




The official electronic newsletter of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of the Philippines Los Baños

## CFNR holds its 2024 StratPlan workshop in Baguio City



The UPLB College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR) held its 2024 Strategic Planning Workshop from 12 to 14 June 2024 at the UPLB Satellite Extension Office in Pacdal, Baguio.

Under the leadership of Dean Marlo D. Mendoza, college executive committee members and committee chairs collectively charted CFNR's direction for the next five years. The 26 workshop participants' efforts were guided by CFNR's vision to be "a world-class leader in the education, science, and management of tropical forests, natural resources, and the environment for the benefit of society."

The workshop started with all units and committee chairs presenting accomplishments, issues, and challenges. Dean Mendoza encouraged the team to think of ways to synergize efforts and ensure that public

service remains a priority on top of honor and service. The two-day workshop considered the outputs of the 2022 Strategic Plans and merged it with CFNR's four thematic action agenda: 1) Making Forestry Education, Science and Technology Work for Society and Country, 2) Responsive, Innovative, and Solutions-oriented Governance, 3) Creating an Enabling Learning and Work Environment, and 4) Generating Resources for Productivity. These thematic plans were envisioned under Dean Mendoza's #CFNR4UN vision: "Collaborative Future-proofing of Nature-based and Forest Resources Development for the University and the Nation." These can only be done through collaborative work.

The following day was dedicated to presenting plans and activities (2024-2026) for CFNR and its 211

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## CFNR joins IUFRO World Congress in Sweden; Combalicer appointed in IUFRO board

Researchers and alumni of UPLB CFNR showcased their studies on diverse aspects of Philippine forestry at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) World Congress held from 23 to 29 June 2024 in Stockholm City, Sweden.

The congress gathered over 4,300 forestry experts and researchers from around the globe and featured about 3,500 presentations—the largest number recorded in IUFRO history. The CFNR delegation and other UPLB constituents featured a

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## CFNR holds its 2024 stratplan workshop in Baguio...



Photo credits from CIMRC

personnel and 887 undergraduate and graduate students. The four units under the CFNR Office of the Dean: Office of the College Secretary (OCS); Office of the Coordinator for Research, Extension, and Linkages (OCREL), and the Office of the Administrative and Technical Services Section; the four academic units: the Department of Forest Biological Sciences (DFBS), Institute of Renewable and Natural Resources (IRNR), Department of Forest Products and Paper Science (DFPPS), and the Department of Social Forestry and Forest Governance (DSFFG); non-academic units: the Institute of Agroforestry (IAF), Forestry Development Center (FDC), Makiling Center for Mountain Ecosystems (MCME), and Training Center for Tropical Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability (TREES); the CFNR Library, and the College working committees, shared their plans and strategies, in the face of current issues and challenges.

The synthesis and closing of the two days highlighted that harmonizing plans for inter-office collaboration, complementing efforts across committees with similar responsibilities, and as well as sharing of equipment and human resources are crucial in ensuring that CFNR-wide activities are efficiently carried



out. Dean Mendoza expressed his gratitude to all the ExeCom members and committee chairpersons for sharing their strategic plans, hoping that these will contribute to his #CFNR4UNvision.

The third day concluded with a visit to the DENR Regional Office-Cordillera Administrative Region by selected CFNR representatives, headed by Associate Dean Analyln L. Codilan. The CFNR contingent was met by DENR RED Engr. Paquito T. Moreno, Jr. and employees. TREES Director Dr. Crusty E. Tinio shared the results of the UPLB TREES' training needs analysis to strengthen the College's regional activities through the UPLB Baguio Satellite Office in Pacdal. Meanwhile, Dr. Codilan shared the potential collaborative instruction, research, and extension areas. CFNR also

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## Publish and share your research to the scientific community

BY Aileen S. Peria

The image shows the cover of the "Ecosystems and Development Journal" Call for Papers. The cover is green and white. At the top left, it says "University of the Philippines LOS BAÑOS". The main title "ECOSYSTEMS AND DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL" is in a green box. Below that, "CALL FOR PAPERS" is written in large white letters. A list of topics is provided, including agroforestry, biodiversity, climate change, and forest management. It also mentions the "OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE" and a "CLOSING DATE: 15 AUGUST 2024". Contact information for the journal is listed at the bottom, including a phone number, email, and website.

The Ecosystems & Development (E&D) Journal, an open-access, international, and refereed journal published by CFNR is accepting papers for its 2024 issues.

The E&D Journal, ISSN 2012-3612 (print) and ISSN 2782-8824 (online), is designed to provide a venue for debates and trends in forestry and natural resources. It is published twice a year as a journal on forestry and natural resources.

