



FORUM		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Science and Technology	NRCP-Legislative Scientific Forum for Policy Development (Day 2)	<p>The Committee, in partnership with the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP), conducted the second of its two-day forum on November 07, 2019 at the Speaker Yñiguez Hall, House of Representatives. The forum was held in celebration of the NRCP's 85th Founding Anniversary and with the aim of creating a collaborative work between the NRCP and the House of Representatives on how researches conducted by the NRCP can be used in crafting legislations or amending existing laws.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker and Antique Rep. Loren Legarda, in her message delivered by Donald Caballero, Committee Secretary of the Committee on Science and Technology, said that the forum is worth noting as this is the first time that a funded research of the NRCP will be shared with various congressional committees in the House. The Deputy Speaker underscored the importance of evidence-based information in crafting legislations that will respond to the social ills of the country and propel the country towards prosperity and national development.</p> <p>The NRCP, a government corporation attached to the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), is mandated to promote and support fundamental or basic research for the continuing improvement of the research capability of individual or group of scientists, among others.</p> <p>The forum featured the research work of Dr. Michelle Grace Paraso, a regular member of the NRCP, entitled "Evaluation of Feral Fish Biomarkers for Monitoring of Estrogen Pollution of Laguna Bay." The study validates the contamination of the Laguna Lake with estrogenic pollutants through tests on adult male common carps introduced to the lake.</p> <p>The research is highly relevant in monitoring exogenous estrogen discharge into Philippine lakes and other bodies of water and in crafting laws that will prevent the discharge of these compounds into the environment.</p> <p>Paraso recommended the following interventions to address estrogenic contamination of lake waters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen the capacity of the local government units (LGUs) to implement various environmental laws;• Establish effective sewerage-septage system at the municipal level;• Determine the extent of surface water pollution, its effects on local aquatic biota, and the strategies that will limit both human and animal exposure to these pollutants; and• Conduct education and awareness campaigns.