

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

MMSU's Commitment

Contribute to the development of inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable human settlements and cities and to the protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage



Building a Resilient and Disaster Prepared Community

Annually, MMSU participates in the simultaneous conduct of Nationwide Fire and Earthquake Drills 1st and 3rd quarter of the year to raise awareness to faculty, students and staff on the basic evacuation procedures in cases of emergencies. The simulated real-life scenarios are practiced to ensure that everyone knows how to respond effectively in real emergencies. This shows the dedication of MMSU in ensuring the safety and lives of the MMSU community.

Key Activities and Accomplishments

- **Competency Training Program on Renewable Energy.** To advance the development of renewable energy (RE)-based communities, the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) together with the Department of Energy (DOE), has launched a comprehensive competency training program for local officials and interest groups in Ilocos Norte. The training project under the Development for Renewable Energy Applications Mainstreaming and Market Sustainability Project of MMSU and the DOE aims to enhance the competencies of LGU executives in implementing RE initiatives in their respective communities. It is funded by the Global Environment Facility and United Nations Development Programme. The month-long training program is a significant part in strengthening the mandates of the AREC and PSM-REE program in the university. It is also in line with the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 or RA 9513.
- **MMSU sustained help to industries.** During the 2023 Stakeholders' Forum, various constituents praised Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) for its unwavering commitment to excellence and responsiveness to stakeholders' needs. Representatives from national, regional, and local agencies commended the university for its impactful initiatives and shared insights on how MMSU can further support various sectors. The stakeholders' forum is an annual event that

serves as a strategic platform for aligning the university's program and plans with the needs of public and private industries, bringing together MMSU's multi-sectoral stakeholders to strengthen partnerships and enhance its contributions to community and industry development.

- **National Recognition for MMSU Project.** Mariano Marcos State University's Bolinao chicken project exemplified high-impact and transformative extension work, earning the second-best paper award at the eighth Biennial Convention of the Philippine Association of Extension Program Implementers, Inc. (PAEPI). The winning paper, titled "*Sustaining True-to-Type Bolinao Chicken through Multiplier Farms*," highlighted the agripreneurial potential of breeding true-to-type Bolinao chickens through breeder and multiplier farms. It showcased implemented strategies and interventions that promote sustainable poultry farming. Funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), the project was a collaboration between MMSU, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU), Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC), and Pangasinan State University (PSU) through the Ilocos Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development Consortium (ILAARRDEC). Upon its completion in 2021, the project was handed over to MMSU to continue promoting and demonstrating the technology to benefit local communities.
- **Industry Partnership on Extension Activities in Information Technology.** Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) in Batac, Ilocos Norte have forged a new partnership to enhance information technology skills within the jail facility. The collaboration, formalized through a memorandum of agreement signed by MMSU President Shirley C. Agrupis and BJMP-Batac Warden Emiliano J. Villon, will involve trainings, workshops, and other IT-related activities facilitated by MMSU's College of Arts and Sciences, College of Computing and Information Sciences, and Extension Directorate. The university will also develop an IT roadmap for the district jail office. This partnership builds upon the existing collaboration between the two institutions on various extension projects, including agriculture and livestock initiatives.
- **Cultural campus initiatives.** The Mariano Marcos State University's Cultural Development Advocates (MACD) and the National Commission of Indigenous People (NCIP) in Ilocos Norte held a photo exhibit titled "Pagkilala" on October 26 at the MMSU University Library. The exhibit, themed "Pagpapayaman ng Pamanang Kultura at Katutubong Yaman Tungo sa mas Maliwanag na Kinabukasan para sa Bagong Pilipinas," aimed to promote and celebrate the rich culture of indigenous communities in Ilocos Norte, while encouraging students to join MACD in supporting this advocacy. Ms. Cheryl Tabangay, indigenous people representative in Ilocos Norte's Sangguniang Panlalawigan, served as the guest speaker, emphasizing the need to preserve and enhance the cultural heritage of these groups. The event was part of the 2023 Indigenous Peoples' Month and the celebration of the 26th Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act (IPRA), supporting MMSU's agenda of fostering a culturally-focused university campus.
- **Culture and Creative Industries.** Mr. Melver Ritz Gomez, filmmaker and instructor at Mariano Marcos State University's College of Arts and Sciences, has earned significant accolades for his films at prestigious festivals. His documentary 'Naisangsangayan a Daga' (Extraordinary Soil) was awarded Best Documentary Film at the 25th Gawad PASADO, while his narrative film 'Karkarma' won the Gimadyaman Award for Best Film at the 10th Nabunturan Independent Film Exhibition (NIFE). 'Naisangsangayan a Daga' highlights the cultural heritage of Ilokano pottery-making, while 'Karkarma' tells the legend of Paoay Lake and was recently featured in the Cinemalaya Film Festival's Next Gen section. Gomez expressed his elation at being recognized

alongside industry giants. These awards celebrate his contributions to Philippine cinema and showcase the rich cultural narratives of the Ilocano people.

Relevant Research and Development Projects in SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Title	Researcher/s	Fund Source
Panangtaldiap ken Panangamiris Kadagiti Kannawidan ni Ilokano (Glimpse and Analysis of Ilocano Cultures)	D Pungtilan, N Salvador, R Agbayani, W Franco	GAA