

## THE IMPACT OF THE RESEARCH UTILIZATION SEMINAR IRUSJ PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN PHILIPPINES

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### ABSTRACT

*Attempting to assess the impact of the RUS Program of the UNP Center for Research the study sought to find out whether or not it has accomplished its desired goals and objectives, to wit: increased production and family income and improved technological procedures especially in agriculture. The study focused on participants to the program for the last five years, 1990 to 1995, particularly in the municipalities of San Juan, San Isidro, Pidigan, province of Abra, municipalities of Santa, Santa Maria, Santiago, Santa Lucia, Cabugao and in Nagbukel, Burgos, Galimuyod, Banayoyo, San Emilio, Alilem, Sigay, Sugpon, Salcedo and Suyo, province of Ilocos Sur With a total number of 486 lay participant respondents and 117 administrator respondents, it came out that the RUS program indeed effected an increase of their monthly income, more income generating projects were put up especially in vegetable raising and animal as well as poultry raising.*

*Participants also disseminated to their localities/communities the new knowledge/information and skills which they acquired from the seminar. It was also found out that local government officials were very supportive to the implementation of the program of activities of the RUS.*

### BACKGROUND/RATIONALE

As an intellectually superior being to other animals, man has always been trying to harness nature in his constant quest for better living. Such intellectual superiority enabled him to discover and invent tools and materials not only for the satisfaction of his basic needs but also other things which help him save time and energy. Man's inquisitive nature and endless wants and desires have led to greater achievements along technology and amidst such achievements and endeavors however, he also encounters problems of all sorts: economic, social, physical and political. It is at this point that research has come its way to minimize and solve such problems.

As one of the major thrusts in higher education, research had gained a great importance and has been given top priority in the national government and in all its sectors. Same thing is true to private agencies, research programs are obsessed with high expectations to overcome the various impending factors and conditions towards

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progress along science and technology. It is also their end in view to upgrade the quality of living in all sectors of society. Committed to such aims, research is also directed towards the overall national goals and objectives.

As one of the major programs of activities of the Center for Research, the Research Utilization Seminar (RUS) catered to the various municipalities of the province of Ilocos Sur and even to neighboring provinces when there is a request or need for the service/activity. Participants to the seminar are usually farmers, housewives and youth leaders. Research findings and results on any area or field of endeavor, be it on farming or agriculture, business or cooperatives, ceramics, health and housekeeping which are deemed necessary and important for betterment and improvement of methods and techniques are lectured and demonstrated to participants during said seminar-workshops which usually last for days or weeks, after which consultations are further made, relative to projects put up by clientele regarding problems and difficulties they encounter.

Ultimately, the study is expected to catalyze the extent *to* which research outputs and findings can reach rural farm areas or the countryside. In as much as one of the major goals of research in agriculture for instance, is for life betterment through greater production, the end-users of these research outputs who are farmers can be most benefited. Crude farming tools and methods can be changed with more modern and scientific techniques which do not only save time and energy, but will bring about greater income and production.

A general assessment of the RUS program will give light to a more effective and functional program of activities. The study is also socially beneficial for all concerned as it develops close ties between the school or university and rural folks. And most of all, the study will minimize ignorance among our rural folks especially on matters about health, science and technology transfer.

## RELATED LITERATURE

Through the years, the role of research has continued to gain increasing recognition, and accordingly, research has received more and more support and cooperation from both the public and private sectors of the country. Funds for research have increased, also with national efforts which now tend to be more focused and better planned, programmed and implemented. This is manifested by the creation of the PCAAR (Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resource Research) by PD 48 designed to coordinate and monitor the national research program in agriculture and resources. Through the amendment of PD 48 by PD 461 and PD 864 the word *development* to the council (PCARRD) was added to ensure that research activities in agriculture and resources are efficiently and effectively undertaken to generate important and useful research results and production technologies and integrate them into the country's mainstream or prevailing locations of increased agricultural productivity and consequently contribute to national development.

The Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources and Development has been monitoring on-going and completed researches with newer and more effective results for farther dissemination *to* the end-users at the countryside sector of the country.

The PCARRD has grown by bounds in development along national research planning, review and evaluation mechanism which enabled it as an agency to direct or re-direct individual research efforts to conform to the identified national program gearing the Ministry of Budget to release research funds along areas in priority especially agriculture. Hand in hand with this UNP RUS program is the outreach/extension aimed at bringing results of researches to the end-users to monitor activities relative to these, and publications in series of latest research results and trends in journals and providing educational institutions with the same have been made. Besides, projects and activities related to this program have been among the current concerns of most agricultural research councils and organizations with the end in view to establish closer coordination with the private sector to have their needs taken into consideration. Attempts like these research awareness and appreciation could be fostered, and also finally establishing a strong linkage between the research system and the end-users so that they in return would be more receptive in extending any needed cooperation and support relative to activities in any research program highlighting on the technology for dissemination of outputs and technology for verification and packaging from researches covering commodities in crops, livestock, fishery, forestry, farm resources and systems. For verification are those which need to be further tested at farmers' fields in various locations or areas to determine their application/adaptation to the needs and conditions of the region. Such proceedings also present the significant research findings from the reviewed or evaluated research projects in socio-economics that cannot be translated into clearly defined technologies. These findings reflect useful socio-economic data bearing social and economic implications associated with the acceptance/adoption of technologies by the end-users as well as other aspects relative to countryside development.

