

DOST 1 preps for 2023-2028, aligns strategic plans with the DOST-wide system plan

BAGUIO CITY, BENGUET- The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1) successfully conducted its three-day Strategic Planning for 2023-2028 on September 14-16, 2022 at Hotel Elizabeth, Baguio City.

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DOST 1 conducts technology training on Banana processing for farmers

In the aim to provide sustainable assistance under Economic Enterprise Development/Livelihood, the Provincial Science and Technology Office of La Union (PSTO-LU), in partnership with Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU) and Local Government Unit of Santol, La Union, conducted Technology Training on Banana Processing and Product Development last September 15-16, 2022.

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DOST 1 deploys Starbooks to 2 High Schools in Naguilian, La Union

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), through its Provincial Science and Technology Office- La Union (PSTO-LU) has deployed Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks (STARBOOKS) to Naguilian Senior High School (NSHS) and Northern Naguilian National High School (NNNHS) last September 21, 2022.

Continue reading in Page 5

ITDI capacitates LGU Agno on WACS with DOST 1's CEST Program

The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office 1 (DOST 1) through its Provincial Science and Technology Office-Pangasinan, in collaboration with the DOST-Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI), conducted a two-day Waste Analysis and Characterization Study (WACS) Training-Workshop, under the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program, to the Municipal and Barangay Officials of Agno, Pangasinan on September 20-21, 2022.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

Hi there, S&T friends!

Happy September, S&T friends! Through this issue of Ilocos S&T Trends, I'm pleased to share with you the many achievements of DOST 1 for the month of September 2022.

As the year draws to a close, goals will soon be attained, and preparations for the following year will begin.

This issue details DOST 1's activities in the regions of Kabuhayan, Kaayusan, Kalusugan, and Kinabukasan as well as their efforts to plan ahead for what needed to be done in the years ahead.

On Kabuhayan...W

Take a look at how DOST 1 supports the livelihood of returned foreign workers by helping them start their own technology-based businesses in an effort to entice them to stay in the nation permanently and in response to the rising number of OFWs returning as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. This program is called the Innovations for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH). The Innovations on Native Attires, Bracing and Encouraging Livelihoods (INABEL) initiative is also started in this month in Carasi, Ilocos Norte. Through the weaving of ethnic clothing, this aims to conserve and enhance the traditional identity of the indigenous peoples (IPs) and communities in the municipality.

On Kaayusan...

The DOST 1 developed their plans during this month by conducting a strategic planning activity designed to organize their efforts to consistently be at the forefront of science, technology, and innovation in region 1 for 2023–2028. The participants were guided in their planning by Undersecretary Sancho A. Mabborang after a thorough discussion of planning concepts by Dir. Cezar R. Pedraza, Director of DOST Planning and Evaluation Services. Being capable of optimizing DOST 1's strategies was made possible by the collaboration of minds, which was a rewarding endeavor.

On Kalusugan...

A training on the DOST Package for the Improvement of Young Children (DOST PINOY) was conducted in PSTO-Ilocos Sur thanks to the cooperation of DOST-1, DOST-Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST-FNRI), and the Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC). This initiative is a component of the Malnutrition Reduction Program, which aims to decrease the prevalence of underweight children by conducting community health worker capacity building activities and carrying out the 120-day feeding program utilizing supplemental foods created by DOST-FNRI. It is truly astonishing how science, technology, and innovation are addressing one of the nation's biggest health and nutrition issues.

On Kinabukasan...

A few trainings, including those on food safety, calamansi processing, and technology training on banana processing for farmers, have been held to improve knowledge, support livelihoods, and empower gender-sensitive communities. The instructors at Vintar National High School were also introduced to the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks (STARBOOKS) through a virtual orientation.

This newsletter contains updates on these and many other facets of DOST 1's various endeavors. Read on to fully understand the staff's and its stakeholders' combined efforts to introduce science to the people of region 1.

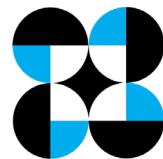
Enjoy reading!

*Maluhay ang DOST, Maluhay ang Region 1!
Maluhay ang DOST 1!*



CARLA JOYCE B. CAJALA

Editor-in-Chief, Ilocos S&T Trends



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DOST 1 conducts technology training on Banana processing for farmers

By: Christian Jastine V. Mendoza



Farmers from Santol, La Union participated in the Technology Training on Banana Processing conducted by DOST 1 in partnership with DMMMSU-MLUC and LGU-Santol La Union.

The two-day training facilitated by resource persons from the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-Mid La Union Campus (DMMMSU-MLUC), Ms. Zearica D. Arquero (Instructor I) and Ms. Lanni Elenor C. Quibin (Instructor I) taught the 25 participants from Barangay Sasaba and Sapdaan how to process Banana into wine and Banana Patty.

The activity ignited the initiative of the barangay officials, headed by Brgy. Captain Paciano Libuten, to organize and create an Association that will carry out and continue the product development of Banana Wine and Banana Patty. On the other hand, DOST 1, will further assist the community by promoting the developed Banana Products in the DOST oneSTore and the social media.

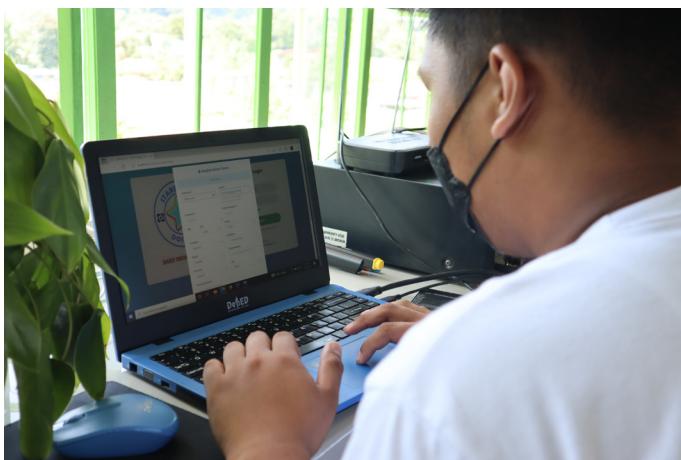


The Department of Science and Technology through its Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) program will continue to maximize the potential of every abundant resources in its scope of communities to ensure responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) and for decent work and economic growth (SDG 8).



DOST 1 deploys STARBOOKS to 2 Secondary Schools in Naguilian, La Union

By: Eiryz Clyde Angelique D. Orpilla



To formalize the partnership and be clear with the responsibilities of each party, a signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) took place in both schools, together with the Provincial S&T Director of La Union, Mr. Jonathan M. Viernes, as one of the signatories, with the presence of Ms. Mary Ann C. Belen and Engr. Eiryz D. Orpilla, Regional and Provincial focal persons for STARBOOKS, respectively.

