



RAMBAK TI SIYENSYA: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION CARAVAN IN SAN EMILIO, ILOCOS SUR

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST1) Provincial Science and Technology Office – Ilocos Sur (PSTO-IS), in partnership with the Municipality of San Emilio celebrated the Rambak ti Siyensya: Science, Technology, and Innovation Caravan on November 28-30, 2023 in San Emilio, Ilocos Sur. A total of 2,106 local government staff, teachers, students, farmers, and stakeholders joined the opening ceremonies with a tone of celebration. The Rambak ti Siyensya highlighted the four (4) pillars of DOST alongside the priority areas of the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST).

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DOST 1 AWARDS CARRAGEENAN PGP TO SAMPAGUITA GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1) through the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) – Pangasinan awarded 250 liters of Carrageenan Plant Growth Promoter to Sampaguita Growers Association on November 15, 2023 at Bariato, Manaoag, Pangasinan.

The Carrageenan Plant Growth Promoter is a DOST-Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (DOST-PNRI) technology that has been shown to improve plant growth and induce plant defense mechanisms.

The association's collaborative efforts opened the door for them to become regarded as the principal producer of the Philippines' national flower, the sampaguita flower, in the province of Pangasinan.

Furthermore, the aroma of their success has already reached neighboring provinces because their sampaguita is traded in La Union, Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, and even in Baguio City, which is known to be the flower city of the north.



With these accomplishments, DOST 1 acknowledges the association's contributions to making Pangasinan known for sampaguita, which is popularly used to make garlands that are commonly sold in churches. That is why the DOST wants to extend its assistance by providing science, technology, and innovation (STI) support services for the association's production.

Present at the awarding were Manaoag Municipal Mayor, Hon. Jeremy Agerico B. Rosario, and Ms. Roma Ibasan to represent Congressman Christopher De Venecia.

Manaoag Municipal Mayor, Hon. Rosario expressed his appreciation for DOST 1's timely help to the association because it will drastically improve their sampaguita production. He also extended his gratitude to Congressman Christopher De Venecia for his initiative in endorsing the association's needs to the DOST.

DOST 1 will continue to contribute to the common international mission of promoting Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8) by assisting the Filipino people in their needs to further improve their business operations and production through science and technology.

THREE (3) CEST COMMUNITIES IN LA UNION RECEIVE PORTASOL UNITS FROM DOST



The Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program, under the Provincial Science and Technology Office – La Union (PSTO-LU), delivered 25 PORTASOL units (Portable Multi-Purpose Solar Tunnel Dryers) to Santol, Burgos, and Aringay last November 6-7, 2023.

Mr. Jonathan M. Viernes, PSTO-La Union's Provincial Director (PD), and Mr. Joseph T. Eisma, La Union's CEST Coordinator, spearheaded the turnover and awarding of PORTASOL units. During the ceremony, local officials and CEST representatives received the solar dryers on behalf of their communities.

In Santol, Engr. Ronald Tayaoan, Municipal Planning Development Officer, Mr. Arthur Lalong, Municipal Agriculturist, and Ms. Rose Joane Otanes, CEST Focal Person, received the units on behalf of Mayor Magno Wailan. In Burgos, Mayor Delfin C. Comedis Jr. and Ms. Florina P. Delos Reyes, Municipal Agriculturist/CEST Focal Person, accepted the PORTASOL units, accompanied by two (2) beneficiary association presidents. Aringay's Mayor Benjamin O. Sibuma, along with Engr. Benjamin Magno,

Municipal Agriculturist, and Mr. Samson Villarosa, CEST Focal Person, participated in the turnover alongside the beneficiary associations' presidents.

PD Viernes highlighted the value of PORTASOL in drying rice and other seed products, emphasizing its role in reducing post-harvest losses. Mr. Eisma demonstrated the assembly and management of the units, ensuring recipients were equipped with the necessary know-how. Santol received four (4) units, Burgos received nine (9), and Aringay received 12. These beneficiary associations are essential partners in implementing CEST Programs.

PORTASOL comprises well-ordered, lightweight drying trays assembled into racks, providing a simple and effective solution to prevent post-harvest losses. PORTASOL enables farmers and end-users to dry grains more easily and quickly than traditional methods. Designed for faster drying, it ensures safety, food hygiene, and product quality, marking a significant step in advancing agricultural practices in La Union.



