



MOA Signing for the CEST Communities in Region 1 CEST: Empowering Lives, Building Communities

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), in collaboration with partner SUCs, NGAs, and CSOs in Region 1, signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the six (6) 2023 CEST communities in the region. The momentous event was held at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University - International Convention Center, Sapilang, Bacnotan, La Union, last May 16, 2023. [read more in page 3...](#)

OTHER DOSTONESCIGLAT NEWS:



DOST 1 boosts Laoag Mango Industry with Native Mango Processing Training



DOST 1 with NCRP conduct the BURDA Roll-out in the Municipality of Burgos, La Union



DOST 1 Food Safety Team assesses 8 Food Processing Firms in Pangasinan



DOST 1 WITH NCRP CONDUCT THE BURDA ROLL-OUT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BURGOS, LA UNION

The Department of Science and Technology - Regional Office 1 through the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program in collaboration with the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) conducted the Bridging the Utilization of R&D results through Awareness and dissemination (BURDA) for CEST Roll out last May 25, 2023.

BURDA Project aims to raise awareness and enhance literary

levels of identified CEST Communities in science, technology, and arts through various communication forms translated into popular, culture-sensitive, gender-responsive, and research-based knowledge products.

The municipality of Burgos, a CEST beneficiary in the province of La Union since 2022, is categorized as a GIDA community, having a group of Indigenous people, and marginalized sector. It is composed of farmers and irrigators' associations, women's

associations, senior citizens groups, and health workers showcasing the potential to be empowered and be capacitated on the researched based knowledge making them one of the first communities for the BURDA for CEST rollout.

A ceremonial turnover of BURDA for CEST Animated Videos, Facilitators' Kit, and Communication Plan to DOST 1 and the Municipality of Burgos, La Union.

DOST 1 BOOSTS LAOAG MANGO INDUSTRY WITH NATIVE MANGO PROCESSING TRAINING

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1), through Provincial Science and Technology Ilocos Norte (PSTO-IN), in partnership with the Office of the City Agriculturist of Laoag, successfully conducted a training on Native Mango Processing on May 4, 2023, in Laoag City, Ilocos Norte. The primary goal of the event was to enhance the knowledge and skills of the Laoag Mango Growers Association Inc. in processing mangoes and turning them into profitable products.

The training was attended by 27 members of the association and equipped them with the necessary knowledge and skills for mango processing. The resource speakers, who were from Mariano Marcos State University, discussed various topics related to the mango processing industry. The six-part training included topics such as Good Manufacturing



Practices and Food Safety, Overview of Mango Processing, hands-on training on making Mango Jam and Mango Candy, Packaging and Labeling, Marketing Skills, and Simple Bookkeeping. The participants were able to learn the step-by-step process of making mango products and were taught how to package, label, market, and keep track of their expenses and income to ensure the sustainability of their business.

The training was a success, with the participants gaining valuable knowledge and skills that will help them produce high-quality mango products and increase their income. The DOST 1 hopes to conduct more training programs like this to help the local farmers and boost the agriculture industry in the region.



With the aim of alleviating poverty in the economically challenged communities in region 1, DOST 1, spearheaded by Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang, Undersecretary for Regional Operations, and Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog, OIC-Office of the Regional Director, together with the Provincial Directors of Provincial Science and Technology Offices, Regional Directors and Provincial Officers of National Government Agencies, Presidents and representatives of SUCs/academe and CSOs, Municipal Mayors, representatives, and Punong Barangays of the 2023 communities from Nueva Era, Ilocos Norte, San Emilio, Ilocos Sur, Aringay and Santo Tomas, La Union, Dagupan City and Bolinao, Pangasinan, formally forge the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the 2023 CEST Communities.

A message from Dr. Renato U. Solidum, Jr., DOST Secretary, was presented, highlighting the importance of strong partnerships in the implementation of the program to ensure that interventions are responsive to the needs of the community.

