BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS: URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY'S INCLUSIVE MECHANISMS FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE

In strong alignment with **Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16)**—Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions—**Urdaneta City University (UCU)** ensures that **local stakeholders**, including community residents, local government units, and civil society representatives, are given **meaningful avenues to participate in university decision-making**. This inclusive governance framework reinforces the university's dedication to transparency, accountability, and participatory leadership.

UCU recognizes that effective governance extends beyond the campus. Through **consultative meetings, public forums, and partnership councils**, the university engages local stakeholders in planning, implementing, and evaluating institutional programs and projects. These collaborative mechanisms ensure that community perspectives and societal needs are reflected in the university's policies, extension services, and development initiatives.

The **Office of External Affairs and Linkages (EAL)** serves as the coordinating arm for these engagements, bridging the university and its external partners. It facilitates dialogues with local government agencies, non-government organizations, and community groups to ensure that decision-making processes are informed by diverse insights and grounded in social responsibility.

To strengthen these efforts, UCU continuously **innovates governance programs** such as partnership consultations, leadership symposia, and community advisory meetings. These initiatives promote civic participation, shared accountability, and ethical leadership among stakeholders—values that mirror the essence of SDG 16.

Through sustained collaboration and inclusive governance, **Urdaneta City University** proves its commitment to building just and peaceful institutions. By giving local stakeholders a voice in its decision-making processes, UCU continues to foster trust, transparency, and a culture of partnership that drives meaningful and sustainable progress.

MAKE SDG#16 A REALITY

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Bright future starts here

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