

IFSU assists... from page 10



Needs like food and hygiene items for stranded students during the Enhanced Community Quarantine in the University were prioritized by the University.

University Clinic personnel, Dr. Mercedes Ayungo and Jesrael Dipia-o, check on the stranded students' health to make sure they are healthy before they leave for home via IFSU vehicles.

Meanwhile, the OJTs from Vietnam were brought home by OWWA-DOTR shuttle services, in coordination with their Municipal Local Government Units (LGUs) and underwent the 14-day quarantine at their respective LGU's isolation units.

In addition to all these, IFSU ferried at least 59 students, who were unable to go home due to policy restrictions of the ECQ, to their hometowns.

On the other hand, those who opted to stay in their boarding houses were given food relief by the University. Among these were six (6) agriculture students who were having their hog production practicum. They were given feed assistance for their project.

Eight (8) students were accommodated by partner families under the Adopt-A-Student program.

Under its *Linggop*: Mental

Health and Psychosocial Support Services, the University provided online counseling to 27 clients, including OJTs here and abroad.

"In this crisis, the IFSU administration will continue to ensure the wellbeing of our stranded OJT students," remarked University President, Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon.

Mary Joy Tabbog

IFSU gets P20M... from page 3

Apart from maximum production, this project will enhance the research capabilities of faculty and students in food production, processing, and marketing.

This will be implemented for one year.

D) "Product and Market Enhancement of Galyang (*Cyrtosperma chamissonis*) Taro Chips" by: DCM Licyayo; Maritess K. Alberto, Instructor of CAHS; and Froylyn M. Facullo, a staff member of the Extension and Training Department.

This project aims to enhance production, improve facilities, and provide value-addition to products. Skills trainings have been given by IFSU through its the Extension and

Training Department to various people's organizations (POs).

The St. John's Episcopal Church Women Group was a beneficiary of this training in 2010. From then on, the group started producing taro chips and has been selling this within the province and outside.

Notably, the aims of the projects which are to provide clean plantlets to communities and to serve as processing facilities for harvested crops support the DA's Revive, Reboot Phl Agri Sector Program.

"The approval of the project is a very relevant response to the current pandemic. IFSU will be able to help vulnerable sectors against food insufficiency and

unemployment through these needs-based interventions," stated Dr. Licyayo.

She further lauded the DA-BAR for its unwavering support to the University.

An inception meeting for the full implementation of the projects is expected to be conducted in August 2020. This is needed for DA-BAR and concerned IFSU personnel to level off on expectations and deliberate on salient details of the project implementation.

The battle against COVID-19 is far from over. It is hoped that these IFSU projects, with the DA-BAR's support, will help resource-poor communities rise above the storm we are all in.

Faith B. Napudo

March - May 2020



HUMANITY AMIDST PANDEMIC: Dr. Mae C. Diaz (right) receives bottles of ViTA-C juice on behalf of Padopdopan District Hospital from Gretton John Lumauig of Ifugao State University. INSET: IFSU-made calamansi-based soaps.

IFSU research products benefit frontliners

The novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic has disrupted classes and work operations in the country. However, higher education institutions, like Ifugao State University (IFSU), are also stepping up by sharing their research products, innovations, and resources to help mitigate the impacts of the present public health and economic emergency.

Three (3) IFSU products: calamansi-based soaps, carrot juice and carrot-lemon juice, have served as part of the distributed frontline care packages.

Early on, the University distributed in Alfonso Lista, Ifugao 360 bars of calamansi-based soap, a DOST-approved anti-bacterial soap. This is an output of a research by Dr. Lorna C. Ildefonso, Associate Professor and Dean of the College of Business and

Management (CBM) - Potia Campus. Calamansi, scientifically known as *Citrofortunella microcarpa*, is one of the most appreciated beauty and anti-bacterial soap ingredients. It is loaded with Vitamin C, an antioxidant that is highly effective in fighting radicals in the body, and a crucial element for collagen production.