Since the creation of PCARRD, endless strides have been made in crop researches, the most notable ones being those in areas of crop improvement, crop protection and management, processing and utilization. These sustained efforts resulted to the selection of new varieties for vegetable crops common for consumption and for the business world, and similarly to promising varieties of rice and corn. Along crop protection, success is attained in fighting against destructive insects, blights and mites as well as leaf hoppers and bollworms.

For improved management practices, fertilizer and/or liming recommendations for various domestic products, and for better propagation techniques, indoor ornamental plants as well as medicinal plants have been developed. In processing and utilization, additional uses of parts of plants like the abaca pulp and local legumes are identified. Findings of studies and recommendations have been made on locations for varieties of plants that perform best in certain regions. With increased technology for dissemination, coconut lumber for furniture manufacture has been found suitable for classroom chairs in Los Baños, Laguna. Similarly, several plants were found to have medicinal values. This would help rural folks to make use of plants just around for medicinal purposes instead of buying expensive drugs that would possess the same curative values. Flue-curing of tobacco varieties in Region I have been for several times experimented and studied, results of which have been catered to tobacco farmers who found out greater production through application of the same in their tobacco farms.

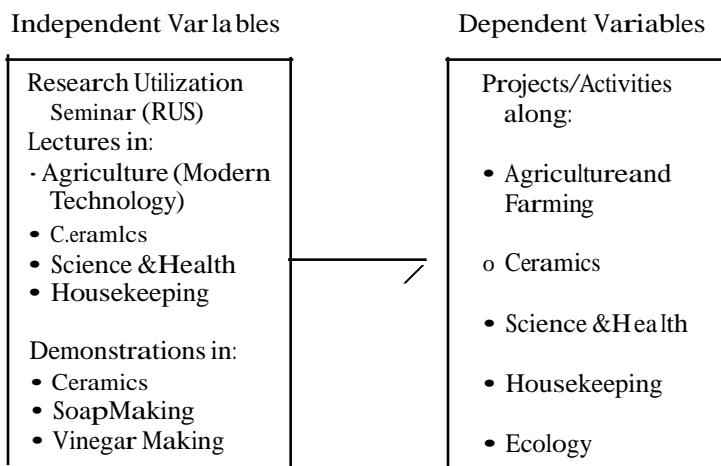
On the sector of livestock research, results have also been relevant to problems/needs not only of the animal industry but also of the domestic front.

Effective control of animal diseases has been established and besides, animal feeding and management have been improved. Many other studies and researches, on-going and completed are hopefully expected to come up.

## SCOPE AND DELIMITATION

The study was focused on the participants in the RUS held since 1990 particularly in the municipalities of Cabugao, Santa, Nagbukel, Santa Maria, Santiago, Santa Lucia, and in the interior municipalities of Burgos, Banayoyo, San Emilio, Salcedo, Galimuyod, Alilem, Suyo, Sugpon, Sigay, Cervantes and even in San Juan, Abra.

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



## METHODOLOGY

The study made use of the survey method of research. Data were gathered through a direct interview technique and indirect way through the questionnaire method. It also made use of the descriptive method of research in the presentation of data.

For the statistical part, frequency and percentage distribution was employed in determining the general profile of participants, their socio-economic profile and their perceptual assessments of the RUS program of the UNP.

To determine the dependency relationship between the dependent and independent variables, simple correlational analysis was used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

ADMINISTRATORS

L PERSONAL PROFILE

Table 1. Age-Ser Distribution of Respondents

Age-Group	Sex		No.	Total	
	Male	Female		%	
60 - 69	4	3	7	6.0	
50 - 59	17	8	25	21.4	
40 - 49	22	26	<b>48</b>	41.0	
30 - 39	7	13	20	17.1	
20 - 29	1	4	5	<b>4.3</b>	
No Response	9	3	12	10.2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>117</b>		
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>51.28</b>	<b>48.72</b>		<b>100</b>	

Administrator respondents refer to the municipal mayors/officials, municipal agricultural officers, technicians who participated in the Research Utilization Seminar activities.

It is reflected in Table I, that majority of the administrator respondents as per 48 (41%) belonged to age group 40-49; 25 (21.4%) were between 50 and 59 years of age; 20 (17.1%) were of 30-39 years old; and 7 (6%) were above 60 years old. There were 12 (10.2%) who abstained from responding. This implies that most respondents were already mature and at least experienced along their career/profession. Only 5 (43%) were new and fresh graduates in the area/field. The age-group most common among administrator respondents which was 40-49, is an age of propensity for individuals in attending seminars/meetings/conferences. Those belonging to the older age bracket 50 to 69 were also more active in decision making because they have already gained confidence in life.

