

## URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY STRENGTHENS ITS COMMITMENT TO SDG 17 THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH NGOS

Demonstrating its unwavering dedication to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17: Partnerships for the Goals, Urdaneta City University (UCU) continues to expand its international and local collaborations—most notably through partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that share its vision of inclusive, sustainable, and equitable development.

Recognizing that the SDGs can only be achieved through strong partnerships built on shared values and mutual accountability, UCU has taken proactive steps to work closely with NGOs in implementing programs that address key areas such as quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), good health and well-being (SDG 3), and climate action (SDG 13).

Through the leadership of its Office of External Affairs and Linkages, the university has strengthened its network of collaborations with NGOs that focus on community development, environmental sustainability, and educational empowerment. These partnerships serve as platforms for joint projects, research collaborations, and capacity-building initiatives designed to translate academic knowledge into practical, community-based solutions.

These partnerships reflect UCU's holistic approach to education—one that goes beyond the classroom to empower students, faculty, and communities to become active contributors to sustainable development. By fostering collaboration with NGOs, UCU strengthens its ability to measure and amplify its impact, ensuring that its programs are inclusive, measurable, and transformative.

**MAKE SDG#17 A REALITY**





## URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY FOSTERS CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE ON THE SDGS THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND NGOS

Urdaneta City University (UCU) continues to uphold its dedication to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through initiatives that promote cross-cultural dialogue, collaboration, and collective action. In alignment with SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, UCU has consistently taken steps to bridge sectors—bringing together representatives from government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and academic institutions to exchange insights, share best practices, and align efforts toward sustainable development.

Recognizing that the SDGs require inclusive and collaborative approaches, UCU actively facilitates platforms where diverse voices and perspectives can converge. One significant initiative is the university's partnership with the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) for the Benchmarking Activity on Mainstreaming Volunteerism, a project designed to explore how volunteerism can be integrated into institutional frameworks and community engagement strategies. Through this collaboration, UCU promoted meaningful discussions among stakeholders representing government, civil society, and academia—highlighting volunteerism's vital role in tackling pressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, health, and education.

This initiative served as a venue for cross-cultural and cross-sectoral dialogue, allowing participants to share experiences from different social, cultural, and organizational contexts. Representatives from NGOs and local government units exchanged practical approaches to community empowerment, while academic leaders discussed how universities can embed sustainability and volunteerism within their operations and curricula. By facilitating these exchanges, UCU reinforced its role as a hub for knowledge sharing, advocacy, and partnership development.

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UCU's Vice President for Academic Affairs, in her opening remarks during the seminar, emphasized the responsibility of higher education institutions to promote a culture of volunteerism and sustainability. She noted that collaborative spaces such as this are essential for cultivating mutual understanding and solidarity in addressing global issues that transcend national and cultural boundaries.

Meanwhile, the participation of the PNVSCA provided valuable insights into national frameworks and policy directions that align volunteerism with the SDGs. The agency's representatives underscored how intersectoral partnerships—when guided by shared goals—can drive inclusive growth and ensure that no community is left behind. Likewise, NGOs shared success stories from grassroots initiatives, demonstrating how community-led action contributes to achieving sustainable outcomes.

Through these sustained efforts, UCU has shown its commitment to creating an academic environment that not only educates but also empowers individuals and institutions to work together toward a more equitable and sustainable future. The university continues to expand its international and local collaborations, ensuring that its initiatives resonate beyond campus boundaries and contribute meaningfully to regional and global sustainability goals.

By fostering cross-cultural dialogue and collaboration, Urdaneta City University embodies the spirit of **SDG 17—"Partnerships for the Goals."** Through its alliances with government bodies, NGOs, and educational institutions, UCU strengthens its role as a catalyst for social transformation, demonstrating that meaningful progress toward the SDGs is achieved through understanding, cooperation, and shared commitment to the common good.

**MAKE SDG#17 A REALITY**

**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS

