



VISAYAS
STATE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR
**STRATEGIC RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES**

July 31, 2025

Dr. Jannet C. Bencure

Dean

Faculty of Engineering

VSU, Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Dear **Dr. Bencure**,

The Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISRDS), in partnership with the Action for Economic Reforms (AER) Industrial Policy Team, is holding a forum titled **Strategic Development Discussions: On Freedom of Information and Green Industrial Policy** on August 12, 2025 (Tuesday) at the Eco-FARMI Training Hall. AER, a long-time development partner of ISRDS, is a civil society policy, advocacy, and action think tank working on key issues in macroeconomics and governance, with focus on industrial policy, freedom of information, fiscal reforms, and health measures.

There will be two sessions—Freedom of Information in the morning and Green Industrial Policy in the afternoon. Session I, **Legislative Advocacy: Should We Start Again? Assessing the Prospects of Passing an FOI Law**, finds relevance in VSU as a catalyst for enhanced knowledge creation or evidence-based studies, and increased access to data for curriculum enrichment, student empowerment, community engagement, and technology transfer. Session II, **Reclaiming Critical Minerals: Can the Philippines Build Green Industry from the Ground Up?** introduces potential interdisciplinary R&D projects in renewable energy and sustainable materials, which VSU researchers may consider. The strategic discussions seek to contribute to enhancing perspectives as VSU engages with community and national concerns.

In line with this, we are honored by your confirmation to present the findings of your VSU LEIZ study at Session 2 of the forum. Moreover, we are inviting 10 faculty members from your Faculty, distributed among the departments, as follows: DGE 3; DABE-2; DCE-2; and DME-3.

We are deeply grateful for your continuous support of our projects and the vision we pursue.

Very truly yours,


LILIAN B. NUÑEZ
Director, ISRDS



**INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC RESEARCH
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Forum on
Strategic Development Discussions:
On Freedom of Information and Green Industrial Policy
 August 12, 2025 (Tuesday)
 Eco-FARMI Training Hall, VSU

TIME	TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSON
8:00 - 9:00 AM	Registration	Ms. Rhea Angelie F. Dayondon dDRC, ISRDS, VSU
9:00 - 9:30 AM	Preliminaries	Ms. Elia Maury C. Jadina Instructor, ISRDS, VSU
	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Prose Ivy G. Yepes President, VSU
Session 1: Legislative Advocacy: Should We Start Again? Assessing the Prospects of Passing an FOI Law		
9:30 - 10:15 AM	What, how, whenever FOI?	Atty. Nepomuceno Malaluan Co-Convenor, R2KRN
		Ms. Jenina Joy Chavez Co-Convenor, R2KRN
10:15 - 10:35 AM	Reaction	Atty. Rysan C. Guinocor , Head, Data Privacy and FOI Services Office, VSU
		Dr. Max Teody T. Quimilat Director, Center for Socio-Cultural Research & Heritage Studies
10:35 - 11:20 AM	Open Discussion	Dr. Buenaventura B. Dargantes , Moderator Environmental Legal Assistance Center- Visayas
11:20 - 11:50 AM	Planning for Joint Advocacy	Prof. Maria Aurora Teresita W. Tabada Associate Professor, ISRDS, VSU
11:50 AM - 12:00 PM	Closing Remarks	Dr. Santiago T. Peña, Jr. VP-Research, Extension, and Innovation, VSU
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch	ISRDS
Session 2: Reclaiming Critical Minerals: Can the Philippines Build Green Industry from the Ground Up?		
1:30 - 1:45 PM	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Glenn G. Pajares VP-Planning and Development

Vision:

A global green university providing progressive leadership in agriculture, science & technology, education and allied fields for societal transformation.

Mission:

To produce graduates equipped with advanced knowledge and lifelong learning skills with ethical standards through high quality instruction, innovative research, and impactful community engagements.

1:45 - 2:30 PM	The VSU LEIZ Study: A Presentation and Discussion of Results	Dr. Jannet C. Bencure, Project Leader, VSU LEIZ Technical Team; Dean, Faculty of Engineering, VSU
	Open Discussion	Prof. Martin Jan E. Mercurio Head, Dept. of Geodetic Engineering
2:30 - 3:45 PM	Reclaiming Critical Minerals for Green Industrial Policy	Ms. Jenina Joy Chavez Coordinator, AER Industrial Policy Team
		Atty. Nepomuceno Malaluan AER Industrial Policy Team
	Open Discussion	Prof. Gina A. Delima Asst. Professor, ISRDS, VSU; Ph.D. Student, KU Leuven, Belgium
3:45 - 4:15 PM	Planning for Cooperative Work	Dr. Ivy C. Emnace Director, Research Office, VSU
4:15 - 4:45 PM	Synthesis	Dr. Lilian B. Nuñez Director, ISRDS
	Closing Remarks	Dr. Rotacio S. Gravoso VP-Academic Affairs

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