



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



PROJECT PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE	2024 CHEDRO1's Higher Education Conference on Gender Issues Theme Empowering Futures: Addressing HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education in Higher Education
RESPONSIBLE AGENCY	Commission on Higher Education Regional Office 1
PROJECT LEAD	DR. RICKY A. CERA DR. MARIA CARMELA L. DOMOCMAT
PROPOSED BUDGET	Php 100,000.00
SOURCE OF FUND	GAD Fund: P100,000.00 ✓
TARGET UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	Goal 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. SDG TARGET 3.3 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases (United Nations, 2024) Goal 4: QUALITY EDUCATION - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Goal 5: GENDER EQUALITY – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Goal 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

At the end of 2023, approximately 39.9 million people globally are living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (WHO, 2024), with the Asia Pacific region representing a quarter of all new HIV infections worldwide. Daily statistics reveal that in the Asia Pacific region 300 gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) contract HIV, along with 80 individuals who inject drugs, 50 sex workers, and 15 transgender people. Additionally, 17 individuals die from AIDS-related causes every hour, nine (9) of whom are young people in the Asia Pacific based on the interview with Eamonn Murphy, UNAIDS Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific region (Shukla, 2024).

Further, while the overall trends of HIV incidence and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)-related deaths are declining globally, an increase in new cases was reported to the





COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



HIV/AIDS and ART Registry of the Philippines. From 2012 to 2023, there was a 411% increase in daily incidence (Gangcuangco & Eustaquio, 2023).

Based on UNAIDS (2024) data, there is an approximately 190,000 adults and children living with HIV in the Philippines with around 180,000 or 94.7% of these are men. Another data, showed that there is a total of 119,145 HIV infection cases recorded as of December 2023 approximately 41 new cases per day. Most of these cases were male (112,122, 94.0%) and only 63.2 % or 75,300 are on Antiretroviral therapy (ART) (Dela Vega, 2024). Based on the report, Region 1 ranked 8th on the number of diagnosis HIV cases by region of residence as of 2023. From January to April 2024, Pangasinan ranks highest in HIV Cases among the four provinces in the region.

There is also a rising trend of HIV cases among young people, particularly college students. WHO, the Global Fund, and UNAIDS have developed global strategies to combat HIV that align with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 3.3, aiming to end the HIV epidemic by 2030. By 2025, it is expected that 95% of those living with HIV will be diagnosed, 95% of whom will be receiving life-saving antiretroviral treatment, and 95% of those on treatment will achieve a suppressed viral load, enhancing their health and reducing transmission. In 2023, the corresponding figures were 86%, 89%, and 93% (WHO, 2024).

In response to the growing concern about HIV infections, the Philippines enacted Republic Act 11166, which strengthens the comprehensive policy on HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care, and support, while also reconstituting the Philippines National AIDS Council (PNAC). Recently, Chairman Prospero de Vera issued a memorandum reiterating to the HEIs the "Integration of HIV/AIDS and Other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Education, Prevention, Treatment, and Health Promotion in Tertiary Education." It is recognized that HEIs have a responsibility to mitigate the concern about HIV/AIDS.

In response, CHEDROI recognizes the need to enhance collaboration with other agencies to inform Gender and Development focal points, deans, department chairs, and students about current policies and the status of HIV/AIDS. Therefore, a **2024 Higher Education Conference (HEC) on Gender Issues** is proposed. The 2024 HEC will be themed "Empowering Futures: Addressing HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education in Higher Education," featuring one on-site conference for all HEIs.

This one-day conference aims to:

1. **Raise awareness among future leaders and trainers of future leaders:** Higher education institutions educate the future leaders and influencers of society. A conference focused on HIV/AIDS awareness equips students and faculty with critical knowledge to advocate for public health initiatives.
2. **Address the vulnerable population:** Young adults, particularly in college settings, are at heightened risk for HIV. The conference can address their unique challenge and promote strategies for prevention and education.
3. **Foster collaboration:** Bringing together diverse stakeholders – students, faculty (GAD focal), deans and heads of health programs, DOH personnel – encourages





COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



- collaboration and the sharing of resources to enhance HIV awareness and support services.
4. **Combat stigma:** Conferences provide opportunities to challenge stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS through open discussions, personal stories, and educational sessions, fostering a more supportive environment on campuses.
 5. **Sustainability of Efforts:** By encouraging an annual conference, institutions can ensure continuous focus in HIV/AIDS awareness, building a culture of education and advocacy that extends beyond the event.