Table 2. Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status and Sex

Marital Status	Sex		No.	Total	
	Male	Female		%	
Single	8	13	21	18.0	
Married	48	41	84	76.0	
Widow/er	2	3	5	4.3	
No Response	2	0	2	1.7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>117</b>		
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>51.28</b>	<b>48.72</b>		<b>100</b>	

Table 2 shows that most respondents, according to 84 (76%) were married, while 21 (18%) were single, It is implied that most respondents were in their most productive years. This jibes with the age-group 40-49 which was most common to majority of the respondents. Others, 5 (4.3%) were either widows or widowers.

Table 3, Distribution of Respondents by Number of Children in the Family

Number of Children	F	%
Eight (8)	1	0.8
Seven (7)	2	1.7
Six (6)	7	6.0
Five (5)	15	12.8
Four (4)	12	10.3
Three (3)	17	14.5
Two (2)	21	17.9
One (1)	7	6.0
None	35	29.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>100</b>

Another socio-demographic characteristic reflected in Table 3 is the number of children they had and as per majority or 21 (17.9%) had 2, then 17 (14.5%) had 3, 15 (12.8%) had 5 and only 7 (6.0%) had 6 and 2 (1.7%) had 7, but 25 (29.9%) abstained from responding. This table implies that most of the respondents must be already oriented about family planning. It is gleaned from Table 3 that perhaps majority of those with only 2 children were more conscious and aware of the value of education.

Table 4. Distribution of Respondents by Their Present Position/Designation and Sex

Position/ Designation	F	%
Mun. Mayor	7	5.9
Vice-Mayor	8	6.8
M A O	15	12.8
M P D C	2	1.7
SB Chairman, Agr.	13	11.1
Agr'l. Technician	59	50.4
Accounting Clerk	1	0.9
SK Chairman	1	0.9
Facilitator	1	0.9
Barangay Captain	3	2.5
Coop. Manager	1	0.9
M N A O	2	1.7
Social Work Officer	2	1.7
M A F C Chairman	1	0.9
Asst. Municipal Treasurer	1	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>100</b>

As for the administrator respondents' current position or designation, it is reflected in Table 4 that majority 59 (50.4%) were agricultural technicians; 15 (12.8%) were municipal agricultural officers; 13 (11.1%) were SB Chairmen, Agriculture; 8 (6.8%) were municipal vice mayors; 7 (5.9%) were municipal mayors; 3 (2.5%) were barangay captains and the rest were either social work officers or MNA officers. It is implied from Table 4 that in most of the RUS activities most municipal mayors participated.

It can be gleaned from the table also that most administrator respondents with position and occupation relative to the RUS program felt more confidence. At times, it is not only wisdom springing from age and education, but from one's position that explains participation in group activities like those of the RUS program.

IL RUS IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Table 5. Distribution of Respondents by Their Assessment on the Degree of Effectiveness of The UNP RUS Program

Degree of Effectiveness	F	%
Very much	20	17.0
Much	56	47.9
Moderate	40	34.2
Little	1	0.9
Very Little	0	0.0
Total	117	100

The primary objective of this study, to find out the effectiveness of the UNP RUS Program, is seen in Table 5. It is reflected in the table that the degree of effectiveness was *very much* according to 20 (17%); 56 (47.9%) respondents say it is *much* effective; 40 (34.2%) said the degree of effectiveness was *moderate* and only 1 (0.9%) say it was *little* in effectiveness. So far, nobody said it's *very little*. Gleaning closely from the table, there is an implication that while participants were physically and mentally or even emotionally involved in major issues in the various activities of the program, they might have been apparently constrained to share because of shame or fear of being misunderstood especially in solicitations of delicate impressions like these.

Table 6. Distribution of Respondents by Project/Activity Relative to the RUS Program Which Were Given Priority for Implementation

Project/Activity	F	%
Organic Farming	78	66.7
Crop Production	87	74.4
Cotton Plantation	18	15.4
Animal Production	71	60.7
Health & Nutrition	40	34.2
Production of Medicinal Plants	24	20.5
Ceramics	20	17.1
Vinegar and soap making	16	13.7
Women in development	22	18.8
Cooperatives	43	36.8
Socio-economic	28	23.9

Table 6 represents the project/activity which respondents are prioritizing to be implemented. Crop production was the first to be prioritized as per 87 (74.4%) respondents; organic farming followed as per 78 (66.7%); cooperatives is next to be prioritized by 43 (36.8%) respondents; health and nutrition was next in rank as per 40 (34.2%) and 28 (23.9%) prioritized socio-economic projects. Production of medicinal plants had been preferred to by 24 (20.5%); women in development followed as per 22 (18.8%); ceramics as per 20 (17.1%) cotton plantation as per 18 (15.4%); 16 also prioritized vinegar and soap making. This is the ranking of prioritized activities in the program made by the respondents.

