



Monitoring the health of aquatic ecosystems

In pursuit of its research and social involvement agenda on protecting the environment, the Ateneo de Naga University, through its various units, has continuously conducted collaborative and extensive research and social involvement initiatives to promote ecological awareness and ecological action among its students, personnel, and the wider community, particularly with regards to caring for our shared aquatic ecosystems.

Water governance

The Ateneo de Naga University, through its Institute for Environmental Conservation and Research (INECAR), is an active member of the governing board for the Naga River Water Quality Management Area (WQMA), which was established in 2020 as part of the national government's efforts to implement the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004. As a member of the governing board, the university shares its expertise and works with other stakeholders in directly assisting the government's Department of Environment and Natural Resources in periodically monitoring the water quality of the Naga River and in developing and implementing the corresponding WQMA Action Plan to improve water quality in the watershed.

Citizen science

As part of its social involvement program, the Ateneo de Naga University continually conducts community outreach activities to promote sustainable management of marine and freshwater resources. For this purpose, the university's Institute for Natural and Environmental Conservation and Research (INECAR) launched its Citizen Science project, which recently provided practical training for members of local fishers' organizations from Masbate Island on the tools and techniques in sampling and monitoring river and marine water quality in their area.



Research and development

Consistent with its institutional research agenda, Ateneo de Naga University, through its various centers and faculty members, has undertaken extensive and collaborative research that produced status assessment reports, policy briefs, field guides on local aquatic ecosystems for the purpose of informing and updating local government and non-government initiatives to sustainably manage aquatic resources. These ecosystems researches include coastal ecosystems, mangrove forests, coral reefs, seagrass meadows, and river ecosystems.