The journal production is handled by CFNR constituents as follows: Academician Rex Victor O. Cruz (Editor-in-Chief), Dr. Marilyn S. Combalicer (Managing Editor), Dr. Jessa P. Ata (Associate Managing Editor), and Ms. Aileen S. Peria (Production Editor).

Please submit your articles on or before 31 August 2024 for the Volume 14 (2) issue. For more details, visit <https://edjournal.cfnr-uplb.org/> or send inquiries to [edjournal@up.edu.ph](mailto:edjournal@up.edu.ph) or at 092977 24366.



## CFNR joins IUFRO World Congress in Sweden...



wide range of research topics, emphasizing the unique forestry challenges and opportunities in the Philippines.

DFBS, represented by Drs. Marilyn Combalicer, Jessa Ata, Dianne Joy Aguilon, Nelson Pampolina, and undergraduate student Ms. Joylyn Bon Yu highlighted the country's rich biodiversity and forest conservation efforts through their research.

Drs. Analyn Codilan and Rogelio Andrada II of the Institute of Renewable Natural Resources (IRNR) presented research studies on sustainable forestry practices and resource management.

For. Aureneil Natividad and Ms. Louise Bernadette Del Castillo of DSFFG presented their studies on the roles of local communities in forest conservation.

CFNR alumni Jerbelle Elomina, Jaclyn Care Linayao, Rhyla Joy Aldipollo, Isabelle Claire Dela Paz, Ma. Paula Sarigumba, Jillian Bathan, Elaine Parlade, and Lourdes Brevia, now affiliated with local or international forestry institutions, also participated in the event. Dr. Combalicer, who served as the Philippines' International

Council Representative in IUFRO, has been selected as one of the President's Nominees for the 2024-2029 term, representing ASEAN member nations. Alongside four other nominees, Combalicer will contribute to IUFRO's mission of fostering international collaboration in forest research and bridging connections between forests, science, and communities worldwide.

As the first CFNR representative to hold a position on the IUFRO Board, Dr. Combalicer hopes "to inspire greater engagement from the Philippines in addressing critical forestry issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental pollution, and rising social inequality through proactive and equitable actions."

IUFRO is a global network connecting over 15,000 forest scientists from approximately 630 organizations across nearly 120 countries.

As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, IUFRO promotes worldwide collaboration in forest research and enhances understanding of the ecological, economic, and social dimensions of forests and trees.

Held every five years, the IUFRO World Congress brings together scientists and stakeholders to discuss forest research, policy, and management.

This year, the 26th IUFRO World Congress emphasized the need for decisive and fair actions and the optimal use of knowledge from the global science community to make informed and forward-thinking decisions as forests and communities face pressing environmental and social issues.

*(BY Dr. Jessa P. Ata)*

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## CFNR holds stratplan wkp...

showed the musical film trailer of its first movie engagement with I.Syoot Multimedia Productions, Inc., the "A Thousand Forests."

After the three-day strategic planning workshop, Team CFNR is optimistic that its future-proofing plans will significantly improve its curricular programs and intensify its research and extension programs, thereby contributing to UP's motto of "honor, excellence, and service."  
*(BY Aileen S. Peria and Dr. Peter Jerome B. del Rosario )*



# Mini bazaar features non-timber forest products

BY Claudette Alba and Ms. Zoe Gajo



BS Forestry students organized the Balay NTFP mini bazaar with the theme “Pagkilala sa mga Produktong Gubat na Hindi Kahoy tungo sa Pangangalaga ng Kalikasan” on 18 and 25 May 2024 at the Freedom Park in UPLB.

NTFP or non-timber forest products include products derived from trees other than timber, including bark, roots, leaves, fruits, extracts, or sap, and products from non-timber-yielding plants such as bamboo, rattan, forest vines, and even palms. NTFPs can also include products made from ligneous materials, such as handcrafted items that are not industrial timber or pulp.

The Balay NTFP mini-bazaar was led by the Department of Forest Products and Paper Science under the College of Forestry and Natural Resources (CFNR-DFPPS) as a major requirement for students to complete the course Forest Products and Paper Science 128, in partnership with the UPLB Business Affairs Office.

## Bazaars as a way to promote NTFP products

The mini bazaar sold various NTFPs, including food and non-food items such as lumpiang ubod, ginataang labong pastil, sinantulan, refreshments, scented candles, resin keychains, bamboo straws, and more. Almost all of the products were sold during the two-day event, which was held alongside the UPLB Saturday Market.

