Extension Educational Programmes on Climate Change

AY 2025-2026

13.3.1 Local Education programmes on climate

13.3.1 Local Education programmes on climate

NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	Climate Change Adaptation Awareness Orientation and Organic Agriculture Training
Title of the Project	:	Project Leader: JESON N. GEROCHE Lead Extensionist: ERIC JOSHUA B. BALLESTEROS Technical Staff: JERMELY REQUINA JOHN ALFEIL C. PONIONES MAXIMO MANDARIAGA, JR FRANZ JOSEF B. GONZALES JONALYN N. TORDILLO ARVELYN L. COCAMAS MERRY ANN M. DESUCATAN JUPITE MARK U. BANAYAG
Implementer	:	Agriculture Department – Main Campus
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	This Climate-Smart Agriculture and Natural Farming Technology Training integrates Gender and Development (GAD) principles and supports key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to promote inclusive and sustainable agricultural practices. Gender and Development (GAD) Mainstreaming 1. Equal Participation and Leadership – The training ensures active involvement of both male and female farmers, recognizing the vital role of women in rice farming and decision-making. 2. Capacity Building for Women – Special focus is given to empowering women farmers by enhancing their technical knowledge in climate-smart and natural farming techniques. 3. Gender-Sensitive Approaches – The training incorporates gender-responsive strategies that address the different challenges men and women face in agricultural production, labor division, and access to resources. Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) • SDG 2 (Zero Hunger): Improves rice farmers' productivity and food security through sustainable farming practices. • SDG 5 (Gender Equality): Promotes equal opportunities for men and women in agricultural training and decision-making. • SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Encourages natural farming techniques that minimize chemical use and promote ecological balance. • SDG 13 (Climate Action): Equips farmers with climate-smart strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change and enhance adaptation.

		• SDG 15 (Life on Land): Supports soil conservation and biodiversity through sustainable farming practices.
Location	:	Farmers Training Center, DDOSC-Maparat, Compostela, Davao de Oro
Duration	:	April 17, 2025 – 8: 00 AM to 5:00 PM 8 training hours
Cooperating Agencies	:	Department of Science and Technology – PSTO Davao de Oro National Irrigation Administration – Davao de Oro
Target Beneficiaries/Participants	:	40 rice farmers
Rationale	:	Climate change poses significant challenges to rice production, particularly for farmers relying on irrigated systems. Variability in rainfall, rising temperatures, and extreme weather events threaten water availability, soil fertility, and overall crop yields. To address these challenges, the Climate Change Adaptation Awareness Orientation and Organic Agriculture Training is designed specifically for rice farmers from Irrigators Associations under the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). This training will equip participants with climate-smart strategies that enhance water-use efficiency, improve soil health, and strengthen resilience to climate-related risks. By integrating natural farming technologies, farmers will learn sustainable practices that reduce dependence on synthetic inputs, enhance biodiversity, and promote long-term productivity. Through hands-on learning and knowledge-sharing, this initiative aims to empower rice farmers to adopt innovative, eco-friendly approaches that ensure food security while maintaining the sustainability of irrigated farming systems.
Objectives	:	• To equip rice farmers from Irrigators Associations under the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) with knowledge and skills in Climate Change Adaptations and Organic Agriculture Technologies, enabling them to enhance farm productivity, improve water-use efficiency, and build resilience to climate change while promoting sustainable and eco-friendly rice production systems.
Expected Output	:	• **Increased Knowledge and Skills of Participants** – Rice farmers from Irrigators Associations under the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) gain a deeper understanding of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Natural Farming Technologies. • **Adoption of Climate-Smart and Natural Farming Practices** – Participants begin integrating sustainable farming techniques, such as water-efficient irrigation, organic soil management, and reduced chemical inputs, into their rice production systems.

		• **Development of Farm Plans for Climate Resilience** – Farmers develop initial farm action plans incorporating CSA and natural farming strategies tailored to their local conditions. • **Strengthened Gender-Inclusive Participation in Agriculture** – Both men and women actively engage in decision-making and implementation of climate-smart and sustainable farming practices. • **Improved Farm Sustainability and Productivity** – Enhanced soil health, better water-use efficiency, and increased resilience to climate-related challenges lead to more sustainable and productive rice farming. • **Networking and Knowledge Sharing** – Strengthened collaboration among farmers, agricultural experts, and government agencies to continuously improve and scale up climate-resilient farming practices.
Narrative	:	On March 27, 2025, a one-day training titled "Climate Change Adaptation Awareness Orientation and Organic Agriculture Training" was successfully conducted at the Farmers Training Center, Davao de Oro State College (DDOSC) Maparat Campus in Compostela, Davao de Oro. The event was attended by 40 rice farmers from various barangays in the municipality, along with student participants who joined to enhance their learning and exposure to practical and community-based agricultural training. The training was a collaborative initiative of Davao de Oro State College, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the National Irrigation Administration (NIA). These partner institutions played a crucial role in organizing and supporting the activity to raise awareness on climate change and promote sustainable agricultural practices among local farmers. The event was also facilitated by agriculture faculty members of Davao de Oro State College, who ensured the smooth flow of activities throughout the day. The program began with welcome messages from key representatives of the partner agencies. Mr. Jonel John Zabala from DOST, Mr. Jan Nicole Alfaro from NIA, and Mr. Jerson Renegado representing DDOSC-Extension Services Division, emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts in building climate-resilient and sustainable farming systems. The training was led by Mr. Jeson N. Geroche, who served as the resource speaker for the entire day. In the morning session, Mr. Geroche delivered the Climate Change Adaptation Awareness Orientation, which included a workshop on environmental assessment. This activity was actively participated in by both farmers and students, providing an avenue for knowledge-sharing and community interaction regarding local climate issues and adaptive farming practices.

