

The Preliminary Assessment of the Stakeholders on Impact of the CALABARZON Food Solution Hubs (CFOSH)

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Abstract

The aim of this research was to preliminary assess impact level of the CALABARZON FOOD SOLUTION HUB (CFOSH) project by the stakeholders, which located inside the Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU), Santa Cruz Campus, Laguna, Philippines. It is a shared service facility introduced by the Association of Laguna Food Processors Inc., in year 2013. CFOSH project is in early stage (3 yrs.). Descriptive method used in this research using survey questionnaire from 30 stakeholders. The study revealed that the status of stakeholders about social, political, economic and environmental had favorable results towards CFOSH. The findings imply that social and environmental aspects highly effective and could be considered as the highest level among the indicators. Based on the foregoing findings and hypotheses postulated, the researcher concluded that the implementation level of CFOSH has significant effect on the stakeholders based on job generation, productivity and competitiveness. In the light of the conclusions the researcher recommends that make further enhancement on the investigation on the effectiveness of the projects; review the implementation process and procedure; determine the number of machinery and equipment delivered and the number of clients who have access to the facility and generate recommendation on all stakeholders of CFOSH as well.

Keywords: Shared Service Facility, Stakeholders, Calabarzon Food Solution Hubs

1. Introduction

The CALABARZON FOOD SOLUTIONS HUBS (CFOSH) fa-cility centers cater the needs of micro-small and medium scale food processors as well as industry researchers and food product innovators. These state-of-the art food pro-cessing target beneficiaries are the Association of Food Pro-cessors in Laguna, Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU) and other Micro-, Small-, Medium-, Enterprise. The facility was established due to the strong effort of Laguna State Polytechnic University, Department of Science and Technology (DOST IV-A), Association of Laguna Food Pro-cessors Inc. (ALAFOP), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI IV-A) and the CALABARZON Food Solution Hubs (CFOSH) located in Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU) Santa Cruz Campus, Laguna.

In 2016, DOST IV-A and DTI provided the latest equip-ment and machineries to sustain the needs of the foods pro-cessors and be able to meet international standards and be-come domestically and globally competitive. In addition, LSPU-Santa Cruz provided infrastructure and operational facilities for the program beneficiaries.

According to the website of the Department of Trade and Industry, MSME Development (MSMED) is a key strategy to achieve the government's goal of inclusive growth and jobs generation. The 2013 General Appropriations Act (GAA) has earmarked funds under the budget of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to implement its "Big Push" for MSME development. A major component of the MSMED Program is the Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Project that aims to improve the competitiveness of MSMEs by provid-ing

them with machinery, equipment, tools, systems, skills and knowledge under a shared system. The SSF Project is being implemented nationwide with project partners termed as Cooperators, which may be any juridical entity such as but not limited to non-government organizations, people's organizations, cooperatives, industry/trade/business associations, local government units (LGUs), state universities/colleges technical vocational schools and other similar government and training institutions. Beneficiaries of the project are the actual and potential users of the SSF which should be predominantly cooperatives, associations or groups of MSMEs including MSMEs or individual entrepreneurs who may not be members of cooperatives, associations, corporations or organizations.

The 2013 GAA appropriated project funds of P770M for the implementation of the SSF Project of which P700M was intended for the procurement of machineries and equipment or under Capital Outlay, and the P70M was for the implementation of the project or MOOE. MSMEs play major role in the country's economic development in our economy through their contribution in the following: rural industrialization; rural development and decentralization of industries; creation of employment opportunities and more equitable income distribution; creation of backward and forward linkages with existing industries; and entrepreneurial development. In addition to the support of the government environmental, social, political and economic aspect. It plays an essential role in business growth and development especially in government projects and funded. Job generation, productivity and competitiveness are factors to be considered for the sustainability of the intended projects.

CFOSH will be able to create added value products that could command better prices because of its high-quality standard that can compete in the international market. CFOSH serves as a capacity-building venture that empowers micro enterprises to avail of the state-of-the-art and industry compliant manufacturing plant that conforms to high grade food safety. The facility will enable the food processors from Laguna and nearby provinces to increase their production capacity and produce export quality products. The CFOSH will also serve as a laboratory for food innovation and provide support to entrepreneurs to come up with new products that are needed in the market.

