SDG 17 | Indicator 17.4.3

ISU Outreach Education for the Wider Community (2025)

Isabela State University (ISU) brings education beyond its campuses to local residents, farmers, cooperatives, local government personnel, marginalized sectors and the wider public. Guided by the University Extension Agenda, ISU's campuses deliver training, seminars, forums and capacity-building programs that are open to people who are not enrolled at the University. The following reports document ISU's extension framework and its outreach educational activities in 2025, in support of SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

1 The ISU Extension Agenda: A Framework for Educating the Wider Community

University-wide | Office of Extension and Training Services

Extension programs articulate the social relevance and conscience of the Isabela State University as a facilitator of countryside development. The extension team thereby anchors its effort on the communities to uplift their living conditions through the realization of the full potential of every person it works with and in harnessing rural folks capabilities in effectively and efficiently utilizing the gamut of community resources. To be more functional and more relevant, extension services primarily aimed at reaching out to the poorest local government units and rural communities and help them build up their capabilities to become self-reliant and empowered. Moreover, the University is envisioned to develop effective extension modalities and strategies with great focus on social mobilization and development of viable S & T and rural-based enterprises.

The University extension program thrust has been implemented in consonance with DA-AFMA of 1997, DA-ATI guidelines for the National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries (NESAF), CHED's NHERA, PCARRD's Technology Management Promotion and Commercialization Enhancement Program and NEDA Regional Extension Agenda. Guided by the abovementioned programs, ISU has pursued four-pronged umbrella programs as follows: a) Adopt A Barangay Volunteerism Program; b) LGU Extension Capability Strengthening Program; and c) Gender and Development; d) Community Outreach and Support Services.

The ISU Extension Agenda expresses the University's social mission and its support for rural development. Its main beneficiaries are communities outside the University: residents of rural barangays, the poorest local government units (LGUs), and marginalized groups who need capacity building. The agenda aims to improve living conditions by developing each participant's potential and helping rural residents make good use of local resources, so that communities become self-reliant and empowered.

The agenda is carried out through umbrella programs that include the Adopt-A-Barangay Volunteerism Program, the Adopt-A-School Program, the LGU Extension Capability Strengthening Program, Gender and Development, and Community Outreach and Support Services. Under these programs, ISU offers the wider community literacy training; remedial teaching; values formation; reproductive health, nutrition and sanitation education; livelihood and rural enterprise development; climate change policy advocacy and training; disaster risk reduction and management; environmental management, including waste management; and S&T-based demonstration farms.

For local governments, ISU provides non-degree training, technical assistance, capacity-building courses, information, education and communication (IEC) materials, multimedia campaigns, impact evaluation and the School-On-The-Air. The agenda is aligned with the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (RA 8435), the guidelines of the National Extension System for Agriculture and Fisheries, CHED's National Higher Education Research Agenda and the NEDA Regional Extension Agenda.

Source ISU Extension Agenda

2 ISU Ilagan and Local Health Partners Run a Six-Month Community Health Education Program

October 21, 2024 – April 2025 | ISU City of Ilagan Campus





The College of Nursing of ISU City of Ilagan Campus launched a six-month community extension program on health with the Governor Faustino N. Dy Sr. Memorial Hospital, the Integrated Provincial Health Office of Isabela and City Health Office I of Ilagan. The partners signed a Memorandum of Agreement at the launch on October 21, 2024, and the program held weekly Monday sessions until April 2025.

The program educates community members on healthy living. The launch featured lectures on hypertension prevention and management by Ms. Eleanor R. Atienza, RN, MAN, and on mental health awareness by licensed psychologist Mr. Dominic B. Agoot, a Zumba session led by student nurses and nursing faculty, and free vital sign checks for community members. Healthcare professionals, local officials and community advocates attended. Mr. Ryan M. Amigo, RN, served as ISU project leader, and the program supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being).

Source ISU City of Ilagan Campus

3 ISU Launches RISE-C to Empower Communities in Santiago City

May 24, 2025 | ISU Santiago Extension Campus













ISU officially launched the Research, Innovation, Sustainability, and Empowerment Center (RISE-C) at its Santiago Extension Campus on May 24, 2025, with the Local Government Unit of Santiago City, the 4th Congressional District of Isabela and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). The center serves as a hub for interdisciplinary research, technology and innovation that empowers faculty, students and partner agencies to address real-world challenges in smart agriculture, climate action, public health, education and disaster resilience, in support of the goal of making Santiago City and the Cagayan Valley Region sustainable, innovative and smart communities.

ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang called for research that is purpose-driven, inclusive and focused on real-world impact. DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr. stressed partnerships among DOST, LGUs and the academe. Campus Coordinator Dr. Melito D. Mayormente presented the RISE-C project overview.

Source [Isabela State University News]

4 ISU and SRA Partner to Bring High-Yielding Sugarcane Varieties to Smallholder Farmers

July 1, 2025





ISU and the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) signed a Memorandum of Agreement on July 1, 2025, to implement the project "Rapid Propagation and Distribution of SRA Sugarcane High-Yielding Varieties in the Mill District" under the SRA Varietal Improvement Program, funded through the Sugar Industry Development Act (SIDA) Fund. The project aims to increase sugarcane production in Northern Luzon by propagating high-yielding varieties and distributing them to smallholder farmers, modernizing sugarcane farming and improving farmer productivity through research-based practices.

ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang took part in the signing. SRA Administrator Pablo Luis S. Azcona was represented by Dr. Orlando F. Balderama, ISU Vice President for Research and Development, Extension and Training. Dr. Jeoffrey Lloyd R. Bareng, University Director for Research and Development, and Ms. Rose Mandac, Science Research Specialist I, served as institutional and project representatives.

