

IPOPHL confers Palladium, Platinum Awards to USeP for outstanding IP Performance

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), through its Knowledge and Technology Transfer Division (KTTD), has been awarded the Palladium and Platinum Awards by the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) during the Innovation and Technology Support Offices (ITSO) Presidents' Summit and General Assembly held in Iloilo City on March 25, 2026.

Moreover, the University received two special citation awards for its diligent efforts in intellectual property protection by successfully fulfilling the requirements of the Innovation and Technology Support Office (ITSO) to file at least 10 patent

applications and at least 50 copyright applications, requirements for advanced ITSO performance recognition and sustainability milestones, demonstrating USEP's commitment to innovation and securing its intellectual assets.

The Palladium Award is the highest recognition given by the IPOPHL to ITSOs. It is conferred upon select institutions that demonstrate outstanding performance across all strategic key performance indicators, including both the volume and type of services delivered, particularly in patent filing, IP commercialization, and international applications.

On the other hand, the Platinum Award is granted to top-performing ITSOs that meet IPOPHL's key targets on patent services and research commercialization support services, reflecting strong institutional capacity in managing and translating intellectual property into impactful innovations.

The awards were received by Vice President for Research, Development and Extension Dr. Roger C. Montepio and KTTD Director Engr. Francis Louise C. Yap on behalf of University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr.

SDGs: 4, 9, and 17



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES

NEWSLETTER

WE BUILD DREAMS WITHOUT LIMITS • TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES IN THE ASEAN AND BEYOND

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES

UPDATES

OBRERO | MINTAL | TAGUM-MABINI | MALABOG

VISION

PREMIER RESEARCH UNIVERSITY TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES IN THE ASEAN AND BEYOND

MISSION

USEP shall contribute to inclusive growth and sustainable development through continual innovation in proactive academic programs, impactful research for utilization, economically empowering community services, and sustainable resource management.

GOALS

- Internationalized University programs and services
- Innovation and RDE-nurturing environment
- Proactive, globally competent, and service-oriented graduates
- Transformed vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and communities
- Mobilized and optimized resources for sustainable development

CORE VALUES

Collaboration Accountability Resilience Excellence Service oriented

CORE COMPETENCY

Inclusive and innovative quality education for community transformation

Building Dreams and Transforming Lives and Communities

Embarking on a journey of innovation and excellence, the University of Southeastern Philippines proudly presents a glimpse into its exciting efforts capturing the University's

commitment to building dreams and transforming lives and communities.

Scan the QR code to watch stories of transformed lives and communities.



UPDATES ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) PROGRAM

Covering the period from 01 July 2017 to 31 March 2026

Total number of FOI requests received: **780**

Total number of FOI requests successfully provided: **697**

61 were denied since the requests were either under the FOI exceptions list or were considered invalid; 14 were referred to another government agency since the requested information was not being handled, maintained, or stored by the University; 6 were closed since the requesting party failed to provide the information needed for clarification 60 calendar days after the "Awaiting Clarification" status; and 2 are on-going or currently being processed.

FOI Appeals

If you are unhappy with the response to your FOI request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review by writing through email at records@usep.edu.ph. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied and should be made within 15 calendar days from the date when you received the response to your FOI request. We will complete the review and provide the result within 30 calendar days from the date your appeal was received.

SCAN THIS CODE TO REQUEST INFORMATION VIA USEP FOI PORTAL



Be informed. Be engaged.
Know your government better.

Q1 FY 2026 PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Covering the period from 01 January 2026 to 31 March 2026

A. PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	TARGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
Higher Education Program			
Outcome Indicator			
1. Percentage of first-time licensure exam takers that pass the licensure exams	79.94%	89.47% (51/57)	9.53%
Research Program			
Output Indicator			
1. Number of research outputs completed within the year	5	5	0

Technical Advisory Extension Program

Outcome Indicator			
1. Number of active partnerships with LGUs, industries, NGOs, NGAs, SMEs, and other stakeholders as a result of extension activities	9	19	10
Output Indicator			
1. Number of trainees weighted by the length of training	200	661.25	461.25
2. Number of extension programs organized and supported consistent with the SUC's mandated and priority programs	6	13	7
3. Percentage of beneficiaries who rate the training course/s as satisfactory or higher in terms of quality and relevance	98.02%	100% (594/594)	1.98%

SUMMARY OF FY 2025 PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program	Accomplishment Rate
Higher Education Program	112%
Advanced Education Program	-
Research Program	100%
Extension Program	215%
AVERAGE	142%

B. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

INDICATOR	AMOUNT (P'000)	% OF ACCOMPLISHMENT
Obligation Rate		
Actual Obligation (FAR No. 1)	150,391	16.65%
Allotment Releases	903,139	
Actual Obligation (FAR No. 1)	150,391	14.31%
Financial Plan (BED No. 1)	1,050,876	
Disbursement Rate		
Actual Disbursement (FAR No. 1)	140,452	93.39%
Actual Obligation (FAR No. 1)	150,391	
Actual Disbursement (FAR No. 1)	140,452	13.37%
Monthly Disbursement Program	1,050,876	
Actual Disbursement (FAR No. 4)	173,201	100.00%
Total Disbursement Authorities Issued	173,203	



UseP joins national dialogue on SDGs at Higher Education Summit 2026

With its commitment to promoting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the harmonization of its programs, research, and partnerships with the ACHIEVE Agenda of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the University, represented by University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales Jr., participated in the Higher Education Summit 2026 held on March 10-12, 2026 at the SMX Convention Center Clark in Clark, Pampanga.

Anchored on the theme "Achieving Sustainable Futures: Transformative Higher Education for Human Capital, Innovation, and Global Responsibility," the summit convened leaders and representatives from higher education institutions (HEIs) across the country to advance significant discussions, partnerships, and knowledge exchange.

The three-day summit aimed to promote holistic discourse on curriculum relevance, science-driven human capital strategies, and the development of cross-sector partnerships to better prepare graduates for complex societal challenges. The event was spearheaded by CHED in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

CHED Chairperson Dr. Shirley C. Agrupis emphasized that the Philippines already possesses the institutions, expertise, and knowledge base needed to accelerate progress toward the SDGs. She stressed the importance of aligning these resources more deliberately and mobilizing them strategically to maximize their impact in advancing national development and sustainability efforts.

In response, Pres. Gabales emphasized the crucial role of collaboration among educators and HEIs in strengthening the Philippine higher education system.

