

## CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION ON WATER MANAGEMENT

### Introduction

In support of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6): Clean Water and Sanitation, Urdaneta City University (UCU) has strengthened its commitment to community engagement by providing education and training opportunities on good water management practices. Recognizing that access to clean water and proper sanitation are vital to human health and environmental sustainability, the university extends its academic mission beyond campus boundaries to empower local communities with the knowledge and tools needed to protect and conserve water resources.

### Empowering Communities through Education

UCU believes that education is one of the most powerful drivers of sustainable development. Through its community extension programs, environmental seminars, and student-led outreach initiatives, the university provides residents, youth, and local leaders with practical lessons on water conservation, sanitation practices, wastewater management, and pollution prevention.

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### Partnerships and Community Collaboration

UCU collaborates with local government units (LGUs), barangay councils, and environmental agencies to expand the reach and impact of its programs. These partnerships enable the university to deliver targeted education campaigns in areas facing water scarcity, poor sanitation, or water pollution challenges.

### Impact and Outcomes

The university's ongoing initiatives have produced significant educational and environmental benefits, including:

- Increased **awareness of water conservation** among residents and students.
- Adoption of **simple water-saving technologies** such as rainwater collection and reuse systems.
- Reduction in water wastage in selected pilot barangays.
- Enhanced student involvement in **environmental research and advocacy**.
- Strengthened community networks for joint action on clean water and sanitation projects.

These achievements demonstrate how education can lead to practical solutions that directly contribute to the fulfillment of SDG 6 at the local level.

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### Future Directions

UCU plans to expand its water education programs by developing:

- A Community Water Learning Center, where residents can access demonstrations of water-saving technologies.
- Digital modules and infographics for remote learning and wider dissemination of good water management practices.
- Student research partnerships that monitor the effectiveness of water conservation initiatives.

By sustaining these efforts, UCU continues to inspire community participation, innovation, and collaboration in achieving water sustainability.

### Conclusion

Urdaneta City University's initiatives in providing educational opportunities on good water management stand as a testament to the power of academic institutions in driving sustainable change. Through education, outreach, and research, UCU transforms local communities into informed partners in the global pursuit of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.

The university's leadership in water education not only preserves natural resources but also builds a foundation for a healthier, more resilient, and environmentally conscious society — ensuring that every drop of water counts toward a sustainable future.

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