

**Total Number of SDG 15 Activities:** 10 **Total Number of Trees Planted:** 1503



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**SDG:** SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities); SDG 13 (Climate Action); and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)

Title of Activity: PLGU-PENARO and SMU-CNS Environmental Stewardship Collaboration

**Date/Time:** November 30, 2023

Venue: NV Convention Center, Capitol, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya

**Organizers:** Provincial Local Government Unit of Nueva Vizcaya through the Provincial

Environmental Awareness and Education Team (PEAE)

**Objectives:** 

**Beneficiaries** (if any):

Participants: Public and private secondary schools in the province of Nueva Vizcaya

# A. Highlights of the Activity

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2013-084: An Ordinance locally adopting Republic Act No. 9512 otherwise known as the Environmental Awareness and Education Act of 2008 Declaring the month of November of each year as Environmental Awareness Month, the Provincial Local Government Unit of Nueva Vizcaya through the Provincial Environmental Awareness and Education Team (PEAE) with its lead offices, the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office in cooperation with the Department of Education Schools Division of Nueva Vizcaya - Youth Formation Unit conducted contested activities involving the public and private secondary schools in the province with the theme "Balon ng Buhay: Pahalagahan, Pagbabago ng Klima, Ating Tugunan."

Dr. Elsa L. Cajucom, the elected Chairperson of PEAET TWG and the team members organized the contested activities of this year's Environmental Awareness cum YES-O Month! (1) Sayawit para sa Kalikasan, (2) tiktoKalikasan, and (3) Pasiklaban ng mga Proyektong MakaKalikasan. PEAET thru the full support of PENARO under the headship of For. Tito Tanguilig proposed a PhP 500, 000.00 for the cash incentives of winners and consolation prizes to the non-winners. The budget was approved and been granted by the Office of the Governor Jing V. Gambito. The culmination program was conducted on November 30, 2023, at the NV Convention Center, Capitol, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya.

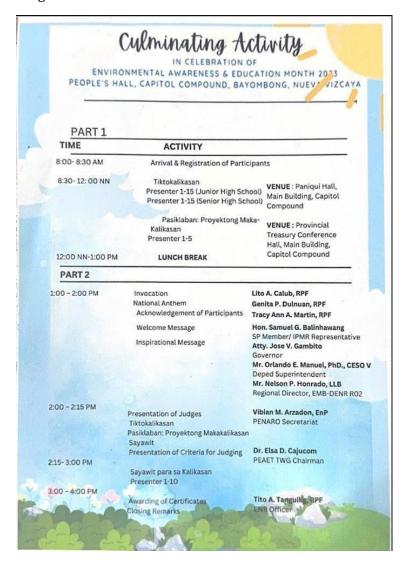


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# B. Summary of the Activity Evaluation

# C. Appendices

- 1. Attendance Sheet (scanned)
- 2. Program of Activities



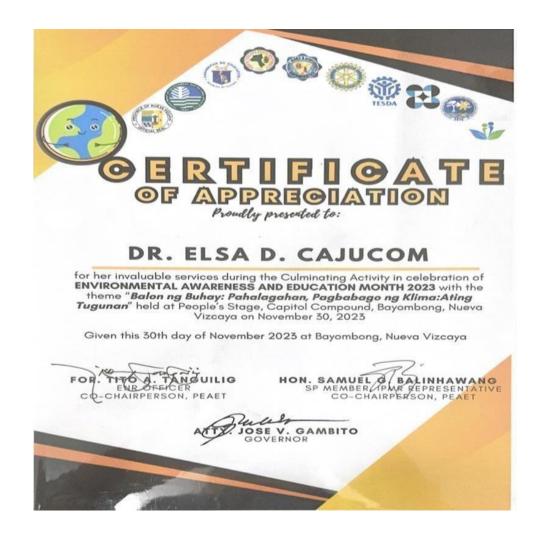


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### 3. Photo Documentation









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# FORM ON PROJECT PROPOSAL WRITING FORMAT AND INDIVIDUAL REPORT OF FACULTY RESEARCH UTILIZATION (FIVE-MONTH FACULTY RESEARCH UTILIZATION GRANT)

| Lead Researcher:               | Signature |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Elsa L. Cajucom, Ph.D.         |           |
| 305 199                        | *DA       |
| Collaborators:                 |           |
| <u>Lorna C. Aban, MAEd</u> .   |           |
| Gloria Vicky A. Antonio, M.Ed. | VII       |
| Regidor Almendral              |           |
| Michael S. Catacutan           |           |