For NSHS, the MOU was signed by the School Principal III Claire P. Pulanco, ICT Coordinator Jimmy F. Dilinila, and LRM Coordinator Jenybeth R. Belen.

In her speech, School Principal Pulanco of Naguiian National High School (NSHS) extended her heartfelt gratitude to DOST 1 for the adoption of STARBOOKS. "This project will definitely be of great help to the teachers and learners to add more resources that could be used in the different learning areas. They will have ready materials that would add up their modules and references provided by the Department of Education," she remarked.

"I, as the school head will ensure that these materials provided to us will serve its purpose and will contribute fully in the teaching learning processes that would end to better learning outcomes," she added.

On the other hand, School Principal Dr. Jinkee U. Roldan, ICT Coordinator Regie C. Bustamante and Librarian designate Ms. Nancy F. Delizo signed the MOU for the NNNHS.

Moreover, Dir. Viernes gave a brief background and introduced DOST to the faculty and students to further broaden their knowledge and understanding on the programs, projects and activities of the agency. Ms. Belen then discussed the different features and content of the STARBOOKS and provided a hands-on training and orientation to familiarize them on the use of the application.

DOST 1 will continue to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDG 4).

DOST 1 equips DRR Personnel of LGU-Bautista, Pangasinan with portable radio devices

By: Lyngel B. Ulanday



The Department of Science and Technology 1 (DOST 1) through its Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) program, awarded 19 units of two-way radio handhelds to the Municipality of Bautista, Pangasinan on September 14, 2022 to capacitate the rural communities towards disaster preparedness, mitigation and resiliency.

Through the Provincial S&T Office -Pangasinan, four (4) base antennas were installed, and portable handhelds were distributed to the 18 barangays of Bautista providing the entire municipality a reliable tool for communication before and during emergency situations and disaster.

"Kapag may kalamidad, importante ang komunikasyon (Communication is crucial during a disaster)," Mayor Joseph G. Espino said to his constituents during the activity. Bounded by the Agno River in the West, Barangays Nibaliw Sur, Nibaliw Norte, Baluyot, Diaz, Vacante, and

Palisoc are vulnerable to flood because of the swelling and overflowing of the river. "Usually pag malakas ang bagyo, walang signal. Hindi ninyo magagamit ang inyong cellphone, but itong 2-way radio na bigay ng DOST, magagamit natin ito to communicate (Normally, it's difficult to use your cellphone during a heavy storm since there is no signal, but thanks to the DOST for the 2-way radio, we can converse)," Mayor Espino added while reminding the participants to focus on the training for the operation of the device.

The Municipal Disaster Risk and Reduction team shared their struggles in communicating to each other and the residents in affected areas during flood response and recovery operations. The rescue unit will have a backup communication method in addition to the current systems, which will enhance overall disaster risk reduction management operation. The operators were confident they could now rely on this device in emergency situations after making a successful test call.

A virtual seminar on Basic Operation and handling of the two-way radio device was conducted afterwards by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) led by Engr. Rolly S. Aldiosa. Mandates of NTC, radio laws and regulations, handling and basic operation were discussed to the 26 operators present in the venue. Engr. Aldiosa asked two (2) volunteers to demonstrate how to receive and answer distress call following the illustrated codes used in radio communication.

Meanwhile, Mr. Wien Cayabyab, Local Disaster Risk Reduction Management Officer II, encouraged the operators to apply what they have learned in the seminar and be responsible in handling the device to ensure the security of their communication.

CEST program, aligned with the administration's eight-point socio-economic agenda, will provide science and technology-based solutions for disaster risks and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

DOST 1 gears up for 2023-2028, consults with private and public sectors

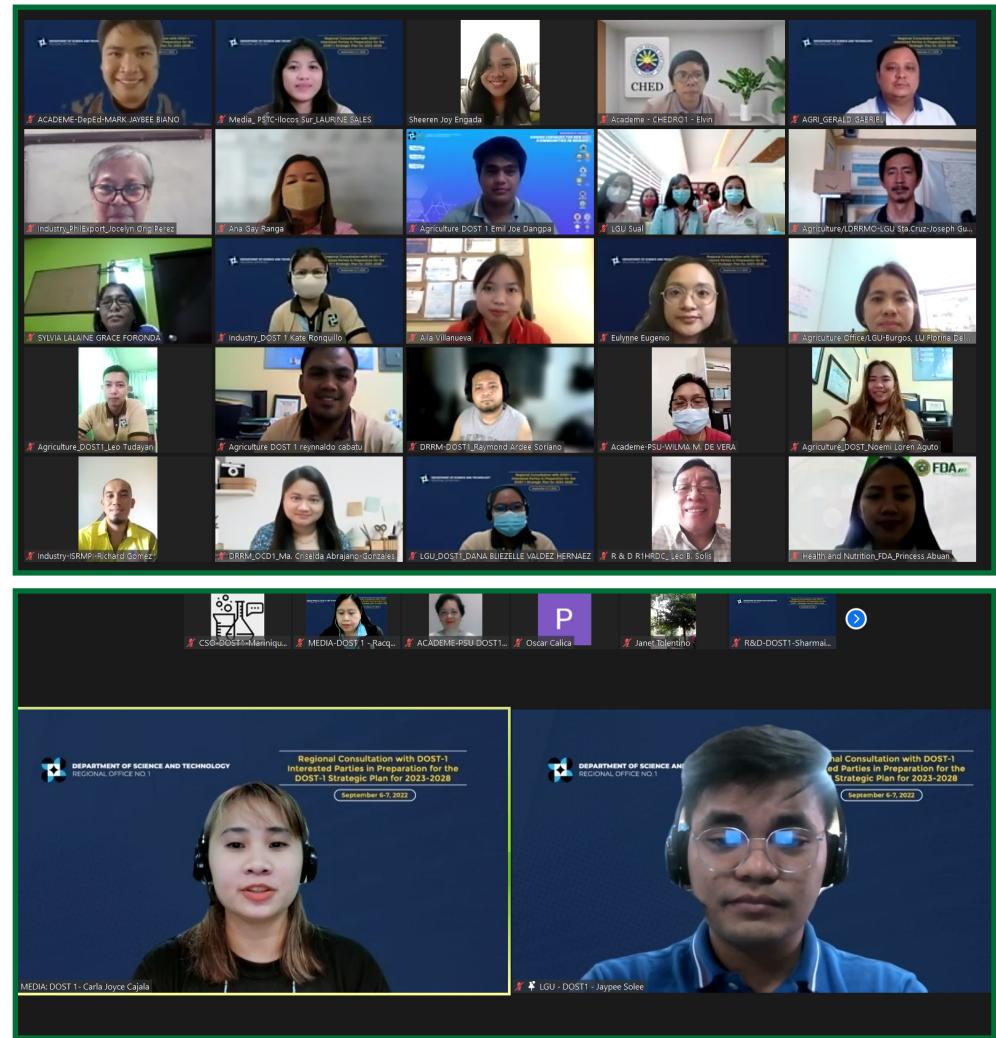
By: Carla Joyce B. Cajala

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1) successfully completed its Regional Consultation on Relevant Requirements of Interested Parties on September 6-7, 2022, via Zoom platform in preparation for the DOST 1 Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

The participants were welcomed by Ms. Racquel M. Espiritu, DOST 1 Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services, who also urged them to collaborate with the agency in highlighting the issues, needs, and expectations of the various sectors. Ms. Espiritu reaffirmed that the regional consultation activity aims to bring interested parties from the Industry, Agriculture, Academe, Research and Development(R&D),Media,Civil Society Organization, Local Government Units/ Provincial Governments, Health and Nutrition and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) sectors in a forum/workshop with the common goal of leveraging science, technology, and innovation to increase productivity and improve the quality of life in region 1.

