





October 14, 2024

Dr. Prose Ivy G. Yepes President Visayas State University Visca, Baybay City

Dear Dr. Yepes,

Subject: Justification for the Inclusion of the Department of Economics (DOE) and Department of Agriculture- Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (DA-AMAD) in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DA and VSU

I am writing to justify the inclusion of the DOE and DA-AMAD in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Visayas State University (VSU) and Department of Agriculture-Regional Field Office 8 (DA-RFO 8). The primary reason for specifically stipulating these units in the MOU is their direct relevance and expertise in the proposed collaborative activities, including capacity building, joint research, and future community engagements. The following are some of the specific reasons for this justification.

Specialized Expertise:

The activities outlined in the MOU, such as capability building, joint research projects, and extension activities, align closely with the core competencies of DOE and DA-AMAD. These departments house experts in economics, agribusiness, and agricultural development, making them the ideal units to lead and engage in specialized initiatives that require a high level of technical and academic proficiency.

2. Focused Collaborative Efforts:

By clearly stipulating DOE and DA-AMAD in the MOU, both institutions can ensure that the collaboration is structured around units with the relevant knowledge and skills necessary for the specific goals of the partnership. This approach will foster a more effective and focused engagement, allowing the institutions to leverage their strengths in areas such as **economic modeling**, **market analysis**, **and policy development**, which are critical for the success of the intended programs.

3. Efficient Resource Allocation:

Naming the DOE and DA-AMAD ensures that resources—both human and material—are allocated efficiently to the right departments. This avoids overlap, ensures proper management, and enhances the quality and impact of the joint projects. Moreover, it guarantees that each department's faculty, researchers, and staff are directly engaged



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in activities that align with their expertise, thereby maximizing the productivity and outcomes of the collaboration.

4. Targeted Capacity Building:

The capacity-building programs envisioned under the MOU, particularly in the fields of agribusiness management and agricultural economics, require tailored interventions that only DOE and DA-AMAD can provide. These departments have a proven track record in offering targeted trainings, workshops, and seminars that enhance both academic and practical skills in agricultural economics and agribusiness.

5. Sustained Academic and Research Impact:

By focusing the collaboration through DOE and DA-AMAD, both institutions can foster long-term partnerships that go beyond ad-hoc initiatives. The joint research projects, capacity building initiatives, and extension works led by these departments will build a strong foundation for sustained collaborations that will benefit all its stakeholders.

Therefore, stipulating DOE and DA-AMAD in the MOU is essential for ensuring that the collaboration is aligned with the specific expertise required to achieve the desired outcomes. Their inclusion will enhance the strategic direction, operational efficiency, and long-term impact of the partnership. We look forward to working closely with DA-AMAD to successfully implement the joint initiatives outlined in the MOU.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very Respectfully Yours,

ZYRA MAY H. CENTINO

Head, Department of Economics

Visayas State University