

Total Number of SDG 14 Activities: 1 Total Number of Community-Based Research on SDG 14: 1



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NARRATIVE REPORT

SDG: 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)

Title of Activity: Water Analysis at

Date/Time: January 27-29, 2024

Venue: Sitio Masina, Brgy. Baretbet, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya

Organizers: Dr. Elsa Cajucom

Objectives: To safeguard the health of the residents determining if drinking water

and local recreational sources are free from harmful contaminants

like bacteria, chemicals, and heavy metals.

Beneficiaries (if any): Sitio Masina, Brgy. Baretbet, Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya

A. Highlights of the Activity:

In 2021, the Saint Mary's University (SMU) Local Government Multi-Sectoral Collaboration Development and Advocacy Center (LMCDAC) conducted a comprehensive needs assessment in Sitio Masina, a rural community in Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines. The assessment revealed that the primary source of household water in the area is derived from natural springs, rivers, or streams. However, there had been no prior water analysis conducted to ensure its safety for consumption.

In response to the findings of the needs assessment, the University Research Center (URC) of Saint Mary's University initiated a project aimed at ensuring the cleanliness and safety of the water supply in Sitio Masina. The primary objective of this project is to conduct thorough water analysis on the existing water sources to assess their physico-chemical and bacteriological quality.

The project members set out for Sitio Masina at approximately 7:30 AM on January 27, 2024, and reached their destination around 9:00 AM. They traveled mainly by van, although some chose to drive their personal vehicles. Upon arrival, the team introduced themselves to the residents, presenting the project's aims, expected outcomes, and timeline. Together with the community, they mapped out a route for conducting water analysis and commenced their trek at 11:00 AM. The expedition lasted two hours, during which they collected samples from three primary water sources to evaluate their



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physicochemical properties. The return hike to their lodging took about an hour. During this time, strategies for ensuring the purity of the water supply were further discussed. The team bid farewell to the local community at 3:00 PM and returned to the university. Two lab staff members stayed behind on campus to perform the microbial analysis component of the project.

On May 15, 2024, the research write-up will be submitted to the LMCDAC Director and URC Director.

Appendices

1. Photo Documentation



Dr. Allen Marquez (LMCDAC Director) introduced to the Sitio Masina community the team comprising of 10 members from the SMU CNS led by Mr. Jason Maslang. After which, he explained to the residents the objectives of the water assessment.

The Brgy. Kagawad also introduced the members of the community who are present during the orientation proper. He informed the SMU team the location of the three water sources.

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Water samples were obtained from the three water sources. These samples were subjected to physico- chemico and bacteriological analyses.

Prepared by: Dr. Elsa Cajucom



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NARRATIVE REPORT

SDG: SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities)

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production)

SDG 14 (Life Below Water)

SDG 15 (Life on Land)

Title of Activity: Vermicomposting Information Drive

Date/Time: March 16, 2024

Venue: Ipil Cuneg Barangay Hall

Organizers: SMU Senior High School Teachers of the Science and Technology department

Objectives: To promote sustainable waste management practices and community

engagement.

Beneficiaries (if any): Nineteen (19) elected and appointed barangay officials

Participants: SMU Senior High School Teachers and Barangay Officials

A. Highlights of the Activity

The Vermicomposting Information Drive held on March 16, 2024, at the Ipil Cuneg Barangay Hall, was a significant step towards promoting sustainable waste management practices and fostering community engagement. It was participated by nineteen (19) elected and appointed barangay officials and facilitated by the teachers of the Science and Technology department. The activity commenced with a sense of reverence as Mr. Christian Nel R. Dominguez led the opening prayer, invoking blessings and guidance for the activity.

Following the prayer, Mrs. Rachille R. Francis, the project leader, delivered the opening remarks. She extended warm words of gratitude to all attendees for their presence and highlighted the objectives of the activity, emphasizing the crucial role of vermicomposting in addressing environmental challenges and fostering economic sustainability within the barangay.

The informational segment of the event commenced with Mr. Albert C. Cabullos providing a comprehensive definition of vermicomposting, elucidating its significance in transforming organic waste into nutrient-rich compost through the action of earthworms. This laid the foundation for Ms. Ma. Danica A. Subia to expound upon the materials required and the procedures involved in successful vermicomposting. Participants were impressed by her



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detailed explanation, which illuminated the practical aspects of implementing vermicomposting within the barangay.

Mr. Christian Nel Dominguez shared valuable tips for optimizing vermicompost production, underscoring the importance of maintaining ideal environmental conditions and the proper balance of organic materials. The dissemination of information culminated in an enlightening 8-minute video presentation, courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, showcasing the entire vermicomposting process in action. This visual aid served to reinforce the concepts discussed and provided participants with a clear roadmap for implementation.

A spirited exchange followed as participants engaged in an interactive Q&A session, seeking clarifications and sharing insights. Their enthusiasm was palpable as they absorbed the knowledge imparted and expressed eagerness to embrace vermicomposting within their community.

In a symbolic gesture of commitment, the facilitators visited the prepared vermicompost site which had already been prepared during the previous year. This willingness of the community members further inspired the team to pursue Phase 2 of the activity which is the implementation of the vermicompost. Participants eagerly embraced this opportunity, pledging their full cooperation and dedication to seeing the project through to fruition.

B. Documentation



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Ms. Subia explaining the materials needed and the procedures involved in vermicomposting

Mr. Dominguez sharing valuable tips for optimizing vermicompost production

Mr. Cabullos providing a comprehensive definition of vermicomposting



Brgy. Captain Gaston sharing his sincere gratitude to SMU-SHS for the programs organized to benefit the community Participants of the vermicomposting listening to the information being shared

Kagawad Cay-yap showing the prepared site for the vermicompost