# **Research Title:**

<u>Project SHARE: Soil and H2O Amendments and Restoration Efforts for Sustainable Farming in Dupax del Sur</u>

**Inclusive Date(s) of Utilization:** August 2023-December 2023

**School:** School of Health and Natural Sciences

**Department:** Center for Natural Sciences

# Research Utilization (Project) Title:

Project SHARE: Soil and  $H_2O$  Amendments and Restoration Efforts for Sustainable Farming in Dupax del Sur

# **Executive Summary:**

Nueva Vizcaya is Cagayan Valley's vegetable capital and the country's next "salad bowl" (Department of Agriculture, 2011). In particular, Dupax del Sur is one of the main vegetable producers. The income of most families is derived from rice farming, onion planting, and vegetable cultivation. Thus, it is inevitable for farmers to use fertilizers to boost crop yield. Farmers across the municipality use a variety of fertilizers to grow crops and to improve and increase the crop yield in every cropping season. Applying these inorganic fertilizers repeatedly for decades pollutes the soil and the water reservoir near it. Excessive use of fertilizers could potentially cause groundwater contamination.



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Among the most pervasive pollutants of freshwater globally today are phosphate and nitrate (Khan & Ghouri, 2011). Sources of nitrates include runoff or seepage from fertilized lands, municipal and industrial wastewater, refuse dumps, animal feedlots, septic tanks, private sewage disposal systems, drainages, and decaying plant debris. Nitrates and phosphates are surplus nutrients that contaminate the soil and affect fertility.

The study aimed to raise knowledge and awareness of sustainable farming, considering the conventional means of utilizing fertilizers versus non-conventional ones, which may ensure the soil and water quality that farmers will need to grow their crops. Project SHARE aimed to disseminate the previous research findings through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on soil and water amendments.

### Title of Research:

ASSESSMENT OF NITRATE AND PHOSPHATE CONTENT OF FARM SOIL AND GROUNDWATERS IN AN AGRI-MUNICIPALITY IN NUEVA VIZCAYA: BASIS FOR MLGU RESTORATION EFFORTS AND EUTROPHICATION CONTROL PROGRAM

### Research Abstract:

Water safety and quality are essential, especially to human health, agriculture, aquaculture, industry, and all life forms. Effective crop production depends on an adequate supply of nutrients through fertilizer application to achieve maximum yield. However, soil nutrients need to be appropriately managed to meet the fertility requirements of crops without adversely affecting the quality of our valuable water resources. This research assessed the level of concentration of nitrates and phosphates in farmland soil and groundwater in two selected agro-ecosystem barangays in Dupax del Sur, Nueva Vizcaya, to ascertain the degree of anthropogenic influence via the application of fertilizer and other agro-chemicals to farmlands by farmers. The study shows that the dissolved nitrate concentrations of both irrigation water sources and farmland soils for both barangays are below the recommended levels set by the respective standards referenced in the study with the data showing no statistically significant difference in nitrate concentrations in the two barangays. Also, the study indicates that the soil phosphate concentrations on all sampled farmlands in both barangays are below the recommended levels set by the standards referenced in the study. However, the dissolved phosphate concentrations in all sampled irrigation water sites are significantly above the recommended levels. The differences in soil and water phosphate concentrations can be due to having a separate irrigation source that has experienced multiple runoffs and leaching events, increasing its dissolved phosphate.



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# **Description of the Research Utilization Project (Scope):**

Project SHARE aims to disseminate the research findings to the farmers in the two BLGUs in Dupax del Sur through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials on farm soil and groundwater amendments, specifically about organic farming.

# **Project Locale and Beneficiaries:**

With the initial data gathered, information is needed to help farmers practice sustainable farming through soil and water amendment and restoration efforts. The target farmers are members of the Mangayang-Iñeangan-Duppes Irrigation Association, Inc. and Gabut Farmers Rice and Onion Growers Association, respectively.

Dupax del Sur is one of the main vegetable producers of Nueva Vizcaya. Farmers across the municipality use a variety of fertilizers to grow crops and to improve and increase the crop yield in every cropping season.