Meanwhile, as of April 24, a total of 1,345 bottles of carrot juice and carrot-lemon juice were given to the frontline workers of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (MDRRMO), Municipal Social Welfare Development (MSWD)-Lamut; Philippine National Police of Lamut; Ifugao Provincial Police Office, Lagawe; Panopdopan District Hospital-Lamut; Ifugao General Hospital-Lagawe; checkpoints at Ibulao, Kiangnan, Lagawe, Hingyon, Barangay Nayon, Payawan & Bimpal;

PNP Hingyon Headquarters; Rural Health Unit-Hingyon; community members of Barangay Nayon, Lamut, Ifugao and also frontline workers in Nueva Vizcaya, and security personnel at IFSU.

Said types of juice, labeled as ViTA-C, are research outputs and two of the registered utility models of IFSU. ViTA-C stands for Viable Tonic Against COVID-19. Both are natural juice drinks rich in vitamins, minerals and fiber are a good source of anti-oxidants which support health in many ways.

The carrots used in making ViTA-C juices came from the farmers of Tinoc, Ifugao. The production was done at the University Techno Laboratory by the faculty members of the College of Agriculture and Home Science (CAHS), majors in Food Technology

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Vision

A globally recognized University upholding excellence amidst rich cultural heritage

Mission

Produce employable graduates who are morally upright, socially and culturally responsible professionals through quality, relevant, and innovative INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND RESOURCE GENERATION

Goals and Objectives

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

1. Assure quality of programs
2. Ensure effective student lifecycle management and career development
3. Provide unique and lifelong learning experience in the entire student lifecycle
4. Integrate internationalization perspective towards global connectedness
5. Strengthen student welfare services for a successful academic formation of students
6. Integrate indigenous knowledge, system and practices (IKSP) in the academic programs to intensify conservation of the rich cultural heritage

STRONG RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AND CULTURE

1. Establish a strong brand and strengthen image building of IFSU as a research leader
2. Intensify conduct of research and dissemination of RD outputs
3. Intensify conservation of the rich cultural heritage.

SUSTAINABLE EXTENSION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Package and transfer knowledge and technologies relevant to the needs of the clientele
2. Create a widely shared organizational culture that encourages, promotes, and rewards extension and community engagements
3. Establish/Strengthen/Sustain linkages with LGUs, industries, and other organizations/stakeholders for resource sharing, extension program, and service complementation

EXCELLENT PUBLIC SERVICE AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

1. Ensure efficient, transparent and accountable delivery of administrative services
2. Forge strong network system and resource sharing through collaborative activities conducted regularly
3. Strengthen the university's local and international visibility
4. Enhance efficiency in resource generation and mobilization
5. Upgrade competencies of human resources
6. Technologize front line services and other services of the University
7. Ensure a clean, green, safe, and GAD-responsive University environment
8. Intensify conservation of the rich cultural heritage integrating culture in the administrative services



Footprints Newsletter is the official publication of the Ifugao State University (IFSU) Administration. It aims to disseminate fair and accurate reporting of issues and events in the six (6) campuses of the university along its core thrusts: Instruction, Research, Extension, and Resource Generation. It serves also as a platform for employees and students to promote their programs, research findings, and advocacies.

Contributions, complaints, suggestions, and Letters to the Editor may be submitted to the Editorial Board at the Ifugao State University-Department of Communication, Public and International Affairs Office located at the 2nd Floor, Administration Building, IFSU-Lamut Campus or through email at dcpia@ifsu.edu.ph.

