, was 67% above the regional minimum wage and 27% above the poverty line for a family of four. Salary grades are published in every vacancy announcement, so pay is fixed by the position, not negotiated by the person. The University recognises the right of all employees to organise and engage the MSU–Maguindanao Faculty Union on faculty welfare and working conditions. Its Equal Opportunity Principles protect applicants and employees from discrimination at every stage of employment, and every vacancy invites applications from persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples and people of every sexual orientation and gender identity. The University also invests in its people: seven faculty members are pursuing advanced degrees abroad on international scholarships.

The report then turns to the University's graduates. In June 2025, a Job Fair connected graduating students and alumni with government and private employers, and a Career Preparation Seminar equipped graduates to find and keep good jobs.

Together, these efforts advance decent work and equal pay for all, fewer young people out of work or education, and protected labour rights for every worker.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Commitment to Pay All Staff and Faculty At Least a Living Wage

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) pays all plantilla faculty and staff under the national government salary schedule, which sets pay well above both the regional minimum wage and the poverty line. As a state university, MSU–Maguindanao follows the **Salary Standardization Law (Republic Act No. 11466), as updated by Executive Order No. 64,** series of 2024. The order raises the salaries of civilian government personnel in four annual tranches from 2024 to 2027. From 2025, it also grants qualified personnel a medical allowance of up to ₱7,000 a year for health maintenance organization (HMO) benefits.

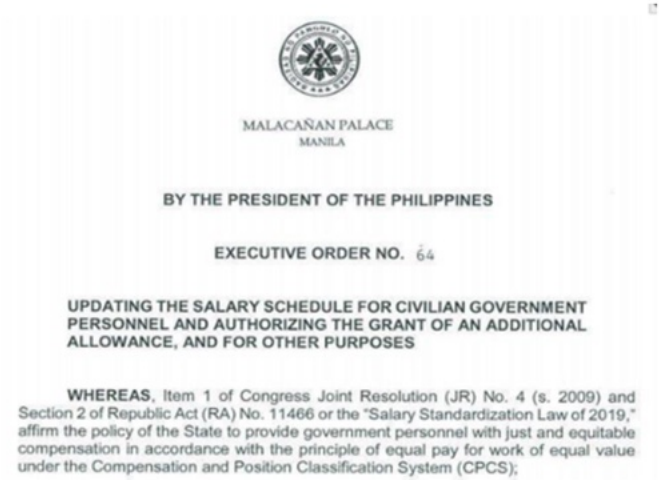
In 2025, the lowest rate on the salary schedule, Salary Grade 1, Step 1, was ₱14,061 a month, or about ₱81 an hour. This floor is 67% above the minimum wage in Maguindanao del Norte and 27% above the poverty line for a family of four.

BENCHMARK (2025)	MONTHLY	HOURLY
Lowest MSU–Maguindanao salary (SG 1, Step 1)	₱14,061	₱80.81
Poverty line, family of four (PSA 2023, scaled from a family of five)	₱11,098	₱63.78
Poverty line, family of five (PSA 2023, national)	₱13,873	₱79.73
Minimum wage, Maguindanao del Norte, non-agriculture (Wage Order No. BARMM-04)	₱8,396	₱48.25

Hourly rates assume 261 working days of 8 hours a year.

Pay is fixed by law, not by negotiation. Every position carries a salary grade, and the University cannot appoint anyone below it, so all employees in the same position receive the same pay, whatever their gender, background or bargaining power. The University publishes the salary grade in every vacancy announcement, so applicants know their pay before they apply. In 2025, MSU–Maguindanao advertised faculty posts in Psychology at Salary Grade 12 (₱32,245 a month) and in Agriculture at Salary Grade 18 (₱51,304 a month), with applications due by 6 August 2025. At these grades, entry-level faculty earn about three to five times the poverty line for a family of four. Both announcements also invited applications from persons with disabilities, members of Indigenous communities and people of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

Salaries are paid in full and on schedule through an established process. The Human Resource Management Office verifies each employee's appointment, salary grade and step. The Budget and Accounting Offices obligate and process payroll under Department of Budget and Management rules, and the Cashiering Unit releases salaries.



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 64

UPDATING THE SALARY SCHEDULE FOR CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AND AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF AN ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Item 1 of Congress Joint Resolution (JR) No. 4 (s. 2009) and Section 2 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11466 or the "Salary Standardization Law of 2019," affirm the policy of the State to provide government personnel with just and equitable compensation in accordance with the principle of equal pay for work of equal value under the Compensation and Position Classification System (CPCS);

Excerpt of EO No. 64, updating the salary schedule for civilian government personnel and authorizing the grant of additional allowance, and other purposes

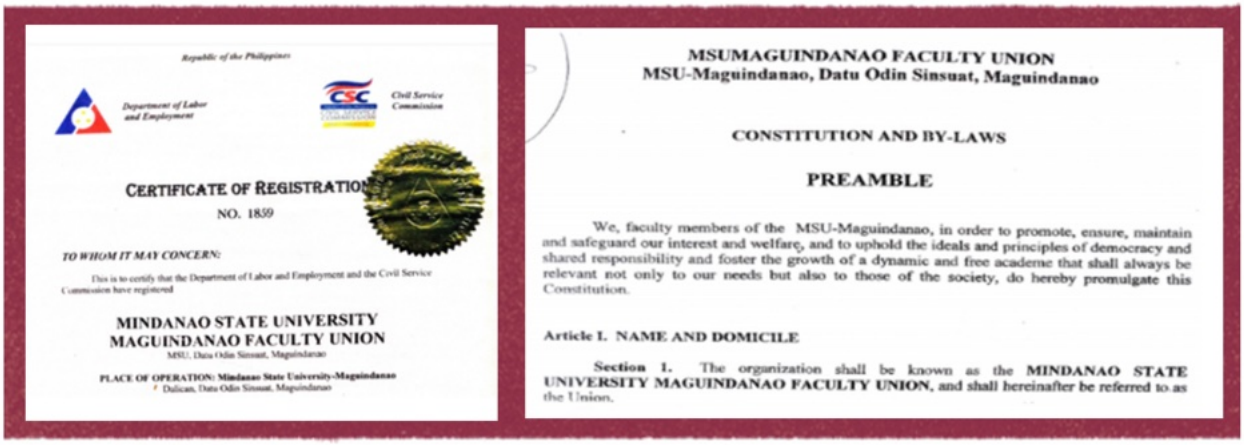


Vacancy announcements for faculty posts in Psychology (SG 12) and Agriculture (SG 18) posted on the Official FB page of MSU-Maguindanao

Recognising Unions for All Employees

Freedom of association, recognized for every employee

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao) recognizes the MSU-Maguindanao Faculty Union as an avenue for faculty representation, collective participation, and the protection of workplace rights. Anchored in Article XIII, Section 3 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Executive Order No. 180, series of 1987, and Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 28, series of 1993, the union supports the right of government employees to self-organization and collective negotiation. Its operations are also guided by applicable Public Sector Labor-Management Council (PSLMC) regulations, promoting constructive relations between faculty members and university administration.



Copies of the Certificate of Recognition of the MSU-Maguindanao Faculty Union (a) and the Constitution and By-Laws (b)

The MSU–Maguindanao Faculty Union

The MSU–Maguindanao Faculty Union is registered with the Civil Service Commission under Registration No. 1859. It is open to all faculty members regardless of rank, sex or nationality.

The union governs itself democratically through a General Assembly, an elected Board of Directors and officers, and standing committees on membership, welfare and grievances. It meets regularly, holds elections by secret ballot and consults members before negotiating with management.

Labour–management engagement

The University engages the union as a partner in governance, not only as a channel for complaints. Union representatives meet with the Office of the Chancellor, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Human Resource Management Office on matters affecting faculty welfare and working conditions.

Grievances are settled first through dialogue and the University's grievance machinery under Civil Service Commission rules. Disputes that remain unresolved may be elevated to the PSLMC. This approach keeps labour relations peaceful and transparent and resolves disputes fairly.

Organized representation gives faculty a protected collective voice on pay, workload, promotion, safety, and welfare. By recognizing unions for all employees and negotiating with them in good faith, MSU–Maguindanao upholds the labour rights at the heart of decent work.

Ending Discrimination in the Workplace: MSU–Maguindanao's Equal Opportunity Principles

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) commits to a workplace free from discrimination through its Equal Opportunity Principles (EOP), approved through BOR No. 849, s. 2025. The principles apply to every stage of employment: recruitment, selection, appointment, compensation, training, promotion, discipline and separation. They cover all faculty, staff and applicants.

Who is protected

No applicant or employee may be treated less favourably because of sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, religion or belief, ethnicity or Indigenous identity, disability, civil status, pregnancy, nationality, or refugee or stateless status.

Decisions on hiring and advancement rest only on merit, fitness and the qualification standards of the position.

Legal foundation

The principles put into practice the equal protection clause of the 1987 Constitution and national laws against workplace discrimination:

- Republic Act No. 6725, which prohibits discrimination against women in terms and conditions of employment
-
- Republic Act No. 9710, the Magna Carta of Women
- Republic Act No. 11313, the Safe Spaces Act, which also penalises harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identity
- Republic Act No. 10911, the Anti-Age Discrimination in Employment Act
- Republic Act No. 7277, the Magna Carta for Persons with Disability, as amended
- Republic Act No. 8371, the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act
- Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circulars No. 29, s. 2010 and No. 16, s. 2024
- In the Bangsamoro region, the principles also require respect for cultural and religious diversity, including accommodation of religious practice at work.

How the policy is implemented

Clear lines of responsibility carry out the policy:

- Recruitment and selection. The Human Resource Management Office (HRMO) and the Human Resource Merit Promotion and Selection Board (HRMPSB) run competency-based recruitment and transparent selection against published qualification standards. Performance evaluation is impartial, and professional development is open to all.

- Inclusive hiring. Every vacancy announcement invites applications from persons with disabilities, members of Indigenous communities and people of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, as the attached 2025 faculty vacancy announcements show.

- Equal pay. Salaries follow the national salary schedule, so pay is set by the position, not the person, ensuring equal pay for work of equal value.

- Gender-responsive practice. The Gender and Development (GAD) Office promotes gender-responsive policies and practices across the University.

- Redress and protection. The Committee on Anti-Sexual Harassment (COAS) and the Legal Services Office receive and act on complaints of discrimination and harassment, with protection from retaliation, under the overall supervision of the Office of the Chancellor.

Putting the principles into practice

The commitment is visible from the first point of contact. Every University vacancy announcement invites applications from persons with disabilities, members of Indigenous communities and people of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, as the attached 2025 faculty vacancy announcements show. Applicants are assessed by a Personnel Selection Board against published qualification standards, and salaries follow the national salary schedule, so pay is set by the position, not the person. Employees who experience discrimination or harassment can seek redress through the University's grievance machinery [and its Committee on Decorum and Investigation], with protection from retaliation.

By guaranteeing equal treatment at every stage of employment, MSU–Maguindanao supports decent work for all and Sustainable Development Goal Target 8.5: full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including persons with disabilities, with equal pay for work of equal value.

By removing barriers to employment and advancement, particularly for persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples and other under-represented groups, MSU–Maguindanao widens access to decent work in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Job Fair and Career Guidance for Graduating Students and Alumni

On 13 June 2025, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) held a Job Fair and Career Guidance event at the University Gymnasium. It was organised by the Guidance and Counseling Office and the Alumni Relations and Placement Office. The event brought graduating students and job-seeking alumni face to face with public and private employers: the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Philippine Coast Guard, the Lamsan Group of Companies and 3M Manpower. Employers presented current vacancies, explained qualifications and recruitment procedures, and met applicants on site. About 200 students and alumni attended, and 95 applications were submitted on the day. A career guidance lecture helped participants match their career paths to employer expectations.



MSU-Maguindanao graduating students and alumni register for the Job Fair and Career Guidance.

Through job fairs and partnerships with employers, MSU–Maguindanao helps graduates transition from education to employment, promotes decent work for young people, and contributes to reducing the number of youth who are not in employment, education, or training.
In a region where young graduates often face a long gap between school and first job, the job fair connects them directly to hiring employers.

Career Preparation Seminar for Graduating Students

On 27 June 2025, the University Guidance and Counseling Office, under the Division of Student Affairs, held a Career Preparation Seminar for graduating students at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium. The seminar trained students in career planning, job searching, résumé writing and job interviews. It covered professionalism, work ethics, workplace conduct and the common challenges first-time employees face. Alumni and working professionals shared their own transitions into work, and an open forum let students consult the Guidance Counselor on career choices and employment options.





Graduating students attend the Career Preparation Seminar for Graduating Students at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium, MSU-Maguindanao Campus on June 27, 2025

The program trained graduating students in career planning, job searching, resume preparation, employment counseling, and job interviews. Discussions covered professionalism, work ethics, workplace behavior, and the common concerns of first-time employees. Alumni and working professionals shared their experiences of entering the workforce, and an open forum allowed students to consult the Guidance Counselor on their career choices, employment opportunities, and preparation for work.
The University remains committed to pursuing programs and activities supporting graduates' preparation and transition from education to employment. The seminar gives graduates the skills to find work and to keep it.

Investing in Faculty: Doctoral and Graduate Study Abroad

Seven faculty members of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao are pursuing advanced studies at universities in Hungary, China, Taiwan, Türkiye, and Indonesia through international scholarship programs. Their studies span various fields, including environmental conservation, forestry, engineering, aquaculture, and international relations.
Assoc. Prof. Peter Jan D. de Vera is pursuing a PhD in Conservation Biology and Behavioral Ecology at the Juhász-Nagy Pál Doctoral School, University of Debrecen, Hungary, through the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship. Asst. Prof. Cindy Poclis is taking a PhD in Water and Soil Conservation and Desertification Control at the College of Forestry and Grassland, Nanjing Forestry University, China, under the Nanjing Forestry University Scholarship.

Also at Nanjing Forestry University, Asst. Prof. Jayric Villareal is pursuing a PhD in Wood Science and Technology at the College of Materials Science and Engineering through the same scholarship program. Meanwhile, Assoc. Prof. Allen Julius Christ B. Declaro is pursuing a PhD in Bioenvironmental Systems Engineering at National Taiwan University. In Türkiye, Asst. Prof. Gindol Rey A. Limbaro is taking a PhD in Forest Industrial Engineering, while Asst. Prof. Jonald C. Bornales is pursuing a PhD in Aquaculture at Kastamonu University, both under the YÖK Scholarship. In Indonesia, Mr. Datu Al-Zahid H. Salik is pursuing a Master of Arts in Political Science, specializing in International Relations, at Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia (UIII) through the UIII Scholarship Award.



Asst. Prof. Peter Jan D. de Vera



Asst. Prof. Cindy Poclis



Asst. Prof. Jayric Villareal



Asst. Prof. Allen Julius Chris B. Declaro



Asst. Prof. Gindol Rey A. Limbaro



Mr. Datu Al-Zahid H. Salik



Asst. Prof. Jonald C. Bornales

Through their studies, the scholars gain advanced research skills and international academic exposure that they will bring back and integrate into their teaching, research, and extension work, while strengthening the University's academic linkages abroad.

By strongly supporting faculty development through advanced studies abroad, MSU–Maguindanao strengthens faculty expertise, improves higher education, and builds capacity in key sectors such as forestry, environmental science, and aquaculture. These investments in human resources support workforce development, expand career opportunities, and contribute to inclusive economic growth in the Bangsamoro region.



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

OVERVIEW

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao moved from producing knowledge to formally owning and protecting it. In July 2025, the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) issued the University eight Transfer Certificates of Copyright Registration: five on 2 July and three on 15 July. Each certificate records a notarized deed of assignment through which the authors transferred copyright in their work to the University, making MSU–Maguindanao the registered copyright owner.

The eight works reflect the University's core strengths. Three come from its peace agenda: the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security; FPE 101: The Journey Towards an Immersive Approach to Teaching Peace in MSU-Maguindanao; and the Report of the Forum with Non-Moro Indigenous Cultural Communities. Two document extensions work with communities: a brochure on the Development of Sustainable and Climate-Smart Farming System for Fish Production in Camp Abubakar, and Project CARES: Community Advancement through Research-Based Extension Activities. The remaining three build institutional and technical capacity: the Manual on Research, Extension, and Development Policies and Administration (RED Manual), and the Basic and Intermediate QGIS Training/Laboratory Manuals on geographic information systems.

The registrations put the University's Intellectual Property Policy into practice. Approved by the MSU Board of Regents in 2022, the policy places intellectual property administration under the Intellectual Property Unit of the Knowledge, Innovation and Commercialization Center. It sets a 60:40 sharing of net intellectual property revenue between the University and its creators. Clear ownership gives the University a sound basis to license, publish and share these materials with partner institutions, government agencies and communities, while ensuring that creators are credited and rewarded.

UNIVERSITY MATERIALS WITH INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

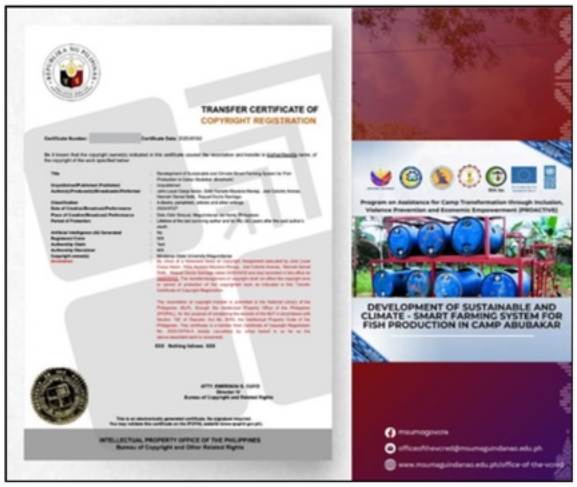
From authorship to institutional ownership

Copyright protects a work as soon as it is created, but formal ownership is what lets a university license, adapt and share its work with confidence. In 2025, MSU–Maguindanao completed that step for eight of its knowledge products. In each case, the authors executed a notarized Deed of Copyright Assignment in favour of the University. The assignments were then recorded with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL), which acts for the National Library of the Philippines under Section 182 of the Intellectual Property Code (Republic Act No. 8293). IPOPHL cancelled the original registrations and issued Transfer Certificates naming Mindanao State University–Maguindanao as the copyright owner. The authors remain credited as creators, and the term of protection is unchanged.

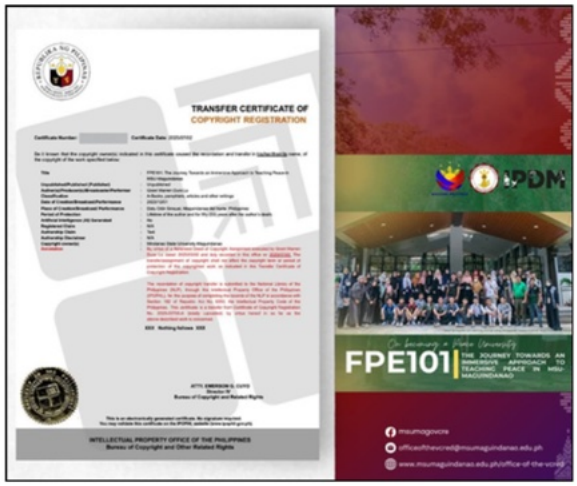
Registered Works:



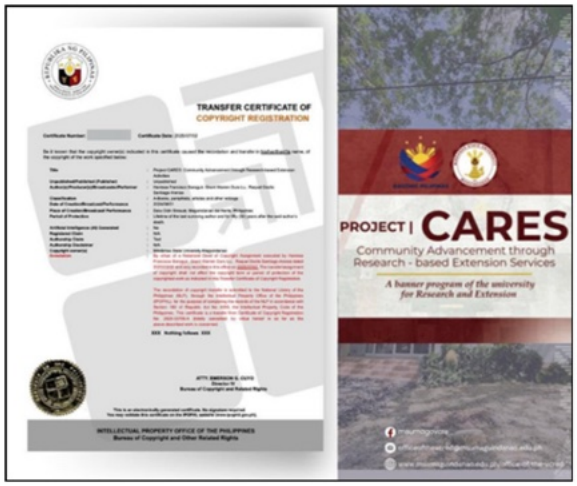
Diploma in Women, Peace and Security



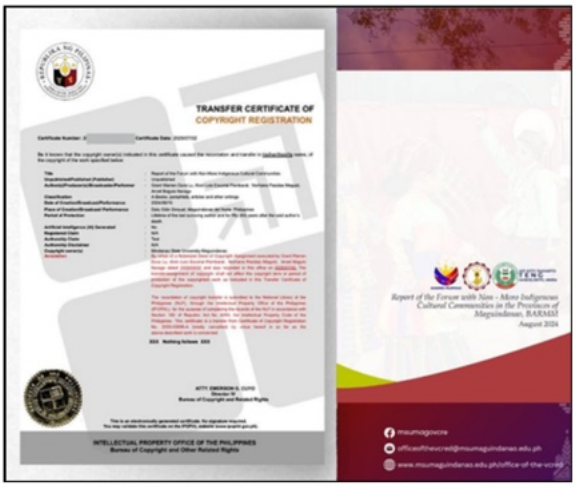
Development of Sustainable and Climate-Smart Farming System for Fish Production in Camp Abubakar (Brochure)



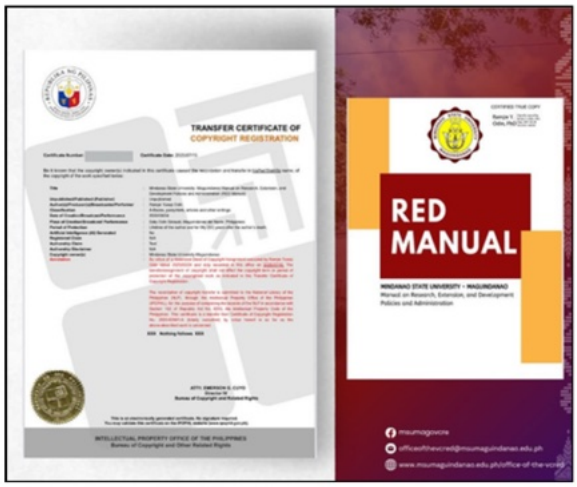
FPE 101: The Journey Towards an Immersive Approach to Teaching Peace in MSU-Maguindanao



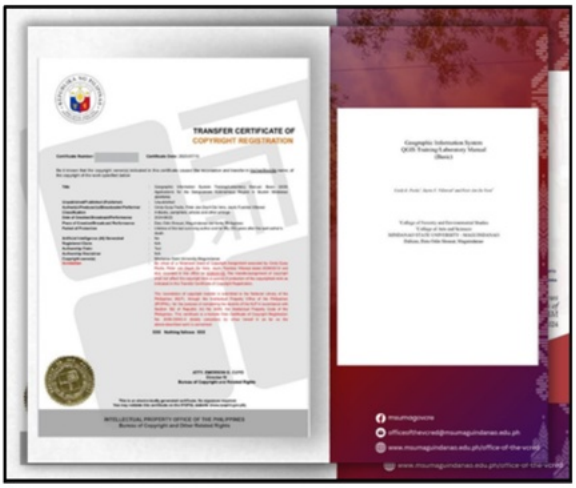
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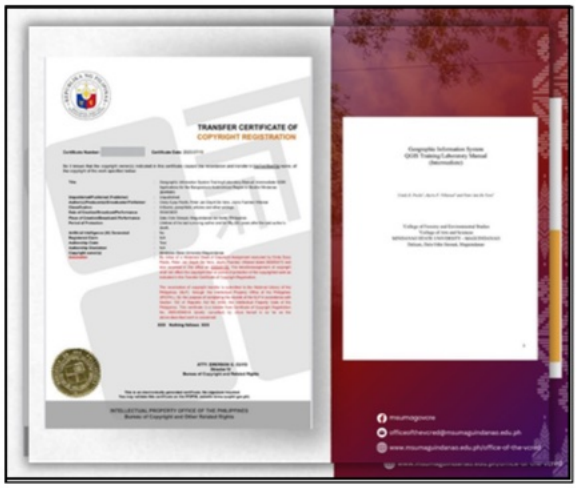
Diploma in Women, Peace and Security



MSU-Maguindanao Manual on Research, Extension, and Developmeny Policies and Administration (RED Manual)



Geographic Information System (QGIS) Training Manual-Basic



Geographic Information System (QGIS) Training Manual-Intermediate

Each group of works strengthens a different part of the region's capacity to innovate.

The two QGIS manuals teach geographic information systems with open-source software, at basic and intermediate levels. These skills underpin land-use planning, mapping of hazards and natural resources, and infrastructure decisions. Because the software is free, institutions with limited budgets can adopt the training.

The Camp Abubakar brochure and the Project CARES materials turn research into forms that farmers, fisherfolk and local partners can use. They carry climate-smart aquaculture and research-based extension into communities under the Bangsamoro camps transformation program.

The Diploma in Women, Peace and Security and FPE 101 are the University's own curriculum designs. Institutional ownership lets MSU–Maguindanao share them with partner universities under clear terms, through agreements that protect the original design and credit its authors.

The RED Manual sets out how research, extension and development are proposed, funded, managed and reported at the University. It is the operating system that turns individual projects into an institutional research enterprise.

These assignments put into practice the MSU–Maguindanao Intellectual Property Policy, approved by the MSU Board of Regents in 2022. The policy covers intellectual property created by faculty, researchers, students, staff and collaborators, and governs how it is created, owned, protected, managed and used. It assigns administration to the Intellectual Property Unit under the Knowledge, Innovation and Commercialization Center. It provides incentives for registered intellectual property and sets a 60:40 sharing of net intellectual property revenue between the University and its creators. Together, these provisions give researchers a reason to protect their work and give the University a clear path from protection to licensing and commercialization.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao strengthens its institutional framework for research, innovation, and knowledge transfer through its Intellectual Property (IP) Policy, approved by the Mindanao State University Board of Regents under Resolution No. 110, Series of 2022, on March 21, 2022. The policy establishes guidelines for protecting intellectual property rights, encouraging research productivity, and facilitating the responsible utilization and commercialization of university-generated innovations.

The policy governs the creation, ownership, protection, management, and utilization of intellectual property produced by faculty members, researchers, students, staff, and institutional collaborators. Under Article 5, Section 5.1, the Intellectual Property Unit (IPU), operating under the Knowledge, Innovation, and Commercialization Center (KICC), is responsible for administering intellectual property matters and supporting the protection and commercialization of research outputs.

To encourage innovation, Article 13, Section 13.4 establishes a revenue-sharing mechanism allocating 60% of net intellectual property revenue to the University and 40% to creators. The policy also provides incentives for registered intellectual property, recognizing the contributions of researchers and innovators while encouraging further research and technological development.

The policy supports SDG 9 by establishing institutional mechanisms for protecting inventions, encouraging research commercialization, and promoting technology transfer. Through these provisions, MSU–Maguindanao strengthens its capacity to manage research innovations and facilitate collaboration with industries and other development partners.
By maintaining this policy framework, the University provides continuing institutional support for responsible innovation, knowledge sharing, and the development of research-based products, processes, and services with potential benefits for regional and national development.

Building on these registrations, the University will widen protection beyond copyright, seeking utility models and industrial designs for agricultural, processing and renewable-energy technologies developed by its faculty and students. It will also set up licensing arrangements that bring its manuals and program designs to partner institutions.



