

SOCIAL POLICY RESEARCH CENTER RIDGE TO REEF PROGRAM

The Social and Policy Research Center is working on sustainable development and climate change mitigation through ecosystem-based approach dubbed as Ridge to Reef Project. This platform is a holistic approach that targets both the watershed or inland ecosystems and the coastal or marine ecosystems of the province of Camarines Norte. As a response to climate change it utilizes the Integrated Watershed Management (IWM) and Integrated Coastal Resource Management (ICRM) approaches while seeking to develop other local approaches that will help reverse the degradation of upland, lowland, and coastal resources. Thus, combining Integrated Watershed Management (IWM) and Integrated Coastal Resource Management (ICRM) as “ridge to reef” sustainable development approach offers a development agenda that limits the impact of the use of natural resources on the fragile micro and macro environments. With this approach, the Social and Policy Research Center of Camarines Norte State College offers collaborative endeavor with the Local Government Units (LGUs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Government Organizations (GOs), and higher educational institutions (HEIs). Collaborative projects, study, and activities with the various nodes and specializations of Camarines Norte State College is also sought to provide an avenue for sustainable development in Camarines Norte. Table 1 (below) are general areas for study and collaborations:

Table 1. Suggested general topics for Ridge to Reef research and community involvements

CNSC Campuses	Possible Project Entry
College of Arts and Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociology • Biology • History • English • Information Technology • Math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of watershed and coastal social baseline data in cooperation with other CNSC campuses • Packaging of scientific data into locally understood language • Creation of policies and programs (based on the social and physical baseline data) that would have an impact on tourism, agriculture, and extractive industries located within the watershed and along coastal areas • Organizing and mobilization of communities within the watershed and coastal areas
College of Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of watershed physical (surface and subsurface) baseline data in collaboration with other disciplines from other CNSC campuses • Development of technological approaches (in collaboration with other colleges), based on watershed social and physical baseline data, that will help sustainable development while mitigating climate change impact on watershed and coastal areas

College of Business and Public Administration College of Agribusiness (Entienza Campus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation and management of watershed programs collaboratively developed by CNSC technicians based on the social and physical baseline data • Development of entrepreneurial skills as substitute to extractive industries
College of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of soft technologies in cooperation with other colleges • Development of teaching aids/modules/textbooks integrating sustainable development and disaster risk reduction management
College of Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of coastal resources • Assessment of freshwater and marine fish stocks, and other coastal resources • Investigate the impact of agricultural practices and extractive industries on inland waters and coastal resources • Development of local sustainable policies and programs for the fisheries sector
College of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessments of extractive industries and agricultural practices within the watershed and coastal areas • Development of sustainable agricultural technologies that have low-impact on the watershed and coastal environments

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