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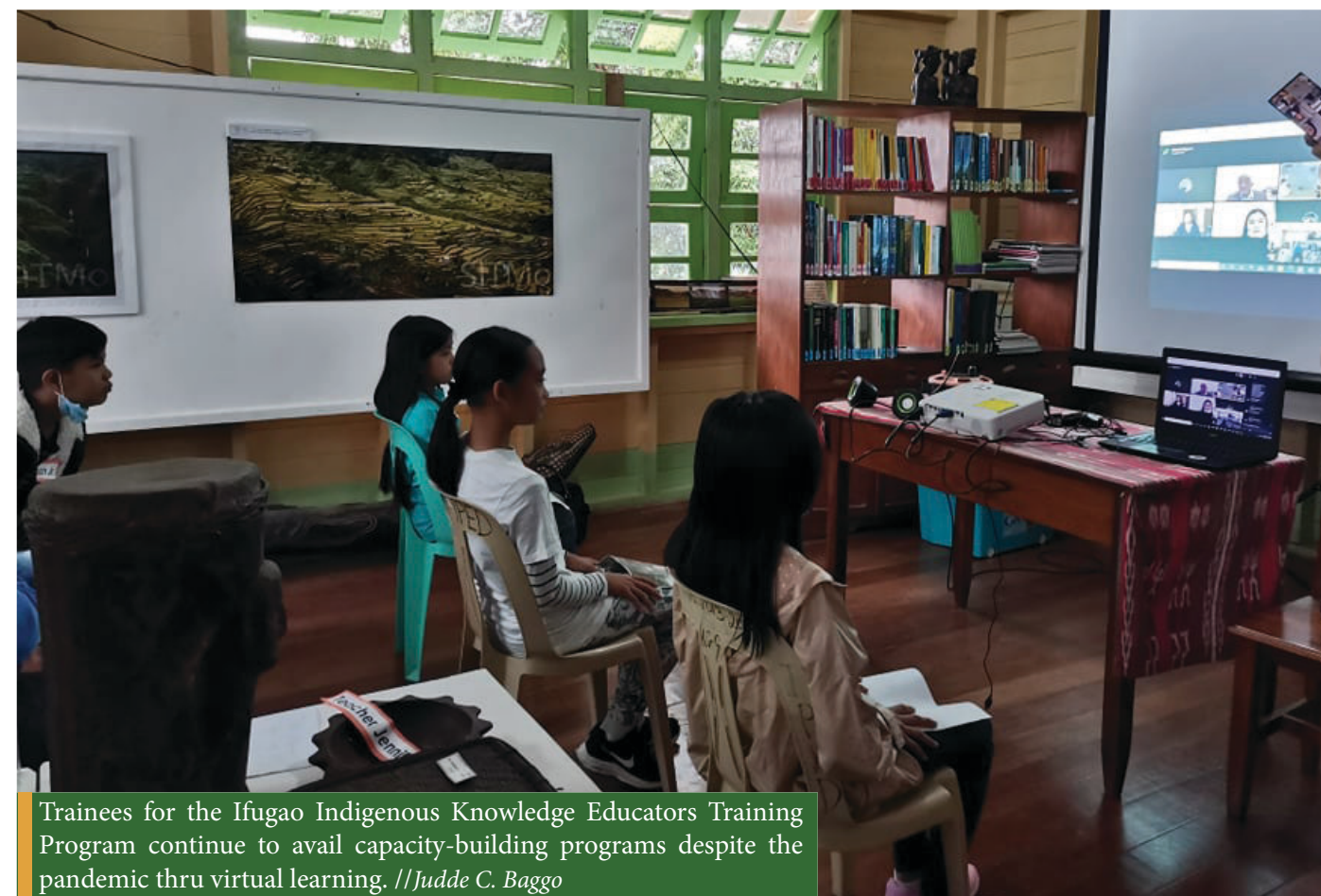
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Trainees for the Ifugao Indigenous Knowledge Educators Training Program continue to avail capacity-building programs despite the pandemic thru virtual learning. //Judde C. Baggo

IFSU shifts to digital training for IK educators

The current COVID-19 pandemic alarmingly affected the regular mode of learning in schools and universities. Hence, there is a growing call to modify learning and training methodologies that are responsive to the call of times.

The Ifugao State University (IFSU) recognizes the need for continuing education and training of all its stakeholders amidst the pandemic.

Currently, IFSU hosts several programs and projects aimed at capacitating and empowering communities and sectors.

One of its programs is the Ifugao Indigenous Knowledge Educators Training Program in partnership with the Department of Education – Ifugao

The program aims to build a core of indigenous educators, develop and produce learning resources on indigenous knowledge and systems (IKS) for public schools.

Before the lockdown, 10 teachers graduated from the training

program and produced at least 12 learning resources (LR) on IKS.

The teachers have undergone a six-month regular and face to face capacity building and development of LR.

With the lockdown, IFSU through its Ifugao Rice Terraces as Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (IRT-GIAHS) Center now shifts its mode of training to digital and online.

The shift primarily aims to continue training teachers on IKS and the development of LRs.

Said online-learning experience will also provide teacher-trainees an initial insight into the conduct of online teaching so that they can adapt in their teaching career.

