



MR#2024-03-003

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
REGIONAL OFFICE VIII

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Empowering women entrepreneurs:  
NEDA VIII, PCCI Tacloban-Leyte, Inc., and DTI Leyte**



TRANSCENDENCE. NEDA VIII's RD Meylene C. Rosales urges attendees to view entrepreneurship as a journey of transcendence, empowering women to drive regional economic progress.

In a resounding display of commitment to fostering women's economic empowerment, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Regional Office VIII recently joined hands with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) Tacloban-Leyte, Inc. and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Leyte to orchestrate the much-anticipated Women in Business: Leyte Forum 2024, held on 25 March at the Felipina Hall, NEDA VIII in Palo, Leyte.

Drawing strength from the collective expertise and resources of the three organizers, the event seamlessly facilitated knowledge-sharing, networking opportunities, and capacity-building initiatives. These were tailored to the unique needs of aspiring and established women entrepreneurs in the region.



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At the heart of the forum were enlightening sessions led by experts from both the public and private sectors. These sessions delved into crucial topics such as local support programs, available financing options, effective market expansion strategies, leveraging online opportunities, and the significance of fostering a robust network of women entrepreneurs. Over a



IT'S A WRAP! Participants, resource persons, and organizers of the Women in Business: Leyte Forum 2024 pose for a commemorative photo.

hundred attendees had the invaluable opportunity to glean insights from the success stories of esteemed women entrepreneurs who have achieved global recognition, inspiring them to aim higher and dream bigger in their entrepreneurial endeavors.

RD Meylene C. Rosales, in her welcome remarks, underscored the transformative power of entrepreneurship, framing it as a journey of self-transcendence. She encouraged attendees to embrace entrepreneurship not merely as a means of economic advancement but as a vehicle for personal and communal growth. By transcending their individual aspirations and contributing to the larger societal fabric, women entrepreneurs can catalyze positive change and drive regional economic progress, she added.

The forum's success was further propelled by the invaluable support extended by esteemed partners such as USAID and the Tingog Party List, whose unwavering commitment to advancing gender equality and empowering women entrepreneurs played a pivotal role in amplifying the impact of this transformative event.

Moreover, the forum not only served as an educational platform but also provided a dynamic space for participants to showcase their products and services through interactive booths set up outside of Felipina Hall. This hands-on approach fostered networking opportunities and facilitated direct engagement between entrepreneurs and potential customers, amplifying the impact of the event.

As the echoes of empowerment reverberate across the region, the forum serves as a powerful reminder that when women come together, incredible things happen.



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**ABOUT THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

The National Economic and Development Authority is the country's premier socioeconomic planning body, highly regarded as the authority in macroeconomic forecasting and policy analysis and research. It provides high-level advice to policymakers in Congress and the Executive Branch.