



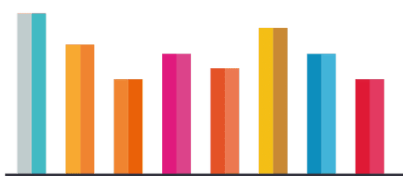
Food Testing Laboratory launched in VSU

DTI together with the Visayas State University, launched the first Food Testing Laboratory in Region 8 with its co-operator, the VSU Department of Food Science and Technology. (pg. 3)

Seminar on Advance Mediation and Fair Trade Laws Enforcement (pg. 4)

LEIZ Master Plan starts off

DTI 8 coordinated the first Kick Off Meeting for the Leyte Ecological Industrial Zone Master Plan on 15 January 2019. (pg. 3)



2018 Quick
Stat



About the Publication



Updated
Directory of Officials

2018 Accomplishments: A Quick Stat



17,952



Clients Assisted

MSMEs Assisted in
Priority Industries

552



NEGOSYO
CENTER

95

Established &
Maintained

₱ 104,367 M



Sales Generated



178

Graduates



IP 95

Applications Filed



98%

Business Name
Registered



246

MSMEs doing
e-commerce



260

Prototypes
Developed

Percentage of
Operational SSF

83%



170

Firms Monitored
(Price Trending)

99%

Consumer Complaints
Resolved



93%



Compliance of
Penalized Firms

95%



Employees
Capacitated



BMBE

Registered

100%

PRIME HRM
Maturity Level

2



LEIZ Master Plan starts off



The Board of Investments together with Department of Trade and Industry Region 8, conducted its first Kickoff Meeting for the creation of the Leyte Ecological Industrial Zone (LEIZ) Master Plan last January 15, 2019 at the NEDA Regional Office Conference Room.

In 2017, Atty. Raul Angeles of the Board of Investment and Dr. Buboy Dargantes of the Visayas State University signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the preparation of documents necessary for the LEIZ Master Plan.

The development of the LEIZ Masterplan is one of the action items under the Copper Industry Roadmap. Its objective is to develop a copper industry cluster, preferably in Leyte, which may be supported through the establishment of an ecological industrial zone. Government stakeholders in Region 8 expressed their support to this project through the RDC Resolution No. 35, s. 2016.

The Master Plan, to be developed by Palafox Associates, will identify suitable areas in Leyte where copper processing and allied activities may be located taking into consideration existing industrial zones and port facilities. The identification of existing and planned industrial zones

will include details on how to develop, promote and optimize these areas. "The establishment of the LEIZ and development of a copper industry cluster in Leyte serves as our medium to long-term strategic economic objective consistent with the agency's industry development mandate," says Board of Investment Director Raul Angeles.

Dir. Angeles added that the proposed zone will also promote industry clustering to alleviate logistics costs of business and provide steady power supply since Leyte hosts one of the biggest geothermal power plants in the country. Environmental concerns would also be a priority of the project and he cited that the waste of one company could be put into good use like being used as raw materials of other locators. The project will provide not only services for waste management and recycling but will also ensure that the foundations of buildings and other infrastructures are strong enough to withstand natural disasters such as typhoons and earthquakes. ■

First Food Testing Laboratory in Region 8 launched



In photos: Dr. Edgardo Tulin, VSU President; Dir. Jerry Clavesillas of BSMED; Asec. Blesila Lantayona of DTI ROG; DTI Leyte Prov'l Director Ed Belas; former DTI 8 Reg'l Director Cynthia Nierras; DTI 8 OIC Reg'l Director Celerina Bato.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) through its Leyte Provincial Office launched the first Food Testing Laboratory in Region 8 located at the Visayas State University (VSU) Baybay, Leyte on March 14, 2019.

Through the Shared Service Facility Program, DTI granted PHP 20 million worth of equipment and machine for the food testing laboratory. DTI Leyte and VSU saw the opportunity to address the gap in the food processing sector in Leyte and the rest of the region.