		In the afternoon, Mr. Geroche discussed the principles and practices of Organic Agriculture. He was assisted by Engr. Eric Jhosua Ballesteros and Mr. John Alfeil C. Poniones in conducting a hands-on workshop on organic fertilizer production. Participants, including the farmers and students, created their own organic fertilizers using accessible materials, enhancing their technical skills and understanding of organic inputs. The group also visited the vermicompost production area, where they witnessed an actual demonstration of vermicomposting techniques. This practical exposure deepened their understanding of sustainable waste management in farming systems. To support the immediate adoption of organic practices, the Provincial Agriculturist Office distributed free organic fertilizers to the farmer-participants. In conclusion, the training was highly successful in achieving its goals of raising climate change awareness and promoting organic agriculture among farmers and students. The active engagement of local farmers, the participation of students, the support from partner agencies, and the coordination by the agriculture faculty of Davao de Oro State College all contributed to the event's success. This training marked a significant step toward fostering sustainable, resilient, and informed farming communities in the province.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION





















Prepared by:

JESON N. GEROCHE, M.Sc
Project Leader
Date: May 9, 2025

Approved by:

RONA C. APOLINARIO, PhD
Director, Extension Services Division
Date: 5-16-2025

NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	Training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming in Compostela, Davao de Oro
Title of the Project	:	N/A
Implementer	:	Agriculture Department – Main Campus
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	Gender and Development (GAD) Agenda This training promotes gender-responsive approaches by ensuring inclusive participation of both men and women cacao farmers, extension workers, and community stakeholders. It recognizes the distinct roles, contributions, and needs of women in cacao production, ensuring that they are equipped with knowledge and skills in agroecological practices, climate adaptation, and sustainable farming. Capacity-building sessions integrate gender equity considerations in farm planning and decision-making, aiming to empower women as leaders in sustainable agriculture. UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) The training directly contributes to several key SDGs: • SDG 1 (No Poverty) – by enhancing cacao farmers' productivity and income through sustainable practices. • SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) – by promoting ecological farming systems that secure food and income sources. • SDG 5 (Gender Equality) – by encouraging equal access to training opportunities and leadership for women. • SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) – through promotion of resource-efficient, non-chemical farming methods. • SDG 13 (Climate Action) – by equipping farmers with climate-resilient strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. • SDG 15 (Life on Land) – by fostering biodiversity-friendly and soil-conserving practices in cacao farming. AmBisyon Natin 2040 This initiative supports AmBisyon Natin 2040's vision of a matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay for all Filipinos by empowering local communities through sustainable livelihoods. Agroecological cacao farming builds self-reliant rural communities that are economically secure, environmentally sustainable, and socially inclusive. The training reinforces long-term goals of equitable growth, resilient food systems, and ecological integrity. Future Proofing Principles The training embodies future-proofing by: • Building resilience to climate change through the adoption of diversified, low-input, and regenerative farming systems. • Promoting local knowledge and innovation, encouraging farmer-led experimentation and agroecological solutions. • Enhancing adaptive capacity of farming communities via knowledge-sharing and climate-smart decision-making.

		Strengthening ecosystems by reducing reliance on chemical inputs and encouraging biodiversity conservation in cacao-based agroecosystems.
Location	:	Farmers Training Center, DDOSC-Maparat, Compostela, Davao de Oro
Duration	:	May 6-7, 2025 – 8: 00 AM to 5:00 PM 16 training hours
Cooperating Agencies	:	CIFOR-ICRAF Philippines http://cifor-icraf.org/
Target Beneficiaries/ Participants	:	Agriculture Students, Faculty and Staff -60 participants Cacao Farmers – 20 participants Total – 80 participants
Rationale	:	Cacao cultivation is a vital component of the agricultural landscape in Davao de Oro, contributing significantly to the local economy and the livelihoods of many smallholder farmers. Despite the province's inherent potential for cacao production, current productivity levels indicate substantial room for improvement. In 2020, Davao de Oro produced approximately 741.68 metric tons (MT) of cacao from 5,580 hectares of planted area. This yields an average productivity of about 0.13 MT per hectare, which is notably lower compared to neighboring provinces such as Davao del Norte, which achieved 1,435.59 MT from 5,999 hectares (approximately 0.24 MT per hectare), and Davao del Sur, with 1,247.93 MT from just 915 hectares (approximately 1.36 MT per hectare). The Davao Region, encompassing Davao de Oro, is recognized as the "Cacao Capital" of the Philippines, contributing approximately 80% of the nation's total cacao production. However, within this region, Davao de Oro's contribution remains modest, highlighting a significant opportunity to enhance its productivity and share in the lucrative cacao industry. Several factors contribute to the current production challenges in Davao de Oro, including suboptimal farm management practices, limited access to quality planting materials, and inadequate implementation of sustainable agricultural techniques. Notably, the province has been identified as moderately suitable for cacao cultivation, suggesting that with the adoption of appropriate agroecological practices, there is considerable potential to improve yields. In response to these challenges and opportunities, the provincial government, in collaboration with various stakeholders, has initiated a five-year Sustainable Cacao Development Roadmap. This strategic plan aims to strengthen technical support, regulatory frameworks, and policy environments to scale up and mainstream inclusive, sustainable, and transparent small-scale cacao production in Davao de Oro. Given this context, there is a pressing need to equip students and farmers with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in agroecological approaches tailored to cacao farming. Training is essential to promote sustainable, environment-friendly, and climate-resilient cacao cultivation practices. By integrating agroecological principles into farm planning and management, stakeholders can work towards enhancing productivity, ensuring environmental sustainability, and improving the economic well-being of cacao farmers in Davao de Oro.
Objectives	:	At the end of the training, the participants are expected to: 1. Understand the concepts and importance of agroecology and agroforestry in sustainable cacao production. 2. Apply agroecological principles in farm planning, soil and water management, and pest and disease control. 3. Develop climate-resilient and environmentally-sound farm plans for cacao-based systems.

		4. Gain practical experience through hands-on application and field exposure in model agroecological farms.
Expected Output	:	• Capacitated Farmers and Stakeholders • Improved Knowledge on Agroecological Practices • Adoption of Climate-Resilient Techniques
Narrative	:	A two-day training program on agroecological practices in cacao farming was successfully conducted on May 6–7, 2025, at the Farmers Training Center of Davao de Oro State College (DDOSC) in Maparat, Compostela, Davao de Oro. The activity was attended by agriculture students, faculty members, and local cacao farmers, aiming to strengthen their knowledge and skills in sustainable and ecologically sound cacao production. On the first day, held in a classroom setting, participants were welcomed through a registration and opening program facilitated by the extension staff. The activity was welcomed by Dr. Gloryjean C. Altamera, Vice President for Academic Affairs. The session began with Mr. Erwin Albios, SFITAL Site Coordinator of World Agroforestry, introducing the fundamentals of agroforestry. This was followed by a comprehensive discussion on agroecological practices in farm planning and design, led by Mr. Maximo N. Mandariaga. Mr. Albios also gave insightful lectures on the benefits of cacao-based agroecological practices and the importance of soil and water conservation in cacao cultivation. In the afternoon, Ms. Livy Sarucam, Mr. Maximo N. Mandariaga, and Mr. Jeson N. Geroche tackled agroecological approaches to pest and disease control. Participants were then engaged in a hands-on workshop on farm planning and integration of agroecological techniques, facilitated by Mr. Banayag. The day concluded with group presentations of workshop outputs and a synthesis session. The second day featured a field exposure program themed "Applying Agroecological Practices in Real-World Cacao Farming," held at a model agroecological cacao farm and partner learning site. It began with an orientation and safety briefing led by the extension staff and host farm representatives. Mr. Albios demonstrated soil and water conservation methods, particularly contouring in sloping lands to reduce soil erosion. After lunch, Ms. Sarucam, Mr. Mandariaga, and Mr. Geroche facilitated a demonstration on identifying and managing common cacao pests and diseases using agroecological approaches. This was followed by Mr. Albios' demonstration on shade management practices, covering pruning techniques, farm sanitation, and trash alley systems. The activity ended with a group reflection, Q&A session, and a closing program, which included the distribution of certificates and evaluation forms. Overall, the training successfully fostered a deeper understanding of agroecological principles among participants, equipping them with practical skills to enhance cacao production in environmentally sustainable ways.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION














Prepared by:

JESON N. GEROCHE, M.Sc
Project Leader
Date: May 23, 2025

Approved by:

RONA C. APOLINARIO, PhD
Director, Extension Services Division
Date: 06/24/25

NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	*Training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming in New Bataan, Davao de Oro*
Title of the Project	:	*Research-Based:* *Assessment of Pest Incidence of Cacao and Management Practices in Compostela Valley* *(Attached Research Abstract)*
Implementer	:	*DDOSC Selected Faculty and Staff*
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	***Gender and Development (GAD) Agenda*** *This training promotes gender-responsive approaches by ensuring inclusive participation of both men and women cacao farmers, extension workers, and community stakeholders. It recognizes the distinct roles, contributions, and needs of women in cacao production, ensuring that they are equipped with knowledge and skills in agroecological practices, climate adaptation, and sustainable farming. Capacity-building sessions integrate gender equity considerations in farm planning and decision-making, aiming to empower women as leaders in sustainable agriculture.* ***UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*** *The training directly contributes to several key SDGs:* • ***SDG 1 (No Poverty)*** *– by enhancing cacao farmers' productivity and income through sustainable practices.* • ***SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)*** *– by promoting ecological farming systems that secure food and income sources.* • ***SDG 5 (Gender Equality)*** *– by encouraging equal access to training opportunities and leadership for women.* • ***SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)*** *– through promotion of resource-efficient, non-chemical farming methods.* • ***SDG 13 (Climate Action)*** *– by equipping farmers with climate-resilient strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.* • ***SDG 15 (Life on Land)*** *– by fostering biodiversity-friendly and soil-conserving practices in cacao farming.* ***AmBisyon Natin 2040***

