



# UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT DECEMBER 1-15, 2020

In partnership with:



University of the Philippines Los Baños  
College of Human Ecology  
Department of Social Development Services

## OPLAN DAMAYAN

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### FINAL CALL FOR DONATIONS

You may deposit your donations into the following accounts:

**MARIFE B. DAPITO**  
**BPI: 0919 331 895**  
**GCash: 09178119762**

For inquiries, contact  
09178119762 / mbdapito@up.edu.ph

Second and last wave of donations will benefit families in Baggao, Cagayan who will be relocated and provided a new house at Taytay Bantay relocation site through the "Project Salinong" A Shelter Assistance Program of Parokia San Jose Mangmanged. For every Php 50,000 raised, we will be able to support one family.

Maraming Salamat!

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*Munting Paskong Handog*

An online cultural night and fundraiser

## BIYAHENIHAN:

SAMA-SAMANG PAPASADA SA  
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# UP SYSTEM PUBLIC SERVICE REPORT

*Written by Patricia Marie Liganor  
UP Padayon Public Service Office*

## **UP Constituent Universities' Continuous Efforts in Addressing COVID-19 and related issues and concerns**

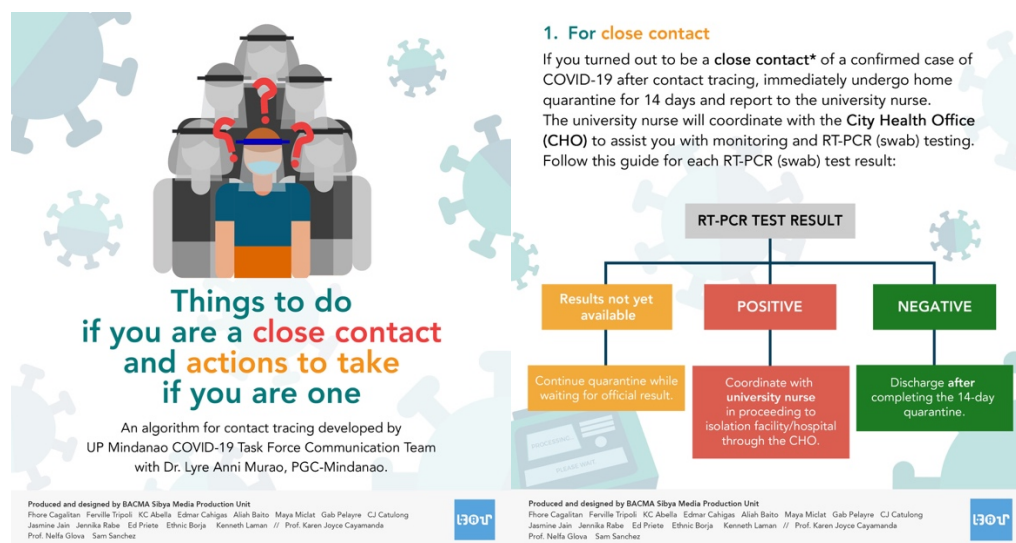
The different UP Constituent Universities (CUs) continuously fight COVID-19 by strengthening COVID-19 testing and by keeping the public informed about the status of the virus in different communities, how people can adapt in the on-going pandemic, and how different sectors have been affected by COVID-19.

UP Mindanao (UPMin) is already preparing for the center to be built in the campus, which will aid in generating and analyzing crucial data on infectious diseases. UP Manila (UPM) is doing a validation study to determine the efficacy of direct PCR saliva testing to boost COVID-19 testing in the country. UP Covid Response Team of the UP System (UPS) launched a new feature in [endcov.ph](http://endcov.ph) that shows which public schools in the Philippines are in areas with or without COVID-19 cases. Case projections for 2021 can also be viewed at [endcov.ph](http://endcov.ph). Online medical consultation (for COVID-19 or non-COVID-19 related) is also ongoing in UP Baguio (UPB). UP Diliman (UPD), on the other hand, prepared for mass testing of its faculty, staff, and non-UP personnel before the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester SY 2020-2021.

