AREA V
RESEARCH

S.1. The institution's Research Agenda is in consonance with institutional, regional and national priorities concerned such as DOST, CHED-National Higher Education Research Agenda, NEDA, etc.

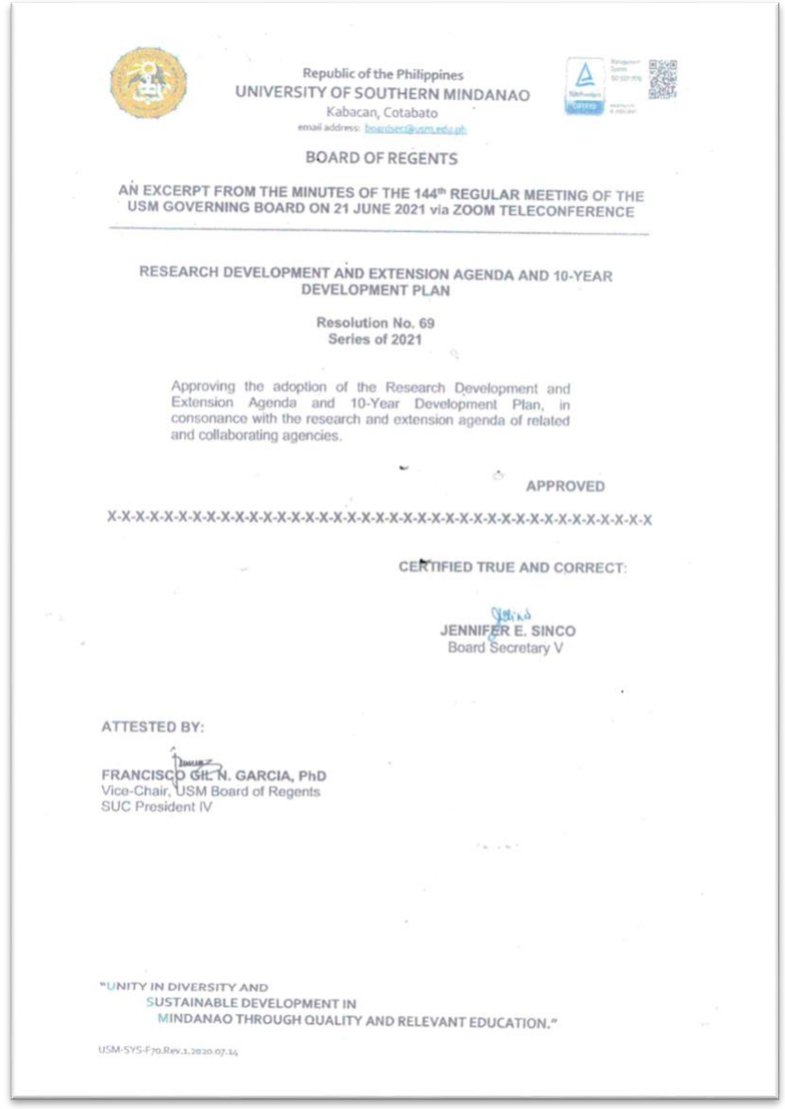
Parameter A – Priorities and Relevance

i. Research Agenda

The University of Southern Mindanao (USM) Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) Agenda serves as the institutional framework for guiding research initiatives toward innovation, community development, and sustainable growth. It establishes research priorities aligned with the University's mandate and the needs of its stakeholders and communities.

The RDE Agenda covers eight major themes: Quality Learning, Skills Development, and Literacy; Social Development and Strong Institutions; Preservation of Culture; Environmental Protection, Conservation, and Risk Reduction; Food Security and Poverty Reduction; Good Health and Well-being; Innovations in Science, Engineering, and Technology; and Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Management. These themes guide research activities that address educational, social, cultural, environmental, health, technological, and economic concerns.

The RDE Agenda and 10-Year Development Plan were formally approved by the USM Board of Regents through Resolution No. 69, Series of 2021, during its 144th Regular Meeting on June 21, 2021, via Zoom teleconference. The approval provides the institutional basis for implementing research and development initiatives aligned with the agendas of related and collaborating agencies.



Republic of the Philippines
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO
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BOARD OF REGENTS

AN EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 144th REGULAR MEETING OF THE USM GOVERNING BOARD ON 21 JUNE 2021 via ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION AGENDA AND 10-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Resolution No. 69
Series of 2021

Approving the adoption of the Research Development and Extension Agenda and 10-Year Development Plan, in consonance with the research and extension agenda of related and collaborating agencies.

APPROVED

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CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

JENNIFER E. SINCO
Board Secretary V

ATTESTED BY:

FRANCISCO GIL N. GARCIA, PhD
Vice-Chair, USM Board of Regents
SUC President IV

"UNITY IN DIVERSITY AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN
MINDANAO THROUGH QUALITY AND RELEVANT EDUCATION."