		*This initiative supports **AmBisyon Natin 2040's vision of a matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay** for all Filipinos by empowering local communities through sustainable livelihoods. Agroecological cacao farming builds self-reliant rural communities that are economically secure, environmentally sustainable, and socially inclusive. The training reinforces long-term goals of equitable growth, resilient food systems, and ecological integrity.* ***Future Proofing Principles*** *The training embodies future-proofing by:* • ***Building resilience to climate change** through the adoption of diversified, low-input, and regenerative farming systems.* • ***Promoting local knowledge and innovation**, encouraging farmer-led experimentation and agroecological solutions.* • ***Enhancing adaptive capacity** of farming communities via knowledge-sharing and climate-smart decision-making.* ***Strengthening ecosystems** by reducing reliance on chemical inputs and encouraging biodiversity conservation in cacao-based agroecosystems.*
Location	:	*Municipality of New Bataan, Davao de Oro*
Duration	:	*May 22-23, 2025*
Cooperating Agencies	:	*Local Goverment Unit of New Bataan under Municipal Agricultural Services Office* *Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)* *World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)*
Target Beneficiaries/Participants	:	*Local Famers of the Municipality of New Bataan*
Rationale	:	*Cacao cultivation is a vital component of the agricultural landscape in Davao de Oro, contributing significantly to the local economy and the livelihoods of many smallholder farmers. Despite the province's inherent potential for cacao production, current productivity levels indicate substantial room for improvement. In 2020, Davao de Oro produced approximately 741.68 metric tons (MT) of cacao from 5,580 hectares of planted area. This yields an average productivity of about 0.13 MT per hectare, which is notably lower compared to neighboring provinces such as Davao del Norte, which achieved 1,435.59 MT from 5,999 hectares (approximately 0.24 MT per hectare), and Davao del Sur, with 1,247.93 MT from just 915 hectares (approximately 1.36 MT per hectare).* *The Davao Region, encompassing Davao de Oro, is recognized as the "Cacao Capital" of the Philippines, contributing approximately 80% of the nation's total*

		cacao production. However, within this region, Davao de Oro's contribution remains modest, highlighting a significant opportunity to enhance its productivity and share in the lucrative cacao industry. *Several factors contribute to the current production challenges in Davao de Oro, including suboptimal farm management practices, limited access to quality planting materials, and inadequate implementation of sustainable agricultural techniques. Notably, the province has been identified as moderately suitable for cacao cultivation, suggesting that with the adoption of appropriate agroecological practices, there is considerable potential to improve yields.* *In response to these challenges and opportunities, the provincial government, in collaboration with various stakeholders, has initiated a five-year Sustainable Cacao Development Roadmap. This strategic plan aims to strengthen technical support, regulatory frameworks, and policy environments to scale up and mainstream inclusive, sustainable, and transparent small-scale cacao production in Davao de Oro.* *Given this context, there is a pressing need to equip students and farmers with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in agroecological approaches tailored to cacao farming. Training is essential to promote sustainable, environment-friendly, and climate-resilient cacao cultivation practices. By integrating agroecological principles into farm planning and management, stakeholders can work towards enhancing productivity, ensuring environmental sustainability, and improving the economic well-being of cacao farmers in Davao de Oro.*
Objectives	:	*At the end of the training, the participants are expected to:* 1. *Understand the concepts and importance of agroecology and agroforestry in sustainable cacao production.* 2. *Apply agroecological principles in farm planning, soil and water management, and pest and disease control.* 3. *Develop climate-resilient and environmentally-sound farm plans for cacao-based systems.* *Gain practical experience through hands-on application and field exposure in model agroecological farms.*
Expected Output	:	• *Capacitated Farmers and Stakeholders* • *Improved Knowledge on Agroecological Practices* • *Adoption of Climate-Resilient Techniques*
Narrative	:	*In response to the growing need for sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices, particularly in cacao production, a two-day training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming was conducted on May 22–23, 2025, in New Bataan, Davao de Oro. The event brought together local cacao farmers, agricultural extension workers, Local Government Unit of New Bataan, and technical experts in a collaborative effort to enhance climate-smart farming knowledge and practices in the region.*

