



ISO 9001:2008  
CERTIFIED

# Ilocos S & T Trends



ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER AT THE SAN FERNANDO CITY, LA UNION POSTAL OFFICE

Volume 10 Issue No. 16

ISSN No. 0118-0924

MAY 2017



## TURNING STRUGGLES INTO BLESSINGS

*The tale of the La Union's AVP Dressing Plant*

Photo source/s: DOST-PSTC La Union and DOST1 Archive

*Dressing chickens is a tedious task, and not for the faint of heart. Yet after the dressing process, another crucial step has to be completed: selling it to consumers. But will the chickens sell or be rejected by meticulous consumers?*

In early 1990s, Mrs. Myrna Padua has been one of the suppliers of live chicken in the town of Bauang, La Union. But she did not end there because in 1998, she decided to sell dressed chickens for additional income. Realizing good business in this venture, Aling Myrna and his husband, Mr. Anthony V. Padua who was then working as a security guard, decided to put up the AVP Dressing Plant in 2009.

From dawn to sunset, Aling Myrna was counting around 60 heads of chicken dressed and slaughtered manually. The dressed chickens, however, had poor meat quality due to internal bleeding as shown by blood spots in the breast, and broken bones due to flapping during bleeding. The blood also dripped in the slitting area causing a high biological oxygen demand (BOD) of the wastewater. These technical constraints have resulted to low competitiveness in the marketplace.

### Upgrading the AVP Dressing Plant through SETUP

An adage says, "small opportunities are often the beginning of great achievements." Having learned of the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP) of the Department of Science and Technology, the couple did not think twice of getting assisted to increase productivity and enhance the quality of their meat products. They were granted the needed set of equipment for a semi-automated chicken dressing operation in 2013.

The equipment is composed of the machine control panel, overhead conveyor (where the birds are hanged

while moving slowly to the next operation), electric stunner machine (a bin filled with water where electric current passes to paralyze the birds), blood trough to collect the blood, scalding bin to soften the skin and facilitate removal of the skin during defeathering, and kerosene burner.



Aside from acquiring the machinery, Anthony and Myrna were also trained on current Good Manufacturing Practices and Financial Management through the DOST's Provincial Science and Technology Center in La Union. They were also provided with technical assistance and consultancy services, specifically the Cleaner Production Assessment and Energy Audit, which provided recommendations for efficient waste reduction and energy management practices, respectively. (cont.p2)

## CONTENTS

Turning struggles into blessings, the tale of the AVP Dressing Plant.....p2

A DOST scholar is a Cum Laude.....p3

DOST1 garners most outstanding Project Monitor Award.....p4



## The new AVP Dressing Plant

(from p.1) The life of AVP Dressing Plant changed with technologies. Semi-automation enabled the firm to dress 700 birds in just three hours a day. It also saved on electricity at an average of Php5,000.00 per month. The average operation production time shortened from eight hours to three hours while the gross sales went up by

Currently, AVP Dressing Plant earns thousands from the internal organs and other body parts. Gizzard, liver, feet, intestines, head, and hardened blood are becoming popular in the markets of neighboring towns and food firms in La Union. The firm also entered into a marketing agreement with Max's Restaurant in San Fernando City and Magnolia Chicken of San Miguel Corporation.

The technology interventions assured the consuming public that AVP Dressing Plant is producing safe and quality dressed chickens. This motivated the couple to put up the AN2N'S Lechon Manok, a favorite *lechon* of the Ilocanos in Bauang, and a favorite stopover of travellers.

## AVP Dressing Plant and its societal contributions

Due to the DOST interventions, the BOD of the wastewater generated during processing has considerably dropped. A three-chamber water treatment facility was constructed where the wastewater is disposed to prevent pollution of nearby waterways is being monitored regularly to sustain environment-friendly production. The firm has also obtained accreditation from the National Meat Inspection Services (NMIS) while the DOST is continuously providing technical assistance and monitoring to sustain safe production.

The AVP Dressing Plant also contributes in reducing unemployment. At present, the firm employs 19 workers in the processing and marketing of its products. Aside from this, more than 45 individuals are indirectly employed by the dressing plant.

The firm was also visited by no less than DOST Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña during his tour around the region, together with other heads of DOST-attached agencies on the early part of 2017. He remarked that the dressing plant is among the firms that are ready to compete in the ASEAN market. It was recognized as the Best Regional SETUP Adoptor and represent Region 1 in the nationwide search for the 2016 Best SETUP Adoptor Award of DOST.

***The struggle of the chickens in the AVP Dressing Plant is comparable to struggling in business. Despite the efforts you invested to your products, you are not assured of the marketability because of bigger competitors who got the quality and taste of the customers. Like AVP, businessmen must be wise to improve the quality of their products. In the end, the struggle of every successful businessperson is not only for their benefit but also for the good of the community that it serves.***  
//Florde Liza L. Alida-DOST1-PA1



## A DOST scholar is a Cum Laude

*“Whatever your mind sets to do, believe in yourself that you can do it, claim it, and make it happen.”*

This adage made Mariane B. Lucenesio, a Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST1) scholar, to conquer the stage when she was honored as Cum Laude of her class, Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in Mathematics during her graduation last April at Colegio De Dagupan in Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

Mariane was raised in Dagupan City, Pangasinan where she completed her elementary to tertiary education with flying honors. After graduating as valedictorian of Pantalan Elementary School in 2009, she enrolled at Dagupan City National High School where she graduated as salutatorian in 2013.

