

**THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AGENDA
CENTRAL VISAYAS REGION**

(based on Guidelines approved by Central Visayas RDC on 19 March 2009)

I. Development Context of the Research Agenda

A. The government's thrust for decentralized development has put to the fore the need for the build-up of research and development (R&D) at the regional and local levels, which will respond to the needs of development stakeholders and their constituencies.

- The Philippine Institute of Development Studies (PIDS), the planning and policy research arm of the NEDA, which has been producing studies for national government planners and policy makers since 1977, has in recent years been stressing the importance of local area studies to respond to the needs of local government planners and policy-makers. It has set up development information centers in cooperating LGUs and higher education institutions (HEIs), and has included in its website, data and information useful for local governance.
- The National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), has created units and/or Regional Statistical Coordinating Committees (RSCC) at the regional level, to strengthen statistical capability and coordination at the subnational level. Its recent review of the Philippine Statistical System has recommended for more support to generating data useful for local area planning. Further, its Statistical Research and Training Center (SRTC) has recently forged MOAs with the NEDA regional office and selected HEIs, to strengthen statistical training opportunities for LGUs and regional agencies with data analysis and planning responsibilities. Because of the close relationship between statistics and research, the RSCC7 has enhanced its functions to include regional R&D coordination and to have regional research consortia heads represented there.
- The various research councils of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as well as the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) have established regional counterparts through the HEIs/IAC research consortia to promote the culture of research here. More importantly, these agencies have funds available for research capacity building, conduct of research, and information resource-sharing. They are looking for researcher proponents in local HEIs and government agencies who can collaborate to create and apply new knowledge for the development of their respective disciplines and sectors in local areas. Under this set-up, the Science and Engineering, and the Social Sciences manpower of local areas are deployed beyond the usual classroom instruction or government programs, for research that can develop local business and industry and agriculture, and improve the quality of life (e.g. health, environment, livelihood) of local communities.
- The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) has set up its Knowledge Resource Centers in the regions, and has institutionalized its Local Governance Performance Management System (LGPMS) and corresponding Local Governance Performance Report (LGPR) to provide a basis for feedback and planning the local development agenda and also improving LGU performance in its various sectoral development responsibilities.

B. The 2004-2010 Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) recognizes that Research is not only a source of ideas for others, but also a source of new jobs for tomorrow. Research in Science and Engineering, and the Social Sciences are

important for productivity, economic growth, and job creation. The MTPDP general thrusts in this area are, among others, to improve networking in the generation, adaptation, and dissemination of new knowledge; promote innovative behavior, R&D, and efficient flow of knowledge between producers and users, and technology entrepreneurship; build up the knowledge base (R&D human resources, investments and publications/patents); and use ICT for knowledge diffusion. These will hopefully bring up R&D indicators for the Philippines (i.e. R&D as % of GDP, R&D workers per million population, number of published scientific articles and patents) which are still way below UNESCO-identified benchmarks or other ASEAN countries.

- C. The Central Visayas' long-term development vision and its corresponding development goals and strategies, as described in the 2003-2030 Regional Physical Framework Plan (RPFP) and the 2004-2010 Medium-Term Regional Development Plan (MTRDP), present vast opportunities for local area Research in all sectors. The 2008-2010 Updated Regional Development Plan (Updated RDP) explicitly presents some of these research imperatives. Findings from these studies when conducted are expected to be useful in improving the region's performance in agriculture, industry, services; in employment generation; and in improving quality of life.

II. Definition of Terms

- A. Research and Development refers to creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, and use of this stock of knowledge to create new or improved products, processes, services or other applications. The basic criterion to distinguish R&D from related activities is the presence of an appreciable element of novelty and the resolution of problems and uncertainties using scientific or technological means. (Source: UNESCO and OECD)

Research is undertaken by those trained in specializations in their disciplines/fields.

- B. Kinds of Research. The various kinds of research can be subdivided according to three criteria:
- The measure of generality and applicability: basic research, applied research, in-service research, action research
 - The level of ordering: descriptive research, prophetic research, diagnostic research
 - The measure of control by researchers: library research, field research, laboratory research
- C. Research Agenda identifies broader research topics. It answers the questions "What areas in the discipline/field need further exploration? What are the important research topics in the discipline/field?".
- D. Research Problem is an issue or concern that a discipline/field specialist presents and justifies in a research study. It has to indicate the possibility of empirical investigation.

