



**BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
REPORT 2023**



ABOUT THE COVER

Benguet State University (BSU) proudly launched the #BSUustainable campaign, a bold initiative to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through heightened sustainability literacy.

During the Parade of Flags on October 24, 2024, held in honor of BSU's first International Week and United Nations Day, the University unveiled this impactful campaign, inspiring the BSU community to embrace global cooperation and actively contribute to the SDGs. With #BSUustainable, BSU reaffirms its dedication to building a sustainable future for all.

Photo by:
Shawn Michael Ritumalta



“BSU supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals”

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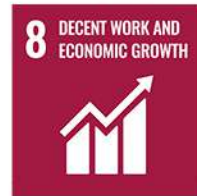
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BSU Partners with DSWD for the Cash for Work Program

Benguet State University (BSU) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Cordillera (DSWD-CAR) collaborates for the Cash for Work (C4W) Program.

The KALAHI Cash for Work (C4W) Program aims to provide fresh college graduates with an opportunity to gain hands-on experience while earning. Through this program, 500 BSU graduates have been employed and are currently undergoing work-internship in various government offices across the region.

The program directly contributes to the goal of eradicating poverty by offering economic support to fresh graduates who are entering the job market with limited work experience. By providing these graduates with the opportunity to work, the program empowers them to support themselves and their families, alleviating financial stress and creating pathways out of poverty. This initiative also enables graduates to acquire valuable skills that increase their future employability.

COMMUNITY ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMMES

BSU and Community MultiPurpose Cooperative

The Benguet State University (BSU) and Community Multipurpose Cooperative supports socio-economic growth among BSU faculty, staff, students, and the broader community. By providing accessible financial services, such as affordable loans, savings plans, and investment options, the cooperative helps members address various needs, from personal financing and education to business and agricultural projects.

Beyond financial support, the cooperative promotes community empowerment through workshops and seminars on financial literacy, livelihood skills, and sustainable practices. These programs build members' skills and encourage financial independence, strengthening community resilience.

**END POVERTY
IN ALL ITS
FORMS
EVERYWHERE**

**1 NO
POVERTY**



**SDG 1
BY THE NUMBERS**

11 919

**LOW INCOME STUDENTS
RECEIVING FINANCIAL
AID**

16 498

NUMBER OF STUDENTS

SDG 2 BY THE NUMBERS

21.29%
PROPORTION OF
GRADUATES IN
AGRICULTURE AND
AQUACULTURE
INCLUDING
SUSTAINABILITY
ASPECTS

386
GRADUATES IN
AGRICULTURE



BSU Offers Masters Degree in AgroEcology

Benguet State University (BSU) has taken a significant step forward in its academic offerings with the introduction of the Master of Science in AgroEcology, made possible through the Erasmus Project, Curriculum Development in AgroEcology (CDAE). This innovative program is designed to address the multifaceted challenges of agriculturally utilized landscapes, emphasizing sustainable development principles.

The Master's program received official approval from the Board of Regents on July 27, 2023, under BOR Resolution No. 43 s. 2023. Subsequently, in August 2023, the program welcomed its first cohort of seven students, making BSU the first university among the consortium to offer this Master's degree. Instruction is provided by the esteemed faculty members from the College of Agriculture (CA), College of Forestry (CF), and College of Natural Sciences (CNS).

Stakeholders convened for 2nd IPP Forum; Experiences on Highland Agriculture Value Chain Benchmarked



In the pursuit of creating a more conducive policy for the highland vegetable industry, public and private stakeholders convened for the 2nd Informing Policy and Practice (IPP) Forum on December 5, 2023 at the Everlasting Hall, BSU Research and Extension Building.

The forum underscored the issues regarding the highland vegetable value chain. It aimed to benchmark the experiences of Japanese and local stakeholders to come up with a more effective and inclusive policy.

2 ZERO
HUNGER



**END HUNGER,
ACHIEVE
FOOD
SECURITY AND
IMPROVED
NUTRITION
AND
PROMOTE
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE**

BSU BreaksGround for COM Complex; First SUC in CAR to Offer Medicine Program



Benguet State University (BSU) broke ground for the College of Medicine Complex on September 25, 2023, at BSU Compound, Cabanao, La Trinidad, Benguet.