### A glance to DOST scholar's life

A quote says, *“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do.”* This was proven by the story of Ms. Lucenesio on how she was able to survive from the challenges in school.

Financial problem did not deter her from fulfilling her dreams in life. Her solo parent, Vivian Lucenesio, is self-employed, thus passing the examination and qualifications for DOST scholarship widened the door for her to continue her studies.

As a student who perseveres with her goals, Mariane enhanced her academics and extracurricular performance through studying hard and attending her class regularly. She is also active in terms of extracurricular activities.



Aside from being a student leader, she also competed in several Math and Science quiz bees in the university.

Some students were influenced with bad habits in school. They use their vacant time to indulge vices, but Ms. Lucenesio and her friends utilized their free time for their homework and extracurricular activities. *“Thankful po ako na DOST scholar din yung ibang friends ko, kaya sabay po kaming nagreview. Pinapaalalahanan po namin ang isa’t isa,”* Ms. Lucenesio said when asked if how she handled the influence of friendship in school.

*“Message ko po sa mga DOST Scholars ngayon, maging vigilant at determined lang kayo na makakapagtapos. Siyempre magpapasalamat din tayo sa mga taga-DOST dahil kung hindi dahil sa kanilang programa, maaring di na tayo makakapag graduate,”* added Ms. Lucenesio.

### Preparing for the next steps

At present, Ms. Lucenesio is preparing for the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET). She was able to obtain a review scholarship program from CBRC review center in Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

When asked for her future plans, she said, *“After passing the LET, I would like to take masters degree for the continued development of knowledge, and for me to be able to teach mathematics to college students.”*

Mariane is a DOST scholar under R.A. 7687 and she is mandated to render service along her field of specialization in the country equivalent to the length of time she enjoyed the scholarship.//

**Florde Liza L. Alida-DOST1-PA1**

### Services:

- \*Technology Needs Assessment for MSMEs
- \*Production /Equipment/facilities upgrading for MSMEs
- \*Testing and Calibration Services
- \*Packaging and Labeling Assistance
- \*Technical Assistance and Consultancy Services
- \*Technology Trainings
- \*Technology Fora
- \*S&T Scholarships
- \*Food Product Improvement/Development
- \*Experts Pool
- \*S&T Technology Information and Materials

Visit us from Monday-Friday!!!

Like us in Facebook @ DOST I-Department of Science and Technology Regional Office No. 1 or visit our website @ <http://region1.dost.gov.ph/>



## DOST1 garners Most Outstanding Project Monitor Award from RDC

*The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST1), headed by Dr. Armando Q. Ganal, was awarded the Most Outstanding Project Monitor- Category A 2016 by the Regional Development Council (RDC) on May 9, 2017 at Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, during the State of the Region Development Conference.*

The Most Outstanding Project Monitor Award was granted in recognition of its timely submission of project monitoring reports consistent with the objectives of the Regional Project Monitoring and Evaluation System (RPMES) being implemented by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

The award was categorized based on the number of projects being implemented. Category A for entities implementing 1-10 projects, Category B for 11-30 projects, and Category C for projects above 30. DOST1 bested the other contenders from Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Regional Line Agencies (RLAs), and Provincial LGUs in the whole region under Category A.

DOST1 enrolled the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP) which assisted a total of 23 firms and generated employment for 2,220 individuals in 2016.



*Photo source: PLA Region 1*

The project was evaluated in two major areas, the Annual Project Monitoring Plan and submission of Quarterly Reports, which included the quality of reports, timeliness of submission, and overall project performance.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and congratulation to all the staff of the Department of Science and Technology Regional Office for a job well done. We were able to get the coveted award of being the most outstanding project monitor for the year 2016, award given by the RDC Region 1. This is a very big achievement on our part being able to implement our enrolled projects to the RDC with the full commitment and the interest to achieve our objectives. I hope it will serve as an inspiration to all of us to go further and achieve more of what we are doing in the region so that we will be able to harvest or reap additional awards for all of us," said Dr. Ganal.

He also recalled that DOST1 was the Most Outstanding Project implementer winner during the time of Director Elsa R. Chan, when he was the project monitor.

SETUP assistance had been granted to 37 firms this year while the effort to invite more micro, small, and medium enterprises to adopt technologies and avail assistance from SETUP is continuous.

*Writer & Lay-out artist: Florde Liza L. Alida -PA1/DOST 1*

For more information, please contact Dr. Armando Q. Ganal, Regional Director, at telefax No.( 072) 888-3399, mobile numbers 0917 840-8695 (Globe)/ 0998 962-0232 (Smart) or e-mail at [dostregion1@gmail.com](mailto:dostregion1@gmail.com) / [dostro1@dost.gov.ph](mailto:dostro1@dost.gov.ph).



DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
Regional Office No. 1  
DMMMSU-MLU Campus  
City of San Fernando,  
La Union 2500

STAMP