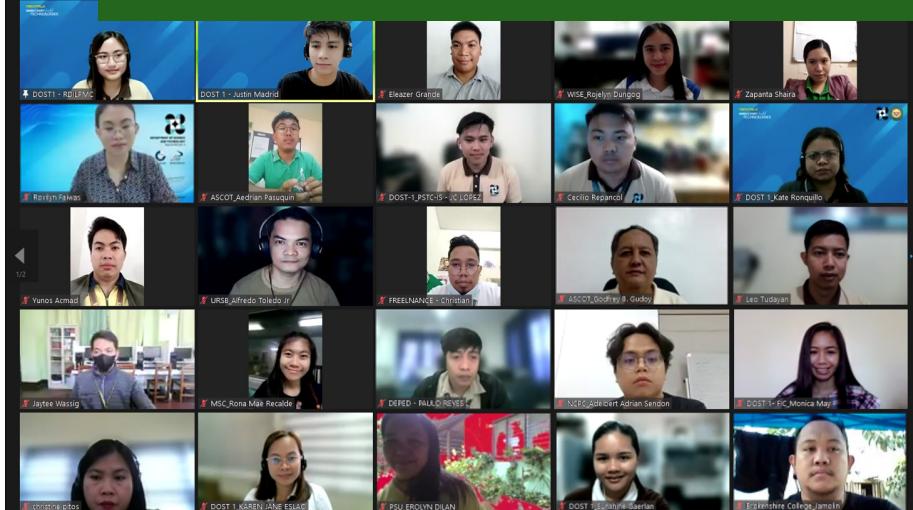
The event was graced by the duly designated representatives from the Office of the District Representatives and the Office of the Provincial Governor of the four (4) provinces in region 1 and delivered their message of support and commitment to the implementation of the CEST Program in the region.

This convergence is dedicated to engaging in the gender-responsive program of the DOST's CEST in support of the government's national program on poverty alleviation. The CEST program is a package of science and technology interventions that aim to build communities to be empowered, progressive and resilient communities. It focuses on the five entry points which include:

- Livelihood/Economic Enterprise Development;
- Health and Nutrition;
- Human Resource Development;
- Environmental Protection and Conservation;
- Disaster Risk Reduction & Management and Climate Change Adaptation.

0918-908-3799

DOST 1 FEATURES THE MMSU-DOST-FUNDED TECHNOLOGIES IN TECHTALK



The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office No. 1 (DOST - 1) through the Research and Development and International Linkages Program Management Center (RDILPMC) conducted this year's TechTalk: featuring the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) – DOST-funded Technologies on May 03, 2023, via Zoom and FB Live.

The webinar sought to showcase DOST-funded Technologies that are accessible for transfer and commercialization as well as give attendees helpful insights, particularly on product development.

Ms. Adelisa C. Florendo, Officer-in-Charge for Field Operations of DOST-1 extended her profound appreciation to the speaker and welcomed the participants.

Mr. Eleazer Grande, Science Research Assistant I of the Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), presented some of the products innovated and developed by the university's team of Food Products and Innovation Center (FPIC), including the "ToMango Juice" which has been a qualifier for the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Innovation Award last 2022. The Innovation Award is given to products in food science and technology that exhibit highly technical innovativeness and market attractiveness. He also highlighted the benefits of these products, their competitive advantage, and projected net income including the initial requirements for possible adoption.

To this, he encouraged everyone to adopt the available MMSU-DOST-funded technologies and visit their location for more innovative products developed by the University.

DOST 1 PROMOTES FOOD SAFETY AWARENESS TO FOOD PROCESSING FIRMS IN PANGASINAN



The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1) has been actively working to enhance food safety standards in the food processing sector in Pangasinan. The DOST 1 Food Safety Team, led by Engr. Arnold C. Santos, Provincial Director of PSTO-Pangasinan, along with Mr. Hero D. Galamgam, Project Technical Specialist I, Ms. Jennifer C. Fernandez, Science Research Specialist II, Ms. Sheryl Ann E. Balmadres, Science Research Specialist I, and PSTO-Pangasinan staff, conducted a comprehensive Food Safety (FS) Assessment of eight (8) firms in the region.