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

OVERVIEW

This report presents the work of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao for SDG 10, Reduced Inequalities, from January to December 2025. It is organized under four areas: first-generation students, international students from developing countries, students with disabilities, and measures against discrimination.

The University serves a region where conflict, poverty, and distance have long kept many young people from higher education. In Academic Year 2024–2025, nearly one in four of its first-year students was the first in the family to pursue a degree. Its Revised Admission Criteria replace a single passing score with alternative pathways and additional points for first-generation, Indigenous, low-income, and disabled applicants, and in the first semester of Academic Year 2025–2026, when the criteria were first applied, 670 first-year students entered through these pathways. Its review program and regional testing centers bring the admission examination closer to remote communities. Board of Regents guidelines bar discrimination in hiring and promotion, a Committee on Decorum and Investigation acts on harassment, ramps and priority desks open campus facilities to persons with disabilities, and a study grant with peace formation supports scholars from former combatant families.

The report closes with the University's plans for sustaining this work and an index of the full articles that serve as its evidence.

PROPORTION OF FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

STUDENTS STARTING A DEGREE

MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAGUINDANAO

1st-Year Enrollment | A.Y. 2024-2025

COLLEGE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Agriculture	200
Arts and Sciences	30
Education	141
Engineering and Computing Sciences	88
Fisheries	155
Forestry and Environmental Studies	50
Public Affairs and Governance	147

TOTAL STUDENTS STARTING A DEGREE

811

STUDENTS

FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

198

STARTING A DEGREE

24.41%
of first-year students in AY 2024–2025 were first-generation, 198 of 811

Advancing Inclusive and Equitable Access to Higher Education

In Academic Year 2024–2025, the University enrolled 811 first-year students across its seven colleges, and 198 of them, or 24.41%, were the first in their families to pursue a degree. These students are the first generation in their households to reach university, and the University's admission and outreach measures are designed with them in mind.

The University widens this route in several ways. Its Revised Admission Criteria give first-generation applicants additional points toward admission. Its review program and regional testing centers help first-time applicants from remote towns prepare for and take the admission examination.

The University also brings its classes to underserved towns like Paglat, Maguindanao del Sur, and Parang, Maguindanao del Norte, part of the Iranon Corridor. Students in these towns enroll at MSU–Maguindanao but attend classes in the classrooms their communities or local government provide, and faculty members travel there to teach them.

Partnerships for Student Mobility

The University's international engagement has so far centered on partnerships with universities in neighboring developing countries in Southeast Asia, which open learning abroad to its students and faculty. From August 11 to October 5, 2025, four BS Forestry students trained at the Vietnam National University of Forestry in Hanoi, and the University's agreements with Universitas Gadjah Mada, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, and Universitas Ahmad Dahlan in Indonesia cover collaborative research, faculty exchange, and capacity building on gender and peace.

Building on these partnerships, the University seeks to welcome students from developing countries to its own campuses, beginning with exchange and short-term programs with its partner universities and extending, over time, to degree programs. Its programs in peace and development, women, peace and security, forestry, and fisheries, grounded in the experience of a post-conflict region, offer students from other developing countries a distinctive place to learn.

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Targeted Support for Students with Disabilities

Under the Revised Admission Criteria, applicants who present a Persons with Disabilities(PWD) identification card earn additional points toward admission and may enter through one of the alternative pathways. Once admitted, students with disabilities receive help from the Office of Student Affairs and Services, which coordinates their admission concerns and academic support, and a PWD Desk or Priority Line at the Cashiering Office and the Registrar's Office serves them first, so that they can enroll, pay fees, and request records without waiting in long lines. Based on the 2025 Student Demographic Data Collection, 3.18% of student respondents reported having a disability or impairment.

The University also provides an online admission process for PWDs, ensuring more accessible and inclusive application pathways by reducing physical and mobility-related barriers to higher education.

Enhancing Campus Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

The University provides accessible facilities and reasonable accommodation on its Dalican and Tamontaka campuses under the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons (Republic Act No. 7277), as amended by Republic Acts No. 9442 and 10524. The law treats the rights of persons with disabilities as human rights rather than welfare, prohibits learning institutions from denying admission to any course on the basis of disability, and counts the failure to remove architectural barriers as discrimination.

The University has installed ramps at the main building of the Institute of Management (Graduate School) on the Tamontaka Campus, the Administration Building Annex, the University Library, the University Canteen, and the Infirmary Hospital, several of them with handrails, covering the buildings people use most for study, transactions, meals, and health care. The University Hostel provides ground-floor rooms, so that guests with limited mobility do not have to use stairs, and the Equal Opportunity Principles guidelines apply reasonable accommodation to employees and applicants with disabilities.



A ramp with handrails gives persons with disabilities independent access to the University Library.



A ramp beside the entrance steps opens the Administration Building Annex to wheelchair users.



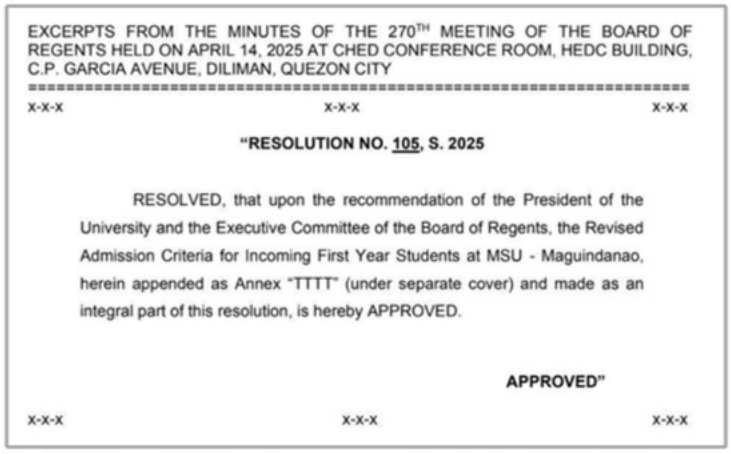
Ramps, one with stainless-steel handrails, give barrier-free entry to the Institute of Management main building, Tamontaka Campus.

MEASURES AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

Revised Admission Criteria Open Alternative Pathways for Disadvantaged Applicants

The MSU Board of Regents approved the Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First-Year Students through Resolution No. 105, s. 2025, at its 270th meeting on April 14, 2025, and the Admissions Office announced them on May 7, 2025. The policy responds to the limits of a single passing score, which can exclude applicants whose results reflect unequal schooling and economic hardship rather than their potential. For applicants below the campus passing score of 76, it opens four alternative pathways: the College Bound Program, the Pre-University Program, Technology Program Eligibility, and Special Admission for Non-SASE Passers.

A conditional admission rubric gives 50 percent weight to the examination score and 15 percent to the Senior High School general weighted average, with up to 35 additional points for documented circumstances. These cover first-generation college students, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, working students, children of combatants, orphans and children of solo parents, children of farmers, fisherfolk, and low-income OFW families, and 4Ps beneficiaries. Each applicant who seeks additional points declares the group and submits a supporting document, which the Admissions Office validates and records with the applicant's score and admission outcome. The criteria were first applied in the first semester of Academic Year 2025–2026, when 670 first-year students entered through the alternative pathways, among them 467 sons and daughters of combatants, 167 first-generation college students, and 3 persons with disabilities.



EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 270TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 105, S. 2025

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Revised Admission Criteria for Incoming First Year Students at MSU - Maguindanao, herein appended as Annex "TTTT" (under separate cover) and made as an integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

The MSU Board of Regents approves the Revised Admission Criteria through Resolution No. 105, s. 2025, April 14, 2025.



Rubric for Conditional Admission under Revised Policy

Criteria	Points/ Weight	Required Evidence
MSU SASE Score	50%	MSU SASE score report
GPA in Senior High School for last the Semester	15%	Report card or Transcript
Note: A maximum of 35 points can be added to MSU-SASE score and GPA in Senior High School for the last Semester based on the following socio-economic and personal factors		
First Generation	10	Self-declaration or documents
Non-Moro Indigenous People (IP), Household Working students, or Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	10	Valid PWD ID or equivalent documentation
Son/Daughter of Combatant(s)	10	Documentation verifying MILF/MNLF Affiliation/Certificate from the BARMM
Orphan(s), Solo Parent, Children of Solo Parent, or students whose parents are both retired or unemployed	10	Solo Parent ID or other Valid Proof of Status Certification from the barangay
Son/Daughter of Farmers, Fisherfolks, or OFWs earning minimum income or below	10	Certification from MAFAR, LGU, barangay LGU, or equivalent offices, cooperatives, or associations
Students with exceptional skills in Sports, Arts, Leadership, or Community Services	10	Demonstration of skills and other documentation
Son/Daughter of 4Ps Beneficiaries	5	4Ps Identification Card or Certificate from MSSD

The conditional admission rubric sets the weights and the additional points for disadvantaged applicants.

Expanding Higher Education Access for Disadvantaged and Remote Communities

The Admissions Office held an MSU System Admission and Scholarship Examination (MSU-SASE) Review Program for Grade 12 learners from disadvantaged and geographically isolated communities, including Parang, Matanog, Barira, and Buldon. University lecturers, faculty, staff, and Supreme Student Council officers led the sessions on August 23 and 30 and September 6 and 13, 2025, covering Mathematics, Science, English, and Abstract Reasoning, with information on admission, scholarships, and degree programs. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Local Government of Parang, and partner secondary schools in the Iranon Corridor supported the program.

On October 5, 2025, the University administered the MSU-SASE to 4,429 examinees at eight centers: its Dalican, Paglat, and Parang sites, South Upi National High School, Cotabato City National High School, Salaman Institute, Esperanza National High School, and Tacurong National High School. These centers brought the examination closer to applicants in remote and low-income communities across the region.



University reviewers coach Grade 12 learners from disadvantaged communities during the MSU-SASE Review Program, 2025.



Applicants take the MSU-SASE at one of the eight testing centers opened across the region, October 5, 2025.

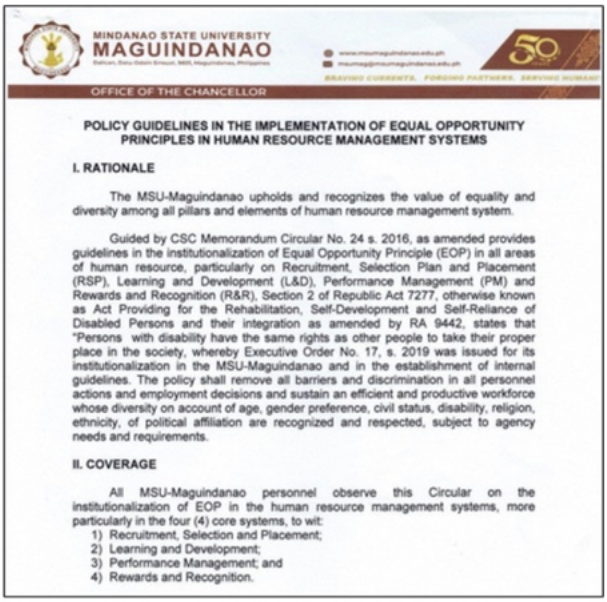
Advancing Equal Opportunities in Employment and Personnel Development

The MSU Board of Regents approved the Policy Guidelines in the Implementation of Equal Opportunity Principles in Human Resource Management Systems through Resolution No. 469, s. 2025, on September 9, 2025. Guided by Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 24, s. 2016 and the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, the guidelines apply to recruitment, selection, and placement; learning and development; performance management; and rewards and recognition, and require decisions to rest on competence and qualifications rather than sex, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, or disability. The MSU Sustainability Policy (Resolution No. 358, s. 2023) extends this commitment to the whole University, pledging in Article V, Section 4 to remove obstacles so that all stakeholders, "regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability, status, gender, or other factors," can take part in all opportunities on an equal footing.

The Human Resource Management Office puts these principles into its job postings. Its faculty vacancy announcement that closed on February 25, 2025 expressly invited qualified persons with disabilities, members of Indigenous communities, and applicants of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression to apply, and the Human Resource Merit Promotion and Selection Board applies the guidelines when evaluating applicants and employees for appointment and promotion.



The Office of the Chancellor issues the guidelines that bar discrimination in recruitment, promotion, training, and recognition.


MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

POLICY GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PRINCIPLES IN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

I. RATIONALE

The MSU-Maguindanao upholds and recognizes the value of equality and diversity among all pillars and elements of human resource management system.

Guided by CSC Memorandum Circular No. 24 s. 2016, as amended provides guidelines in the institutionalization of Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP) in all areas of human resource, particularly on Recruitment, Selection Plan and Placement (RSP), Learning and Development (L&D), Performance Management (PM) and Rewards and Recognition (R&R), Section 2 of Republic Act 7277, otherwise known as Act Providing for the Rehabilitation, Self-Development and Self-Reliance of Disabled Persons and their integration as amended by RA 9442, states that "Persons with disability have the same rights as other people to take their proper place in the society, whereby Executive Order No. 17, s. 2019 was issued for its institutionalization in the MSU-Maguindanao and in the establishment of internal guidelines. The policy shall remove all barriers and discrimination in all personnel actions and employment decisions and sustain an efficient and productive workforce whose diversity on account of age, gender preference, civil status, disability, religion, ethnicity, of political affiliation are recognized and respected, subject to agency needs and requirements.

II. COVERAGE

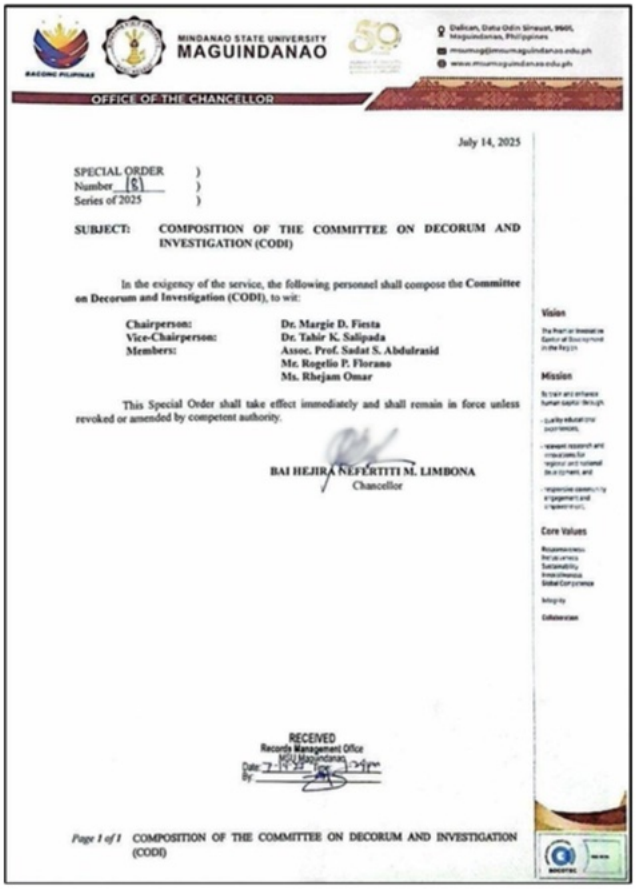
All MSU-Maguindanao personnel observe this Circular on the institutionalization of EOP in the human resource management systems, more particularly in the four (4) core systems, to wit:
1) Recruitment, Selection and Placement;
2) Learning and Development;
3) Performance Management; and
4) Rewards and Recognition.

A faculty vacancy announcement invites persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and people of diverse SOGIE to apply, 2025.

Strengthening Institutional Safeguards against Harassment

Through Special Order No. 181, s. 2025, issued by Chancellor Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona on July 14, 2025, the University constituted its Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) to receive, investigate, and resolve complaints of sexual harassment and gender-based sexual harassment involving students, faculty, and staff. The committee is chaired by Dr. Margie D. Fiesta, with Dr. Tahir K. Salipada as Vice-Chairperson and Assoc. Prof. Sadat S. Abdulrasid, Mr. Rogelio P. Florano, and Ms. Rhejam Omar as members.

The committee gives effect to two national laws. The Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995 (Republic Act No. 7877) requires educational institutions to create a committee on decorum and investigation and to set procedures for investigating cases and imposing sanctions, and the Safe Spaces Act of 2019 (Republic Act No. 11313) extends protection to harassment by peers, subordinates, and others in the school community, including harassment committed online. The CODI handles complaints with due process, keeps the identities of the parties confidential, and protects complainants from retaliation.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

July 14, 2025

SPECIAL ORDER)
Number (6))
Series of 2025)

SUBJECT: COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON DECORUM AND INVESTIGATION (CODI)

In the exigency of the service, the following personnel shall compose the Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI), to wit:

Chairperson: Dr. Margie D. Fiesta
Vice-Chairperson: Dr. Tahir K. Salipada
Members: Assoc. Prof. Sadat S. Abdulrasid
Mr. Rogelio P. Florano
Ms. Rhejam Omar

This Special Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force unless revoked or amended by competent authority.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA
Chancellor

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Records Management Office
MSU Maguindanao

Page 1 of 1 COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON DECORUM AND INVESTIGATION (CODI)

Special Order No. 181, s. 2025 constitutes the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, July 14, 2025.

Mentoring and Peace Formation for Scholars from Former MNLF Combatant Families

Through the MNLF Transformation Study Grant with Peace Formation Sessions, the University supports students from an underrepresented group, the families of former Moro National Liberation Front combatants, whose schooling has often been cut short by poverty and conflict. Implemented with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU) and funded with ₱20 million through the PAyapa at MAsaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA) Program, the grant supported 339 scholars in Maguindanao del Norte, Basilan, and Lanao del Sur from May 2024 to May 2025.

The support went beyond tuition. Scholars attended peace formation sessions on reintegration, reconciliation, conflict transformation, and community healing, and joined a Peace and Environmental Youth Camp. Because they studied across three provinces, the project team held eight online Kumustahan sessions, regular check-ins that followed each scholar's enrollment and grades and addressed problems before they led to dropping out. At the University's National Women's Month celebration on March 26, 2025, MNLF scholars described how the grant opened their way to higher education.



MNLF Transformation Study Grant Face-to-Face Orientation and Validation Continues in Cotabato City

Special Order No. 181, s. 2025 constitutes the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, July 14, 2025.



Special Order No. 181, s. 2025 constitutes the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, July 14, 2025.

The University will keep widening the path to higher education for those who have had the least access to it. Having admitted 670 first-year students through the alternative pathways in the first semester of Academic Year 2025–2026, the Admissions Office will follow their retention and completion, track how many applicants from each disadvantaged group seek admission and are admitted, and use these results to refine the Revised Admission Criteria in future cycles. The review program and regional testing centers will continue to reach Grade 12 learners in remote towns, and the extension programs in Paglat and Parang will keep bringing degree programs closer to underserved communities.

The University will apply its Equal Opportunity Principles guidelines in every recruitment, promotion, and development cycle, strengthen the Committee on Decorum and Investigation through orientation and information campaigns, and continue improving the accessibility of its campuses for persons with disabilities. It will also build on its partnerships in Indonesia and Vietnam to open its campuses to exchange students from developing countries. With OPAPRU, it plans to continue the study grant for former combatant families and to link graduating scholars with jobs and livelihood opportunities.



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

OVERVIEW

Sustainable cities and communities are built by protecting cultural heritage, recognizing cultural diversity, ensuring access to knowledge and community resources, and strengthening resilience to environmental and disaster-related risks. Mindanao State University–Maguindanao supports these priorities through the Center for Cultural Affairs (CCA), which is mandated to encourage the continuing and balanced development of a pluralistic culture; conserve, promote, and protect Mindanao's historical and cultural heritage; and ensure the wider dissemination and appreciation of the region's artistic and cultural expressions. The CCA also works to integrate traditional culture into University life, build linkages with national and regional cultural institutions, and provide spaces for the exchange of ideas on the preservation and development of Mindanao's culture and heritage.

The CCA also supports a range of student cultural and artistic groups that put this mandate into practice. The **Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe (GCDT)**, established in 1986, preserves and promotes traditional Moro and Indigenous dances of Mindanao through performances that foster cultural awareness and appreciation. The ***Sining Kandidilimudan* Ensemble (SKE)**, established in 1989 and inspired by the Kambayoka theatre form, presents Moro and Indigenous heritage through traditional music, dance, theatre, and art. Suara Landaw Chorale promotes cultural heritage through a repertoire of traditional and contemporary choral music, including pieces that highlight Mindanao's musical traditions. The CCA also supports the ***Këtindëg* Indigenous Peoples Students Organization (KIPSO)**, which advocates for Indigenous Peoples' rights and cultural heritage through education and community outreach, and the ***Warna* Visual Arts Club**, which encourages creativity and artistic expression through workshops, exhibitions, and visual arts projects. Together, these groups create opportunities for students to preserve, interpret, and share the diverse cultural and artistic traditions of Mindanao.

Through the CCA and its cultural groups, alongside its wider work in public learning access, sustainable campus practices, and community partnerships, MSU–Maguindanao contributes to communities that value their cultural identity, make knowledge and cultural resources more accessible, and are better prepared to address environmental and development challenges. These institutional efforts reflect the University's commitment to making cultural preservation, public participation, and community resilience integral to its role in sustainable development.

SUPPORT OF ARTS AND HERITAGE

Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe Promotes Maguindanaon Heritage through Public Performances

The MSU–Maguindanao Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe presents traditional Maguindanaon dances at University and community events. On September 8, 2025, the troupe performed the opening salvo at the kickoff program for the Municipality of Paglat's 24th Founding Anniversary and 8th Awang-Awang Festival. The performance brought local cultural expressions into a public celebration and highlighted the University's collaboration with the local government and community.

The troupe also performed at the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Auditorium in UP Diliman, Quezon City, during the April 14, 2025 launching ceremony of the EU-funded project "Institutionalizing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda in Mindanao through Higher Education."

The troupe's repertoire includes Silong sa Ganding, Kadtendung, and Kadtubaw, dances that portray everyday life and the joyful spirit of the community through movements inspired by nature and local customs. It also performs Kambuyang, a fan dance associated with celebrations and festive traditions, as well as Kadindang sa Tamlang and Singkil sa Tamlang, which highlight themes of bravery and perseverance. Together, these performances present aspects of Maguindanaon life, values, and cultural storytelling to audiences within and beyond the region.





The Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe performs Maguindanaon traditional dances at the CHED Auditorium in UP Diliman, Quezon City, during the April 14, 2025 launching ceremony of the EU-funded WPS project.

The Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe performs during the kickoff program for the Municipality of Paglat's 24th Founding Anniversary and 8th Awang-Awang Festival on September 8, 2025.



Kabaginawl Documents Maguindanaon Weaving and Trains Young Weavers

From November 21 to 25, 2025, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao conducted KABAGINAWL: Inventorying Designs and Capacitating the Youth on Weaving Maguindanaon Traditional Textile, in partnership with Al Jamela Inawl Weaving Center in Tamontaka, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. The five-day training engaged 30 senior high school students—15 male and 15 female, aged 16 to 18—from four secondary schools in the province. Under the guidance of master weaver Bai Albaya Aleizzah B. Wampa, participants learned about the cultural significance of inawl and practiced traditional weaving processes, including kabagesud, kaped-sambung, kapembinting, sulud, kapebpalut, and kapedsadsad.

In addition to hands-on instruction, participants learned to identify, name, and sketch traditional motifs as a way of recording weaving knowledge. They selected designs for their culminating outputs and applied the techniques they had learned to produce woven textiles. The training also organized participants into a youth advocacy group or guild intended to support the continued promotion and transmission of inawl weaving. The available terminal report does not state the total number of designs documented or confirm the completion of a separate inventory booklet; therefore, neither output is claimed as completed in this report.

KABAGINAWL helps sustain Maguindanaon weaving by equipping young people with practical skills and a deeper understanding of the tradition's cultural value. Its partnership with a community-based weaving center also creates opportunities for knowledge to be shared between experienced weavers and a younger generation. By combining practical training, motif documentation, and youth engagement, the initiative supports the continued practice of inawl weaving and the preservation of local craftsmanship.





Figure 7. The Gandingan Cultural Dance Troupe performs during the kickoff program for the Municipality of Paglat's 24th Founding Anniversary and 8th Awang-Awang Festival on September 8, 2025.

Indigenous Peoples' Rights Dialogue Affirms Cultural Identity and Community Voices

On October 8, 2025, the Center for Cultural Affairs (CCA), in collaboration with the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM), held a dialogue on Indigenous Peoples' rights at the University Training Center in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Month. The activity provided Indigenous students with a venue to share their experiences and perspectives and to learn about the legal protections afforded to their communities, ancestral domains, and cultural heritage.

Atty. Rojean C. Romanes of the MSU College of Law–Maguindanao Extension discussed key provisions of the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act, including ancestral-domain rights, self-governance, social justice, and cultural integrity. IPDM Director Prof. Alvin Lois Pemberat emphasized the importance of recognizing Indigenous voices in University life, while CCA Director Jihad A. Pelmin facilitated the sharing of students' experiences.

Members of the Këtindëg Indigenous Peoples Students Organization (KIPSO), the University Peace Club, and the Sining Kandidilimudan Ensemble took part in the dialogue. The ensemble presented traditional Mindanao performing arts, and students were offered free legal consultations. The activity gathered 31 students and faculty members, including 20 Indigenous students. The CCA also documented student accounts and performances for its cultural heritage collection. By bringing together rights education, student perspectives, and cultural presentation, the dialogue helped make Indigenous experiences and cultural expressions more visible within the University.



Participants from the College of Law, IPDM, KIPSO, and other campus groups gather during the Indigenous Peoples' rights dialogue at the University Training Center on October 8, 2025.

Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro Documents the History of the Bangsamoro

Launched in May 2025, Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro: The Writing of the Bangsamoro History is a University research initiative funded by the Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage, with a documented allocation of ₱1,000,000. The project brings together historical records, scholarly references, and community narratives to develop a broad account of Bangsamoro history and the experiences, identity, and collective memory of its people.

The compilation covers major periods and developments in Bangsamoro history, including ancestral land dispossession and government resettlement programs such as EDCOR and NARRA; the emergence of the Mindanao Independence Movement, the Moro National Liberation Front, and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front; the Manili and Malisbong massacres; the effects of armed conflict on communities; and the development of peace agreements and political autonomy, including the establishment of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and, later, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

The compilation also considers the lived experiences of Bangsamoro communities, including displacement, struggles over ancestral territories, cultural and religious identity, traditional leadership, and the pursuit of self-determination. By bringing historical accounts, personal testimonies, and community perspectives together, the project seeks to provide a fuller account of the experiences that have shaped the region.
The project was undertaken by a multidisciplinary team of researchers, writers, study leaders, project staff, ICT personnel, and consultants under the leadership of Dr. Linang B. Monir. The project was scheduled for completion in February 2026. Its final completion and publication status should be confirmed against the project's closing records before this report is issued.

By consolidating historical materials and community narratives, Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro helps preserve accounts of the Bangsamoro experience that may otherwise remain dispersed across documents, personal testimonies, and oral histories. The resulting historical resource can support cultural education, strengthen the visibility of community perspectives, and make knowledge of the region's past more accessible to present and future generations.



Figure 3. Members of the Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro research team gather for a project meeting to discuss and coordinate the documentation and writing of Bangsamoro history.



