



UNIVERSITY OF

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL–RECOLETOS, INCORPORATED

Bacolod City

CHED AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY

#51 Lizares Ave., Bacolod City, Philippines 6100 • www.uno-r.edu.ph • 0344332449 loc

106

Education and Research for Sustainability Report

Advancing Sustainability through Education, Research, and Community Engagement

The University continues to strengthen its role as a catalyst for sustainable development by embedding sustainability principles across its academic programs, research agenda, student engagement, innovation ecosystem, and community outreach. Through a comprehensive approach that integrates teaching, knowledge generation, international collaboration, and societal engagement, the University is developing graduates equipped to address complex environmental, social, and economic challenges while contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The University's Education and Research initiatives demonstrate a **high impact**, supporting **10–13 Sustainable Development Goals**, reflecting a strong institutional commitment to sustainability as a core mission of higher education.

Sustainability in Academic Curriculum

Sustainability has become an integral component of the University's academic portfolio. During the reporting period, the University offered **348 sustainability-related courses** out of a total of **5,705 courses**, representing a sustainability course ratio of **more than 5–10%**. These courses are delivered across multiple disciplines, enabling students from diverse academic backgrounds to develop competencies in sustainable development, environmental stewardship, climate resilience, responsible resource management, circular economy principles, social equity, and sustainable innovation.

Complementing these individual courses, the University currently offers **24 sustainability-related study programmes**, demonstrating institutional commitment to producing graduates capable of leading sustainability transformation within government, industry, academia, and civil society.

By embedding sustainability into formal education, the University ensures that graduates acquire interdisciplinary knowledge and practical skills necessary to respond to global sustainability challenges while supporting responsible decision-making throughout their professional careers.

Research Excellence in Sustainability

The University continues to prioritize sustainability as a strategic research focus through substantial investment in interdisciplinary research activities. During the past three years, the University allocated an average annual sustainability research funding of **USD 70,285.18**, representing a significant proportion of its total average annual research funding of **USD 81,585.15**. Sustainability research therefore accounts for **more than 40% of the University's total research investment**, highlighting institutional commitment to generating evidence-based solutions for sustainable development.





UNIVERSITY OF

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL–RECOLETOS, INCORPORATED

Bacolod City

CHED AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY

#51 Lizares Ave., Bacolod City, Philippines 6100 • www.uno-r.edu.ph • 0344332449 loc

106

Research activities are supported by **636 lecturers and researchers**, who collectively contribute to advancing scientific knowledge in areas including environmental management, renewable energy, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, climate adaptation, public health, circular economy, sustainable infrastructure, and social sustainability.

Within the reporting year, University researchers produced **184 scholarly publications related to sustainability**, corresponding to a publication ratio of **less than 0.5 sustainability publications per lecturer or researcher**. While this indicates opportunities to further increase research productivity, the current output demonstrates an active and growing sustainability research community that contributes to national and international knowledge development.

Sustainability Knowledge Exchange and Campus Engagement

Beyond formal teaching and research, the University actively cultivates a sustainability culture through continuous engagement with students, staff, and external stakeholders.

During the reporting period, the University organized an average of **97 sustainability-related events annually**, including seminars, conferences, workshops, training programmes, environmental campaigns, exhibitions, and public awareness activities. These events provide valuable platforms for interdisciplinary collaboration, knowledge dissemination, and community engagement.

Student participation remains one of the University's greatest strengths. Student organizations implemented approximately **960 sustainability-related activities annually**, demonstrating exceptional levels of student leadership and volunteerism in promoting environmental responsibility, social inclusion, sustainable lifestyles, and community resilience. These initiatives significantly strengthen the University's whole-institution approach to sustainability by encouraging active participation beyond the classroom.

The University also organized **one to three cultural activities annually** that integrate sustainability values with local heritage, cultural preservation, and community identity, reinforcing the interconnected relationship between environmental sustainability and cultural sustainability.

International Collaboration and Innovation

Recognizing that sustainability challenges require global cooperation, the University actively implements sustainability programmes through **international collaboration** with academic institutions, research organizations, government agencies, industries, and international partners. These collaborations facilitate joint research, academic exchanges, capacity-building programmes, collaborative publications, and the sharing of international best practices, thereby enhancing the University's global engagement and research impact.





UNIVERSITY OF

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL–RECOLETOS, INCORPORATED

Bacolod City

CHED AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY

#51 Lizares Ave., Bacolod City, Philippines 6100 • www.uno-r.edu.ph • 0344332449 loc

106

Innovation and entrepreneurship further support the University's sustainability agenda. During the reporting period, the University supported **between one and five sustainability-related start-up companies**, encouraging students, researchers, and graduates to translate innovative research into practical solutions that address environmental and societal challenges while contributing to green economic development.

Community Engagement and Societal Impact

The University extends sustainability beyond campus through meaningful community partnerships and service-learning initiatives.

Each year, the University implements **four to six sustainability-related community service projects involving students**, enabling learners to apply academic knowledge in real-world settings while supporting local communities in areas such as environmental conservation, waste management, climate resilience, sustainable agriculture, public health, environmental education, and community capacity building.

These projects strengthen experiential learning while reinforcing the University's commitment to producing socially responsible graduates capable of creating positive impacts beyond the campus environment.

Graduate Employability and Green Workforce Development

The University's sustainability education contributes directly to workforce readiness and green economic development.

Over the past three years, **630 graduates** have secured employment in **green jobs** from a total of **2,609 graduates**, representing **more than 20% of all graduates**. This achievement demonstrates the University's effectiveness in equipping graduates with sustainability competencies that meet the growing demand for professionals capable of supporting low-carbon development, environmental management, renewable energy, sustainable industries, resource efficiency, and climate action.

The growing proportion of graduates employed in sustainability-related sectors reflects the relevance of the University's curriculum, research activities, and experiential learning opportunities in preparing graduates for emerging global labour market demands.

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The University's Education and Research initiatives make a **high-level contribution** to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by integrating sustainability across teaching, research, innovation, partnerships, and community engagement.





UNIVERSITY OF

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL–RECOLETOS, INCORPORATED

Bacolod City

CHED AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY

#51 Lizares Ave., Bacolod City, Philippines 6100 • www.uno-r.edu.ph • 0344332449 loc

106

The University's curriculum and graduate outcomes directly advance **SDG 4 (Quality Education)** by providing sustainability-focused education and lifelong learning opportunities. Significant investment in sustainability research supports **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)** through scientific innovation and technology development. Research addressing climate resilience, environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, renewable energy, and resource efficiency contributes substantially to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**, **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)**, **SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation)**, **SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)**, **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**, and **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**.

Student engagement, community service programmes, and international collaborations further strengthen contributions to **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**, while sustainability-related entrepreneurship and graduate employment support **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)** by fostering green innovation and sustainable economic development.

Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate the University's comprehensive and institution-wide commitment to sustainability, positioning education and research as key drivers of societal transformation and supporting a broad spectrum of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Continuous Improvement and Future Directions

The University remains committed to strengthening sustainability across its education and research ecosystem. Future priorities include expanding the proportion of sustainability-related courses and academic programmes, increasing research productivity and international publications, attracting greater external funding for sustainability research, broadening interdisciplinary collaborations, supporting additional sustainability-focused start-up enterprises, and enhancing graduate employability in green sectors.

Through continuous investment in academic excellence, research innovation, student leadership, international partnerships, and community engagement, the University seeks to further strengthen its contribution to global sustainability while aligning institutional performance with internationally recognized sustainability assessment frameworks, including the **UI GreenMetric World University Rankings**, **Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings**, and the **QS Sustainability Rankings**.