	Organized with support from academic and agricultural development institutions, the training aimed to equip participants with a strong foundation in agroecological principles, while offering hands-on learning and field-based exposure in actual model farms practicing these methods. *The training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming was a significant step in promoting regenerative agriculture and empowering local farming communities in New Bataan. By combining scientific knowledge with real-life practice, the activity strengthened the capacity of farmers and stakeholders to build resilient cacao production systems that are not only productive but also environmentally sound and socially inclusive.* *The success of this training reinforces the importance of continued investment in education, field-based learning, and community-driven innovation for sustainable agriculture in the region.*

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION










Prepared by:

RUDYARD D. LADESMA
Project Staff
Date: May 24, 2025

Approved by:

JEFFREY Z. MATA, MAEd.
Extension Services Unit In-Charge
Date: May 27, 2025

NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	**Training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming in Laak, Davao de Oro**
Title of the Project	:	**Training on Agroecological Approaches for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Cacao Farming in Davao de Oro** Project Leader/Facilitator: Jeson N. Geroche Technical Staff/Facilitator: Livy V. Sarucam Eugene B. Dodongan Franz Josef B. Gonzales Jupite Mark U. Banayag Maximo N. Mandariaga Lemuel L. Alvior, Jr. Jennifer T. Pelegrino Princes Luise D. Picaza Rona C. Apolinario Jerson M. Renegado Merry Ann M. Desucatan Rhea Ann H. Jacob Rey C. Flores Kemberly Canobas Angelie J. Catayas Joey O. Escomen Willy Jay Alombro Jenevy Rabuya
Implementer	:	DDOSC-Main (Laak), Agriculture Department
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	**Gender and Development (GAD) Agenda** This training promotes gender-responsive approaches by ensuring inclusive participation of both men and women cacao farmers, extension workers, and community stakeholders. It recognizes the distinct roles, contributions, and needs of women in cacao production, ensuring that they are equipped with knowledge and skills in agroecological practices, climate adaptation, and sustainable farming. Capacity-building sessions integrate gender equity considerations in farm planning and decision-making, aiming to empower women as leaders in sustainable agriculture. **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** The training directly contributes to several key SDGs:

		• **SDG 1 (No Poverty)** – by enhancing cacao farmers' productivity and income through sustainable practices. • **SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)** – by promoting ecological farming systems that secure food and income sources. • **SDG 5 (Gender Equality)** – by encouraging equal access to training opportunities and leadership for women. • **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** – through promotion of resource-efficient, non-chemical farming methods. • **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** – by equipping farmers with climate-resilient strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. • **SDG 15 (Life on Land)** – by fostering biodiversity-friendly and soil-conserving practices in cacao farming. **AmBisyon Natin 2040** This initiative supports **AmBisyon Natin 2040's vision of a matatag, maginhawa, at panatag na buhay** for all Filipinos by empowering local communities through sustainable livelihoods. Agroecological cacao farming builds self-reliant rural communities that are economically secure, environmentally sustainable, and socially inclusive. The training reinforces long-term goals of equitable growth, resilient food systems, and ecological integrity. **Future Proofing Principles** The training embodies future-proofing by: • **Building resilience to climate change** through the adoption of diversified, low-input, and regenerative farming systems. • **Promoting local knowledge and innovation**, encouraging farmer-led experimentation and agroecological solutions. • **Enhancing adaptive capacity** of farming communities via knowledge-sharing and climate-smart decision-making. **Strengthening ecosystems** by reducing reliance on chemical inputs and encouraging biodiversity conservation in cacao-based agroecosystems.
Location	:	DDOSC Extension Class – Laak Covered Court and JM Integrated Farm-Laak, Poblacion, Laak, Davao de Oro
Duration	:	The activity was conducted from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on June 16, 2025, with a total duration of 9 hours, and was completed on the same day.
Cooperating Agencies	:	CIFOR-ICRAF (Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry) Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO) of Laak
Target Beneficiaries/Participants	:	The beneficiaries of the activity are identified as follows: By Location and Sectoral Stake: • 20 cacao farmers from the local farming community • 86 participants composed of:

		○ Students ○ Faculty members ○ Facilitators Classificatory Breakdown (Total: 106 beneficiaries): • Sector: ○ 20 – Cacao farmers (agriculture sector) ○ 86 – Students, faculty, and facilitators (education and training sector) • By Gender: ○ Male: 58 ○ Female: 48 • Physically Disadvantaged Individuals: ○ 1 physically disadvantaged participant
Rationale	:	Cacao cultivation is a vital component of the agricultural landscape in Davao de Oro, contributing significantly to the local economy and the livelihoods of many smallholder farmers. Despite the province's inherent potential for cacao production, current productivity levels indicate substantial room for improvement. In 2020, Davao de Oro produced approximately 741.68 metric tons (MT) of cacao from 5,580 hectares of planted area. This yields an average productivity of about 0.13 MT per hectare, which is notably lower compared to neighboring provinces such as Davao del Norte, which achieved 1,435.59 MT from 5,999 hectares (approximately 0.24 MT per hectare), and Davao del Sur, with 1,247.93 MT from just 915 hectares (approximately 1.36 MT per hectare). The Davao Region, encompassing Davao de Oro, is recognized as the "Cacao Capital" of the Philippines, contributing approximately 80% of the nation's total cacao production. However, within this region, Davao de Oro's contribution remains modest, highlighting a significant opportunity to enhance its productivity and share in the lucrative cacao industry. Several factors contribute to the current production challenges in Davao de Oro, including suboptimal farm management practices, limited access to quality planting materials, and inadequate implementation of sustainable agricultural techniques. Notably, the province has been identified as moderately suitable for cacao cultivation, suggesting that with the adoption of appropriate agroecological practices, there is considerable potential to improve yields. In response to these challenges and opportunities, the provincial government, in collaboration with various stakeholders, has initiated a five-year Sustainable Cacao Development Roadmap. This strategic plan aims to strengthen technical support, regulatory frameworks, and policy environments to scale up and mainstream inclusive, sustainable, and transparent small-scale cacao production in Davao de Oro. Given this context, there is a pressing need to equip students and farmers with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in agroecological approaches tailored to cacao farming. Training is essential to promote sustainable, environment-friendly, and climate-resilient cacao cultivation practices. By

