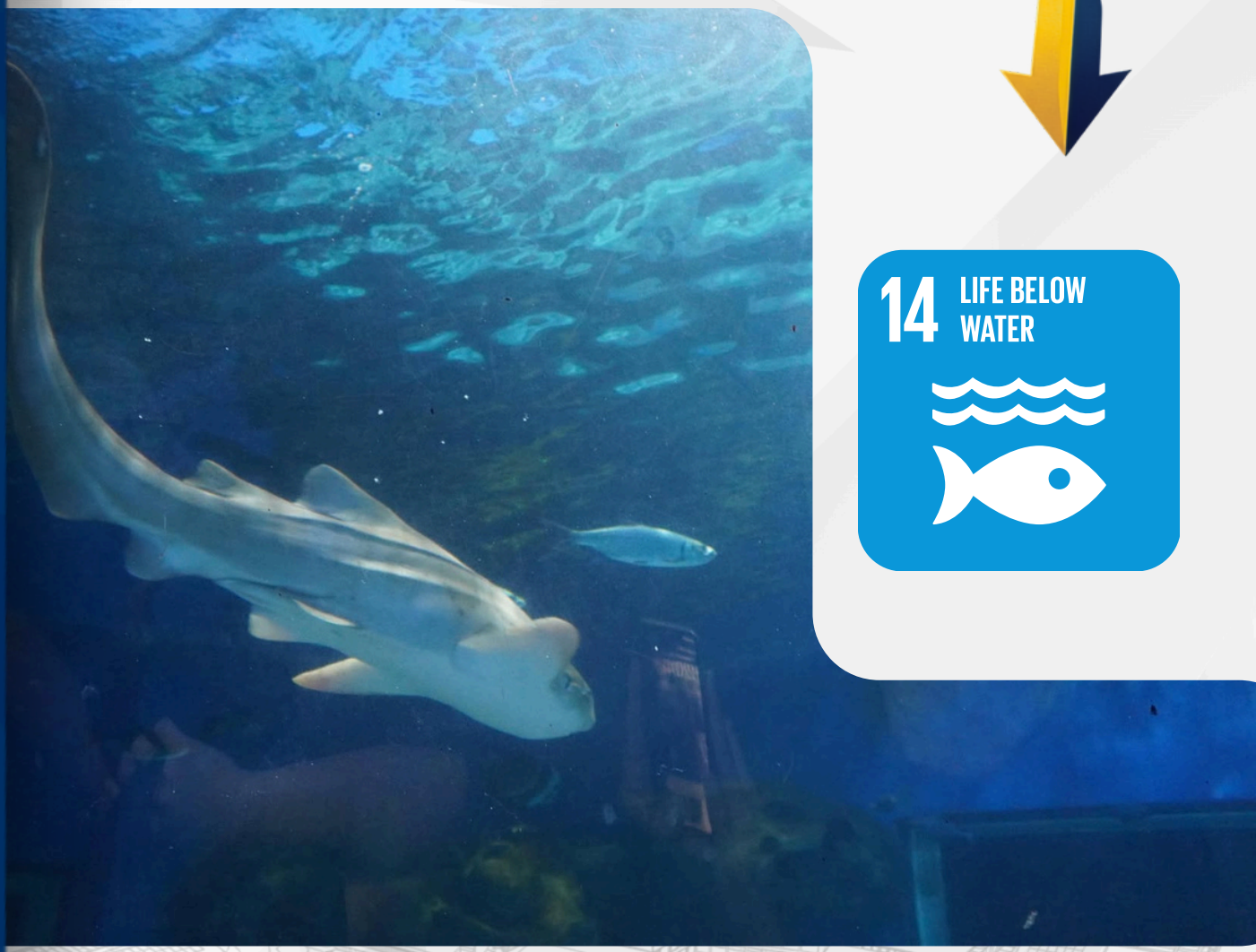
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Metric 14.5 Maintaining a local ecosystem



