PROJECT PROPOSAL

Project Title	:	**COMPLETION OF ACADEMIC AND LABORATORY BUILDING (CCS LABORATORY BUILDING)**
Proponent	:	**MINDORO STATE UNIVERSITY- MAIN CAMPUS** **COLLEGE OF COMPUTER STUDIES** Alcate, Victoria, Oriental Mindoro 5200
Head of Agency	:	**ENYA MARIE D. APOSTOL, *Ph.D.*** SUC President III
Contact Person	:	**ENGR. ARVIN P. TOLENTINO** Director for Auxiliary & General Services **ENGR. JOANNE FE M. GUTIERREZ** Project Development Officer II
Total Project Cost	:	**₱40,000,000.00**
Duration	:	**ONE (1) YEAR**
Source of Fund	:	**GAA 2027 (FOR FUNDING)**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Introduction

The Mindoro State University (MinSU) stands as a regional vanguard in Information Technology education, consistently producing graduates who drive digital innovation and industry growth. To sustain this excellence, the University initiated construction of the Academic and Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building)—a landmark facility integrating computer laboratories, smart classrooms, innovation hubs, and gender-inclusive research spaces.

While Phase I established the structural foundation, the transition to Phase II (completion) is critical. This phase will transform the building's skeleton into a fully operational, safe, and inclusive ecosystem. It aims to bridge the gap between architectural completion and functional utility, ensuring the facility meets the rigorous standards of outcomes-based education and international ICT research

B. Rationale/Significance

As global demand for skilled IT professionals surges, MinSU must provide a learning environment that mirrors modern industry practices. The current Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program has shown exceptional performance; however, its growth is currently hindered by fragmented infrastructure.

The significance of completing Phase II is further reinforced by national policy directions. In relation to the National Budget Memorandum No. 157, dated March 16, 2026, it is stipulated under Section 2.1.1 (Education) that "*The National Government shall continuously enhance access to education by promoting lifelong learning through a flexible and adaptive education system—adopting modern and inclusive learning spaces and expanding and integrating learning activities for underrepresented and marginalized groups.*" This directive underscores the importance of developing inclusive, future-ready educational facilities such as the CCS Laboratory Building. Additionally, this is further supported by Section 2.3 (Infrastructure Development), which emphasizes that *"implementing agencies shall continue to prioritize the Economy and Development Council-approved list of Infrastructure Flagship Projects (IFPs), as well as the completion of ongoing infrastructure P/A/Ps."* This provision highlights the national priority of ensuring the completion and operationalization of ongoing infrastructure projects such as the CCS Laboratory Building, rather than allowing partial or stalled facilities to remain underutilized.

The initial phase, implemented by the DPWH, covers only one-third of the total facility. Without the completion of Phase II, the building remains a "frozen asset"—non-functional and unable to serve its academic purpose. Completion is not merely an architectural requirement but a strategic necessity to:

- Maximize Public Investment (Strategic Goal #5 (Management of Resources): Converting an incomplete structure into a high-utilization asset.
- Meet Global Standards: Aligning with CHED quality assurance and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4, 9, and 5 (Gender Equality).
- Foster Innovation (Strategic Goal #6 (Innovation): Providing the physical "sandbox" where students can transition from theory to digital creation.

Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Design: In line with the Philippine Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710) and GAD mandates, this project emphasizes a "Human-Centered" design. The completion will ensure:

- Equal Access: Removing physical and digital barriers for all genders and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- Safety and Security: Implementation of gender-sensitive lighting, transparent common areas, and secure access points to ensure a safe learning environment during evening laboratory sessions.
- Inclusive Facilities: Provision of gender-neutral or separate-but-equal sanitary facilities (male, female, gender-neutral & PWD comfort rooms) and dedicated spaces such as a lactation room to support nursing faculty and students.

C. Objective

General Objective: To complete and fully operationalize the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building), establishing a modern, safe, and inclusive technology-driven environment that accelerates innovation, research, and gender-fair industry engagement.

