



STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

November 20, 2024

Dr. Prose Ivy G. YepesPresident
Visayas State University

Through: Dr. Elwin Jay A. Yu

Vice President for Administration and Finance;

Chair, Non-Academic Personnel Board

Dear Dr. Yepes:

Greetings!

I am writing to request for a replacement of Ms. Saloma B. Gisulga, Science Research Specialist 1 of the **BIDANI** (Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement) extension program. Ms. Gisulga will be retiring on January 16, 2025. We hope to do the job posting as soon as possible so that Ms. Gisulga can orient the new hire on the key components of the BIDANI program, and introduce him/her to the stakeholders within a reasonable timeframe. We would have raised this pressing concern during our November 7, 2024 meeting; however, due to unforeseen circumstances, the said meeting had to be rescheduled.

Ms. Gisulga is the **BMIS** (Barangay Management Information System) Component Coordinator of BIDANI, Additionally, since 2021, she has handled the **BIDA** (Barangay Integrated Development Approach) component when the full-time BIDANI staff retired but was not replaced for the BIDANI program. The **BIDA** component has been most productive in the regular conduct of training and technical assistance for barangay and municipal/city LGUs with their sectoral plans geared towards nutrition improvement in their respective communities.

Over the years, Ms. Gisulga has been instrumental in building partnerships with several LGUs, the champion of which is Baybay City. The said LGU highly values the BIDANI program system by utilizing it for development planning, disaster response, and many other operations. Through Ms. Gisulga's efforts, the BMIS project in Baybay City was recognized as the only Gender and Development-Local Learning Hub (GAD-LLH) in the country by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) from 2019 until the present.

Institutionalized in VSU in 1997, the BIDANI Program is the sole extension project in the university with full-time extension staff. In 1998, there were eight plantilla positions for the program (2 SRS, 2 SRA, 1 Demo, 1 Clerk, 1 Driver, 1 Utility). However, only the two SRS positions, held by Ms. Gisulga and Ms. Melodina Edullantes, remain allocated to the program. Kindly be informed that earlier we requested for a Community Development Assistant (CDA) to reduce the heavy workload of the two component coordinators. The request is undergoing review by the NAPB.



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