Figure 4. The Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro research team interviews community members.

Center for Cultural Affairs Operations Manual Institutionalizes Heritage Stewardship

Effective January 3, 2025, the Center for Cultural Affairs Operations Manual (Doc. Code MSUMAG-CCA-OM, Revision No. 0) sets out the institutional framework for preserving, promoting, and developing Mindanao's historical and cultural heritage. It defines the Center's mandate, functions, organizational responsibilities, and procedures governing the use of cultural facilities, instruments, and services.

The manual assigns the CCA responsibilities that include promoting a pluralistic culture; conserving and protecting Mindanao's heritage; sharing artistic and cultural works with wider audiences; integrating traditional cultural expressions into University functions; building partnerships with cultural institutions; and providing spaces for discussion of cultural preservation and development. It also establishes procedures for borrowing and returning cultural instruments and items, supporting their organized use by student groups, schools, and community organizations for rehearsals and performances.

By defining responsibilities and procedures for cultural programs, facilities, instruments, and heritage resources, the manual gives the CCA an operational basis for carrying out its cultural mandate and supporting the continued practice and public sharing of Mindanao's artistic traditions.

Atty. Rojean C. Romanes of the MSU College of Law–Maguindanao Extension discussed key provisions of the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act, including ancestral-domain rights, self-governance, social justice, and cultural integrity. IPDM Director Prof. Alvin Lois Pemberat emphasized the importance of recognizing Indigenous voices in University life, while CCA Director Jihad A. Pelmin facilitated the sharing of students' experiences.

Members of the Këtindëg Indigenous Peoples Students Organization (KIPSO), the University Peace Club, and the Sining Kandidilimudan Ensemble took part in the dialogue. The ensemble presented traditional Mindanao performing arts, and students were offered free legal consultations. The activity gathered 31 students and faculty members, including 20 Indigenous students. The CCA also documented student accounts and performances for its cultural heritage collection. By bringing together rights education, student perspectives, and cultural presentation, the dialogue helped make Indigenous experiences and cultural expressions more visible within the University.

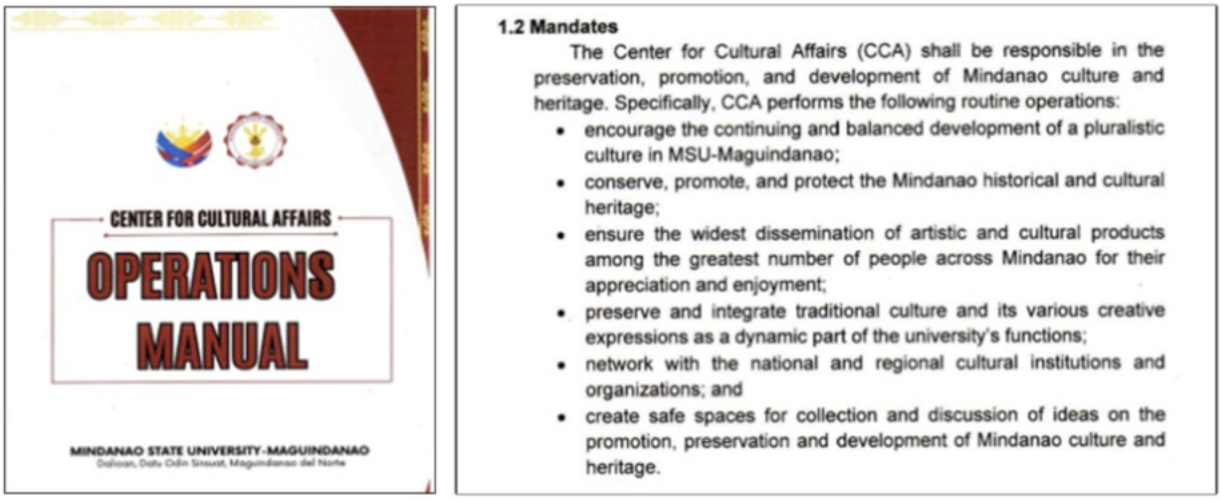


Figure 8 and 9. Center for Cultural Affairs Office's Mandate included in the approved Operation's Manual

University Sustainability Policy Guides Green Building and Biodiversity Considerations

MSU–Maguindanao applies the MSU System Sustainability Policy, approved for system-wide application through Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, during the Board's 265th meeting on December 12, 2023. Article VII promotes energy-efficient renovation and green-building design, including measures to reduce heat absorption and energy consumption and consideration of on-site electricity generation. Sections 6(b)–(d) provide for green-building elements and sustainable construction practices in building projects, in accordance with applicable national standards.

The University's companion policy on integrating local biodiversity into planning and development calls for plants, animals, and habitats in and around proposed building sites to be considered. This provides a basis for incorporating environmental conditions into campus development and avoiding or reducing unnecessary impacts on local ecosystems.

Together, these policies guide more sustainable campus planning by promoting energy efficiency, responsible construction and renovation, and attention to local biodiversity. The available report materials establish the policy framework but do not identify a specific 2025 building project or verify the sustainable features implemented; project-level evidence should be added if available.

EXPENDITURE ON ARTS AND HERITAGE

In 2025, the University implemented two externally funded initiatives specifically focused on the documentation and preservation of Bangsamoro cultural heritage. Based on the funding amounts stated in the project records, the documented allocation for these two initiatives totalled ₱1,200,000.

Project	Funding agency	Documented amount
Kabaginaul: Inventorying Designs and Capacitating the Youth on Weaving Maguindanaon Textiles	National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)	₱200,000
Dawat nu mga Bangsamoro: The Writing of the Bangsamoro History	Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage	₱1,000,000
Total documented project funding		₱1,200,000

These amounts represent the funding identified in the available project descriptions; they should not be presented as actual expenditures unless supported by liquidation reports, disbursement records, or certified financial statements. The report should add any University counterpart funding, CCA operating expenditure, or other arts-and-heritage spending only after the amounts and reporting period have been verified.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Environmental Sustainability and Cultural Heritage Preservation

On August 12, 2025, MSU–Maguindanao and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) signed a Memorandum of Agreement establishing a 2025–2027 partnership on food security, nutrition, and climate resilience. The agreement provides a framework for University experts to assist priority barangays in preparing Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans (LCCAPs), with WFP providing technical resources and opportunities for knowledge exchange. The joint work plan includes watershed management, climate-smart agriculture training, post-harvest loss reduction, value addition, and support for cooperatives.

The University also completed a watershed assessment in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy (MENRE) and the Local Government Unit of Upi. Funded with ₱1,199,418 by the Ministry of Science and Technology–BARMM, the project was carried out by the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies from June 2024 to July 2025. It characterized the South Upi Forest Watershed and assessed its vulnerability to landslides. Its outputs included a watershed vulnerability map and a policy recommendation intended to inform local land-use and development planning.

These initiatives support local planning in complementary ways. The WFP partnership establishes a framework for technical assistance on climate adaptation and community resilience, while the South Upi assessment provides location-specific information on watershed conditions and landslide vulnerability. Together, they can help local institutions consider environmental hazards, make more informed land-use decisions, and strengthen preparedness for climate-related risks.



Figure 10. WFP Country Director Regis Chapman and Vice Chancellor Dr. Raquel D. Santiago-Arenas view food products made by partner farmers in MILF camp



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

Anchored in the MSU System Sustainability Policy (BOR Resolution No. 358, s. 2023) and the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy (BOR Resolution No. 18, s. 2024), the Mindanao State University-Maguindanao maintains policy provisions that prioritize environmentally and socially responsible products, encourage resource-efficient purchasing, require appropriate waste segregation, and regulate the use of disposable plastics. These provisions provide an institutional framework for integrating sustainability into procurement decisions, campus operations, food services, and the management of hazardous and recyclable materials.

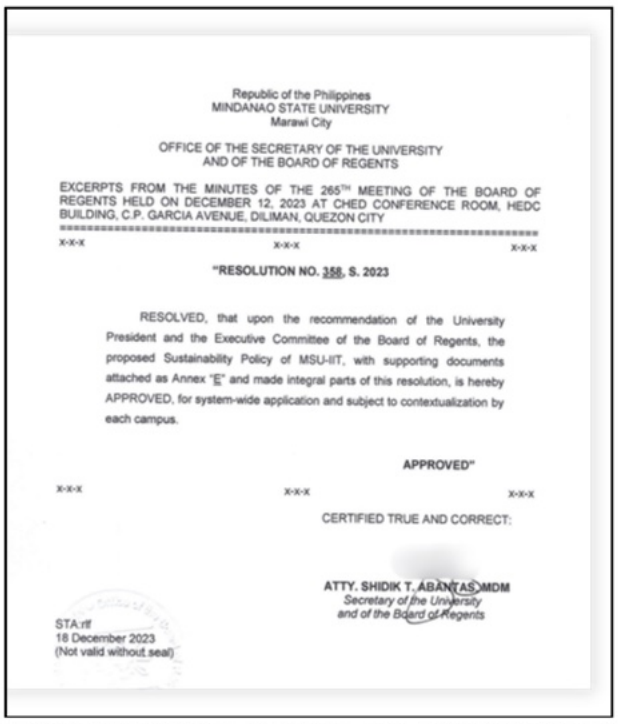
The University's sustainability measures were further demonstrated through its campus food-waste assessment, in coordination with canteen concessionaires. The monitoring recorded at the annual measure of 2,208.49 kilograms (2.21 metric tons). Cooked-rice leftovers accounted for 82.08% (1,812.83 kg), fruit and vegetable peels for 16.21% (357.94 kg), and fish and chicken bones for 1.71% (37.72 kg). The findings established a measurable baseline for food-waste reduction and informed the assessment of which food items are most commonly wasted, understanding possible causes, and developing appropriate measures to prevent or minimize it. The university yearly conducts this assessment to actively monitor its food waste generation to make informed decisions and specific policies on food preparation, consumption pracrices, waste segregation, and food waste reduction.

OPERATIONAL MEASURES

MSU–Maguindanao implements institutional policies and operational measures that promote responsible consumption and production across its campus operations. These measures cover the prioritization of environmentally responsible procurement, proper management and disposal of hazardous waste, and the reduction of plastic waste through campus-wide policies and action plans.

Policy to Prioritize purchase of products from local, sustainable sources

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao upholds an institutional commitment to the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems through its adherence to the MSU System Sustainability Policy, originally developed by MSU-IIT and approved by the MSU Board of Regents through BOR Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, for system-wide application. Specifically, **Article VII, Section 4 – Procurement** establishes an institutional framework for integrating environmental and social considerations into university purchasing decisions. The policy states that "MSU-Maguindanao shall ensure that University procurement policies and procedures incorporate an assessment of the environmental impact of purchases throughout their life cycle and help ensure that producers and suppliers follow environmentally responsible practices." This provision supports sustainable sourcing by encouraging the selection of products and suppliers that minimize environmental impacts and promote responsible resource utilization.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rtf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

Sustainability Policy Approved for MSU-System-wide applicatio

Furthermore, **Article VII, Section 4(a)** directs the University to "Prioritize environmentally and socially responsible products and services in procurement decisions," while **Section 4(b)** requires the University to "Purchase products and services that use less energy or produce less waste." These provisions establish sustainability as a consideration in procurement decisions and provide a basis for evaluating locally available products and suppliers according to their environmental and social responsibility. By promoting resource-efficient products, waste reduction, and environmentally responsible supply chains, the policy supports sustainable consumption and production practices that can contribute to local economic opportunities.

Through these provisions, MSU-Maguindanao reinforces its commitment to sustainable procurement, responsible consumption, resource conservation, and environmentally conscious institutional operations. The University recognizes the potential contribution of local suppliers to sustainable economic development when their products and services meet applicable procurement and environmental standards. Building on this policy framework, MSU-Maguindanao seeks to strengthen sustainable sourcing practices and encourage procurement decisions that support environmental protection, community development, and long-term sustainability.

Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal

The University establishes institutional provisions for responsible waste management, including the handling and disposal of hazardous materials, through its **Sustainability Policy, anchored in the MSU–Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) Sustainability Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, for MSU system-wide application.**

The policy provides an institutional framework for **minimizing waste generation, promoting proper waste segregation, handling, and environmentally responsible disposal practices, and mitigating potential risks to human health and the environment** arising from university operations. Its scope encompasses students, faculty, administrative staff, outsourced service providers, and external parties operating within university premises, reinforcing shared institutional responsibility for environmental protection and sustainable waste management.

Specifically, Article VII, Section 1 – Waste Management and Recycling directs the University to adopt or continue implementing a comprehensive solid waste management program that reduces waste generation and disposal in landfills. More importantly, Section 1(e) explicitly requires the University to "Adopt and/or continue to implement guidelines on managing and handling e-waste, chemicals, chemical waste, and biohazardous waste." This provision establishes a policy commitment to the responsible management of hazardous materials associated with academic, research, administrative, and other institutional activities. Complementary provisions under Section 1(d) promote university-wide waste education, while

Section 1(l) requires waste segregation at the source and appropriate waste containers across university offices and food concessionaires.

In concurrence with the policy and to promote environmental sustainability, optimize resource utilization, and ensure compliance with applicable environmental and health regulations, MSU-Maguindanao Infirmary Hospital crafted its Policy on Recycling of Hospital Equipment, which establishes guidelines for recycling, repurposing, handling, and proper disposal of hospital equipment. The policy establishes the following procedures:

Inventory and Assessment. An updated inventory of hospital equipment is maintained, and regular assessments are conducted to determine whether equipment can be repaired, repurposed, or recycled.

- Recycling and Repurposing. A recycling and repurposing process is maintained to identify obsolete or unused equipment that can be converted into reusable materials or adapted for other hospital functions.
- Proper Handling and Disposal. Procedures for handling, segregating, and evaluating damaged, obsolete, or unusable equipment are maintained to ensure appropriate recycling or disposal.
- Institutional Accountability. A system of responsibility is maintained among hospital administrators, department heads, employees, and contractors to ensure compliance with the policy.
- Training and Compliance. Personnel training and resource support are maintained to ensure that employees follow appropriate procedures for equipment handling, recycling, and disposal.

Specifically, **pages 94–95 of the MSU–Maguindanao Infirmary Hospital Operations Manual**, under the policy titled **"Recycling of Hospital Equipment,"** delineate the University's institutional guidelines for the responsible recycling, repurposing, and disposal of hospital equipment. The policy establishes procedures for equipment inventory and assessment, segregation of recyclable materials, coordination with certified recycling facilities, and the safe disposal of hazardous equipment in accordance with applicable environmental regulations.

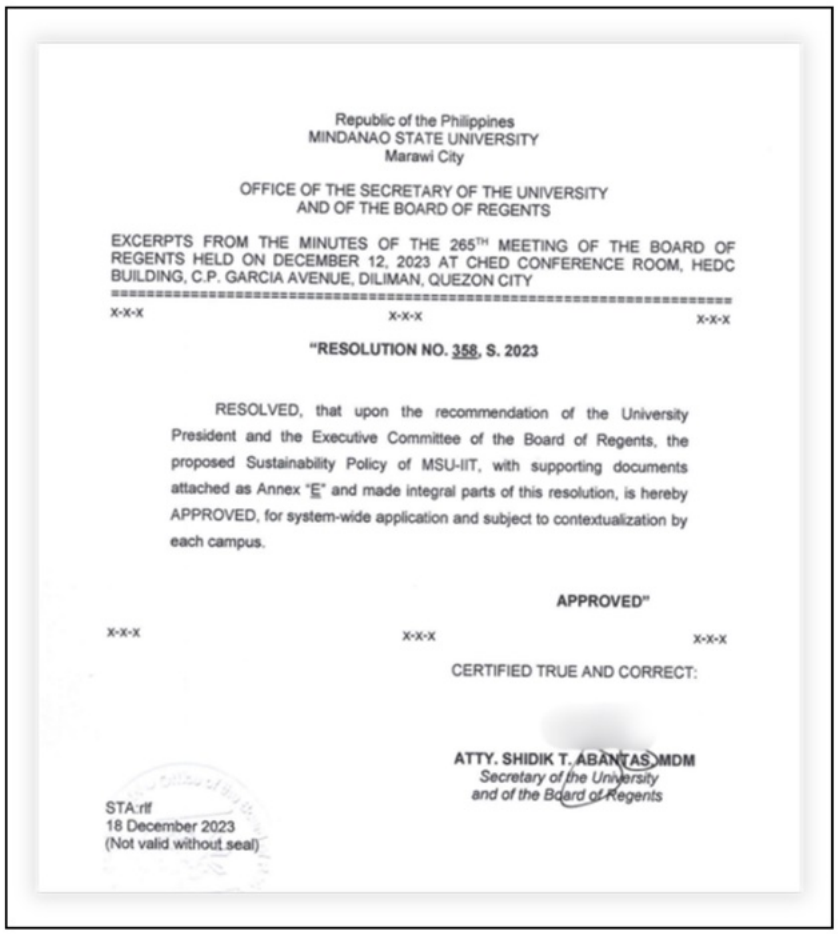


Through these provisions, MSU-Maguindanao reinforces its commitment to responsible hazardous waste management, environmental protection, and the health and safety of the university community.

Implementing Institutional Policies and Action Plans to Reduce Plastic Waste on Campus

Reducing plastic waste remains an important part of the University's commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible campus operations. The Mindanao State University System Sustainability Policy, adopted by Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, provides the institutional basis for reducing plastic consumption, promoting reusable alternatives, and strengthening waste management practices. This policy remains applicable to the University from 2025 to the present and guides its continuing efforts to minimize plastic waste across campus facilities, offices, food services, and institutional activities.

Under Article VII, Section 1 – Waste Management and Recycling on university sustainability policy (BOR Resolution 358 S. 2023), identifies specific actions to reduce plastic waste. Section 1(f) directs the University to "Reduce food and plastic waste from the campus food system," while Section 1(g) promotes reusable, renewable, and recyclable food packaging materials. Section 1(h) provides for the prohibition of Styrofoam, single-use plastic bags, and disposable food accessories. Section 1(i) further encourages the practices of "Bring your own tumbler/container/utensil" and "Clean as you go." These provisions establish practical measures for reducing disposable plastic consumption and encouraging responsible waste management among students, faculty members, employees, and campus concessionaires.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

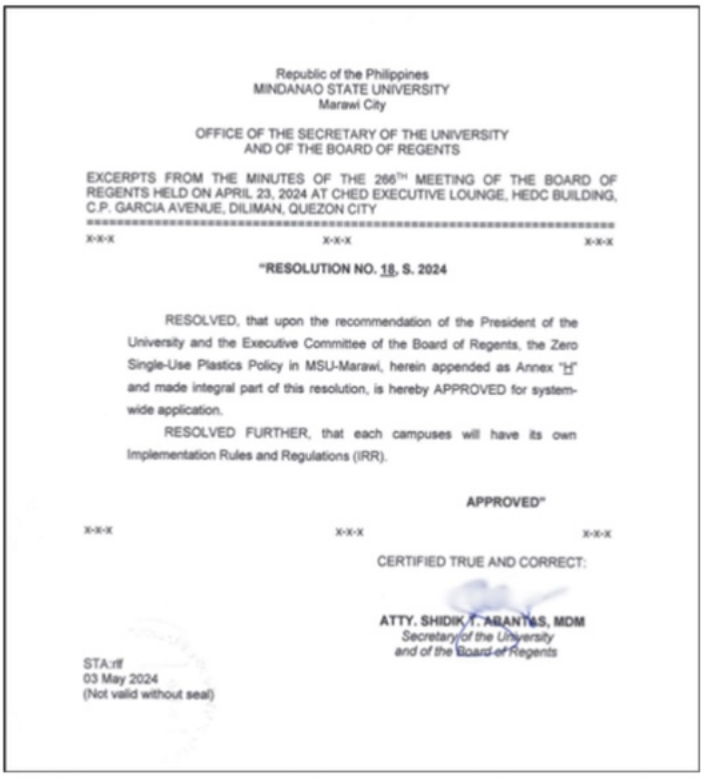
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rtf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

Official MSU System Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, Series of 2023, approving the MSU-IIT Sustainability Policy for system-wide implementation, subject to contextualization by each campus, establishing an institutional framework for strengthening environmental protection, sustainable resource management, and campus-wide sustainability initiatives.

The University's commitment is further reinforced by the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 18, series of 2024, for system-wide application across the Mindanao State University System. This policy also remains applicable from 2025 to the present and strengthens the University's direction toward reducing single-use plastic products and encouraging sustainable alternatives. It requires each campus to develop its own Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to guide implementation according to its operational requirements.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 266TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 23, 2024 AT CHED EXECUTIVE LOUNGE, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 18, S. 2024

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy in MSU-Marawi, herein appended as Annex "H" and made integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED for system-wide application.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that each campuses will have its own Implementation Rules and Regulations (IRR).

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

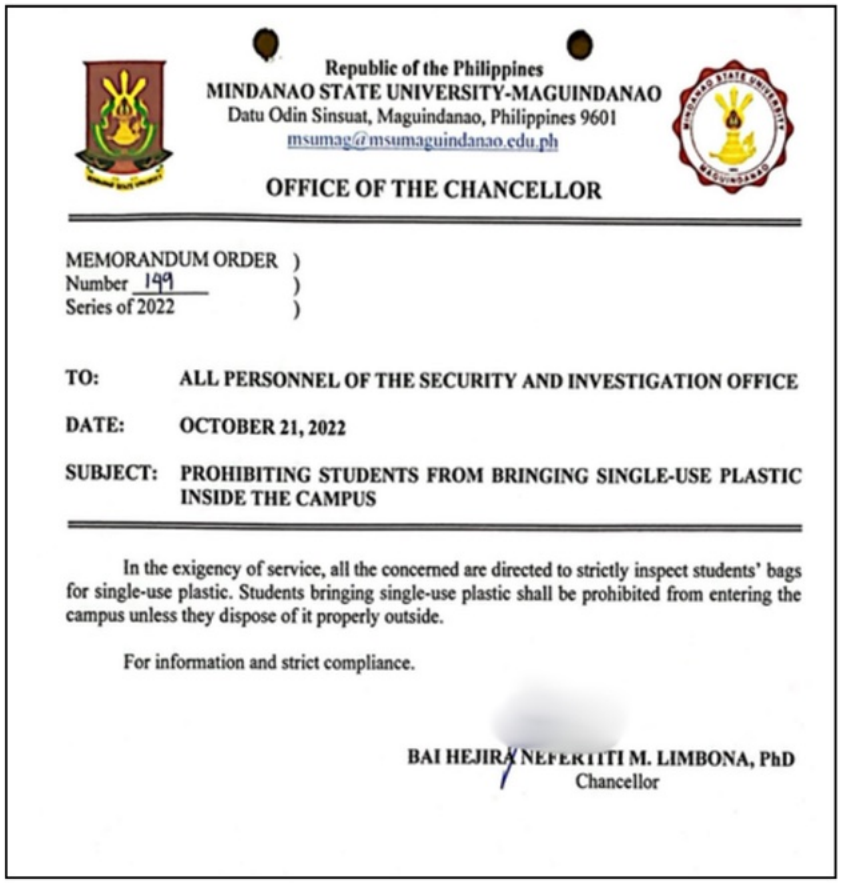
STA:rlf
03 May 2024
(Not valid without seal)

Official MSU System Board of Regents Resolution No. 18, Series of 2024, approving the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy of MSU–Marawi for system-wide implementation and directing each campus to establish its own Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to support the implementation of the policy



Campus signage displaying MSU–Maguindanao's Single-Use Plastic (SUP)-Free University Policy, prohibiting the use of plastic straws, plastic bags, plastic bottles, plastic cups, plastic spoons and forks, and balloons within the campus as part of the University's commitment to environmental protection and sustainable campus practices.

In carrying out these policies, the University's continuing action plan focuses on reducing single-use plastics in campus offices, canteens, concessionaire operations, meetings, seminars, and other University activities. This includes discouraging the use of Styrofoam containers, plastic bags, disposable cups, straws, and other single-use food accessories; encouraging students and employees to bring reusable tumblers, food containers, and utensils; promoting recyclable and environmentally responsible food packaging; and strengthening waste segregation and proper disposal practices. Campus offices and food concessionaires are expected to observe the applicable policy provisions, while information activities and regular monitoring can help reinforce compliance and encourage participation across the University community. The campus-specific IRR provides the mechanism for translating these institutional policies into operational procedures and assigning responsibilities for their implementation.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAGUINDANAO
Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao, Philippines 9601
msumag@msumaguindanao.edu.ph

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM ORDER)
Number 149)
Series of 2022)

TO: ALL PERSONNEL OF THE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION OFFICE

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2022

SUBJECT: PROHIBITING STUDENTS FROM BRINGING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC INSIDE THE CAMPUS

In the exigency of service, all the concerned are directed to strictly inspect students' bags for single-use plastic. Students bringing single-use plastic shall be prohibited from entering the campus unless they dispose of it properly outside.

For information and strict compliance.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA, PhD
Chancellor

Official MSU–Maguindanao Memorandum Order No. 149, Series of 2022, issued by the Office of the Chancellor on October 21, 2022, prohibiting students from bringing single-use plastic into the campus and directing the Security and Investigation Office to inspect students' bags and ensure compliance with the university's environmental protection policy.

Since 2022 to present, the Sustainability Policy and Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy have continued to provide the institutional direction for plastic waste reduction at MSU–Maguindanao. Through their application, the University promotes reduced dependence on disposable plastics, greater use of reusable materials, responsible consumption, and improved waste management. These continuing measures support the development of a cleaner campus environment and strengthen the shared responsibility of the University community in preventing plastic pollution and conserving natural resources.

CAMPUS FOOD WASTE

The University implements initiatives to monitor food-waste generation, promote waste prevention, and explore appropriate methods for recovering and utilizing organic waste. These efforts support responsible food consumption, improve waste management practices, and encourage the efficient use of resources in campus food establishments.

University Canteen Food-Waste Assessment Establishes a Baseline

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Annual Food Waste

Food waste category	Weight recorded (kg)	Share of total
Cooked rice leftovers	1,812.83 kg	82.08%
Fruit and vegetable peels	357.94 kg	16.21%
Fish and chicken bones	37.72 kg	1.71%

TOTAL ANNUAL FOOD WASTE

2,208.49 kg

(± 2.21 metric tons)

Estimated annual food waste generated by the University canteen, by category.

Cooked-rice leftovers were the largest waste category, identifying meal portions and demand as priority areas for prevention. The assessment also informed the capacity of the biogas digester installed behind the canteen; collected food waste was used to test the digester. The results provide a baseline for reducing food waste and assessing organic-waste recovery on campus.

The assessment supports Article VII, Section 1 of the University Sustainability Policy, which requires campus food establishments to minimize food waste. Its findings give the University measurable data for planning waste-reduction measures and monitoring future changes.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

13 CLIMATE ACTION

OVERVIEW

The Mindanao State University—Maguindanao advances climate action through community-based adaptation, research, environmental education, ecosystem restoration, and institutional sustainability policy. Through its partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), formalized through a 2025–2027 cooperation work plan, the University prioritizes climate-smart agriculture training, watershed management, post-harvest loss reduction, and Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans in priority barangays.