		integrating agroecological principles into farm planning and management, stakeholders can work towards enhancing productivity, ensuring environmental sustainability, and improving the economic well-being of cacao farmers in Davao de Oro.
Objectives	:	At the end of the training, the participants are expected to: 1. Understand the concepts and importance of agroecology and agroforestry in sustainable cacao production. 2. Apply agroecological principles in farm planning, soil and water management, and pest and disease control. 3. Develop climate-resilient and environmentally-sound farm plans for cacao-based systems. 4. Gain practical experience through hands-on application and field exposure in model agroecological farms.
Expected Output	:	• Capacitated Farmers and Stakeholders • Improved Knowledge on Agroecological Practices • Adoption of Climate-Resilient Techniques
Narrative	:	The activity commenced promptly at 8:00 AM with the registration of participants, which included cacao farmers, students, faculty members, and facilitators. This was followed by a short opening program to officially welcome everyone and set the tone for the day's objectives. Ms. Merry Ann Desucatan, the Program Coordinator of Davao de Oro State College (DDOSC) – Laak Campus, delivered the welcome remarks, emphasizing the importance of agroecological practices in promoting sustainable and climate-resilient farming, especially in cacao cultivation. She also acknowledged the presence and support of the partner agencies, particularly CIFOR-ICRAF and the Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO) of Laak. The lecture proper began with Mr. Erwin Albios from CIFOR-ICRAF, who discussed two essential topics: (1) Agroforestry: Key Principles and Potential Benefits of Cacao-Based Agroecological Practices, and (2) Cacao Shade Management His presentation highlighted the ecological and economic benefits of integrating diverse plant species and managing cacao shade trees effectively. Following this, Mr. Maximo presented in-depth insights on Agroecological Approaches to Pest and Disease Control, offering practical, nature-based solutions to common problems faced by cacao farmers. His lecture was both informative and relatable to the participants' field experiences. The final lecture was given by Mr. Jupite Mark Banayag, who tackled Agroecological Practices in Farm Planning and Design. He emphasized the need for careful planning using agroecological principles to ensure long-term farm productivity and environmental sustainability.

		After the lecture series, the participants actively joined a workshop session titled Farm Planning and Integration of Agroecological Practices, moderated by Ms. Livy Sarucam and Mr. Jeson Geroche. Grouped according to Sections 2A, 2B, 3A, and the Farmers' Group, the participants collaborated to design farm plans based on the concepts discussed earlier. Each group presented their outputs, drawn on manila paper using black pens, showcasing their understanding of agroecological design and planning. After lunch, the training proceeded with a field visit to MJ Integrated Farm in Poblacion, Laak. During the field demonstration, participants engaged in two hands-on activities: (1) Identification and Management of Common Pests and Diseases Using Agroecological Approaches, and (2) Agroecological Practices in Shade Management These practical sessions allowed participants to observe actual farm conditions and apply agroecological principles under the guidance of the facilitators. The hands-on experience deepened their understanding and appreciation of sustainable cacao farming practices. The event concluded with a closing ceremony, where all participants were awarded their Certificates of Participation as recognition of their active involvement and successful completion of the training. This moment was marked by celebration and a sense of accomplishment among attendees. Throughout the day, participants remained highly engaged and participative. The combination of expert lectures, interactive workshops, and practical field demonstrations made the training both educational and impactful. Feedback from the participants highlighted the relevance of the topics discussed and their enthusiasm for implementing these practices in their respective farms and fields of study.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Figure 1. The program began with **participant registration (A)**, followed by the **opening program (B)**. **Ms. Merry Ann M. Desucatan**, Branch/Program Coordinator of DDOSC Laak, gave the **welcome remarks (C)**, while **Mr. Jeson Geroche**, Project Leader, delivered the **rationale of the event (D)**.



Figure 2. The lecture proper began with **(A) Mr. Erwin Albios** of CIFOR-ICRAF, who discussed *Agroforestry Principles and the Benefits of Cacao-Based Agroecological Practices*, and *Cacao Shade Management*. He was followed by **(C) Mr. Maximo Mandariaga Jr.**, who presented on *Agroecological Approaches to Pest and Disease Control*. The final lecture was given by **(B) Mr. Jupite Mark Banayag**, who focused on *Agroecological Practices in Farm Planning and Design*.