Table 7. Distribution of Respondents by Classification of Assistance Extended to the RUS Participants After the Training

Kind of Assistance	F	%
Financial	32	27.4
Technical	100	85.5
Management/Supervision	62	53.0
Material Inputs (Seeds, fertilizer, etc.)	31	26.5
Moral Support	1	0.9

After the training activity, it was expected that assistance is given to participants in implementing their projects relative to the RUS program by technicians and the municipal government officials.

Table 7 shows that the types of assistance extended to them were presented in rank as follows: 100 (85.5%) were given technical assistance 62 (53.0%) got management/supervisory help; 32 (27.4%) got financial assistance; 31 (26.5%) got material inputs like seeds, fertilizer and the like. Only 1 (0.9%) mentioned moral support. The greatest assistance which is technical in nature was extended by the agricultural as well as mechanical technicians while the financial assistance were given by the government officials and politicians.

Table 8. Distribution of Respondents by Project/Activity which were Suggested to be Further Lectured/Demonstrated

Projcct/Activity	F	%
Ceramics	21	17.9
Cooperatives	49	41.9
Organic Farming	29	24.8
Crop Production	41	35.0
Vinegar/Soap Making	20	17.1
Production of Medicinal Plants	19	16.2
Hcalth & Nutrition	25	21.4
Women in Development	25	21.4
Socio-Economic Studies	30	25.6
Animal Production	36	30.8



Suggestions as to which of the activities/projects in the RUS to be further lectured or demonstrated were also solicited and Table 8 shows the ranking of the suggestions as follows: 49 (41.9%) for cooperatives; 41 (35%) for crop production; 36 (30.8%) for animal production; 30 for socio-economic studies; 29 (24.8%) for organic farming; 25 (21.4%) each for health and nutrition and women in development; 21 (17.9%) for ceramics; 20 (17.1%) for vinegar/soap making and 19 (16.2%) for the production of medicinal plants.

It is implied that among the administrator respondents, cooperatives was the most important. Certainly cooperatives provide financial upliftment to any project especially in crop production. The production of medicinal plants was the least preferred activity because most of these are just around in the backyard.

Table 9. Frequency of RUS Program As Suggested by Respondents

Frequency of RUS Program	F	%
Every Year	74	63.2
Twice a year	28	23.9
Every 2 years	16	13.7
Every 5 years	4	3.4

Suggestions as to the frequency of holding the RUS have also been solicited and Table 9 shows that: 74 (63.2%) would have it *yearly*; 28 (23.9%) say it should be *twice a year*; 16 (13.7%) would like it to be done *every two years* and 4 (3.4%) suggest it to be *every 5 years*.

The RUS program entails financial expenditures so it would be best to have it implemented at least once a year especially if there is a limited budget in the municipality it is to be held.

Table 10. Distribution of Respondents by Their Suggestions As to the Aspect of the RUS Program/Activity Would be Improved

Aspect of RUS Program/ Activity	F	%
Session Hall & Sound System	18	15.4
Food/Snacks	19	16.2
Management Particularly on Attitudes of Implementors and Facilitators	36	30.8
Lecture/Demonstration	62	53.0
Actual Demonstration	9	7.7

Suggestions relative to what aspect of the program would be improved, were also solicited. Table 10 reflects that improvement should be made along the following: the first to be improved are lectures and demonstrations as per suggestion of 62 (53%)

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respondents; 36 (30.87%) suggested management particularly on attitudes of implementors and facilitators; 19 (16.2%) suggested improvement of snacks; 18 (15.4%) suggested session halls and sound systems to be improved' and 9 (7.7%) suggested improvement of actual demonstration.

**Table 11. Comments/Suggestions of Respondents**

1. It must be implemented immediately
2. The program is much needed
3. Continue your good work and more power to you
4. Research findings should be disseminated immediately
5. There should always **be a** program/activity like this to improve the life of our people
6. Further lectures or explanation should be conducted to enable the participants to understand fully the said program
7. Funds should always be available
8. Visual aids are very much needed
9. Lectures should be accompanied by slides
10. Field trips to project sites where actual/similar activities have been conducted
11. Duration of the seminar is too short
12. A project **be** established which is technically and financially supported by the UNP Center for Research
13. All speakers should deliver their topics in Ilocano so that all the participants can understand. The people in the locality cannot understand Tagalog.
14. The RUS Program should be implemented with budget from the sponsoring agency.

Table **II** represents other suggestions and comments of administrator respondents.