A DOST-PCAARRD-funded ₱5-million agroforestry project in Datu Blah Sinsuat supports native- and fruit-tree-based approaches to climate resilience, complemented by community training in agroforestry, nursery development, cooperative management, and organic fertilizer. The University also participates in regional mangrove restoration, donated 200 seedlings to MENRE-BARMM, and promotes climate awareness among students. Its research on forest management (388 respondents) and urban tree conservation (381 residents) provides local evidence relevant to adaptation planning and community-responsive conservation.

At the institutional level, the Sustainability Policy commits the University to greenhouse-gas reduction programs, carbon-footprint and energy monitoring, energy conservation, efficient building design, and a 100% renewable energy pledge. These initiatives demonstrate policy commitments, partnerships, capacity-building, and participation.

INITIATIVES ON CLIMATE-SMART TECHNOLOGIES

MSU–Maguindanao and WFP Advance Climate Adaptation and Resilience Through Food Security Initiatives in BARMM

The Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) formalized a partnership to strengthen food security, improve local livelihoods, and build climate-resilient communities across the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).



MSU–Maguindanao and the World Food Programme Formalize Partnership to Advance Food Security and Climate Resilience in BARMM

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), signed at the MSU–Maguindanao Institute of Management by Chancellor Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona and WFP Representative and Country Director Regis Chapman, brings together the University's research and academic expertise with WFP's international experience in addressing hunger, nutrition, and climate-related challenges.

Under their 2025–2027 cooperation work plan, the partners will support smallholder farmers through climate-smart agriculture training, promote food security and nutrition education, develop Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans (LCCAPs) in priority barangays, and strengthen watershed management, post-harvest loss reduction, agricultural value addition, and cooperatives. These initiatives build on earlier community-based planning activities that identified livelihood challenges and environmental pressures in Maguindanao del Sur and Maguindanao del Norte.

The partnership recognizes that sustainable communities depend on reliable food supplies, resilient livelihoods, responsible natural resource management, and effective preparation for environmental risks. Its intended beneficiaries include smallholder farmers, agricultural cooperatives, rural households, and vulnerable communities whose livelihoods are affected by food insecurity and climate change.

Through this partnership, MSU–Maguindanao and WFP aim to deliver lasting benefits by strengthening local capacities, supporting sustainable livelihoods, and helping communities prepare for future environmental challenges. The collaboration reinforces the University's role in advancing research, extension, and inclusive development toward a more resilient and sustainable BARMM.

MSU-Maguindanao Launches DOST-PCAARRD-Funded Agroforestry Project to Take Urgent Climate Action in Datu Blah Sinsuat



Trainers' Training on Agroforestry Establishment and Development at the Training Center Hall A, MSU-Maguindanao on February 25, 2025.



MSU-Maguindanao Officials and UPLB during the launch of the 5-million project funded by the DOST-PCAARRD.

Mindanao State University-Maguindanao, through its College of Forestry and Environmental Studies, has launched a ₱5-million research and extension project to combat climate change and its impacts on upland communities in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. Titled "Enhancing Climate Resilience Through Native and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology: A Science and Technology-Based Initiative for Emergencies and Hazards in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao," the project is funded by the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD). It aims to enhance climate resilience and promote sustainable agriculture through agroforestry technology.

Upland communities of Datu Blah Sinsuat are the primary beneficiaries, gaining climate-resilient land-use systems and livelihood support. Agroforestry practitioners and farmers will receive technical training, local government units gain a science-based approach to climate mitigation and hazard preparedness, and CFES faculty, researchers, and students benefit from applied research and extension opportunities.

MSU-Maguindanao will continue implementing the project with the community and its partners, and will report results, including trees planted, practitioners trained, and adaptation measures adopted, as monitoring data becomes available.

Building Climate-Resilient Communities through Science-Based Local Action



Participants during the two-day seminar-workshop on Empowering Communities through Cooperative Management, Agroforestry, and Nursery Development in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte

The College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES) of MSU-Maguindanao conducted a two-day seminar-workshop on Empowering Communities Through Cooperative Management, Agroforestry, and Nursery Development on June 16-17, 2025, in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. The activity is part of the DOST-PCAARRD-funded project "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native Tree and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology," and it advances Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action.

The training aimed to equip local communities with practical, science-based strategies to address climate-related challenges. These strategies covered sustainable land use, cooperative building, nursery development, and organic farming. Prof. Musa Dicolano opened with a discussion on values transformation, laying the groundwork for lasting change in community attitudes and practices. Prof. Datuali Abdula followed with the principles of cooperative management, helping participants understand how collective action can sustain community-led initiatives. Prof. Omor Pendaliday then lectured on agroforestry practices, while Forester Nazrollah Pendaliday offered practical guidance on nursery development. Engr. Andres Mirar closed the technical sessions by demonstrating how to produce organic fertilizer using locally available materials, an approach that lowers farming costs and promotes environmentally sound agriculture.

The seminar-workshop gathered the project's community beneficiaries in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte together with five students from CFES, creating a valuable exchange between local farmers and the next generation of forestry and environmental professionals. Through this initiative, knowledge and leadership come together to cultivate resilient, self-reliant communities ready to face both environmental and economic challenges.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION MEASURES

Earth Day 2025: Promoting Climate Awareness and Sustainable Forestry Practices



CFES Dean Dr. Rowena Caro with faculty members and the winner during the Earth Day 2025 competitions

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, through its College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES), observed International Earth Day on April 24, 2025, under the theme "Our Power, Our Planet," through competitions and a product showcase promoting environmental awareness and sustainability.

The celebration featured an essay-writing contest, poster-making competition, quiz bee, and Carbon Footprint Reduction Challenge. The winners were Bai SittieAminah Lauban in essay writing, Naima Esmail in poster making, Paharudin Ayob in the quiz bee, and Sahara G. Mohammad in the Carbon Footprint Reduction Challenge.

Fourth-year CFES students also exhibited products made from forest wood and non-wood materials, highlighting opportunities for value addition, sustainable forest resource utilization, and responsible forest management.

The activity was supported by former DENR-ARMM Secretary Hon. Kahal Q. Kedtag, Al Haj, and PENRO-Maguindanao representative Makarthur Datumama, whose sponsorship helped facilitate the celebration. MSU-Maguindanao Chancellor Bai Hejira Sinsuat Macalandong-Limbona also supported the initiative.

The celebration contributed to Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action by providing students with opportunities to engage in climate-related learning and environmental awareness activities. The Carbon Footprint Reduction Challenge specifically encouraged attention to individual practices associated with climate change, while the competitions provided platforms for students to communicate environmental concerns and demonstrate their knowledge.

Through CFES, MSU-Maguindanao continues to provide opportunities for students to participate in environmental education and explore responsible approaches to forest resource utilization.

Driving Local Reforestation through the Donation of 200 Seedlings to MENRE-BARMM



Faculty members of the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies of MSU–Maguindanao with seedlings prepared for the Environment Day 2025 donation to MENRE-BARMM, supporting regional reforestation and ecosystem restoration efforts

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, through its College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES), donated 200 quality seedlings to the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (MENRE-BARMM) on June 5, 2025, in observance of Environment Day 2025.

The initiative provided planting materials to support MENRE-BARMM's reforestation efforts and regional environmental programs. Through this collaboration, MSU-Maguindanao supported local environmental initiatives to restore vegetation and promote environmental awareness. The activity also highlighted the role of academic institutions and government agencies in supporting environmental conservation efforts in the Bangsamoro region.

The donation directly benefited MENRE-BARMM by providing 200 seedlings for its environmental initiatives. Through this activity, MSU-Maguindanao contributed to Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action, which calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. By providing seedlings for reforestation efforts, the University supported an environmental initiative relevant to climate action. The activity also demonstrated collaboration between the University and MENRE-BARMM in pursuing shared environmental objectives.

Moving forward, MSU-Maguindanao, through CFES, continues to support environmental initiatives and collaborative efforts that contribute to climate action and environmental sustainability in the Bangsamoro region.

COMMITMENT TO CARBON-NEUTRAL UNIVERSITY

Institutional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction and Low-Carbon Commitment

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao establishes an institutional commitment to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through its Sustainability Policy. Specifically, **Article VII, Section 3(f)** – Energy, Transport and Carbon explicitly provides for the University to "Implement greenhouse gas emission reduction programs." Furthermore, the introductory provision of the same section states that "MSU-Maguindanao shall monitor and reduce its carbon footprint and energy consumption by implementing carbon footprint and energy conservation measures where possible and establish programs that promote the efficient use of energy among faculty, staff, and students." These provisions establish the University's policy direction toward mitigating climate change, reducing carbon emissions, and promoting environmentally responsible campus operations.

The policy further supports greenhouse gas emission reduction through complementary measures, including the adoption of energy-efficient renovation and green building designs under Article VII, Section 3(a), the implementation of a comprehensive energy conservation program under Section 3(b), and the monitoring of appliance energy usage under Section 3(e). Collectively, these measures provide a framework for reducing energy-related emissions, improving resource efficiency, and encouraging sustainable energy practices across university facilities and operations.

Through these policy provisions, MSU-Maguindanao advances its commitment to climate action, energy efficiency, and low-carbon institutional development. Moving forward, the University remains committed to strengthening greenhouse gas emission reduction initiatives, improving carbon footprint monitoring, and promoting sustainable practices that contribute to long-term environmental sustainability and climate resilience.



14 LIFE BELOW WATER

OVERVIEW

Water shapes life in the Bangsamoro. Inland waters such as the Ligawasan Marsh, Lake Lanao, Lake Buluan and the Rio Grande de Mindanao sustain the fisheries, farms and food of the communities around them, yet they face pollution, siltation, overfishing and habitat loss. As a university with a College of Fisheries in the heart of these important water bodies, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) treats the protection of these waters as part of its core mission.

In 2025, the University carried that mission from the laboratory to the community. Through the Mindanao-Sulu-Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala-IRDC), which it leads, University researchers assessed water quality, inland capture fisheries and watershed conditions along Ligawasan Marsh and shared their findings with agencies, local governments and fisherfolk, including at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, which brought together more than 190 participants from nine member state universities and colleges (SUCs).

Additionally, the University helped organize the Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium, attended by more than 300 people. Free trainings on water sampling, sustainable aquaculture and fisheries governance, including aquaculture training were also conducted for communities in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar.

Its actions extend to monitoring and conservation. With Ministry of Environment, and Natural Resources - Environmental Management System (MENRE–EMS), the University supports regular monitoring of the Simuay River and launched pilot sampling of the Brar River. It developed a five-year protection plan for the 1,894-hectare South Upi Forest Watershed with idigenous Teduray communities, planted 107 mangrove seedlings at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary, and began work to preserve indigenous fish species. It also leads a national research program on saline-tolerant tilapia culture that develops probiotics and better feeding practices to reduce aquaculture's impact on water.

On campus, the MSU Sustainability Policy commits the University to reducing marine pollution and serving sustainably harvested food, while the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy and a campus ban on single-use plastics keep plastic waste out of local waterways.

This report presents the University's 2025 evidence for each indicator of SDG 14 in the THE Sustainability Impact Ratings. Each activity is reported in full under the indicator it answers most directly, and is used for no more than two indicators.

SUPPORTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH EDUCATION

Teaching Communities to Protect Their Freshwater Ecosystems



Orientation on standardized water-sampling procedures and waterbody classification for faculty, students and LGU personnel, 30 June 2025.

In 2025, MSU–Maguindanao offered free education on freshwater ecosystems to local governments, agencies, fisherfolk and students in Maguindanao del Norte and del Sur, covering river water sampling, the condition of major inland water bodies, and the mapping skills needed to manage water ecosystems. All of these activities were offered free of charge to participants.

These activities and outreach programs are supported by the University's degree programs in fisheries, aquaculture and agricultural water management, which develop the professionals who carry this knowledge into the field. The offering of the Bachelor of Science in Fisheries (BS Fisheries), with a curriculum totaling 180 units cover relevant areas such as aquatic ecology, capture fisheries, sustainable aquaculture, fisheries management, fish processing. The Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (BS ABE) covers irrigation and drainage engineering, hydrometeorology, and land and water conservation engineering. Likewise, the Bachelor of Science in Forestry and the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies provide guidance on watershed management, landslide susceptibility mapping, and ecosystem valuation. These degree programs prepare the professionals who carry the technical skills and knowledge into the communities.

Training local governments to monitor their rivers

On 30 June 2025, the faculty from Bachelor of Science in Forestry in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy–Environmental Management Services (MENRE–EMS) of BARMM and the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Datu Odin Sinsuat (DOS) launched the Brar River Pilot Water Sampling Program. An orientation trained faculty members, students and LGU personnel in standardized water-sampling procedures and waterbody classification under the Philippine Clean Water Act (Republic Act No. 9275), giving local partners the skills to assess river conditions themselves.

Sharing research on Mindanao's inland waters

On 27 February 2025, MSU–Maguindanao convened a MinSuPala-IRDC stakeholder consultation with researchers from other state universities and colleges: University of Southern Mindanao-Kidapawan City Campus (USM-KCC), Cotabato State University (CotSU), and Adiong Memorial State College (AMSC), government agencies including Ministry of Agriculture, Fihseries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR–BARMM), the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority (BPDA), Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST–PCAARRD) and provincial environmental offices, local government units and fisherfolk associations. The stakeholders' meeting provided a plated for the researchers to present their assessments on water quality, fisheries, watershed conditions, and socio-economic factors affecting the critical water bodies such as Ligawasan Marsh, Lake Buluan, the Rio Grande de Mindanao, and Lake Lanao. The findings provide scientific data for policy-making and conservation strategies aimed at protecting these ecosystems while ensuring their socio-economic benefits for local communities..



Bringing together experts and stakeholders during the Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting hosted by MSU–Maguindanao at the DOS Gymnasium, 27 February 2025.

Building watershed mapping skills

On 5–7 February 2025, the project team of the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)-funded project "Characterization of South Upi Forest Watershed cum Landslide Vulnerability Assessment: basis for enhanced protection and management plan" conducted the Application Training on Advanced Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) at the Balay Silangan Conference Hall in Nuro, Upi, for personnel of the Local Government Units of South Upi and North Upi and MENRE-BARMM. Participants learned to produce land use and land cover maps and to apply geospatial tools to watershed management and landslide vulnerability assessment.



The Application Training on Advanced Quantum Geographic Information System (QGIS) guided the participants to develop susceptibility mapping and overlay analyses

Sustainable Fisheries Knowledge for the Communities

MSU–Maguindanao brings sustainable fisheries and aquaculture knowledge to the communities that depend on them, from former combatants building new livelihoods to local governments managing inland fisheries. These training-workshops, demonstrations and learning sessions are provided free of charge to participating beneficiaries.

Aquaculture training in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar

In partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), and in support of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB), the University implemented two livelihood projects in 2024–2025: the Enhancement of Agri-Aqua Value Production and Value Chain of Economically Important Commodities in Camp Abubakar (₱12,000,000), and the Development of Science and Technology-Based Climate-Smart Mixed Farming System for Crop, Fish and Livestock Production in Camps Omar and Badre (₱10,182,314 for each site).

Through lectures, hands-on demonstrations and learning visits, former Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) former combatants, their families, farmers and community organizations learned tilapia and African catfish (hito) production, fish feeding and tank management, integrated farming, and the handling, processing, packaging and branding of fish products.



Partner farmers in a hands-on demonstration on fish feeding and tank management.

Returning research findings to local governments

Over a month of consultations in 2025, the MinSuPala-IRDC team at MSU–Maguindanao presented Phase 1 results on inland capture fisheries, water quality and community livelihoods, with policy recommendations, to local and barangay governments and community stakeholders in Cotabato City, Kabuntalan, Talitay, Northern Kabuntalan and Datu Piang. Key informant interviews with fisherfolk, farmers and cooperatives identified priorities for the next phase of work on sustainable inland fisheries.



The MinSuPala-IRDC MSU-Maguindnao research team presents Phase 1 findings and policy recommendations to local government and community stakeholders and provided an avenue to present the Phase 2 project Assessment of Indigenous Crop and Fish Species for 2025.

National knowledge sharing and responsible tourism

On 24 April 2025, Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin, Dean of the College of Fisheries, presented "Fishing through Conflict: Unveiling the Socio-Economic Pulse of Ligawasan Marsh's Small-Scale Fisheries" at the TBTI Philippines April 2025 Webinar Series, an open national forum for researchers, students and fisheries practitioners. University studies on the conservation value of the Philippine duck and community support for mangrove conservation in the Katunggan Coastal Ecopark inform responsible, nature-based tourism that protects the wetland and coastal habitats it depends on.



Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin, Dean, College of Fisheries, Mindanao State University - Maguindanao as resource speaker during the free webinar series hosted by TBTI

Defending Municipal Waters: Public Education Against Overfishing and Illegal Fishing

On 5 May 2025, the MSU–Maguindanao College of Fisheries held a free public policy seminar at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium on small-scale fisheries governance and the protection of municipal waters. Open to students, faculty members and community stakeholders at no cost, the seminar examined the Supreme Court ruling on municipal waters and how effective regulation can prevent overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and destructive fishing practices.

Atty. Mohammad Muktadir A. Estrella discussed the legal basis of the ruling, the responsibilities of municipal governments under the Philippine Fisheries Code (Republic Act No. 8550), and relevant provisions of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (Republic Act No. 11054). Dr. Mohammadtaha S. Pendaliday of MAFAR-BARMM explained regional fisheries regulations. Participants closed the seminar by signing a Commitment Wall pledging support for the protection of municipal fisheries.



Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin opens the policy seminar on municipal fisheries at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium, 5 May 2025.

Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium

As a constituent university of the MSU System, MSU–Maguindanao helped organize and co-hosted the Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium on 21–23 October 2025 at the MSU Main Campus in Marawi City, under the theme "From Recognition to Action: Advancing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Philippines." More than 300 fisherfolk, fisheries managers, researchers, local officials, policymakers and development partners took part.

The symposium confronted the main threats to fish stocks directly: overfishing, IUU fishing, destructive fishing practices, and conflicts between small-scale and commercial fisheries. Sessions covered the National Plan of Action for Small-Scale Fisheries, updates from the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, proposed amendments to the Philippine Fisheries Code, and research on coral reefs and small pelagic fish.



MSU–Maguindanao delegation at the Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium, MSU Main Campus, 21–23 October 2025.

BRINGING MINDANAO TOGETHER FOR ITS LAKES, RIVERS AND MARSHES

In 2025, MSU–Maguindanao organized and co-organized two major events promoting the conservation and sustainable use of inland and marine aquatic resources.

1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources

On 26–28 November 2025, MinSuPala-IRDC, led by MSU–Maguindanao Chancellor Dr. Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona, held the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources at Greenleaf Hotel, General Santos City, with the Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) and the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP). More than 170 researchers, faculty, policymakers and development partners from nine state universities and colleges, government agencies, local governments and communities took part.

Under the theme "Empowering Mindanao through M.I.N.A.," the forum presented research on water quality, inland capture fisheries, watershed conditions and community livelihoods in Lake Lanao, Ligawasan Marsh, Lake Buluan, Lake Sebu, the Rio Grande de Mindanao and the Pulangi River, building on Phase 1 research funded by the Department of Budget and Management. Through presentations, policy workshops and innovation sessions, participants turned these findings into recommendations for freshwater conservation, sustainable inland fisheries and better water governance.



Poster of the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources and its four thematic areas.



Mr. John Louie C. Natan of MSU–Maguindanao presents research findings at the Forum.

Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium

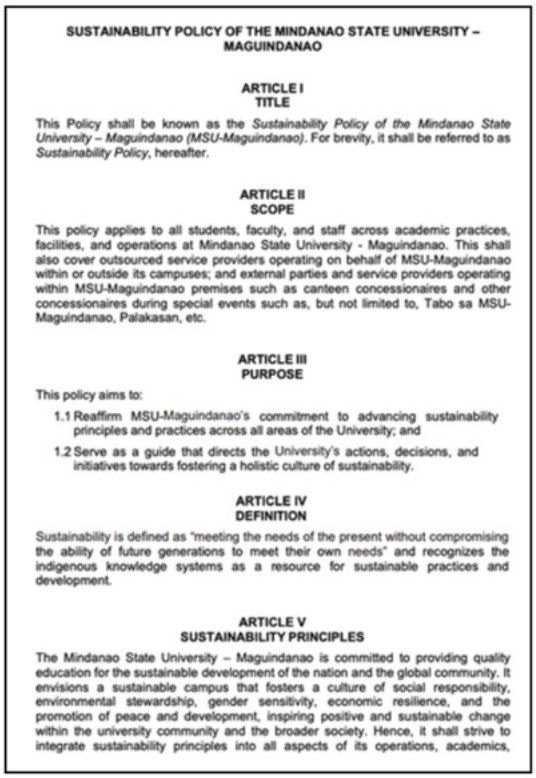
MSU–Maguindanao also co-hosted the national symposium of the National Consortium for Small-Scale Fisheries Research and Development (TBTI Philippines) on 21–23 October 2025 at the MSU Main Campus, Marawi City. Through a keynote lecture, seven plenary sessions and parallel sessions across eight themes, from inland and marine fisheries and governance to climate resilience, gender and technology, more than 300 participants shared approaches to protecting aquatic resources while sustaining fishing livelihoods.



Delegates at the Second Philippine Small-Scale Fisheries National Symposium, 21–23 October 2025.

A Policy for Putting Sustainably Harvested Fish on Campus Tables

MSU–Maguindanao has adopted the MSU System Sustainability Policy, developed by MSU–Iligan Institute of Technology and approved by the MSU Board of Regents through Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, on 12 December 2023. The policy makes local and sustainable sourcing a standing rule for what the University buys and serves.



SUSTAINABILITY POLICY OF THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY – MAGUINDANAO

ARTICLE I
TITLE

This Policy shall be known as the *Sustainability Policy of the Mindanao State University – Maguindanao (MSU-Maguindanao)*. For brevity, it shall be referred to as *Sustainability Policy*, hereafter.

ARTICLE II
SCOPE

This policy applies to all students, faculty, and staff across academic practices, facilities, and operations at Mindanao State University - Maguindanao. This shall also cover outsourced service providers operating on behalf of MSU-Maguindanao within or outside its campuses; and external parties and service providers operating within MSU-Maguindanao premises such as canteen concessionaires and other concessionaires during special events such as, but not limited to, Tabo sa MSU-Maguindanao, Palakasan, etc.

ARTICLE III
PURPOSE

This policy aims to:

1.1 Reaffirm MSU-Maguindanao's commitment to advancing sustainability principles and practices across all areas of the University; and

1.2 Serve as a guide that directs the University's actions, decisions, and initiatives towards fostering a holistic culture of sustainability.

ARTICLE IV
DEFINITION

Sustainability is defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" and recognizes the indigenous knowledge systems as a resource for sustainable practices and development.

ARTICLE V
SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

The Mindanao State University – Maguindanao is committed to providing quality education for the sustainable development of the nation and the global community. It envisions a sustainable campus that fosters a culture of social responsibility, environmental stewardship, gender sensitivity, economic resilience, and the promotion of peace and development, inspiring positive and sustainable change within the university community and the broader society. Hence, it shall strive to integrate sustainability principles into all aspects of its operations, academics,

First page of the Sustainability Policy of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao.

Article VII, Section 7 (Food Security and Overall Well-Being) directs the University to "promote the consumption of local and sustainably harvested food," to "support initiatives towards sustainable agriculture," and to offer affordable, healthy and safe food in campus canteens and cafés with minimal environmental impact. Article VII, Section 4 (Procurement) requires the University to assess the life-cycle environmental impact of purchases, to "prioritize environmentally and socially responsible products and services in procurement decisions," and to "support local and sustainable businesses whenever possible." Under Article II, these rules bind University offices, canteen concessionaires and vendors at campus events such as Tabo sa MSU–Maguindanao and Palakasan.

Applied to food from aquatic ecosystems, these provisions mean that fish and other aquatic products bought or served on campus should come from local, sustainably harvested sources, such as the community fish farms the University supports, rather than from stocks taken through overfishing or destructive fishing. Buying locally also gives small-scale fisherfolk and fish farmers a steady market and shortens the distance food travels.

The policy provides for a Sustainability Committee to oversee implementation, semi-annual monitoring and an annual public Sustainability Report, and requires review of the policy every five years. Approved in December 2023, it falls within the current review period.

Restoring Mangroves and Preserving Indigenous Fish Species

Mangrove restoration at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary

On 28 November 2025, MSU–Maguindanao and partner state universities and colleges under MinSuPala-IRDC planted 107 mangrove seedlings at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary as the environmental action component of the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources. Mangroves protect coastlines, filter land-based pollution and provide nursery habitat for fish and other aquatic species, so restoring them maintains and extends a threatened coastal ecosystem.



MSU-Maguindanao together with Partner universities and stakeholders plant 107 mangrove seedlings at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary, 28 November 2025.

Preserving indigenous fish species

Inland waters in Maguindanao are home to native fish species valued for food, livelihood and culture. In 2025, the University launched the second phase of the MinSuPala-IRDC project "Establishment and Preservation of Indigenous Fish and Crop Products," supported by a ₱5-million allocation from the Department of Budget and Management.

On 23–25 July 2025, the project team met the Local Government Units of Cotabato City, Kabuntalan, Talitay, Datu Piang and Northern Kabuntalan, and ran a Prioritization Tool Survey in which community leaders, farmers and fisherfolk identified the indigenous species most important to preserve. Earlier key informant interviews had pointed to native fish such as haluan, native katipa and popoyu. The LGUs committed to partner with the project, which now moves to community-based conservation of the species identified.



The MinSuPala-IRDC team with LGU partners during the July 2025 coordination meetings for the preservation of indigenous fish and crop species.

Developing Aquaculture Technologies That Protect Water Quality

MSU–Maguindanao, through its College of Fisheries, leads the National Tilapia Research and Development Program, Program B: Productivity Enhancement of SPIN Tilapia Culture Systems, funded by the Department of Science and Technology–Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST–PCAARRD). The program works on the Saline-tolerant Population of Improved Nilotica (SPIN). Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin, Dean of the College of Fisheries, serves as Overall Program Leader and Project 1 Leader, with Capiz State University, Northern Iloilo State University, Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology and the University of the Philippines Visayas as partners. The program's inception meeting was held on 19 June 2025 at Capiz State University.

Across five projects, the program develops technologies that reduce the environmental footprint of aquaculture:

- **Locally developed probiotics** improve fish health and reduce reliance on chemical treatments that can enter receiving waters.
- **Microbial-based nursery production** improves water quality within culture systems.
- **Refined feeding strategies** cut uneaten feed, a major source of nutrient pollution in ponds and nearby waters.
- **Improved hatchery, grow-out, acclimation and transport methods** reduce fish losses and wasted resources.

Together, these technologies help fish farmers produce more while placing less pressure on surrounding aquatic ecosystems.



Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin, Overall Program Leader, on a field visit to the project area with DOST–PCAARRD representatives.



Organizational structure of the National Tilapia R&D Program B and its partner institutions.

Water Quality Standards for Campus Wastewater

MSU–Maguindanao follows national standards to protect the water bodies that receive its wastewater. Its practices are governed by the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 (Republic Act No. 9275), Department of Environment, and Natural Resources (DENR) Administrative Order No. 2016-08 on water quality guidelines and General Effluent Standards, and DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-19, which updates selected parameters.

