



January 12, 2024

Dr. Daniel Leslie S. Tan
OIC-President
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Thru: Dr. Dennis P. Peque
Vice-President for Research, Extension and Innovation

Dear **Dr. Tan**,

This is to recommend the renewal of the appointment of **Dr. Cecille Marie O. Quiñones** as **Study Leader** of the research entitled “**Changes in soil organic carbon and nutrient stock after natural vegetation removal for Aquilaria plantation establishment in Leyte, Philippines**”, Study 2 of the research project entitled “*Ecological Assessment and Conservation of Aquilaria malaccensis Through Sustainable Agarwood Production in Leyte and Biliran Islands, Philippines (ECoSAP)*” (**Project Code: VSU-IP-2021-9**), charged to the Internationalization Program subject to the availability of funds, effective January 1, 2024, until December 31, 2024, with equivalent workload units renewable every year until completion of the project.

As Study Leader, Dr. Quiñones is expected to perform the following responsibilities:

1. Exercise supervision and control in the implementation of the study, in coordination with the other study leaders;
2. Evaluate and compare the stocks of soil organic C in *Aquilaria* plantations, using the forest as reference;
3. Identify which soil nutrient and other dynamic soil properties are largely influenced by forest conversion to *Aquilaria* plantations;
4. Propose management practices in *Aquilaria* plantations to potentially offset the land-use conversion effects to dynamic soil properties;
5. Submit to OVPREI, through the Project Leader, the following:
 - a. Report on the significant outputs/outcomes of the research;
 - b. Quarterly research progress reports to the OVPREI-RPO (**Attachment 1**);
 - c. Midyear research progress reports every 1st week of July of every year (**Attachment 2**);
 - d. Annual research progress reports every 1st week of January of the succeeding year (**Attachment 3**);
6. Present the research highlights or papers during the Research In-house Review and Evaluation (**Attachment 4**);
7. Present a paper in the regional/national R&D Symposia/fora (**as scheduled by the Consortium/National agency concerned with the prescribed standard format**);
8. Submit terminal report three (3) months after completion of the research project (**Attachment 5**);
9. Publish articles of significant research findings in indexed/peer-reviewed journals.



For any changes in the title, methodology, project site, and/or budget, approval should first be sought from the University President upon recommendation by the concerned College Dean, Center Director, Director for Research, and the Vice President for Research, Extension, and Innovation.

Thank you for your continued support to the Institute.

Very truly yours,

MARLITO M. BANDE
Project Leader, ECoSAP

Conformé:

CECILLE MARIE O. QUIÑONES
Assistant Professor
Department of Soil Science (DSS)

Endorsed by:

RENEZITA S. COME
Dean, College of Forestry and
Environmental Science (CFES)

Recommending Approval:

DENNIS P. PEQUE
VP for Research, Extension, and Innovation

cc: OVPREI (VP)
OVPREI (RPO)
Head, Budget Office
DSS (File)
CFES (Dean)
CMOQuiñones
RSPPRO
ITEEM (File)

Certified Funds Available:

ALICIA M. FLORES
Head, Budget Office

Noted:

IVY C. EMNACE
Director for Research