According to faculty member Asst. Prof. Alfie Torres, the idea of holding a mini bazaar began in 2016, when students displayed NTFPs at the DFPPS lobby. An NTFP bazaar was first held at the Makiling Botanic Garden in 2017. It became a yearly event until the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and resumed just recently.

Balay NTFP was conceptualized by students in 2019 to further emphasize the uses and importance of NTFPs by showcasing forest products to the public. In addition to being used as furniture, fiber, and structural materials, NTFPs are also used in

medicinal and cosmetics products, as a source of essential and seed oil, edible fruits, nuts, and animal products.

Balay NTFP promotes awareness, sustainability, and innovation. It aims to raise awareness of the conservation and protection of forests, flora, and fauna, the sustainability of minerals and natural resources, and innovation using forest-based products.

Asst. Prof. Torres said that feedback from the employers and assessors during the ASEAN University Network (AUN) in 2017 pushed him, along with Dr. Ramon A. Razal, to conduct an activity that will enhance the entrepreneurial skills of BS Forestry students. Dr. Razal is a professor emeritus, a former dean of CFNR, and an NTFP champion.

## Developing NTFP-based entrepreneurship

“During a lecture in one of my specialized courses, our professor brought up an interesting point:

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# MCME organizes 17<sup>th</sup> Youth Summer Program on Environmental Education

BY For. Myranel S. Canceran

The Makiling Center for Mountain Ecosystems (MCME) through its Social Forestry Division (SFD), UPLB-CFNR, in collaboration with the Philippine Geothermal Production Company, Inc. (PGPC), organized the 17<sup>th</sup> Youth Summer Program on Environmental Education (YSP), with the theme, “Youth Mobilization for Sustainable Ecosystems.”



The three-day event, held on 11, 12, and 18 May 2024 took place at the Malinta Elementary School, Malinta, Los Banos, Laguna, and the Mount Makiling Forest Reserve ASEAN Heritage Park (MMFR AHP).

The annual YSP aims to instill in the youth a deep understanding and appreciation of environmental values and equip them with the cognitive and ethical tools to respond to the environmental needs of society.

This year, the 37 students and four teacher-coordinators were from Malinta Elementary School, Malinta, Los Banos, Laguna. Of the 37 students, 20 were from Grade IV, and 17 were from Grade V. The students are from Barangays Malinta, Mayondon, and San Antonio.

During the opening program on 11 May, an inspirational message was delivered by Hon. Jesus De Una, Jr., the Barangay Captain of Barangay Malinta; Ms. Jeanzzie G. Ilagan, Principal of Malinta Elementary School represented by Dr. Sheryl O. Casili, and

For. Nicasio M. Balahadia, head of the Social Forestry Division of MCME. After the opening program, the following lecture-discussions were delivered: Levelling-off Activity/ Environmental Education (For. Myranel S. Canceran), Environmental Principles (For. Karla Jane P. Gonzalvo), Forest, Effects of Forest Degradation, Global Warming and Climate Change (For. Marlo M. Cana), Importance of Mount Makiling as a Natural Resource and its Point of Interests (For. Angela A. Limpiada), Policies, Laws, and Regulations in MMFR and other mountain ecosystems (For. Aldin C. Alegre), and An Introduction to Watershed (For. Leonardo D. Barua).

On 12 May, Ms. Gillian Katherine I. Quilloy of the Department of Social Forestry and Forest Governance (DSFFG-CFNR) presented topics on Creative Work on Literary Artworks and Paintings, and For. Mary Anne G. Abadillos of MCME presented the Development on Environmental School/

Community project. After the activity, the participants made posters about the YSP theme, essays on sustainability, and environmental school projects.

On 18 May, a Lakbay Aral kay Maria Makiling (guided tour) around MMFR was facilitated by For. Limpiada. Participants visited the Mudspring area, and an environmental amazing race was held in the Makiling Rainforest Park, facilitated by For. Ma. Ruffa P. Guab and Milles M. Vizcarra. The guided tour was continued at the Makiling Botanic Gardens (MBG).

The closing program was held in the Toyota Education and Environment Theater (TEET) in MBG. It started with a message from the MCME Director represented by For. Balahadia, followed by feedback from the participants delivered by Mr. Paul Mario S. Villamayor (Grade IV), Ms. Maria Gaia Ledlinn A. Alcala (Grade V), and

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# UPLB-CFNR seminar series discusses legal aspects of the public land system in the US

BY Louise Andrea B. Quidayan

CFNR, through OCREL, IRNR, and the CFNR R&E Committee, hosted the seminar, “Legal Aspects: Metes and Bounds versus the Public Land Survey System in the United States” on 13 May 2024 at the Nicolas P. Lansigan Auditorium.

