



UPLB-CHED Zonal Research Center



ZONAL RESEARCH CENTER RESEARCH PROGRAM FORMULATION: TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

In its meeting on April 21, 2003, the Commission en Banc approved the extension of the Zonal Research Program with amendments to the composition of the ZRC system, terms of reference, scope of work, implementation procedures and support specifications.

The nine (9) Higher Education Institutions selected to constitute the second set of Zonal Research Centers are: MMSU, UP Diliman, DLSU, UP Los Baños, Siliman U, USC, LSU, MSU-IIT and NDMU

Goal

To promote and enhance research productivity and excellence in HEIs by directing and supporting research activities towards the attainment of desired social and development outcomes.

Objectives

Formulate a Zonal Research Program that:

- a) is reflective of and responsive to the development needs and objectives of the zone;
- b) defines the thrust, objectives, component projects and studies and the expected outputs of research activities in the zone for the next three years;
- c) identifies specifically the research projects and activities to be funded by CHED taking into consideration the funding thrusts of the various funding agencies (GAA, DOST, DA, CHED, others)
- d) is doable in the medium term (within three years) and with modest resource requirements.

Preferably, the ZRP should also

- ❖ Promote multi-institutional networking and collaboration
- ❖ Support instructional senior-junior partnership with mature HEIS as the senior partners and developing HEIs as juniors partners;
- ❖ Provides mechanisms for faculty researchers to involve and mentor graduate students in research

Scope

The six ZRCs in Luzon and Mindanao shall formulate research programs for their respective zones.

The three ZRCs in Visayas shall collectively develop a research program for the entire Visayas region and divide the implementation work among themselves along major disciplinal areas, considering the expertise specialization/capability of each ZRC. For example, research undertakings covering the entire or any part of the Visayas region, involving agriculture and forestry may be assigned to LSU.

Activities

1. Review regional development plans and consult with concerned agencies and offices, such as the RDC, to determine the zone's development needs/problems and objectives that require R & D inputs.
2. Review completed and on-going R & D to determine which of the R & D requirements have been or are being addressed, then identify R & D gaps

(Review R & D databases of DOST councils, DA-BAR, the earlier ZRC and the HEIs; Make an updated integrated database)

3. Review existing R & D plans and programs of RDIs, DOST councils, DA-BAR and other R & D funding agencies, and identify the areas that shall be prioritized by said entities for funding in the next three years.
4. Based on the outputs of activities 1-3, draft an integrated Zonal R & D Program to address the identified gaps that shall be addressed by CHED, the ZRCs and the HEIs. The CHED-ZRC Research Program shall identify the various projects and studies, the implementers of each, the implementation arrangements, the schedule of implementation, and the resource requirements.
5. Present the draft program in a conference with R & D implementers and donors to validate the ZRP
6. Present the CHED-ZRC Research Program to CHED Commission en Banc for approval and fund allocation.

Modus Operandi

CHED will provide funds for the conduct of the activities in the formulation of the Zonal Research Program, including token honoraria for those who will be involved. The host institutions are expected to provide the technical and support staff and other logistical support for the undertaking.

The CHED Commissioner in Charge for Research and the OPPRI may be invited as resource persons at any stage in the programming activity, if necessary.

Outputs and deliverables

1. Report on the zone's a) development needs/problem and objectives, b) the corresponding R & D inputs required, c) completed, on-going and planned

- researches in the zone and d) R & D gaps that should be addressed by CHED
2. Outputs of the Conference on the ZRC Research Program
 3. Draft CHED ZRC Research Program for presentation to and approval by Commission
 4. Final CHED ZRC Research Program

Duration

Maximum of 6 months