

Celebration of Philippine's Independence Day

On June 15, 2025, a celebration of Philippine Independence Day was held at the Hyatt Centric Hotel in Istanbul, Turkey. The event was graced by the Philippine Ambassador to Turkey, Mr. Henry Bensusanto, Jr., and the Philippine Consul General to Istanbul, Ms. Shirlene Mananguil, who is set to assume her post as Consul General to Nagoya, Japan, in July 2025. The occasion brought together members of the Filipino migrant worker community in Turkey. Guests expressed gratitude for the warm invitation and cherished the photo souvenirs. Ambassador Bensusanto is widely recognized as a quiet but steadfast advocate who played a key role in the Philippines' victory in the West Philippine Sea dispute against China.





TimesHE, Turkey

With Philippine Delegate at GDSC 2025

Keynote Speech: President Erol Ozvar



Philippine Delegates at GSDC 2025

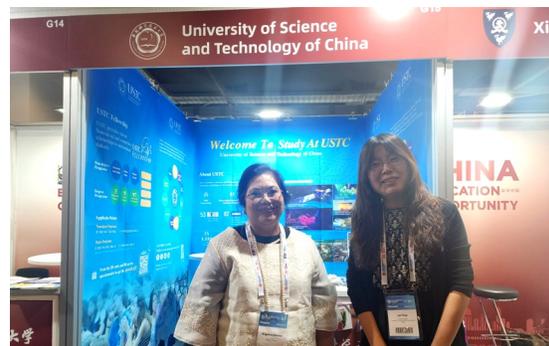
With the CHED Chair Commissioner Shirley C. Agrupis at the background screen



Istanbul Congress Center: HEI Booths 2025



A photo souvenir with the Philippine delegation was taken while awaiting the arrival of the Philippine Consul General in Istanbul. Nearly 50 top Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) from the Philippines, led by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), proudly represented the country at the Global Sustainable Development Congress held from June 16 to 19, 2025. Congratulations were extended to the 101 Philippine HEIs ranked by Times Higher Education (TimesHE) for their significant contributions and achievements in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The day also included a visit to several booths of other top-ranked global HEIs, adding to the enriching experience.







As one of the sponsored delegates to the Global Sustainable Development Congress (GSDC), Dr. Angelica Baylon, actively participated in both plenary and parallel sessions—engaging in opportunities to listen, ask questions, and share insights. With a wide range of compelling topics each day—ranging from wellness and leadership to environmental issues and country-focused discussions—careful selection was needed to make the most of each day’s offerings. The Times Higher Education (TimesHE) approved to be a valuable tool, providing real-time updates and a comprehensive view of the program of activities.





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Souvenir photos were taken at the Philippines Delegation Booth alongside the CHED Executive Director, Regional Directors, and fellow delegates. The experience included visits to other country booths, where delegates were warmly welcomed and treated to a variety of local delicacies such as Turkish delights, assorted nuts, and more—fostering a spirit of cultural exchange & camaraderie.







Global Sustainable Development Congress

Gratitude is extended for the generous invitation and full registration sponsorship granted to MAAP and PAEPI Global, represented by the author and her esteemed colleague, Rowena, as delegates to the Global Sustainable Development Congress held from June 16 to 19, 2025, at the Istanbul Congress Center. The event, organized by Times Higher Education in collaboration with the Turkey Council of Higher Education, provided a valuable platform for learning, networking, sharing insights, and building meaningful connections. The experience inspired numerous takeaways and recommendations that may be applied within MAAP and PAEPI Global—an alliance of over 150 Higher Education Institutions—promoting resource sharing and collaboration in support of sustainable development through human resource advancement.

