The University of Eastern Pangasinan (UEP) actively participates in policy making at various levels—local, regional, national, and even global—to implement programs and policies aimed at ending poverty in all its dimensions.

One notable example is UEP's leadership in the **Global Sustainable Development Congress 2024 in Thailand**. The Congress, held from June 10-13, 2024, at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center in Bangkok, gathered 3,000 global thought leaders and innovators to address urgent solutions to sustainability challenges.

Led by Commissioner Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela, the Philippine CHED delegation, including representatives from higher education institutions in Region 1 such as University President Dr. Evelyn A. Tomboc and AVPAA Dr. Gloria C. Nemedez, participated in this event co-hosted by The Times Higher Education (THE) and Thailand's Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation.

- Key Themes Discussed:
- · Digital Revolution for Sustainable Development
- · Education, Gender, and Inequality
- Energy Decarbonization and Sustainable Industry
- Health, Well-being, and Demography
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- · Sustainable Food, Land, Water, and Oceans

During the congress, Dr. Tomboc and Dr. Nemedez seized the opportunity to explore potential partnerships with international institutions and engage in firsthand discussions with administrators and professors. Additionally, at the invitation of Regional Director Dr. Christine N. Ferrer and Vice President Dr. Jonathan R. Carreon, they visited Huachiew Charlermprakiet University (HCU) in Samut Prakan, Thailand, where they were impressed by the university's environmentally friendly initiatives and infrastructure.

Reflecting on their experience, the congress was enriching and inspiring, particularly from the insights shared by esteemed speakers from international universities on their efforts to advance the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through research, innovation, and community outreach. This experience will significantly contribute to UEP's ongoing commitment to sustainability and global engagement.

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty):

Improving Educational Access: By participating in such global forums, UEP gains insights and partnerships that help improve educational access for marginalized communities, a key factor in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Advancing Research and Innovation: UEP's involvement in global discussions on sustainable development fosters research and innovation that can be applied to local contexts, enhancing poverty reduction efforts.

Promoting Social Equity: Engagement in policy making ensures that UEP can advocate for the needs of the most vulnerable populations, aligning with the principle of leaving no one behind, a core aspect of SDG 1.

Community Empowerment: The knowledge and strategies gained from international collaboration can be implemented in local communities to empower individuals and improve access to basic services, contributing to poverty alleviation.

By participating in and leading initiatives like the Global Sustainable Development Congress, UEP demonstrates its commitment to leveraging education, research, and policy making to address poverty and promote sustainable development on a global scale.



In June 2024, a representative from UEP's relevant department attended a policy forum organized by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) to discuss Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators in Region 1. This participation ensures that the university's insights and research-based findings contribute to the development and implementation of effective poverty reduction strategies.

By engaging in these policy discussions, UEP helps shape initiatives that address the root causes of poverty and promote sustainable development. The university's involvement in policy making reflects its commitment to applying academic research and expertise to real-world challenges, thus aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty).

UEP's contribution to policy making includes:

- Providing Expert Insights: Sharing research and data on poverty trends,
 educational access, and community development.
- Advocacy for Vulnerable Groups: Highlighting the needs and challenges faced by marginalized populations such as indigent people, solo parents, PWDs, and indigenous communities.

- Collaboration with Stakeholders: Working with government agencies, non-profits, and other educational institutions to design and implement comprehensive poverty reduction programs.
- Implementing Best Practices: Applying successful models and strategies from the university's programs to larger policy frameworks.

These efforts align with the broader goal of ensuring that by 2030, all men and women, particularly the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources. This includes access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services, including microfinance.





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 1

23 May 2024

ALLEN CHRISTIAN V. TORRES, MSEd

Officer-in-Charge, Research and Development Office University of Eastern Pangasinan Binalonan, Pangasinan

Dear Mr. Torres:

Greetings!

We would like to invite your Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Focal Staff to the Regional Workshop for the Formulation of the Region 1 SDG Catch-up Plan at Ynad's Place Hotel and Resort, San Fernando City, La Union on June 6-7, 2024. Please refer to the attached program for details.