USM-SYS-F70.Rev.1.2020.07.14

RDE Themes	RDE Priority Areas
Quality Learning, Skills Development, and Literacy	Innovative teaching strategies; development and evaluation of functional education materials and modality; development of strategies/approaches for increased learning interest, motivation and engagement; school management; knowledge management; special education; remedial education; alternative learning system; assessment; soft skills; practical skills; adult education; language literacy; numerical literacy; data literacy; computer literacy; international studies; tracer studies
Social Development, and Strong Institutions	Gender and development (GAD); peace initiatives; community development; human security; justice; public policy and legislations; social rehabilitation; governance; organizational studies; behavioral studies; social institutions; ethics and public accountability; programs/project assessment; community needs assessment and interventions; partnerships and linkages
Preservation of Culture	Multicultural studies; educational materials for IPs; indigenous knowledge systems and practices; development of materials for cultural knowledge and promotion; arts; language and literature studies
Environmental Protection, Conservation, and Risk Reduction	Environment rehabilitation studies; biodiversity; climate change adaptation; risk, hazard and mitigation; biosafety; natural resources conservation and management; bioremediation; flood control; waste management; ecological preservation and care; environmental impact assessment
Food Security and Poverty Reduction	Agricultural and fisheries research; biotechnology; innovations; quality food product development; technology development; halal food production; sustainable production; responsible consumption; organic agriculture; food testing; smart agriculture; precision farming; livelihood programs; subsidy impact assessment; capacity building; capability building; farm machineries; post-harvest facilities; vertical farming; indigenous food
Good Health and Well-being	Nutrition; sports; physical education; resilience; psycho-social health; medical and medicinal studies; sanitation; functional foods; food and water quality and safety; mental and emotional health; therapy; coping mechanism; preventive measures; emerging diseases; health management; alternative medicine

Innovations in Science, Engineering, and Technology	Innovations; product and technology development; energy; materials science; nanotechnologies; robotics; artificial intelligence; internet of things; Science, Engineering, Communication, and Technologies (SECT) 4.0; biotechnology and OMIC technologies; inventions and discoveries; basic research; information technologies; electronics; drug discovery; mathematics; emerging technologies; fabrication; transport system; waste management; infrastructure; water systems; simulation studies; industrial and allied technology
Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Management	Entrepreneurship; economics; micro and macro scale business; product development; marketing; commercialization; networking; franchising; financial management; business feasibility studies; risk and opportunities; value adding; value chain analysis; organizational management; quality service assessment; human resource management; production management

The University of Southern Mindanao (USM) has established an institutional research agenda that aligns its research priorities with national and regional development goals. This initiative aims to ensure that the university's research activities contribute to addressing societal challenges, supporting government policies, promoting innovation, and advancing inclusive and sustainable development. The institutional research agenda is aligned with the priority frameworks of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

The university's research agenda encompasses eight thematic areas: Quality Learning, Skills Development, and Literacy; Social Development and Strong Institutions; Preservation of Culture; Environmental Protection, Conservation, and Risk Reduction; Food Security and Poverty Reduction; Good Health and Wellbeing; Innovation in Science, Engineering, and Technology; and Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Management. These areas provide a comprehensive framework for guiding research initiatives that respond to educational, social, cultural, environmental, health, technological, and economic development needs.

The institutional research agenda also demonstrates the university's commitment to strengthening collaboration between academic institutions and government agencies. Its alignment with the DOST Harmonized National R&D Agenda (HNRDA), CHED National Higher Education Research Agenda (NHERA-2), and NEDA Regional Development Research Agenda (RDRA) ensures that research initiatives remain relevant to national priorities and regional concerns. The identified areas cover important issues such as STEM education, governance, cultural preservation, climate change, disaster risk reduction, agricultural productivity, public health, technological innovation, and small and medium enterprise development.

Overall, the institutional research agenda serves as a strategic guide for the university's research, development, and extension initiatives. It reinforces USM's commitment to producing research outputs that address community needs, support evidence-based policymaking, encourage technological advancement, and contribute to sustainable development in Southern Mindanao and the Philippines. The alignment of institutional priorities with national and regional research frameworks further strengthens the university's role in promoting academic excellence, innovation, and community empowerment.

USM Research Agenda	DOST Harmonized National R&D Agenda (HNRDA)	CHED National Higher Education Research Agenda (NHERA-2)	NEDA Regional Development Research Agenda (RDRA)
1. Quality Learning, Skills Development, and Literacy	STEM education, capacity-building, and extension programs	Improving HEI research capacity; curriculum and education research	Human capital development; curriculum alignment; skills access

2. Social Development and Strong Institutions	Governance and anti-corruption research; social sciences	Policy studies and research utilization	LGU development, justice systems, and support for vulnerable groups
3. Preservation of Culture	Addressed under social sciences and community-based programs	Curriculum and international benchmarking; emerging area	Cultural resource mapping and cultural promotion initiatives
4. Environmental Protection, Conservation, and Risk Reduction	Climate change, disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM), waste management, and environmental R&D	Environment, disaster risk management, and climate research	Ecological integrity, climate adaptation, and pollution control
5. Food Security and Poverty Reduction	Agri-technology, food sustainability, and bio-resources research	Agriculture, food safety, and biotechnology	Agri-fisheries research, poverty reduction, and support for vulnerable groups

6. Good Health and Wellbeing	Health systems, virology (Virology Institute of the Philippines), and public health	Health systems and vaccine development	Public health, maternal care, and e-health solutions
7. Innovation in Science, Engineering, and Technology	Advanced manufacturing, ICT, engineering innovations, and foresight (Pagtanaw 2050)	Smart analytics, engineering innovations, and ICT	Innovation hubs, SME technology support, and smart solutions
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Management	SME upgrading (SETUP), innovation fund, and technology transfer	Emerging focus on technology commercialization and enterprise support	SME support, tourism, regional trade, and licensing