"The discussions during the summit reaffirm the crucial role of higher education institutions in advancing sustainable development. At UseP, we are committed to producing graduates who are not only academically competent but also socially responsible and equipped with the skills, innovation mindset, and global awareness needed to address today's complex challenges. Through strengthened partnerships and responsive programs, the University will continue to contribute to building sustainable communities and a resilient nation," he said.

While at the summit, Pres. Gabales also met with several institutional partners, including Dr. Reynaldo V. Ebor, Executive Director of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD), a long-standing partner of the University in various research initiatives supporting agriculture, aquatic, and natural resources development.

Despite the evolving economic landscape, Pres. Gabales assured that UseP remains committed to adapting to emerging challenges and opportunities in higher education.

Meanwhile, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CHED and DOST-PCAARRD to support the Technology Business Incubation Program. The initiative aims to strengthen innovation and support technology incubation among higher education institutions, including UseP, one of the state universities with an existing Agri-Aqua Technology Business Incubator under the DOST-PCAARRD National ATBI Network.

SDGs: 4, 9, and 17

Inclusive consultation shapes FY 2027 UseP budget priorities

As the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) commenced preparations for the FY 2027 national budget cycle, the University of Southeastern Philippines (UseP) held its FY 2027 Budget Proposal Review and Consultation on February 3, 2026, at the Social Hall of UseP Obrero Campus.

The consultation brought together the University's top management, deans, directors, and representatives from various stakeholder groups to promote an inclusive and participatory approach to budget preparation. Participating stakeholders included Peace911, the Davao City Planning and Development Office, the Federation of UseP Alumni Associations, Inc., the UseP Faculty Federation, the UseP Non-Teaching Staff Association, the University Student Government, and the UseP Retirees Association.

To provide context for the FY 2027 discussions, University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr. presented the priority programs funded under the University's FY 2026 General Appropriations Act allocation, alongside locally funded projects implemented during the year.

"Let us keep public trust at the heart of every proposal, recommendation, and decision. Let us speak with honesty, listen with respect, and act with prudence. As one UseP, we carry the responsibility of safeguarding public resources while advancing the mission of the University," Pres. Gabales said.

The consultation was spearheaded by the Institutional Planning Division and the Finance Division. Throughout the activity, budget proposals from academic units

and offices across UseP campuses were presented and reviewed through the lens of accountability and responsible resource management.

Presentations were led by University Vice Presidents Dr. Jeneifer C. Nueva, Dr. Tamara Cher R. Mercado, Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan, and Dr. Roger C. Montepio. Budget proposals from the external campuses were likewise presented by Dr. Shirley S. Villanueva for the Tagum-Mabini Campus, Dr. Aristeo C. Salapa for the Mintal Campus, and Mr. Rolen A. Bocog for the Malabog Extension Campus.

The consultation concluded with the presentation of the consolidated FY 2027 Budget Proposal by Pres. Gabales. The proposal is set to be presented during the upcoming FY 2027 Budget Forum of the DBM Regional Office XI.

SDGs: 4, 16, and 17

SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE



VPPQuA Mercado named among 2026 AACUP Manuel T. Corpus Outstanding Quality Advocate awardees

Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance (VPPQA) Dr. Tamara Cher R. Mercado has been named one of the awardees of the Manuel T. Corpus Outstanding Quality Advocate Award for 2026.

Conferred by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines (AACUP), the award honors Dr. Manuel T. Corpus, founder of AACUP, and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated leadership in advancing effective quality management systems in public higher education institutions. The distinction affirms Dr. Mercado's contributions to strengthening institutional standards and promoting a culture of quality within the University.



Cadet Pasco named Philippine Army's Best Male ROTC Cadet 2025

CDT COL Kent Andrey L. Pasco, ICL, a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education student and Corps Commander of the University of Southeastern Philippines National Service Training Program - Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NSTP-ROTC) Unit, was recognized as the Best Male ROTC Cadet 2025 during the 129th Philippine Army Founding Anniversary held on March 19, 2026, at Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City.

The award was conferred by the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr.



USeP convenes two-day AdCo GO Forum to strengthen governance, operations

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) conducted the two-day Administrative Council Governance and Operations (AdCo GO) Forum on February 10 and 12, 2026, at the College of Information and Computing (CIC) Audio-Visual Room, Obrero Campus. The activity gathered Administrative Council (AdCo) members and their key support personnel for a comprehensive discussion of governance, compliance, operational systems, and institutional accountability.

With the theme "Bridging Leadership in Action: Strengthening Middle Management for Institutional Excellence," the Forum highlighted the critical role of middle managers as the link between institutional vision and operational execution.

University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr. delivered the inspirational message, underscoring that USeP, as a public institution, carries a responsibility anchored on public trust. He emphasized that policies, budgets, and systems must ultimately serve one purpose: improving student learning, employability, and success. He reminded participants that middle management leadership determines whether institutional vision effectively reaches day-to-day operations.

The discussions covered administrative, financial, academic, research, and quality assurance matters to reinforce consistent implementation of University policies across campuses.

Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan, Vice President for Administration, led the presentation on administrative and financial governance, with inputs from Ms. Abigail F. Francisco, Director of the Finance Division; Dr. Patricia Angela T. Del Rio, Director of the Human Resource Management Division; and Dr. Reynilo D. Garcia, Director of the Administrative Services Division. The session emphasized prudent use of government resources,

compliance with procurement regulations, and strengthened human resource systems to support institutional targets.

On academic governance, Dr. Jeneifer C. Nueva, Vice President for Academic Affairs, discussed policy compliance in relation to student activities, faculty workload, travel guidelines, and CHED-related requirements. The presentation reinforced the responsibility of academic leaders to ensure that programs and engagements remain aligned with institutional standards and regulatory frameworks.

Dr. Roger C. Montepio, Vice President for Research, Development and Extension, presented updates on RDE management, including proposal review processes, faculty workload credit for research and extension, and intellectual property protection and commercialization procedures. The session reiterated the importance of structured coordination and adherence to established approval processes.

Meanwhile, Dr. Tamara Cher R. Mercado, Vice President for Planning and Quality Assurance, discussed the University's transition from ISO 9001:2015 to ISO 21001:2018, marking a shift toward an education-centered management system. She also introduced enhancements to the University's Risk and Opportunity Management procedures, emphasizing risk-based thinking, documentation integrity, and evidence-driven decision-making.