BSU's venture into creating a College of Medicine makes it the first State University and College (SUC) in the Cordillera Administrative Region to embark on this noble journey.

CN Conducts Reproductive Health Outreach

The College of Nursing, in coordination with the Gender and Development Office, conducted a Women's Reproductive Health Outreach at Benguet State University Bokod Campus as part of the National Women's Month celebration this year.



CN Faculty and GAD-Technical Working Group Member Dr. Jude L. Tayaben discussed concerns regarding the increasing teenage pregnancy cases in the Cordillera Region and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) causes and prevention. Lastly, he talked about cervical cancer. Simultaneously, other CN Staff conducted cervical and breast screening check-ups, joined by BSU Bokod female employees and students. Staff from outside agencies were also accommodated.

**ENSURE
HEALTHY
LIVES AND
PROMOTE
WELL-BEING
FOR
ALL AT ALL
AGES**

**3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING**



**SDG 3
BY THE NUMBERS**

87.92%

**PROPORTION OF
STUDENTS IN HEALTH
PROFESSIONS**

1 594

**GRADUATES IN HEALTH
PROFESSIONS**

3

SDG 4 BY THE NUMBERS

29.29%

PROPORTION OF
GRADUATES WITH
RELEVANT QUALIFICATION
FOR TEACHING

531

GRADUATES QUALIFIED TO
TEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEVEL

43.08%

PROPORTION OF FIRST-
GENERATION STUDENTS

1 659

FIRST-GENERATION
STUDENTS STARTING A
DEGREE

4

BSU celebrates class of 2023, Sets New Record in Number and Latin Honors

A total of 1,502 graduates were conferred their diplomas at Benguet State University Gymnasium during the university's 98th Commencement Exercises on July 20-21, 2023. Apart from exceeding the previous year's total number of graduates, the '23 Class also surpassed the previous year's tally of 318 Latin honor recipients.

Since its founding, the university awarded this year 371 cum laude, 51 Magna cum laude, and the lone Summa cum laude of BSU in the person of Ms. Vjnhyl Zam A. Pondivida from the College of Information Sciences – Department of Development Communication, resulting in a total of 423 Latin honor graduates.



BSU-on-Air: 22 years of empowering life-long learners

Creating communities of learners from a distance is realized at its best through a radio program of Benguet State University. Dubbed as BSU School-on-Air, the program has been providing educational empowerment to various stakeholders.

BSU's School-on-the-Air segment has proven to be an effective broadcast-based distance learning system, as evidenced by several surveys from 2017 to 2022. To date, a total of 13 SoA programs have been conducted, with eight of them initiated by the OES in collaboration with various partners, resulting in over 2,500 farmer graduates.

4

 QUALITY
EDUCATION

ENSURE
INCLUSIVE AND
EQUITABLE
QUALITY
EDUCATION
AND PROMOTE
LIFELONG
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR ALL

**ACHIEVE
GENDER
EQUALITY AND
EMPOWER ALL
WOMEN AND
GIRLS**

**5 GENDER
EQUALITY**



ThinkTalk4 Highlights Importance of Gender Lenses in Literary Studies

BSU Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD), College of Arts and Humanities (CAH), and Gender and Development (GAD) Office organized a webinar-seminar on ThinkTalk4: Language, Literature, Arts and Communication Series, titled “Providing Spaces for the Genders in Literature” held on March 31, 2023.

The event was attended by 38 universities and colleges, 11 public high school institutions, 6 private high school institutions, and 6 other agencies and organizations. The webinar-seminar was conceptualized in accordance with the International Women’s Month celebration. The event aimed to inform the participants about ways to integrate gender perspectives in teaching literature, retool the participants with teaching methodologies in teaching literature, and appreciate the value and add value to the use of gender lenses in literary studies

BSU GAD Spearheads 18-day Campaign to End Violence Against Women and Children



The BSU Gender and Development (GAD) Office spearheads the 18-day campaign to end Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC) with the theme “United for a VAW-free Philippines” by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW). The office conducted several activities during the 18 - day campaign including: VAWalk parade; distribution and posting of information materials; poster making competition; international men’s day ride; and the forum on Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313), Gender-Based Violence in the workplace, and Anti-Violence against women. The campaign is held every year to raise awareness and gather support for the continuous advocacy.