This event, a regular OCREL activity designed to provide a venue for sharing expertise and experiences in forestry and natural resources, further strengthened CFNR’s academic and research partnership with Glenville State University (GSU) in the USA.

Dean Marlo D. Mendoza’s welcome address emphasized on the crucial role of the seminar’s topic in managing and protecting natural resources. He underscored the challenges related to the Mt. Makiling Forest Reserve (MMFR) and the need to find solutions for communities within these areas.

Mr. Jacob Petry, a senior lecturer and assistant professor at GSU, first discussed the history of land surveying, metes and bounds, legal aspects, and differences in land surveying in the United States. He also shared the common pitfalls of the said metes and bounds as well as the common steps in land surveying.

The event facilitator, Dr. Rogelio Andrada II, led an engaging open forum right after. One of the questions was given by Dean Mendoza, who asked if there are also any land disputes in the US and how they are resolved. Mr. Petry shared that land disputes are usually easy to solve in the US,



with landowners hiring surveyors to verify property boundaries. If there is a discrepancy and the claim is valid, the owner may seek legal counsel to pursue a lawsuit. Typically, these issues are handled on a case-by-case basis, sparking further discussion among the audience.

Afterward, Dean Mendoza and Dr. Tomas Reyes, Jr. presented Mr. Petry with a certificate of appreciation. In the closing remarks, Dr. Reyes Jr. thanked Dr. Rico Gazal, a CFNR alumnus and a professor of forestry at GSU, for his significant contribution in providing training and equipment to the CFNR students. He hopes for more forestry-related seminars, specifically about the public land survey system in the Philippines.

The seminar drew 30 attendees, including CFNR staff members, faculty members, and students, as well as representatives from GSU, and other forestry-related institutions.

Before the month ends, GSU will sign an MOU and a MOA with UPLB to formalize academic and research partnerships.

# UPLB inks partnership agreements with Glenville State University

BY Ana Vera G. Oleta

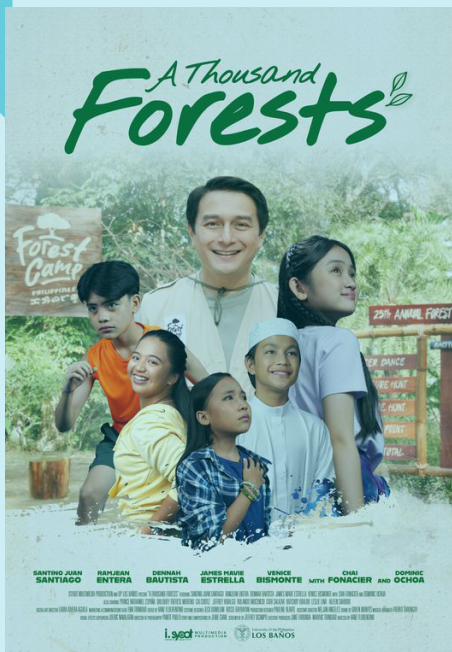
UPLB welcomed visitors from Glenville State University (GSU) to BM Gonzalez Hall on 29 May 2024 to sign an MOU to formalize an academic and research partnership and a MOA for a student exchange program.

Chancellor Jose V. Camacho, Jr. and Prof. Rico Gazal represented UPLB, while senior lecturer Mr. Jacob Petry represented GSU. Prof. Gazal is an alumnus of UPLB, having completed his undergraduate (Certificate of Forestry '90, BS Forestry '93) and MS Forestry in 1998 in UPLB.

GSU is a public university in West Virginia, USA. It offers undergraduate and graduate programs specializing in natural resources.

CFNR faculty members led by Dean Marlo Mendoza and four GSU students enrolled in their BS Natural Resource degree program witnessed the signing of the MOA and MOU. CFNR was also represented by Associate Dean Analyn Codilan, Dr. Crusty Tinio, director of the Training Center for Tropical Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, and Dr. Marilyn Combalicer, chair of the Department of Forest Biological Sciences. International Linkages Director Anna Floresca Fimalino also attended the MOU and MOA signing ceremony.

-- Retrieved and edited from <https://uplb.edu.ph/all-news/uplb-inks-partnership-agreements-with-glenville-state-university/>



Exclusive advance screening for CFNR constituents on 30 May 2024 at the CFNR Auditorium. Tickets are priced at PHP 100 for students and PHP 200 for staff. Proceeds of this exclusive premiere will go to the ATF project to sponsor kids from remote areas to watch the movie for free. The ATF movie will be available in cinemas soon on 26 June 2024!