Throughout the two-day engagement, participants actively took part in open forums following each major session, allowing for clarification of policies, operational concerns, and governance issues. The activity reaffirmed USeP's commitment to transparency, accountability, cross campus collaboration, and student-centered leadership.

SDGs: 4, 16, and 17



BIR recognizes USeP among Top 5 gov't. agencies in East Davao

The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) recognized the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) as one of the Top 5 National Government Agencies under Revenue District Office No. 132 – East Davao City.

The Plaque of Recognition was conferred during the Tax Campaign Kick Off 2026 of Revenue District Office No. 132 – East Davao City held on February 27, 2026, at Apo View Hotel. The annual activity signals the start of the Bureau's tax campaign for the calendar year.

The citation places USeP among the leading national government agencies within the Revenue District Office No. 132 – East Davao City in terms of tax compliance and revenue contributions. The recognition reflects the University's adherence to statutory obligations, sound financial management practices, and timely remittance of government dues.

Vice President for Administration Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan and Finance Director Ms. Abigail F. Francisco received the award on behalf of the University.

SDGs: 16 and 17

USeP climbs in Webometrics January 2026 rankings, places second among Region XI SUCs

The University of Southeastern Philippines posted a significant improvement in the January 2026 edition of the Webometrics Global Web Rankings for Universities, climbing to 3,463rd worldwide from its 6,836th position in January 2025.

The latest rankings also placed the University 57th among Philippine higher education institutions included in the evaluation and second among State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the Davao Region.

In the individual indicators, the University ranked 11,089th in Impact, 5,825th in Openness, and 6,864th in Excellence.

Administered by Webometrics, the global ranking system evaluates the multidimensional performance of higher education institutions through their web presence, visibility, openness, and research excellence. The ranking covers more than 32,000 higher education institutions across over 200 countries and is updated twice annually, in January and July. Multiple data points are collected for each indicator, with the highest valid value used to ensure consistency and reliability in the evaluation process.

CHED taps USeP faculty experts to spearhead Regional Academic Quality Assurance

Seven faculty members from the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) were officially appointed to the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office XI (CHED RO XI) Regional Quality Assessment Team (RQAT). The appointments were formalized during a signing ceremony on January 14, 2026, at the CHED RO XI Function Room.

The newly appointed members of the RQAT are Dr. Orvil M. Basug of the College of Technology; Dr. Cecirly G. Puig of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences; Dr. Ruby A. Serrano and Dr. Randy A. Tudy of the College

of Education; Dr. Ma. Joy G. Soriano and Dr. Enrico C. Yee, Jr. of the College of Business Administration; and Dr. Randy S. Gamboa of the College of Information and Computing.

In their capacity as RQAT members, they will serve as technical experts for program-specific evaluations, supporting CHED RO XI in assessing Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that apply for government permits and program recognition. Their work involves conducting thorough evaluations, preparing comprehensive technical reports, and providing evidence-

based recommendations to help ensure that academic standards are consistently upheld across the region.

In her message, CHED RO XI Regional Director Dr. Maricar R. Casquejo commended the newly appointed RQAT members for their dedication and commitment. She emphasized their vital role in maintaining high standards of quality in higher education, noting that their expertise is essential to achieving the strategic goals and objectives of CHED RO XI.

SDGs: 4, 16, and 17





DMW RO XI partners with USeP, CHED XI for regionwide orientation on overseas employment

The Department of Migrant Workers Regional Office XI (DMW RO XI), in partnership with the Commission on Higher Education Regional Office XI (CHED RO XI), conducted a Regionwide Pre-Employment Orientation Seminar (PEOS) at the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center, on March 13, 2026, gathering 2,672 graduating students and young professionals from 36 higher education institutions across Region XI.

Hosted by the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), the seminar aimed to strengthen students' readiness for overseas employment by providing essential information on legal recruitment processes, workers' rights and responsibilities, and available government programs and services that protect Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their families.

Vice President for Administration Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan delivered the message of University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr., underscoring the institution's commitment to preparing graduates for responsible participation in the global workforce. The message also highlighted the vital role of OFWs in sustaining families, communities, and the national economy.

DMW RO XI Regional Director Maria Carolina B. Agdamag led the seminar, while CHED RO XI was represented by Education Supervisor Liza C. Suan. Both agencies emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts in equipping students with accurate and timely information on overseas employment.

Discussions during the orientation focused on safe and legal migration

pathways, early awareness of recruitment procedures, and precautionary measures against illegal recruitment and employment scams. Students were encouraged to make informed decisions as they pursue opportunities abroad.

DMW RO XI noted that the Regionwide PEOS forms part of its continuing efforts to promote safe, orderly, and responsible migration. The agency also acknowledged USEP and partner institutions for their role in preparing future OFWs with the knowledge and awareness needed for secure and informed engagement in global employment opportunities.

SDGs: 4, 8, 10, and 17

Nescafe hands over educational grant check to USeP

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) formally received the educational grant check from Nestle Philippines, Inc., for the Nescafé Kape't Bisig sa Pagbangon Educational Grant Program on February 13, 2026.

Representing USEP and Nestle Philippines Inc. were University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr. and Mr. Donnel Jun Tienda, respectively.

They were joined by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jeneifer C. Nueva, Office of Student Affairs and Services (OSAS) Director Dr. Jose Alther M. Rivera, OSAS Scholarship Unit Deputy Director Assoc. Prof. Marivic N. Neri, and staff. The event was facilitated by the OSAS-Scholarship Unit.

This significant partnership reflects a shared commitment to advancing access to quality education and providing



meaningful support to deserving students. The education grant will contribute to strengthening scholarship initiatives and empowering learners to pursue academic excellence and personal growth.

Through collaborative efforts such as this, the University continues to expand opportunities that nurture future professionals and community leaders.

SDGs: 4, 10, and 17



UseP tapped to host EducationUSA's Study in the US information session

Students, faculty members, and staff gathered at the Social Hall of the University of Southeastern Philippines Obrero Campus on March 12, 2026, for the Study in the US Information Session organized by EducationUSA, an initiative that introduced opportunities for graduate education, scholarships, and academic exchange in the United States.

The program opened with remarks from University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales Jr., delivered by Vice President for Administration Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan, who welcomed representatives from the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines, the EducationUSA network, the United States Government Alumni Association, University officials, faculty and staff members, partners, and students.

The University expressed full support for the initiative, recognizing that

professional growth and advanced learning opportunities contribute to strengthening academic excellence within the institution. By equipping students, faculty, and staff with knowledge of international study programs, the activity also aligns with the University's continuing internationalization efforts.