Dr. Rhodora V. Azanza, President of the National Academy of Science and Technology, Philippines discussed the PAGTANAW 2050 during the first day of the activity. She addressed the various areas that needed improvement in order to advance science and technology in the country. The participants used this as a guide in crafting their outputs. Meanwhile, Ms. Ma. Cristina G. Carino Senior Economic Development Specialist of the National Economic Development Authority Region 1 (NEDA 1) provided a glimpse of the region's state through the presentation of the Region 1 science, technology and innovation (STI) Situationer to aid in the identification of issues and solutions specifically for region 1.

On the other hand, Mr. Deceth-1180 P. Libunao, Officer-in-Charge for Field Operations presented the DOST-



1 programs, projects, and activities (PPAs) in order to provide the attendees a taste of what the agency performs to serve as foundation for the identification of plans and expectations of the various sectors.

The participants were grouped according to their sectoral interests during the workshop proper that took place in the afternoon until the second day and were guided by the workshop mechanics shared by ARD Espiritu.

The groups presented their outputs, discussing on the issues, needs, and expectations specific to their sector.

The two-day activity, which gathered 215 participants, of which 95 were males and 120 females, yielded the outputs that would be used during the Strategic Planning for 2023–2028, which is slated for September 14–16, 2022.

Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial Director of the Provincial Science and Technology Office- Ilocos Sur thanked the representatives from the different sectors for their active participation and for sharing their insights during the workshop. PD Abad remarked that these outputs will assist DOST 1 to better deliver science, technology, and innovation for the people.

DOST 1's CEST Program, ITDI capacitate LGU Agno on WACS

By: Monique C. Esguerra

The activity meant to determine the waste sources generated by the municipality, to help the Local Government Unit (LGU) create strategies for trash reduction and recycling, and to create a solid waste management system that is efficient and sustainable to turn recyclable garbage into profitable projects.

17 Barangay and Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) officials headed by Ms. Arianne Nere-Bugayong attended the training.

Municipal Councilor Edilberto Manalasta expressed his support and commitment to the proper solid waste management initiative of the two (2) agencies.

DOST-ITDI's waste management experts Dr. Myra Tansengco, Engr. David Herrera, Mr. Marcelino Prudencio and Engr. Joven Barcelo served as resource speakers of the training. The participants acquired knowledge and skills on R.A. 9003, Basic WACS and procedures, health and safety guidelines in conducting WACS, preparation of worksheets for non-households and households and WACS plan.

This endeavor is aligned with the country's aim to expand science, technology, and innovation (STI) assistance to communities and production sectors, particularly micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and to provide STI-based solutions for disaster risks and climate change adaptation and mitigation (SDG 6&13).



DOST-1 introduces STARBOOKS to Vintar National High School

By: Mary Ann C. Belen

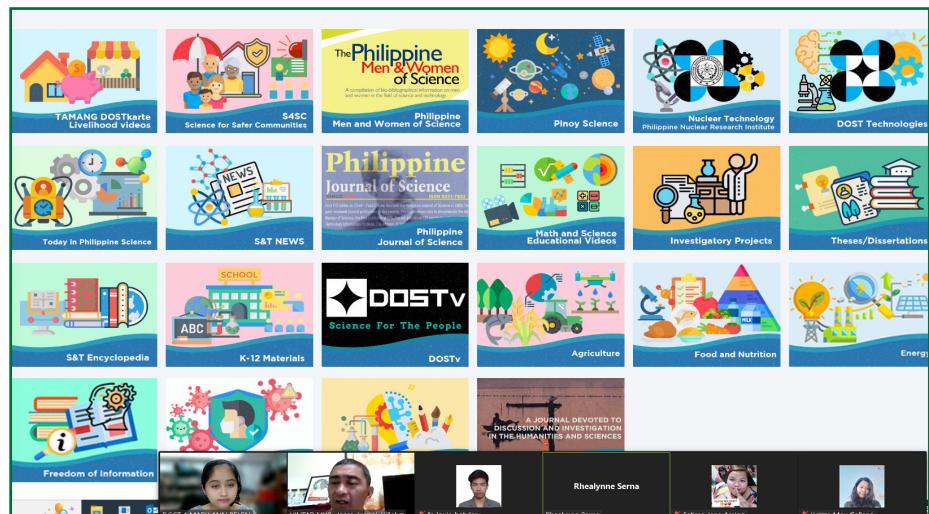
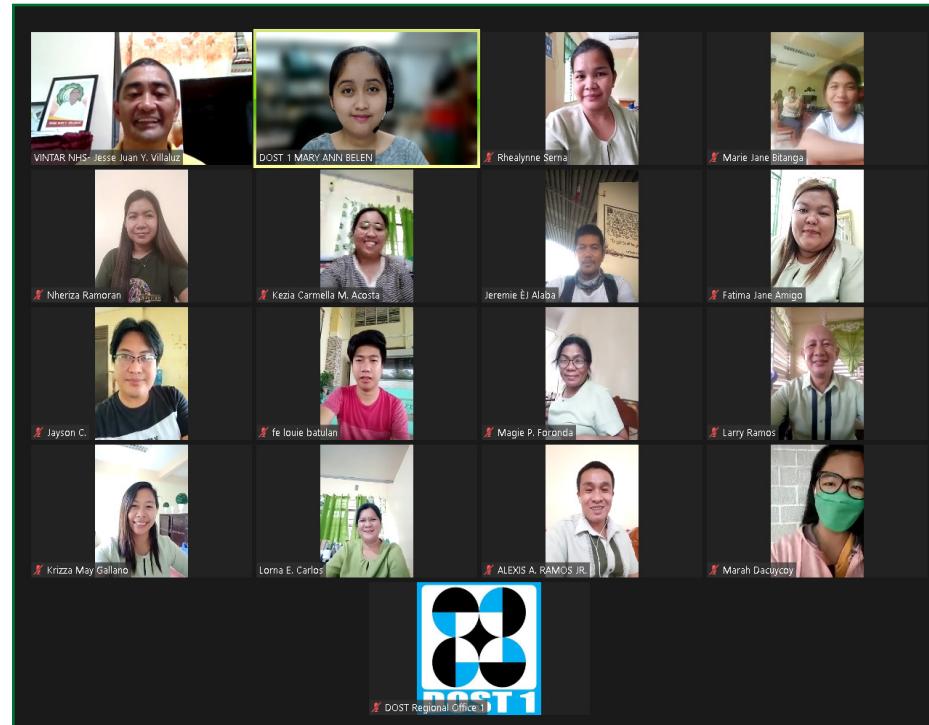
The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), through its Science and Technology Learning Resource Center (S&T LRC), presented the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated KioskS (STARBOOKS) to the teachers of Vintar National High School in Vintar, Ilocos Norte through a virtual orientation on September 9, 2022.

