

## Implementation of the Internationalization Program of the Visayas State University

### Project Proposal Template

<b>Delivering Department Unit</b>	Department of Forest Science
<b>Project Title</b>	Biodiversity Conservation and Management Program for Mt. Pangasugan (BIO-CAMP)
<b>Project Proponents</b> (name, designation, affiliation and email address). Include project staff.	<p>Dennis P. Peque – Associate Professor and Dean, CFES, VSU</p> <p>Arturo E. Pasa – Professor VI, DFS, VSU</p> <p>Teofanes A. Patindol – Professor III, DFS, VSU</p> <p>Angelica P. Baldos – Asst. Professor II, DFS, VSU</p> <p>Hernando L. Mondal – Asst. Professor II, DFS, VSU</p> <p>Anatolio Polinar – Assoc. Professor III, DFS, VSU</p> <p>Eunice Kenée L. Serño – Asst. Professor I, DBS, VSU</p> <p>Ris Menoel R. Modina – Instructor III, DBS, VSU</p> <p>Honeylene V. Ongy – Instructor I, DBS, VSU</p> <p>Fretzeljane O. Pogado – Instructor I, DBS, VSU</p> <p>Em Oliver C. Balondo – Instructor I, DBS, VSU</p>
<b>Project International Partners</b> (name, designation, affiliation and email address)	Professor in the University of Göttingen, Germany – to be identified
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>The island of Leyte is part of the Mindanao-Eastern Visayas Ecoregion. It serves as a biodiversity corridor providing link on the assemblage of species between Mindanao and Luzon (Heaney <i>et al.</i>, 1989). Leyte has a remaining forest cover of 74,922 ha compared to the total forest cover of Region 8 which is 511,962 ha (FMB, 2018). Within Leyte are two proclaimed watershed forest reserves, the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve with an area of 2,392 ha and Patag-Gabas Watershed Forest Reserve with an area of 582 ha (FMB 2018). There are also three land-based protected areas (PAs) in Leyte namely: Lake Danao Natural Park in Ormoc City, Mahagnao Volcano Natural Park in Burauen and La Paz Leyte, and Kuapnit-Balinsasayao National Park in Abuyog and Baybay, Leyte.</p> <p>The majestic Mt. Pangasugan which is located in Baybay, Leyte is part of the so-called Leyte Cordillera, which is a long range of mountains from Capoocan to Baybay where intact forest is still found (Langenberger, 2000). Part of Mt. Pangasugan is within Patag-Gabas Watershed Forest Reserve. The Leyte Cordillera to where Mt. Pangasugan is located is part of the Anonang-Lobi Range which is considered an endemic bird area where threatened red and restricted-range species such as Samar Hornbill, Visayan Broadbill and Yellow-breasted</p>