Wastewater from the University's laboratories, hatcheries, aquaculture facilities and canteens is managed under the General Effluent Standards. Where applicable, facilities discharging regulated wastewater are subject to the discharge permit, effluent monitoring and reporting requirements of Republic Act No. 9275.

The MSU Sustainability Policy (BOR Resolution No. 358, s. 2023) adds institutional requirements. Article VII, Section 2(b) directs the University to "regularly check water sources for heavy metals and other contaminants," and Article VII, Section 1(e) requires guidelines for the proper handling of chemicals, chemical waste and biohazardous waste, preventing these from reaching drains and receiving waters. Together, these standards protect aquatic ecosystems, wildlife and the health of surrounding communities.

Toward a Single-Use-Plastic-Free Campus

MSU–Maguindanao acts on plastic waste through three instruments: the MSU Sustainability Policy (BOR Resolution No. 358, s. 2023), the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy (BOR Resolution No. 18, s. 2024), and the Chancellor's Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022.

Article VII, Section 1 of the Sustainability Policy sets out the specific measures: reduce food and plastic waste from the campus food system (Section 1(f)); use reusable, renewable and recyclable food packaging (Section 1(g)); prohibit Styrofoam, single-use plastic bags and disposable food accessories (Section 1(h)); and promote "Bring your own tumbler/container/utensil" and "Clean as you go" (Section 1(i)). The Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy applies across the MSU System and requires each campus to set implementing rules for its own operations.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAGUINDANAO
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msumag@msumaguindanao.edu.ph

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM ORDER)
Number 149)
Series of 2022)

TO: ALL PERSONNEL OF THE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION OFFICE

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2022

SUBJECT: PROHIBITING STUDENTS FROM BRINGING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC INSIDE THE CAMPUS

In the exigency of service, all the concerned are directed to strictly inspect students' bags for single-use plastic. Students bringing single-use plastic shall be prohibited from entering the campus unless they dispose of it properly outside.

For information and strict compliance.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA, PhD
Chancellor

Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022, prohibiting single-use plastics on campus.

Memorandum Order No. 149, s. 2022, issued on 21 October 2022, prohibits students from bringing single-use plastics onto campus and directs the Security and Investigation Office to check bags for compliance. Campus signage declares MSU–Maguindanao a single-use-plastic-free university, banning plastic straws, bags, bottles, cups, spoons and forks, and balloons.

The action plan applies these rules to campus offices, canteens, concessionaires, meetings and events: eliminating Styrofoam and disposable food accessories, requiring reusable containers and utensils, promoting recyclable packaging, and strengthening waste segregation and disposal, supported by information campaigns and monitoring of compliance.





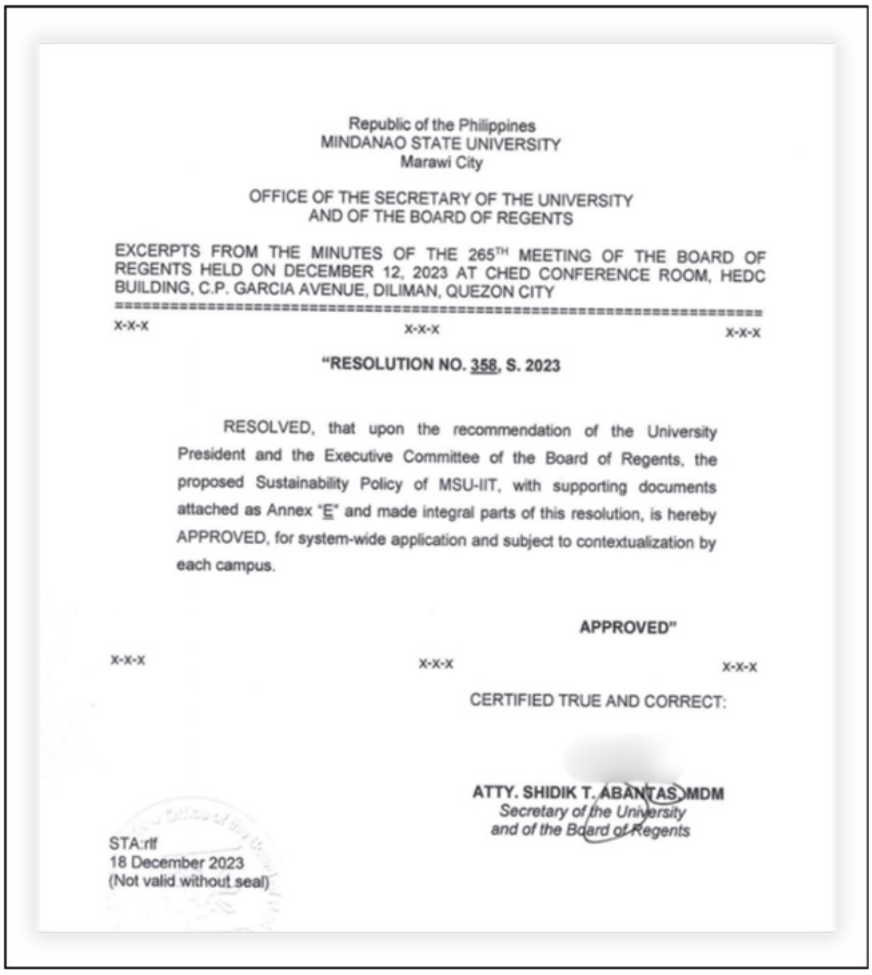
Campus signage for MSU–Maguindanao's Single-Use Plastic-Free University Policy.

Stopping Marine Pollution at Its Source on Land

Most marine pollution begins on land and travels to the sea through drains and rivers. The MSU Sustainability Policy, approved by the MSU Board of Regents through Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, commits MSU–Maguindanao to stopping it at the source. Article VII, Section 5(f) (Biodiversity and Green Spaces) directs the University to "support and implement initiatives to reduce marine pollution."

The policy backs this commitment with measures against land-based pollution. Article VII, Section 1(b) requires a comprehensive solid waste management program "that reduces the volume of waste produced and sent to landfills"; Section 1(e) requires proper management of electronic waste, chemicals, chemical waste and biohazardous waste; Section 1(l) requires University units and food concessionaires to segregate waste at source; and Section 2(b) requires regular testing of water sources for heavy metals and other contaminants.

In practice, these provisions keep plastics, food waste, oils and chemicals from campus offices, classrooms, laboratories and canteens out of drainage systems and, ultimately, out of rivers and coastal waters. Approved in December 2023, the policy falls within the current review period and is reviewed every five years.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rlf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, approving the Sustainability Policy for system-wide implementation.

MAINTAINING A LOCAL ECOSYSTEM

Minimizing Physical, Chemical and Biological Change to Aquatic Ecosystems

Chemical alteration

The MSU Sustainability Policy (BOR Resolution No. 358, s. 2023) requires regular testing of water sources for heavy metals and other contaminants (Article VII, Section 2(b)), proper handling of chemicals, chemical waste and biohazardous waste (Section 1(e)), segregation of waste at source (Section 1(l)) and initiatives to reduce marine pollution (Section 5(f)). Campus wastewater is managed under the General Effluent Standards of DENR Administrative Order No. 2016-08, as updated by DAO 2021-19, and the requirements of the Philippine Clean Water Act.

Physical alteration

The South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan (2025–2030), prepared by the University, addresses the main physical threats to connected waters across 1,894 hectares, namely soil erosion, land conversion and illegal logging, through watershed zoning, sustainable land use, assisted natural regeneration and native species planting.

Biological alteration

In aquaculture, the University's National Tilapia R&D Program develops locally made probiotics and microbial-based nursery systems that reduce reliance on chemical treatments, and feeding strategies that cut the nutrient loading that drives algal blooms and oxygen depletion in receiving waters.

Monitoring the Health of Rivers, Lakes and Marshes

MSU–Maguindanao monitors the health of the inland waters of Central Mindanao with government agencies and local communities.

River monitoring with MENRE–EMS

Under the Adopt-an-Estero partnership, in place since 2022, the University supports regular water sampling by MENRE–EMS at three monitoring stations along the Simuay River. In June 2025, the University and MENRE–EMS extended monitoring to the Brar River through a pilot water sampling program.

Water quality at eight inland sites

In 2025, University researchers measured pH, water temperature, dissolved oxygen and electrical conductivity at eight inland sampling sites in Talitay, Datu Piang, Northern Kabuntalan, Kabuntalan, Cotabato City and Sifaran. pH ranged from 7.51 to 8.54 and water temperature from 29.8 °C to 34.2 °C. Dissolved oxygen ranged from 1.07 to 8.52 mg/L; the lowest readings, well below the level most fish need, mark sites for follow-up monitoring and possible management action.



MSU–Maguindanao faculty, MENRE–EMS personnel and local stakeholders during the Brar River waterbody classification and pilot water-sampling activity, 2025.

Physicochemical results along Talitay, Datu Piang, Northern Kabuntalan, Kabuntalan, Cotabato City and Sifaran

Sampling Areas	a. pH	b. Temperature (°C)	c. Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	d. Electroconductivity (mS/m)
Talitay	7.51 ± 0.10	29.93 ± 0.64	1.13 ± 0.15	588.00 ± 2.00
Datu Piang	7.62 ± 0.03	32.10 ± 0.10	1.83 ± 0.29	645.33 ± 40.28
Northern Kabuntalan	7.83 ± 0.06	31.27 ± 0.91	1.07 ± 0.12	539.33 ± 8.08
Kabuntalan	7.93 ± 0.06	34.20 ± 0.30	6.17 ± 0.15	565.33 ± 1.15
Cotabato City	7.60 ± 0.10	32.10 ± 0.35	7.60 ± 0.10	563.33 ± 15.28
Sifaran (downstream)	8.36 ± 0.12	30.07 ± 0.21	8.36 ± 0.12	730.00 ± 7.00
Sifaran (midstream)	8.52 ± 0.10	29.77 ± 0.15	8.52 ± 0.10	729.67 ± 3.06
Sifaran (upstream)	8.54 ± 0.09	29.80 ± 0.10	6.23 ± 0.15	729.00 ± 2.00

Physicochemical characteristics of water samples from selected inland sites, 2025.

Assessing major water bodies

Through the DBM-funded project of the MinSuPala-IRDC, the project teams assessed water quality, inland capture fisheries and watershed conditions in Ligawasan Marsh. The results were presented at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources in November 2025, so that monitoring findings feed directly into regional planning.

PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES FOR GOOD AQUATIC STEWARDSHIP

MSU–Maguindanao develops programs and incentives that make good aquatic stewardship worthwhile for the people who practise it.

A market incentive for responsible fish farming

Through the "A Taste of Peace" livelihood initiative, communities in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar that farm fish responsibly can process and sell their harvest. Products include bottled hito (325 g) marketed under the GrowTogaig brand at ₱150 per jar, tilanggit (processed tilapia), organically grown vegetables and other halal-processed foods. By turning responsibly farmed fish into income, the initiative gives households a direct, lasting reason to keep these practices.



Bottled hito (325 g) under the GrowTogaig brand, produced by communities in Camps Abubakar, Badre and Omar.



Community beneficiaries in fish production and sustainable farming activities supported by the University and OPAPRU.

Recognising researchers and sustaining programs

The University's 2025 Research Excellence and Academic Publication (REAP) Awards reward faculty for research and publication, including work on fisheries, aquaculture and aquatic biodiversity. At its 273rd meeting on 9 December 2025, the MSU Board of Regents acted on programs endorsed by MSU–Maguindanao, including five proposals under the Community Advancement through Research-Based Extension Services (CARES) Program and Project ILAW sa Ligawasan, the University's continuing community program in the Ligawasan Marsh area, a wetland on which many fishing communities depend.



Mindanao State University–Maguindanao formally recognized the scholarly achievements of its faculty and researchers during the 2025 Research Excellence and Academic Publication (REAP) Awards, held on January 15, 2026, at the Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium.





The Project ILAW sa Ligawasan, implemented in 2025 and continuing of the College of FIsheries was granted research grant under the Community Advancement through Research-based Extension Services (CARES), a banner program of the OVCRED that highlights the mutual complementation of research and extension services in MSU-Maguindanao

Working with Communities to Protect Shared Waters

Rivers, lakes and marshes are shared resources, and MSU–Maguindanao works with local communities, governments and partner institutions to manage them together.

A regional consortium for shared waters

MSU–Maguindanao leads MinSuPala-IRDC, which expanded in 2025 after a Memorandum of Agreement signed on 13 November 2024 at the Department of Budget and Management Region XI welcomed six more state universities and colleges from Basilan, Buug, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.

Through the consortium, the University hosted a stakeholder consultation on 27 February 2025 where researchers, MAFAR–BARMM, the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, DOST–PCAARRD, provincial environmental offices, LGU officials and fisherfolk associations reviewed research on Ligawasan Marsh, Lake Buluan, the Rio Grande de Mindanao and Lake Lanao, and identified shared priorities for protecting habitats, preventing pollution and sustaining inland fisheries.



Signing of the MinSuPala-IRDC expansion agreement at DBM Region XI, Davao City, 13 November 2024.



Researchers, government representatives, LGU officials and community stakeholders at DOS Gymnasium, MSU-Maguindanao

Restoring mangroves with partner universities

On 28 November 2025, the University joined partner state universities and colleges and local stakeholders in planting 107 mangrove seedlings at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary, turning the discussions of the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources into shared action on the ground.



MSU–Maguindanao and partners at the mangrove-growing activity of the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, November 2025.

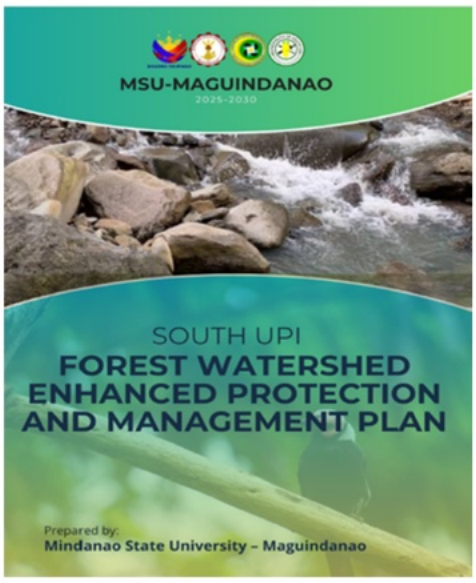
Protecting the South Upi Watershed, from Forest to Fish

Healthy watersheds keep rivers clean and aquatic habitats intact. In 2025, MSU–Maguindanao developed the South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan (2025–2030) through the research project "Characterization of South Upi Forest Watershed cum Landslide Vulnerability Assessment: Basis for Enhanced Protection and Management Plan," funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology–BARMM (MOST–BARMM).

The plan covers about 1,894 hectares across five barangays of South Upi, Maguindanao del Sur: Romangaob, Looy, Bongo, Kigan and Pandan. Baseline data collection, GIS mapping, biodiversity and habitat profiling and landslide vulnerability assessment identified the pressures on the watershed: illegal logging, land conversion, unsustainable farming, soil erosion, landslides, biodiversity loss and potential degradation of water quality.

The five-year plan responds with seven strategies:

- Watershed zoning and protection of critical and environmentally sensitive areas
- Sustainable land-use management to limit forest degradation and soil erosion
- Forest rehabilitation through assisted natural regeneration, agroforestry and native species planting
- Biodiversity and habitat conservation
- Water resource management to protect water sources and water quality
- Community-based environmental protection
- Environmental monitoring and institutional coordination



South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan (2025–2030).

The plan was built with the people who live in the watershed. LGUs, Indigenous Teduray communities, farmers and other stakeholders took part in field assessments and consultations, contributing local and traditional knowledge to the plan. In February 2025, the University also trained South Upi and North Upi LGU personnel in advanced QGIS mapping so they can monitor land use and update the plan themselves.

The strategy is grounded in the aquatic species of the area. MinSuPala-IRDC assessments of inland capture fisheries and the 2025 community prioritisation of indigenous fish species, including haluan, native katipa and popoyu, identify the species that depend on clean, well-protected waters downstream.



MSU–Maguindanao and MOST–BARMM researchers with local officials and members of the Indigenous Teduray community during field assessment and consultation.



15 LIFE ON LAND

OVERVIEW

The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Philippines, is endowed with diverse ecosystems, including forests, watersheds, and wetlands that sustain biodiversity and local livelihoods. However, these resources face growing threats from deforestation, forest and watershed degradation, biodiversity loss, unsustainable land use, and climate change. Addressing these challenges requires sustained conservation and restoration efforts. As a public higher education institution, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao contributes through education, research, extension, institutional policies, and partnerships that promote biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management of natural resources.

This report presents the work of Mindanao State University–Maguindanao in Sustainable Development Goal 15 (SDG 15): Life on Land for the year 2025. It is organized into three areas: supporting land ecosystems through education, supporting land ecosystems through action, and land-sensitive waste disposal.

Supporting Land Ecosystems through Education covers the University's trainings, forums, and tree-planting activities that promote land and forest conservation; its policy on sustainably sourced campus food; the rehabilitation of degraded uplands in Datu Blah Sinsuat; its academic programs focused on ecosystems and wild species; community training on sustainable land management in South Upi; and plans to develop the rehabilitated uplands for agro-ecotourism.

Supporting Land Ecosystems through Action highlights the policies and protocols that guide the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems and threatened species, the integration of biodiversity considerations into campus land-use planning, measures to protect native species from alien species and pests, and partnerships that support the conservation of shared ecosystems.

Land-Sensitive Waste Disposal presents the University's compliance with national standards for wastewater discharge, its policies and initiatives to reduce plastic waste, and its provisions for the proper handling and disposal of hazardous materials.

Through these initiatives, MSU-Maguindanao reaffirms its commitment to protecting terrestrial ecosystems, conserving biodiversity, and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources in the Bangsamoro region and across the Philippines.

SUPPORTING LAND ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH EDUCATION

The College of Forestry and Environmental Studies Implements Ecosystem Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Conservation Through Native and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte

The College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES) is rehabilitating 10 hectares of degraded upland in Barangay Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, through the 2.5-year project "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native Tree and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology." The project is funded by DOST–PCAARRD with ₱5 million (about US$87,111) and implemented with the University of the Philippines Los Baños – Institute of Agroforestry. It aims to restore vegetation cover, conserve soil and water, reduce erosion, and strengthen the ecological resilience of the site.

The University's nursery and the established community nursery have produced 52,000 seedlings, comprising 22,000 native trees and 30,000 fruit trees, exceeding the target of 50,000. After boundary marking, land clearing, and staking, with Leucaena leucocephala planted along the site boundaries, the team has planted 829 seedlings across 7.5 of the 10 hectares. Planting and site maintenance continue until 2026, and the team monitors seedling survival, vegetation establishment, and changes in soil and habitat conditions.

The initiative aims to support long-term ecosystem restoration, strengthen climate resilience, and promote local biodiversity conservation.



Aerial view of the project site for "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native Tree and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology: A Science and Technology-Based Initiative for Emergencies and Hazards in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao," located in Barangay Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte, BARMM



Project Leader Dr. Rowena C. Benavides of MSU-Maguindanao during the ceremonial tree planting for the project, "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology," held on February 19, 2026, in Barangay Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte.

MSU-Maguindanao Supports Land and Forest Conservation through Agroforestry Development and Sustainable Natural Resource Management

In response to growing threats to land and forest ecosystems, MSU-Maguindanao conducts and supports agroforestry capacity-building, environmental forums, stakeholder consultations, and tree-planting activities to strengthen land and forest conservation.

On February 25–27, 2025, the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies conducted a three-day Training of Trainers on Agroforestry Establishment and Development: Leveraging ALCAMS for Effective Land Assessment held at the University and Barangay Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. The training was conducted as part of the project "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native Tree and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology: A Science and Technology-Based Initiative for Emergencies and Hazards in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao," funded by the Department of Science and Technology–Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD). In field exercises, participants used the Agroforestry Land Capability Assessment and Mapping Scheme (ALCAMS) to assess land use, measure slopes, test soil fertility, map contour lines with an A-frame, and classify land for agroforestry, and each drafted a re-entry plan for their own site.



Participants engage in hands-on field exercises on land assessment using the Agroforestry Land Capability Assessment and Mapping Scheme (ALCAMS) at the project site in Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte on the 2nd day of Training of Trainers on Agroforestry Establishment and Development: Leveraging ALCAMS for Effective Land Assessment held on February 25–27, 2025.

Beyond its community-based agroforestry initiatives, MSU-Maguindanao also exercised institutional leadership in regional environmental conservation efforts through the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, held on November 26–28, 2025, in General Santos City. Through its leadership in the Mindanao Sulu Palawan–Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala-IRDC), the University supported the organization of the three-day forum, which gathered more than 200 representatives from academic institutions, government agencies, research organizations, and development partners. The forum featured scientific presentations and thematic discussions on watershed resilience, biodiversity conservation, sustainable resource utilization, and environmental governance.

During the forum, MSU-Maguindanao researchers presented three studies on the Sifaran Watershed in Maguindanao. These presentations provided scientific evidence on the watershed's biodiversity, vegetation, physical characteristics, and ecological resilience, contributing to discussions on watershed protection and sustainable resource management.



MSU-Maguindanao Chancellor Dr. Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona joins Region XII DBM Director Usman and the Presidents and Chancellors of member universities of the MinSuPala-IRDC during the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, held on November 26–28, 2025, in General Santos City.

Tree Planting Activities

On November 28, 2025, as part of the MinSuPala-IRDC 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources organized in General Santos City, MSU-Maguindanao supported and actively participated in the Mangrove Growing Activity at the Baluan Mangrove Sanctuary in Barangay Baluan. The activity gathered 80 participants who planted 107 mangrove seedlings, demonstrating a shared commitment to mangrove conservation, coastal resilience, and sustainable environmental management.



Dr. Raquel Santiago-Arenas, MSU-Maguindanao Vice Chancellor, along with other participants plants mangroves in Bualan Mangrove Sanctuary in General Santos on November 28, 2025.

In partnership with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), the University organized an Environmental Awareness and Agroforestry Establishment Activity on June 9, 2025, in Camp Omar, Datu Hoffer, Maguindanao del Sur.

The activity, conducted under the MILF Camps Transformation Plan and the Normalization Track of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro, brought together partner farmers from four community organizations, members of the Aljasuws OFW Agri-Business Association, Limpongo Women's Organization, Talibadok Kauyagan Marketing Cooperative, and Mujahidin a Nagapas Agri-Producer Cooperative, along with 49 MSU-Maguindanao student leaders.

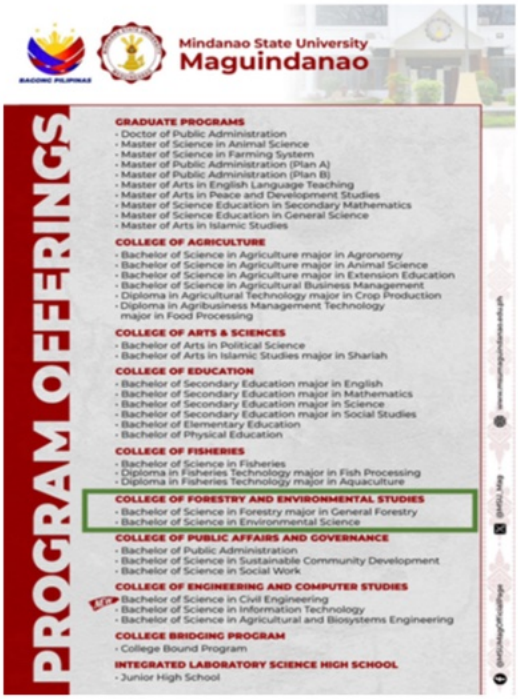
A total of 500 fruit tree seedlings, consisting of 250 Marang and 250 Rambutan, were planted in the identified sites. The activity also included an orientation on climate resilience, agroforestry systems, and environmental responsibility, highlighting how integrating trees into agricultural landscapes can improve farm productivity, strengthen food security, and support climate change adaptation.



Students from MSU-Maguindanao and other participants of the Tree Planting Activity at Camp Omar, Datu Hoffer Ampatuan, Maguindanao del Sur

Through sustained agroforestry development, environmental education, and collaborative natural resource management, the University remains committed to supporting ecosystem restoration, protecting biodiversity, and promoting climate-resilient and sustainable landscapes across the Bangsamoro region and beyond.

BS Forestry and BS Environmental Science Programs Strengthen the University's Role in Ecosystem Education on Wild Flora and Fauna



The list of Program offerings of MSU-Maguindanao includes 2 programs in the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies: Bachelor of Science in Forestry, major in General Forestry, and Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (marked in green)

As one of the state universities in the country, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, through its College of Forestry and Environmental Studies, offers two undergraduate degree programs: the **Bachelor of Science in Forestry and the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science**, with students benefiting from free tuition and other school fees under Republic Act No. 10931, or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act. These programs prepare future foresters, environmental scientists, conservation practitioners, and natural resource management professionals by developing their knowledge and competencies in ecosystem assessment, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable resource management. Both programs devote a focused set of courses to ecosystems and the wild plants and animals that live in them.

Bachelor of Science in Forestry, major in General Forestry. In this 177-unit program, students build their foundation in tree and plant identification through Morphology, Taxonomy, and Dendrology, and in ecological processes through Forest Ecology. They then move to the conservation and management of wild species and their habitats in Forest Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation, Protected Area Management, and Watershed Management. Social Forestry and Community-Based Natural Resources Management prepares them to work alongside communities that depend on forest resources. Major electives such as Restoration of Degraded Ecosystems and Integrated Coastal Resources Management extend this training to damaged landscapes and coastal habitats.

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. The 164-unit program includes five courses, totaling 18 units, on ecosystems and wild species: Fundamentals of Ecology (4 units), Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature (4 units), Animal Taxonomy and Nomenclature (4 units), Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystem Management (3 units), and Forest Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation (3 units). Students first learn how organisms interact with their environment, then identify and classify wild plants and animals, and finally apply this knowledge to managing land and water ecosystems and conserving forest species and habitats.

The University extends ecosystem education beyond the classroom through its graduates, faculty-led research and extension initiatives, and published educational resources. Graduates of the BS Forestry and BS Environmental Science programs bring their competencies in species identification, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem management into their professional practice in government agencies, environmental institutions, and community-based initiatives. Through these roles, they contribute to environmental education, conservation efforts, and the promotion of sustainable natural resource management.

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Faculty members of the College of Forestry and Environmental Studies and other colleges also contribute to community knowledge through research and extension activities that document local biodiversity and promote ecosystem conservation. Among these educational resources are the published books, titled "Tree Species of the Sifaran Watershed" and "Bird Species of the Sifaran Watershed", which document the flora and fauna found in one of the province's important watersheds. These publications provide valuable reference materials for understanding local plant and bird species and their ecological importance, making research-based knowledge more accessible to students, researchers, environmental practitioners, and local stakeholders.



Published books of MSU-Maguindanao on Bird Species and Trees and Shrubs of Sifaran Watershed in Barangay Sifaran, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao, del Norte. An e-copies of the books can be accessed at the Mindanao Palawan Sulu-Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala-IRDC) Website

Through its academic programs, professional graduates, research, extension initiatives, and biodiversity publications, the University continues to make ecosystem knowledge accessible beyond its campus, promoting greater awareness and understanding of wild flora, fauna, and the importance of conserving local ecosystems.