This celebration started with a ribbon cutting led by Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog, DOST 1 Regional Director, Congresswoman Kristine Singson Meehan represented by Hon. Mildred M. Elaydo, Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member, Mayor Joey Waren A. Bragado, and Engr. Jordan L. Abad, Provincial Director of PSTO-IS, followed by the opening of exhibits, Ground Breaking of Municipal Intensive Tilapia Hatchery (MITH) at Burayok Paltoc, San Emilio, Launching of Vegetable Processing at San Miliano, Awarding of Portasol to selected coffee farmers in the municipality, and Awarding of Versatile Instrumentation System for Science Education and Research (VISER) to San Emilio National High School.

The activity was joined by exhibitors coming from DOST Metals Industry Research and Development Center (MIRDC), Department of

Agriculture - Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (DA-PHILMech), DOST-Pangasinan State University – Food Innovation Center (DOST-PSU FIC), Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College (ISPSC), Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DOST-ASTI), DOST - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD)/Central Luzon State University (CLSU), and RxBox representatives. Also, the interactive exhibits and mobile planetarium of the Philippine Science High School - Ilocos Region Campus (PSHS-IRC) is also featured and enjoyed by students and teachers from the municipality and schools from nearby municipalities.



The celebration also highlighted the following activities such as TechTalk: Teknolohiya at Talakayan sa Pamayanang Capacity Development for Elementary and High School

Teachers was also conducted with topics such as: Preliminary Lecture-Workshop for the Development of Indigenized and Contextualized Learning Materials; Development of IEC materials using Computer-Aided tools; A-B-N-K-K-R&D na Pala Ako!



Meanwhile, addressing the Unprecedented Disaster and Challenged of African Swine Flu (ASF), Farm Biosecurity and ASF Control and Management was also discussed, and free ASF detection testing was done through the samples provided by the Local Government of San Emilio.

Further, DOST also advocated a DOST Scholarship Campaign to students and aspirant DOST Scholars in the last day of the event.

EMPOWERING iSTART COMMUNITY THRU DOST-1 AND LGU-SUAL'S PARTNERSHIP: CULTIVATING SUSTAINABLE BAMBOO RESOURCES



The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office No. 1 (DOST 1), in collaboration with the Provincial Science & Technology Office of Pangasinan (PSTO-Pangasinan) and the Local Government Unit of Sual, Pangasinan, recently organized a two-day training on Bamboo Propagation and Clump Management. Held on November 20-21, 2023, at Sual Municipal Building and Lakay Nga Lomboy Integrated Farm in Bani, Pangasinan, the event aimed to promote sustainable bamboo cultivation for environmental protection, livelihood, and business opportunities.

Bamboo, known for its versatility and ecological benefits, is a renewable

resource that can be utilized for construction, furniture making, and handicraft production. The training, part of the Innovation, Science, and Technology for Accelerating Regional Development (iSTART) Program, focused on equipping communities in Sual with the knowledge and skills to harness bamboo's potential for economic development and environmental conservation.

Led by the Municipal Mayor, Hon. Liseldo DQ. Calugay, and supported by various municipal departments, the LGU-Sual collaborated with resource speakers Ms. Karen O. Principe and Mr. Carlito Ostil from Lakay Nga Lomboy Integrated Farm. This father and daughter

duo, passionate advocates for bamboo use, shared their expertise to empower participants with the benefits of bamboo.

A total of 45 participants successfully completed the training, covering modules on Introduction to Bamboo, Bamboo for Sustainable Environmental Protection, Livelihood, and Business Opportunities, Bamboo Propagation, Bamboo Clump Management, and Bamboo Post-Harvest Treatment. The second day included hands-on activities for practical skill development.

The successful event reflects the continued S&T intervention in Sual through the DOST iSTART program.



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Congratulations!

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 1



**DOST-1 successfully retains its
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATION**

after passing the ISO 9001:2015 re-certification Audit
conducted by the Certification International Philippines, Inc.
on November 16-17, 2023.

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Telefax: (072) 888-3399
CP No.: 0917-840-8695 or 0998-962-0232
Email: mail@region1.dost.gov.ph

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