OBJECTIVES

The study's general objective was to explore the Preliminary assessment on the impact of the CFOSH project on the stakeholders. Specifically, it also aimed to:

1. To determine the status of the CFOSH stakeholders relative to social, political, economic and environmental aspect.
2. To assess the pre-impact assessment level in terms of productivity, competitiveness and job generation.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher used the descriptive survey method in gathering and treating the data for this study [1]. In the employment of this kind of research design, the researcher observed thoroughly the population frame of the study through careful definition and specific delimitation. From the procedure discussed above, the researcher fully believes that descriptive method was absolutely appropriate for this kind of research undertaking. Purposive sampling technique used in this study. Only one (1) set of questionnaires issued to actual respondents representing administration students.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Project has been implemented by the DTI as one of the strategies to

achieve its goal of inclusive growth and jobs generation. (Global Green Growth Institute, 2019) SSF is aimed at increasing the productivity and improving the competitiveness of MSMEs by providing them with machinery, equipment, tools, systems, accessories and other auxiliary items, skills, and knowledge under a shared system.

The CALABARZON Food Solutions Hub (CFOSH) is one of the beneficiaries of the Share Services Facility (SSF) to empower the micro, small, and medium enterprises or MSMEs. The program is a partnership among DOST, the Department of Trade and Industry, Association of Laguna Food Processors Inc., and the Laguna State Polytechnic University in Sta. Cruz, Laguna where the facility is located.

Productivity is a result of the way that a business operates, the result of the way that its people, business processes, different functional units and suppliers come together to meet the needs and wants of its customers. (Schwisow, 2017) Productivity improvements can only come from actions and activities that improve the way your business operates.

Competitiveness is the ability of organizations to produce goods or services with a favorable quality-price ratio that guarantees good profitability while achieving customer preference over other competitors. (Rivas, 2019) Competitiveness can be built and measured by taking into account different aspects and ensures that the company is sustainable and durable.

Literature Review

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The CALABARZON Food Solutions Hub (CFOSH) is one of the beneficiaries of the Share Services Facility (SSF) to empower the micro, small, and medium enterprises or MSMEs. The program is a partnership among DOST, the Department of Trade and Industry, Association of Laguna Food Processors Inc., and the Laguna State Polytechnic University in Sta. Cruz, Laguna where the facility is located.

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Discussion

Table 1. Status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Social Aspect

| Statements | Weighted | SD | Remarks |
|------------|----------|----|---------|
| | | | |

| | Mean | | |
|--|------|------|----------------|
| 1. Involvement in different organization | 4.40 | 1.07 | Strongly Agree |
| 2. Action strategies for social area | 4.37 | 1.07 | Strongly Agree |
| 3. Adaption of society movements | 4.02 | 1.07 | Agree |
| 4. Communicating socially responsible actions | 4.27 | 0.98 | Strongly Agree |
| 5. Mobilization of resources for social activities | 4.03 | 1.00 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 4.22 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.035 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Highly Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 1 presents the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Social, the first statement “Involvement in different organization” got the highest (WM = 4.40, SD = 1.07) and with a remark of strongly agree. Followed by the second statement “Action strategies for social area” with a (WM = 4.37, SD = 1.07) and with a remark of strongly agree. While the third statement “Adaption of society movements” receive the lowest (WM = 4.02, SD = 1.07) and with a remark of agree.

With a (GM = 4.22, SD = 1.035) the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Social is highly effective.

Table 2. Status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Political

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|---|---------------|------|----------------|
| 1. Networking ability | 4.33 | 1.24 | Strongly Agree |
| 2. Interpersonal influence | 4.60 | 0.97 | Strongly Agree |
| 3. Influence tactics | 4.20 | 1.21 | Strongly Agree |
| 4. Resource development | 4.07 | 1.14 | Agree |
| 5. Establishment camaraderie in different government agencies | 3.67 | 1.09 | Agree |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <i>and companies</i> | | | |
| Grand Mean = 4.17 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.163 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 2 presents the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Political, the second statement “Interpersonal influence” got the highest (WM = 4.60, SD = 0.97) and with a remark of strongly agree. Followed by the first statement “Networking ability” with a (WM = 4.33, SD = 1.24) and with a remark of strongly agree. While the fifth statement “Establishment camaraderie in different government agencies and companies” receive the lowest (WM = 3.67, SD = 1.09) and with a remark of agree.

With a (GM = 4.17, SD = 1.163) the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Political is effective.

Table 3. Status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Economic

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|--|---------------|------|---------|
| <i>1. Profit margin</i> | 3.73 | 1.08 | Agree |
| <i>2. Level costs</i> | 4.13 | 1.33 | Agree |
| <i>3. Rate of revenue growth</i> | 3.80 | 1.30 | Agree |
| <i>4. Reputation</i> | 3.77 | 1.17 | Agree |
| <i>5. Business Membership</i> | 3.81 | 1.21 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 3.85 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.214 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 3 presents the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Economic, the second statement “Level costs” got the highest (WM = 4.13, SD = 1.33) and with a remark of agree. Followed by the fifth statement “Business Membership” with a (WM = 3.81, SD = 1.21) and with a remark of agree. While the first statement “Profit margin” receive the lowest (WM = 3.73, SD = 1.08) and with a remark of agree.