Specific Objectives:

- To complete the remaining structural and interior works, including partitioning, advanced electrical systems, and robust ICT fiber-optic cabling.
- To equip the facility with state-of-the-art computer labs and "Smart Classroom" technologies that support hybrid and outcomes-based IT instruction.
- To establish innovation hubs and faculty research offices designed to foster collaboration and provide equal opportunities for male and female researchers.
- To ensure the building's layout complies with gender-responsive standards, including PWD-accessible ramps, gender-sensitive restrooms, and high-visibility security features.
- To maximize the University's infrastructure investment by transitioning the facility into a 100% functional academic hub accessible to the entire MinSU community.

D. Methodology

The implementation of Phase II of the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) will employ a structured, systematic, and gender-sensitive approach to ensure quality, efficiency, and full operational functionality. The project shall be executed through the following phases:

1. Pre-Construction and Technical Review: The project will commence with a comprehensive technical audit of Phase I outputs to evaluate structural integrity and precisely map the remaining requirements for completion. In coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the University's Offices (Auxiliary Physical Facilities, Project Development, and Information Technology Offices), final architectural and engineering plans will be refined. This includes finalizing blueprints for advanced ICT systems, interior partitioning, and inclusive design features such as PWD-compliant ramps, gender-sensitive restrooms, and lactation areas.
2. Procurement and Compliance: Construction and equipment acquisition will be conducted through Public Bidding, adhering strictly to the New Government Procurement Act (RA 12009) and its implementing rules. To promote gender equality in the workforce, the procurement process will encourage contractors to demonstrate gender diversity in their project teams and comply with safe-workplace standards. All ICT infrastructure, laboratory equipment, and furnishings will be vetted against rigorous technical specifications to ensure they meet the demands of a good digital learning environment.
3. Construction and Installation Works: The physical completion phase will integrate structural finishing with high-tech installation:
   - Architectural & Finishing: Completion of interior/exterior works, emphasizing high-visibility lighting and transparent common areas for enhanced security and safety.
   - Technical Infrastructure: Installation of heavy-duty electrical wiring, fiber-optic network systems, and specialized climate control for server rooms.
   - Operational Setup: Configuration of smart classrooms, innovation hubs, and research spaces, ensuring ergonomic furniture and layout designs that accommodate all users comfortably.

4. Quality Assurance, Testing, and Commissioning: Prior to official turnover, all systems will undergo a rigorous Testing and Commissioning phase. This includes:
   - Safety Audits: Ensuring fire safety, electrical grounding, and emergency egresses meet international standards.
   - Accessibility Check: A "walk-through" audit to verify that the facility is fully accessible to PWDs and students of all genders.
   - Systems Verification: Validating the performance of high-speed internet, laboratory software, and smart classroom hardware.
5. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Sustainability: A dedicated project management team will conduct continuous monitoring to ensure adherence to timelines, budget allocations, and quality standards. Post-completion, a formal evaluation will assess the building's readiness to support high-quality instruction and research, ensuring that MinSU's investment results in a future-ready, inclusive, and sustainable academic hub. Project monitoring and evaluation will also include the collection of sex-disaggregated data of workers involved in the project.

E. Expected Outputs & Outcomes

Expected Outputs:

- Fully Functional Academic Hub: A finished and operational Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) featuring modernized interior partitioning, advanced electrical systems, and a high-speed fiber-optic backbone.
- State-of-the-Art Learning Spaces: Specialized computer laboratories and "Smart Classrooms" equipped with hybrid-ready technologies and industry-standard software.
- GAD-Certified Infrastructure: Incorporation of gender-responsive facilities, including PWD-accessible ramps, gender-neutral or separate-but-equal restrooms, lactation rooms, and high-visibility security lighting for safe evening use.
- Collaborative Innovation Hubs: Establishment of faculty research offices and student "sandboxes" designed for cross-gender collaboration, software development, and industry-partnered projects.
- Furnished Workstations: Provision of ergonomic furniture and specialized instructional equipment tailored for inclusive use by students and faculty of all physical statures and needs.