Community Trainings on Agroforestry and Sustainable Land Management for Agriculture in South Upi



Researchers and local participants gather at the workshop on the South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan, South Upi Municipal Hall, July 29, 2025.

With funding from the Ministry of Science and Technology–BARMM (MOST–BARMM), the University trained 69 residents, local officials, and environment personnel in South Upi from February to July 2025. From February 5 to 7, 2025, an Advanced QGIS Application Training at the Balay Silangan Reformation Center in Upi taught 23 participants from the local governments of South Upi and North Upi and MENRE–BARMM to classify land use and land cover, map water quality, analyze terrain, and assess landslide risk. On June 9, 2025, 30 South Upi residents trained at the Municipal Gymnasium in Barangay Romongaob on agroforestry, Sloping Agricultural Land Technology, contour farming, soil conservation, land capability assessment, and soil testing, with a demonstration of fruit wine-making as an alternative livelihood.

On July 29, 2025, 16 representatives of municipal offices and barangays met at the South Upi Municipal Hall to formulate the South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan. MSU-Maguindanao Research Director Asst. Prof. Peter Jan D. de Vera presented the University's assessment of the watershed, which recorded 22 tree species from 12 families, one Critically Endangered, three Endangered, three Vulnerable, and five Near Threatened, and identified illegal logging, land conversion, and climate change as threats. The assessment recommended community-based agroforestry, reforestation, watershed conservation zones, and barangay model farms that combine sustainable land management with livelihoods.

MSU-Maguindanao Champions Sustainable Land Management for Future Agro-Ecotourism Development

The DOST–PCAARRD agroforestry project in Barangay Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat, is also laying the groundwork for agro-ecotourism. Funded with ₱5 million (about US$87,111) and implemented by CFES with the UPLB Institute of Agroforestry, the project has established two nurseries that have produced 52,000 seedlings, 22,000 native trees and 30,000 fruit trees, 2,000 more than its target. These provide the planting materials for rehabilitating the project's 10 hectares of degraded upland.

As part of its long-term vision, the project aims to transform the rehabilitated landscape into an agro-ecotourism site within 8 to 10 years. Through sustained agroforestry development, restoration of native vegetation, and the cultivation of fruit-bearing trees, the site is envisioned to serve as a destination for nature-based tourism, environmental education, and community learning on sustainable land management. This long-term initiative also seeks to demonstrate how science-based agroforestry can support biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities while laying the foundation for responsible tourism development.

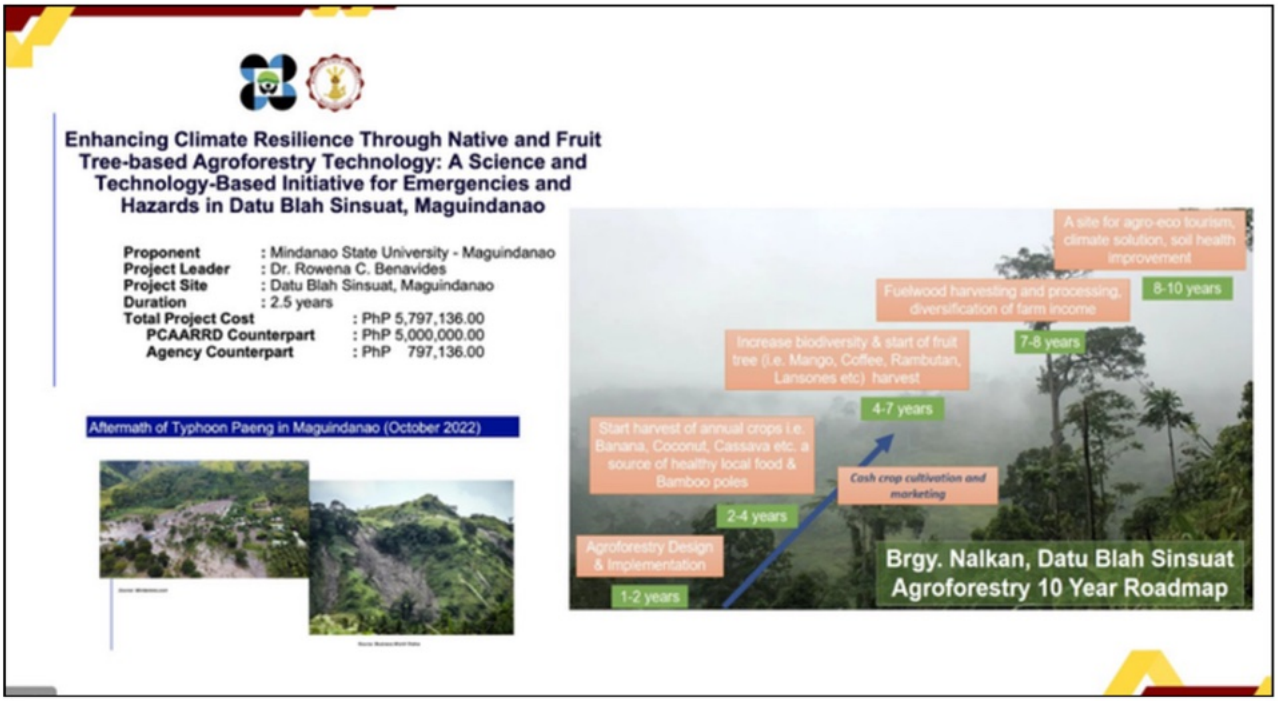


Figure 8. The project's 10-year roadmap charts the rehabilitation of the Barangay Nalkan site toward agro-ecotourism.

POLICIES

Policy to Ensure That Food on Campus is Sustainably Farmed

The University's Sustainability Policy, approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023 for MSU system-wide application, sets the principles for sourcing food on campus sustainably. Article VII, Section 4, Procurement, directs the University to assess the environmental impact of its purchases throughout their life cycle and to encourage suppliers to adopt environmentally responsible practices. Section 4(a) directs it to "prioritize environmentally and socially responsible products and services in procurement decisions," Section 4(c) to "support and prefer suppliers adhering to fair trade when purchasing goods," and Section 4(d) to "support local and sustainable businesses whenever possible."

Article II, Scope, extends the policy to external service providers operating on University premises, including campus food concessionaires, so these principles apply to the food sold on campus as well as to the University's own purchases. Building on this framework, the University plans to strengthen its guidelines for sustainable food sourcing and to encourage concessionaires to buy agricultural products from environmentally responsible producers and local farms.

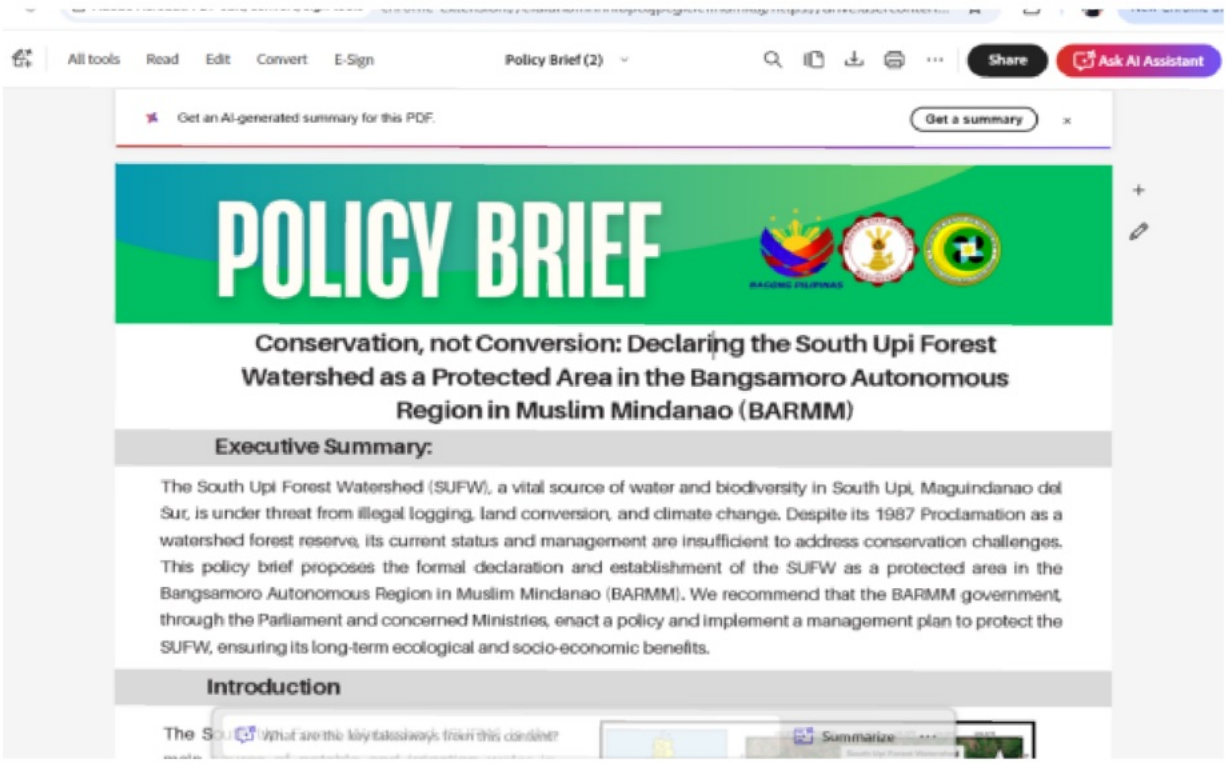
SUPPORTING LAND ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH ACTION

Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainable Use of Terrestrial Ecosystems

The Sustainability Policy outlines specific measures supporting terrestrial ecosystem conservation and restoration. Article VII, Section 5(a) directs the University to "Incorporate sustainable use, conservation, and restoration of land in its Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan," while Section 5(c) provides for the establishment of in-house nurseries to raise native seedlings for campus planting, tree growing, and distribution to local communities.

Furthermore, Section 5(d) promotes student participation in biodiversity conservation and sustainable landscaping initiatives through the National Service Training Program (NSTP). These provisions support the protection of natural habitats, restoration of vegetation, conservation of native plant species, and responsible management of terrestrial ecosystems within the University's areas of influence.

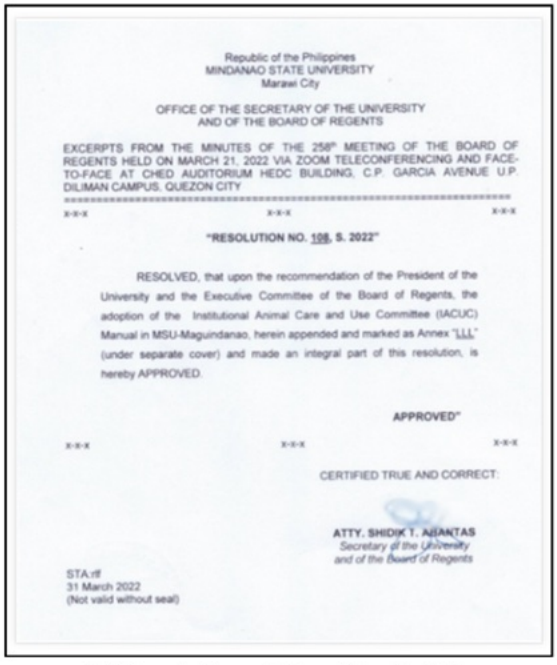
Upholding the existing Sustainability Policy, and as an expression of shared responsibility, MSU-Maguindanao, in partnership with the Local Government Unit of South Upi, and with funding support from the Ministry of Science and Technology-BARMM, facilitated the formulation of the South Upi Forest Watershed Enhanced Protection and Management Plan, which was formally turned over to the local government to guide the protection, rehabilitation, and sustainable management of its forest and watershed resources. A corresponding policy brief was also prepared and provided to support local decision-making and promote the adoption of recommended conservation and management measures. These knowledge products strengthen the capacity of local government partners to implement evidence-based approaches to terrestrial ecosystem conservation and sustainable land management.



Through these institutional policies and collaborative initiatives, MSU-Maguindanao reinforces its commitment to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, sustainable land use, and environmental stewardship.

Animal Care Rules and Field Protocols Guide the Identification and Assessment of Threatened Species

The University's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Manual, approved by the MSU Board of Regents through Resolution No. 108, s. 2022 on March 21, 2022, sets guidelines for the humane care, identification, monitoring, and protection of animals in research and teaching, in line with the Animal Welfare Act of 1998. The IACUC, under the Office of the Chancellor and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Extension and Development, reviews research protocols and monitors compliance. The manual requires the identification, tracking, and documentation of research animals (Section A.2.g), sets guidelines for field studies on fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals (Section B.3.d), and incorporates Republic Act No. 9147, the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, and DENR Administrative Order No. 2009-01 on wildlife marking and identification.


Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 258th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON MARCH 21, 2022 VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCING AND FACE-TO-FACE AT CHED AUDITORIUM HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE U.P. DILIMAN CAMPUS, QUEZON CITY

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"RESOLUTION NO. 108, S. 2022"

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the adoption of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Manual in MSU-Maguindanao, herein appended and marked as Annex "LLL" (under separate cover) and made an integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHEDIK T. ALANTAS
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA.rtf
31 March 2022
(Not valid without seal)

MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 108, s. 2022 approves the University's IACUC Manual

For field research, the University adopted the **Mindanao Sulu Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala-IRDC)** Harmonized Protocol for Watershed Characterization for identifying, assessing, and monitoring IUCN Red-Listed and nationally listed species. The protocol establishes assessment procedures for trees, covering vegetation sampling, avian surveys, species identification, diversity assessment, documentation, and verification of conservation status. These procedures provide a systematic basis for identifying threatened and ecologically significant species, documenting their distribution and habitats, and supporting biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts in areas covered by watershed research and management activities.

Rapid Assessment for Trees, Shrubs, Herbs and Grasses Protocol

Under the protocol's rapid assessment procedures, nine sampling quadrats are established across the upper, middle, and lower portions of a watershed, with three 20 m × 40 m quadrats in each portion. Nested sampling plots of 5 m × 5 m for shrubs and herbs and 1 m × 1 m for grasses are also established. These sampling sites are selected to represent the different vegetation types within the study area. Identified plant species are characterized and documented, with particular attention to their ecological and conservation status.

To verify species identification, distribution, and conservation classifications, the protocol references authoritative resources, including the IUCN Red List, DENR Administrative Order No. 2017-11 (Updated National List of Threatened Philippine Plants and their Categories), the Co's Digital Flora of the Philippines, and other recognized botanical databases. These references enable researchers to determine whether documented species are internationally or nationally recognized as threatened and identify those requiring conservation attention.

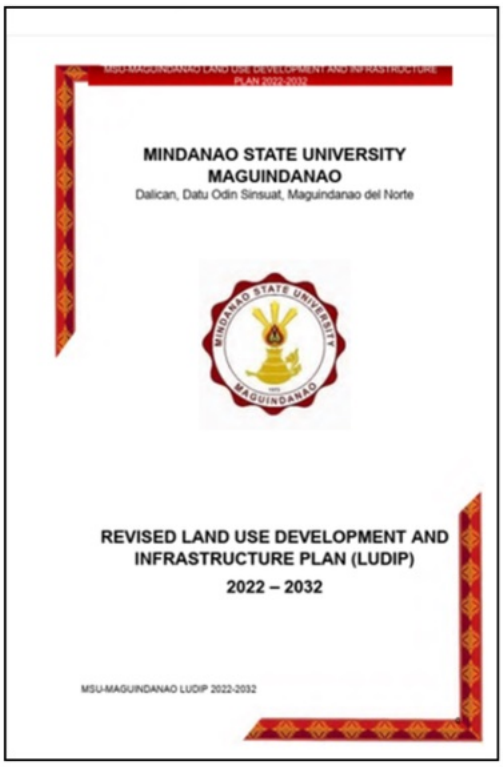
Protocol for Bird Identification and Assessment

For bird identification and assessment, researchers from MSU-Maguindanao refer to Birds of the Philippines by Desmond Allen (2020), the BirdLife International database, the Bird Identifier, and eBird by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. These references support the verification of bird species' identities, distribution, and conservation classifications. These resources provide reference information on species characteristics, scientific names, geographic distribution, and occurrence records. They complement field observations and photographic documentation in establishing the bird species inventory and assessing avian biodiversity within the watershed. The procedures provide a systematic basis for identifying threatened and ecologically significant species, documenting their distribution and habitats, and supporting biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts in areas covered by watershed research and management activities.

The protocol guides researchers from MSU-Maguindanao and other institutions in their water characterization of Sifaran Watershed in Barangay Sifaran, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte. Through these guidelines and protocols, MSU–Maguindanao strengthens ethical research practices, responsible animal management, and the conservation of biological diversity. The University remains committed to enhancing its animal care and research oversight mechanisms, promoting the protection of animal species and natural habitats, and advancing scientific research that contributes to sustainable ecosystem management and environmental stewardship.

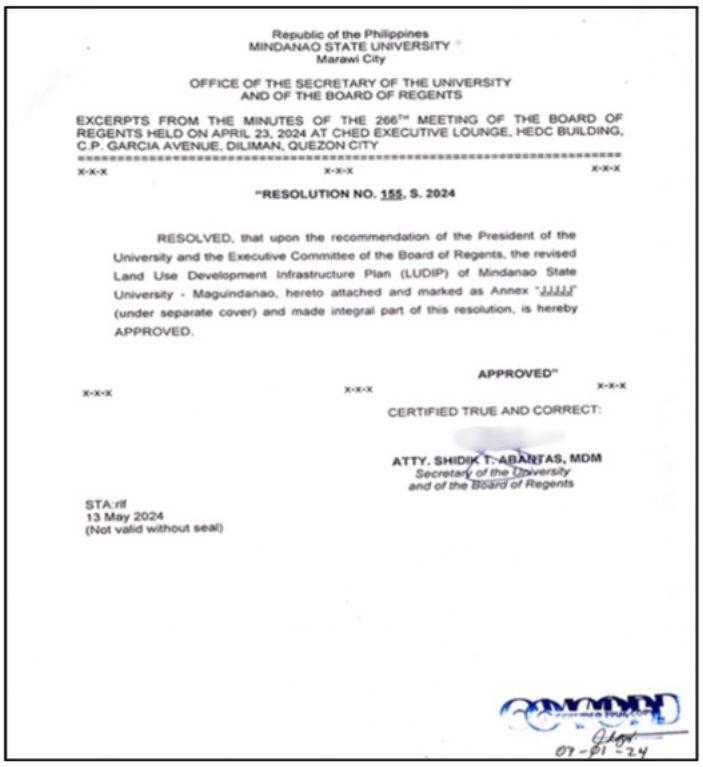
Campus Land Use Planning and Infrastructure Development Integrates Local Biodiversity Conservation

The Revised Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan (LUDIP) 2022–2032 is the University's framework for land allocation, infrastructure, and environmental management. It guides decisions on proposed buildings and other infrastructure while considering existing land uses, green spaces, and environmental conditions.


MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO
Dalican, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao del Norte

REVISED LAND USE DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN (LUDIP)
2022 – 2032

MSU-MAGUINDANAO LUDIP 2022-2032


Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 266TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 23, 2024 AT CHED EXECUTIVE LOUNGE, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

"RESOLUTION NO. 155, S. 2024

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the revised Land Use Development Infrastructure Plan (LUDIP) of Mindanao State University - Maguindanao, hereto attached and marked as Annex "JJJJJ" (under separate cover) and made integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rlf
13 May 2024
(Not valid without seal)

07-01-24

MSU-Maguindanao Revised Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan approved by MSU Board of Regents in 2024 guides land allocation and infrastructure on the University's 55-hectare Campus.

Under Chapter II, Section A.1 – Land Cover and Location (pages 31–32), the LUDIP identifies the physical and environmental characteristics of the University's 55-hectare campus. Its land cover map distinguishes areas designated for academic buildings, agricultural production, agroforestry, fishponds, open spaces, residential facilities, and sports infrastructure.

More specifically, Chapter III, Section C.2 – Open and Green Space Network (pages 134–135) includes the proposed establishment of a Bamboo Taxonomic Laboratory and Park near Brar Creek. The planned facility aims to showcase bamboo species found in the region and strengthen research and documentation on their genetic diversity, ecological roles, and potential applications.

It also seeks to improve species identification and conservation strategies while providing opportunities for environmental education, ecological research, and public engagement. Its inclusion in the University's physical development plan demonstrates the consideration of local plant diversity in campus land-use planning.

Furthermore, Chapter III, Section D.4 – Environmental Management Plan (establishes environmental considerations within the University's development framework. It emphasizes environmental integrity, sustainable resource utilization, pollution prevention, improved environmental quality, and the development of sustainable infrastructure. These provisions support the integration of environmental management considerations into campus development activities.

To support institutional implementation, Chapter IV, Section A – Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Set-Up for the Implementation of the LUDIP (pages 172–173) provides mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating development projects. It specifies that campus development projects must be implemented in accordance with the LUDIP, with monitoring responsibilities assigned to designated university offices and evaluation teams. These arrangements provide an institutional mechanism for assessing project implementation, sustainability, and alignment with the University's development objectives.

Under Chapter II, Section A.1 – Land Cover and Location (pages 31–32), the LUDIP identifies the physical and environmental characteristics of the University's 55-hectare campus. Its land cover map distinguishes areas designated for academic buildings, agricultural production, agroforestry, fishponds, open spaces, residential facilities, and sports infrastructure.

Reducing the Impact of Alien Species on Campus

Mindanao State University–Maguindanao promotes the protection of native biodiversity and the sustainable management of campus ecosystems through the Sustainability Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, for MSU system-wide application. Specifically, Article VII, Section 5 – Biodiversity and Green Spaces establishes measures to preserve and expand green spaces through environmentally responsible landscaping practices. These provisions provide an institutional framework for maintaining ecological balance, conserving native vegetation, and addressing environmental pressures that may affect local biodiversity, including those associated with alien or potentially invasive species.

The Sustainability Policy outlines measures relevant to minimizing ecological disturbances and protecting native species. Article VII, Section 5(c) directs the University to "Establish in-house nurseries to raise native seedlings for in-campus planting and tree growing and for seedling dispersal to local communities," promoting the use of native vegetation in campus landscaping and ecological restoration.

Furthermore, Section 5(e) directs the University to "Establish safeguards against pests and vectors of diseases," providing a policy basis for managing organisms that may threaten campus ecosystems and environmental health. These provisions are complemented by Section 5(a), which requires the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of land in the University's Land Use Development and Infrastructure Plan.

Through these provisions, MSU-Maguindanao reinforces its commitment to native biodiversity conservation, ecological restoration, and environmentally responsible campus management. The promotion of native species, establishment of safeguards against pests, and integration of conservation principles into land use planning support efforts to maintain healthy ecosystems and reduce ecological pressures associated with potentially harmful non-native organisms. These institutional commitments provide a foundation for protecting native habitats and strengthening the ecological resilience of the campus environment.

MSU-Maguindanao Forges Partnerships for Community-Based Ecosystem Conservation

Through partnerships with government agencies, local communities, and research institutions, Mindanao State University–Maguindanao advances collaborative efforts to conserve and rehabilitate shared ecosystems.

Promoting Community-Based Agroforestry and Ecosystem Restoration

In February 2025, the University, through its College of Forestry and Environmental Studies (CFES), formally launched the project "Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native and Fruit Tree-Based Agroforestry Technology: A Science and Technology-Based Initiative for Emergencies and Hazards in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao." Funded by the Department of Science and Technology–Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST–PCAARRD), with a budget of Five Million Pesos (₱5,000,000.00), equivalent to approximately US$86,948, the project promotes the rehabilitation of degraded upland areas through native and fruit tree-based agroforestry. Implemented in Datu Blah Sinsuat, the initiative engages local communities in project activities and decision-making while strengthening the technical capacity of agroforestry practitioners. Through community participation, the project encourages shared responsibility for restoring degraded landscapes, conserving soil and water resources, and improving the resilience of upland ecosystems.



Coordination Meeting with Barangay Officials of Nalkan, Datu Blah Sinsuat on the finalization of nursery establishment plan held on January 16, 2025 at MSU-Maguindanao Campus

Advancing Community Resilience through the MSU-Maguindanao–WFP Partnership

On August 12, 2025, MSU–Maguindanao formalized a partnership with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to advance food security, sustainable agriculture, and climate-resilient communities in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Under their 2025–2027 cooperation work plan, the partners identified initiatives on smallholder farmer capacity building, climate-smart agriculture, local climate change adaptation planning, and watershed management. By combining the University's research and extension expertise with WFP's technical resources, the partnership supports local capacities and promotes collaborative approaches to managing agricultural landscapes and protecting shared natural resources.

Supporting Sustainable Agricultural Landscapes through Coconut Planting

The University further expanded its environmental partnerships through the Massive Coconut Planting Program (MCPP) in collaboration with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA). The two institutions formalized their partnership through an MOA signed on October 22, 2025, in Quezon City. With Two Million Ninety Thousand Pesos (₱2,090,000.00), (approximately US$36,345) in PCA funding, the one-year initiative supports the cultivation and distribution of 22,000 high-quality coconut seedlings in Maguindanao. The partnership aims to improve farm productivity, increase farmers' income, and strengthen sustainable coconut production through planting and replanting activities, nursery establishment, technical assistance, and regular monitoring. By supporting farmers and promoting tree-based agricultural production, the initiative contributes to sustainable land use and the development of productive agricultural landscapes.



Figure 13. Chancellor Bai Hejira M. Limbona delivers Message of Support and Commitment during the Ceremonial Signing of Partnership Agreement with Philippine Coconut Authority on October 22, 2025 at Quezon City, Philippines

Strengthening Regional Collaboration for Natural Resource Conservation

Beyond its local and agricultural partnerships, MSU–Maguindanao strengthened regional collaboration through its leadership in the Mindanao Sulu Palawan–Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala-IRDC), which has expanded from 9 founding institutions to 14 member universities and colleges.

The Consortium organized the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources on November 26–28, 2025, in General Santos City, bringing together more than 190 researchers, policymakers, faculty experts, and development partners from Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan. The forum provided a platform for sharing scientific research, building institutional partnerships, and advancing sustainable water and natural resource governance. Through its collaborative research initiatives, participating institutions contribute scientific information to support evidence-based policymaking and the sustainable management of shared ecosystems and natural resources.

Through these partnerships, MSU–Maguindanao promotes collective action in restoring degraded landscapes, supporting sustainable agricultural practices, strengthening watershed management, and conserving natural resources. By engaging local communities, farmers, government agencies, and research institutions, the University contributes to shared responsibility and sustained collaboration in maintaining and protecting ecosystems.