With a (GM = 3.85, SD = 1.214) the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Economic is effective.

Table 4. Status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Environmental

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|---|---------------|------|----------------|
| <i>1. Action strategies for environment</i> | 4.33 | 0.84 | Strongly Agree |
| <i>2. Environmental education activities</i> | 4.53 | 0.97 | Strongly Agree |
| <i>3. Management of environmental impact</i> | 4.23 | 1.04 | Strongly Agree |
| <i>4. Commitment to environmental cause</i> | 4.23 | 1.19 | Strongly Agree |
| <i>5. Environmental management practice</i> | 4.03 | 0.85 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 4.27 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 0.989 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Highly Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 4 presents the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Environmental, the second statement “Environmental education activities” got the highest (WM = 4.53, SD = 0.97) and with a remark of strongly agree. Followed by the first statement “Action strategies for environment” with a (WM = 4.33, SD = 0.84) and with a remark of strongly agree. While the fifth statement “Environmental management practice” receive the lowest (WM = 4.03, SD = 0.85) and with a remark of agree.

With a (GM = 4.27, SD = 0.989) the status of stakeholders in CFOSH with regards to Environmental is highly effective.

Table 5. Composite status of stakeholders in CFOSH

| Indicators | Grand Mean | SD | Verbal Interpretation |
|--|-------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Social | 4.22 | 1.035 | Highly Effective |
| Political | 4.17 | 1.163 | Effective |
| Economic | 3.85 | 1.214 | Effective |
| Environmental | 4.27 | 0.989 | Highly Effective |
| Total Mean = 4.13 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.114 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 5 presents the composite status of stakeholders in CFOSH, the indicator “Environmental” got the highest (GM = 4.27, PSD = 0.989) and with a verbal interpretation of highly effective. Followed by the indicator “Social” with a (GM = 4.22, PSD = 1.035) and with a verbal interpretation of highly effective. While the indicator “Economic” receive the lowest (GM = 3.85, PSD = 1.214) and with a verbal interpretation of effective.

With a (TM = 4.13, PSD = 1.114) the composite status of stakeholders in CFOSH is effective

Table 6. Impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Job Generation

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. Labor force demand | 4.10 | 1.09 | Agree |
| 2. Public-financed job offers | 4.03 | 1.07 | Agree |

| | | | |
|---|------|------|----------------|
| 3. <i>Minimize underemployment and unemployment</i> | 4.43 | 0.97 | Strongly Agree |
| 4. <i>Establishment of in-house jobs</i> | 3.93 | 1.08 | Agree |
| 5. <i>Fostering single identity</i> | 4.00 | 1.02 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 4.10 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.048 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 6 presents the impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Job Generation, the third statement “*Minimize underemployment and unemployment*” got the highest (WM = 4.43, SD = 0.97) and with a remark of strongly agree. Followed by the first statement “Labor force demand” with a (WM = 4.10, SD = 1.09) and with a remark of agree. While the fourth statement “*Establishment of in-house jobs*” receive the lowest (WM = 3.93, SD = 1.08) and with a remark of agree.

With a (GM = 4.10, SD = 1.048) the impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Job Generation is effective.

Table 7. Impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Productivity

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|--|---------------|------|---------|
| 1. <i>Quality standards</i> | 4.10 | 1.32 | Agree |
| 2. <i>Linkages/partnership</i> | 4.11 | 0.99 | Agree |
| 3. <i>Business Practices</i> | 3.90 | 1.24 | Agree |
| 4. <i>Sustainability of organizational performance</i> | 3.80 | 1.27 | Agree |
| 5. <i>Meets the clients’ needs</i> | 4.07 | 1.36 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 3.99 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.234 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 8. Impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Competitiveness

| Statements | Weighted Mean | SD | Remarks |
|--|---------------|------|------------------|
| 1. Relationship dynamic | 3.07 | 1.28 | Moderately Agree |
| 2. Innovation | 3.83 | 1.42 | Agree |
| 3. Creativity | 4.07 | 1.14 | Agree |
| 4. Development of service offerings | 3.97 | 1.16 | Agree |
| 5. Recognition | 3.98 | 1.16 | Agree |
| Grand Mean = 3.78 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.274 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Effective | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 8 presents the impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Competitiveness, the third statement “Creativity” got the highest (WM = 4.07, SD = 1.14) and with a remark of agree. Followed by the fifth statement “Recognition” with a (WM = 3.98, SD = 1.16) and with a remark of agree. While the first statement “Relationship dynamic” receive the lowest (WM = 3.07, SD = 1.28) and with a remark of moderately agree.