Figure 3. Workshop activity (A) and (B) presentation of outputs by the participants



Figure 4. Field demonstration at MJ Integrated Farm-Laak



Figure 5. Distribution of Post-Test, Evaluation Forms, and Certificates



Figure 6. Group photos of the participants at the field demo farm, MJ Integrated Farm-Laak

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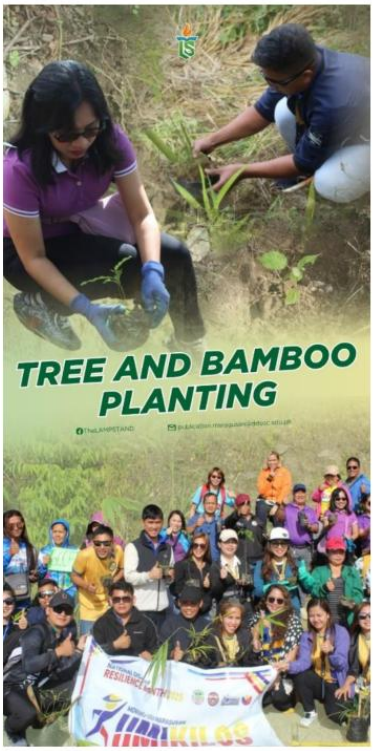
NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	**National Disaster Resilient Month (NDRM) 2025- Tree Planting**
Title of the Project	:	N/A
Implementer	:	CSMU
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	This activity is gender-neutral, promoting equality among the employee and students, and aligned with the UN SDG3-Good Health and well-being.
Location	:	Purok Atis, Brgy Mabugnao, Maragusan, Davao de Oro
Duration	:	July 30, 2025 – 8 hours
Cooperating Agencies	:	*LGU MARAGUSAN-MDRRMO : Provide logistical support for the implementation of the said activity.*
Target Beneficiaries/ Participants	:	20 Total Participants (employee and Students)
Rationale	:	In observance of National Disaster Resilience Month (NDRM) 2025, and in response to the call for united community action under the theme, ***"Bayanihan sa Kalamidad: Strengthening Community Preparedness and Resilience,"*** the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (MDRRMC) of Maragusan has invited Davao de Oro State College Maragusan Branch to participate in a **Tree Planting Activity** on July 30, 2025, at 6:30 AM in Purok Atis, Barangay Mabugnao, Maragusan, Davao de Oro. This initiative is aligned with Executive Order No. 29, s. 2017, which institutionalized the annual observance of NDRM every July. The observance promotes heightened awareness, preparedness, and collaborative action among all sectors of society to strengthen the country's disaster resilience. Tree planting, as a proactive environmental strategy, significantly contributes to disaster risk reduction and long-term ecological resilience. Trees serve as natural barriers against soil erosion, landslides, and flooding hazards that frequently affect vulnerable communities such as those in mountainous and rural areas like Maragusan. Moreover, reforestation improves air quality, helps regulate climate, and enhances biodiversity all of which support sustainable community development. Through this activity, students, faculty, and local stakeholders are given the opportunity to:

		• Participate in meaningful climate action that aligns with both local and national DRRM goals; • Foster a sense of environmental stewardship among the youth and the community; • Strengthen partnerships between local government units and academic institutions in promoting disaster resilience; • Demonstrate the spirit of bayanihan—working together for the safety and sustainability of future generations. By taking part in this tree planting initiative, Davao de Oro State College Maragusan Branch affirms its commitment to advancing a culture of preparedness, environmental responsibility, and collective action, key pillars of a resilient and empowered community.
Objectives	:	• To promote environmental protection and climate action by engaging participants in tree planting as a proactive strategy for disaster risk reduction and ecological resilience. • To instill a culture of environmental stewardship and responsibility among students, faculty, and the wider community, particularly in the context of local disaster preparedness and sustainability. • To strengthen collaboration and shared responsibility between academic institutions and local government units in support of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (NDRRM) framework. • To embody the spirit of bayanihan by encouraging collective action toward building safer, greener, and more disaster-resilient communities in Maragusan and beyond
Expected Output	:	• Successful planting of indigenous and climate-resilient tree species in designated areas of Purok Atis, Barangay Mabugnao, contributing to reduced environmental risks such as soil erosion, flooding, and landslides in the locality. • Increased awareness and active participation of students, faculty, and community stakeholders in environmental conservation and disaster risk reduction initiatives, fostering long-term collaboration and a strengthened culture of resilience and bayanihan
Narrative	:	On July 30, 2025, the people of Barangay Mabugnao in Maragusan, Davao de Oro came together for a special event — a Tree and Bamboo Planting Activity organized by the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO). The activity aimed to help protect the environment, prevent disasters like floods and landslides, and promote unity in the community. The event began early in the morning with the arrival and registration of participants. Many local stakeholders from different sectors in Maragusan came to join the meaningful activity. After registration, the program officially started with a prayer and the singing of the