Their experiences from the program can also be used in the future especially that DepEd is planning to go for online teaching.

Another expected output from the program will be contextualized learning resources that are digitized and ready to use

by other schools and teachers.

“We are excited to launch our digital and online training program. We will be providing the teacher-trainees tablets containing our modules and resources for self-paced reading and learning. The tablets will be also used for our monthly virtual webinars and lecture series,” remarked Eulalie D. Dulnuan, Director for IRT-GIAHS Center.

Dulnuan added, “This is an adaptive method in these times of pandemic. We will learn from this experience and improve more on our weaknesses as we go along with the training program.”

The training program is expected to be finished in December 2020.

Said training program is one of the components of the Center for Taiwan-Philippines Indigenous Knowledge, Local Knowledge and Sustainable Studies (CTPILS) with IFSU and the National Chengchi University of Taiwan as partners. //

Judde C. Baggo

IFSU assists stranded OJT studees amid community quarantine



Ifugao State University on-the-job trainees express their gratitude to the University and donors, through social media posts, for the assistance given to them.

Ifugao State University (IFSU) has been exhausting all means and continues to do so to minimize the impact of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic on its on-the-job trainees (OJTs) locally and abroad.

As required by their programs, these students were deployed outside the province of Ifugao and the country to undergo internship and training; however, they were left stranded in their areas of deployment due to the community quarantine and lockdowns enacted by the government.

At the onset of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ)

in March, IFSU provided financial assistance to six (6) OJTs deployed in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan to cover their necessities based on computed individual daily needs until April 14, the earlier announced end of the Luzon-wide ECQ.

They were also placed under close monitoring of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) – MIMAROPA, through the coordination of CHED – CAR. Similarly, IFSU students stranded in Baguio City received cash aid from the University. Allowance of the 10 interns who returned to Philippines from Vietnam

where they were deployed last year for their practice teaching were also sent.

Their training abruptly stopped due to the suspension of classes in Vietnam. One student had to return ahead to the Philippines few days before the implementation of the Luzon-wide ECQ, while the other nine were among the Filipinos repatriated to the Philippines later on April 18, through the joint efforts of IFSU, CHED, Department of Labor and Employment, (DOLE)– Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) – Philippine Embassy in Vietnam and the foreign host institution.

As of writing, all stranded OJT students have already been brought back to Ifugao as part of the “Oplan Gawid” program of the provincial government.

The Palawan interns, who were fetched by IFSU from the airport, underwent mandatory quarantine at the University’s isolation facility under the close watch of the local government unit and IFSU.

In sum, an amount of PhP169,594.00 was extended by IFSU for the allowances of stranded Baguio, Palawan, and Vietnam interns.

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The nine (9) IFSU interns from Vietnam who are on their 14-day mandatory quarantine in Batangas receive in-kind donation from alumnus, Fire Officer I Kris Doven H. Buhong.

IFSU gets P20M for R&D Projects

Reasons to rejoice may seem tough to find as the nation grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, but Ifugao State University (IFSU) found one major victory after its four (4) research proposals earned the nod of the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR) for funding assistance.

IFSU is expected to acquire PhP 20 million-worth of funding, with PhP 5 million allotment per project, through the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF) Program of DA-BAR.

Following the approval, the Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) between IFSU and DA were signed by the IFSU University President, Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon on May 14.

As of writing, said MOAs await the signing of William D. DAR, Secretary of DA and Chair of ACEF Executive Committee.

The projects aim to contribute

in the overriding goal of the ACEF program which is “to increase the productivity and competitiveness of farmers and fisher folks through the services and technologies of SUCs.”

IFSU is gearing these towards the upgrading of the facilities and products and transitioning the technology to the market place.

Said four (4) proposals are as follows:

A) “Upgrading of the Banana Tissue Culture Laboratory of Ifugao State University” by: Dinah Corazon M. Licyayo, Vice President for Research, Development, Extension and Training (RDET); Elpidio B. Basilio Jr., Director for Research and Development; and Honeylette A. Baloc, Science Research Assistant of RDET.

This project aims to upgrade the existing Tissue Culture Facility of the University to increase the production of quality and disease-free banana plantlets.

The project is a response to the high demand for quality planting materials of *saba* or *dippig* and other cultivars in the province.