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## MCME organizes 17<sup>th</sup> YSP

Dr. Sheryl O. Casili (Teacher- Coordinators). According to her, YSP is a complete package for the students, including the Department of Education’s observation tool.

The awarding of certificates for the winner on poster making, essay writing, and certificates of participation were held after receiving feedback from the participants.

The closing remarks was delivered by For. Leilani A. Castillo, representing Prof. Juancho B. Balatibat, head of BGPED-MCME.

## UPLB-INREM attends GIZ planning workshop on Community of Practice

BY Marielle Baliwag and Ms. Lyra Mae Puno



The UPLB Interdisciplinary Studies Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Management (UPLB-INREM) participated in a planning workshop aimed at establishing a Community of Practice (CoP) in climate information services (CIS) for agriculture, fisheries, and health at Microtel by Wyndham in Baguio City on 19-20 June 2024. The event was held under the auspices of the project “Toward a South-South Collaboration on Climate Information and Services: Building a Knowledge Exchange and Learning Platform for the Philippines and the Climate Vulnerable Forum (SSCIS).”

On the first day, June 19, project consultant Jaker de Claro conducted workshops that reviewed the CoP Charter and finalized the core members’ structure, roles, and responsibilities. The UPLB-INREM and UP National Institute of Health (NIH) were reiterated as CoP domain managers. They also discussed the CIS quality assurance mechanisms and simulated the CoP working arrangements and collaborative potentials by brainstorming for IEC materials and drafting a plan of activities for its CoP launch.

On June 20, the participants developed a theory of change for the three sectors. They also did study visits at the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) Baguio and Um-A Organic Farm, where Dr. Jesus R. Aspuria discussed the fully automated climate-smart greenhouse. On the organic farm, Dr. Aida Y. Pagtan, chief of the Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Information Service of the Department of Agriculture-Cordillera Administrative Region, talked about climate-resilient farming practices of indigenous communities.

The planning workshop was attended by the project team of the “Modelling CIS Application in the Agricultural Sector through Tripartite Collaborations (SUC-NGA-LGU) in Region II, Northern Philippines” composed of Dr. Maricel Villamayor, Ms. Aileen Simondac-Peria, Dr. Rose Jane Peras, Ms. Marielle Baliwag, Ms. Lyra Mae Puno, and Mr. Kyle Vincent Singson. Various SUCs, NGAs, and related sectors were also present as they form CoP core members for CIS on health, agriculture, and fisheries, which are set to launch in July officially. The German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) organized the two-day activity.



## Mini bazaar features NTFP



his colleague had noticed that only a few students tend to explore entrepreneurship involving forest products. This statement resonated with me, especially since it was when we were developing our product for Balay NTFP,” Ms. Annuarie Ayaton, a BS Forestry student said.

She added that the mini bazaar not only sparked creativity in terms of innovating products but also nurtured their entrepreneurial mindset. “It made me realize the diverse range of products that can be potentially derived from forests aside from timber.”

Asst. Prof. Torres further emphasized that the mini bazaar was created to integrate an entrepreneurial mindset among students and spread awareness of the importance of NTFPs to the general public, who know little about it. Moreover, it would help break barriers and misconceptions that timber is the only material that can be retrieved from forests.

Balay NTFP 2024 was spearheaded by FPPS 128 students, led by Ms. Marianne Joy Cortez, under the supervision of Asst. Prof. Torres and For. Anne Patricia G. Cantalejo.

An NTFP mini bazaar is set to be held in October 2024.

-- Retrieved from <https://uplb.edu.ph/all-news/mini-bazaar-features-non-timber-forest-products/>

### Newly promoted CFNR staff

**For. Aldrin C. Alegre**

Forester III

MCME

*Effective 01 March 2024*

**Dr. Leonida A. Bugayong**

University Extension Specialist IV

FDC

*Effective 07 May 2024*

### New CFNR appointees

**Dr. Adrian L. Albano**

Assistant Professor 7

SFFG

*Effective 02 May 2024*

**Mr. Sonny Boy G. Tantoy**

Administrative Aide III

TREES

*Effective 17 May 2024*

**Mr. Choy M. Natividad**

Special Policeman

MCME

*Effective 29 May 2024*

**Mr. Christopher G. Reyes**

Administrative Aide VI (Demo I)

FDC

*Effective 03 June 2024*

**Ms. Nicole Nacionales**

Administrative Officer IV

FDC

*Effective 14 June 2024*

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#### Making e-News

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