Aside from direct participation in testing and research, experts from UP Los Baños (UPLB), UPB, UP Open University (UPOU), UPD, and UPM also served as resource speakers in webinars conducted by the CUs and other institutions and organizations. The CUs also created informative online materials so that those who cannot attend online webinars and forums may still be updated and informed on COVID-19-related matters.

UPM conducted a webinar where doctors and various experts shared innovations that can be done to end the pandemic. UPM also released daily updates on the number of COVID-19 cases in PGH and the COVID-19 efforts of their CU. Likewise, UPB also released regular updates on the status of COVID-19 in Baguio. UPB also conducted a webinar about data analysis of COVID-19 cases in Baguio as part of their UPB Foundation Day celebration. UPMin released an infographic on the guidelines to be followed if an individual is a close contact. UP System, together with UPM,

conducted the Stop COVID Deaths Webinar that discussed the challenges and opportunities of dialysis in time of COVID-19, having a tumor, and vaccine development updates.



*(Things to do if you are a close contact and actions to take if you are one IEC material by UP Mindanao COVID-19 Task Force Communication Team with Dr. Lyre Anni Murao of PGC-Mindanao. Photo from BACMA Sibya Facebook page)*

In addition to the health aspect of the crisis, CUs have also discussed the effect of the pandemic in the other aspects of life. UPD conducted a call for papers for an upcoming anthology regarding the artistic activities being conducted by Filipinos during the pandemic. The topics of UPLB’s webinars are chicharron making and burger patty making for those who are interested to have a food business, and community-based interventions done during this ongoing crisis. UPS organized an online public forum that discussed the challenges confronted and addressed by marginalized communities in the Philippines amid COVID-19, while UPB Professor Emeritus Dr. June Prill-Brett gave a talk about Indigenous Knowledge and Oral Narratives of Village Pandemics and Quarantine Tradition in the Cordillera. UPOU, together with other open universities abroad, held a webinar on lessons learned by other countries about the pandemic.

**Participation and initiatives of UP CUs related to online/remote learning**

Online learning is one of the pressing issues students and faculty face amidst the ongoing pandemic. Recognizing this, UP CUs created projects that aimed to make online learning feasible for everyone. UPLB hosted a two-day webinar regarding the importance of graduate education. UPOU conducted the 15<sup>th</sup> episode of Edu-hack that focused on learning about social sciences. They also conducted an online round table discussion to discuss how the university life will be in

the future. UPOU also developed online episodes about different modes of instructional delivery, business analytics, flexible teaching and learning model, course package and online course delivery, engaging online learners, synchronous and asynchronous sessions, and best practices of local government units when it comes to online education. On the other hand, UPD developed a set-top box to help in remote-learning. This project presents television as an important tool not just for entertainment but also for learning. UPD also organized a review series for UPD students called eKapihan. The review series contain sample exams, recordings of Zoom sessions, and Q&A forum. UPB put up UPB Library's ISKA (Integrated Services and Knowledge Assistant) to assist students on the campus' library online platforms; while UP Cebu (UPC) called for submissions on remote learning strategies from UP faculty to be presented in the UPC Remote Learning Expo in 2021.

UPS conducted a kick-off activity for the National Volunteer Month. UPB released an online infographic showing different testimonials of Pahinungod volunteers narrating their #KwentongPahinungod as part of celebrating the International Volunteer Day. UPC conducted a webinar that showcased stories of Pahinungod volunteers and community partners and Gurong Pahinungod Teacher Professional Development on Action Research Mentoring Program. The webinars aimed to present the relevance of volunteerism in higher education institutions.

### **Call for donations for victims of calamities and COVID-19**

On top of the challenges brought by COVID-19, the country was also faced with challenges caused by typhoons in the last quarter of 2020. UP CUs have been active in helping victims of these calamities throughout the duration of the pandemic.

UPLB, UPV, UPB, UPM, and UPOU called for donations for victims of Typhoon Ulysses and Rolly. On a more creative note, UPLB conducted a cultural night fundraiser for jeepney drivers, whose livelihood has been greatly affected by COVID-19. UPD held a virtual fan meet to raise funds for disaster-affected students and members of the communities inside the campus. In addition, UPD held a virtual open mic as a fundraiser event for the victims of Typhoon Rolly, Siony, and Ulysses.