Sharing a personal reflection in the message, Pres. Gabales noted his experience as a Fulbright Program scholar from 2009 to 2010 and as a research grant recipient at Kent State University in Ohio, USA. The experience strengthened his appreciation for international academic exchange and the opportunities it creates for research collaboration, professional growth, and knowledge exchange.

The information session featured presentations from Jenna S. DeDominici and Bryan Joseph Keith B. Alonzo,

Education Coordinators of the U.S. Embassy, who discussed the role of EducationUSA in guiding prospective students through the process of studying in the United States. The talk covered key topics, including choosing the right academic institution, scholarship opportunities, and financing graduate studies.

Participants also heard a testimonial from Assoc. Prof. Rioliza B. Molina, faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), who shared her experience as a Fulbright alumna. In her talk, she reflected on the academic and professional opportunities that the program opened for her and encouraged participants to consider pursuing international study opportunities.

SDGs: 4, 8, 10, and 17

DPWH partners with UseP for campus job fair, connects graduates to public service careers

Career opportunities in public service were brought closer to the community as the University of Southeastern Philippines (UseP) hosted the campus job fair of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) at the University Social Hall, Obrero Campus on March 27, 2026.

The initiative provided UseP's graduating students, and alumni, particularly in engineering and accountancy, with direct access to employment prospects in government, supporting the University's efforts to strengthen industry linkages and graduate employability.

Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales Jr., UseP President welcomed the participants and the partner agency, highlighting the value of collaborations that open pathways for students to transition from academic life to professional practice.

"We gather at a time when our country needs skilled and ethical professionals, and our graduates are ready to step forward and serve. This job fair bridges education and employment, connecting our students to meaningful opportunities in public service," he said.

In his message, DPWH Secretary Vivencio B. Dizon underscored the agency's commitment to recruiting skilled and service-driven professionals, encouraging UseP graduates to pursue careers in public service.

"We are eager to welcome young professionals with fresh ideas into the Department. There is still much to be done, and we need brilliant and driven minds to help strengthen and move the agency forward. We also assure the University of our commitment to complete ongoing and upcoming infrastructure projects," he said.



The job fair aimed to inform participants of available career opportunities within DPWH, attract fresh talents and newly registered engineers and certified public accountants to government service, and strengthen partnerships between the agency and academic institutions for sustained talent sourcing.

SDGs: 8 and 17

FROM PAGE 1

Research ethics capability-building intensifies following approval of USePCRE framework

Following the formal approval of the University of Southeastern Philippines Committee on Research Ethics (USePCRE) through Board Resolution Nos. 170A-170F, s. 2025, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP), through the Research and Development Division (R&DD), conducted another run of the Basic Research Ethics Training (BRET) on February 23-24, 2026 at the University Training Hall, USeP Obrero Campus, Davao City.

With the Board of Regents approving the establishment of USePCRE, the adoption of its Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Manual, authorization to operationalize its review processes, approval of review fees and honorarium schemes, and endorsement for Philippine Health Research Ethics Board (PHREB) accreditation, the University now moves from institutional preparation to full implementation of its research ethics governance framework.

The BRET reinforces the competencies of committee members, researchers, and institutional stakeholders in carrying out ethical review and oversight responsibilities under the officially sanctioned structure. Anchored on the principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, justice, and respect for persons, the training translated these foundations into operational mechanisms such as

review pathways, risk assessment procedures, SOP compliance, and documentation standards.

Maintaining the same structured flow and core topics as previous sessions, this year's BRET was facilitated by Dr. Renan P. Limjuco and Mr. Rodel C. Roño, who provided updated regulatory perspectives, contextualized case analyses, and practical guidance aligned with national oversight standards.

The conduct of this training underscores that Board approval marks not the end of a process, but the beginning of strengthened institutional accountability. As USeP advances toward PHREB accreditation and activates its research ethics review functions, continued capability-building remains central to ensuring consistency, integrity, and participant protection across its research ecosystem.

The R&DD is set to conduct additional batches of BRET and related training activities in the coming months to sustain operational readiness and system strengthening.

With USePCRE now established, USeP institutionalizes ethical oversight at the core of its research enterprise.

SDGs: 4, 8, 10, and 17



Arduino Day 2026 Mindanao gathers innovators, students at USeP Obrero

Innovation and collaboration took center stage as the University of Southeastern Philippines (USeP) hosted Arduino Day 2026 Mindanao on March 25, 2026 at the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center, Obrero Campus, gathering students, educators, researchers, and industry partners in a shared celebration of technology and creativity.

Organized by USeP's Office of the Vice President for Research, Development and Extension through the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Division and the AGILab Technology Business Incubation Unit, in partnership with CreateLabz, the event was supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Region XI, Department of Education (DepEd) Region XI, Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Region XI, as well as international STEM partners DFRobot, Seeed Studio, PCBWay, and various local ecosystem partners.

In a message delivered by Vice President for Administration Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunilan on behalf of University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr., the University reaffirmed its vision of becoming a premier research institution driving transformation, noting that initiatives like Arduino Day advance innovation and real-world application of knowledge.

Representatives from DICT XI and DOST XI emphasized the importance of collaboration, skills development, and practical innovation in addressing community challenges and shaping the future of Mindanao.

Keynote speakers from industry and academia discussed topics ranging from Arduino technologies and impact-driven projects to tiny machine learning, Bluetooth applications, and the role of innovation hubs in technology development.

Arduino Day 2026 Mindanao reinforced the region's growing innovation ecosystem and strengthened collaboration among academia, industry, and government, while inspiring future technology leaders in Mindanao.

SDGs: 4, 9 and 17

USeP hosts DOST-TAPI TECHNiCOM proposal writeshop

Conducted in collaboration with Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Region XI and the DOST-Technology Application and Promotion Institute (DOST-TAPI) under the Technology Innovation for Commercialization (TECHNiCOM) Program, the three-day writeshop gathered faculty-researchers, innovators, and technology developers from various Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the Davao Region and neighboring regions.

The University proudly acknowledges the inspiring message of support delivered by Dr. Anthony C. Sales, Regional Director of DOST Region XI, underscoring the importance of regional collaboration in

advancing innovation and technology commercialization. The activity was formally opened by Dr. Roger C. Montepio, Vice President for Research, Development and Extension, reaffirming USeP's steadfast commitment to research translation, industry linkage, and sustained partnerships with DOST and HEIs across the region.