The assessment involved an actual visit to the production areas of various firms, including LE & Sons Manufacturing OPC of Tayug, Vacante Water Station of Bautista, Legaspi Processing of Calasiao, Boboy's Advocates of Progress Association of Agno, Women's Unity of Mapandan, Laoac Biotechnology Inc., and Manni Meogo Food Haus of Laoac, Pangasinan. The primary objective was to evaluate the firms' current operational procedures, equipment, and production layout to ensure compliance with the Food Safety Standards.

To carry out a thorough evaluation, the FS team employed ten (10) evaluation criteria, covering various aspects such as organizational structure, location, plant building, equipment, sanitation, process control, quality control, documentation, storage, and product recall. After the assessment, the team provided valuable recommendations to help these firms further enhance their processes and production layout in preparation for their application for a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) License-to-Operate.

In line with their commitment to fostering food safety awareness, the DOST 1 extended its efforts to two (2) more food processing firms in Villasis and Tayug, Pangasinan. On May 10, 2023, a seminar on current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) with a special focus on food safety was conducted. The seminar gathered a total of 119 participants from R Kitchen Foods Corporation, a gourmet manufacturer in Villasis, and LE & Sons Manufacturing Corporation, a condiments toll manufacturer/repacker in Tayug.

Mr. Hero D. Galamgam, Project Technical Specialist I of the DOST 1 Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL), served as the resource speaker for the seminar. He delivered training sessions to the production workers, emphasizing basic food hygiene and cGMP principles. The participants were also educated on various food hazards and causes of food contamination. Furthermore, Mr. Galamgam conducted assessments of the sanitary conditions and practices of these firms to ensure their compliance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Basic Food Hygiene, and Food Safety requirements.

The DOST 1 remains committed to working hand-in-hand with Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and organizations in the food processing sector, as well as consumers, to improve food safety in the region. By providing educational lectures and assessments to businesses, the DOST 1 aims to support firms in obtaining the necessary licenses to operate and to raise awareness among the general public for the benefit of all.



DOST 1 AWARDS SPEED DRYING TRAYS TO LA UNION FARMER-BENEFICIARIES

The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office No. 1 (DOST 1) awarded 25 units of Multipurpose Post Harvest Grains Speed Drying Trays to farmer-beneficiaries in the Province of La Union on May 16, 2023. The awarding ceremony took place at the DMMMSU International Convention Center, Sapilang, Bacnotan, La Union.

The initiative was led by OIC-Regional Director, Dr. Teresita A. Tabaog, along with other DOST 1 officials and project leaders. The Speed Drying Trays, an innovative alternative to traditional drying methods, were introduced and invented by Mr. Francisco Pagayon, President of the Filipino Inventors Society Producer Cooperative (FISPC).

Compared to pavement or roadside drying, the Speed Drying Trays have shown to reduce drying time by 2-3 times and lead to higher