14 LIFE BELOW WATER

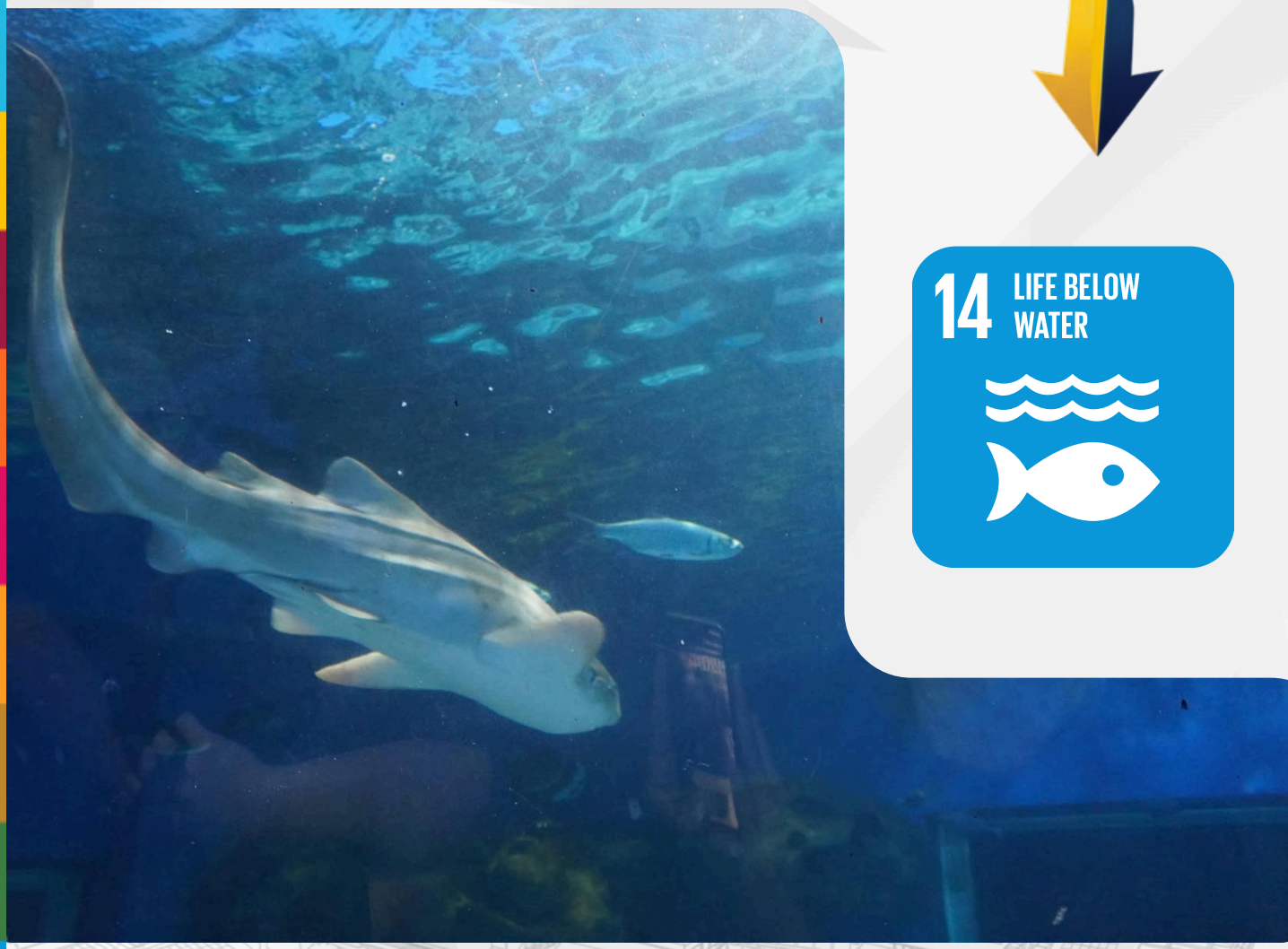
Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Indicator 14.5.4 Collaboration for shared aquatic ecosystems



14 LIFE BELOW WATER

Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

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Restoring Headwaters Together:

SLU and Community Partners Collaborate to Protect Shared Aquatic Ecosystems

Water systems cross institutional and municipal boundaries, protecting river basins requires shared responsibility, joint stewardship, and sustained local collaboration.

Saint Louis University (SLU)—through the Office of the University President, University Libraries (SLU-UL), and American Corner Baguio—operationalizes this commitment through an "adopt-a-creek" community partnership in Barangay Camp 7, Baguio City. By uniting academic leadership, local government unit (LGU) officials, and student environmental organizations, SLU demonstrates how highland institutions can work alongside local communities to restore critical tributaries that feed downstream river basins.



The flagship initiative centers on a vital creek running along Verdepino Drive in Barangay Camp 7—a direct tributary to the Bued River basin. Recognizing that the ecological health of the Bued River depends on the condition of its mountain tributaries, SLU partnered directly with Barangay Camp 7 officials to launch a joint protection and rehabilitation framework.

Representatives from SLU, American Corner Baguio, student environmental groups, and partner agencies conducted a comprehensive ocular inspection of the waterway. This joint field assessment established the groundwork for:

- Waterway Clearance & Waste Removal: Identifying point-source pollution, accumulated debris, and bank erosion along the creek bed.
- Joint Rehabilitation Planning: Co-designing long-term protection protocols with local barangay leaders to ensure community ownership.
- Youth & Student Involvement: Mobilizing student environmental organizations to participate in field monitoring, cleanup drives, and community education.





Building Trust through Institutional Transparency: The STP Showcase

Effective community collaboration requires mutual trust, shared accountability, and aligned environmental standards. To demonstrate its own commitment to clean water management and reassure local leaders, SLU hosted Barangay Camp 7 officials for an educational tour of the university's Sewage Treatment Plant (STP).

Through joint ocular inspections, LGU co-planning, and transparent knowledge-sharing, Saint Louis University's partnership at Camp 7 offers a practical model for how higher education institutions and local communities can successfully maintain shared aquatic ecosystems.



The SLU SDG Report 2026