This will be implemented for one year.

B. “Upgrading of Indoor and Controlled Laboratory and Production Facility for *Agaricus bisporus* at Ifugao State University” by: DCM Licyayo, EB Basilio Jr., and HA Baloc.

This project believes that the improvement and renovation of the current mushroom facilities and acquisition of state-of-the-art laboratory and production equipment for *Agaricus bisporus* (button mushroom) may ensure product quality and availability year-round.

This will be implemented for one year.

C) “Upgrading of Food Processing Laboratory at Ifugao State University” by: Josefa T. Dulinayan and Jomel C. Fanwa, Instructors of the College of Agriculture and Home Science

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IFSU interns repatriated from Vietnam arrive in PH

Nine (9) students, sent to Vietnam in November last year for their five-month internship with Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry (TUAF), arrived in the Philippines on April 18, 2020 and underwent their mandatory 14-day quarantine.

The IFSU students were repatriated along with 10 more interns from Cavite State University and Palawan State University.

The repatriation of these students was made possible through the efforts of the IFSU Crisis Committee for OJTs in Vietnam, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) through the Philippine Embassy in Vietnam, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) through the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and TUAF.



Students of Ifugao State University Lagawe and Potia Campuses, whose internship in Vietnam was cut short due to the pandemic, safely arrive in the country and will undergo quarantine in Manila before heading home to Ifugao. // Kevin Klaus O. Castro

For their mandatory 14-day quarantine, they were brought to an OWWA-accredited quarantine hotel in Batangas and were regularly monitored by IFSU, CHED, and DOLE-OWWA.

Ifugao State University expresses its deepest gratitude to CHED, DFA, Philippine Embassy in Vietnam, DOLE-OWWA, and TUAF for their assistance in ensuring the welfare of these interns.

Mary Joy Tabbog

IFSU, LBP Foundation ink MOA on farmers financial literacy



Ifugao State University, through University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon (3rd from left, front row), inks a Memorandum of Agreement with Landbank Countryside Development Foundation Incorporated, represented by its Chairperson Consuelo N. Padilla, for the implementation of the Financial Literacy Program in Hungduan, Ifugao on March 10, 2020. // Jude C. Baggo

Recognizing the importance of educating farmers on financial literacy, Ifugao State University (IFSU) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Landbank Countryside Development Foundation Incorporated (LCDFI) on March 10, 2020 at the University building.

Based on the MOA, LCDFI shall provide funds while IFSU shall extend its technical expertise for the series of financial literacy activities to be conducted in Hungduan, Ifugao.

Hungduan is one of the 218 unbanked municipalities identified by Landbank.

The Financial Literacy Program of the LCDFI provides an enabling environment for farmers to be taught practical and prudent methods of managing finances and income, understand the value chain of their crops and its impacts to their income, develop agripreneurship among farmers and fishers, and share the importance of crop insurance in risk mitigation.

Both parties agreed and commit to deliver the objectives of the

Financial Literacy Program for the Hungduan farmers.

IFSU University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon lauded the collaboration with LCDFI.

"One of our primary obligations as the lone higher education institution in the province is to extend programs and services to our communities and other stakeholders to improve their economic conditions," remarked Dr. Dugyon.

"Aside from students and other stakeholders, farmers are at the center of our extension and training programs and services. With this partnership, it will help us to sustain our community engagements," she added.

Meanwhile, Roy C. Oscillada, Executive Director of LCDFI, highlighted the need for financial literacy to break the systemic barriers faced by farmers.

"With our program and partnership with IFSU, we hope that farmer-beneficiaries will have improved and bankable income, and become entrepreneurs in their

communities," Oscillada said.

He added that with the program, farmers will be able to maximize limited resources, manage risk and become more productive.


LCDFI Chairperson Consuelo N. Padilla also recognized the need for partnership to alleviate the conditions of farmers.

"In this pioneering program of LCDFI, we are interconnected in this endeavour. We cannot do this program on our own," she added.

Meanwhile, the host community of Hungduan welcomed the financial literacy program.

"It is our hope that it will benefit farmers and have impacts in their economic conditions," said Marina Atolba who represented Municipal Mayor Casan P. Dumulag.