The two neighboring barangays, Mangayang and Gabut, are divided by the Magat River, a stream, and hectares of farmlands owned by both barangay residents. Farming is the main livelihood for almost all families. The farmers from Mangayang are members of the Mangayang-Iñeangan-Duppes Irrigation Association, Inc. The farmlands cover an area from 0.8 hectares (8,000 sq. meters) to 1.5 hectares (15,000 sq. meters) with a mean area of 1.15 hectares (11,500 sq. meters). The common crop planted in Mangayang is sweet potato, commonly called camote. Rice is also grown on two farms, while corn is on one farm. As one farmer shared, camote is a better alternative to rice since the profit is greater, considering the very low price of rice bought by traders. Vegetables such as tomato, pepper, kentucky beans, string beans, winged bean (pallang), and bottle gourd (upo) are also planted as additional crops. The only farm visited in Gabut is planted with squash and red onions.

# Rationale:

Nueva Vizcaya is Cagayan Valley's vegetable capital. In particular, Dupax del Sur is one of the main vegetable producers. The income of most families is mainly derived from rice farming, onion planting, and vegetable cultivation.

Farmers across the municipality use a variety of fertilizers to grow crops and to improve and increase the crop yield in every cropping season. Applying these inorganic fertilizers repeatedly for decades pollutes the soil and the water reservoir near it. Excessive use of fertilizers could cause groundwater contamination. Based on the interview, the plant growers are hesitant to use organic fertilizer, particularly the vermicompost given free by



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the Department of Agriculture. Also, the interview revealed that all the sampled farmers commonly use urea fertilizer.

The findings of the study will be beneficial for the environment and the community. Farmers will be aware of the potential risks of continued usage of inorganic or chemical fertilizers. Hence, they will be encouraged to use alternative fertilizers for more sustainable farming. Concerned government agencies could raise awareness about this phenomenon. This could enable them to devise restoration efforts and formulate eutrophication control programs for affected areas. The researchers also believe that the study will help promote sustainable farming and is also aligned with risk reduction and mitigation, one of the components of SMU's Project WEALTH VERSION 2.0. This academic endeavor is also associated with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2, 6, 12, and 13. SDG2 is No hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture; SDG6 is Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; SDG12 is Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; and SDG13 is Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (UN, n.d.).

# **General and Specific Objectives:**

# General:

The study aims to raise knowledge and awareness of sustainable farming, considering the conventional means of utilizing fertilizers to the non-conventional ones which may ensure the soil and water quality that farmers will need to grow their crops.

# **Specific:**

- 1. To disseminate initial research findings on the nitrate and phosphate content of the farm soil and groundwaters
- 2. To consult an expert/agriculturist from the DA on the content of IEC materials
- 3. To develop/ design IEC materials on soil and water amendments and restoration
- 4. To evaluate the IEC materials for validity and appropriateness
- 5. To distribute the IEC materials to the beneficiaries/ farmers

# **Expected Results:**

Consultation meetings with the beneficiary and BLGU and the utilization of the IEC materials on soil and water amendment and restoration efforts.



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# **Strategic Activities:**

| Activities                           | Workplan   | Deliverables   |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Research Dissemination               | The target audience are the farmers who are members of the Mangayang-Iñeangan-Duppes Irrigation Association, Inc. and Gabut Farmers Rice and Onion Growers Association (GFROGA). | Research Findings  |
| Consultation with Expert/s           | Researchers invite/ set an appointment with an agriculturist   | Draft of IEC materials   |
| Crafting of the IEC Materials        | Researchers meet to develop/<br>design the needed IEC materials  | IEC materials are subject to evaluation by experts (language editor, DA, among others) |
| Distribution of the IEC<br>Materials | Meet with the BLGU and beneficiaries for the presentation and distribution of the IEC materials  | , , , ,  |

# Narrative of Utilization:

Before the research dissemination to the target beneficiaries, the study was presented by Dr. Elsa L. Cajucom during the  $10^{\rm th}$  HCU Thailand e-Conference on June 29, 2023, via Zoom under the Science and Technology cluster.



The research paper was presented by Dr. Elsa L. Cajucom during the 10th HCU e-Conference on June 29, 2023.



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While waiting for the confirmation of the two barangay captains, the team conducted online research about organic farming. At the same time, one of the researchers gathered insights about organic farming from a professor from a state university. After finalizing the content draft, IEC materials such as a brochure and a poster were crafted using Canva Tools. The researchers worked as a group on the layout and design of the IEC materials.



The research team then subjected the IEC materials to critique and evaluation.

A member of the SMU language editors proofread the content. Filipino language editing in the materials was conducted by a Filipino teacher with a MAT degree in Filipino.

