The DENR Forest Management Bureau conducted an Orientation Workshop on Gender Fair Language for its Gender and Development Focal Point System (GFPS) members to make them knowledgeable on gender inclusive language. GAD Asst. Director Maria Theresa Hernandez was invited as resource person in the three-day workshop held on May 9-12, at Brentwood Suites, Quezon City.

Asst. Director Hernandez shared essential information during lecture presentations on GFL Mandates, Sexism in Language, Gender Fair Language, and Gender Sensitive Communication to the participants including several members of the GFPS and staff of the DENR-Forest Management Bureau.

The workshop generally aimed to capacitate and increase the appreciation and skills of DENR-FMB officials and employees on the use of gender fair language in all documents and IEC material production. It also aimed to develop commitment among officials and employees on gender equity and equality.

Composed of two modules and six sessions, activities during the workshop include lecture presentations, group discussions, role play, breakout group discussions, video presentations, workshops and other individual and group activities.

Pre-test and post-test were also administered to the participants and results showed an increase in their knowledge on gender fair language.

As an output of the orientation workshop, participants were asked to conceptualize a new music video for the DENR Hymn, applying the concepts and principles of gender fair language/gender sensitive communication. These were presented in the plenary and participants were advised to submit the output to the officials of the Bureau for consideration.
The Sangguniang Kabataan Mandatory Training (SKMT) 2018 was conducted for the Batangas Province from May 17 to 26, with BatStateU as the Learning Resource Institute. A total of 5,278 newly-elected SK officials from 764 barangays of the Province served as participants. The training was made possible through a Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Interior and Local Government, Liga ng mga Barangay and BatStateU.

The said activity was divided into three batches and was held in four BatStateU campuses, namely: Pablo Borbon Main 1, Pablo Borbon Main 2, JPLPC-Malvar, and ARASOF-Nasugbu, covering three modules and five sessions, and utilizing varied methodologies such as lecture, exercises, and workshop.

The SKMT 2018 is a response to RA No. 10742 or the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act, mandating the conduct of Mandatory Training program for Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials as a requirement for their assumption into office.

**BatStateU: Learning Resource Institute for SKMT 2018**

June 22, BatStateU Lobo – in collaboration with the Lobo Municipal Government and MABISA Eco Farm, the BatStateU College of Agriculture and Forestry (CAF) piloted a Seminar Training Program on Urban Gardening focused on Hydroponics for the community of Lobo. The program included a lecture by Mr. Rojie Espelita, an agricultural technologist from Valenzuela City, and hands-on training on vermin compost preparation and container gardening, and an open forum.

Beneficiaries of the program were 23 4Ps members, seven farmers from MABISA Eco Farm, 10 BatStateU students Alumni, and two from LGU Lobo-Municipal Agriculture Office.

The project aimed to provide a broader information to its beneficiaries on urban gardening through sustainable and ecological practices in view of the communities’ needs.

“**Service to others leads to greatness.**”

- Jim Rohn