SDG 5 BY THE NUMBERS

42.98%

**PROPORTION OF FIRST-
GENERATION FEMALE
STUDENTS**

2 650

**WOMEN STARTING A
DEGREE IN BSU**

1 139

**FIRST-GENERATION
WOMEN STARTING A
DEGREE IN BSU**

5

BSU Conducts Communication Campaign Awareness on Watershed and Environmental Protection in Kabayan

Benguet State University (BSU), in partnership with the Watershed and Water Resources Research Development Center (WRRDEC), took a proactive step towards environmental conservation and protection by conducting a two-day awareness campaign on Watershed and Environmental Protection and Conservation for Upper Agno. The campaign spanned across various barangays in Kabayan, Benguet, held from December 12 to 13, 2023.

The engagement was marked by informative discussions and interactive sessions focused on raising awareness about the importance of watershed preservation, laws and ordinances on environmental protection, and practical measures and strategies relating to issues and concerns on watershed, and good agricultural practices.

Watershed Management Advocacy Culmination Highlights Collaboration for Environmental Sustainability



The Office of Civil Defense-Cordillera Administrative Region (OCD-CAR), represented by Operations Section Chief Frankie Cortez, participated in the culmination of the project “Packaging and Conducting of Communication Campaign to Mitigate Watershed and Environmental Degradation during a Pandemic,” held on June 19, 2024, at Ion Hotel, Baguio City. The project, led by Ms. Nora C. Sagayo of Benguet State University (BSU), was supported by DOST-PCAARRD and CorCAARRD.

BSU President Dr. Felipe S. Comila acknowledged the collective efforts of stakeholders in protecting watersheds. Ms. Sagayo shared the project’s achievements and its impact on target communities. Messages were also delivered by DOST-PCAARRD Executive Director Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor, BSU Vice President for Research and Extension Dr. Roscinto Ian C. Lumbres, and CorCAARRD Director Dr. Janet P. Pablo. OCD-CAR’s Mr. Cortez represented Regional Director Albert A. Mogol, who was honored for his contribution as a guest on “Kabakiran Salakniban” on PTV Cordillera.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

6

BSU-College of Engineering Offers Technical Assistance to Cherway Farms for Biogas Digester Project

Benguet State University's College of Engineering (BSU-CE) extended its expertise to Cherway Farm, a piggery farm located in Bontoc, Mountain Province, by providing technical assistance to support a sustainable energy solution through the construction of a biogas digester. This initiative aligns with BSU's commitment to promoting environmentally friendly technologies within local communities, highlighting their continued involvement in sustainable development projects.

The project officially commenced with a site visit by a team of BSU-CE faculty members on May 18, 2023. Professors and engineers from the college, including Prof. John James F. Malamug, Engr. Erickson N. Dominguez, Engr. Kevin P. Titiwa, and Engr. Alvin C. Dulay, met with Cherway Farm's owner to assess the farm's layout and discuss the potential integration of a biogas digester system. During the visit, the team evaluated the site's readiness for biogas technology, which would harness waste from the piggery to produce renewable energy while reducing waste accumulation.

Following the site assessment, the BSU-CE team collaborated to create a tailored blueprint and detailed construction plan, which was later presented to Cherway Farm's management. In their follow-up visit on October 13, 2023, the team provided the farm with the finalized design, complete with construction estimates and technical specifications, bringing the project a step closer to implementation.

This biogas digester project is poised to transform waste management practices at Cherway Farm, generating biogas that can be used as a renewable source of energy and reducing the farm's environmental footprint.



**ENSURE
ACCESS TO
AFFORDABLE,
RELIABLE,
SUSTAINABLE,
AND
MODERN
ENERGY FOR
ALL**

**7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY**



7

SDG 8 BY THE NUMBERS

1 497

TOTAL BSU EMPLOYEES

1 825

STUDENT PLACEMENT

BSU Launches Project TuTuKK Dangayan

Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Benguet State University (BSU) for the launching of the Project “TuTuKK Dangayan: Sustainable Livelihood for Economic Stability” last July 4, 2023. The said project is about conducting TESDA training for interested students of BSU who are currently enrolled including community stakeholders to enable the participants to acquire foundation skills and competency toward employability and income-generating opportunities.