The workshop is part of the national activity design to assess the accomplishments of the regions in achieving the SDGs, to prioritize interventions and allocate resources strategically particularly for lagging SDG indicators. All these would then form Region 1's SDG Catch-up

In preparation for the Regional Workshop, may we request your assistance in validating the data and information contained in the attached SDG Planning Tool specifically on the existing programs, projects and activities (PPAs) and planned or potential interventions. We have included explanatory notes as guide in accomplishing the Tool. Please use the link below for your inputs and comments on the SDG Planning Tool entries:

https://bit.ly/3WTEXU6

We request the attendance of your SDG Focal for an online briefing on May 28, 2024 at 1:30 PM via Zoom platform to discuss the Tool and address your possible concerns regarding the event and the forms. Below are the meeting credentials for your reference:

> Meeting ID: 934 6137 7915 Passcode: 550976

We further request your designated representative to the workshop to confirm attendance using the attached confirmation slip and email back to us along with your inputs to the SDG Planning Tool on or before May 31, 2024. Our staff, Mr. Francis Gerald S. Amansec or Ms. Juvy Anne T. Mariñas, will coordinate with your office on the matter. For inquiries, you may contact us through telephone (072) 888-2679 to 80 or e-mail at nro1@neda.gov.ph.

Thank you very much and we look forward to crafting an innovative SDG catch-up plan.

Very truly yours,

STEPHANIE F/CHRISTIANSEN

Regional Director



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| Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| target 1.6 th 2000, easer that all near and want, particular equal rights to crossnale consecutive size and the consecutive size and control to the consecutive size and control to the co | 1.4.1.p3 Proportion of families with owned or owner-like possession of housing units | REGRESSING | Insufficient housing data for LGUs to update their Local Shelter Plans (LSP) Not all LGUs have updated LSPs | institutional | Manan Resources Legal Infrastructure | Formulation of LSPs and updating of CLUPs w ¹ integrated LSP | - No dedicated manpower/unit for housing | PLAMADO Program Proposed DHSUD policy on regular meeticeing of housing projects in LSPs of LGUs, focused on enlanding LGUs to formulate and | LGUs, Informal Settlers, IPs, Former rebels and vulnerable groups | DHSUD, NHA, DILG, DSWD, LGUs, HDMF | Informal Settlers, family characteristics By province | PSA, NHA, LGUS, HDMF |
| | | | | | | CopDov/TA in the formulation of LSPs and updating of CLUPs | LGUs not prioritizing the formulation and implementation of LSPs Migh cost of housing projects | implement LSPs/ CLUPs | | | | |
| | | | LGUs have no identified/available/acquired suitable sites for housing development | | | Organization of Provincial Human Sottlement and Urban Development Authority (PHSUDA) | Only PG Pangasinan and PG llocos Sur have PHSUDA | Fast-track creation of PHSUDA in La Union and Rocco Norte | | | | |
| | | | | | | Organization of Local Housing Boards (LHB) at the sub-provincial level | United function (demolition and exiction) of LHBs Separate local zoning board designation | Expand function of LHBs | | | | |
| | | | Limited socialized housing projects (public & private sector) | Limited supply and accord to affordable housing | Infractructure secess | Housing program for informal settlers, IPs, former rebels and beneficiaries of government employees housing program | Site outrability icoses of identified sites | Land banking | | | | |
| | | | | noteng | | | Low tunions of completed housing projects - shall floor area of wins, pubstanded materials. Poor families, who are the target beneficiaries for housing programs, tend to have beage HH sizes. LCQUs leve difficulty in accessing NG housing programs due to various requirements. | Revisit design of horses Consider the demographic characteristics of the baseficiariselfranties, i.e., marketing of smaller units to single-person horseholds | | | | |
| | | | | | | 4PH Program | Limited socilability of land | Implementation of EO 34, c.2023 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | need for now PPP code IRR and modelities to facilitate implementation Low uptake of LGUs and private developers on the program. No assistance that there will be buyers of the constructed housing units. | Proceedings the finalization of the new PPP code IRR Strengthen LGU, NG, and private sector partnership to granatee buyers of housing units. | | | | |
| | | | | | | Mandatory 20% of housing development project cost dedicated for socialised housing (Bahaced Housing) | Not realized, corresponding amount on section | Ordinance to mandate developers to comply with the 20 percent balanced housing by implementing socialized housing project DHSUD to facilitate utilization of | | | | |