As IFSU turns 100, the University values continuing partnership with the Landbank of the Philippines.

Said agency provided financial support to the construction of some IFSU infrastructures such as the dormitory, commercial center, and IFSU Cooperative.  Jude C. Baggo

The lockdown in the entire Luzon continues to cripple several workforces, including those in the agriculture sector, the most vulnerable of them all. As a response to the Plant, Plant, Plant Program of the Department of Agriculture, Ifugao State University (IFSU) launched its home gardening initiative dubbed as "Muntanom Ta Waday Kanon (MTWK) Program". MTWK, which means 'Plant so you will have food', aims to engage families in growing crops on lots near their homes to augment food while on quarantine.

From the MTWK Program, the concept for the Search for Best Home Gardens was created to involve recipients of IFSU's training programs on agriculture in partnership with the Technical Education, Skills and Development Authority (TESDA) -Ifugao initially among its three (3) immediate barangays in Lamut, Ifugao.

MTWK provided these participating areas with seeds and techno-guides. However, with clamor from other sectors, the contest expanded to cover all the municipalities of the province. Following this, the Search for Best Home Gardens - Kids Edition was launched.

"IFSU has always been a partner in the continuous development of communities. The unusual situation that we are in calls for extraordinary solutions. The University responded in several ways including this MTWK Program. This mainstreams backyard gardening which is a proven approach to household food security and family nutrition. It provides easy access to diverse and organic food," remarked University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon.

As of writing, at least 78 participants signified their interest for the Search for Best Home Gardens - Adults Edition from the different areas. For the Kids Edition, 67 youngsters registered for the contest.



Marrero Tinabel, participant in the Search for Best Home Garden Adults Edition of the "Muntanom Ta Waday Kanon Program: A Response to Household Food Security," harvests her first crop of pechay from their backyard.

At least 200 seedkits, 300 copies of techno-guides, and 125 bottles of -purpose organic fertilizers which the university produced were distributed to participants of the three (3) original participating barangays.

Monitoring is done through online consultations. A facebook page has been created for participants to upload pictures of their farm activities, share experiences, and ask technical pieces of advise from experts.

The results will be announced in June 2020. Winners and participating families shall receive cash, seeds, growing media, and other prizes from IFSU. The selection committee are agriculture and extension experts of the University.

Dr. Dinah Corazon M. Licyayo, IFSU Vice President for Research, Development, Extension and Training opined, "MTWK is our way to connect and provide opportunities for our fellow Ifugaos at this time of crisis."

She added, "Most of our students are sons and daughters of farmers. By assisting farmers, we can be assured that our students will be back after the quarantine and finish what they have started. It is truly a difficult time for all of us and as members of the academe, we are one in the campaign to rise as one."

With the initial success of the Program, IFSU is now considering to integrate additional components.



Haniel Tegui-in, 9, a participant in the Search for Best Home Garden Kids Edition of "Muntanom Ta Waday Kanon Program: A Response to Household Food Security," regularly monitors his crops.

IFSU intends to distribute seeds and small ruminants among Ifugao farmers during and beyond the quarantine period. This plan will help farmers to recover from the crisis.

In addition, MTWK Program Kids Edition will also instill appreciation on agriculture and provide a productive activity among children at home. With their participation, the value of healthy living by growing safe and nutritious food in their backyards will be imbibed in them.

IFSU, in its 100 years, owes its beginnings to agricultural programs. Today, IFSU gives back to communities thru the same program it has started with, hoping that this will rekindle the love in farming.

MTWK: Bringing food closer to homes

Jude C. Baggo & Faith B. Napudo
Photo Credit: Dep't of Extension and Training

IFSU research.. from page 1

and College of Health Sciences (CHS). "Being part of the workforce and the only higher education institution in the province, we always feel the impetus to make a difference in the lives of the people and the communities that we serve and empower. IFSU will do its best to serve the frontline workers and communities through our product innovations," said University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon.