Notably, the DOST-TAPI TECHNiCOM and DOST Region XI teams paid a courtesy visit to University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales Jr., further strengthening institutional collaboration.

The activity also highlighted the University's vibrant innovation ecosystem,



as the USeP AGILab Technology Business Incubator (TBI) sent its incubates, including student-led startups and university spin-offs to actively participate in the writeshop.

SDGs: 4 and 9



Fire safety orientation, drill enhance safety culture, campus readiness at USEP

In observance of Fire Prevention Month, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) conducted a series of Fire Safety and Prevention Orientations and emergency drills across its campuses on March 6, 18, and 26, 2026, underscoring its commitment to building a safer and disaster-ready academic community.

The Malabog Extension Campus held a Fire Safety and Prevention Orientation on March 6, 2026, at the Barangay Malabog Old Gym. The activity featured University Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (UDRRM) Team Member Reymundo E. Ocenar, who discussed fire hazards, prevention strategies, and emergency response protocols aimed at strengthening safety awareness both within the campus and the surrounding community.

Also on March 6, 2026, the Tagum-Mabini Campus conducted a high-density fire drill at the campus open ground. Organized by the Campus DRRM Unit in partnership with the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Tagum City, the exercise focused on coordinated emergency response, orderly evacuation, and compliance with safety protocols.

Following the drill, the BFP Tagum City evaluation team, led by Fire Chief Inspector Esequiel M. Tabon, assessed the activity and noted strong coordination while recommending improvements in response time and emergency procedures.

At the Mintal Campus, a one-day Fire Safety and Prevention Orientation was held on March 18, 2026, at the Mintal Gym. Organized by the University Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Unit (UDRRM), the activity gathered campus personnel and student leaders for structured learning and practical training.

BFP Mintal Fire Station facilitators FO2 Philam J. T. Concon and FO1 Leiverier A.

Habana II led lectures and demonstrations on fire classification, common hazards, and the proper use of fire extinguishers. The program combined classroom instruction with simulation activities and a fire suppression drill, enabling participants to practice emergency response techniques in a controlled setting.

Campus Administrator Dr. Aristeo C. Salapa emphasized the University's commitment to fostering a safe and disaster-resilient academic environment, highlighting the importance of preparedness in protecting lives and property.

To conclude Fire Prevention Month activities, the USEP Obrero Campus held a Fire Safety and Prevention Orientation on March 26, 2026, followed by a fire drill conducted on the University Grounds.

Vice President for Administration Dr. Maria Luisa B. Faunillan emphasized in her opening remarks that the initiative goes beyond a routine refresher, framing it as an investment in collective safety. She noted that while fear is natural during emergencies, panic can be mitigated through proper training and awareness. She also encouraged participants to apply the lessons learned, share them with peers, and integrate safety practices into their daily routines.

Administrative Services Division Head Dr. Reynilo D. Garcia highlighted the University's continuing commitment to maintaining a safe and disaster-prepared campus environment, providing the rationale for the activity.

Resource speakers from the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Region XI, Community Relations Unit Chief SFO1 Kathlene Eve A. Valenciano and FO1 Adrian Urdaneta, discussed fire prevention strategies, emergency response procedures, and the proper use of

firefighting equipment. The activity was also supported by the Barangay 19-B Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committee, which assisted in facilitating the program and ensuring the smooth conduct of the drill.

Across all campuses, the series of orientations and drills underscored a unified message: fire safety is a shared responsibility. The University continues to strengthen its emergency preparedness systems and promote a culture of safety within the academic community.

SDGs: 3, 4, 11 and 17



Mintal Campus partners with DOH XI for annual blood donation initiative

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) Mintal Campus conducted its annual bloodletting activity on February 27, 2026 at the College of Development Management Gymnasium, gathering around 80 participants from USEP and nearby community.

Organized by the campus Health Services Division in partnership with the Department of Health Region XI, the initiative was led by campus nurse Ms. Richelle C. Pacoy as part of the University's ongoing health advocacy and support for a stable blood supply.

The activity reinforced USEP's continued partnership with DOH XI and its commitment to promoting voluntary blood donation and public health awareness.

SDGs: 3 and 17





Student-artists bring pride to USEP at PASUC XI RCAF 2026

Student-artists from the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) earned multiple recognitions during the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges XI Regional Culture and Arts Festival (PASUC XI RCAF) 2026 held at Davao del Norte State College on March 6-8, 2026.

The University fielded a delegation of seventy-one participants composed of fifty-three representatives from the Obrero Campus, five from the Mintal Campus, and thirteen from the Tagum-Mabini Campus. Competing in various artistic and literary events, the delegates showcased their talent and creativity, securing awards across several categories.

The achievements of the student-artists reflected the University's continued support for culture and the arts while providing a platform for students to demonstrate their skills and artistic excellence at the regional level.

CHAMPION

- Piano – Obrero Campus
- Banduria – Obrero Campus
- Dagliang Talumpati – Obrero Campus
- Classical Guitar – Obrero Campus
- Photography / Photo Contest – Tagum – Mabini Campus

1st Runner-Up

- Indigenous Dance – Obrero Campus
- Pagkukwento – Obrero Campus
- Essay Writing – Obrero Campus

2nd Runner-Up

- Pencil Drawing – Obrero Campus
- Storytelling – Obrero Campus
- Contemporary Dance Duo – Tagum – Mabini Campus

3rd Runner-Up

- On-the-Spot Poster Making – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- In-Situ Painting – Mintal Campus
- Live Band Competition – Obrero Campus
- Pop Solo – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Quartet – Mintal Campus
- Street Dance – Obrero Campus
- Radio Drama – Obrero Campus
- Duo Acting (English) – Obrero Campus
- Pandalawahang Pag-arte – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Dramatic Monologue (English) – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Persuasive Oratory – Tagum – Mabini Campus

4th Runner-Up

- Vocal Duet – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Deklamasyon – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Oral Interpretation of Poetry – Obrero Campus
- Oratorio – Obrero Campus

5th Runner-Up

- Songwriting – Tagum – Mabini Campus
- Dramatic Monologue (Filipino) – Obrero Campus

USEP bags multiple honors at SIKLAB 2026 Short Film Competition

Students from the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) delivered a standout performance at the Short Film Making Competition of SIKLAB 2026, the Davao Colleges and Universities Network (DACUN) Academic, Culture, and Arts Festival, held on February 15, 2026 at the Philippine Women's College of Davao.