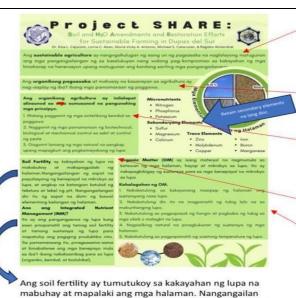
After the review and validation, the researchers produced 50 copies of brochures and two sets of tarpaulins for the poster.

Language editing snippets of the IEC material (brochure) sent by the expert validator

1. .... isang halaman lamang...



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Ang sustainable agriculture ay isang uri ng pagsasaka na naglalayong matugunan ang mga pangangailangan sa kasalukuyan nang walang pagkompromiso sa kakayahan ng mga susunod na henerasyon upang matugunan ang mga sariling pangangailngan.

Ang organikong pagsasaka at mahusay na kasanayan sa agrikultura ay gumagamit ng iba't ibang pamamaraan ng

### Ang organikong...

- 1. Hindi paggamit...
- 2. Paggamit ng biotechnical, biological at
  - mechanical na pagpuksa sa sakit at mga peste
- 3. Paggamit lamang ng natural na sangkap upang mapanatili ang kayabungan ng lupa

Ang organic matter...

### Kahalagahan ng OM

- 1. May kakayahang makuha ng halaman ang sustansiyang nasa lupa.
- Napananatili nito ang tubig lalo sa mabuhanging lupa.
- Napapapasok nito ang hangin at napabababa ang tubig sa mga siksik o malagkit na lupa.
- As is doc..
- Nakatutulong sa pagpapanatili ng wastong temperatura ng lupa.

ito ng sapat na bilang ng benepisyal na mikrobyo sa lupa at angkop na katangian tulad ng tekstura at lebel ng ph. Nangangailangan din...

Ito ay ang pangangasiwa ng lupa kung saaan pinananatili ang tamang taba at sustansiya nito upang patuloy ang pagiging produktibo nito. Sa pamamaraang ito....

Language editing snippets of the IEC material (poster) sent by the expert

# **IEC MATERIALS on Organic Farming**

# A. Brochure



# PRINSIPYO NG ORGANIC FARMING/AGRICULTURE?

### KAHALAGAHAN NG TUBIG SA PALAY

**B.** Poster



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dalawang magkaibang halaman.

iisang bahagi ng lupa.

halaman sa lupa.

Pag-iba-iba ng itinatanim na halaman sa

Paghahalo ng dahon at katawan ng mga

Mga Sanggunian:
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (n.d.). What is
Organic Agriculture? <a href="https://www.foo.org/organicag/co-foo/ca/foo/c

tabilizeri/
Yamang Lupa Program Region IV-A
https://www.facebook.com/ylecalabarzon/

Zamoro, O.B. (2009). Likas-kaya at Organikong Pagsasaka. PRRM and UPLB-College afAgriculture, M ind-Builders Publishing House, Quezon



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Communication letters were given to the two barangays for the proposed schedule of dissemination and distribution of IEC materials among the target farmer-beneficiaries, and upon the confirmation of the two barangays, Team Project SHARE conducted the dissemination and distribution of IEC materials on November 11, 2023. During the onsite activity, an interview was conducted. The sampled farmers were briefly interviewed about organic farming and their insights on the provided IEC materials. In addition, some farmers were also interviewed through brief phone calls conducted in the afternoon after their farm work.

# **Documentation of Utilization**

# Project SHARE

# Distribution of Posters







Since Mr. Pedro Gudoy, the farm leader of Brgy. Mangayang attended a burial on November 11, 2023, the Brgy. Treasurer received a copy of the research findings, 25 pcs of the brochure, and the poster to be posted in the farmers' venue of their meetings. During the house meeting, the study's findings on the sampled farmlands in their barangay were also discussed. It was explained that the farmers' continuous use of synthetic fertilizers significantly affects the soil quality. Thus, the team advocates the use of organic farming towards sustainable farming.

Meanwhile, the team went to the house of Hon. Jon Agoot, Brgy. The Brgy. Captain of Gabut distributed the IEC materials and provided a copy of the research findings.



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The researchers visited the sampled farmland owners in barangays Mangayang and Gabut to give brochures for an information drive about Organic Farming.

# Feedback from Clients/Beneficiaries

The team gathered some testimonials from the farmland owners. Below are their insights about the IEC materials they received.



On November 15, 2023, Brgy. Captain Jheremie Mangaong communicated the farmers' request to conduct a short forum on Organic Farming. As an extended activity, Team Project SHARE shall organize a forum in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture-NV.