Participants will include Gender and Development focal points from HEIs, student leaders, and deans or program chairs from medicine, health, and biology programs across the region.

References:

Dela Vega, M.K. (2024). 2nd Quarter Regular Meeting of the Provincial Local AIDS Council [Powerpoint Slides].

Ganguangco, L. M. A., & Eustaquio, P. C. (2023). The State of the HIV Epidemic in the Philippines: Progress and Challenges in 2023. *Tropical medicine and infectious disease*, 8(5), 258. <https://doi.org/10.3390/tropicalmed8050258>

Shukla, S. (2024). Alarm rings in Asia Pacific for not making U-equals-U and HIV prevention accessible to all. Retrieved from <https://www.citizen-news.org/2024/07/alarm-bells-ring-in-asia-pacific-for.html>

United Nations (2024). Sustainable Development Goal Number 3. Retrieved on September 10, 2024, from https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal3#targets_and_indicators

United Nations (2024). The Sustainable Development Goals Report. Retrieved on September 10, 2024, from <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>

UNAIDS. (2024). Country Fact Sheet: Philippines. Retrieved on September 20, 2024 from <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/philippines>

World Health Organization. (2024). HIV and AIDS. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hiv-aids?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwbu2BhA3EiwA3yXyu5WYY-xgnAp9rwMiTo148Fh0qr1-fpozMRI123tajF6QN7II5sUihoChdEQAvD_BwE



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



PROPOSED ACTIVITY:

Activity	TOPIC	SPEAKERS	Tentative Date
HE Conference on Gender Issues	Raising awareness on the status of HIV/AIDS in the global, national, regional and provincial levels including its transmission, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, and treatment.	Meryl Kristine Dele Vega , Nurse 3 Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinator DOH CHD 1	October 10, 2024
	Existing laws, policy and advocacy programs related to the management and prevention of HIV/AIDS in the region.	Tephanie Ruth Remorin , Nurse 2 Provincial HIV/AIDS Coordinator PGLU-PHO	
	Combating the Stigma of HIV/AIDS	Ronald Kevin Barangot President and Founder IECHO Support Advocacy, Inc.	



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



BAGONG PILIPINAS

PROPOSED BUDGET:

Activity/ Item	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
Food	AM snack (biscuit/bread, juice) (75 @ 200 pax)	15,000.00
	Lunch (250 @ 200 pax)	50,000.00
	PM snack (biscuit/bread, juice) (75 @ 200 pax)	15,000.00
Materials, Supplies and Incidental Expenses	Conference Kits (brown envelope [200 pcs], sticker paper [60 pcs], ballpen [200 pcs], notebook/clip binder refill [200 pcs], printed program) Tarpaulin for the commitment program (roll up size; approx. 4 x 3) Red ribbon for the commitment activity Permanent marker Frames (A4 3 pcs) Bond paper A4 (5 reams) Photo paper (20 pcs)	6,500.00
GAD jacket	900 @ 15 pax	13,500.00
	TOTAL	100,00.00



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



PROPOSED WORKING COMMITTEES

Committee	Members	Tasks
Oversight	Dr. Christine Ferrer Dr. Danilo Bose Dr. Angelica Q. Dolores Dr. Nympha Buenio	To oversee the overall conduct of the activity.
Steering and Overall Coordination	Dr. Ricky Cera Dr. Maria Carmela L. Domocmat	To coordinate all the needed resources to effectively facilitate the conduct of the activity. To mobilize all other committees of the successful implementation of the project. To conduct meeting in preparation for the various activities. To prepare purchase orders identify supplies to be procured. To process Travel Authority of staff involved in the project.
Finance and Logistics	Ms. Janelle Petacio Mr. Mark Cantor	To facilitate the required cash advances and processing of payments to suppliers.
Procurement	Maria Andrea Quitaleg	To prepare and procure all the needed materials requested by the program organizer.
Invitation	Dr. Maria Carmela L. Domocmat	To coordinate and prepare the invitation letters for the resource speakers and HEIs.
Conference Kits	Dr. Ricky A. Cera Atty. Dessa Estrada	To prepare, package, and distribute the conference kits.
Program	Mr. Albert Subang	To layout and print the program.
Certificates for the Participants	Engr. Leonora Quarte	To layout and print the Certificate of Participation and Certificate of Attendance for the HEIs.
Lei, Token, and Certificate for the Resource Speakers	Dr. Michellene Rivo	To prepare the lei, coordinate the purchase of token, prepare the certificate of appreciation to the resource speakers.



