



MMSU's Commitment

MMSU is committed to eradicating poverty through the continuing program on financial assistance to students to complete tertiary education especially the poor and vulnerable population.

MMSU'S SCHOOL-ON-THE AIR PROGRAM



The school-on-the-Air (SOA) is a trademark program of the Extension Directorate of Mariano Marcos State University aims to provide capacity building to community stakeholders with ease and accessibility. The SOA is a dissemination mechanism in transferring the knowledge and technology developed by the university to help enhance or modify the traditional practices of the local stakeholders such as farmers, fishermen, livestock producers, and the emerging small business enterprises.

Among the topics aired in the program include goat and swine production, feeding management, farm planning and budgeting, record keeping, disease/health management, animal breeding and reproduction, housing, new production management strategies, meat processing, capital management, and waste management.

The main goal of the SOA is to empower communities through the shared knowledge and technologies to enhance the quantity and quality of products produced to uplift their livelihood.

Highlights

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of poor students (20% of bottom income households) admitted in the university	810/ 3,883 (33.15%)	906/ 3,925 (23%)	1,134/4,710 (27.19%)	1,724
Percentage of poor students who receive financial aids (scholarship)	18.65%	41.13%	34.31%	16.689838

Number of local community start-up trainings	6	8	10	46
Number of activities in improving access to basic services	7	9	11	13
Number of students provided housing support (MMSU dormitories)	158	380	994	476
Number of students from Indigenous Peoples Communities	706	613	445	126

Key Activities and Accomplishments

1. Livelihood-Assisted and Empowerment Programs

- **Skills and Livelihood Trainings.** MMSU offers various services to the community. Its comprehensive training programs have empowered numerous rural entrepreneurs enabling them to establish, enhance, and maintain their businesses related to food processing, crop production, and livestock and poultry farming. In addition to the initial capital support from MMSU, these proactive food processors have seamlessly tapped into the valuable resources extended by organizations like DOST, DOLE, and other allied agencies. Furthermore, the beneficiaries receive ongoing marketing assistance and promotional strategies, fostering sustained growth and visibility for their enterprises.
- **Information and Technology Caravan.** The Information and Technology Caravan (ITC) is a mobile and strategic program and approach of bringing MMSU and developmental information and technology to all the towns and people in the province of Ilocos Norte and other places through the complementary use of all available resources of the university, and the partner local government units and the people in the communities.
- **Enterprise Development for Organic Production and Food Processing.** This program is intended to server the less privilege households (4Ps Households) in providing livelihood trainings on sustainable vegetable production.
- **Training on Mushroom Production.** Various trainings including the mushroom production is an opportunity provided to community members who are interested to venture into food production for their livelihood. The MMSU Extension Directorate continuously provide different kinds of trainings in order to address the different needs and demands of community members in developing their knowledge and skills towards generation of income.
- **Basic Pickling Process Training.** Pickling is one of the oldest, and most successful, methods of food preservation known to humans. The training discussed the various methods of pickling employed commercially and the nature of preservative action. The optimization of pickle quality depends on the maintenance of proper acidity, salt concentration, temperature, and sanitary conditions. The conduct of the training on Basic Pickling Process is to facilitate the transfer of the technological know how on Pickling Process developed by MMSU FPIC. The Technology Developers from MMSU FPIC gave the incubatee the know-how and technical assistance to commercialize pickled fruits, vegetables and eggs.
- **Farmers' Information and Technology Services (FITS).** The Center serves as the one-stop-shop to the farmers who would want to obtain information, education, and communication (IEC) materials and information and communication technology (ICT)

tools that can be accessed by all farmers, traders, processors, and entrepreneurs in the town. It also offers technical consultation and other forms of assistance to help uplift the lives of the local farmers and fisherfolk. The Mariano Marcos State University is a collaborator of the Ilocos Norte Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Consortium (ILAARRDEC), and the Agricultural Training Institute – Regional Training Center.



- **Techno-Unlad sa Komunidad Program Launching.** The Techno-Unlad project involved Electrical Installation and Maintenance, Food Processing, and Microsoft Operation for Barangay Officials. Also, training that empowers their emotional and mental health was also included for holistic development and to help handle the problems of the behavior of the barangay constituents. Aside from the development of skills and improvement of mental health, community members requested parenting and teenage pregnancy seminars because these are emerging problems in their barangay.