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(To be filled up by the Faculty Researcher / Lead Researcher / Lead Extensionist)

ELSA L. CAJUCOM, Ph.D.

Faculty Lead Researcher / Lead Extensionist (Signature over Printed Name)

Noted:

LORNA C. ABAN, MAEd

**Research Coordinator** (Signature over Printed Name)

DARWIN DON M. DACLES, Ph.D.

Director, University Research Center
(Signature over Printed Name)

# (Project Green FB post)





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| Project Title:                                 | Project Title: One Tree, One Student Project |  |
|--|--|--|
| Date:  | March 9 & 16,2024                            |  |
| Time:  | <b>Time:</b> 7:30-11:30 AM                   |  |
| Team Composition:                              |  |  |
| Project Leader: Lady Valen Charon A. Dela Peña |  |  |
| Project Staff/Members: Michelle B. Pagaduan    |  |  |
|  | Luzviminda C. Palecpec                       |  |
| Vergil S. Santullo Jr.                         |  |  |
|  | Ma. Danica A. Subia                          |  |
| Norpotivo                                      |  |  |

The importance of the tree planting activity is for environmental sustainability. It offers different benefits not only for the environment but for us people most especially students who will be the beneficiaries of this tree planting activity. It can be a contributory factor to address some issues that affects the environment.

This tree planting activity organized by the Research Department of the Senior High School focuses on fostering community engagement and education about environmental stewardship. The activity had two batches. The tree planting for the first batch was held last March 9,2024 in which there were 6 classes who planted Soursop/Guyabano seedling at Masoc, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. The second batch for the tree planting was conducted on May 16, 2024 - Soursop/Guyabano seedling at Ipil-Cuneg. The remaining 9 classes were then divided into two groups. 5 classes went to Ipil-Cuneg, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya and the other 4 classes went to Upper Magsaysay, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. Students were accompanied by some of their parents and guardians, class advisers, administrator, faculty, and staff of the Senior High School Department.

There are 199 Guyabano seedlings planted at Masoc, 108 at Ipil-Cuneg, and 192 at Upper Magsaysay. A total of 499 Soursop/Guyabano seedlings were planted this school year.

# **Documentation**

The students riding in a jeepney on their way to Masoc, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya to plant their seedlings.





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Students planting their seedlings at Masoc despite the rain showers.



Prepared by: Mrs. Michelle M. Pagaduan

Date Submitted: April 21, 2024



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SDG: 13 Climate Change

**Title of Activity:** One Tree, One Student Project

Date/Time: March 09, 2024

**Venue:** Masoc, Bayombong Nueva Vizcaya

**Organizers:** Senior High School

**Objectives:** To protect the ecological system by planting fruit-bearing trees.

Beneficiaries (if any): Masoc, Ipel Cuneg and Magsaysay Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya

# A. Highlights of the Activity:

SMU Senior High School initiated a tree planting activity in two batches. The tree planting for the first batch was held last March 9,2024 in which there were 6 classes who planted Soursop/Guyabano seedling at Masoc, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. The second batch for the tree planting was conducted on May 16, 2024 - Soursop/Guyabano seedling at Ipil-Cuneg. The remaining 9 classes were then divided into two groups. 5 classes went to Ipil-Cuneg, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya and the other 4 classes went to Upper Magsaysay, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. Students were accompanied by some of their parents and guardians, class advisers, administrator, faculty, and staff of the Senior High School Department. There are 199 Guyabano seedlings planted at Masoc, 108 at Ipil-Cuneg, and192 at Upper Magsaysay. A total of 499 Soursop/Guyabano seedlings were planted this school year.



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# **Appendices**

# 1. Photo Documentation





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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



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| Project Title:    | CHSF Re-launching and Webinar on Environmental Education |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Date:             | November 15, 2023  |  |
| Time:             | 8:00-11:25 AM  |  |
| Team Composition: |  |  |
| Project Leader:   | Lingkod Maria Development and Advocacy Center (LMCDAC).  |  |
| Project           |  |  |
| Staff/Members:    |  |  |
|                   |  |  |

# **Narrative**

On November 15, 2023, the research team organized and conducted the re-launching with the CHSF Program of the University in coordination with the Lingkod Maria Development and Advocacy Center (LMCDAC). The highlight of the activity was the Webinar on Environmental Education with Miss Ruthie Maye R. Padilla as the invited resource speaker. The webinar mainly aimed at capacitating educators on their role in environmental education.

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