III. The Formulation of the Central Visayas Regional Development Research Agenda

- A. The Central Visayas Regional Development Research Agenda (CV-RDRA) is formulated to align with the abovementioned national perspective to maximize the contribution of the region's R&D manpower to support regional development goals, and the process of decentralized development. Research in the region shall be conducted and used to increase productivity, economic growth, and job generation and improve prospects for sustainable development. Research in the disciplines shall,

where applicable, suggest implications to planning and policy.

- B. The CV-RDRA has as basic point of reference, the broad research topics arising from development challenges and opportunities in the development plans and assessment reports on regional development. These would include the aforementioned RFPF, MTRDP, Updated RDP, the region's Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Progress Report, the Regional Development Reports (RDR), and the Regional Economic Situationer (RES) Reports. Regional and local IAC discussions on development issues are also sources of these broad research topics.
- C. In line with the MTPDP thrust on networking for knowledge generation and dissemination, the CV-RDRA includes research activities that will complement and supplement the regional research-oriented efforts of PIDS, NSCB, DOST, CHED, and other knowledge/productivity-oriented organizations operating in the region that want to make positive impacts on development. Specifically, this means, coordinating with them to:
1. Find common research priorities, so as to access to these agencies' resources/networks for funding research studies, and capability-building activities;
 2. Build on existing regional research-related efforts:
 - 2.1 The identification of broad research topics for the CV-RDRA builds on past and existing consultation mechanisms used by these agencies
 - 2.2 Consultations with RDC Sectoral Committees and their province/highly urbanized city (HUC) LGU counterparts, and the RSCC7.
 3. Build on the frameworks used by these agencies in developing and managing their research agenda:
 - 3.1 Include Capability-building of researchers – network with DOST, CHED, SRTC, Academe
 - 3.2 Include Funds sourcing/Resource mobilization – network with CHED, DOST, international organizations, Academe
 - 3.3 Include Research utilization –network with research consortia and RDC, Academe
 - 3.4 Provide sectoral focus and collaboration through the RDC network
 - 3.5 Disseminate/advocate to planners and policy-makers through the RDC network
 - 3.6 Linkage with LGUs through the RDC network
 - 3.7 Have an ICT-based repository of research abstracts for easy access-network with CHED, DOST research consortia

IV. Coverage of the CV-RDRA

Given the above, the CV-RDRA includes the following:

1. List of broad research topics, categorized by major development sector for which research work shall:
 - 1.1 produce planning and policy implications for consideration of:

- a. policy makers in the RDC and local government for their prioritization/resource-allocation decisions
 - b. the business sector in their business planning/decisions to improve their competitiveness
 - c. civil society in their advocacies and programs for the common good
- 1.2 be useful to the academe in expanding the knowledge of their disciplines and improving the quality of education in the region, thus also contributing to regional development goals
- 1.3 be useful to government agencies, in improving their services to their constituencies, thus improving productivity in the region.
2. Activities that will build up the capacity of the region's Research Sector to:
- 2.1 add value to their research and thus contribute to the achievement of MTPDP's R&D indicators for the region, as cited in item IB above.
 - 2.2 link/coordinate more closely with each other and with research users for knowledge creation and funds sourcing, knowledge sharing and networking, research utilization, and utilization monitoring.

V. Time Frame of the CV-RDRA

The time frame of the first CV-RDRA shall be 2009-2015. It shall be a rolling document, and shall be reviewed and updated every year.

Central Visayas-Regional Development Research Agenda, 2009-2015
(as of September 2009)

I. POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Physical Framework Planning and Disaster Risk Management

- Carrying capacity and vulnerability assessment studies of local areas:
 1. RPFPP/LGU-targeted urban centers/ areas
 2. hazard-prone areas
 3. tourism areas
 4. upland areas
 5. watersheds – Buhisan Watershed, Cebu City; Hilabangan River Watershed, Negros Oriental and Mananga Watershed, Cebu
 6. coastal areas -
 7. protected areas : Apo Island, Olango Island, and Mount Manunggal
- Organization development studies for implementing municipality land banking
- Institutional development studies for planning the ff:
 1. interlocal food security plans
 2. interlocal disaster mitigation plans
 3. interlocal integrated water resources management
 4. Interlocal integrated coastal resources management/integrated coastal management
- Enhancing competitiveness and livability of RPFPP-targeted urban areas

Population concerns

- Spatial demography studies
- Human mobility studies

Climate Change

- Symptoms of climate change in local areas and documentation of the same.
- LGU/Local community responses to climate change
- Local area studies of ENR management problems and interventions
- Project studies for interlocal efforts for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures

Greening the Consumption and Production Sector

- Developing ENR-based Industries, e.g. Woodfuels, Biofuels
- Studies on energy generation and conservation, and renewable energy
- Environmental impact of prevalent consumption habits and production practices

- Promotion of environment friendly production technologies
- Mine-out and Mine-waste areas rehabilitation

II. SOCIAL SECTOR

Poverty Reduction Programs

- Local area studies for identifying and targeting programs for the Poor, Unemployed, and Underemployed
- Sustainability of economic empowerment programs in local poor communities
- Comparative costs and benefits of direct and indirect (e.g, infra) poverty reduction projects
- Studies on the role of cooperatives and agrarian reform programs on poverty reduction
- Environment friendly livelihood projects (i.e. vermicomposting, etc.)