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



Registration and Attendance	Dr. Maria Carmela L. Domocmat	To prepare the google form for online pre-registration.
	Dr. Myrelle Faith D. Mina Atty. Dessa Estrada	To prepare the attendance sheets and to assist the participants during registration.
Documentation and Technical Support	Mr. Donnie Gallocanta, Jr.	To be in-charge of the sound system, presentations, and photo documentation during the conduct of the event.
	Dr. Al Gerald S. Barde	To prepare news and activity report.
Meals	Dr. Arnold Ancheta	To coordinate with the service provider for food catering.
	Dr. Myrelle Faith D. Mina Dr. Maria Carmela L. Domocmat Atty. Dessa Estrada	To distribute refreshments during the event.
Transportation	Mr. Perfecto Dulueña	To make sure that the vehicles are in good condition to transport the team in the designated venue.
Physical Arrangement	Dr. Ricky A. Cera Dr. Maria Carmela L. Domocmat	To prepare the venue and set up the tables and chairs in the conference hall for the conduct of the activity.
Emcee	Dr. Michellene Rivo	

Prepared by:

RICKY A. CERA
Education Supervisor II

MARIA CARMELA L. DOMOCMAT
Education Supervisor II

Fund Available:

JANELLE PETACIO
Accountant II



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



Recommending Approval:


ANGELICA Q. DOLORES, PhD
Supervising Education Program Specialist


DANILO B. BOSE, PhD
Chief Education Program Specialist


NYMPHA N. BUENIO
Chief Administrative Officer

Approved by:


CHRISTINE N. FERRER, EdD
Director IV



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



Proposed Program

8:30 – Registration

9:00 – Preliminaries
Invocation
National Anthem
Bagong Pilipinas Hymn
CHED Hymn

Roll Call of Participants

9:15 – Welcome remarks

Christine N. Ferrer, EdD
Regional Director
Commission on Higher Education Regional Office 1

9:30 – *HIV/AIDS 101*
Meryl Kristine Dele Vega, RN
Nurse 3
Regional HIV/AIDS Coordinator
Department of Health CHD 1

10:30 – Health Break

10:45 – *Policy and Advocacy Programs on the Management and Prevention of HIV/AIDS*
Tephania Ruth Remorin, RN
Nurse 2
Provincial HIV/AIDS Coordinator
Provincial Government of La Union –Provincial Health Office

11:45 – Q & A

12:00 – Lunch break

1:00 – Ice Breaker and Photo Op

1:30 – *Combating the Stigma of HIV/AIDS: A Testimonial*
Ronald Kevin Barangot
President and Founder
IECHO Support Advocacy, Inc.

2:00 – Q & A



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



- 2:15 – Benchmarking and Sharing of Best Practices on HIV/AIDS Prevention, Treatment, and Health Promotion
- 2:45 – HEI response and commitment to combat HIV/AIDS
- 3:00 – Closing Remarks
Ricky Cera, CPA, DBA
Education Supervisor II
Commission on Higher Education Regional Office 1
- 3:15 – Networking and Organization of the Council of Deans and Heads of Medical, Health, and Biology Programs in Region 1
- 4:00 – Distribution of Certificates



COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

REGIONAL OFFICE I



List of personnel who will receive the jacket

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. R Cera | 9. A Subang |
| 2. CLDomocmat | 10. RD Ferrer |
| 3. M Mina | 11. D Bose |
| 4. L Quarte | 12. A Dolores |
| 5. A Ancheta | 13. J Petacio |
| 6. A Barde | 14. Procurement officer (Andeng?) |
| 7. M Rivo | 15. Donnie Gallocanta, Jr (?) |
| 8. D Estrada | |

Names in bold letters are present onsite during the event