## **Provision for Psychological support to the members of the UP Community and the public**

Prioritizing mental health is also one of the advocacies of UP. And in times of uncertainty, UP CUs conducted programs that encourages people to look after one's mental health as well. UPM conducted webinars about building hope and overcoming adversity, UPV conducted a lifestyle medicine forum, and UPC held a mental health talk about managing a work from home setup. UPC, as well as UPB, also continuously conducted online counseling for their constituents. On the other hand, UPM released online materials on improving one's sleep. There were also online performances in UPS, UPB, and UPM that aimed to uplift the spirits of everyone during the Christmas season.

## **Continuity of Public Service Beyond COVID-19**

Sharing knowledge, skills, and expertise through various forms is one of the ways UP shows its commitment to public service. Some UP experts served as resource persons in conferences held by government agencies, some conducted their own webinars and trainings, and others provided expertise through online articles. UPLB Chancellor Camacho served as a resource person in a conference organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), while UPLB Prof. Dangcalan on other hand called for a social policy support among patients with inflammatory bowel disease in a newspaper article. The topics tackled by experts of the different CUs in their webinars, trainings, and information campaigns were on food, disaster risk-reduction, environment, technology, arts, culture, language, gender, health, and politics and international relations.

In relation to food production, UPLB conducted webinars/trainings on in-house edible landscape, hunger, turmeric processing, food security, agriculture and food science, and agriculture and industrial revolution. UPV conducted a training workshop on sugar production. In the area of disaster risk-reduction, UPV conducted webinars about flood, UPLB held a DRRM forum and a disaster resilience training, and UPS conducted a forum about disaster climate and released policy recommendations. On matters about the environment, UPB had a podcast on native plants in the Cordillera and an exhibit showcasing the power of nature and plants as a source of inspiration and healing for everyone. UPLB's webinars were about social forestry in Asia,



agroforestry, and global environmental community. UPLB also released IEC materials about flowers, fruits, and vegetables. Regarding technology, UPLB held a webinar on technology transfer while UPS conducted an open forum about procurement concerns. UPOU conducted an online exhibit featuring a collection of technologies, programs, projects, and services offered by the 23 Los Banos Science Community Foundation, Inc (LBSCFI) member agencies. Lastly, UPMIn conducted a webinar on AI-robotics and its impact on people's lives.



*(UPLB training-workshop on disaster resilience last Dec. 1, 2020 at Baker Hall led by UPLB Office of the Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs in partnership with UP Resilience Institute. Photo from [UPLB website](#))*

With regard to arts, culture, and language, UPV conducted a cultural mapping in Antique as part of the initiatives of Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda, while UPMIn produced a documentary about modernity and its impact on indigenous cultures and traditions. UPB launched a series on Youtube featuring literary readings by UP alumni, a webinar on ethnohistories in the Philippines, and a webinar commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> year since the end of WWII. Museum training kits were also distributed to the 100 participants who completed the Museum Management Training by the Museo Kordilyera.

Gender-related activities and information campaigns were conducted by UPB, UPD, UPLB, UPOU, UPS, and UPV. UPV held a webinar introducing feminist economics. UPLB held a story-telling session on gender equality and the 7<sup>th</sup> Episode of its *Gender Live!* featured stories of survival from gender violence, abuse, discrimination, and inequality. UPS, UPD, and UPM conducted webinars on gender-based violence while the UPOU Office of Gender Concern released a manifesto to eliminate violence against women and children. UPOU also released IEC materials about consent, women

empowerment, VAW, types of harassment, and international human rights. UPB likewise released IEC materials on gender-fair language and international human rights.

UPM and UPB held webinars on health-related topics. UPB's webinar was about plasma science and technology, while UPM's webinars were about leadership development for nurses, optimizing care of patients with ACS, inhibitors, and Understanding Spiritual Issues in the Care of Children with Illness. Lastly, UPLB, UPOU, and UPD conducted webinars and symposiums on politics and international relations. UPLB conducted an international symposium titled "The Year when Truth was Stranger than Fiction: Rallying the Global Environmental Community to Negotiate for Human Security, UPD's webinar was on how domestic political conditions affected the relations between North Korea and South Korea, and UPOU's webinars were about the ASEAN charter and the role of public and private sectors towards socio-economic development.