1.4.1 Local Start-Up Assistance

DOrSU Plants 30,000 Coffee Seedlings with Indigenous Farmers in Taocanga, Manay, and Trains Thousands of Community Members

On January 16, 2025, DOrSU led the ceremonial planting of **30,000 coffee seedlings** at Sitio Matabang, Taocanga, in Manay, Davao Oriental. The seedlings were donated by Hallmark Corporation under Kaginhawaan Development Institute, Inc. The activity also included the oath-taking of leaders of a newly organized Indigenous People association, formed on October 28, 2024, to represent Mandaya communities near Lake Diomabok.



The planting is part of the university's project "Cultivating Prosperity: Empowering Indigenous Communities through Leadership and Regenerative Coffee Farming," led by Dr. Mary Fil M. Bauyot, in partnership with the Barangay Local Government Unit of Taocanga. It involves the Center for Gender and Development, the Cooperative Development Center, the Culture and Arts Affairs Office, and the BS Agriculture and BS Agribusiness Management programs.

DOrSU kept up its support after planting. A monitoring visit on May 6 to 8, 2025 recorded positive growth performance and continued community engagement and provided technical guidance to farmers. A second visit on December 12 to 14, 2025, with the National Service Training Program, assessed the coffee sites and included a gift-giving activity for farmer-beneficiaries affected by the October 2025 doublet earthquake. The farms are meant to support household income while promoting farming practices that protect the environment.

Extension and Livelihood Training, 2024

Indicator	Target	Result
Trainees, weighted by length of training	3,400	3,485
Extension programs organized and supported	40	41 (102.5%)
Active partnerships with LGUs, industries, NGOs, agencies, and SMEs	16	17 (106.25%)
Beneficiaries who rate trainings satisfactory or higher	94%	95.87%

Start-Up Support Projects

Project	Detail
Regenerative coffee farming, Taocanga, Manay	30,000 seedlings planted on January 16, 2025; monitored in May and December 2025
Urban greenhouse with hydroponics, grow-out nursery, and capacity building (2024 project)	Urban and peri-urban agriculture in Davao Oriental
SMART CEST, a DOST-funded project (2024)	Empowering communities in Davao Oriental through science and technology

Sources

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4. DOrSU Annual Accomplishment Report 2024, extension and research sections: https://dorsu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2024-Annual-Accomplishment-Report.pdf
5. DOrSU Annual Accomplishment Report 2025: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Kc9KS83osnwX2s8fbH-3cEKupQTutnUa/view?usp=drive_link