Expected Outcomes:

- Quality Education and Digital Literacy (SDG 4): The project creates an inclusive, technology-enabled learning environment that enhances student competencies in digital innovation, ensuring no student is left behind, regardless of gender or socio-economic background.
- Gender Equality in STEM (SDG 5): By providing safe, inclusive, and modern research spaces, the facility encourages increased participation of women in Information Technology and Research & Development (R&D).
- Resilient Infrastructure & Innovation (SDG 9; PDP/RDP): In line with the Philippine/Regional Development Plans, this future-ready infrastructure supports technological advancement and positions MinSU as a primary driver of digital transformation in the region.
- Workforce Readiness & Economic Growth (SDG 8; PDP/RDP): The facility improves the employability of graduates by providing industry-aligned training, directly contributing to the growth of the digital economy and local entrepreneurship.
- Strengthened Institutional Mandate: The project reinforces MinSU's commitment to academic excellence and its role as a regional leader in producing globally competitive, socially responsible, and future-ready IT professionals.

F. Potential Outcomes

1. Full Operationalization & Optimization: The completion of the Academic & Laboratory Building will transform a partial structure into a fully functional, multi-modal IT ecosystem. This ensures that the capital investment from Phase I is fully leveraged, providing the University with a high-utilization asset for decades.

2. Technological Competency & Workforce Readiness: Students will gain immersive, hands-on experience in high-demand fields such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and systems development. This leads to significantly improved certification pass rates and a higher "employability index" for graduates entering the global ICT workforce.
3. Gender-Fair Research & Innovation: The establishment of dedicated, safe, and inclusive research spaces will foster a culture of creative problem-solving. By providing equitable access to high-end hardware and software, the project encourages a diverse pool of students and faculty—regardless of gender—to collaborate on applied research and software development.
4. Strengthened Industry-Academia Linkages: The facility will serve as a premier regional venue for industry-aligned training, professional certifications, and incubation. This creates a "hub" for public-private partnerships, enabling students to undertake internships and collaborative projects that bridge the gap between classroom theory and industry practice.
5. Digital Entrepreneurship & Economic Impact: Beyond traditional employment, the building will act as a launchpad for technology-based startups. By equipping students with the tools to innovate, the project directly contributes to local economic growth and the national goal of digital transformation.
6. Institutional Resiliency & Compliance: Completing this facility ensures MinSU meets and exceeds CHED's infrastructure standards for IT education. It creates a safe, modern, and PWD-accessible environment that reflects the University's commitment to inclusive, high-quality higher education.

G. Potential Impacts (PIs)

Social Impact: Equity and Digital Inclusion

- Democratization of Technology: Enhances equitable access to high-tier, technology-driven education, ensuring students from marginalized or rural backgrounds have the same digital resources as those in urban centers.
- Gender-Inclusive ICT Participation: Actively narrows the gender gap in STEM by providing a safe, accessible, and supportive environment that encourages female students and faculty to excel in ICT research and innovation.
- Community Digital Empowerment: Strengthens MinSU's social responsibility through ICT-related extension programs and technology transfer, using the facility as a hub to train local communities in digital literacy and e-governance.

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Environmental Impact: Sustainable and Smart Systems

- Transition to Green Governance: Accelerates the University's "Paperless Initiative" by institutionalizing digital documentation and cloud-based systems, significantly reducing the institution's paper waste and carbon footprint.
- Eco-Efficient Infrastructure: Promotes the use of energy-efficient ICT equipment and smart building practices (e.g., optimized lighting and cooling) that serve as a model for sustainable campus development.
- Sustainability Research: Provides the necessary platform for the development of "Smart Agriculture" and "Green Tech" solutions that address regional environmental challenges through software and IoT (Internet of Things) innovation.