Source Isabela State University News

5 ISU Hosts Community Forum on Climate Justice

September 9–10, 2025 | ISU Climate Change Center

PHOTO

Workshop Forum on Climate Justice Framework

Use the photos posted with the original article:

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

(full width, 6.5 in, same as the other photos; delete this box after inserting)





ISU hosted the Workshop Forum on Climate Justice Framework on September 9–10, 2025, at the ISU Climate Change Center, organized by the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCJ) and Synergy Pilipinas. The forum amplified the voices of communities and marginalized sectors calling for a declaration of climate emergency, a transition to clean and renewable energy, national resources for adaptation and resilience, and the protection of livelihoods. It drew on recent local experience: in 2024, Isabela lost PHP 1.5 billion in agricultural output to the El Niño drought, and Typhoon Pepito caused nearly PHP 1.4 billion in damages in Nueva Vizcaya.

Participants learned through three sessions: an orientation on the Climate Justice Framework and PMCJ campaigns, Climate Emergency 101 and Renewable Energy 101. The forum worked toward a Provincial Plan Synthesis for Climate Justice. A six-member ISU delegation from the Echague and Cabagan campuses took part. ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang said, “We can turn the urgency of climate change into the power of collective justice.”

Source Isabela State University News

6 ISU and Tanggol Kalikasan Train Local Government and Agency Personnel on Maritime Domain Awareness

September 9–11, 2025 | Alabang, Muntinlupa City







PHOTO

Maritime Domain Awareness Training, September 9–11, 2025

Use the photos posted with the original article:

https://isucabagan.edu.ph/news/isu-unites-with-tk-and-iegs-on-a-maritime-domain-awareness-training/

(full width, 6.5 in, same as the other photos; delete this box after inserting)

ISU, through its Institute of Environmental Governance (IEG), joined Tanggol Kalikasan, Inc. and other institutes of environmental governance in a Maritime Domain Awareness Training on September 9–11, 2025, supported by the United States Department of the Interior – International Technical Assistance Program. The training reached 94 participants: LGU department heads and technical staff from Cagayan, Isabela, Aurora, Quezon and Camarines Norte, and representatives of DENR, BFAR, DILG, DOTr, the Philippine Coast Guard and DOT.

ISU Vice President for Research and Development, Extension and Training Dr. Orlando F. Balderama presented the training's background and objectives, and ISU-IEG Coordinator Dr. Bondee L. Peñaflor moderated. Through lectures, group activities, workshops and consultation hours, participants learned about maritime domain awareness, mapping of marine areas and human uses, legal frameworks for marine conservation, benthic ecosystem mapping, data management and analysis, maritime emergency response and stakeholder engagement, with a focus on protecting the resources of the Philippine Rise. Experts from the US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the US Geological Survey and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shared technical insights.

"Let this training be a catalyst for strong intergovernmental partnerships," DILG Assistant Secretary for International Relations Lilian De Leon said.



ASec. Lilian De Leon, Assistant Secretary for International Relations of DILG delivering a Keynote Message



Mr. Nick Bruscato from the Office of International Affairs, US Department of Interior delivering his Solidarity Message



Dr. Orlando F. Balderama, VP for Research and Development, Extension and Training, during his presentation of the background and objective of the training



Dr. Bondee L. Peñaflor, ISU-IEG Coordinator, serving as moderator



Mr. Brian R. Hooker from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management during his lecture



Dr. Guy Cochrane from the U.S. Geological Survey during his lecture



Mr. Grant Demesillo of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during his lecture



Captain Jason Lehto of the U.S. Coast Guard (Attaché) during his lecture



Participants from Isabela province during the breakout sessions and workshops

Source ISU Cabagan Campus

7 ISU and CHR Region II Establish a Center for Human Rights Education for Communities

November 5, 2025 | ISU Echague



ISU and the Commission on Human Rights Region II signed a Memorandum of Agreement on November 5, 2025, at Alba Hall, ISU Echague, to establish the Center for Human Rights Education (CHRE). ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang and CHR Region II Regional Director Atty. Jimmy P. Baliga led the signing. Through its Gender and Development Office, ISU will run education and advocacy activities for students, faculty, staff and community partners, and extend capacity building to communities, including the establishment of Barangay Human Rights Action Centers (BHRACs) and programs for vulnerable sectors across the Cagayan Valley Region.

"Education is the most powerful tool to nurture respect for life, equality, and freedom," Dr. Batang said.

Source Isabela State University News

8 ISU and CDA Region II Partner to Train Cooperative Trainers

December 5, 2025








ISABELA STATE UNIVERSITY

ISU and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Region II signed a Memorandum of Agreement on December 5, 2025, for a Training of Trainers (TOT) program for Accredited Cooperative Training Providers and applicants under the CDA Accreditation Program. Built on the KooPerAtbp Extension Program of ISU's College of Business, Accountancy and Public Administration, the program strengthens trainers' skills in cooperative governance, management and enterprise performance so that they can educate cooperatives and their members across the region.

ISU will implement the standard course outline, build a pool of resource speakers, facilitate the training, prepare information and education materials, and award certificates to qualified trainers, while ISU and CDA jointly develop the curriculum and monitor the program. The partnership also provides for workshops on cooperative governance and mentoring, demonstration farms and training hubs. CDA Regional Director Atty. Nita Doreen L. Maestre-Tabbu called the partnership CDA's "maiden voyage" for the TOT, and ISU President Dr. Boyet L. Batang said it invests "not only in skills but in people."







Source [Isabela State University News]