



University of the Philippines
LOS BAÑOS

**UPLB-SESAM
ANNEX BUILDING**



***School of Environmental Science
and Management***

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

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The School has a rich history that started in the 1970s when a group of scientists in UPLB felt the need for an institutionalized, holistic, and systematic approach in dealing with the emerging environmental issues at that time.

From its beginning as a Program on Environmental Science and Management or PESAM back in 1977, it popularized a number of research methodologies such as Agroecosystem Analysis, Rapid Rural Systems Appraisal, Assisted Natural Regeneration, Strategic Environmental Planning and Management, and Environmental Impact Assessment. PESAM was a program parallel to that of the Upland Hydroecology Program (UHP), a multidisciplinary research initially subsidized by the Ford Foundation in 1976. In 1987, PESAM was structured to become the Institute of Environmental Science and Management (IESAM) under the supervision of the College of Arts and Sciences. By 1997, it had grown and elevated to become the School of Environmental Science and Management, or SESAM, which offers both MS and PhD degrees in Environmental Science.

VISION

A premier global graduate and research institution sustaining excellence and leadership in the fields of environmental science and management that promotes development of humanity in a manner that fully respects the limits of nature.

MISSION

- Strengthen internationalization of graduate and research programs in environmental science.
- Develop leaders in environmental science who are at the frontier of knowledge creation, transdisciplinary understanding of environmental issues and problems, and the formulation and application of new, holistic, and sustainable solutions.
- Harness traditional strengths of the university to provide society with knowledge, technologies, protocols, systems, and services for the sustainable management of the earth's limited resources.
- Promote a culture of science-based decision-making in environmental governance.

INSTRUCTION

Since its fruition, UPLB-SESAM has been leading the country in producing environmental professionals and leaders who would advocate environmental integrity amidst economic development goals through its graduate program.

- **MS Environmental Science (residential and off-campus)** - incorporates contemporary thinking on the relationship between nature and human society and how the relationship is influenced by factors such as local, national, and global policies and structures, modes of production, and others.

- **PhD in Environmental Science and Management (residential and off-campus)** – A university-wide interdisciplinary program focusing on theoretical and methodological issues in environmental science and management. Graduates of this program are expected to deal competently with contemporary concerns in environmental analysis, planning, and management.

- **PhD in Environmental Diplomacy and Negotiations** - The program is designed to develop a cadre of competent environmental leaders, scholars, and professionals in the region who can bring good science into their respective country's international environmental relations, negotiations, and diplomacy, and into resolving and managing environmental conflicts, toward advancing nationhood and sustainable development interests.

- **Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management** - It is an accelerated graduate degree program offered collaboratively by UP Diliman, UP Los Baños, and UP Visayas. The program is inviting professionals engaged in the management and governance of tropical marine ecosystems to apply.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Guided by the Ridge-to-Reef Research Framework, SESAM has been active in leading high-impact research projects and extension initiatives that have taken full flight. These involvements span the entire range of environmental research from the basic sciences to applied and action research.

- Crafting of Environmental Codes for Local and Provincial Government Units
- Smart Agriculture
- One Health and Live Health
- Water Security and Water Resources Assessment and Management
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
- Impact Assessment
- Action for Climate Empowerment
- Cave Hydrogeology and Carrying Capacity
- Cave Monitoring and Assessment

EXTENSION

As part of the deliverables of research programs and projects, the School continues to deliver outreach activities, capacity building, and training programs through its Continuing Education and Training Division (CETD) and collaborations with other institutions.

CETD is guided by five thematic areas:

- a. Environmental Advocacy and Awareness Raising
- b. Environmental Capacity Building and Technical Assistance
- c. Youth Environmental Leadership and Stewardship
- d. Partnerships, Cooperation, and Linkages for the Environment
- e. Technology, Policy, and Innovations for the Environment

In addition to instruction and research and development, SESAM is also active and has been expanding its reach in its extension service functions through effective environmental education and communication strategies.

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES CENTERS

SESAM also pioneered the creation and fruition of two interdisciplinary studies centers in the University that are mandated to pursue a more holistic inter-, multi-, and transdisciplinary basic and applied research, development, and extension program for the University. These are the Climate and Disaster Risks Studies Center (CDRSC), which was guided by this organizational maxim: finding solutions toward resilient and sustainable communities; and the Interdisciplinary Studies Center for Water, which was formalized as the university's response to the water security challenges of our country.