This project aims to address some of the pressing issues besetting the region given this time of pandemic where there is a rising number of out-of-youth, learners who did not continue their studies due to troubling experiences and graduates who are unemployed. Furthermore, this project aims to uplift the motivation of the learners and participants to pursue and succeed in life.



BSU ATBI/IC produces 3rd batch of entrepreneurs

Twelve individuals completed the ATBI farming and food processing incubation program on September 2, 2023. During the ceremony, the 12 completers were also sworn as members of the BSU ATBI Alumni Agriculture Cooperative which was established by the BSU ATBI/IC together with the first completers of the ATBI program in 2020. At present, the Cooperative has 49 members who maintain a training market pavilion at the strawberry farm BSU parking area where they sell their different farm produce.

8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



**PROMOTE
SUSTAINED,
INCLUSIVE AND
SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC
GROWTH,
FULL AND
PRODUCTIVE
EMPLOYMENT
AND DECENT
WORK FOR ALL**

BSU Graduate Triumphs in Young Farmers Challenge, Advancing Innovation in Sustainable Food Processing

Benguet State University (BSU) alumna Leonave Mara Aranas a BS Entrepreneurship graduate specializing in Food Enterprise, achieved a remarkable victory in the Department of Agriculture's Young Farmers Challenge Program. Aranas earned second place in the Processing Category of the provincial competition, a feat that comes with an impressive Php 80,000 start-up grant. The award funds will fuel her unique venture into Mochi-Ice Cream production, aiming to bring this delectable fusion of chewy mochi and creamy ice cream to the local market.

The Department of Agriculture's program provides budding business owners with the necessary resources, empowering them to contribute to sustainable industrial development in the Philippines.

Aranas's accomplishment not only celebrates her individual dedication but also underscores BSU's commitment to producing graduates equipped to innovate and lead in sustainable industries.



**BUILD RESILIENT
INFRASTRUCTURE,
PROMOTE
INCLUSIVE AND
SUSTAINABLE
INDUSTRIALIZATION
AND FOSTER
INNOVATION**

BSU's Techno Caravan

The Techno Caravan was first held in Kapangan back in 2016, it is an initiative aimed at showcasing BSU's cutting-edge technologies, encompassing products, processes, services, and information. The caravans have been seamlessly integrated into the foundation anniversary celebrations of municipalities and provinces.

The caravan is collaborative efforts of the colleges and BSU institutes. Esteemed experts from BSU bring their expertise, offering critical insights into soil analysis, plant diseases, animal diseases, pest management, beekeeping, and related subjects. Farmers were encouraged to bring soil samples and plant specimens for the on-the-spot diagnosis and recommendations. Prior to the event, these samples and specimens were meticulously collected, labeled, and prepared for thorough analysis.



**9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE**



9

SDG 10 BY THE NUMBERS

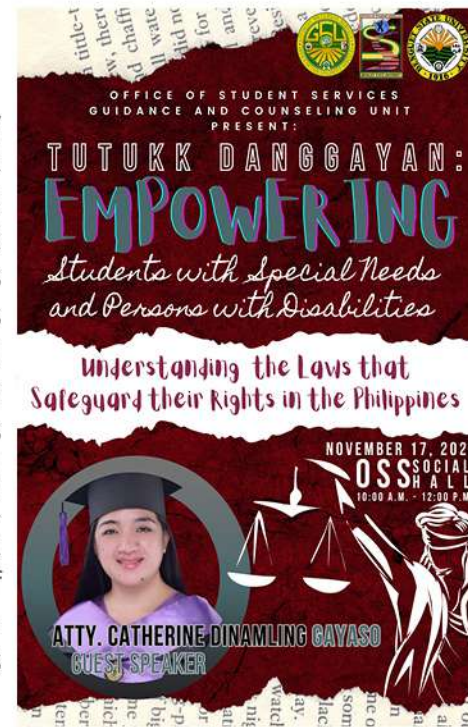
43
STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