Social impact of growth and development

- The dark side of tourism
- Local area studies of urban social problems and policy options
 1. urban poor
 2. street children
 3. prostitution
 4. women and children trafficking

Education and Manpower Development

- HEIs in the region: their quality, relevance, effectiveness, accessibility
- Organizational development for improving effectiveness of education services
 1. a career path information system in all stages of education,
 2. three-track (research, voctech, business/employment) system of secondary education
 3. scholarship programs for geology, metallurgic engineering, and mining engineering
 4. voctech training in secondary education
 5. LGU-sponsored school-bus system
- Differentials in male-female school participation rates and unemployment rates in local areas: explanatory variables, implications, and prospects
- Comparative performance of students across local areas in the region: explanatory variables, implications and prospect
- Tracer studies of government scholarship grantees, and graduates of selected courses
- Literacy studies

- Human development studies
- Skills and knowledge development

Health and Nutrition

- Improving the health and nutrition status of vulnerable sectors
 1. Infants
 2. Children
 3. Mothers
 4. Elderly
- Addressing family/ social health issues:
 1. Adolescent drug abuse
 2. Domestic violence
 3. Child abuse
- Addressing prevalent public health issues
 1. Tuberculosis
 2. Dengue
 3. Diarrhea
 4. STI HIV/AIDS
 5. Hepatitis
 6. Rabies
- Addressing prevalent degenerative diseases
 1. Cardiovascular disease
 2. Metabolic diseases
- Improving health care services and health regulation in local areas
- Improving health regulation
- Health and nutrition issues in urban and rural communities
- Health and nutrition advocacy programs: its mechanisms and impacts
- The impact of food supplements on health status
- Occupational health studies

III. ECONOMIC SECTOR

Local Economic Development

- Local coping mechanisms for the 2008-2009 global meltdown and its impacts
- Manpower demand-supply in the local business sector (e.g. BPO, Tourism, ICT, Manufacturing) and its intervention programs (e.g. industry-academe linkages)

- Socio-economic and environmental costs and benefits to local areas of:
 1. major business developments
 2. major public investment projects
- OFW studies
 1. Utilization and impact of OFW incomes in local communities
 2. Exodus and return of OFWs: Impacts to the local economy
- Generation and utilization of investments and resources for local development
- The local S&T and innovation culture and its business results
- Local area surveys on the prevalence of habits and practices conducive to productivity
- Customer satisfaction studies
- Implementation of minimum wage laws and its impact on firm productivity

Services Sector

Information and Communications Technology

- ICT-based product development
- The impact of ICT sector development on local development and culture
- Demand studies of ICT products and services

Tourism

- Local development implications of an open-skies policy at the Mactan-Cebu Airport
- The role of CV-LGUs in tourism marketing and investment promotion: impacts and issues
- Domestic tourism promotion program in local areas
- Making ecotourism work in local areas
- Social, economic and environmental impacts of tourism development in local areas

Trade and Investments

- Supply chain analysis studies
- Issues and advocacies of the business sector on governance, trade, and investments

Industry Sector

Manufacturing

- Food Industry
 1. Product and process development
 2. Smart packaging
 3. Waste management
 4. Raw material sourcing
 5. Demand and supply studies
- Furniture Industry
 1. Materials sourcing
 2. Environmental management
 3. Manpower skills development
- Fashion Accessories and Costume Jewelry
 1. Manufacturing process
 2. Development of indigenous raw materials
- Gifts, Toys, Housewares
 1. Manufacturing processes and product development
 2. Raw materials
 3. Design development
- Metals and Light Engineering
- Impact evaluation of government-assisted loan/grant programs to SMEs
- Product and process innovation/development studies
 1. Development of substitute materials for glues/adhesives to reduce formaldehyde emissions
 2. Use of indigenous materials

Agriculture Sector

- Implementing Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture in the Region
 1. Organic Agriculture
 2. Livestock/products: Carabao, beef, poultry, goat , milk
- Research, Development and Extension for Food Sufficiency: Rice, vegetables, fishery
 1. Production technologies and systems
 2. Pest /disease control
 3. Water-management technologies
 4. Postharvest management
 5. Value-added products
 6. Technology adoption