Representing the Bachelor of Arts in Literature and Cultural Studies (BALCS), the student production team Manamilit Productions produced the University's official entry, KURIS (2026). The film earned First Runner-Up and secured several major

awards, including Best Director for Xellever Miro I. Abatol, Best Actress for Johannah Mitzi C. Hocson, Best Original Song for "Still Here" and "Try" by Peniel Faith J. Roxas, Best Sound, Best Editing, and the Jury Award.

The team was composed of Precious Gem L. Balonquit and Xellever Miro I. Abatol (writers and directors), Johannah Mitzi C. Hocson (lead actor), Yuhanna Alexi J. Loraña (poster designer and editor), supporting cast members Cyra Mae O. Adorico, Gabriel C. Rosario, Khenjie R. Patino, Angel Kate Marie E. Romero, and



Macky Azriel Baul, with Peniel Faith J. Roxas serving as composer of the film's original soundtrack.

Resume Café 2026 equips graduating students with job application insights

On March 13, 2026, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), through the Career and Alumni Center (CAC), conducted Resume Café 2026 at the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center (UGCC), USEP Obrero Campus, Davao City. The activity gathered graduating students for a session focused on preparing them for the job application process in both the private and public sectors.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jeneifer C. Nueva delivered the opening remarks, emphasizing the importance of equipping students with practical knowledge as they transition from university life to the professional world.

The rationale of the activity and closing remarks were delivered by CAC Director Dr. Alma Mae G. Salinas.

The session featured insights from AboitizPower Transition Business Group Talent Acquisition Senior Specialist Ms. Mikaela L. Damay and Civil Service Commission Region XI Human Resource Specialist II Ms. Karla I. Magalay.

The activity also included an interactive question-and-answer session where students raised practical concerns regarding job applications and professional conduct during interviews.



Through initiatives such as Resume Café, the CAC continues to provide programs and services that support students as they prepare for their transition from the academe to the world of work.

SDGs: 4, 8, and 17



USEP kicks off Nat'l. Women's Month in support of gender equality, inclusive communities

A month-long campaign promoting inclusive leadership and gender equality began on March 2, 2026, during the first flag-raising ceremony of the month, as the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) launched the 2026 National Women's Month observance across its campuses.

The observance forms part of the nationwide celebration led by the Philippine Commission on Women under the theme "WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society" and the sub-theme, "Lead like the Babaylans, Filipinas!"

In his message, University President Dr. Bonifacio G. Gabales, Jr. cited the progress of Filipino women from their leadership roles in pre-colonial society to their contributions today in education, research, public service, and other professional fields. University records as of January 2026 show 330 female teaching personnel and 305 female non-teaching personnel, reflecting the strong participation of

women in the institution's academic and administrative workforce.

The President emphasized that the observance goes beyond ceremony, calling for gender equality to be reflected in everyday practices, institutional policies, and decision-making.

Following the President's message, a poetic tribute titled "Ang Babaylan sa Ating Dugo" was presented. The piece, authored by Gender and Development (GAD) advocate and faculty member Mr. Mark Anthony G. Arellano, highlighted the enduring strength, wisdom, and leadership of women inspired by the legacy of the Babaylan.

Throughout March, the University's GAD Office conducted activities to promote awareness, learning, and engagement on gender and development.

SDGs: 4, 5, and 10

Davao Women's Month parade draws USEP participation in gender advocacy push

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) joined the International Women's Month Early Morning Parade on March 6, 2026, from Freedom Park along Roxas Avenue to Rizal Park in Davao City.

Organized by the City Government of Davao through its Integrated Gender and Development Division (IGDD) in partnership with various stakeholders, the event formed part of the nationwide observance of International Women's Month. With the theme "WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society," the parade gathered women leaders, youth, and gender advocates from various institutions



in a unified call to advance gender equality, empower women across sectors, and promote inclusive communities.

SDGs: 5, 10 and 16

University encourages wellness through accessible fitness center

The University Fitness Center continues to encourage a healthier and more active campus community, offering students, faculty, and staff a dedicated space to support physical well-being and stress relief.

Located beside the OSAS-Sports Office at the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center, the facility is open from Monday to Friday, 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. It accommodates various fitness activities,

including strength training, cardio, workouts, and beginner fitness routines, allowing users to train at their own pace in a supportive environment.

Access to the facility is available at Php 20.00 per hour. For inquiries, the center may be reached through 0947-618-5954, (082) 227-8192 local 214, or astguerrero@usep.edu.ph.



Earthquake drill boosts disaster preparedness among UsePians

The University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) participated in the 1st Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) spearheaded by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council and the Office of Civil Defense on March 12, 2026.

Faculty members, staff, students, and other stakeholders across the university took part in the nationwide activity aimed at strengthening earthquake preparedness and emergency response capabilities within the academic community.

The drill reinforced awareness of proper safety protocols and evacuation procedures during earthquake incidents while promoting preparedness and resilience among participants. It also highlighted the importance of coordinated action and accountability in minimizing risks and ensuring a faster recovery during emergencies.

SDGs: 4, 11 and 13

University Team participates in DAYAW Hybrid OCR

Showcasing strength, endurance, and resilience, the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) Obstacle Course Race (OCR) Team competed in the DAYAW Hybrid Obstacle Course Race on March 29, 2026.

The event featured a demanding format of 10 obstacle stations, each separated by 500-meter runs, designed to test both physical stamina and mental toughness. Participants had to complete each running segment before proceeding to the next obstacle, pushing them to perform under sustained fatigue.

Despite the grueling course, the OCR Team demonstrated discipline, teamwork, and determination throughout the competition. Each member navigated the challenges with grit and focus, reflecting the demands and spirit of obstacle course racing.

SDGs: 3, 4 and 17



International lecture highlights safe and inclusive learning spaces through academic exchange

An institutional visit on March 9, 2026, brought Assistant Professor Hiromi Yamauchi of Hiroshima University to the University of Southeastern Philippines, reinforcing ongoing efforts in academic cooperation, international engagement, and inclusive education.

A highlight of the visit was her lecture on gender-based violence and harassment, which provided insights on building safer and more inclusive academic environments. The session was attended by representatives from key University offices, including the International Affairs Division, Gender and

Development Office, University Assessment and Guidance Center, and the Office of Student Affairs and Services, along with selected students.