 Faith B. Napudo



University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon (right) helps in the packing of food reliefs to be given to the community and frontline workers in Lamut, Lagawe and Kiangnan sometime in March 2020.// Jude C. Baggo

IFSU eyes ISA certification



Dr. Jimmy G. Catanes, Education Supervisor II of CHED-CAR, discusses the goals and processes of Institutional Sustainability Assessment to University officials and employees on March 5, 2020 at IFSU Main-Lamut Campus.// Liza B. Pugong

In its ardent desire to step forward and bring to a higher level the quality of its programs and services, Ifugao State University (IFSU) declared its intention to undergo quality assurance process of Institutional Sustainability Assessment (ISA) by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) this year during the two-day Orientation Workshop on ISA on March 5-6, 2020 at IFSU-Lamut Campus.


"For 2020, our target is

to subject our dear University to ISA which is a quality assurance process that assesses institutional sustainability of Higher Education in the key areas of Governance and Management, Quality of Teaching and Learning, Quality of Professional Exposure, Research, and Creative Work, and Support for Students and Relations with the Community," said Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon, University President.

Dr. Dugyon also added that

the activity is a giant step that would bring direction to the University's quest for a mature institution with a shared culture of excellence.

On the other hand, Dr. Jimmy G. Catanes, Education Supervisor II of CHED-CAR, said that ISA will also look into the university's system, the extent of implementation, outcomes of the system, and effectiveness of the system whether these systems lead to the attainment of the desired quality outcomes.

 Liza B. Pugong



'Baddangan in Pugol':

A story of IFSU bayanihan spirit ripple effect

FAITH B. NAPUDO

Maragsakan kami ta agbabantay kami ket adda mangiyeg ti mayat ken naimas nga makan. Nadumaduma pay. (We are glad that while we are on guard, someone delivers to us nutritious and sumptuous snacks. It's even varied)," remarked Ms. Ruth Dimmangna, Barangay Health Worker of Pugol, Lamut, on a phone interview during the Enhanced Community Quarantine.



Photo Credit: Dr. Jengjeng M. Bolintao

Ms. Dimmangna is one of the 30 BLGU officials and volunteers on duty everyday who get to taste home-cooked snacks prepared by Dr. Jeng Jeng M. Bolintao and four other companions thru an initiative dubbed 'Baddangan in Pugol,' a spin-off of Ifugao State University's (IFSU) bandwagon, 'Baddangan Program.'

As of writing, it marks its 21st day since it started last March 25.

The endeavor was borne from the call of University President Dr. Eva Marie Codamon-Dugyon for initiatives to minimize the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

A group chat for the College of Open Distance Education and Transnational Education (CODETE) was created, and some of the faculty and partners responded.

"Instead of remitting the donation to the Department of Extension and Training (DET), we requested to conduct the activity in our community like what others did. This is to make IFSU's presence be also felt here in our barangay," Dr. Bolintao recounted.

The group cooks different recipe everyday, depending on what is available. Preparing snacks was a practical choice since rootcrops are abundant in the area. Dr. Bolintao said that the purpose is to show to barangay constituents, especially mothers, that they can prepare something out of these surplus crops.

On the second day of the program, the mothers were led in the food processing by an ISCAF alumna, who is a TESDA certificate holder of such specialization. Unfortunately, the training has been re-scheduled after 14 days because of a presence of two (2) Persons Under Monitoring (PUM) in the area.

The cooking for the succeeding days is being handled by three (3) volunteers and Dr. Bolintao.

"Bassit ti budget ti barangay sunga dakkel ti tulong jay makan nga ited da (The barangay has minimal funds so the food assistance is of great help)," claimed Ms. Dimmangna as she expressed her gratitude to IFSU.

There are few open stores, but in order to be strong, the frontliners need nutritious food -- a major consideration of IFSU's 'Baddangan' drive. Earlier on, IFSU Tinoc donated carrots that were processed into carrot cakes.

The first week of food preparation saw rootcrop donations from the residents. However, these raw materials were later bought using funds donated by Outstanding Students of the Cordillera (OSCAR) and other individuals to also help the farmers. Donations from IFSU were used to buy ingredients.

At present, the activity is faced with a challenge as limited financial resources may not warrant its continuity. According to Dr. Bolintao, the remaining funds were used to purchase rice, a much-needed commodity, in the area.

The world may be in a dire state; but, like IFSU, let it bring the best out of us. We may be distance apart, but we are united in our hearts' desire to lift each other's lives. Truly, #IFSUCares as it shows how to #PayItForward.//