- Developing Agriculture-based Industries
 1. Abaca
 2. Coconut
 3. Mango
 4. Ornamentals
 5. Honey
 6. Bamboo

- Community development for sustaining agricultural projects
 1. Irrigation projects and their service areas
 2. Aquaculture projects
 3. Upland/Hilly land agriculture projects

- Impact evaluation of government loan/grant programs to agricultural communities/enterprises
 1. LEAD Program of the DA
 2. CARP-support Programs

- Raw material source development for OTOP Products

IV. DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Government Efficiency and E-Governance

- Costs and benefits of national government agency operations in local areas
- Performance assessment in RLAs and LGUs (e.g. LGPMS) : its use and impact on next-term performance
- Corruption: Incidence, perception, attitudes
- Community E-centers in the region, and their impacts
- ICT initiatives of LGUs and their impacts
- Sectoral ICT Projects: their usefulness in knowledge sharing technology dissemination

Communication and advocacy

- Studies on social marketing programs
- Studies on cultures of influence groups and their impacts on prospects for local areas' sustainable economic growth and development
 1. Media
 2. Church
 3. Educators
 4. Local government
 5. National government
 6. Business sector

Administration of the CV-RDRA

- Research needs assessment of LGUs
- Conduct of /Monitoring R&D Results Utilization: Technology Transfer & Commercialization
 1. Technology transfer
 2. Technology packaging
 3. Technical Assistance on technology transfer
 4. Technical assistance for preparation of business plans
 5. Enhancing ICT-based repository of research abstracts
- Capability-building for the Research Sector
 1. Intellectual property rights and patents
 2. Complying with standards of copyrights and journals
 3. Preparation/conduct of research proposals, statistical analysis
 4. Technical writing, policy analysis
 5. Quality assurance and metrics
 6. Research ethics
 7. ICT-based networking
 8. Geographic information



Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Central Visayas Region

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CENTRAL VISAYAS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2009
AT THE NEGROS ORIENTAL PROVINCIAL CONVENTION CENTER IN DUMAGUETE CITY

RDC Res. No. 34 (S. 2009)

**"APPROVING THE CENTRAL VISAYAS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
RESEARCH AGENDA, 2009-2015"**

WHEREAS, the formulation of the Central Visayas Regional Development Research Agenda (CV-RDRA) was provided for by RDC Resolution No. 11 and No. 12 (s. 2009) in March, upon the recommendation of the RDC-Economic Development Committee;

WHEREAS, the CV-RDRA is intended to maximize the contribution of the region's research and development (R&D) manpower to support regional development plan implementation, and the realization of development goals and the process of decentralized development;

WHEREAS, the CV-RDRA includes a list of broad research topics for which research work shall be useful for the government, business and civil society, academe in performing their responsibilities for growth and development in local areas and in the region as a whole;

WHEREAS, the CV-RDRA also includes a list of activities that will build up the capacity of the region's research sector to impact R&D indicators of the MTPDP, and to link with research users for research utilization;

WHEREAS, the first CV-RDRA shall have a time frame of 2009-2015, and shall be a rolling document, reviewed and updated every year.

WHEREAS, in the formulation of the CV-RDRA, the RDC Secretariat has put the research needs of the regional development plan and research-oriented RDC-RLA and LGU members, and RDC affiliate committees as major considerations;

WHEREAS, the draft CV-RDRA has been presented to the four RDC Sectoral Committees and the Regional Statistical Coordination Committee (RSCC) for their comments and inputs, which have been integrated into the current draft;

WHEREAS, the RDC Secretariat with interagency-support from the RSCC shall coordinate with the region's research-oriented institutions, higher education institutions, and research consortia for the conduct of research studies and capacity-building activities listed under the CV-RDRA;

WHEREAS, the RDC-Economic Development Committee has endorsed the draft CV-RDRA;

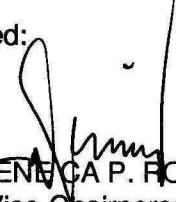
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to adopt the Central Visayas Regional Development Research Agenda, 2009-2015, a copy of which is attached and made an integral part of this resolution;

FURTHER RESOLVED, to endorse the CV-RDRA to research-oriented institutions in the region for implementation support.

Certified Correct:


ROSA EDNA L. HUBAHIB
Acting RDC Secretary

Attested:


MARLENE P. RODRIGUEZ
RDC Vice-Chairperson

Approved:


GOV. GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA
RDC Chairperson