Developed by the Science and Technology Information Institute (DOST-STII), STARBOOKS is a stand-alone information kiosk that contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources sourced-out from DOST's local and foreign linkages, subscription, archive collections and in-house publications in various formats (text and video/audio) set in a very user-friendly interface and can be accessed without internet connection.

Mr. Jesse Juan Villaluz, the school's principal, led the group of 18 participants consisting of 12 females and six (6) males, from the teaching and non-teaching staff. Promotional activities at various schools are part of the process of deploying STARBOOKS software to beneficiaries. Mr. Villaluz is interested in using the STARBOOKS program, which will provide his co-teachers and students with additional learning and teaching tools.

Engr. Benjamin S. Mercado Jr., the Provincial Director of the Provincial Science and Technology Office of Ilocos Norte (PSTO-IN), gave a brief information about STARBOOKS. He stated that this will help increase the number of students enrolling in S&T courses. Meanwhile, Ms. Mary Ann C. Belen, Project Assistant II of the DOST 1 S&T LRC, discussed the features of STARBOOKS as well as its proper use and navigation.

Mr. Villaluz and the teachers from Vintar National High School expressed heartfelt gratitude for providing them with a great tool for their academic sector



Mr. Villaluz and the teachers from VNHS expressed heartfelt gratitude for providing them with a great tool for their academic sector in terms of gaining access to resource materials to aid in their learning needs during the new normal.

For interested schools, public libraries, communities, and private sector, just email DOST-1 at mail@region1.dost.gov.ph.

MEIC up close in DOST 1's Tekno Presyensya

By: Carla Joyce B. Cajala



EPISODE 29 FEATURING:

METALS AND ENGINEERING INNOVATION CENTER (MEIC) IN FOCUS

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION- The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), together with DZAG Radyo Pilipinas Agoo, featured the Metals and Engineering Innovation Center (MEIC) in their weekly radio program entitled, "Tekno Presyensya: Siyensa ken Teknolohiya para kadagiti Umili," on September 1, 2022.

MEIC is a joint project of DOST 1, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University-Mid La Union Campus (DMMMSU-MLUC), and the DOST-Metals Industry Research and Development Center (DOST-MIRDC) to promote innovation culture, strengthen capacity and capability in the field of metalworking, and boost the competitiveness of the metals and engineering industries. The

MEIC serves four purposes to support the DOST's metals and engineering research and development, which promotes creativity and innovation; to assist in prototyping machineries; to support small scale production; and to serve as a training ground for state university students and metals and engineering MSMEs in the area.

Dr. Victorio C. Palabay, Dean of the College of Technology at DMMMSU-MLUC, discussed about the MEIC including its scope, goals and objectives, as well as its impact to the academe and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). He emphasized how the innovation center assisted their graduates in honing their skills and preparing them for future career opportunities. On the other hand, he explained how MEIC has

greatly aided MSMEs in improving the quality and quantity of their production. Dr. Palabay enthusiastically shared MEIC's future plans and efforts to serve the community better.

On the other hand, Mr. Ruzzel A. Abuan, DOST 1's Focal Person gave a tour on the MEIC's working area and provided a brief overview of the equipment that they use in their processes. These machines include the Sheering machine, Bending machine and Rolling machine.

Meanwhile, DOST 1 Regional Director Armando Q. Ganal highlighted the accomplishments of the regional office and provincial S&T centers in the areas of Kabuhayan, Kaayusan, and Kinabukasan and commended the staff and unit leaders for working together to achieve their goals.

OFWs from Ilocos Sur and Pangasinan complete DOST-iFWD PH's Phase 1

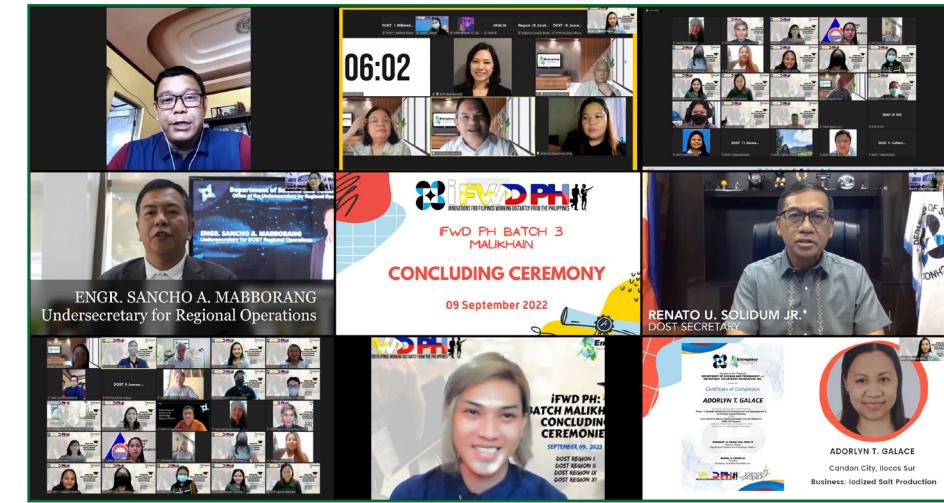
By: Katrina F. Ronquillo

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, La Union – The Innovations for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH) Program of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) culminated its Phase 1 in a virtual concluding ceremony via Zoom last September 9, 2022.

Two (2) OFWs from Region I, along with other ten (10) from Regions II, IX and XI from this year's Batch 3-Malikhain were conferred with Certificate of Completion having successfully completed and attended the 14 capacity-building sessions from June 5 to August 5, 2022 conducted through the collaboration of the aforementioned DOST regional offices and the Entrepinoy Volunteers Foundation, Incorporated (EVFI).

During the initial phase, the OFWs and their representatives were taught of business management principles to guide them in the conceptualization of their proposed technology-based enterprise which will then be funded through the Program's Phase 2. To cap off the sessions, a final business pitching activity was conducted where all the OFWs presented their proposed technology-based venture to a panel, comprised of the consultants and lecturers from the EVFI.