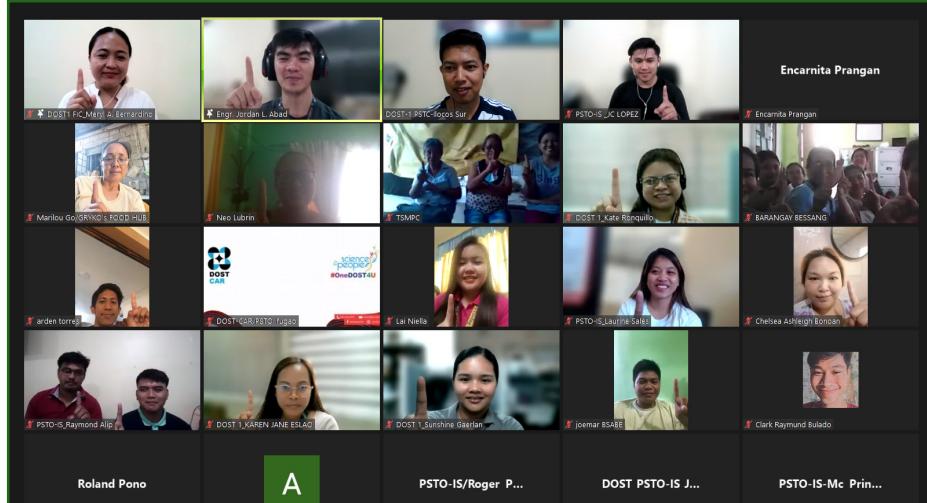
grain quality and recovery. The trays utilize natural solar power through highly conductive materials, distributing heat evenly to the grains. Additionally, they come with a cover for rainy seasons and a ventilated canopy cover to protect the grains from infestation and spoilage.

The use of Speed Drying Trays saves space, time, and effort as they are easy to assemble and require minimal space. By adopting this technology, farmers can prevent harvest losses, promote higher grain quality, and improve market prices. DOST 1 plans to extend support to more farmer-beneficiaries in the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, and Pangasinan by distributing additional Speed Drying Trays.

Through such initiatives, DOST 1 aims to enhance the livelihood of farmers and contribute to reducing post harvest losses in the region.



DOST 1 STRENGTHENS TECH TRANSFER, INTRODUCES DOST-FIC TECHS FOR ADOPTION



The Department of Science and Technology Office Region 1 (DOST1) held the "InnovEAT: A Technology Forum for Ilocos Sur MSMEs on FIC-developed Technologies" via Zoom. The forum aimed to disseminate information about various FIC-developed products and technologies and encourage their adoption by Micro-Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and assisted communities.

Engr. Jordan L. Abad, PSTO-IS Director, emphasized the goal of assisting and accelerating the adoption of these technologies during his welcome message.

During the forum, twenty-one (21) technologies were presented, including Indian Mango Products, Calamansi Products, Mushroom Products, Ready-To-Eat Products, Spray Dried Products, and Squash Products.

Ms. Meryl A. Bernardino, the Resource Person, expressed the Food Innovation Center's desire to promote these technologies for the benefit of the local community.

The technology adoption process and the classification of presented technologies for commercialization or extension were also discussed.

The forum had 40 participants from the academe, the DOST System, and the industry (MSMEs).



CEST Community Empowerment through Science and Technology

"Empowering Lives, Building Communities!"

WHAT IS CEST?

CEST is a package of **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY** interventions which aims to **BUILD EMPOWERED, PROGRESSIVE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES.**

Who are the beneficiaries of CEST?



Communities in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas



Marginalized sectors e.g. farmers and fisherfolks association etc.



Communities with Conflicts



Indigenous People



Women's Organization

CEST ENTRY POINTS

- 1. Livelihood / Economic Enterprise Development
- 2. Health and Nutrition
- 3. Human Resource Development
- 4. Environmental Protection and Conservation
- 5. Disaster Risk Reduction & Management and Climate Change Adaptation

2023 CEST COMMUNITIES IN REGION 1



CEST BENEFICIARIES

ILOCOS NORTE:

Dumalneg
Carasi
Adam

ILOCOS SUR:

Sto Domingo
Narvacan
Nagbukel
Sta. Maria
Burgos
Quirino

LA UNION:

Bagulin
Santol
Burgos

PANGASINAN:
Agno
Aguilar
Bautista
Mapandan
Umingan



DOSTOne Sciglat

The Ilocos S&T Trends is published monthly by the Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST 1) With editorial office at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University—Mid La Union Campus, Catbangen, City of San Fernando, La Union

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