SDGs as Drivers of University Societal Impact: What we are Doing at the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU)

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Goal of the Session:

Exchange good practices on:

• how universities translate the universal SDGs into local actions;
• how universities engage in knowledge transfer with their communities; and
• what kind of partnerships they foster

to increase their societal impact
One of the constituent units of the University of the Philippines, the only national university in the country

- Established in 1995; mandated to democratize access to quality higher education through distance education
- A public service university; research university; graduate university
- Started doing distance elearning in 2001; became fully online in 2007; with students in more than 70 countries; 24% of students are outside the country
- Started implementing MOOC in 2013
- RA 10650 (Open Distance Learning Act)
- President, Asian Association of Open Universities (2017-2019)
Faculty of Education
Associate in Arts
Bachelor of Education Studies
Graduate Certificate in Distance Education
Diploma in Science Teaching
Diploma in Mathematics Teaching
Diploma in Language and Literacy Education
Diploma in Social Studies Education
Master of Distance Education
Master of Arts in Language and Literacy Education
Master of Arts in Social Studies Education
Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Faculty of Information and Communication Studies studies
Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Studies
Diploma in Computer Science
Master of Development Communication
Master of Information Systems
Doctor of Communication

3 undergraduate
26 Graduate Diploma/Master
2 Doctoral
73 MOOCs
Non-degree/non-formal courses

Faculty of Management and Development Studies
Diploma in International Health
Diploma in Land Valuation & Management
Diploma in Social Work
Diploma in Research and Development Management
Master of International Health
Master of Land Valuation & Management
Master of Social Work
Master of Public Health
Master of Hospital Administration
Master of Arts in Nursing
Master of Public Management
Diploma/Master of Environment and Natural Resources Mmgmt
GC/Master of ASEAN Studies
3 Missions:

- Teaching
- Research
- Societal engagement/Public Service

In the performance of these missions, following ethical principles, good governance, respect for the environment, social engagement and the promotion of values

University Social Responsibility
What we do at the University to increase our societal impact with SDGs as Framework

Campaign for these
Institutional Actions: Walking the Talk

- Green building
- Solar energy for street lighting
- Water Treatment Facility (for construction)
- Waste segregation
- Strong Gender Program (Office of Gender Concerns) to ensure gender equality and advocate the same

Eco-friendly institutional give aways

UPOU Earth Ambassador

The UP Open University Earth Ambassadors is a project by the Faculty of Management and Development Studies (FMDS) that aims to train a core group of selected elementary students to promote awareness about sustainable development, biodiversity, conservation and management of natural ecosystems and traditional socio-ecological landscapes. Specifically, the project aims to:
Institutional Actions: Walking the Talk

Degree Programs:
- Environment and Natural Resources Mgt
- PhD Sustainability Science
Institutional Actions: Walking the Talk

Societal Engagement:
• OERs and MOOCs on the different aspects of SDGs

Increase awareness and knowledge about SDGs and mobilize people to action through open education practices
OERs on Different topics related to SDGs

The Role of Native Trees in Mitigating Climate Change

Marine Sponges and Climate Change

Building Sustainable & Resilient Communities | Part 1

Let's Go Solar: What You Need to Know About Solar Energy
0EER Repositories of the University

https://networks.upou.edu.ph

http://tvup.ph
MOOCs

Enrollment: 9,137
Registered Users: 12,429

Universal Design for Learning
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

To facilitate inclusive learning

73 MOOCs

SDG #4

7th ASEF Rectors' Conference & Students' Forum
Higher Education Taking Action towards the Sustainable Development Goals:
Perspectives from Europe and Asia
MOOCs

http://asianlearningportal.org

Welcome to the Asian Learning Portal!
The official platform of the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) from member institutions of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU).

SDG #4

ASIAN MOOCs

Course categories

ASIAN Languages

Courses
- Nihongo Starter A1 Part 1
- Basic Thai Language
- Oral Communication and Conversational Fluency in English

All courses...
SDG #17: Partnership for the Goals

• With other HEIs to integrate the OERs in their teaching in a blended teaching learning mode of instructional delivery

• With Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., the leading telco in the country, for digital literacy (beyond digital skills)

• With the Department of Information and Communications Technology for the use of eCenters for online education for SDGs and the development of more OERs and MOOCs on SDGs

• With the Commission on Higher Education to enable other academic institutions to offer open learning/lifelong learning opportunities (as per RA10650)

• With the Technical Education Skills and Development Authority for the integration of SDG features in tech vocational courses
SDG #17: Partnership for the Goals

- With the Local Government Units for the implementation of SDG-related training programs in the community e.g. Climate Action and Disaster Preparedness

- Using the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) as platform to influence other Open Universities in Asia to integrate the SDGs in the performance of their 3 missions and assist member institutions be included in the Impact Ranking of Universities

- With regional organizations e.g. SEAMEO, to implement projects that could serve as platform for SDG#4 and learning about other SDGs e.g. Global Digital Citizenship
University Impact Rankings 2019

The Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. We use carefully calibrated indicators to provide comprehensive and balanced comparisons across three broad areas: research, outreach, and stewardship.

EXPLORE UNIVERSITY IMPACT RANKINGS FOR INDIVIDUAL SDGs

[Icons for each SDG]
Policy Recommendations: Institutional Level

• Put in place policies that will:
  • Involve the different stakeholders in initiatives that are aligned with the SDGs; Students learning activities; researchers; teachers; other stakeholders (e.g. parents; communities)
  • Prioritize SDG initiatives in the 3 missions of the university
  • Allocate resources to enable sectors at the university to do SDG-related activities

We have in attendance University Presidents; Rectors; Chancellors in this Forum
Policy Recommendations: At the National Level

• For the Education Ministers to put in place enabling policies for universities to take SDGs as framework for the 3 missions

• Allocate resources to enable sectors at the university to do SDG-related activities
Policy Recommendations: Regional Level

• Regional Cooperations (among regional organizations: ASEF; SEAMEO; UNESCO, AAOU, etc.) e.g. having a “Bucharest Declaration”?

• Resource mobilization to enable universities for local and regional initiatives and promote regional cooperations among universities as part of the respective internationalization programs
What we hope to do:

From SDG Framework
to Local Action
to Culture
Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

Helen Keller
Thank you!!

Multimesc frumos!