**PARTICIPANTS**

**L PERSONAL AND CULTURAL PROFILE**

**Table 12. Age-Sex Distribution of Respondents**

Age-Group	Male	Female	Total	o/o
70 - 79	7	2	9	1.85
60 - 69	<b>38</b>	14	52	10.70
50 - 59	63	27	90	18.52
40 - 49	77	<b>48</b>	125	25.72
30 - 39	52	34	86	17.70
20 - 29	23	17	40	8.23
Below 20	3	7	10	2.06
No Response	29	<b>45</b>	74	15.23
<b>Total of Total</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>486</b>	100.00

Table 12 presents the age-sex distribution of respondents. There were more male participants in the RUS who were 292 in number or 60.08% than female who were 194 in number or 39.92%. From the male participants majority belonged to the age bracket of 40-59 and from the age bracket, 30-49. This implies that the participants to the Research utilization Seminar conducted by the staff of the UNP Center for Research and which was sponsored by the DA and DILG were already matured/responsible enough to implement in their own localities the knowledge/skills they acquired from the training/conference to improve the standards of their living.

**Table 13. Civil Status of Respondents by Sex**

Civil Status	Male	Female	Total	%
Single	34	41	73	15.02
Married	238	137	375	77.16
Widow/er	22	16	38	7.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The civil status was also an important factor in the profile of the respondents and this is presented in Table 13. There were more married male respondents (238) than female (137) and they represented seventy-seven percent (77.16%) of the whole number of participants. Married people deemed more serious in their outlook in life the fact that they have families to support unlike the single ones. There were also 38 or 7.82% who were widow/er. This implies that having been single parents must have triggered their curiosity to gain more insights on other means of livelihood to support their families.

**Table 14. Distribution of Respondents by Place of Residence and Sex**

Place of Residence	No.	o/o
Poblacion	44	9.05
Riverside	88	18.11
Seashore	36	7.41
Rural Fann	170	34.98
Hill/Mountainside	148	30.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The place of residence of these respondents are also presented in Table 14. As expected there were more who lived in the rural farm as per 170, 34.98%; 148, 30.45% who resided along the mountainside and 88 or 18.11% by the riverside. There were also 44 or 9.05% residing in the poblacion and 36 or 7.41% along the seashore. This implies that there were more from rural farm and mountain side and this conformed to most of the lectures on agriculture and farming in the program. For those who were not included in lectures on agricultural technologies other lectures on homemaking activities, survival strategies, cooperatives and ceramics caught their attention.

Table 15. Distribution of Respondents by Number of Children in the Family

Number of Children	No.	%
Ten and above	13	2.67
Nine (9)	7	1.44
Eight (8)	22	4.53
Seven (7)	30	6.17
Six (6)	43	<b>8.85</b>
Five (5)	75	15.43
Four (4)	72	14.81
Three (3)	68	13.99
Two (2)	29	5.97
One (1)	24	4.94
None (0)	57	11.73
No Response	46	9.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	100.00

The number of children in the family is an index of economic status. Table 4 shows that 75 (15.43%) of the respondents had 5 children; 72 (14.81%) had 4; 68 (13.99%) had 3; 57 (11.73%) had 1; 46 (9.47%) had none; 43 (8.85%) had 6; 30 (6.17%) had 7; 29 (5.99%) had 2; and 24 (4.94%) have 1. This implies that majority of the respondents were oriented in family planning.

Table 16. Distribution of Respondents by Number of Dependents Other Than Children

Number of Dependents Other Than Children	No.	%
Ten and above	8	1.65
Nine (9)	10	2.06
Eight (8)	<b>28</b>	5.76
Seven (7)	14	2.88
Six (6)	29	5.96
Five (5)	40	8.23
Four (4)	26	5.35
Three (3)	43	<b>8.85</b>
Two (2)	83	17.08
One (1)	36	7.41
None (0)	153	31.48
No Response	16	3.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	100.00

Another economic index is the number of dependents aside from the respondents' children. Table 16 reflects that majority, 153 (31.48%) did not have dependents except their own children. 83 (17.08%) had 8; 36 (7.41%) had 1; 29 (5.96%) had 6; 28 (5.76%) had 8; 26 (5.35%) had 4; and 14 (2.88%) had 7. Although majority had no other dependents aside from their own children, it is gleaned from the table that respondents could not get away from having other dependents in the family.

Table 17. Distribution of Respondents by Number of Children/Dependents **Who Can Help Augment Household Expenditures**

<b>Number of Working Children/Dependents</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>% T</b>
Ten and above	2	0.41
Nine (9)	1	0.20
Eight (8)	3	0.62
Seven (7)	3	0.62
Six (6)	14	<b>2.88</b>
Five (5)	34	6.99
Four (4)	54	11.11
Three (3)	64	13.17
Two (2)	78	16.05
One (1)	38	7.82
None (0)	154	31.69
No Response	41	<b>8.44</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	100.00

Although most respondents had a number of children to support and some others aside from these children, it is also interesting to note that a number of these can also help augment household expenditures which is shown in Table 17. It is gleaned from the table that 78 (16.05%) had 2 children who could help in the household finances; 64 (13.17%) had 3; 54 (11.11%) had 4; 38 (7.82%) had 1; 34 (6.99%) had 5; 41 (8.44%) refrained from responding; 14 (2.88%) had 6; and the last few have more.