15
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
FROM DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES

10

BSU GCU Spearheads Inclusive Education

Benguet State University (BSU) through the Office of Student Services - Guidance and Counseling Unit (OSS-GCU) conducts TuTTuKK Dangayan: Empowering Students with Special Needs and Persons with Disabilities to help the BSU community in understanding the laws that safeguard the group's rights in the Philippines on November 17, 2023. This activity aims to shed light on the significance of learning about the laws that govern the rights of student parents and solo parents in the Philippines and how these laws help empower and protect them.



BSU Fosters Inclusivity: Welcoming International Students with 'Coffee and Friends' Mixer



Benguet State University (BSU) recently hosted a mixer event, "Getting to Know: Coffee and Friends Make the Perfect Blend," as part of its commitment to supporting international students, particularly from developing countries in Asia and Africa. The gathering emphasized BSU's dedication to reducing inequalities and promoting inclusivity, ensuring international students have the support they need to succeed academically and personally.

10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



**REDUCE
INEQUALITY
WITHIN AND
AMONG
COUNTRIES**

BSU Museum: Preserving Cordillera Heritage and Promoting Sustainable Communities



BSU Museum is a cultural landmark that serves as a heritage site dedicated to preserving and showcasing the history, traditions, and customs of the Cordillera region. Housed in a beautifully preserved building that reflects both colonial history and architectural elegance, the museum offers visitors a captivating journey through the region's past. Originally constructed in the 1920s as the Principal's cottage and later the Superintendent's cottage, the building was repurposed in the 1970s as a Home Economics (HE) building for high school students before becoming BSU's museum in 2011. Its diverse collection includes ancient artifacts, traditional clothing, agricultural tools, and cultural relics, vividly illustrating the daily lives and values of the indigenous peoples of Benguet and the broader Cordillera region, including the Ibaloi, Kankanaey, and other groups. Best of all, the museum is open to all visitors and has no entrance fee, making it accessible to everyone.

BSU CCA Celebrates Cultural Unity and Resilience in First Inter-College Socio-Cultural Competition

The Benguet State University (BSU) Center for Culture and the Arts (CCA) recently held its first Inter-College Socio-Cultural Competition, emphasizing the theme "Showcasing God-given talents for the good of humanity." The event brought together participants from BSU's La Trinidad, Bokod, and Buguias campuses, promoting cultural expression and social cohesion.

The competition included visual and musical categories, showcasing students' skills in painting, poster-making, instrumental solos, and vocal performances. Through these diverse forms, students highlighted both traditional and modern cultural expressions, reinforcing the role of artistic heritage in community resilience. BSU CCA's initiative not only celebrated the talents of its students but also contributed to SDG 11's vision by promoting cultural inclusivity and strengthening the social fabric of the Cordillera region. The event underscored BSU's role in nurturing sustainable communities and fostering regional pride through artistic expression and cultural unity.

**MAKE CITIES
AND HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS
INCLUSIVE,
SAFE,
RESILIENT
AND
SUSTAINABLE**

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES**



11

BSU Conducts Program on Decelerating Postharvest Losses



Benguet State University (BSU) joined the DOST-PCAARD, the University of the Philippines, and 4 other Philippine SUCs in conducting the SPRINT-Hort Program Postharvest System Improvement of Selected Horticultural Value Chains Project.

The SPRINT-Hort Program aims to address and reduce postharvest losses in horticultural crops by focusing on improving the postharvest systems of selected value chains across nine provinces in the Philippines. In December 2023, the program made significant strides through its field activities, particularly the Face-to-Face (F2F) survey. This survey was carried out with local carrot farmers in Buguias, Benguet, to gather essential data regarding the carrot value chain at the farm gate level. As the program moves forward, it continues to gather valuable insights and refining its approach to postharvest system improvements contributing to the overall sustainable production patterns.

New FSRIC Innovation Combines Tomato and Lemon for Flavorful Fusion, Tackles Food Waste Reduction

Taking advantage of the abundance of tomatoes and lemons, innovators from Benguet State University Food Science Research and Innovation Center (FSRIC) developed a technology in the form of reduced sugar tomato-lemon marmalade.