Discussions emphasized awareness, prevention, and shared responsibility in addressing gender-related concerns within educational institutions. Students, faculty members, and non-teaching personnel actively participated, reflecting the University's continued advocacy for gender sensitivity, safe learning spaces, and respect within the academic community.

The visit also included meetings with University officials and faculty members to explore possible collaborations in research, education, and cross-cultural initiatives aimed at strengthening institutional partnerships and expanding academic opportunities.

Appreciation was extended to Assistant Professor Yamauchi for sharing her expertise and contributing to the advancement of academic cooperation and intercultural understanding.

SDGs: 4, 5, and 17

CARS hosts global experts for seminar on Abaca production and innovation

Science and sustainability converged on February 16, 2026, as the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) College of Agriculture and Related Sciences (CARS) hosted the International Seminar on Abaca (*Musa textilis*): Production Systems, Disease Challenges, and Fiber Utilization at USEP Tagum-Mabini Campus, Mabini Unit.

The seminar gathered academic leaders, researchers, faculty members, staff, and agriculture and engineering students for discussions on production systems, disease management, and fiber utilization of one of the country's major fiber crops. Leading the event were Tagum-Mabini Campus Vice Chancellor Dr. Cesar A. Limbaga Jr., CARS Dean Dr. Emelie G. Pelicano, and Research and Development Division (R&DD) Director Dr. Merlina H. Juruena.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Pelicano emphasized the importance of abaca to local livelihoods and the global fiber market, describing the seminar as a platform for international knowledge exchange. Dr. Juruena later introduced experts from the Philippines and Indonesia who shared research and industry developments related to abaca production and crop protection.

Ms. Inea Piencenavez of the Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority discussed the status and future directions of the Philippine abaca industry, while faculty experts from Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia, presented lectures on production systems, fiber utilization, and major plant diseases affecting abaca and banana crops in Southeast Asia.

An open forum followed, allowing participants to engage with the speakers and connect scientific research with practical agricultural applications. Closing the seminar, Dr. Limbaga underscored the value of sustained research collaboration and international partnerships in strengthening the abaca industry and addressing regional agricultural challenges.

The activity highlighted the role of research, innovation, and global cooperation in advancing sustainable agriculture and resilient fiber production systems.

SDGs: 2, 9, and 17





CAEc, SERDAC Mindanao IA projects bag awards at 2026 NRCP Annual Scientific Conference

Research teams from the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) College of Applied Economics (CAEc) and the Socio-Economic Research and Data Analytics Center (SERDAC) Mindanao secured First and Second Place in the Best Scientific Poster Competition for Cluster 1 (Divisions I, II, and XI) at the 2026 Annual Scientific Conference and the 93rd General Membership Assembly of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) on March 13, 2026 at the Philippine International Convention Center.

The first-place entry Impact Assessment of the Project on Development of a Sustainable Breeder Philippine Mallard Duck (PMD) Production System focused on strengthening sustainable duck production. Its authors include Roberto S. Deluna, Jr., Nerisa N.

Paladan, Ronald D. Estrada, Christopher D. Balubayan, Christine R. Varquez-Abines, Francis Ignatius Nieva, Michael Vale, Menchi Del Castillo-Crispina, Rain Cesar B. Arana, Dave S. Roblis, and Cynthia V. Osario.

The second-place study, Impact Assessment of the National R&D Initiatives for Seaweeds with Focus on the DOST-funded Seaweeds R&D Program, evaluated the effectiveness of seaweeds research and development initiatives. Its authors are Roberto S. Deluna, Jr., Michael L. Ayala, Karlo Martin C. Caramugan, Rizamae S. Palen, Christine R. Varquez-Abines, Jesus A. Villardo III, Cloydessa S. Matilac, and Keturah Sue E. Mascariñas.

Supported by the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine

Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD), these projects highlight USEP's commitment to advancing research with integrity, relevance, and impact. Dr. Deluna, project leader of both initiatives, received the awards on behalf of the teams.

Findings of these studies serve as valuable guides for ensuring that interventions are innovative, effective in improving the welfare of Filipino farmers and industry stakeholders and aligned with the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

SDGs: 2, 9, and 17



SPJRD CiteScore climbs to 1.0 by end of 2025

Reflecting an upward trajectory in research impact, the Southeastern Philippines Journal of Research and Development (SPJRD) has achieved a 1.0 CiteScore in the Scopus database at the close of 2025.

SPJRD, the official research journal of the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP), entered Scopus with a 0.6 score in 2023 and progressed to 0.8 the following year before attaining its current milestone. The journal is currently classified as a Q2 journal in Scopus subject rankings.

The upward trend indicates the journal's growing visibility and the

expanding influence of its consistent, high-quality publications, which have resonated with the global scholarly community over the years.

CiteScore is a Scopus metric that measures a journal's average citations received per published document over the coverage period to assess publication impact.

In 2025, SPJRD reported that 56 of its publications had received 54 citations from scholars worldwide, indicating its global reach and alignment with research themes that advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Soon to rise: The Sustainable Agri-Tourism Model Farm through the Malahutayon Program

The University of Southeastern Philippines through the College of Engineering, in partnership with National Irrigation Administration Davao Region and Maniki Magatos Camoning Farmers Irrigators Association, is set to launch MALAHUTAYON (MMCFA's Advancement on Livelihood and Holistic Upscaling Through Agri-Innovations), a three-year extension program aimed at empowering local farmers through innovative and sustainable agricultural practices.

The program will enhance the existing greenhouse facility of NIA-XI with NFT hydroponic technology and a drip irrigation system, transforming it into a model integrated farm in the region. The College of Engineering will provide technical expertise, research-based technologies, and capacity-building opportunities to help farmers adopt modern farming methods and increase their income.

The program will be implemented through three major projects:

- Project ASTIG (Advocating Strengthening Teamwork for Inclusive Growth and Development)- identifies a core committee and priority needs of MMCFA farmers to guide program planning and implementation.
- Project AIMS (Agri-Innovations Implementation and Management for Sustainability) provides technical training on advanced farming techniques such as NFT hydroponics, drip irrigation systems, greenhouse management, and solar-powered agricultural technologies; and
- Project FARMLink (Feasible Agri-preneurship and Relevant Market Linkage) equips farmers with entrepreneurial skills, digital marketing strategies, and market linkages to

strengthen their agri-business opportunities.

Through innovation, collaboration, and community empowerment, MALAHUTAYON aims to develop a Sustainable Agri-Tourism Model Farm that will serve as a hub for learning, technology transfer, and livelihood development.