It is implied from Table 17 that although majority of the respondents didn't finish a college degree, they could still provide education/a certain degree/training to their children enabling them to earn so they can assist in household financial needs.

Table 18. Educational Attainment of Respondents

<b>Educational Attainment</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
No Formal Schooling	<b>8</b>	1.65
Did not Finish Elementary	37	7.61
Elementary School Graduate	101	20.78
Did not Finish High School	72	<b>14.81</b>
High School Graduate	<b>111</b>	<b>22.84</b>
Work/Tech Course Graduate	32	<b>6.58</b>
Did not Finish College	62	12.76
College Graduate	<b>46</b>	<b>9.47</b>
Post Graduate	<b>1</b>	0.21
No Response	16	3.29
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	100.00

Another socio-economic factor is the respondents' educational attainment. It is reflected in Table 18 that majority, III (22.84%) finished high school; 101 (20.78%) had gone as far as high school although they couldn't finish it. 62 (12.76%) also had gone to college although they didn't finish it; 46 (9.47%) finished college, 32 (6.58%) finished vocational/technical courses and 37 did not finish elementary course. This implication has something to do with respondents' capacity to send their children to school. Their educational attainment has really something to do with the respondents' active participation to activities like that of the RUS. This could be attributed to the fact that the more educated person is more aware of the impact of the program than an individual of lower educational attainment. Conversely, the ill-educated, usually the poor, are less likely to participate because they feel that what they think is not important and they can hardly articulate what they have in their minds; they are sometimes not confident that they have the capacity to mold themselves and their environment and that they are not aware of the socio-economic, political conditions that influence their lives.

Table 19. Distribution of Respondents by Religious Affiliation

Religious Affiliation	No.	%
Roman Catholic	288	59.26
Protestant	66	13.58
Iglesia ni Cristo	30	6.17
Methodist	34	7.00
Mormon	3	0.62
Jehovah's Witnesses	19	3.91
Born Again Christian	7	1.44
Aglipayan	3	0.62
Angelic	9	1.85
Lutheran	6	1.23
Church of Christ	8	1.65
Seventh Day Adventist	11	2.26
United Church of Christ	2	0.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 19 also represents respondents' religious affiliation and is gleaned from the table that: 288 (59.26%) or majority are Roman Catholics; 66 (13.58%) are Protestants; 34 (7.0%) are Methodists; 30 (6.17%) are Jehovah's Witnesses; 11 (2.26%) are Seventh day Adventists, and the few others are either Born Again on Church of Christ, or Mormons.

Religion is a socio-cultural factor which can influence the attitudes of the respondents towards issues in the program.

**Table 20.** Distribution of Repondents by the Kind of Language/s Spoken

<b>Language/s Spoken</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>%</b>
Tagalog	66	13.58
English	56	11.52
Spanish	1	0.21
Ilokano	347	71.40
Tribal	46	9.47
Itneg	16	3.29
Ibaloi	3	0.62
Kankana-e	22	4.53

Table 20 shows the respondents' spoken language/s. Majority, 347 (71.40%) spoke Ilokano; 66 (13.58%) spoke Tagalog; 56 (11.52%) could speak English; 46 (9.47%) spoke Tribal language; 22 (4.53%) spoke Kankana-e; 16 (3.29%) spoke Itneg and 3 (6.2%) spoke Ibaloi.

It is implied that those who could speak English and Tagalog were those who must have finished a college degree or at least a certain kind of training in an institution. One's spoken language can influence his participation, awareness and reactions to activities like those of the RUS of the UNP. It also influences their degree of understanding the lectures and demonstrations.

## II. SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

**Table 21.** Distribution of Respondents by Their Sources of Income

<b>Sources of Income</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>%</b>
Employment in the Government	75	15.43
Employment in Private Agency	12	2.47
Laborer	59	12.14
Constmction Worker	19	3.91
Carpenter	334	68.72
Farming (Crop production)	212	43.62
Animal Production	8	1.65
Cosmetology	6	1.23
Tailoring	9	1.85
Dressmaking	3	0.62
Laundrywoman	9	1.85
Factory Woker	2	0.41
Housemaid		0.21
Fishing		0.21
Not Specified	8	1.65

The respondents' economic profile is determined by their primary and secondary sources of income. Table 22, representing their primary sources of income shows that 334 (68.72%) were **carriers**; 212 (43.62%) were engaged in **farming/crop** production; 75 (15.43%) were **employees** in government agencies; 59 (12.14%) were laborers; 19 (3.91%) were **constructors/workers**; 12 (2.47%) were employed in private agencies; 9 (1.85%) were **tailors**; **94.5%** were laundry women; 8 (1.65%) engaged in animal production; and the rest were either cosmetologists or dressmakers, or fishermen.

Relative to income it has been argued that those who are really poor are too poor for participation in the program and are also too poor for protest, making them apathetic and so they lack exposure to the media and other stimuli which would arouse their aspirations make them participative.