With tomatoes' low shelf life or fast rate of spoilage, vast supplies are becoming waste. The mixture aimed to utilize the abundance of tomatoes. The initiative addresses food waste through the preservation of oversupplied produce. The reduced sugar tomato-lemon marmalade not only helps reduce food waste but also provides consumers with a healthier option compared to other similar products on the market.

The marmalade not only proves a promising solution for oversupply but also offers potential incomes for tomato producers or anyone else. FSRIC developed a technology guide to ensure the transfer of this technology to the community. The guide includes step-by-step instructions on how to produce marmalade, as well as tips on marketing and selling the product. By sharing their knowledge and expertise, FSRIC is empowering communities to create sustainable solutions for food waste and economic growth.

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



ENSURE
SUSTAINABLE
CONSUMPTION
AND
PRODUCTION
PATTERNS

Kabakiran Salakniban: Youth Engagement and Empowerment on Environmental Protection Takes Center Stage in Selected Schools

In a dedicated effort to foster environmental protection and conservation among the youth, an initiative was held in Kabayan, Benguet and Sabangan, Mountain Province, where a two-day campaign on Watershed and Environmental Protection for Upper Agno and Upper Chico River was conducted in various public schools. The activity aimed to raise awareness about the Upper Agno and Upper Chico River watersheds, the critical importance in the ecological balance of the region, and to encourage the students to actively participate in the environmental protection measures by the MENRO and its collaborating offices.

The activity was not only to impart knowledge but also to inspire a sense of responsibility and commitment among the students towards the preservation of the environment for generations to come.



CNS Leads the Charge in Environmental Awareness

The College of Natural Sciences (CNS) of Benguet State University (BSU) took the lead in promoting environmental consciousness during the University's Flag Raising Ceremony held on August 22, 2023. As the sponsor of the event, CNS emphasized the importance of protecting the environment by encouraging the BSU community to adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives. Through the ceremony, CNS underscored how small, everyday actions can contribute to the preservation of the environment. The college highlighted simple yet impactful ways to care for nature, such as reducing waste, conserving water, and making eco-friendly choices. This initiative aimed to inspire students, faculty, and staff to take responsibility for their surroundings and actively participate in environmental preservation efforts.

The event served as a reminder of the collective responsibility to protect the planet for future generations, aligning with BSU's ongoing commitment to sustainability. The college's involvement in this flag-raising activity marks a significant step towards fostering environmental awareness within the academic community.

**TAKE URGENT
ACTION TO
COMBAT
CLIMATE
CHANGE AND
ITS IMPACTS**

13 CLIMATE
ACTION



BSU Supports BFAR-CAR in Advancing Aquaculture in the Cordilleras



Benguet State University (BSU) has significantly contributed to aquaculture development in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) through its La Trinidad Fish Farm (LTFF). Established in 1971 and located within the BSU compound, the LTFF spans approximately 3 hectares, with 1.75 hectares dedicated to fish cultivation and productive activities and the remainder used for infrastructure on a mountain slope. This long-standing facility remains a vital source of sustainable fish production for the region, illustrating BSU's dedication to responsible resource management.

As a regional supplier of tilapia and common carp, the La Trinidad Fish Farm plays a significant role in promoting sustainable aquaculture practices. By fostering the availability of these species, BSU aids local farmers, reduces the need for imported fish seed, and contributes to the long-term conservation of aquatic ecosystems.

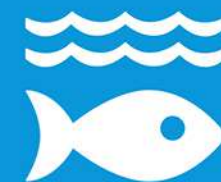
BSU Students Champion Aquatic Ecosystem Preservation through the Adopt-a-River Program

Benguet State University (BSU) fosters a commitment to aquatic ecosystem preservation through its student-led "Adopt-a-River" program, focused on revitalizing the Balili River near the campus. Students regularly organize clean-up drives, removing waste and pollutants that endanger river health and aquatic life. These efforts directly support life in local waters, as a cleaner river sustains biodiversity, provides a healthier habitat for fish and plant species, and prevents downstream pollution from impacting larger water bodies.

