



VISAYAS
STATE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE FOR
**STRATEGIC RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES**

July 24, 2025

Dr. Prose Ivy G. Yepes
President
VSU, Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Dear **Pres. Yepes**,

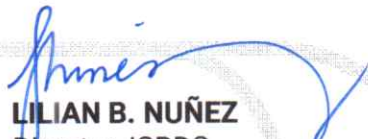
The Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISRDS), in partnership with the Action for Economic Reforms (AER) Industrial Policy Team, is holding a forum titled **Strategic Development Discussions: On Freedom of Information and Green Industrial Policy** on August 12, 2025 (Tuesday) at the Eco-FARMI 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 engage community and national concerns.

In line with this, we would be honored by your presence at this forum. We also kindly request that you deliver the opening remarks. Please refer to the attached program.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support of our activities and the vision we pursue.

Very truly yours,


LILIAN B. NUÑEZ
Director, ISRDS



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