SDGs: 1, 2, 8, 9, and 17



Scan the QR code to visit the UseP Extension Division Facebook Page

UseP shows steady growth in community extension services for Q1 2026

In the first quarter of 2026, the University of Southeastern Philippines (UseP), through its Extension Division, delivered significant accomplishments to its partner communities and agencies. The University implements 13 extension programs in collaboration with 19 barangays, government agencies, and

community associations. A total of 113 faculty members and 4 non-teaching personnel actively participated in extension and community service initiatives.

Through the programs, projects, and activities, approximately 661 individuals

were trained, receiving capacity-building and skills development support. These achievements reflect the University's steady growth and strengthened commitment to community engagement in the first quarter of 2026. Continued expansion of extension services is anticipated in the succeeding quarters.



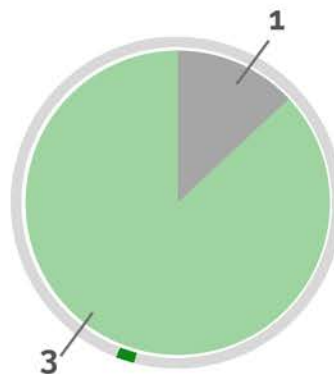
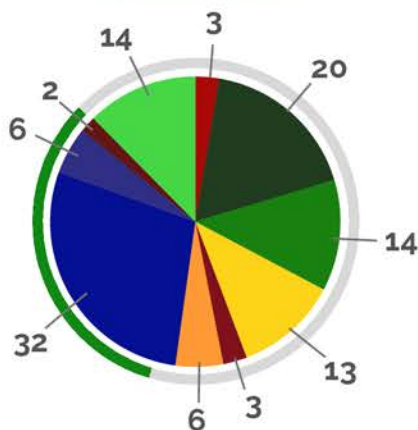
On-going Extension Programs/Projects



Active Partnerships



661/2500 of the target number of trainees for 2026



Legend:

- CAEc CARS CAS CBA CDM
- CoE CEd CIC CT CTET
- SoL SoM MEC ED/CEC
- Obrero Tagum-Mabini Mintal



Night market opens at UGCC commercial stalls, energizes campus evenings

The Uni-Night Market officially opened on March 4, 2026, and ran until March 8, 2026, from 4:00 PM to 11:00 PM at the University Gymnasium and Cultural Center (UGCC) Commercial Stalls along Porras Street, Obrero, Davao City.

Spearheaded by the Resource Management Division, the five-day Night Market was anchored on the thrust to strengthen Income Generating Projects (IGPs) and maximize the utilization of the UGCC commercial stalls. The activity served as a soft-opening platform for the soon-to-open stalls while piloting operational systems, stall utilization, and crowd management prior to the full commercial rollout.

In partnership with Kairos Kitchen, Waffle Time, Kape Barato, JM Foodies, Arcel's Food, Rob's Diner, Anne Sarap, Kitchen's Diner, USeP Corporate Enterprise Development Unit (CEDU), the Night Market brought together a diverse mix of food concessionaires and exhibitors offering a range of eats, local finds, and campus favorites.

The event also showcased USeP Market Day staples such as saba, lakatan, cardava, sweetcorn, lemonsito, and eggs, further promoting community enterprise and accessible goods on campus.

Designed as a vibrant and well-regulated marketplace, the Uni-Night Market enhanced campus life by providing a safe and organized evening commerce space for students, employees, and nearby residents. It also strengthened partnerships with local businesses while creating opportunities for prospective tenants to showcase their products and services.

Members of the University community visited the UGCC Commercial Stalls along Porras Street, Obrero, and took part in five nights of food, trade, and community engagement.

SDGs: 8, 11, 12, and 17



Campus Market Day showcases local produce, green practices

Agri-entrepreneurs of the University of Southeastern Philippines (UseP) showcased fresh produce and locally made goods during the Uni-Night Market held from March 4 to 8, 2025, at the Food Hub of the Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) Building, Obrero Campus. The activity drew members of the USeP community to purchase fresh farm products.

Organized by the Resource Management Division (RMD) in partnership with the Corporate Enterprise Development Unit (CEDU) of the Tagum-Mabini Campus, the market featured a variety of agricultural goods, including saging varieties such as saba, lakatan, and cardava, as well as sweet corn, bayabas, okra, and lemonsito.

Beyond serving as a venue for trade, the Uni-Night Market provided an avenue

to promote sustainable consumption practices, support local farmers and agri-entrepreneurs, and strengthen community engagement within the University. Aligned with the University's ban on single-use plastics, participants were encouraged to use reusable bags during the weeklong activity.

The initiative formed part of USeP's continuing efforts to advance livelihood opportunities while reinforcing sustainability in everyday consumption within the campus community.

SDGs: 2, 8, 12, and 13



EXCHANGE OF WHAT IS BEST AND REPLICABLE

USEP welcomes benchmarking visits

Drawing from the University's best practices in academic program implementation, administration, and research, development, and extension, several higher education institutions (HEIs) and local government units (LGUs) in Region XI and other regions conducted benchmarking visits to the University of Southeastern Philippines (USEP) in the first quarter of 2026.

Onsite

6

Virtual

2

No. of Benchmarking Activities in USEP for the first quarter of 2026

University delivers strong Q1 2026 licensure performance, produces topnotchers

The University of Southeastern Philippines reaffirms its commitment to academic excellence through its performance in the first-quarter licensure examinations.



TOP 4

APIAG AERVIN RAMOS
March 2026 Electronics technicians licensure examination

TOP 5

2025 Bar Examinations

With 11 to 50 examinees

USEP Performance: 89.29%
National Passing Rate: 48.98%

TOP 1

January 2026 Sanitary Engineers Computer-Based Licensure Examination

with 10 or more examinees and at least an 80% passing rate

USEP Performance: 100%
National Passing Rate: 64.44%

TOP 3

March 2026 Electronics Engineers Licensure Examination

with 20 or more examinees and at least 80% passing rate

USEP Performance: 90.48%
National Passing Rate: 61.62%



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

The University of Southeastern Philippines supports the SDGs.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHEASTERN PHILIPPINES
NEWSLETTER

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We welcome contributions! Please send articles written in clear, correct English, along with photos that include captions, to pad@usep.edu.ph.

Photos and captions must be separated from the text. The Public Affairs Division reserves the right to choose articles and photos that appear in the University of Southeastern Philippines Newsletter.

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