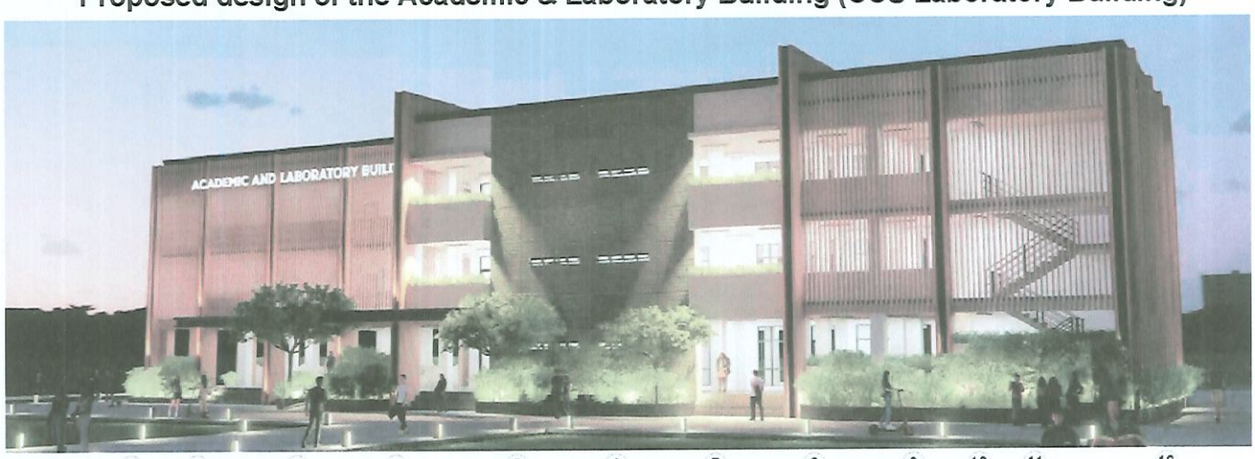
H. Target Beneficiaries

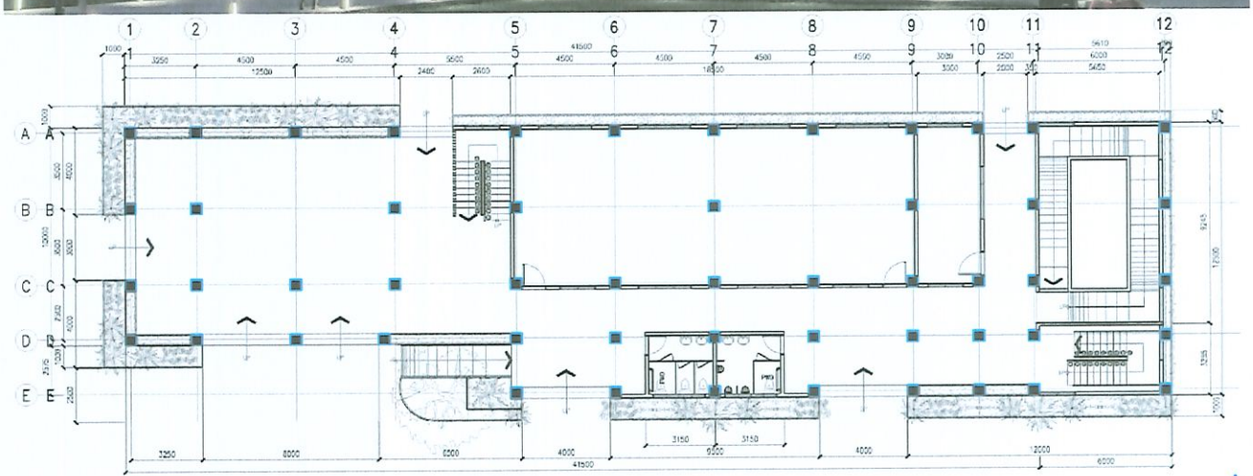
The completion of the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) - Phase II is designed to serve a diverse group of stakeholders, ensuring that the facility promotes equitable access and professional growth for all users.