In addition, BSU's awareness campaigns during World Water Day and International Coastal and Inland Water Cleanup Day emphasize the vital role of inland waters in supporting life below water, as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14. These campaigns educate the community about how pollution affects aquatic ecosystems and the importance of safeguarding water quality for all species. By advocating for the protection and preservation of local water resources, BSU instills

an appreciation for the complex ecosystems within rivers and streams, inspiring students and the community to take action for a sustainable, thriving environment.

14 LIFE
BELOW WATER



**CONSERVE AND
SUSTAINABLY
USE THE
OCEANS, SEAS
AND MARINE
RESOURCES
FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

14

BSU Joins Project SAGIP; Student Scholars to Lead Greening Movement

In an inspiring move towards environmental sustainability, Benguet State University (BSU) has signed on to support Project SAGIP, a climate action initiative by the Commission on Higher Education-CAR (CHED-CAR) in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-CAR (DENR-CAR) and 34 other higher education institutions. Project SAGIP engages student scholars in a collective greening effort, requiring them to plant and care for trees as part of their scholarship commitments.

Under Project SAGIP, student beneficiaries of various CHED financial assistance programs will plant at least one fruit-bearing or indigenous tree in their local communities annually. Beyond planting, students will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of their trees to ensure successful growth, with technical guidance and seedlings supplied by DENR-CAR's local offices. DENR-CAR will also provide experts to conduct learning sessions on forestry, climate change, and environmental stewardship, further deepening students' understanding of their role in sustainability.

Flight for Conservation: Uncovering the Birdlife of BSU's Land Reservation



The natural landscapes of Benguet State University (BSU)-La Trinidad Campus and its surrounding land reservations are more than just green expanses – they are sanctuaries for diverse bird species that play a critical role in the local ecosystem. Recognizing the importance of these bird populations, a recent study titled “Flight for Conservation: The Birds of Benguet State University Land Reservation” by Forester Gerry M. Alfonso explored and documented the bird species within these areas. Forty-six bird species from 27 families were cataloged. Forty-four of the identified species are indigenous to the Philippines, and among these, 15 are endemic to the country. The presence of these endemic species, including the Scale-Feathered Malkoha and Spotted Wood Kingfisher, emphasizes the importance of preserving the BSU land reservations as key habitats. These two species are also among the top ten “must-see birds” in the Philippines, making BSU a valuable spot for birdwatching and ecotourism.

**PROTECT,
RESTORE AND
PROMOTE
SUSTAINABLE USE
OF TERRESTRIAL
ECOSYSTEMS,
SUSTAINABLY
MANAGE
FORESTS,
COMBAT
DESERTIFICATION,
AND HALT AND
REVERSE LAND
DEGRADATION
AND HALT
BIODIVERSITY
LOSS**

15 LIFE
ON LAND



15

SDG 16 BY THE NUMBERS

15.7%

PROPORTION OF
GRADUATES IN LAW &
CIVIL ENFORCEMENT

1813

GRADUATES OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION &
GOVERNANCE

285

GRADUATES IN LAW &
CIVIL ENFORCEMENT
RELATED COURSES



BSU participates in National Scouting Month 2023 through SOFAD

As a part of National Scouting Month this October 2023, more than 30 Scout Officials for a Day (SOFAD) from various schools in Benguet assumed the as one-day officials of Benguet State University on October 9, 2023.

The SOFAD's day began with the Turn-over and Opening Program held at Benguet Provincial Office, La Trinidad, Benguet. Afterwards, the scout officials proceeded to the various offices of the university to assume their responsibilities as BSU officials.

The objective of the SOFAD program is to motivate students to actively participate in public service and education, with a strong emphasis on fostering civic responsibility

Strengthening the Rule of Law through Awareness and Accountability

Student leaders from Benguet State University's College of Public Administration and Governance (CPAG) recently participated in a year-end activity organized by the Office of Student Services - Student Organization and Activities Unit (OSS-SOAU), where they explored critical laws that promote campus safety and respect for individual rights. The program featured discussions led by legal experts on the Safe Spaces Act, Anti-Hazing Law, and Data Privacy Act. These sessions equipped students with essential knowledge on gender-based harassment prevention, safe organizational practices, and data privacy protection, fostering an environment where everyone's rights are upheld.

