SDG 17 | Indicator 17.2.5

ISU Collaboration with Non-Government Organizations to Tackle the SDGs (2025)

In 2025, Isabela State University (ISU) worked with non-government organizations (NGOs) on climate action, education and inclusive economic development. With the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ) and Synergy Pilipinas, an institutional partner of the University, ISU took part in a provincial climate justice planning forum. With the Upskill Development Foundation, Wadhwani Foundation Philippines, a non-profit foundation, ISU launched a program to build a student startup ecosystem and to train faculty as internationally certified entrepreneurship coaches. The following reports document these collaborations, which support SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

1 ISU Hosts and Attends Workshop Forum on Climate Justice Framework

September 9–10, 2025 | ISU Climate Change Center



PHOTO

Workshop Forum on Climate Justice Framework, September 9–10, 2025

Use the photos posted with the original article:

https://isu.edu.ph/isu-hosts-attends-workshop-forum-on-climate-justice-framework/

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Isabela State University (ISU) hosted and attended a Workshop Forum on Climate Justice Framework on September 9–10, 2025, at the ISU Climate Change Center. The forum was organized by the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ) and Synergy Pilipinas, an institutional partner of the University. ISU took part through a six-member delegation from its Echague and Cabagan campuses.

The forum sought systemic solutions to the climate crisis and aimed to amplify community voices calling for a declaration of climate emergency, a transition to clean and renewable energy, the mobilization of national resources for adaptation and resilience, and the protection of livelihoods and the rights of marginalized sectors. It treated climate change as both an environmental and a justice issue.

The discussions were grounded in the region's recent experience. In 2024, Isabela lost PHP 1.5 billion in agricultural output to the El Niño drought, while Typhoon Pepito devastated Nueva Vizcaya, which was placed under a state of calamity with nearly PHP 1.4 billion in damages.

The program had three sessions. The first, a PMCJ orientation, introduced the Climate Justice Framework and PMCJ campaigns. The second, Climate Emergency 101, covered the goals and objectives of the Climate Emergency Campaign along with proposed strategies and activities. The third, Renewable Energy 101, explained the definition, classifications, sources and technologies of renewable energy. The forum worked toward the preparation and presentation of a Provincial Plan Synthesis for Climate Justice.

ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang said the framework can protect both the planet and human dignity. He hoped the forum would inspire participants to confront inequities, lead with empathy and act boldly for future generations.

> "We can turn the urgency of climate change into the power of collective justice," Dr. Batang said.



Source Isabela State University News

2 Global Meets Local: ISU and Wadhwani Foundation Philippines Launch an Outcomes-Based Startup Ecosystem for Students

September 9, 2025



Isabela State University (ISU) and the Upskill Development Foundation, Wadhwani Foundation Philippines, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on September 9, 2025, to launch ISUPORTSS (Innovation Support for University Projects, Outcomes and Resources to Thriving Student Startups). The partnership aims to develop student startups, advance research commercialization and embed entrepreneurial skills in learning.

Under the program, ISU will train a pool of faculty coaches. Coaches and students will receive intensive mentoring, followed by international certification and credit courses from Wadhwani Foundation, Inc., based in New York, USA. The program also aims to create inclusive opportunities so that women, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities can thrive as innovators.

Mr. Matt Ronnie T. Matias, Senior Consultant of Wadhwani Foundation Philippines, described the Wadhwani Ignite Program, through which ISU faculty and students will earn internationally recognized certifications and credit courses that open global doors while addressing local needs. Mr. Christian Lloyd D. Taguba, project proponent, presented ISUPORTSS as ISU's parallel program. Dr. Marinel P. Dayawon, Dean of the College of Education and co-project implementer, said the partnership gives students the chance to turn ideas into practical innovations rather than academic outputs alone.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Precila C. Delima affirmed that innovation and entrepreneurship will be built into ISU's instruction, research and extension functions. Dr. Ferdinand Bulusan, University Director for Extension and Training Services and co-project implementer, described the initiative as a blend of innovation, entrepreneurship and the curriculum that helps the University's academic work contribute to real-world development. Echague Campus Cluster Executive Officer Dr. Artemio A. Martin, Jr. sent a message of support, delivered by Campus Director for Academic Affairs Dr. Helena B. Florendo.

ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang said the MOU supports the University's goal of producing graduates who are academically strong and socially responsible, in line with his vision of making ISU "the SMARTEST University."

"When we empower our faculty and students to innovate, we bring our SMARTEST vision to life," Dr. Batang said.

Mr. Lucrecio Delgado, Jr., Regional Director for Southeast Asia of Wadhwani Foundation, said a shared advocacy for young people drives the partnership.

"The youth are the drivers of future economies," Mr. Delgado said.

The partners expect the collaboration to help establish a startup ecosystem in Northern Luzon that produces globally competent innovators with local impact, supporting SDG 4 through entrepreneurial learning, SDG 8 by preparing students to create jobs, and SDG 9 by speeding the path from research to market.



Source Isabela State University News

3 ISU Launches ISUPORTSS Academy for Mentors with Wadhwani Foundation

October 16–17, 2025





Isabela State University (ISU) launched the ISUPORTSS Academy for Mentors on October 16–17, 2025, with Wadhwani Foundation Philippines as its learning solutions provider. The academy is a capacity-building initiative under ISUPORTSS, the University's program for thriving student startups, and supports ISU's goals of strengthening entrepreneurship education and faculty development. The launch was followed by onsite monitoring.

ISU faculty and Entrepreneurship Education Mentors took part in a two-day hybrid training that combined face-to-face sessions, online coursework and virtual coaching. The training covered ten core modules: problem identification; customer identification and needs; solution and idea generation; opportunity and competition mapping; prototype development and minimum viable product (MVP); opportunity assessment; business modelling; market and sales strategy; financial development for profitability; and team and talent requirements. It also included venture idea and pitch readiness sessions and venture idea feasibility presentations, and it linked entrepreneurship teaching with research and extension services.

Dr. Lucrecio Delgado, Jr., Regional Director for Southeast Asia of Wadhwani Foundation, spoke about how innovation and entrepreneurship affect individuals and communities. He said true entrepreneurship builds dedication and dignity in serving one's family and fellow Filipinos, and he urged the mentors to inspire students to "dream for the big dream, to push for it" and eventually launch startups that create jobs.

Through the academy, participants turn theoretical concepts into actionable startup plans. Certified faculty will serve as on-call startup coaches across the ISU system, mentoring student-led startups in both curricular and co-curricular settings and strengthening a culture of innovation and enterprise at the University.



PHOTO

Training sessions and venture idea presentations

Use the photos posted with the original article:

https://isu.edu.ph/isu-launches-isuportss-academy-for-mentors-with-wadhwani-foundation/

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Source Isabela State University News