Assistance in the Local Community Supporting the Start-Up of Financially and Socially Sustainable Businesses Through Relevant Education or Resources

	h. Implementing developed policies on commissioned researches	RCD	URC		1	1	1	1	3.1.1.6. At the end of Year 5, 4 commissioned researches are undertaken	
	4) Research Grant-in-Aid Projects with Agencies/Institutions	RCD	URC							
	a. Exploring probable research grants from agencies/institutions	RCD		1	1	1	1	1	3.1.1.7. At the end of year 5, 5 explorations are conducted	
	b. Applying for and crafting of project proposals for research grant	RCD		1	1	1	1		3.1.1.8. At the end of year 5, 5 research grants are approved and conducted	
	5) Research Publication in refereed journals	RCD	URC	3	3	3	3	3	3.1.1.9. At the end of year 5, 15 researches are published in refereed journals	
	6) Research utilization projects	RCD	URC	5	5	5	5	5	3.1.1.10. At the end of year 5, 25 researches are utilized	
3.1.2. Patents, utility models and industrial designs for societal benefit are certified.	Institutionalizing the TTBDO	RCD	TTBDO	100%					3.1.2.1. At the end of year 1, the TTBDO system is established.	
	a. Continuing assessment of internal stakeholders (students and faculty) researches for potential market opportunities of high-end products	RCD	TTBDO, Academic Deans	1	1	1	1	1	3.1.2.2. At the end of year 5, 5 stakeholders' researches are mass-produced.	

	b. Continuing production of essential goods (food and non-food products) from internal stakeholders	RCD	TTBDO, Academic Deans	2	2	2	2	2	3.1.2.3. At the end of year 5, 10 product types are mass-produced.	
	c. Providing services to outside clients specifically MSMEs thru DTI&PLGU Shared Service Facilities	RCD	TTBDO, Academic Deans	10	10	10	10	10	3.1.2.4. At the end of year 5, 50 MSMEs utilize DTI & PLGU Shared Service Facility	
	d. Supervising produced TTBDO goods and Regional 2 produced goods at the NV Pasalubong Center (Retail Store)	RCD	TTBDO	2	2	2	2	2	3.1.2.5. At the end of year 5, 10 product types are marketed	
	e. Creating spin-off companies affiliated to SMU	RCD	TTBDO					3	3.1.2.6. At the end of year 5, at least 3 spin-off company is established and operational	
3.1.3. Ethical research is safeguarded	Institutionalizing the University Research Ethics Board	RCD	UREB, URC						3.1.3.1. At the end of year 1, the UREB system is established.	
	Applying for accreditation by PHREB	RCD	UREB, URC	100% preparation					3.1.3.2. At the end of year 1, the SMUREB has prepared for PHREB accreditation.	
		RCD	UREB		Level 1 accredited				3.1.3.3. At the end of year 2, the SMUREB is accredited by PHREB for level 1	
	Continuing Accreditation	RCD	UREB			Level 2 accredited			3.1.3.4. At the end of year 3, the SMUREB is accredited by PHREB for level 2	

Inauguration of the Nueva Vizcaya FabLab: A Leap Forward in Innovation and Technology

Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya — On August 7, 2024, a significant milestone in technological advancement and community development was achieved with the launching of the Shared Service Facility (SSF) for the Nueva Vizcaya Fabrication Laboratory (FabLab) at Saint Mary's University (SMU). This state-of-the-art facility, focusing on furniture, GHD, and wearables expansion, is a collaborative initiative between SMU and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The event commenced at 10:30 AM with the arrival and registration of distinguished guests, including representatives from both the university and DTI, as well as local business leaders and community members.

The ceremony officially began at 11:00 AM with a warm welcome from the Master of Ceremonies, who set the tone for the event by highlighting the significance of this partnership in promoting innovation and technological growth in the region.

Engr. Carina S. Mallillin, Officer-in-Charge Dean of the School of Engineering, Architecture, and Information Technology (SEAIT) at SMU, took the stage to acknowledge and thank the guests and visitors for their support and presence.

Dr. Moises Alexander T. Asuncion, Vice President for Academic Affairs at SMU, delivered the welcome remarks. He emphasized the strategic importance of the FabLab in enhancing educational and practical opportunities for students and the broader community.

Atty. Michael B. Paggabao, Provincial Director of DTI-Nueva Vizcaya, provided an overview of the FabLab SSF Project. His presentation outlined the goals and expected impacts of the facility, including its role in fostering local entrepreneurship and providing critical resources for small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

The event featured inspiring messages from key leaders. Dr. John Octavious S. Palina, University President of SMU, spoke about the university's commitment to integrating advanced technology and innovation into its academic and community outreach programs. Ma. Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, Regional Director of DTI-R02, shared her vision for the FabLab as a catalyst for regional economic growth and technological advancement.

One of the highlights of the event was the UA Signing Ceremony, symbolizing the formal agreement and shared commitment to the FabLab project. The signing was conducted by Pres. John Octavious S. Palina and RD Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, amidst applause from the attendees.

