SDG 17 – Indicator 17.2.4: Collaboration for SDG Best Practices

Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) strengthens its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals through international and cross-sectoral collaborations that facilitate the exchange of knowledge, technologies, research approaches, and institutional practices. Through partnerships with foreign universities, international organizations, government agencies, research institutions, NGOs, and local communities, the University learns from and contributes to the development of effective, science-based solutions to sustainable development challenges. These collaborations support the assessment, adaptation, and application of good practices in biodiversity conservation, marine ecosystem restoration, climate change research, education, and community development.

Key collaborative initiatives and practices

1. International collaboration with rrreefs for coral reef restoration. DOrSU partners with rrreefs, a Switzerland-based socio-ecological organization, to implement an innovative coral reef restoration initiative in Pujada Bay. The project applies 3D-printed terracotta reef modules developed through international expertise and adapts this technology to local marine conditions. It also involves technology transfer, local production capacity, scientific monitoring, and collaboration with government agencies, NGOs, research institutions, and coastal communities. The initiative provides a practical model for applying and adapting international approaches to marine ecosystem restoration.



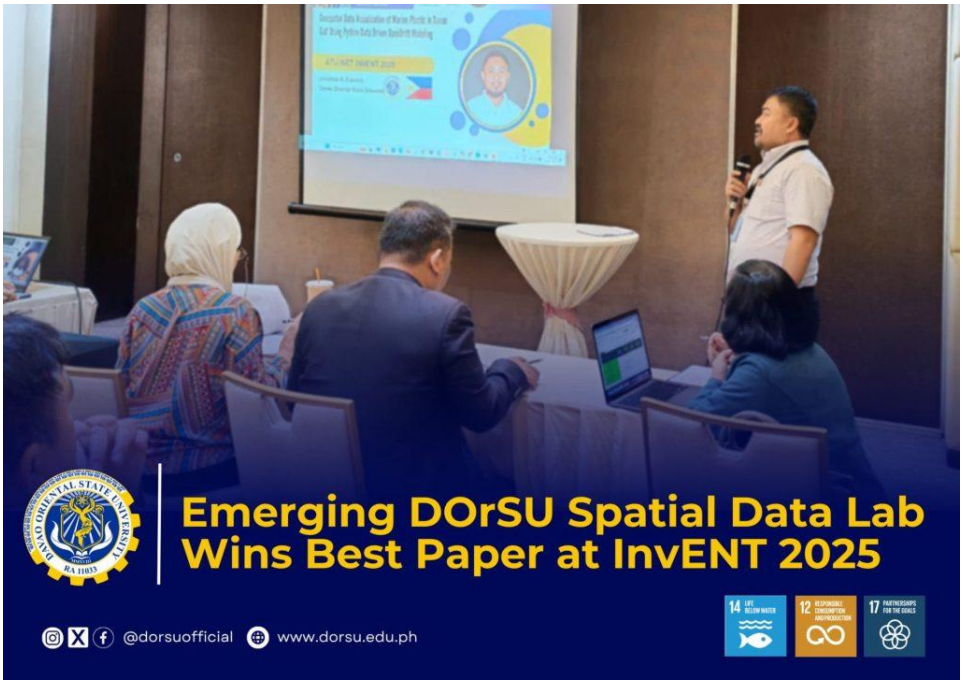
Artificial Clay Bricks Installed in Pujada Bay Now Inhabited by Fish, Other Marine Organisms

2. Academic and research partnership with the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU). Through its 2025 Memorandum of Understanding with CZU, DOrSU promotes joint research, faculty exchange, academic conferences, and resource-sharing. The partnership

creates opportunities to exchange research methods and institutional expertise, particularly in areas such as tropical agrobiology, biodiversity, and wildlife conservation.

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, DOrSU Sign MOU for Academic Partnership

3. International research collaboration on marine plastic pollution. DOrSU's research on marine plastic pollution in Davao Gulf, supported by UNDP and ADDVentures Innovation Center, applies data-driven approaches and ocean-drift modeling to understand the movement and accumulation of marine plastics. The initiative offers opportunities to apply scientific methods and research approaches to local environmental challenges and inform evidence-based responses



Emerging DOrSU Spatial Data Lab Wins Best Paper at InvENT 2025