One of the prevailing concerns of food processors is the absence of accessible and affordable laboratory analysis services relevant to the mandate of the Republic Act 3720 and DOH Administrative Order No. 30 s. 2014 which is the mandatory labeling of its product contents/ingredients.

This facility will provide food and beverage product laboratory analysis services to help MSMEs comply with labeling requirements; water analysis for water refilling stations; direct business development assistance; professional network and support; and research and development on food nutrition and safety.

“Facilities like food laboratories are essential for our MSMEs to upgrade, meet quality standards, and become more competitive with the foreign products in the market,” says Asec. Blesila Lantayona of the DTI Regional Operations Group.

Asec. Lantayona also encouraged the importance of collaborating and establishing networks with other established share service facilities provided by DTI in other locations to fully support product development in Eastern Visayas. ■

Capacity development conducted for FTL Enforcers



On February 27-28, 2019, DTI conducted a Seminar on Advanced Mediation and Orientation on Department Orders related to Monitoring and Enforcement. It aims to capacitate DTI officials in handling complaints, facilitating mediation, and conducting monitoring of products in the market and enforcement of fair trade laws and related regulations.

The latest closure of steel bars manufacturer in Pampanga is just one of the many incidents that the Department undertakes to heighten consumer protection against deceptive and unconscionable practices of some companies. Thus, DTI Region 8 deemed it timely to capacitate its people to strengthen monitoring and enforcement in the region.

The provisions of the recent Department Order No. 18-122 New Procedural Guidelines on Monitoring and Enforcement Amending D.O. 48 s. 2008”

were discussed in pieces. Now, provincial offices are duly authorized to conduct monitoring, surveillance, enforcement and other relevant activities. It was clarified that the DTI-Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau (FTEB) need not come to conduct such activities unless requested by the regional or provincial offices.

issues such mediation of complaints related to online shopping; warranty of products; proper handling of complaints lodged to DTI which are not under the Department's jurisdiction; and the fines imposed to non-compliant companies.

As an end note, DTI Samar Provincial Director Meilou Macabare urges the provincial teams to revisit product standard guidelines and be well-capacitated to verify, monitor and enforce so that standard qualification of products in the market are assured. ■

About the Publication



Photo Source: <https://www.vectorstock.com/royalty-free-vector/eastern-visayas-philippines-map-grey-vector-23599426>

THE EDGE

Eastern Visayas always has the edge.

Aside from the fact that it is located at the Eastern edge of the Visayan island chain in the Philippines, it also serves as the traffic point of land transportation and logistics from Luzon and Mindanao. The Department sees this an edge of the region's progress and competitiveness. DTI 8 through its programs and services, continues to spearhead economic development by creating a more inclusive business environment and fostering growth of micro and small entrepreneurs.

"The Edge" is an official publication of the Department of Trade and Industry Region 8 containing highlighted activities and accomplishments of every quarter that support the Department's mission of creating a more inclusive, job-generating, competitive businesses and empowering consumers.



About the Region

Eastern Visayas (Filipino: Silangang Kabisayaan, Waray-Waray: Sinirangan Bisayas) is one of the 17 regions of the Philippines, designated as Region VIII. It is composed of three main islands, Leyte and Samar, connected by the San Juanico Bridge, and Biliran Island.

It consists of six provinces, one independent city and one highly urbanized city namely, Biliran, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Northern Samar, Samar, Southern Leyte, Ormoc City and Tacloban City- a Highly Urbanized City and the Eastern Visayas Regional Center (EVRC).

These provinces and cities occupy the easternmost islands of Visayas group of islands. It is one of only two regions having no land border with another region, MIMAROPA being the other.

Eastern Visayas directly faces the Pacific Ocean. The land area of the region is 2,156,285 hectares. The population as of August 1, 2015 was 4,440,150 based on the 2015 Census of Population (POPCEN 2015).

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