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DOST-FNRI supports national efforts to address obesity at the World Obesity Day 2025 Philippine Forum

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The DOST-FNRI joined forces with local partners and stakeholders in celebrating World Obesity Day 2025 through a national forum and exhibit on March 10, 2025 at the Marco Polo Hotel, Ortigas, Pasig City.

With the rising prevalence of overweight and obesity in the Philippines, the National Nutrition Council (NNC), in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) Philippines, developed the National Policy on Addressing Obesity and Other Metabolic Disorders and the

Philippine Strategic Plan as a roadmap for prevention and management.

The forum served as a platform to officially launch and disseminate the Philippine Strategic Plan in Addressing Obesity and Other Metabolic Disorders 2024-2028. The event also aimed to challenge misconceptions, break stigmas, and promote a collective, unified approach to addressing overweight and obesity.

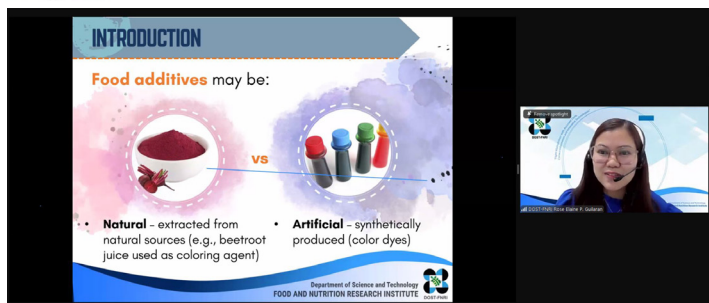
During the forum, Ms. Ma. Lilibeth P. Dasco, Supervising Science Research

Specialist of the Nutritional Assessment and Monitoring Division (NAMD) of DOST-FNRI, served as one of the panelists in the session on "Silent Epidemic: The Weight of Obesity Beyond the Scale."

The DOST-FNRI is an active member of the Technical Working Group on Overweight and Obesity Management and Prevention (TWG-OOMP), alongside NNC, WHO Philippines, the Philippine Association for the Study of Overweight and Obesity (PASOO), and The Policy Center. ■



PHOTO NEWS:



The DOST-FNRI brings back its Webinar on Food Additives: Safety and Usage, now featuring expanded topics and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) units for Registered Chemists and Registered Nutritionist-Dietitians. This session was streamed live via Zoom through the iTrain platform on March 6, 2025, delivering a comprehensive three-hour discussion on the responsible use of food additives in processed food products.



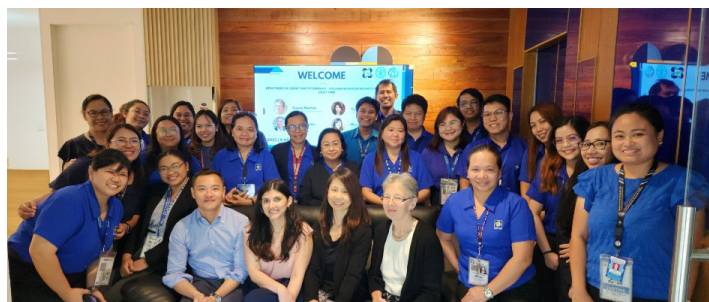
The Alliance Bioversity International – CIAT visited DOST-FNRI to discuss collaborative efforts under the PALIGID - Towards A Sustainable Philippine Food System: Understanding Availability, Accessibility, Lived Experiences And Nutrition Outcomes Through Mapping And Modelling Geospatial And Observational Data Program—an initiative aimed at mapping and modeling geospatial and observational data to enhance food system sustainability, held on March 6-7, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Conference Room.



The DOST-FNRI and CGIAR engaged in an exploratory meeting to discuss potential partnership in the research areas of nutrition, food environment, food loss, and food waste towards sustainable urban and peri-urban agrifood system, held on March 6, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Conference Room.



The DOST-FNRI conducted a face-to-face exploratory meeting with DSWD-MIMAROPA, led by Regional Director Leonardo C. Reynoso, CESO III, to discuss the “Abot Kaalaman at Kabuhayan Para sa Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)” training program, held on March 10, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Conference Room.



The DOST-FNRI conducted a Training-Workshop on Understanding the Link Between Diet Quality and the Economic Cost of Unhealthy Diets, held on March 11, 2025, at the DOST-ITDI KM-STICA Conference Room.



The DOST-FNRI, the World Bank, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) unveiled the new data on the economic costs of unhealthy diets in the Philippines, held on March 13, 2025, at the Marco Polo Ortigas Manila.



The DOST-FNRI in partnership with the Philippine Society for Microbiology (PSM) conducted a Training on Molecular Detection of Foodborne Pathogens for the members of the Microbiology Consortium of the Philippines on March 14, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Building.



In celebration of National Women’s Month, with the theme “*Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas*,” the DOST-FNRI Gender and Development Focal Point System (GFPS), in collaboration with the Technology Diffusion and S&T Services Division – Knowledge Diffusion Section’s Food and Nutrition Training Unit, conducted a special training session for female janitorial and security personnel, along with other DOST-FNRI employees, held on March 24, 2025, at the DOST-FNRI Meeting Room.