The graduating batch was welcomed by Mr. Decth-1180 P. Libunao, the Officer-in-Charge (OIC) for Field Operations of DOST-1 who lauded the dedication and perseverance of the OFWs in their commitment to the Program. "As we have now come to the conclusion of the Program's Phase 1, may all the learnings serve as your guiding principles as you will now start working on your aspirations of being iFWD entrepreneurs," OIC Libunao said in his message. As the Phase 1 has already been completed, DOST Regional Offices anticipate that these OFW-completers will eventually continue with Phase 2 or the Innovation-funding of their chosen technology-based business. "We hope that your iFWD journey does not stop here, as this only the first big step



towards the opportunity that awaits you," he added. Moreover, Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services Operations and the OIC-ARD for Field Operations Services Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog of DOST-Region 2 also extended her warm welcome remarks to the Ceremony.

In his keynote speech, Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang, Undersecretary for Regional Operations of the DOST commended the efforts of the OFWs who enrolled to the Program. "To the OFWs who took a chance in us and entrusted us to help you reach your technology-based enterprise, we recognize your hard work and perseverance. Indeed, your labor is not in vain. Now that you are home to stay, allow us to help you. Move forward in life as you embrace a fact that you will establish a technology-based enterprise," he said.

DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum, Jr. delivered his words of inspiration to the graduating batch as he praised the significance of the iFWD PH Program being the flagship program for OFWs especially during the height of the pandemic. "We believe and I bet anyone will agree, that the birth of the iFWD Philippines Program has served as an essential purpose especially during the height of the pandemic. In two years' time, from the pioneer batch of 2020 to this year's batch 2022, we have

witnessed all your perseverance and dedication towards establishing your own technology-based enterprises. What you planted has just began growing." Sec. Solidum remarked. He also thanked the DOST regional offices for their continuing initiative and unwavering efforts in conducting the capacity-building sessions for the OFWs and getting them ready in their entrepreneurial prospects.

Following the recognition of the Batch Malikhain was the sharing of testimonials and messages of gratitude from the completers.

As the DOST's partner in the implementation of support programs to OFWs, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) through their Regional Directors, also extended their congratulatory greetings to the completers.

The iFWD PH Program is an initiative of the DOST implemented since 2020 to help repatriated OFWs establish their own technology-based enterprises in hopes to encourage them to settle in the Philippines for good, and in response to the increasing number of OFWs returning to the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

PSU-DOST 1 FIC, DTI hold Calamansi Processing Training to Pangasinan Business Owners

By: Monica May B. Varilla

Calamansi is a popular fruit in the Philippines. It is typically used as condiment for food, and in making sour foods, juices, or purees. Processing is one method of increasing the value of calamansi, especially if it is not sold in the market.

The Pangasinan State University - DOST 1 Food Innovation Center (PSU-DOST1FIC), together with the Department of Trade Industry - Pangasinan held a Calamansi Processing Training entitled "Skills Training: Calamansi Processing" at PSU-Bayambang Campus in Bayambang Pangasinan on September 1, 2022.

The program aimed to educate and impart skills on calamansi processing. The training is composed of a lecture and demonstration of making calamansi juice, concentrated calamansi juice, and spray dried calamansi powder.

The participants included the Pangasinan Entrepreneurs Development Association Incorporated (PEDAI) members and other business owners all throughout the province of Pangasinan.

Dr. Wilma De Vera, Center Head of PSU-DOST 1 FIC, warmly gave the opening remarks to kick off the program and inspire the participants.

Ms. Meryl Bernardino, MS Graduate Fellow and PSU-DOST 1 FIC researcher, discussed about the process of turning the calamansi into calamansi juice and concentrate that can be marketed with high quality and safety.

On the other hand, Assoc. Prof. Veronica Austria, Chair of the Bachelor of Technology and Livelihood Education (BTLED), took the role in the processing laboratory by demonstrating the



process of making calamansi juice and concentrate with the help of the participants. Mr. Ricardo Velasco, the FIC machine operator, demonstrated one way of preserving the calamansi extract by spray-drying technology to produce of calamansi powder.

The participants assured that they will adopt the processes and technology, which will surely help them increase their opportunities in the food industry.



DOST 1 upgrades charcoal production in Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur

By: Laurine R. Sales

STO. DOMINGO, ILOCOS SUR – The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office 1 through the Provincial Science and Technology Office – Ilocos Sur (PSTO-IS) aided charcoal producers at Barangay Nagbetedan, Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur through the provision of charcoal briquetting equipment today.

15 charcoal makers were capacitated with charcoal briquetting technologies in partnership with the DOST Forest Products Research and Development Institute (DOST-FPRDI). Three (3) sets of charcoal briquetting equipment including Plate Carbonizer, Charcoal Briquetor, Charcoal Binder/Mixer, and Charcoal Crusher Machine with 15 Drum Kiln were awarded to the barangay. The participants were also taught on the process of making briquettes using agricultural wastes available in the area.

The livelihood intervention aims to introduce charcoal briquetting technologies to optimize utilization of available resources that will result in their economic benefit through employment and poverty reduction.

Before the training, Brgy. Captain Efren S. Pigao expressed his thanks to the DOST for upscaling the charcoal processing in their barangay.

Ms. Margie B. Dizon, Officer -in-Charge Chief of Training and Manpower Development Services Section from DOST FPRDI presented the Training Course Overview via ZOOM. Meanwhile, Engr. Allan Amando DM. Bondad, Senior Science Research Specialist from DOST - FPRDI lectured on the Charcoal Briquetting Technology. Moreover, Engr. Kristopher Breis, Science Research Analyst from the Technology Innovation Division of DOST-FPRDI demonstrated the technologies via Audio-Visual Presentations.



According to Mayor Bryan Dexter V. Tadena, they are glad for the charcoal briquetting technologies from DOST. He hopes that the participants will sustain the technologies in order to reduce the cutting of trees as their source of raw materials.

Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial S&T Director of the PSTC – IS agreed with the benefits of the technologies provided to the community. He mentioned that the training was organized based on the Community Needs Assessment (CNA)

conducted in the barangay. He said that the stable demand for charcoal and the continuous increase of prices of fossil fuel are reasons to venture into this kind of business.

Brgy. Nagbetedan is considered one of the insurgency affected areas in the province endorsed by the Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict 1 (RTF-ELCAC 1).

DOST 1 advocates its Programs, Projects, and Activities to the Phil Army's 702nd Infantry Brigade in Sta. Cruz, Ilocos Sur

By: Laurine R. Sales



The DOST Provincial Science and Technology Office - Ilocos Sur promoted the agency's Programs, Projects, and Activities (PPAs) to the Philippine Army's 702nd Infantry (Defender) Brigade at Brgy. Bugbuga, Sta. Cruz today.

33 participants from 54IB Kiangan, Ifugao, 69IB Cervantes, Ilocos Sur, 71IB Lidlidda, Ilocos Sur, and 2nd CMO Company Narvacan, Ilocos Sur attended the activity.