**Table 22.** Distribution of Respondents by Other Sources of Income

Other Sources of Income	F	%
Metalcraft production	168	34.57
Leathercraft production	66	13.58
Handicraft production	28	5.76
Bamboocraft production	8	1.65
Pottery/ceramics production	10	2.06
Buy and sell business	12	2.47
Tricycle driving	18	3.70
Financial Assistance from relatives	1	0.21
Jeep/Bus driving	33	6.79
Shoe/Umbrella repair	5	1.03
Ma/Hat weaving	2	0.41
STL Collector	3	0.62
Pension	4	0.82
Sari-sari store	24	4.94

Other sources of income of the respondents are shown in Table 22. As reflected in the table, 168 (34.57%) were engaged in metalcraft production; 66 (13.58%) in leathercraft production; 33 (6.79%) in service jobs such as transportation as drivers; 28 (5.76%) in handicraft; 18 (3.7%) as tricycle drivers; 24 (4.94%) had their sari-sari stores; 12 (2.47%) engaged in buying and selling; 10 (2.06%) in bamboocraft production; and the rest were either shoe/umbrella repairers, or pension recipients as other retirees or from children employed abroad.

This table reflects the value of Filipinos as hardworkers and industrious people.



**UL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE RUS PROGRAM**

Table 23. Comparative Table Showing the Estimated Monthly Income of the Respondents Before and After the RUS

Estimated Monthly Income	Before		After	
	No.	%	No.	%
P 1,000 and below	289	59.46	39	8.02
1,001 - 3,000	100	20.58	124	25.51
3,001 - 5,000	36	7.41	149	30.66
5,001 - 7,000	24	4.94	74	15.23
7,001 - 9,000	25	5.14	55	11.32
9,001 & above	12	2.47	<b>45</b>	9.26

The impact assessment of the UNP RUS program can be made through an analysis of the respondents' estimated monthly income before and after participating in the RUS Program and this can be seen in Table 23. Gleaning from Table 23, we can see that the trend of income tends to have increased from the lower income bracket after participation, which implies that the respondents' monthly income had increased. This is a real implication that their income had improved after their participation in the RUS.

Table 24. Comparative Table Showing the Income Generating Projects of the Respondents Before and After the RUS

Income Generating Projects	Before		After	
	No.	%	No.	%
Rice Production	359	73.87	400	<b>82.30</b>
Com Production	170	34.98	200	<b>41.15</b>
Cotton Production	134	27.57	150	30.86
Tobacco Production	30	6.17	49	10.08
Sugarcane Production	40	8.23	50	10.29
Vegetable Production	180	37.04	350	72.02
Watermelon Production	17	3.50	80	16.46
Crop Production	100	20.58	120	24.69
Fruit tree production	227	46.71	250	<b>51.44</b>
Hog Raising	160	32.92	201	41.36
Cattle Raising	189	38.89	220	45.27
Poultry Raising	95	19.55	190	39.09
Goat Raising	12	2.47	64	13.17
Vicar making	20	4.12	50	10.29
Soap making	5	1.03	15	3.09
Salt making	30	6.17	35	7.20
Compost making	10	2.06	40	<b>8.23</b>
Bag@Ong making	<b>15</b>	3.09	50	10.29
Food preservation	4	0.82	30	6.17
Handicraft making	4	0.82	29	5.97
Mc!alcraft production	2	0.41	2	0.41
Lcalhercraft making	2	0.41	2	0.41
DrCSmaking/Tailoring	10	2.06	<b>15</b>	3.09
None	<b>85</b>	17.49	20	<b>4.12</b>

The income generating projects of the respondents before and after participation in the RUS is another index to the impact of the said program. It is shown in Table 24 that most of the projects have increased in number which implies that the RUS program was effective to the participants. The most important projects according to Table 24 were: rice production from 73.87% to 82.30%; fruit tree production from 46.71% to 51.44%; cattle raising from 38.89% to 45.27%; vegetable raising gained an increase of from 37.04% to 72.02%; corn production follows, from 34.98% to 41.15%; hog raising from 32.92% to 41.36; cotton production, from 27.57% to 30.86%; crop production from 20.58% to 24.69% poultry raising from 19.55% to 39.09%.

Table 25. Distribution of Respondents On the Extent of the Contribution of the RUS Program to the Increase of Their Production/Income

Extent	F	%
Very much	46	9.47
Much	132	27.16
Moderate	276	56.79
Little	32	6.58
Very little	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 25 gives a picture of the degree/influence of the program to the increase of the respondents' production and income. From Table 25, it is seen that 276 (56.79%) reacted as *moderate*; 132 (27.16%) as *much*; 46 (9.47%) said as *very much*; 32 (6.58%) as *little* and so far nobody reacted as *very little*.

Table 26. Distribution of Respondents On the Extent of Dissemination on the Knowledge/Skills Acquired From the RUS Program to Their Neighbors/People in the Locality

Extent	F	%
Very much	41	8.44
Much	96	19.75
Moderate	267	54.94
Little	67	13.79
Very little	15	3.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Respondents' dissemination of the knowledge/skills acquired from the RUS program is also an index to the impact of the program. Regarding the extent of dissemination they made is shown in Table 26. As gleaned from the table, 267 (54.94%) had done it *moderately*, 96 (19.75%) had done it *much*; 67 (13.79%) did it *little* only and 41 (8.44%) had done dissemination *much*.