With a (GM = 3.78, SD = 1.274) the impact of implementation level of CFOSH relative to Job Generation is effective.

Table 9. Composite impact of implementation level of CFOSH

| Indicators | Grand Mean | SD | Verbal Interpretation |
|--|------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Job Generation | 4.10 | 1.048 | Effective |
| Productivity | 3.99 | 1.234 | Effective |
| Competitiveness | 3.78 | 1.274 | Effective |
| Total Mean = 4.03 | | | |
| Population Standard Deviation = 1.194 | | | |
| Verbal Interpretation = Evident | | | |

Legend:

| Scale | Range | Remarks | Verbal Interpretation |
|-------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 | 4.20-5.00 | Strongly Agree | Highly Effective |
| 4 | 3.40-4.19 | Agree | Effective |
| 3 | 2.60-3.39 | Moderately Agree | Moderately Effective |
| 2 | 1.80-2.59 | Disagree | Less Effective |
| 1 | 1.00-1.79 | Strongly Disagree | Not Effective |

Table 9 presents the composite level of impact of LGU to the community, the indicator “*Generation*” got the highest (GM = 4.10, PSD = 1.048) and with a verbal interpretation of effective. Followed by the indicator “*Productivity*” with a (GM = 3.99, PSD = 1.234) and with a verbal interpretation of effective. While the indicator “*Competitiveness*” receives the lowest (GM = 3.78, PSD = 1.274) and with a verbal interpretation of effective. With a (TM = 4.03, PSD = 1.194) the composite level of impact of LGU to the community is effective.

Table 10. Significant effect between the stakeholders and the implementation level of CFOSH

| Status of stakeholders | Implementation level of CFOSH | t-value | t-critical | df | p-value | Analysis |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|------------------------|
| Social | Job Generation | 0.4838 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.3152 | Not Significant |
| Political | | 0.2953 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.3844 | Not Significant |
| Economic | | 0.9235 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.1798 | Not Significant |
| Environmental | | 0.7428 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.2303 | Not Significant |
| Social | | 0.8481 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.1999 | Not Significant |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|------------------------|
| Political | Productivity | 0.6729 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.2519 | Not Significant |
| Economic | | 0.5026 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.3086 | Not Significant |
| Environmental | | 1.1037 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.1372 | Not Significant |
| Social | Competitiveness | 1.4957 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.0701 | Not Significant |
| Political | | 0.2317 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.4088 | Not Significant |
| Economic | | 1.9819 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.0261 | Significant |
| Environmental | | 1.9819 | 1.6716 | 58 | 0.0261 | Significant |

Table 10 presents the significant effect between the stakeholders and the implementation level of CFOSH.

In determining the effect between the stakeholders with regards to Social, Political, Economic and Environmental and the implementation level of CFOSH relative to Generation, Productivity and Competitiveness. The data were statistically treated between the two variables that which arrived to the computed value t-test for the indicators of the stakeholders and the implementation level of CFOSH. It shows that in terms of Job Generation, the computed value for Social, Political, Economic and Environmental were less than the critical value, with the supported computed p-value and analysis of Not significant.

In terms of Productivity, the computed value for Social, Political, Economic and Environmental were less than the critical value, with the supported computed p-value and analysis of Not significant.

In terms of Competitiveness the computed value for Economic and Environmental were greater than the critical value, with the supported computed p-value and analysis of Significant while the indicators Social, and Political were less than the critical value, with the supported computed p-value and analysis of Not significant.

Based on the data, it is shown that there is a “significant effect between the stakeholders and the implementation level of CFOSH” at 0.05 level of significance. It shows that the null hypothesis stating that “There is no significant effect between the stakeholders and the implementation level of CFOSH” is accepted, it can infer that there is “no significant” effect between them.

Conclusion

In the light of the findings and analysis, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The stakeholders level not highly effective on the implementation of the CFOSH.
2. The status of CFOSH in the stakeholders are adequately not aligned on the objective an
3. Based on stakeholders about social, political, and environmental had highly favorable results towards CFOSH unlike economic aspect.

Recommendation

In the light of the conclusions stated, the following recommendations were forwarded:

1. May also investigate the effectiveness of the CFOSH project in addressing the bottlenecks and gaps of the MSME.
2. Define and review the implementation process and procedures of the CFOSH project.
3. Determine the number of tools, machinery and equipment delivered and the number of MSME who

have access to the facility.

4. Generate recommendations on implementation of CFOSH project from the stakeholders and for the development of the ALAFOP ASSOCIATION, MSMe sector, LSPU students and faculty as well.

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