- Students of the College of Computer Studies (CCS): The primary beneficiaries are the 422 students currently enrolled in the IT programs. This includes 165 female and 257 male students who will directly benefit from a modernized learning environment. The project is committed to providing gender-responsive facilities that encourage the active participation of female students in STEM, offering them equal access to high-end computer laboratories, smart classrooms, and innovation hubs. This ensures that all students, regardless of gender, develop the industry-ready skills necessary to compete in the global digital economy.
- Faculty and Academic Staff: The facility will provide dedicated research and instructional spaces for the University's faculty. By offering modern workstations and collaborative faculty research offices, the project supports professional development, enables the delivery of a high-tech curriculum, and fosters an environment where male and female educators can lead groundbreaking applied research and innovation.
- Researchers and Industry Collaborators: Beyond the classroom, the building serves as a strategic venue for local and international researchers, as well as industry partners. The establishment of "Innovation Hubs" will facilitate joint projects, technology transfer initiatives, and internships, creating a bridge between Mindoro State University and the private sector.
- The University and Local Community: As a regional hub for digital education, the facility will eventually benefit the wider community through ICT extension programs, government-led digital literacy workshops, and knowledge transfer initiatives that promote regional socio-economic development.

Photos

Proposed design of the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building)





Building designed by DPWH IV-B Regional Office

Photos of the Phase I Implemented by DPWH

The proposed Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) is designed to include the following features and facilities:

1. **Academic and Instructional Spaces**
   - Smart Classrooms: These rooms are equipped with hybrid-ready technologies, interactive displays, and digital systems that support outcomes-based IT instruction and flexible learning modes.
   - State-of-the-Art Computer Laboratories: Specialized labs featuring industry-standard software and high-speed fiber-optic backbone connectivity. These labs provide immersive, hands-on experience in high-demand fields such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and systems development.
   - Innovation Hubs: Designed as physical collaborative spaces where students transition from theoretical learning to digital creation, software development, and industry-partnered projects.

2. **Research and Administrative Facilities**
   - Faculty Research Offices: Dedicated workstations and collaborative offices designed to provide equal opportunities for male and female educators to lead groundbreaking applied research.
   - Server Rooms: Technical spaces with heavy-duty electrical wiring and specialized climate control systems to house and protect the university's networking equipment and fiber-optic infrastructure.
   - Lactation Corner/Room: A dedicated, secure, and private space located explicitly within or adjacent to the faculty and research area to support nursing faculty and students. This facility includes ergonomic seating and necessary amenities in compliance with GAD mandates.

3. **Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Facilities**
   In strict adherence to the Philippine Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710) and GAD mandates, the building prioritizes a "Human-Centered" and "Safe-Space" design.
   - Sanitary Facilities (Comfort Rooms):
     - Male Restrooms: Standardized facilities for male students and staff.
     - Female Restrooms: Separate facilities designed for the comfort and privacy of female users.
     - Gender-Neutral Restrooms: Inclusive, non-binary facilities that ensure equal access for all gender identities.
     - PWD-Accessible Restrooms: Specially designed with grab bars, wider stalls, and accessible sinks to remove physical barriers for Persons with Disabilities.

4. **Safety and Accessibility Features**
   The completion phase emphasizes high visibility and security to create a safe learning environment during all hours of operation.

- **Transparent Common Areas:** Architectural designs that use transparency to enhance security, encourage collaboration, and prevent harassment through natural surveillance.
- **Secure Access Points & Gender-Sensitive Lighting:** Strategic implementation of high-visibility lighting in hallways and entryways to ensure student safety, particularly during evening laboratory sessions.
- **PWD-Compliant Ramps:** Structural features that ensure 100% physical accessibility from the building exterior to all interior levels for students and faculty with mobility impairments.

I. Budgetary Requirements

An estimated amount of Forty Million Pesos (₱40,000,000.00) is proposed under the National Expenditure Program for F.Y. 2027.

