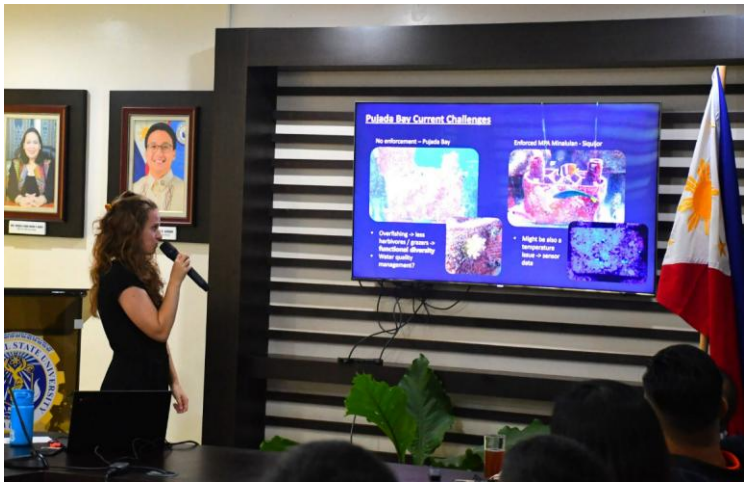
Expert Advice to Government

Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) actively contributes its academic expertise and institutional knowledge to support local, regional, and national government initiatives. Through policy consultations, participation in government committees, research-based recommendations, and technical assistance, the University provides expert advice that informs public policies and decision-making. These initiatives demonstrate DOrSU's commitment to evidence-based governance, institutional collaboration, and sustainable development.

Marine Life Booms in Pujada Bay After Artificial Reef Installation



A year after the installation of an artificial coral reef in Pujada Bay, researchers have reported a major increase in marine life, highlighting the reef's success in helping degraded underwater areas recover.

This breakthrough was presented by Ms. Hanna Kuhfuss during the Pujada Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape (PBPLS) Special Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) Meeting held today, July 23, 2025, at the Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) Boardroom.

Even more promising, the young corals not only survived but grew rapidly. Their average size more than doubled—from 20.5 mm to 52.6 mm over seven months—indicating strong growth and high survival rates among the initial coral recruits.

Kuhfuss explained that the artificial reef was proving effective—supporting coral development and providing a thriving habitat for marine life. She added that if similar projects were expanded, they could help replenish fish stocks and offer long-term benefits to surrounding fishing communities.

The PAMB meeting also covered updates and challenges concerning the existing 3D Artificial Clay Reef (3D-ACR) in Manguihay, Pujada Bay, as well as proposed new sites for additional reef structures. Discussions included a brief introduction to the Fourfold Project, which emphasizes community preparation and social development related to new reef installations. Initial insights from a consultation workshop in Barangay Tamisan were also presented. The meeting concluded with an open house tour of the DOrSU 3D Clay Bricks Fabrication Facility and the Regional Integrated Coastal Resource Management Center, among others.

With continued support from partner communities and stakeholders, the artificial reef efforts in Pujada Bay stand as a model for ocean restoration and sustainable coastal development in the Philippines.



Source: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19kZ7nopBG/

DOrSU President Ponce Honored as Outstanding DENR Stakeholder



In recognition of his unwavering support and invaluable contributions to environmental protection, Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) President Dr. Roy G. Ponce has been honored with the Outstanding Stakeholder Award by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) XI.

The recognition was conferred during the Outstanding Stakeholder Awards Ceremony held today, June 27, at the DENR Regional Office XI Conference Room in Davao City. Representing Dr. Ponce at the event was Ms. Amy G. Ponce, who received the award on his behalf.

The award is bestowed upon distinguished partners who have demonstrated exceptional commitment in advancing the DENR's vision of *a nation enjoying and sustaining its natural resources and a clean and healthy environment*.

Source: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1EvvurLw41/