Table 27. Distribution of Respondents On the Extent of Participation or Involvement of Their Neighbors During the Dissemination of the Knowledge/Skills Acquired from the RUS Program

Extent	F	%
Very much	41	8.43
Much	94	19.34
Moderate	272	55.97
Little	67	13.79
Very little	12	2.47
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

With respect to the extent of participation or involvement of respondents' neighbors in the dissemination of the knowledge/skills they acquired from the RUS program, Table 27 shows that: 272 (55.97%) reacted as *moderate*; 94 (19.34%) said it as *much*; 67 (13.79%) reacted as *little* and 12 (2.47%) said as *very little*.

Why majority reacted to involvement in dissemination of the knowledge acquired from the RUS as *moderate* lies on the fact that they must not be the primary needs of the neighbors which have been addressed to in the dissemination activities.

Table 28. Distribution of Respondents On Their Response Whether or Not the Assistance/Cooperation of Local Officials was Requested During the Dissemination of the Knowledge/Skills Acquired from the RUS Program

Response	F	%
Yes	345	70.99
No	141	29.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 28 presents as to whether or not local officials were requested to assist in the dissemination of the RUS program activities. Majority, 345 (70.99%) said, "yes" and 141 (29.01%) said "no".

Whatever the form of assistance is, the local officials must give moral support to activities that are designed to improve the peoples' lives in the community.

**Table 29. Distribution of Respondents By the Kind/Form of Assistance Received From the Local Officials**

Form of Assistance	F	%
Financial	93	19.14
Technical Information	177	36.42
Management & Supervision	94	19.34
Material Inputs (seeds, fertilizers, etc.)	122	25.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 29. shows the kind/form of assistance local officials in the dissemination of the RUS program in their localities. There were 177 (36.42%) who mentioned technical information; 122 (25.10%) said that assistance was in the form of material inputs such as: seeds, fertilizers and the like; 94 (19.34%) got assistance in management and supervision; and 93 (19.14%) received financial assistance.

Giving any form of assistance will uplift the morale of the people towards productivity.

**Table 30. Distribution of Respondents On Their General Evaluation on the Effectiveness of the RUS Program of the UNP Center for Research**

General Evaluation	F	%
Very Effective	61	12.55
Effective	177	36.42
Moderately Effective	182	37.45
Ineffective	58	11.93
Very Ineffective	8	1.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 30 shows the general evaluation in the effectiveness of the RUS program of the UNP Center for Research. As gleaned from the table, 182 (37.45%) reacted as moderately effective and this coincides with the moderate degree of influence of the program to the respondents' production/income; moderate dissemination of the program with moderate involvement of respondents' neighbors. Likewise, 177 (36.42%) said the level of effectiveness of the program was *effective*; 61 (12.55%) said as *very effective* and 58 (11.93%) said as *ineffective*.

Relative to effectiveness of any undertaking, responses can be influenced by some factors like educational achievement which determines mental alertness to react and outputs to yield certain desired outcomes which may *not* have satisfied the actual demands of participant-respondents.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the study the following conclusions are drawn:

The socio-economic and socio-cultural status of respondents had something to do with their participation to activities relative to the RUS program of the UNP. Because majority were high school graduates with some who obtained college degrees, respondents were propense in participating in the activities of the RUS program, although many were also elementary graduates. These factors usually influence group consciousness.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings and results of the study the following are recommended.

### A. For Administrators

1. Project implementors who are desirous of seeing to fruition their endeavor should understand their clientele in terms of their group consciousness.
2. Whenever participation among less advantaged in society is considered, it should not just be seen in the context of the group's socio-economic status, but also, if not more so, in terms of their group consciousness which can be a better predictor of effectiveness.
3. It is also necessary to consider the social and psychological as well as economic factors that would affect the clientele participation.

### B. For Lay Participants

1. Participants should feel more free and gutsy in giving comments/suggestions and airing complaints to project management in seminars relative to the RUS.
2. Even though the income generating projects of the participants became more extensive after participating in the program, they should still strive more to increase their production so that if their products are more than enough for their consumption, they will have something to sell to increase their income.
3. Since some of the assessment of the impact of the RUS is moderate, there should be a provision for a more extensive program to address the needs of the participants.
4. As much as possible, the whole community should be involved in the dissemination of knowledge and skills gained from the RUS program.
5. Barangay Officials should from time to time tap their local officials especially from the Department of Agriculture for more extensive assistance especially in technology to insure more production in their income generating projects.

6. While the participants claimed that the RUS program was really effective, although some claimed moderate, the organizers and implementors of the said program should continue discovering better and more modern strategies to make the conduct of the program more meaningful,

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