Ms. Laurine R. Sales, Project Assistant II from PSTC-Ilocos Sur discussed the DOST 1's PPAs. She further presented the DOST Scholarship program to the participants as they are interested to relay the program to their respective sectors.

Moreover, Mr. Raymond E. Alip, Project Assistant II from PSTO - IS Candon Field Office presented the Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) program of the agency.

Captain James A. Martinez, Civil Military Operations Officer expressed his appreciation and thanked the DOST for presenting the different programs and services that the people's organizations in the remote areas could avail.





DOST 1 awards Php 2.764 M to four MSMEs, 1 cooperative in Ilocos Sur

By: Laurine R. Sales

Sustaining its mandate to provide science and technology interventions to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the region, the Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), through the Provincial Science and Technology Office – Ilocos Sur (PSTO – IS), awarded a total of Php2,764,100.00 to four (4) MSMEs under the Small Enterprises Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP) and Community-based Project (CBP) in the province.

Among the beneficiary MSMEs receiving the SETUP funds are Ogoy Tractor Parts and Services in Galimuyod with Php1,220,000.00; Eagle Vision Inc. in Bantay with Php1,000,000.00; Nanang Sion Food Products in Vigan City with Php250,000.00; and Dinz Food Products in Vigan City with Php150,000.00 while Arnap Sunrise Agrarian Reform Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative (ASARCMPC) in Cabugao is awarded with Php144,100.00 under the Community-based Project of the agency.



Provincial Director Engr. Jordan L. Abad congratulated the beneficiaries and emphasized the responsibilities during the awarding.

He said that DOST assistance to the firms and association is expected to help them in their business to meet their objectives of increasing income and productivity, and to generate employments.

According to Engr. Abad, the DOST is in full support in the improvement of services and products of the assisted MSMEs in the province.

The awarding was held today at the PSTO-IS field Office in Candon City for the second district beneficiaries and at the Provincial S&T Office – Ilocos Sur in Vigan City for the first district MSME-recipients, respectively.

DOST 1, MMSU launch Project INABEL in Carasi, Ilocos Norte

By: Kent J. Ramil



The Department of Science and Technology in Region I through its Provincial Science and Technology Office-Ilocos Norte and the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) launched the project INABEL in Carasi town to preserve and promote the cultural identity of the indigenous peoples (IPs) and communities in the municipality through the weaving of ethnic attires.

Launched last September 14, 2022, at the town's municipal hall, the project INABEL, or the Innovations on Native Attires, Bracing and Encouraging Livelihood, also aims to provide livelihood opportunities to the town folks, especially those differently-abled individuals. A three-day training from September 14-16, 2022 was conducted for the Aken Loom Weavers.

Mr. Jahmai O. Grande, Project Assistant II, and Ilocos Norte CEST focal person said that the first component of the project is called Panagabel, which is training on the use of traditional handloom weaving equipment.

During the training, Dr. Lawrence Eclarin, MMSU's associate professor and the principal investigator of the Abel Iloko Project, discussed Weaving and Mathematics and taught the participants how to formulate Abel designs, while Ms. Leonica Rico, a handicraft worker of the MMSU Loom Weaving Center, led the hands-on operation of the warping tool and the loom weaving machine.

Ms. Leonor Reyes, Municipal Social Worker Officer, said that aside from the training, loom weaving machines will be awarded to the local government unit of Carasi from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to be used by the community for livelihood activities.

The Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Project in Carasi town is a partnership between the MMSU and DOST-1 which includes various technological interventions and training programs that would help increase the productivity of townspeople.



DOST 1 rolls out Food Safety Training Assessment in Ilocos Norte

By: Engr. Jamaicah A. Topinio

ILOCOS NORTE – The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), through the Provincial S&T Office-Ilocos Norte (PSTO-IN), carried out a Training on current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) and Food Safety to Bannuar Sustainable Livelihood Program Association of Banna, as well as to Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte-assisted Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) under the food sector, on September 20 and 21 respectively, and conducted a Food Safety Assessments to two (2) DOST 1-assisted firms on September 22.

The consecutive pieces of training were spearheaded by Mr. Gerald Q. Gabriel, Science Research Specialist II (SRS II) of PSTO-IN, along with Mr. Hero Galamgam, SRS II of DOST 1- Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL) as the Resource Speaker.



FOOD SAFETY AWARENESS

Mr. Galamgam equipped the Bannuar Sustainable Livelihood Program Association of Banna at Mariano Marcos State University Hostel on September 20 and the PGIN-assisted employees and owners of MSMEs primarily engaged in food manufacturing and preparation, in collaboration with PGIN-MSMEO, at Ilocos Norte Provincial Capitol Auditorium on September 21, with topics on cGMPs and sanitation principles and practices to ensure producing safe food.

He also discussed the Food Safety Act of 2013 ("Food Safety Act") which requires food business operators to make sure that food complies with applicable food law requirements relevant to their activities in the food supply chain and that control systems are in place to prevent, eliminate, or reduce risks for consumers.

PACKAGING AND LABELLING

In addition to the training on Food Safety, Engr. Benjamin S. Mercado, Jr., Provincial S&T Director of PSTO-IN, and Mr. Gabriel followed through with the training on Packaging and Labeling for the Bannuar Association.

They informed the association members of the basic requirements of Product Packaging and pointed the mandatory label requirements by the national and international laws and guidelines such as the Philippine National Standards, Rules, and Regulations Governing the Labeling of Prepacked Food Products Distributed in the Philippines.

Engr. Mercado also informed them about the Packaging and Labeling assistance that the DOST 1 offers to make the assisted firms' products more pleasing and competent in the market.