LAND-SENSITIVE WASTE DISPOSAL

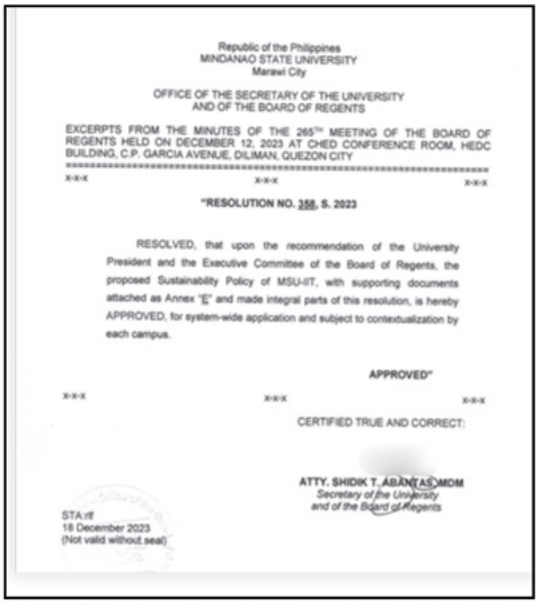
Adherence to Republic Act No. 9275 (Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004) on Water Quality Standards and Wastewater Discharge Management

The University adheres to Republic Act No. 9275, the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, enacted on March 22, 2004, which sets the national framework for protecting the country's freshwater, brackish, and marine waters. Section 3 extends the law to pollution from land-based sources, which includes wastewater from campus sanitation facilities, laboratories, and food service establishments. Section 14 requires facilities that discharge regulated effluents to obtain discharge permits from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), which set the allowable quantity and quality of wastewater, compliance schedules, and monitoring requirements, and encourages waste minimization and wastewater treatment before discharge.

Sections 19(e) and 19(f) make the DENR responsible for enforcing and updating national water quality guidelines and effluent standards, and Section 19(g) provides for standardized sampling and analysis by accredited laboratories. Section 16 holds those who pollute beyond these standards liable for clean-up. By following these requirements, the University manages the wastewater from its campus operations so that it does not contaminate receiving water bodies, harm aquatic organisms and wildlife, or threaten the water resources that surrounding communities depend on.

Implementing Institutional Policies and Action Plans to Reduce Plastic Waste on Campus

Reducing plastic waste remains an important part of the University's commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible campus operations. The Mindanao State University System Sustainability Policy, adopted by Mindanao State University–Maguindanao (MSU–Maguindanao) under Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, series of 2023, provides the institutional basis for reducing plastic consumption, promoting reusable alternatives, and strengthening waste management practices. This policy remains applicable to the University from 2025 to the present and guides its continuing efforts to minimize plastic waste across campus facilities, offices, food services, and institutional activities.



Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 265TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2023 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

"RESOLUTION NO. 358, S. 2023

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the University President and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the proposed Sustainability Policy of MSU-IIT, with supporting documents attached as Annex "E" and made integral parts of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED, for system-wide application and subject to contextualization by each campus.

APPROVED"

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rtf
18 December 2023
(Not valid without seal)

Official MSU System Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, Series of 2023, approving the MSU-IIT Sustainability Policy for system-wide implementation

Under Article VII, Section 1 – Waste Management and Recycling on university sustainability policy (BOR Resolution 358 S. 2023), identifies specific actions to reduce plastic waste. Section 1(f) directs the University to "Reduce food and plastic waste from the campus food system," while Section 1(g) promotes reusable, renewable, and recyclable food packaging materials. Section 1(h) provides for the prohibition of Styrofoam, single-use plastic bags, and disposable food accessories. Section 1(i) further encourages the practices of "Bring your own tumbler/container/utensil" and "Clean as you go." These provisions establish practical measures for reducing disposable plastic consumption and encouraging responsible waste management among students, faculty members, employees, and campus concessionaires.

The University's commitment is further reinforced by the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy, approved under Board of Regents Resolution No. 18, series of 2024, for system-wide application across the Mindanao State University System. This policy also remains applicable from 2025 to the present and strengthens the University's direction toward reducing single-use plastic products and encouraging sustainable alternatives. It requires each campus to develop its own Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to guide implementation according to its operational requirements.

Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
Marawi City

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 266TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON APRIL 23, 2024 AT CHED EXECUTIVE LOUNGE, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

"RESOLUTION NO. 18, S. 2024

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the President of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy in MSU-Marawi, herein appended as Annex "H" and made integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED for system-wide application.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that each campuses will have its own Implementation Rules and Regulations (IRR).

APPROVED"

x-x-x x-x-x x-x-x

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. SHIDIK T. ABANTAS, MDM
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regents

STA:rlf
03 May 2024
(Not valid without seal)

MSU System Board of Regents Resolution No. 18, Series of 2024, approving the Zero Single-Use Plastics Policy of MSU–Marawi for system-wide implementation.



Dissemination posters for the Single-Use Plastic Free Policy

In carrying out these policies, the University's continuing action plan focuses on reducing single-use plastics in campus offices, canteens, concessionaire operations, meetings, seminars, and other University activities. This includes discouraging the use of Styrofoam containers, plastic bags, disposable cups, straws, and other single-use food accessories; encouraging students and employees to bring reusable tumblers, food containers, and utensils; promoting recyclable and environmentally responsible food packaging; and strengthening waste segregation and proper disposal practices. Campus offices and food concessionaires are expected to observe the applicable policy provisions, while information activities and regular monitoring can help reinforce compliance and encourage participation across the University community.

Republic of the Philippines
MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-MAGUINDANAO
Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao, Philippines 9601
msumag@msumaguindanao.edu.ph

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM ORDER)
Number 149)
Series of 2022)

TO: ALL PERSONNEL OF THE SECURITY AND INVESTIGATION OFFICE

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2022

SUBJECT: PROHIBITING STUDENTS FROM BRINGING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC INSIDE THE CAMPUS

In the exigency of service, all the concerned are directed to strictly inspect students' bags for single-use plastic. Students bringing single-use plastic shall be prohibited from entering the campus unless they dispose of it properly outside.

For information and strict compliance.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA, PhD
Chancellor

Figure 16. Official MSU–Maguindanao Memorandum Order No. 149, Series of 2022, issued by the Office of the Chancellor on October 21, 2022, prohibiting students from bringing single-use plastic in the campus.

The policies continue to provide institutional direction for plastic waste reduction at MSU–Maguindanao. Through their application, the University promotes reduced dependence on disposable plastics, greater use of reusable materials, responsible consumption, and improved waste management. These continuing measures support the development of a cleaner campus environment and strengthen the shared responsibility of the University community in preventing plastic pollution and conserving natural resources.

Hazardous Waste Management and Disposal

The Sustainability Policy, anchored in the Sustainability Policy of MSU–Iligan Institute of Technology and approved through Board of Regents Resolution No. 358, s. 2023, sets provisions for handling and disposing of hazardous materials. Article VII, Section 1, Waste Management and Recycling, directs the University to reduce waste generation and landfill disposal, and Section 1(e) requires it to "adopt and/or continue to implement guidelines on managing and handling e-waste, chemicals, chemical waste, and biohazardous waste." Section 1(d) promotes university-wide waste education, and Section 1(l) requires waste segregation at source, with proper containers in offices and food concessionaires.

To promote environmental sustainability, optimize resource utilization, and ensure compliance with applicable environmental and health regulations, MSU-Maguindanao Infirmary Hospital crafted its Policy on Recycling of Hospital Equipment in 2025, which establishes guidelines for recycling, repurposing, handling, and proper disposal of hospital equipment. The policy establishes the following procedures:

1. **Inventory and Assessment.** An updated inventory of hospital equipment is maintained, and regular assessments are conducted to determine whether equipment can be repaired, repurposed, or recycled.

2. **Recycling and Repurposing.** A recycling and repurposing process is maintained to identify obsolete or unused equipment that can be converted into reusable materials or adapted for other hospital functions.

3. **Proper Handling and Disposal.** Procedures for handling, segregating, and Procedures for handling, segregating, and

4. **Institutional Accountability.** A system of responsibility is maintained among hospital administrators, department heads, employees, and contractors to ensure compliance with the policy.

5. **Training and Compliance.** Personnel training and resource support are maintained to ensure that employees follow appropriate procedures for equipment handling, recycling, and disposal.

MSU – MAGUINDANAO INFIRMARY HOSPITAL	Document Code	MSUMag – INF - OM96
	Effectivity Date	October 15, 2025
	Revision No.	0
	Page No.	96 of 146

POLICY NAME:	RECYCLING OF HOSPITAL EQUIPMENTS PROCESS

PROCESS FLOW CHART
FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL

START

1 **IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT**
- Identify damaged, obsolete, or non-functional equipment
- Verify if equipment is recyclable or reusable

2 **INSPECTION AND EVALUATION**
- Biomedical/maintenance personnel inspect equipment
- Determine if item can be:
  - Repaired
  - Reused
  - Recycled
  - Disposed

3 **DECONTAMINATION**
- Clean and disinfect equipment properly
- Remove infectious or hazardous contaminants
- Follow infection prevention protocols

4 **SEGREGATION OF PARTS**
- Separate recyclable materials:
  - Metal
  - Plastic
  - Glass
  - Electronic components
- Remove hazardous materials or batteries

5 **DOCUMENTATION**
- Record equipment details
- Update inventory and disposal records
- Secure approval for recycling/disposal

6 **TEMPORARY STORAGE**
- Store recyclable equipment in designated area
- Label items according to recycling category

7 **TRANSPORTATION / TURNOVER**
- Transfer equipment to accredited recycler
  OR
- Coordinate with waste management provider

8 **RECYCLING PROCESS**
- Recyclable materials processed for reuse
- Non-recyclable waste disposed according to regulations

9 **FINAL REPORTING**
- Prepare recycling and disposal report
- Submit documentation to hospital administration

END

Prepared by:

DR. FIRKHAN A. ESTRELLA
Head, MSU – Maguindanao Infirmary Hospital

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Figure 18. The Process Flow for the Recycling of Hospital Equipment of MSU-Maguindanao Infirmary Hospital



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

OVERVIEW

This report presents Mindanao State University–Maguindanao's work on SDG 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, from January to December 2025. It follows three of the areas in which SDG 16 is assessed.

University Governance Measures covers how students, faculty, and outside stakeholders take part in the University's decisions, its written procedure for engaging local stakeholders, its policy on academic freedom, and its transparency in public documents. Working with the government covers the expert advice, training, and policy-focused research the University gave local, regional, and national government, and the neutral platforms it opened for students, officials, and scholars to discuss elections, governance, and the peace process. Proportion of Graduates in Law and Civil Enforcement covers the University's programs in law, criminology, and women, peace and security, and the legal services its College of Law began to offer.

The report closes with the University's plans for the coming years and an index of the evidence for each item.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE MEASURES

Elected Students and Faculty Take Part in Board Decisions as the Student Government Speaks for Students

Under the Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997 (Republic Act No. 8292), the Mindanao State University Board of Regents, the highest governing body of the University, includes the president of the federation of student councils and the president of the federation of faculty associations, both chosen through their own organizations' elections. Through these elected regents, students and faculty took part in Board decisions that directly affected them: the Revised Admission Criteria for disadvantaged applicants at the 270th meeting on April 14, 2025, the Research, Extension, and Development Agenda 2025–2030 at the 271st meeting on June 10, and the Equal Opportunity Principles guidelines for hiring and promotion at the 272nd meeting on September 9.

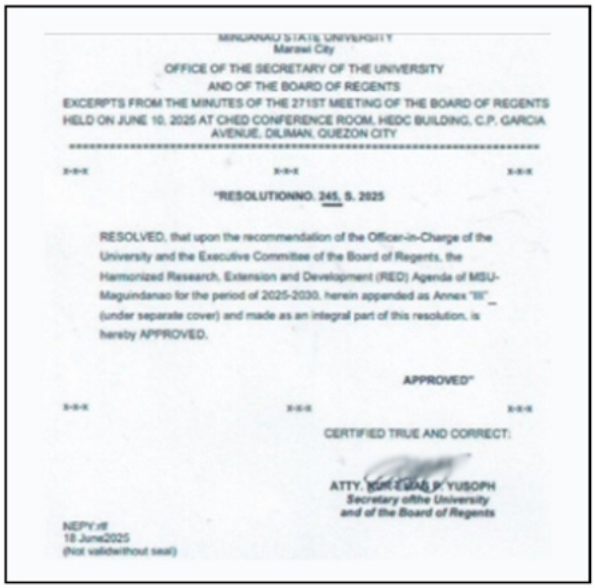
The elected Supreme Student Council speaks for students and organizes activities for them. It co-organized the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth on January 31, 2025, and the 3rd International Values Transformation Leadership Training with Initiatives of Change on October 11, 2025, and student leaders carried students' views to the Third-Party Monitoring Team on September 25, 2025.

A Written Procedure Guides How the University Identifies and Consults Outside Stakeholders

The University's written procedure for identifying and engaging local stakeholders is recorded in its Harmonized Research, Extension, and Development (RED) Agenda 2025–2030, approved through MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 245, s. 2025, on June 10, 2025. Under the procedure, the University identifies the external groups its programs affect, presents its draft plans to them for comment, records their recommendations, and refers each to the responsible committee.

The agenda went through each step, from a college workshop in Kitaotao, Bukidnon, on August 8 to 10, 2024, to its presentation to parents, alumni, students, and health and public works agencies at the 2025 Stakeholders' Consultation. The result covers eight disciplines, 64 research agenda, and 362 priorities, including Governance for Inclusive Nation Building and Women, Peace and Security, Indigenous, and Halal Studies.




OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 271ST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HELD ON JUNE 10, 2025 AT CHED CONFERENCE ROOM, HEDC BUILDING, C.P. GARCIA AVENUE, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY

"RESOLUTIONNO. 245, S. 2025

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Officer-in-Charge of the University and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, the Harmonized Research, Extension and Development (RED) Agenda of MSU-Maguindanao for the period of 2025-2030, herein appended as Annex "III" (under separate cover) and made as an integral part of this resolution, is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVED"

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

ATTY. [illegible] P. YUSOPH
Secretary ofthe University
and of the Board of Regents

Figure 1. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension issues the RED Agenda 2025–2030 after consultation with external stakeholders.

Local Governments, Health Agencies, Civil Society, Parents, and Alumni Shape the University's 2026 Plans

On February 28, 2025, at the DOS Gymnasium, the annual Stakeholders' Consultation of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development gave local government units, civil society organizations, parents, alumni, and representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Public Works, the Integrated Provincial Health Office of Maguindanao, and the Rural Health Unit of Datu Odin Sinsuat a direct voice in the University's plans. University officials presented the proposed 2026 programs in infrastructure, research, extension, and health services and the draft RED Agenda 2025–2030.

In an open forum, participants questioned the proposed priorities, raised community needs, and recommended changes, and the meeting closed with a Commitment Wall Signing. Their inputs refined the University's 2026 plans, particularly the development of the University Infirmary and its alignment with the National Health Resource and Human Management Plan 2020–2040.



Parents, alumni, students, and representatives of government agencies and civil society shape the University's 2026 priorities at the Stakeholders' Consultation, February 28, 2025.

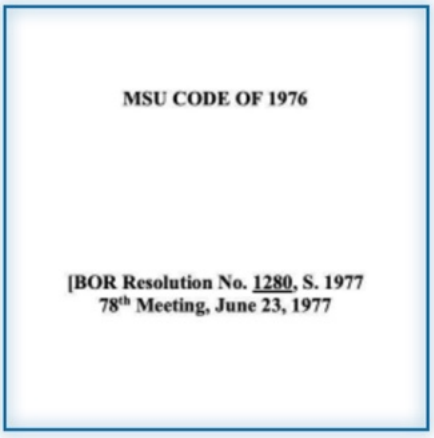


CPAG Dean recommends changes to University programs during the open forum.

The MSU Code Guarantees Teachers the Freedom to Teach, Research, Publish, and Speak in Their Field

Section 7 of the MSU Code of 1976, approved through MSU Board of Regents Resolution No. 1280, s. 1977, on June 23, 1977, and applied to all campuses of the MSU System, protects academic freedom. Article 144 states that "members of the teaching staff enjoy academic freedom," and Article 145 defines it as "the right of the teacher to teach the subject, publish the result of his research and express his convictions in his field of specialization in his best lights."

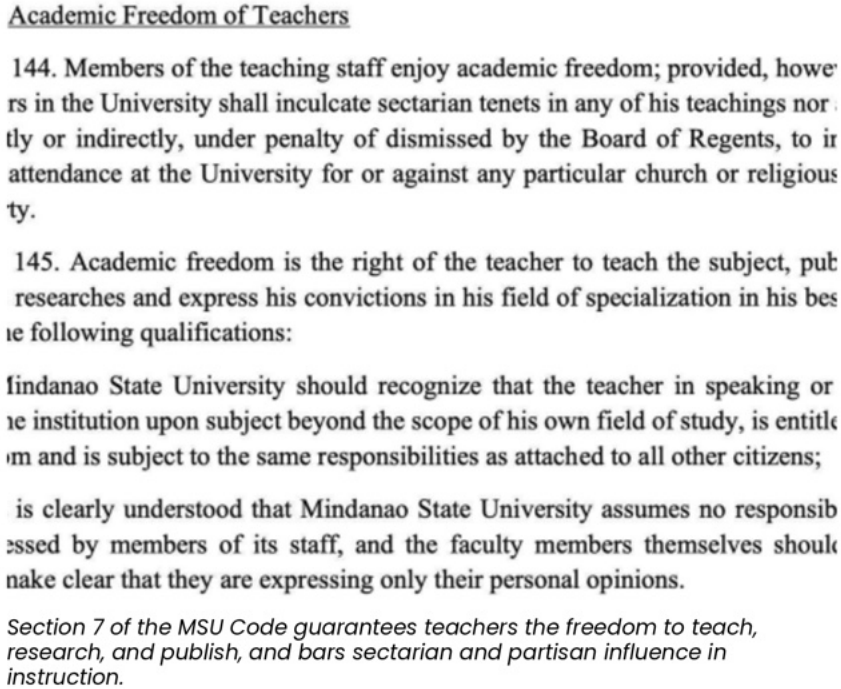
The provisions cover teaching and research for all members of the teaching staff, junior and senior alike, and extend to teachers who speak or write outside the University the same freedom as other citizens. They also bar any instructor from using teaching to influence students for or against any church, religious sect, or political party.



MSU CODE OF 1976

[BOR Resolution No. 1280, S. 1977
78th Meeting, June 23, 1977

The MSU Board of Regents approves the MSU Code of 1976 through Resolution No. 1280, s. 1977, June 23, 1977.



Academic Freedom of Teachers

144. Members of the teaching staff enjoy academic freedom; provided, howe
rs in the University shall inculcate sectarian tenets in any of his teachings nor
tly or indirectly, under penalty of dismissed by the Board of Regents, to ir
attendance at the University for or against any particular church or religious
ty.

145. Academic freedom is the right of the teacher to teach the subject, pub
researches and express his convictions in his field of specialization in his bes
ıe following qualifications:

lindanao State University should recognize that the teacher in speaking or
ıe institution upon subject beyond the scope of his own field of study, is entitl
ım and is subject to the same responsibilities as attached to all other citizens;

is clearly understood that Mindanao State University assumes no responsib
essed by members of its staff, and the faculty members themselves shoul
nake clear that they are expressing only their personal opinions.

Section 7 of the MSU Code guarantees teachers the freedom to teach, research, and publish, and bars sectarian and partisan influence in instruction.

Public Documents and Hiring Notices Are Kept Open to the Public

The University keeps its records through a Records Management Office that ensures the proper safekeeping, accessibility, and accountability of institutional records, and it has developed 16 operational manuals that set out clear processes and decision-making rules across its offices and colleges. Hiring announcements are posted on its official website and social media pages. Its transparency documents are published at https://tinyurl.com/TransparencyDocuments.

WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT

Fifteen Political Science Faculty Serve as Voter Education Champions in 20 Barangays

On September 27, 2025, fifteen faculty members of the Political Science Department served as Voter Education Champions in a campaign of the Commission on Elections, the Legal Network for Truthful Elections, the United Nations Development Programme, the Ministry of the Interior and Local Government, and the Ministry of Public Order and Safety, ahead of the first Bangsamoro parliamentary elections.

The faculty led sessions in 20 barangays of Datu Salibo, Datu Anggal Midtimbang, and Datu Odin Sinsuat, explaining the Bangsamoro peace process that created BARMM, how its parliamentary system works, and the official voting procedures, and answering residents' questions.



An MSU–Maguindanao Voter Education Champion leads residents through the official voting procedures in a barangay session, September 27, 2025.



A Voter Education Champion explains the BARMM parliamentary system to community members.

Local Governments, MAFAR Officers, and Regional Policymakers Receive Guidance and Training on Water, Fisheries, and Climate-Resilient Livelihoods

As lead of the DBM-funded Mindanao–Sulu–Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala–IRDC), the University presented five policy recommendations in October 2025 to the local governments of Cotabato City, Kabuntalan, Northern Kabuntalan, Talitay, and Datu Piang, whose officials validated the findings and chose priority native crops and fish for conservation. In September 2025, University extension staff trained 30 municipal officers and agricultural extension workers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform in a Training of Trainers funded by the World Food Programme, and each drafted a six-month action plan.

From November 26 to 28, 2025, the University convened the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources in General Santos City, where over 190 researchers, policymakers, and community stakeholders worked through policy workshops on turning research findings into local conservation strategies.



Heads of MinSuPala–IRDC member universities and partner agencies convene policymakers at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, General Santos City, November 2025.



Heads of MinSuPala–IRDC member universities and partner agencies convene policymakers at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, General Santos City, November 2025.

Faculty Study Why Aid Arrived Late, Map Watershed Risks, and Assess Wetlands with Government Partners

College of Public Affairs and Governance faculty evaluated the Humanitarian and Development Assistance Program with the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, surveying 100 beneficiaries in Mamasapano and Datu Saudi Ampatuan, who rated its impact as extensive but reported delays linked to local peace and order conditions (Edelweiss Applied Science and Technology, Vol. 9, No. 6, 2025).

From June 2024 to July 2025, a team funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology–BARMM worked with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy and the local government of Upi to map landslide vulnerability in the South Upi Forest Watershed, ending with a vulnerability map and a policy recommendation. With MAFAR and five local governments, the University also assessed water quality, fisheries, and the livelihoods of 930 residents around Ligawasan Marsh.

Students, Officials, and Scholars Debate Elections, Dynasties, and Corruption on a Neutral Campus

The University opened its campus as a neutral space for political stakeholders. On January 31, 2025, about 1,300 students questioned the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, COMELEC, and other speakers at the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth. On September 25, 2025, about 200 first-time voters questioned a Ministry of Social Services and Development official on electoral integrity at the College of Law's Voter's Education Forum.

On November 14, 2025, the University hosted the first stop of the Philippine Political Science Association's Mindanao Caravan, where political dynasties, patronage, and corruption were debated openly before students, faculty of Ateneo de Davao University, and Grade 12 learners from four public schools. Student leaders also brought youth perspectives to the Third-Party Monitoring Team's review of the Bangsamoro peace agreements on September 25, 2025.



Students try the Automated Counting Machine during a sample voting exercise at the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth, January 31, 2025.



Prof. Dennis C. Coronacion examines political dynasties, patronage, and corruption in the keynote lecture, November 14, 2025.

PROPORTION OF GRADUATES IN LAW AND CIVIL ENFORCEMENT

Programs in Law, Criminology, and Women, Peace and Security Prepare Graduates for Justice and Public Safety

The University prepares graduates for careers in law, justice, and public safety through three programs. The Juris Doctor, offered at the University through the MSU College of Law–Maguindanao Extension since Academic Year 2023–2024, enrolled 124 students in Academic Year 2024–2025 and 136 in 2025–2026. The BS Criminology, one of the University's new programs, prepares graduates for law enforcement and public safety, and the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security trains government personnel, security sector officers, and community leaders, producing 31 graduates in its first cohort.

Program	
Juris Doctor	First cohorts expected to graduate in A.Y. 2028-2029
BS Criminology	First cohorts expected to graduate in A.Y. 2028-2029
Diploma in Women, Peace and Security	**31** (first cohort, completed October 15, 2025)

Law students also learn by serving. On October 7, 2025, nine College of Law faculty members and lawyers of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Cotabato Chapter gave free legal consultation and notarization to University personnel, and on November 14 and 15, 2025, the College of Law planned its Kasaligan Law Clinic, through which supervised law students will bring legal assistance to underserved communities.



Students try the Automated Counting Machine during a sample voting exercise at the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth, January 31, 2025.



Prof. Dennis C. Coronacion examines political dynasties, patronage, and corruption in the keynote lecture, November 14, 2025.



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

OVERVIEW

In the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), peace, food security, and sustainable development are problems that no single institution can solve alone. For Mindanao State University–Maguindanao, partnership is therefore both a way of working and a responsibility to the cultural communities it serves. This report presents the University's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 17, Partnerships for the Goals, during calendar year 2025.

The report first sets out whom the University worked with and what those partners made possible. In 2025, the University worked with 82 partners, from United Nations agencies and foreign universities to Bangsamoro ministries, local governments, civil society, industry, and fellow state universities and colleges. Partners funded 8 projects with a combined project cost of ₱110,315,046. These include Phase 2 of the DBM-funded MinSuPala–IRDC, which the University leads, the OPAPRU livelihood projects in Camps Badre, Omar, and Abubakar, and the National Tilapia Research and Development Program funded by DOST–PCAARRD, which the College of Fisheries leads with Capiz State University, Northern Iloilo State University, Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology, and the University of the Philippines Visayas.

The report then turns to what these partnerships produced. Data from 930 residents around Ligawasan Marsh became five policy recommendations that local governments validated, and the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources brought together more than 190 researchers, policymakers, and community leaders. Exchanges with Indonesian universities and an initiative funded by the European Union shaped the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security, whose first cohort produced 31 graduates. Livelihood projects reached 2,075 beneficiaries, and a university-wide survey set the baseline for student sustainability literacy. Together, these efforts advance the multi-stakeholder partnerships, the sharing of knowledge and resources, and the mobilization of funding that SDG 17 calls for.

2025 AT A GLANCE

From January to December 2025, the University worked with 82 partners for the goals, from United Nations agencies and foreign universities to Bangsamoro ministries, municipal governments, civil society, industry, and fellow state universities and colleges.

82 Partnership for the Goals		
20 international universities and organizations	**18** national and Bangsamoro government agencies	**12** local government units and offices
7 non-government and civil society organizations	**2** industry partners	**23** Philippine universities, colleges, and schools, including 14 fellow MinSuPala–IRDC members

Other Figures

15 Member State Universities and Colleges in the MinSuPala-IRDC, with MSU-Maguindanao as Lead University		
₱110.32M in partner funding for projects active from January to December 2025	**930** residents around Ligawasan Marsh whose data became five policy recommendations	**190+** participants at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources
2,075 beneficiaries of livelihood projects in Camps Badre, Omar, and Abubakar	**31** graduates in the first cohort of the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security	**87.68%** or more of students rated high or very high in every sustainability literacy dimension

PARTNERS FOR THE GOALS

Partnership is the heart of SDG 17. In 2025, the University worked with 82 partners that funded and co-implemented its research, received its students and faculty, and joined its dialogues and community programs. The list combines its confirmed active partnerships with the partners named in the SDG 17 articles of this report.