Labels of their MSMEs were given to the representatives of the different MSMEs here in the province. This was awarded by RD Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, Dr. John Octavious S. Palina and Atty. Michael B. Paggabao

Engr. Teofilo M. Sagabaen, Head of the Technology Transfer and Business Development Office (TTBDO) at SMU, delivered the closing remarks, expressing optimism for the future endeavors of the FabLab. The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt closing prayer led by Rev. Fr. Alberto I. Tamisen, CICM, University Chaplain of SMU.

The official launch was marked by a ribbon-cutting and blessing ceremony, led by RD Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, Dr. John Octavious S. Palina, Atty. Michael B. Paggabao, Dr Moises Alexander T. Asuncion and other guests. This symbolic act was celebrated by SMU administrators, personnel, DTI representatives, and guests.

The event concluded with an exhibit and demonstration showcasing the FabLab's capabilities. Attendees explored the facility and witnessed firsthand the innovative technologies and resources available to support local entrepreneurs and businesses.

The Nueva Vizcaya FabLab stands as a testament to the power of collaboration and the shared vision of SMU and DTI to drive technological innovation and economic development in the region. This facility is poised to become a hub for creativity, learning, and entrepreneurship, significantly contributing to the growth and prosperity of the community.

For more updates and information on upcoming projects and initiatives, stay connected with Saint Mary's University TTBDO and the Department of Trade and Industry – Nueva Vizcaya.

Support Services

Alumni Affairs Office
Center for Information & Communication Technology
Dean of Student Affairs & Services
Guidance and Testing Office
Learning Resource Center
Registrar's Office
Treasury and Accounting Office



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Saint Mary's University (SMU), through its Technology Transfer and Business Development Office (TTBDO), reinforced its position as a regional leader in innovation and technology transfer after earning the First Place Award in the 2025 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Top Performer Award – Fabrication Laboratory Category. The recognition was conferred during the 4th Regional MSME Summit: Innovation, Smart Agriculture, Productivity, Inclusive Growth, Recognition, and Expansion (INSPIRE), held on July 6, 2026, at the Capital Arena in Alibagu, Ilagan City, Isabela.

The latest recognition marks SMU's third consecutive year of recognition by the Department of Trade and Industry, reflecting the university's sustained excellence in innovation, technology transfer, and enterprise development. In 2025, the SMU Fab Lab received the 2024 DTI SSF Top Performer Award – Fabrication Laboratory Category during the 3rd Regional MSME Summit 2025 cum One DTI Services Caravan in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. A year earlier, during the 2nd Regional MSME Summit 2024, SMU was honored with the DTI Presidential Award for Outstanding Development Partner and the Best DTI Shared Service Facility Cooperator Award. Together, these achievements underscore SMU's consistent leadership in delivering technology-driven solutions that empower micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), strengthen industry partnerships, and contribute to regional economic development.

At the heart of this accomplishment is the SMU Fabrication Laboratory (Fab Lab), which has become a hub for innovation, product development, and enterprise support. Through advanced fabrication technologies, technical expertise, and industry-responsive services, the Fab Lab equips entrepreneurs, students, local industries, and community partners with the tools and knowledge needed to improve productivity, strengthen competitiveness, and transform innovative ideas into viable products and businesses.

The DTI SSF Top Performer Award – Fabrication Laboratory Category is conferred upon Shared Service Facility cooperators that consistently demonstrate outstanding performance and a high level of commitment to excellence. This prestigious recognition honors organizations that not only meet but exceed performance expectations, contribute significantly to project success, and uphold the program's values and mission. Awardees serve as role models of productivity, reliability, and professionalism, setting a standard of excellence that inspires others and drives organizational success. The evaluation placed significant emphasis on impact, with 70% of the total score based on the facility's success in achieving project objectives, including the number of MSMEs assisted, sales generated, and jobs created. The remaining 30% assessed contributions to social responsibility (15%) and documentary requirement compliance (15%).

The award was presented by DTI Regional Director Ms. Ma. Sofia G. Narag, CESO V, Acting Assistant Regional Director Atty. Michael B. Paggabao, and Nueva Vizcaya OIC Provincial Director PD Lenore Lee S. Lopez.

Receiving the award on behalf of the University were Dr. John Octavious S. Palina, University President; Engr. Teofilo M. Sagabaen, Head of the Technology Transfer and Business Development Office; and Dr. Harrison T. Villanueva, Assistant Director for the Institutional Development and Quality Assurance Office. Engr. Sagabaen and Dr. Villanueva also serve as SMU's representatives to the DTI Shared Service Facilities – Local Advisory and Mentoring Program (SSF-LAMP), further strengthening the University's partnership with DTI in advancing innovation and enterprise development.

SMU's consecutive recognition reflects more than just outstanding institutional performance; it demonstrates the University's enduring commitment to transforming research, innovation, and technology into tangible opportunities for communities and local industries. By connecting higher education with industry, the University continues to drive entrepreneurship, create livelihood opportunities, and foster inclusive and sustainable economic growth across the region.

This milestone also advances Saint Mary's University's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education) through innovation and capacity building, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by promoting entrepreneurship and employment, SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through technology-enabled enterprise development, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through sustained collaboration with the Department of Trade and Industry and other development partners.