FOOD SAFETY ASSESSMENT

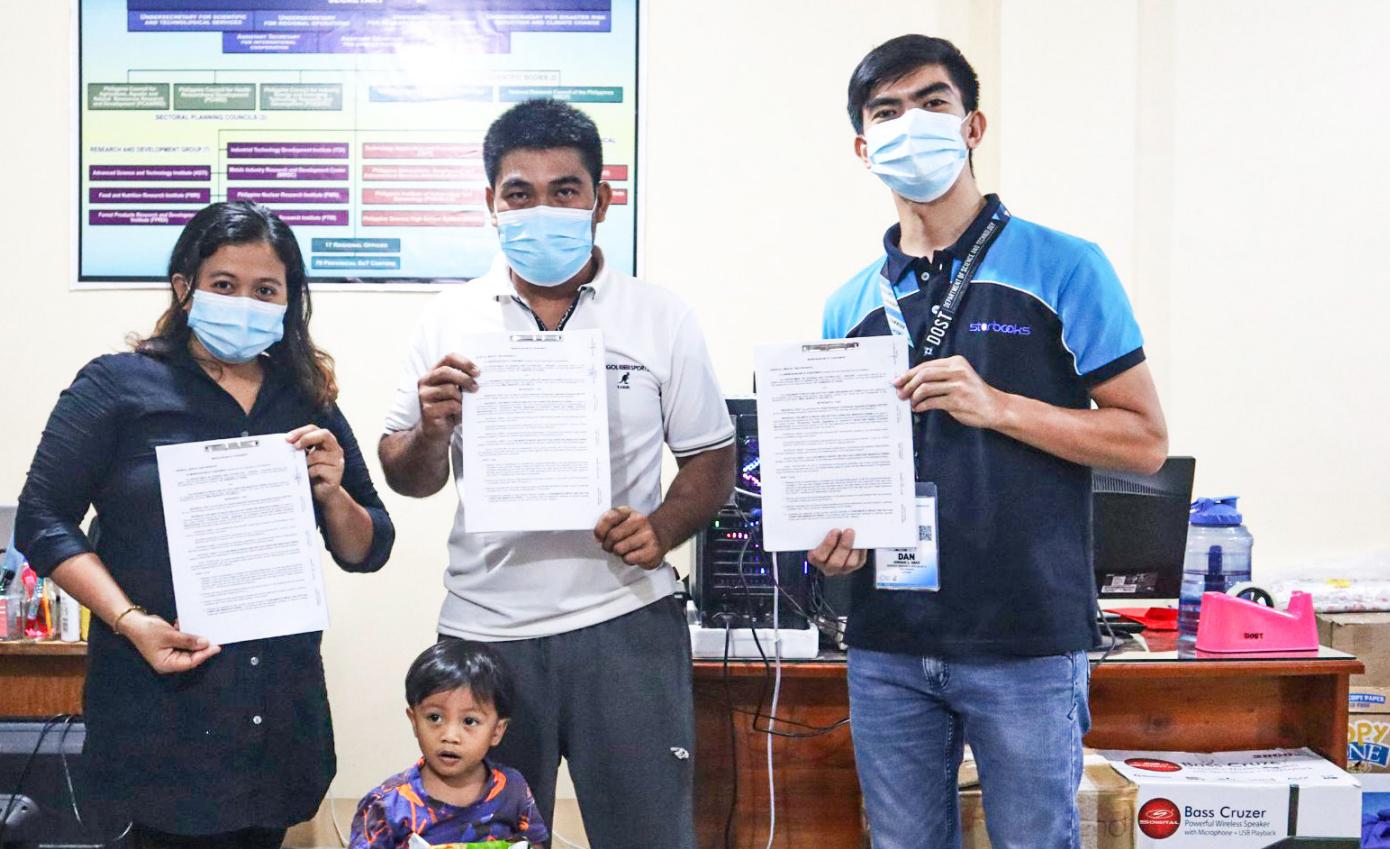
Mr. Galamgam, Mr. Gabriel, and Engr. Jamaicah A. Topinio conducted Food Safety Assessment to Organiko Nga Mannalon Ti San Nicolas Ilocos Norte, Inc., DOST 1-assisted organization through the Community-Based Projects (CBP), and Tito Bojo's Food Products, assisted through the Innovation for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH).

The Food Safety Team assessed the existing state of the firms' facilities and procedures using Food Safety Principles and cGMP. After which, Mr. Galamgam gave immediate recommendations for food safety concerns detected, both on the process and plant layout linked to the businesses' evaluation, to be followed with official reports.

Food Safety Training and Assessment are part of the Technical Assistance and Consultancy Services (TACS) provided by DOST 1 to MSMEs and organizations in the food processing sector.

Two Firms in Ilocos Sur sign Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with DOST as 2022 SETUP and CBP Beneficiaries

By: Laurine R. Sales



The Arnap Sunrise Community Multi-Purpose Cooperative headed by Mr. Eliseo A. Tabula based in Cabugao, Ilocos Sur is a beneficiary of the Community-based Project (CBP) and Carlmarc's Wood and Rattan Furniture Manufacturing owned by Mrs. Marivic D. Estabillo from Candon City, Ilocos Sur is a recipient of the Small Enterprises Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP).

Both firms are expected to improve their products, services, operations and increase their productivity and competitiveness, with the various S&T interventions to their respective sectors.

SETUP is the agency's flagship program on technology transfer and commercialization and targets to upgrade existing equipment and facilities of the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that could boost their products, services, and operations, thereby increasing their productivity and competitiveness.

Community-based Project on the other hand, aims to assist associations and cooperatives to create or improve their livelihood through processing and manufacturing of abundant commodities in their community.

DOST awards Automated Weather Station, Portasol to Cervantes, Ilocos Sur

By: Emil Joe Dangpa

CERVANTES, Ilocos Sur - The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 through the Provincial Science and Technology Office Ilocos Sur (PSTO-IS) facilitated the installation of an Automated Weather Station (AWS) and awarding of Portasol on September 9, 2022.

According to Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial Director of PSTO- IS, the installation of the AWS is part of the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management/ Climate Change Adaptation (DRRM/CCA) of the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology Program currently implemented in the area. This aims to capacitate the communities through generation of timely weather data for preparedness and resiliency during occurrence of natural hazards.

The deployment aims to strengthen and enhance knowledge of DRRM Personnel through the provision of S&T intervention of mechanism for disaster preparedness and mitigation. It will help the community in monitoring the weather conditions, provide crop advisories, create predictions, and formulate plans for a more resilient community.

"Itong equipment na ito ay malaking tulong sa amin mas lalo na sa lugar namin na napapalibutan ng kabundukan. It will help us in preparing for disasters in the near future," Mayor Pablito Maggay II said.

Eight (8) DRRM Personnel of LGU-Cervantes were capacitated during the installation and trained them on the operation and maintenance of the weather station.

Meanwhile, PSTO-Ilocos Sur also awarded two (2) units of Solar Portable Drying trays to the Cervantes Coffee Farmers Association through President Pablo Acyangan and Mayor Maggay.

"Thank you DOST for the unending support that we are receiving," Mayor Maggay II remarked. He also commits that the LGU will give support to DOST and the associations/organizations in the municipality.



DOST 1 preps for 2023-2028, aligns strategic plans with the DOST-wide system plan

By: Carla Joyce B. Cajala

The planning workshop was aimed to develop and strategize DOST 1 efforts to lead the way in region 1 through science, technology, and innovation, and to align the DOST 1 strategic plan with the DOST-wide system plan.

DOST 1 Regional Director Armando Q. Ganal welcomed the participants and guests virtually and urged them to openly share their ideas in order to come up with a fruitful plan. He encouraged them to take advantage of the opportunity to work together toward the common goal of bringing science to and for people.

The first day featured DOST Planning and Evaluation Services Director Cesar R. Pedraza's discussion on the strategic planning process, including situation assessment, environment scanning, and SWOT analysis. He systematically guided the team in developing an aligned plan equipped with the fundamental tools for a more effective strategic plan. These inputs were used by the team in developing the DOST 1's five-year strategic plan for the following days.

DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang joined the DOST 1 team during the second day where he shared the strategic directions of DOST Regional offices, as a guide of the group in crafting the strategic plan geared towards the central direction of the DOST-wide system. During the open forum, the staff's questions, concerns, and issues were also addressed.



The two-day planning workshop allowed DOST 1 staff to collaborate and share their ideas for the 2023-2028 strategic plan. They assessed what had been accomplished in the previous year and planned ahead for the next five (5) years. Towards the last day of the workshop, they proudly shared their final output as a result of their collaborative efforts.

Atty. Jasmin C. Bañez, Assistant Regional Director for Finance and

Administrative Services, lauded the team's efforts and active participation in the three-day planning workshop. She also urged the team to constantly improve operational processes in order to provide quality service to the people of the region.

It was indeed a productive three-day activity for the DOST 1 team, as they pursue to lead the way through science, technology, and innovation to the people of Region 1.

Santo Domingo BNSs train on DOST PINOY Modules

By: Emil Joe Dangpa

Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur- A total of 34 Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS) of this town participated in the 2-day training on the Department of Science and Technology- Package for the Improvement of Nutrition of Young Children (DOST PINOY) through the initiative of the Department of Science and Technology Provincial S&T Office – Ilocos Sur (PSTO-IS) last August 31 and September 1, 2022.

The training, in collaboration with the Food and Nutrition Training Unit (FNTU) of the Department of Science and Technology- Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST- FNRI) and the Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC), is part of the Malnutrition Reduction Program (MRP) using the DOST PINOY strategy. It is a part of the program which aims to reduce the prevalence of underweight children through the conduct of capacity building activities for community health workforce and the conduct of the 120-day feeding using DOST FNRI-developed complementary foods. It is also one of the interventions identified under the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program currently implemented in the municipality.

"Maganda itong training na gagawin natin dahil makakatulong ito na maimprove ang kalusugan at nutrisyon ng mga bata at mapalawak ang kaalaman natin tungkol sa MRP," said Engr. Russel Alcanciado, Sto Domingo Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator.

On the other hand, Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial S&T Director presented the rationale of the activity and the background of the CEST Program. He emphasized the importance of training to the participants and their role in successfully implementing an MRP.



Modules discussed in the training included: Module 1 (Batayang Nutrisyon Madaling Pag-aralan); Module 2 (Maayos at Ligtas na Pagbubuntis, Ating Tiyakin); Module 3 (Pagpapasuso, Tanging the Best kay Beybi); Module 6 (Pag-aalala'y Pawiin, Gawing Ligtas ang Pagkain); Module 5 (Meal Plan Ni Nanay); Module 4 (Ok na Ok! Sa Pagbibigay ng Karagdagang Pagkain); and Module 7 (Halina't Mag-Gulayan tayo sa Bakuran).

A demonstration of the preparation and mixing of the complementary food blends used in the feeding program was also facilitated after the lectures.

Ms. Cherry Tuzon, Municipal Nutrition Action Officer of Sto Domingo, is hopeful that more training related to the malnutrition reduction will be implemented not only in the municipality of Sto. Domingo but also in the whole province of Ilocos Sur.

Meanwhile, Ms. Janneth Damcil, Barangay Nutrition Scholar, expressed her gratitude to the DOST in conducting such training. "We are very thankful that you shared this kind of information with us, especially to the new BNS in Sto. Domingo. We can now improve the health condition of children in our respective barangays," said Ms. Damcil. "Nakita ko na very active kayo dito sa activity, maswerte po tayo dahil ang CEST program ng DOST-1 ay nakapriority sa Brgy. Nagbetteban pero ang training ngayon ay idinagdag ang iba pang mga barangay ng bayan ng Sto. Domingo," said Dr. Perlita F. Tomas, Head of Research and Extension of Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC).

Resource persons in the training include FNRI staff Ms. Christelle Lois Bayalas, Ms. Filipiniana Bragas, and Ms. Jane Jasmine Sune while ISPSC counterpart lecturers include Dr. Joanna Marie Guarin, Marnesse Sobremonte, Dr. Lou Khristine D. Racca, and Mr. Peter Paul Lazo.

DOST 1 to strengthen Cervantes' weaving industry, forges MOA with ComSoWA

By: John Carlo G. Lopez



With the aim to strengthen the weaving industry of Cervantes, Ilocos Sur, the Department of Science and Technology Region 1 through the Provincial Science and Technology Office – Ilocos Sur inked a memorandum of agreement with the Comillas South Weavers Association (ComSoWA) at Lepanto Hall, Cervantes, Ilocos Sur on September 9, 2022.

Present during the MOA Signing are Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial S&T Director representing Dr. Armando Q. Ganal, DOST-1 Regional Director and Ms. Mary Ann Manuel, President of ComSoWA. Mayor Pablito Benjamin P. Maggay II and Ms. Veronica Selec, Vice-President of ComSoWA served as witnesses during the signing ceremony.

With the project, the association is set to upgrade its products and operations through the provision of four (4) units of Advance Handlooms amounting to Php 240,000.00 and training on the operation of the machine as well as design generation in making quality inabel products.

"With this project, Cervantes could possibly produce inabel products which could be used in activities and even in traditional activities," said Engr Abad. "We envision them to produce quality fabric not only of woven foot rugs and table runners but also traditional attires, among others," he added.

The ComSoWa currently produces woven products such as table runners,

floor rags, and door mats. "We are very much grateful to DOST for providing our association the capability and interventions that could develop our products," Mayor Maggay said.

The association will soon be capacitated on the use of the weaving machine and be introduced with other design options for more quality woven products.

Community-based project is one of the programs of the agency which aims to assist associations and cooperatives to improve and upgrade their livelihood through the provision of appropriate technological interventions.



DOST 1 PROGRAMS & SERVICES

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM

SETUP

SMALL ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY UPGRADING PROGRAM

iFWD PH

INNOVATION FOR FILIPINOS WORKING DISTANTLY FROM THE PHILIPPINES

CEST

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMUNITY-BASED

COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

RSTL

REGIONAL STANDARD AND TESTING LABORATORIES

TACS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

P&L

PACKAGING AND LABELING ASSISTANCE

TECH TRAININGS

TECHNOLOGY TRAININGS

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

JLSS

JUNIOR LEVEL SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

UNDERGRADUATE

UNDERGRADUATE S&T SCHOLARSHIPS

GRADUATE

GRADUATE S&T SCHOLARSHIPS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

iSTART

INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ACCELERATING REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY-BASED DEVELOPMENT

STARBOOKS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH-BASED OPENLY-OPERATED KIOSK STATIONS

TransDi

TRANSFORMING R&D OUTPUTS INTO INNOVATIONS THROUGH TECHNEPRENEURSHIP AND CUSTOMER VALIDATION

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RXBOX ADVANCING COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

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