



VISAYAS
STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMICS

DR. PROSE IVY G. YEPES

President

Visayas State University

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Thru: **Dr. Rotacio Gravoso**

Vice President for Academic Affairs

& Chairman, VSU-SC

Dear President Yepes,

I have the honor to request for an approval and support to present a paper and our ACIAR-IVC project result during the 69th Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) with the theme "Meeting the Challenges of Transition to a Sustainable Future" on February 11-14, 2024 to be held in Grand Chancellor Hotel, Brisbane, Queensland. I'll be presenting my PhD derived Manuscript Paper entitled **"INTEGRATING THE KEY SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR THE EVALUATION RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM IN THE PHILIPPINES"**. This is a paper that incorporates and integrates the key findings of my PhD thesis on assessing the productivity, profitability, and nitrogen use efficiency of rice cropping in the Philippines. Please see attached file the official acceptance and invitation from AARES organizing committee.

Also, another invitation I received is from the Commonwealth of Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). I am invited as one of the panelist in **Session 2: Global Value Chains and their Role in Food Systems Transformation** and will contribute to discussions alongside colleagues on the topic of *Enhancing Inclusion in Value Chains for Smallholder Farmers in Polycrises and Post-conflict: Paradoxes and Alternative Agri-Businesses in Coffee and Vegetables in the Philippines*. The discussion will share learnings and reflections from the ACIAR-funded project Agribusiness-led Inclusive Value Chains Development for Smallholder Farming Systems in the Philippines which me is a partner lead.

AARES is the pre-eminent society promoting research relevant to Australasia in agricultural, environmental, food, and resource economics and agribusiness (AEFRE). Part of the major activities of the society is publishing the highly regarded Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AJARE), a leading international scientific journal which is a forum for innovative and scholarly research in agricultural and resource economics, with four issues a year; and convening an annual conference with associated workshops in February of each year. The program typically consists of keynote addresses by distinguished speakers, paper sessions, research reviews of current trends and issues, and alternative format sessions. The Conference represents an outstanding opportunity for delegates to network, share ideas and hear from some of the foremost experts in the field.

I am truly honored to have been given the opportunity to represent Visayas State University and share my research findings at this prestigious international conference. Allow me to provide you with a detailed justification for why my participation in this event will greatly benefit my academic career, contribute to networking opportunities with experts and researchers, and establish valuable linkages for our esteemed University.

1. Academic Career Development: Presenting my paper at this conference will provide me with a platform to showcase my research to a global audience. The conference attracts leading scholars, industry experts, and policymakers from around the world, providing invaluable exposure for my work. This exposure will undoubtedly contribute to the advancement of my academic career,



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No. DOE-2024-IC

increase the visibility of Visayas State University, and highlight our commitment to cutting-edge research in the field of agriculture.

2. Networking Opportunities: The AARES conference is renowned for bringing together a diverse array of professionals and researchers from various disciplines related to rice production and agriculture. By attending this event, I will have the opportunity to engage in fruitful discussions, exchange ideas, and establish connections with experts in my field. Such interactions can lead to potential collaborations, co-authorship opportunities, and access to new research methodologies, which will undoubtedly enrich my future research endeavors and contribute to the growth of our University's network.

3. Linkages for the University: My participation in this International Conference will strengthen our University's reputation and foster relationships with other institutions, both nationally and internationally. By presenting my research findings, I will be showcasing the high-quality research conducted at our university, attracting attention and potential collaborations from other scholars and institutions. These linkages can open doors for future research partnerships, joint projects, and funding opportunities that will further elevate the status of our institution.

Furthermore, I would like to bring to your attention that the pre-workshop registration fee of \$140 has already been covered by ACIAR-IVC project. However, because the project is already ending and we have only limited funds, I would like to request support from our beloved University for the regular registration fee (\$990) of the main conference, flight tickets, and per diem. I humbly request your support on this matter.

In light of the aforementioned reasons, I would kindly request your approval to present my paper at the AARES 2025. I appreciate you taking my request into account and all your help thus far and eagerly await the chance to keep repaying your kindness with my best efforts.

Respectfully yours,



LEMUEL S. PRECIADOS
Faculty

Endorsed: Dept. Personnel Committee:

-abstain-

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