International Universities (11)

Partner institution	Country
Hasanuddin University	Indonesia
Universitas Gadjah Mada	Indonesia
Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta	Indonesia
Universitas Ahmad Dahlan	Indonesia
University of North Sumatra	Indonesia
Vietnam National University of Forestry	Vietnam
Kastamonu University	Türkiye
Democritus University of Thrace	Greece
Kansas State University	United States of America
Tomsk Polytechnic University	Russia
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia	Malaysia

International Organizations and Development Partners (9)

Partner institution	Country
World Food Programme	United Nations agency
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	United Nations agency
United Nations Development Programme	United Nations agency
Japan International Cooperation Agency	Development agency, Japan
European Union	Development partner
British Embassy Manila	Development partner
Action Against Hunger	International humanitarian organization
Islamic Relief Philippines	International humanitarian organization
Initiatives of Change	International non-government organization

MinSuPala–IRDC Member Institutions (14)

Adiong Memorial State College	Mindanao State University–Zamboanga Sibugay
Basilan State College	South Cotabato State College
Cotabato Foundation College of Science and Technology	Sultan Kudarat State University
Cotabato State University	Sulu State College
Mindanao State University–General Santos	Tawi-Tawi Regional Agricultural College
Mindanao State University–Sulu	University of Southern Mindanao–Kabacan
Mindanao State University–Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography	University of Southern Mindanao–Kidapawan City Campus

Other Philippine Universities, Colleges, and Schools (9)

University of the Philippines Diliman	Mindanao State University–Buug
Philippine Normal University	Datu Mohammad A. Sinsuat Jr. Integrated School
Notre Dame of Marbel University	Capiz State University
Northern Iloilo State University	Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology
University of the Philippines Visayas	

National Government Agencies (9)

Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity	Mindanao Development Authority
Department of Budget and Management, including DBM Region XII	National Commission for Culture and the Arts
Department of Science and Technology, including DOST–PCAARRD	Philippine Coconut Authority
Bureau of Soils and Water Management	Commission on Elections
National Research Council of the Philippines	

Bangsamoro Government (9)

Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education	Ministry of Labor and Employment
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform	Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority
Ministry of Science and Technology	Bangsamoro Commission for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage
Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy	Bangsamoro Youth Commission
Ministry of Trade, Investments and Tourism	

Local Government Units and Offices (12)

City Government of Cotabato	Municipality of Sultan Kudarat
Municipality of Kabuntalan	Municipality of North Upi
Municipality of Northern Kabuntalan	Municipality of Datu Blah Sinsuat
Municipality of Talitay	Barangay Penansaran, Datu Blah Sinsuat
Municipality of Datu Piang	Provincial Environment, Natural Resources and Energy Office of Maguindanao
Municipality of Mangudadatu	Municipality of South Upi

Non-Government and Civil Society Organizations (7)

Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy	Bangsamoro Development Agency
Asian Center of Education, Research and Tutelage for Innovation, Inc.	UP Center for Women's Studies Foundation
Legal Network for Truthful Elections	Philippine Political Science Association
Care Channels Inc.	

Industry (2)

Shimadzu Philippines Corporation	Guill-Bern Corporation

Networks and Memberships

International	Philippines
ASEAN Fisheries Network Education	Mindanao–Sulu–Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (Lead University)
	Too Big To Ignore (TBTI) Philippines
	Philippine Society for Public Administration (PSPA)
	Mindanao–Sulu–Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (Lead University)

Funding from Partners

Partners funded 8 projects that the University carried out from January to December 2025, with a combined project cost of ₱124,149,140 (about US $2.138 million).

Partner	Project	Period	Amount (₱)
Department of Budget and Management	MinSuPala–IRDC Phase 2 on indigenous fish and crops (consortium project cost)	January to December 2025	45,000,000
Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity	Livelihood projects in Camps Badre, Omar, and Abubakar	July 2024 to August 2025	32,364,628
Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity	MNLF Educational Assistance	2024 to 2025	20,000,000
Asian Center of Education, Research and Tutelage for Innovation, Inc. and MSU–Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography	Indigenous Peoples Education Framework for the Erumanen Menuvu Tribe	Since May 2025	1,451,000
Ministry of Science and Technology–BARMM	South Upi Forest Watershed characterization and vulnerability assessment	June 2024 to July 2025	1,199,418
DOST–PCAARRD	National Tilapia Research and Development Program, Program B: Productivity Enhancement of SPIN Tilapia Culture Systems (Project 1)	2025 to 2028	17,042,004
DOST–PCAARRD	Enhancing Climate Resilience through Native Tree and Fruit Tree-based Agroforestry Technology: A Science and Technology-Based Initiative for Emergencies and Hazards in Datu Blah Sinsuat, Maguindanao	2024 to 2026	5,000,000
Philippine Coconut Authority	Implementation of CY 2025 Massive Coconut Planting Program	2025	2,092,090
Total	8 projects		₱124,149,140

Amounts are project costs as reported in the University's SDG 17 articles and evidence files. The DBM amount is the cost of the consortium-wide Phase 2 project, not MSU–Maguindanao's share alone.

Partners also supported the University's work in other ways. The World Food Programme funded the Training of Trainers that University extension staff delivered to 30 MAFAR municipal officers and agricultural extension workers in September 2025. The European Union funds the two-year initiative, launched on April 14, 2025, that strengthens the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security, and UNDP Philippines and the British Embassy Manila supported the DWPS learning exchange in Yogyakarta from June 18 to 20, 2025.

MSU–Maguindanao, through its College of Fisheries, leads the National Tilapia Research and Development Program, Program B: Productivity Enhancement of SPIN Tilapia Culture Systems, funded by the Department of Science and Technology–Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST–PCAARRD). The program works on the Saline-tolerant Population of Improved Nilotica (SPIN). Dr. Ramjie Y. Odin, Dean of the College of Fisheries, serves as Overall Program Leader and Project 1 Leader, with Capiz State University, Northern Iloilo State University, Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology, and the University of the Philippines Visayas as partners. The program's inception meeting was held on June 19, 2025, at Capiz State University.

RELATIONSHIPS TO SUPPORT THE GOALS

University Research Shapes Policy on Water, Peace Education, and Camp Livelihoods

Data on the water, fisheries, and livelihoods of 930 residents around Ligawasan Marsh became five policy recommendations that local governments validated in October 2025. As lead of the DBM-funded Mindanao–Sulu–Palawan Innovative Research and Development Consortium (MinSuPala–IRDC), the University presented these findings to MAFAR, the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, DOST–PCAARRD, environmental groups, fisherfolk associations, and six local governments at the Stakeholders' Consultation on February 27, 2025, and turned over its Phase 1 reports to DBM at the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources from November 26 to 28, 2025.

The University also gave direct input to national and regional policymakers. On September 16, 2025, it submitted a position paper on the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security to the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education. On August 12, 2025, it signed a 2025–2027 partnership with the World Food Programme to help priority barangays prepare local climate change adaptation plans. It evaluated a regional assistance program with the Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority, and it monitors the OPAPRU camp livelihood projects through regular Kamustahan sessions with the cooperatives.



A MinSuPala–IRDC researcher presents findings on Central Mindanao's water bodies to government agencies, local governments, and fisherfolk associations at the Stakeholders' Consultation, Datu Odin Sinsuat Gymnasium, February 27, 2025.



Chancellor Bai Hejira Nefertiti M. Limbona and WFP Country Director Regis Chapman sign the 2025–2027 partnership on food security and climate resilience, Institute of Management, August 12, 2025.

Cross-Sectoral Dialogues on Mindanao's Waters and Women, Peace and Security Initiated and Joined with Government, NGOs, and Industry

From January 31 to November 28, 2025, the University initiated or joined conferences, forums, and workshops on the SDGs with government, non-government organizations, and industry. The largest, the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources in General Santos City from November 26 to 28, 2025, drew over 190 researchers, policymakers, and community leaders, with DBM Region XII, the Mindanao Development Authority, Shimadzu Philippines Corporation, and Guill-Bern Corporation as partners.

The University also co-hosted the 4th Biennial Conference on Tropical Biodiversity on July 23, 2025, led a dialogue at the 2025 Philippine Conference on Women, Peace and Security on October 29, and held its annual Stakeholders' Consultation with more than 200 participants on February 28. Its Voters' Empowerment Forum with the Bangsamoro Youth Commission and COMELEC reached about 1,300 students on January 31, and the BA Political Science program hosted the 1st President's Lecture Forum of the Philippine Political Science Association on November 14. The University also joined dialogues with the Third-Party Monitoring Team, JICA, and Islamic Relief Philippines, and hosted Initiatives of Change for a values leadership training on October 11.



Participants for the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, General Santos City, November 26 to 28, 2025.



COMELEC Election Officer III Bai Maceda L. Abo demonstrates the Automated Counting Machine to students at the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth, January 31, 2025.

Collaboration with International Universities to Review Comparative Approaches and Develop Research-Based Best Practices for Sustainable Development

The University also co-hosted the **4th Biennial Conference on Tropical Biodiversity** on July 23, 2025, led a dialogue at the **2025 Philippine Conference on Women, Peace and Security** on October 29, and held its annual Stakeholders' Consultation with more than 200 participants on February 28. Its Voters' Empowerment Forum with the Bangsamoro Youth Commission and COMELEC reached about 1,300 students on January 31, and the BA Political Science program hosted the 1st President's Lecture Forum of the Philippine Political Science Association on November 14. The University also joined dialogues with the Third-Party Monitoring Team, JICA, and Islamic Relief Philippines, and hosted Initiatives of Change for a values leadership training on October 11.

The University also shares its measurements internationally. On July 23, 2025, it co-hosted the 4th Biennial Conference on Tropical Biodiversity with Hasanuddin University in Indonesia, Tomsk Polytechnic University, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, and the University of North Sumatra, where ten University faculty presented 13 studies on biodiversity, carbon stocks, land-use change, and water quality.



Participants for the 1st Mindanao Forum on Waters and Natural Resources, General Santos City, November 26 to 28, 2025.



COMELEC Election Officer III Bai Maceda L. Abo demonstrates the Automated Counting Machine to students at the Voters' Empowerment Forum for the Youth, January 31, 2025.

What Aceh Can Teach the Bangsamoro: A Yogyakarta Exchange and an EU-Funded Initiative Reshape How the University Teaches Peace and Gender Equality

Lessons from the Aceh peace process and from Indonesian campus programs against sexual violence now shape the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security (DWPS). From June 18 to 20, 2025, a 15-member DWPS delegation, supported by UNDP Philippines and the British Embassy Manila, compared approaches to peacebuilding, women's participation, and sexual violence prevention with Universitas Gadjah Mada, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, and Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, and signed three agreements for joint research and exchange.

The DWPS team turned the comparison into best practice in the learning book "Dialogue Beyond Borders," launched on October 29, 2025, and now used in six DWPS courses and three courses of the Master of Arts in Peace and Development Studies. The work builds on a two-year initiative funded by the European Union, launched on April 14, 2025, to institutionalize the Women, Peace and Security agenda in higher education.



representatives sign a partnership on women, peace and security, June 18, 2025.



Th... Borders," which turns the Yogyakarta-Bangsamoro comparison into teaching material, October 29, 2025.

Research, Educational Resources, and Volunteer Work Advance Through 2025 Partnerships with PCID, ACERT, and LENTE

The University worked with three non-government organizations across research, educational resources, and student volunteering. Since May 2025, it has been developing an Indigenous Peoples Education Framework for the Erumanen Menuvu Tribe with the Asian Center of Education, Research and Tutelage for Innovation, Inc. (ACERT) and MSU–Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography, a ₱1,451,000 project. With the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy (PCID), it developed and delivered the curriculum and materials of the DWPS, including the learning book "Dialogue Beyond Borders."

With the Legal Network for Truthful Elections (LENTE), 15 Political Science faculty volunteered as Voter Education Champions on September 27, 2025, explaining the new parliamentary system and voting procedures in 20 barangays of Datu Salibo, Datu Anggal Midtimbang, and Datu Odin Sinsuat, with 13 BA Political Science students serving as the secretariat.



Asst. Prof. Ralph Darren Santillan, an MSU–Maguindanao Voter Education Champion in partnership with LENTE, leads residents through voting procedures in a barangay session, September 27, 2025.

EDUCATION ON THE SDGs

Weaving Peace Education, SDGs, and Women, Peace and Security (WPS) into University Syllabi for All Students

Integrating peace concepts and the SDGs into teaching is a mandatory part of instruction across all degree programs. The outcomes-based syllabus template of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs gives every course a column, "Integration of Institutional Goals, Peace Concepts, and SDGs," and in every topic, faculty integrate the SDGs and peace concepts into the discussion or class activities. On August 26, 2025, Memorandum Order No. 48, s. 2025 directed the DWPS and the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao to craft a Training Module on Peace Integration in Learning Materials and Assessment.

All first-year students take Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE 101). On May 31, 2025, 37 FPE 101 students visited Camp Iranun and the historical residence of Ustadz Salamat Hashim in Barira, where they heard from survivors of the All-Out War in Bombaran and discussed youth participation with the Bangsamoro Youth Commission, the 1st Marine Brigade, and community leaders.



MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM ORDER)
Number 48)
Series of 2025)

TO: ALL DEANS, THE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL STANDARDIZATION OFFICE (IMSO) COORDINATOR, AND ALL FACULTY MEMBERS

DATE: AUGUST 26, 2025

SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF PEACE CONCEPTS AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) IN SYLLABI AND MODULES

In line with the University's commitment to promote peace education and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all disciplines, all Deans and all faculty members are hereby directed to integrate peace concepts and the applicable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the syllabi and modules of all undergraduate and graduate courses, starting this First Semester, Academic Year 2024–2025.

The IMSO Coordinator shall include the review of this integration in the review of instructional materials (IMs) conducted by the IMSO.

For strict compliance.

BAI HEJIRA NEFERTITI M. LIMBONA
Chancellor

Vision

Mission

Core Values

Page 1 of 1 INTEGRATION OF PEACE CONCEPTS AND THE SDGs IN SYLLABI AND MODULES

Memorandum Order No. 48, s. 2025, directs all faculty members to integrate peace and SDGs in the syllabi and modules on August 26, 2025.

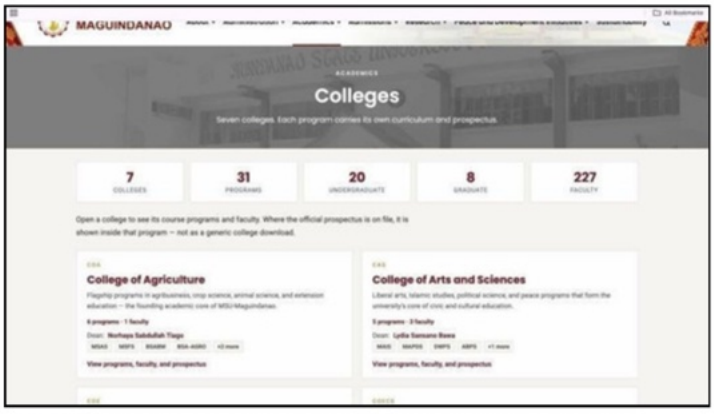


FPE 101 students learn from survivors of the All-Out War in Bombaran during their learning visit at Camp Iranun, May 31, 2025.

Dedicated Degrees and Courses Teach MSU–Maguindanao Students to Care for the Land, the Waters, and Lasting Peace

The University offers full degrees that address sustainability: the BS Forestry, BS Environmental Science, BS Fisheries, BS Agriculture, and BS Sustainable Community Development, along with the Master of Science in Animal Science and the Master of Arts in Peace and Development Studies. Their curricula include courses such as Tropical Forestry and Climate Change, Watershed Management, Protected Area Management, Coastal Resource Management, Fisheries Management, Introduction to Organic Agriculture, and Natural Resource and Environmental Management, and all programs share Fundamentals of Peace Education (FPE 101), Ekokritisismo at Pagpapahalaga sa Kalikasan (FIL 102), and the History of Muslim Filipinos and Indigenous Peoples of Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan (HIS 003).

The Diploma in Women, Peace and Security produced 31 graduates in its first cohort. Its lecture series and forums, such as the March 8, 2025 lecture on transitional justice with Atty. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary and the HERStory of Courage forum on October 13, 2025, connect its courses to the lived experience of the region. The prospectus of each program is published at https://msumaguindanao.edu.ph/colleges.



The University's Colleges page lists its seven colleges and 31 degree programs, including its programs in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.



Bangsamoro women leaders share their stories of struggle and resilience at the HERStory of Courage forum hosted by the first DWPS cohort, October 13, 2025.

Livelihood Projects Reach 2,075 Beneficiaries in Camps Badre, Omar, and Abubakar as MSU–Maguindanao Extends Outreach Education to the Wider Community

Livelihood projects in Camps Badre, Omar, and Abubakar reached 2,075 beneficiaries from July 2024 to August 2025 under the camp transformation program funded by OPAPRU. After a Values Transformation Training funded by the Bangsamoro Development Agency, residents, including former combatants and their families, trained in drip irrigation, organic fertilizer, halal goat raising, native chicken production, fish farming, food processing, financial literacy, and cooperative management. The projects serve ten cooperatives and community organizations, three of them women's groups, and each cooperative earns an average monthly income of ₱18,000 (about US$314).

For residents of nearby barangays, 15 Political Science faculty and 13 student volunteers held voter education sessions in 20 barangays on September 27, 2025, and the University ran a free SASE Review Program for Grade 12 learners from remote communities from August 23 to September 13, 2025. For alumni, it held a Job Fair and Career Guidance with MOLE-BARMM on June 13, 2025, where more than 200 job seekers, 66 of them alumni, met employers.



Cooperative members and University extension personnel inspect the climate-smart vegetable farm set up through the camp transformation program.



Cooperative members and University extension personnel inspect the climate-smart vegetable farm set up through the camp transformation program.

Measuring What Students Know, Value, and Do for Sustainability, a University-Wide Survey Sets the Baseline

At least 87.68% of the students who answered the MSU–Maguindanao Sustainability Literacy Questionnaire (MSU–MSLQ) showed high to very high sustainability literacy in each of its five dimensions, as Mindanao State University–Maguindanao measures the sustainability literacy of its students directly rather than relying only on the courses, campaigns, and environmental activities it offers.

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension (OVCRE) developed the MSU–MSLQ, a structured 30-item assessment that experts reviewed before use, to give the University evidence for institutional planning, quality assurance, program development, and sustainability monitoring. The questionnaire covers five dimensions: knowledge and awareness of sustainable development, the SDGs, climate change, biodiversity, and responsible consumption; values and attitudes, such as environmental responsibility, protecting resources for future generations, social equity, and the role of universities in sustainable development; systems thinking, or seeing how environmental, social, and economic concerns connect; awareness of the environmental challenges facing Maguindanao and the Bangsamoro and of the University's responsibility toward them; and sustainable practices such as waste segregation, reducing plastic use, conserving resources, and joining sustainability activities. Students rated each item on a four-point scale, from 4 (Very High) to 1 (Very Low). OVCRE administered the questionnaire online to all undergraduate and graduate students throughout November 2025. Participation was voluntary, and the questionnaire asked for no names or student numbers.

The results, which are based on students' own ratings, show that respondents see sustainability not only as an environmental concern but also as a matter of social equity, economic choices, institutional accountability, and community development. They give the University a baseline for each dimension and point to where its teaching and campus programs should focus next.

The University aims to use these results to strengthen the dimension where students lag, by building waste segregation, plastic reduction, and resource conservation into campus activities and classes, and to deepen systems thinking through interdisciplinary teaching, research, and community-based problem-solving. OVCRE will administer the questionnaire every year, which will show whether these efforts change how students act.

Values and attitudes emerged as the strongest dimension, with 92.12% of respondents rating high or very high and 78.82% rating very high. Knowledge and awareness followed at 90.64%, local and institutional sustainability awareness at 90.15%, and systems thinking and sustainability application at 88.18%. Sustainable practices and behavioral engagement recorded the lowest share at 87.68%, and the smallest very high group at 52.71%, which shows that students' values run ahead of their everyday habits.


SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY QUESTIONNAIRE

MSU- Maguindanao Sustainability Literacy Questionnaire (MSU- MSLQ)

Mag-sign in sa Google para i-save ang iyong pag-usad. Matuto pa

* Tumutukoy sa kinakailangang tanong

DECLARATION AND CONSENT

Please read the following declaration before answering the questionnaire. Your participation is voluntary. You may choose not to participate or stop answering at any time without penalty or effect on your grades, enrollment, access to university services, or relationship with MSU-Maguindanao. *

I understand that the information I provide will be treated confidentially and will be used by Mindanao State University–Maguindanao for legitimate institutional purposes, including sustainability assessment, institutional planning, program and policy development, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation, and sustainability-related reporting. Results will be presented in summary or aggregated form whenever possible. My name and student number are not requested in this questionnaire.

I understand that participation is voluntary and that I may leave any item unanswered. I have had the opportunity to read this declaration and ask questions before deciding whether to participate.

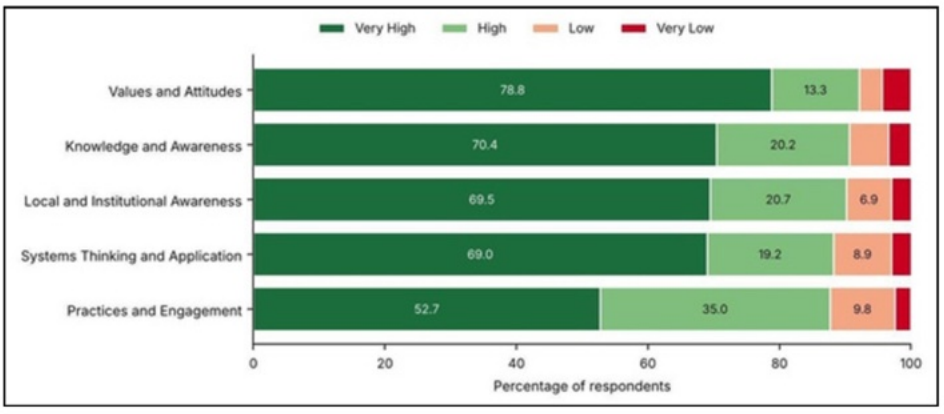
I AGREE to participate and authorize the use of my responses for the university purposes stated above.

I DO NOT AGREE to participate. (Please do not proceed with the questionnaire.)

Bumalik Susunod I-clear ang form

The MSU–MSLQ opens with a declaration and consent page assuring students that participation is voluntary and that no names or student numbers are collected.

The University aims to use these results to strengthen the dimension where students lag, by building waste segregation, plastic reduction, and resource conservation into campus activities and classes, and to deepen systems thinking through interdisciplinary teaching, research, and community-based problem-solving. OVCRE will administer the questionnaire every year, which will show whether these efforts change how students act.

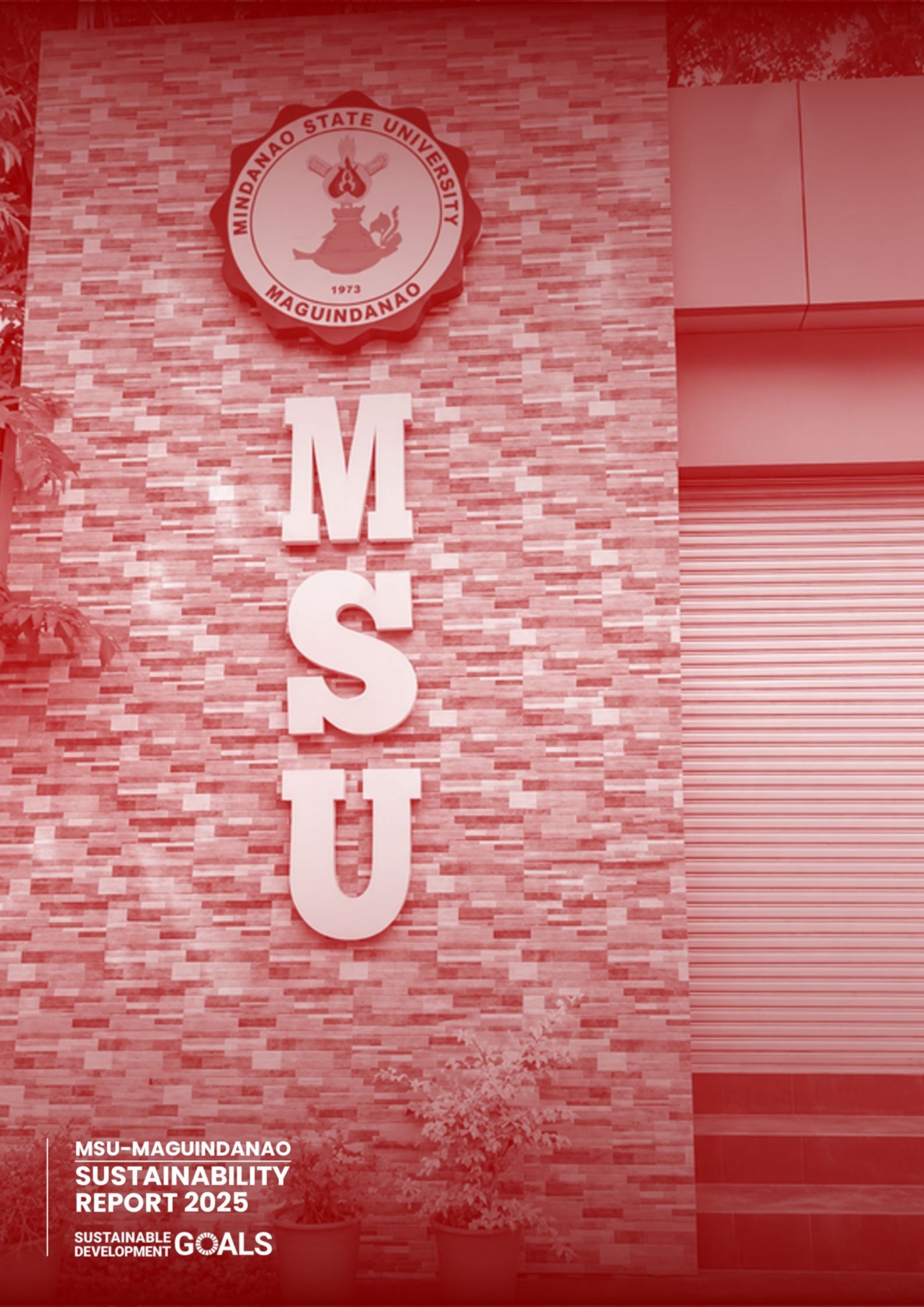


Most respondents rate high or very high in all five dimensions, with values and attitudes strongest and sustainable practices weakest.

LOOKING AHEAD

The University will build on these partnerships so that its work for the goals lasts beyond single events and project cycles. The MinSuPala–IRDC consortium moves into Phase 3 in 2026 to develop and market products from the priority indigenous crops and fish, and the 2025–2027 partnership with the World Food Programme continues to support local climate change adaptation planning. The College of Fisheries will carry forward its work on SPIN tilapia culture systems under the DOST–PCAARRD-funded National Tilapia Research and Development Program with Capiz State University, Northern Iloilo State University, Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology, and the University of the Philippines Visayas. The three agreements with Indonesian universities and the two-year EU-funded initiative give the Diploma in Women, Peace and Security a stable base for joint research, faculty development, and community training.

On campus, the training module on peace integration under Memorandum Order No. 48, s. 2025 will guide faculty in keeping peace concepts and the SDGs in every course, and the yearly sustainability literacy questionnaire will show whether students turn their strong values into everyday practice. Committed to its mandate, the University will continue to work with national and Bangsamoro institutions, local governments, non-government organizations, and communities so that its research, teaching, and extension keep strengthening peace and sustainable development in the region.



MSU-MAGUINDANAO SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY
MAGUINDANAO

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

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