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## Boosting employee productivity and innovation through iFNRI

Divorah V. Aguila, Donn C. Romasanta, Maymia J. Tumimbang, Jayson Umali,  
Morelle Pirante, Jeffrey Y. De Leon and Dr. Mario V. Capanzana

### INTRODUCTION

In 2016, the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (FNRI-DOST) established and implemented a web-based technology that serves as an online tool for food and nutrition information and education. Basically called iFNRI, the site

is an information and communication technology (ICT) gateway that boosts virtual access to crucial health and nutrition information in the country. Concentrating mainly on the technical services of the Institute, the iFNRI offers electronic Food Composition Table, menu evaluation, nutrition counseling services, nutrition surveys results, food consumption database for dietary exposure assessment, service laboratory, malnutrition reduction program beneficiaries, technology adaptors and technology transfer activities of the Institute.

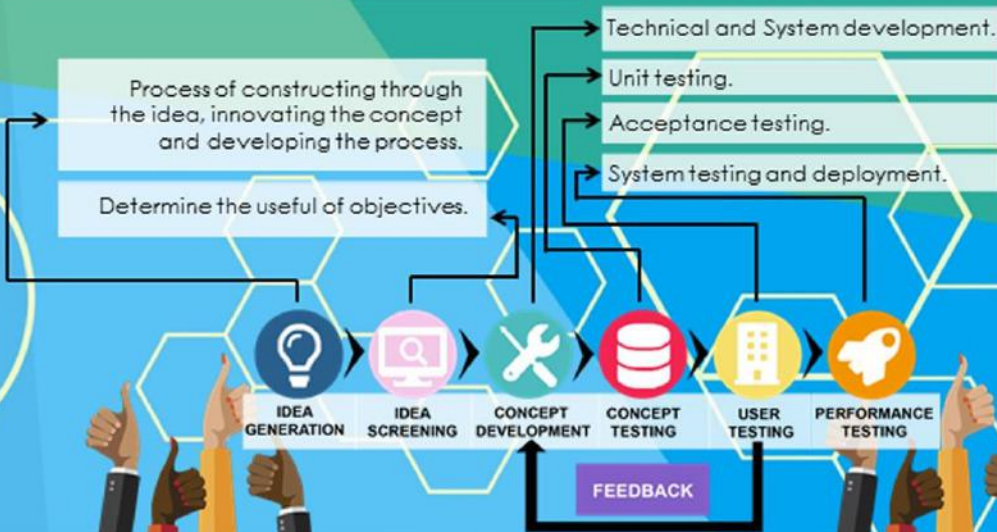
From its launch on February 2016, the site recorded a total of 448,000 hits, with Menu Evaluation Plus and the electronic Food Composition Table (PhilFCT) topping the list of those programs frequently visited by clients.

In 2017, while implementation of technical online services of iFNRI is on-going, the Institute enhanced its organizational and administrative services boosting employee productivity and innovation. Incorporating under iAdmin component of iFNRI, three ICT-based projects were developed and beta-tested, namely Project Plans Management Information System (PPMIS), Electronic Payroll System (ePayroll) and the Procurement & Inventory Management System (PIMS).

The study aimed to develop and beta-test the systems under the iAdmin component of the iFNRI.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study involved system development and beta-testing of ICT-based projects namely Programs and Projects Management Information System (PPMIS), Electronic Payroll System (ePayroll) and the Procurement & Inventory Management System (PIMS).





## RESULTS

Three ICT-based projects were developed and beta-tested to enhance the Institute's organizational and administrative services boosting employee productivity and innovation.

The PPMIS tracks down all project proposals submitted to the Planning and Evaluation Unit (PEU) from approval to terminal report preparation. The system hopes to enable the PEU facilitate faster monitoring and evaluation of a particular project. A total of 69 out of 89 projects (70%) in 2017 were encoded in the system and it had a total of 1,937 visits for the year 2017. Shown below is the interface of the software (Figure 1).

The PIMS is a computerized inventory management system which makes everything from inputting information to taking inventory easier. Doing a hand count of inventory can take days, but with a computerized inventory management system, the same process can be done in a matter of hours, or just minutes. Since the operationalization of digitized inventory management system, documents like purchase and work orders can be automatically generated. Staff can also use the system to automatically order supplies when stocks run low. PIMS was developed during the first half of the year. Its implementation started last June 2017, from then the site had a total of 255 visits. The interface of the software is shown below (Figure 2).

The ePayroll on the other hand, is simply automating the manual payroll system. A manual payroll system requires that the payroll be processed by hand and is therefore a considerably slower procedure than an automated system. ePayroll makes payroll processing simpler, and reduces errors, which are more likely with the manual system. The interface of the system is shown below (Figure 3).

## CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

Three ICT-based projects were developed and beta-tested in 2017 under iAdmin component of iFNRI to enhance the Institute's organizational and administrative services boosting employee productivity and innovation. The systems are on the early adopter stage, thus full implementation of the systems within the Institute should be effected.

At iFNRI, we believe in the value of offering enhanced organizational and administrative services to boost employee productivity and innovation. Integration can increase productivity – when processes operate independently and not in unison, it can inhibit the work flow and increase delays and error rates.

Figure 3. ePayroll



Figure 1. PPMIS



Figure 2. PIMS