		Philippine national anthem, showing respect for the country and the purpose of the event. A warm welcome message was given to everyone, followed by the rationale of the activity, which explained the importance of planting trees and bamboo in keeping the environment clean, green, and safe. The event also featured inspiring messages from the local chief executive, who shared support for the cause and encouraged everyone to care for nature. A tribal court judge and the DSWD team leader also gave their messages, highlighting unity and bayanihan spirit. The program ended with a closing remark, and participants listened carefully to the announcement and instructions for the tree and bamboo planting activity. Everyone was excited and ready to do their part in helping nature. With smiles and teamwork, the participants planted trees and bamboo around the area. This simple but important act showed love for nature and hope for a better and safer future for Maragusan. It was also participated by DDOSC-Maragusan stakeholders, showing the valuable contribution of the academe in environmental protection efforts. This activity is a reminder that when people work together, great things can happen — not only for today but also for the next generations.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION











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Noted by:

NICK ALVIN ASIDOY, MExED
Head, Extension Services Unit-Maragusan

NARRATIVE REPORT

Title of the Activity	:	**Clean-up Drive and Tree Planting Activity**
Title of the Project	:	N/A
Implementer	:	Extension Services Unit-Maragusan
Responsiveness to GAD Agenda, UN Sustainable Development Goals, AmBisyon Natin 2040, and Future Proofing Principles	:	• SDG **3: Good Health and Well-being** – By reducing waste and pollution, the activity prevents health risks and promotes community well-being. • **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** – The initiative promotes responsible waste management and greener community spaces. • **SDG 13: Climate Action** – Tree planting contributes to climate change mitigation through carbon sequestration and environmental protection. • SDG **17: Partnerships for the Goals** – Encourages collaboration among stakeholders, organizations, and community members for environmental sustainability.
Location	:	DDOSC Farm 2 and Tipnasan Creek Maragusan Davao de Oro
Duration	:	August 15, 2025 – 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Cooperating Agencies	:	*MAGSO: Provide logistical support for the implementation of the said activity.*
Target Beneficiaries/ Participants	:	The target participants are the faculty, staff, and students in DDOSC Maragusan.
Rationale	:	Environmental degradation, improper waste disposal, and deforestation continue to be pressing issues that affect communities worldwide. These problems not only threaten biodiversity and natural resources but also impact human health, food security, and overall quality of life. Addressing these challenges requires proactive and collective action at the community level. The **Clean-up Drive and Tree Planting Activity** is designed to promote environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. The clean-up drive aims to instill discipline and responsibility in maintaining cleanliness and proper waste management within the community. By reducing litter and improving sanitation, the initiative helps prevent flooding, pollution, and the spread of diseases. Meanwhile, tree planting plays a vital role in mitigating climate change, restoring ecosystems, and enhancing biodiversity. Trees serve as natural air filters, carbon sinks, and habitats for wildlife, while also contributing to soil conservation and watershed protection. This activity not only supports ecological balance but also creates greener, healthier, and more resilient communities. By combining clean-up and tree planting efforts, this initiative fosters environmental awareness, community involvement, and a sense of shared responsibility for protecting natural resources. It aligns with the principles of

		sustainable development and future-proofing, ensuring that present and future generations can enjoy a cleaner, greener, and safer environment.
Objectives	:	• To promote environmental awareness and community participation in proper waste management and ecosystem restoration. • To instill discipline and responsibility in maintaining a clean and healthy environment. • To mitigate the impacts of climate change through tree planting and reforestation efforts. • To enhance biodiversity and improve the quality of air, soil, and water within the community. • To foster unity and collaboration among community members in protecting and preserving natural resources.
Expected Output	:	• To promote environmental awareness and community participation in proper waste management and ecosystem restoration. • To instill discipline and responsibility in maintaining a clean and healthy environment. • To mitigate the impacts of climate change through tree planting and reforestation efforts. • To enhance biodiversity and improve the quality of air, soil, and water within the community. • To foster unity and collaboration among community members in protecting and preserving natural resources.
Narrative	:	The Extension Services Section, headed by Sir Nick Alvin G. Asidoy, MEXED**,** spearheaded a Clean-up Drive and Tree Planting Activity on August 15, 2025 at DDOSC Farm 2 and Tipnasan Creek, Maragusan, Davao de Oro**.** Faculty, staff, students, and community volunteers actively participated in cleaning and collecting wastes along Tipnasan Creek, ensuring proper segregation and disposal. Faculty members, staff, and students actively participated in the event. The program began with a short orientation emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation, proper waste management, and the vital role of trees in combating climate change. Participants were grouped and assigned specific areas along Tipnasan Creek and the surrounding farm for the clean-up drive. Collected wastes were properly segregated and disposed of following the ecological solid waste management guidelines. After the clean-up, tree planting was carried out at designated sites within Farm 2.

		In conclusion, the Clean-up Drive and Tree Planting Activity was a meaningful initiative that not only enhanced the cleanliness of Tipnasan Creek and DDOSC Farm 2 but also provided an avenue for the community and the institution to work hand in hand toward a greener and healthier future.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION






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