The student leaders collectively pledged to uphold these principles in their campus interactions, recognizing that creating a safe and respectful environment requires accountability, integrity, and informed decision-making. By understanding and adhering to these laws, they set a powerful example of responsible leadership, contributing to a culture of respect and lawful conduct that aligns with the goals of SDG 16 for a just and inclusive society.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



**PROMOTE
PEACEFUL AND
INCLUSIVE
SOCIETIES FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT,
PROVIDE
ACCESS TO
JUSTICE FOR
ALL AND BUILD
EFFECTIVE,
ACCOUNTABLE
AND INCLUSIVE
INSTITUTIONS
AT ALL LEVELS**

IRO Continues Annual UN SDG Literacy Exhibit at BSU's 107th Foundation Anniversary Celebration



As part of the festivities for Benguet State University's 107th Foundation Anniversary, the International Relations Office (IRO) proudly continued its tradition of showcasing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through an informative and engaging exhibit.

The exhibit aimed to raise awareness about the SDGs and their crucial role in shaping a more sustainable and equitable world. Visitors were invited to explore each goal through interactive displays, learning materials, and informative resources.

This year's exhibit was a great success, attracting students, faculty, and staff who showed immense interest in the SDGs and how they align with BSU's own internationalization initiatives. By continuing this annual tradition, IRO reaffirms its commitment to educating and empowering the BSU community in promoting sustainability and making a positive global impact.

BSU Celebrates Unity and Sustainability

Benguet State University (BSU) reached a significant milestone by hosting its first university-wide United Nations (UN) Day celebration, held on October 24, 2023. With the theme "BSU to the World, the World to BSU," the university commemorated UN Day, showcasing its commitment to global unity and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This event underscored BSU's commitment to the UN's SDGs and to advancing sustainability and global unity. By engaging the university community in such an impactful and interactive celebration, BSU took a significant step toward fostering awareness and action on global issues.

SDG 17 BY THE NUMBERS

22

**ADDITIONAL LINKAGES IN
2023**

35

**INTERNATIONAL
PARTNERS**

11

**PUBLISHED RESEARCHES
IN SDG POLICY AND
PRACTICE**

**STRENGTHEN
THE MEANS OF
IMPLEMENTATION
AND REVITALIZE
THE GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP
FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

**17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS**



17



Benguet State University and the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Benguet State University (BSU) serves as a dynamic and multifaceted institution, actively engaged in fulfilling its diverse missions across the realms of academia, production, research, and extension. This comprehensive report serves as a testament to our unwavering commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a global initiative anchored in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In the academic sphere, BSU is dedicated to providing a well-rounded education that not only imparts knowledge but also instills values and perspectives aligned with sustainable development principles. Through innovative academic programs, the university equips students with the skills and mindset needed to navigate and contribute to a sustainable future.

The production functions of BSU are strategically aligned with sustainable practices. From agriculture to industry, the university emphasizes environmentally conscious and socially responsible production methods. By integrating sustainable principles into production processes, BSU not only serves as a model for responsible resource use but also contributes to the broader sustainability goals.

In the realm of research, BSU actively conducts cutting-edge studies to address local and global challenges, emphasizing sustainability at its core. Research initiatives span a wide range of fields, including sustainable agriculture, environmental conservation, renewable energy, and community development. These efforts contribute directly to the achievement of SDGs by generating knowledge and innovative solutions.

Furthermore, BSU's commitment to extension functions extends beyond the campus, reaching into surrounding communities and beyond. Through various outreach programs and collaborative projects, the university actively works to empower and uplift communities, fostering sustainable practices, and enhancing the overall well-being of the populace.

BSU remains steadfast in actively contributing to each SDG, aligning our endeavors with the broader global pursuit of sustainable development. By integrating sustainability principles into our academic, production, research, and extension activities, we aim to exemplify how educational institutions can play a pivotal role in advancing the shared vision of a more sustainable and equitable world.



**BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
REPORT 2023**