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DOST-FNRI Kicks Off 2025 Updating Survey Nationwide

by Frances Pola S. Arias, Science Research Specialist II

The DOST-FNRI has officially launched the 2025 Updating of the Nutritional Status of Filipino Children and Other Population Groups, also known as the 2025 Updating Survey, marking the 7th in a series of interim nutrition surveys conducted between rounds of the National Nutrition Survey (NNS) since 1990. This nationwide survey aims to generate timely, evidence-based data that reflects the current nutrition and health situation of Filipinos.

Spearheaded by Mildred O. Guirindola, Ph.D., Chief Science Research Specialist of the Nutritional Assessment and

Monitoring Division (NAMD) of DOST-FNRI, the 2025 Updating Survey serves as a crucial tool in updating national and regional data that support the development and reformulation of policies, strategies, and interventions to improve public health and nutrition. Importantly, the NNS and its Updating Surveys serve as key mechanisms for tracking the achievement of near-term goals under the current administration's 8-point socioeconomic agenda, with particular emphasis on food security and health and nutrition indicators. These data help guide strategic planning, policy

development, and investment in programs that uplift the well-being of all Filipinos.

The 2025 Updating Survey is comprised of seven components; such as Anthropometry, Food Security, Socio-economic and Demographic Characteristics of Households, Clinical and Health, Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices, Maternal Health and Nutrition, and Knowledge and Awareness on DOST-FNRI Programs, Services, and Tools.

In preparation for the national rollout, simultaneous trainings and field practicums for field researchers were conducted in Zamboanga City, Davao City, Baguio City, and Taguig City from March 5 to April 11, 2025. These intensive trainings equipped the field researchers with skills and appropriate research techniques for effective data collection.

To ensure readiness for the 2025 Updating Survey, a Pilot Survey was held from April 7 to 14, 2025 in Barangays Central and Lower Bicutan, Taguig City, with NAMD's

Science Research Specialists simulating the roles of field researchers. Feedback from the Pilot Survey were used to refine research procedures, workload assignments, and scheduling of data collection.

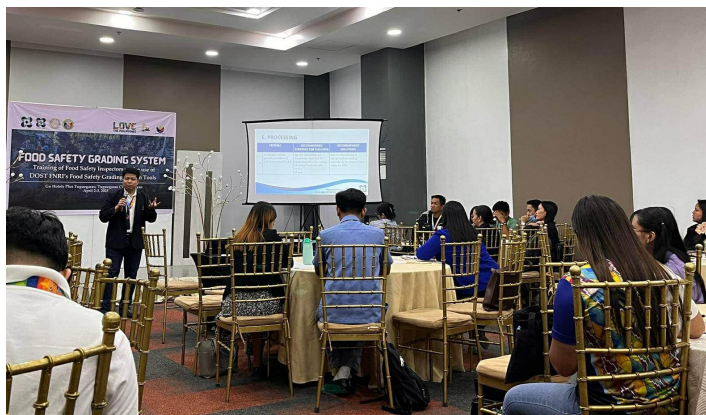
A total of 255 dedicated field researchers, assigned into Six Big Teams, will simultaneously collect data from 118 provinces and highly urbanized cities (HUCs) across the Philippines. Prior to their deployment, a general orientation was held on April 15, 2025 for updates,

reminders, and provide proper send-off to the field researchers.

The 2025 Updating Survey is set to run from April 23 to December 2025. DOST-FNRI urges all selected households to cooperate with the survey teams and support this vital initiative. Community participation is essential in generating accurate data that will lead to better nutrition policies and programs for a healthier and well-nourished nation. ■



PHOTO NEWS:



The DOST Region II through the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) Cagayan in collaboration with the Department of Tourism (DOT) Region II and DOST-FNRI conducted a Training of Food Safety Inspectors on the use of DOST-FNRI's Food Safety Grading System Tools on April 2-3, 2025 at the Go Hotels Plus Tuguegarao, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan. The two-day training introduced standardized inspection tools to enhance food safety in MSME food establishments, strengthen regulatory enforcement, and support the region's positioning as a gastronomic tourism hub.



In support of the DOST-PSTO Cavite's Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program, the DOST-FNRI conducted a Training on Meal Management and the Use of the Nutrition Educator's Kit (NEK) for elementary school canteen operators of the Department of Education, Schools Division Office (DepEd SDO) of Cavite Province on April 7, 2025, at the Bulwagang Tanglaw, DepEd Compound, Trece Martires City, Cavite.



The DOST-FNRI extended its congratulations and support during the Opening Ceremony of the 2025 High-Value Crops (HVC) Week Celebration of the Department of Agriculture on April 7, 2025, at the BSWM Convention Hall, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City. On behalf of Atty. Lucieden G. Raz, Deputy Director and Officer-in-Charge of the DOST-FNRI, Milflor S. Gonzales, Ph.D., Chief Science Research Specialist of the Technology Diffusion and S&T Services Division (TDTSTD) of the DOST-FNRI, represented the agency and delivered her message of support.



A total of 19 Quality Assurance (QA) and Research & Development (R&D) specialists participated in the Customized Sensory Evaluation Training: Capability Building for General Milling Corporation held on April 10-12, 2025 at the company's facility in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu. Ms. Claire M. Gacias, Science Research Specialist II of the DOST-FNRI's Food Research & Development Support Unit, served as the resource person, while the training was facilitated by Ms. Tricia Camille A. Naniong, Science Research Specialist I of the Food and Nutrition Training Unit. This initiative shows DOST-FNRI's continuing commitment to support food industry stakeholders in strengthening product quality through science-based tools and strategies.