*Source of Funds	PS	MOOE	CO	Total
GAA 2027			40,000,000.00	40,000,000.00
Total			**40,000,000.00**	40,000,000.00

J. Gender and Development (GAD)

The Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) project is firmly committed to the principles of gender equality and social inclusion, aligning with the Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5.

Recognizing that the ICT sector has historically seen a gender imbalance, this project seeks to bridge that gap through the following interventions:

- Equitable Access & Empowerment: The facility ensures that all 422 students (165 female and 257 male) have equal, unhindered access to high-tier laboratories and innovation hubs. By providing a modern platform for software development and cybersecurity training, the project actively empowers female students to excel in high-value STEM roles.
- Gender-Responsive Infrastructure: Beyond academic resources, the building's design prioritizes a "safe-space" concept. This includes installing high-visibility security lighting, creating transparent common areas to prevent harassment, and providing GAD-compliant facilities, such as gender-sensitive restrooms and dedicated lactation rooms for nursing students and faculty.
- Inclusive Innovation: The innovation hubs are designed to be collaborative environments that encourage diverse perspectives, ensuring that technological solutions developed within MinSU are inclusive and address the needs of all genders.
- Safety and Security: By providing a secure and well-monitored environment, the project supports the safety of all students—particularly women—who may need to utilize laboratory resources during evening sessions or extended research hours.

Through these deliberate actions, the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building) project moves beyond "gender-neutral" infrastructure toward gender-responsive governance, ensuring that digital advancement at Mindoro State University catalyzes equality and institutional excellence.

K. Sustainability Plan & Ways Forward

To guarantee the long-term functionality and institutional impact of the **Academic and Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building)**, MinSU, particularly the College of Computer Studies (CCS) and the Office of Auxiliary and Physical Facilities, will implement a holistic sustainability strategy focused on three key pillars:

Operational Sustainability (Goal #8)

- Asset Management: The University will institutionalize a Preventive Maintenance Program (PMP) for all electrical systems, ICT infrastructure, and climate control units.

- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs): Clear guidelines for laboratory utilization, equipment handling, and cybersecurity protocols will be enforced to safeguard high-value digital assets.
- Technical Support: A dedicated IT support team will be assigned to manage the networking equipment and smart classroom technologies, ensuring zero downtime for academic and research activities.

Financial Sustainability (Goal #3)

- Budgetary Integration: Routine operational and maintenance (O&M) expenses will be integrated into the University's Annual Investment Plan (AIP) and Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) budget.
- Resource Generation: To fund "technology refresh" cycles (upgrading hardware every 3-5 years), MinSU will leverage the facility for revenue-generating activities, including:
  - Professional Certification Centers (e.g., Cisco, Microsoft, or Oracle).
  - Industry-Sourced Research Grants and ICT-related consultancy services.
  - Partnership-led Incubation Programs that provide supplemental resources for software and hardware upgrades.

Programmatic and Gender-Responsive Sustainability (Goals #1 & 2)

- Future-Ready Curriculum: The facility will remain a living laboratory for outcomes-based education, continuously updated to align with CHED policies and emerging global trends like AI and Data Science.
- Faculty Empowerment: Ongoing faculty development will ensure that instructors—both male and female—are proficient in the latest smart classroom technologies and pedagogical tools.
- Inclusive Extension: The building will serve as a permanent venue for gender-responsive community extension projects, promoting digital literacy and "e-inclusion" for the wider Mindoro community.

References:

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Project Development Officer II

RE: COMPLETION OF ACADEMIC AND LABORATORY BUILDING

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Comment:
This proposal outlines the completion and operationalization of the Academic & Laboratory Building (CCS Laboratory Building), a strategic initiative to establish a gender-responsive, state-of-the-art, and sustainable academic hub with industry-aligned laboratories and innovation spaces, thereby accelerating regional digital transformation and institutional excellence. Strategic Goals: Goal #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, #7, & #8. The proposal is gender-responsive. See attached GAD checklist for details.

Noted by:

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