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PFDA Review

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ABOUT THE COVER



Art Cover by Katherine Ericka H. Cornejo
Photographed by Jeriemae Acabado (PFDA-CFP)

This year opens many fresh opportunities for the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority to further advance its effort to provide world-class fishery post-harvest facilities and infrastructures for the Filipino fisherfolk.

In this cover, the cool breeze of dawn veils the PFDA - Camaligan Fish Port (PFDA-CFP) in its peaceful time of the day. Alluding a feeling of

peacefulness and tranquility, the color azure illuminates the sky along with the sun yet to shine.

In the service to the Filipino people, may our hearts and minds be filled with calmness and solitude and prepare us to sail for the day to be.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief: Miguel M. Pilarta

Associate Editor: Mark Angelo N. Perez

Layout Artists: Katherine Ericka H. Cornejo ■ Robert Gregory Q. Elardo

Writers: Mark Angelo N. Perez ■ Robert Gregory Q. Elardo

Infographic Artist: Paul Vincent R. del Rosario

Photographers: Paul Vincent R. del Rosario ■ Mark Angelo N. Perez ■ Katherine Ericka H. Cornejo ■ Robert Gregory Q. Elardo ■ Ali-Jim P. Subang

Circulation: Ali-Jim P. Subang ■ Daren Jay A. Bador

Contributors for this issue:

NFPC - Princess Ana L. Viñas, Rosemarie M. Canlas, Joyce E. Velasquez ■ DFPC - Marife F. Borja ■ ZFPC - Aliya Amor S. Lorenzo, Anesty F. Limen ■ IFPC - Camelyn Ariz, Irene Magullado ■ LFPC - Joyce Margarette A. Bernaldez ■ Office of the General Manager ■ Office of the Assistant General Manager ■ Office of the Board Secretary ■ Legal Division ■ Operations Services Department ■ Internal Audit Department ■ Technical Services Department ■ Administrative Services Department ■ Human Resource Division ■ Finance Services Department ■ Corporate Planning and Management Information Services Department ■ PFDA Regional Fish Ports

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officialpfda



www.pfda.gov.ph



pid@pfda.gov.ph



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ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

editor's note

Embracing the cliché

Mark Angelo N. Perez

Every time I write an article, a speech, or a personal note about facing the new year, I used to believe that clichés were not the way to go. I often thought they were lazy shortcuts, unoriginal—something a writer reached for when the spark had dimmed or the deadline loomed. And maybe, sometimes, that is true. I have been that writer—staring at the blinking cursor, too drained to be clever, too wrung out to be original. So, I reached for what was easy, familiar, already shaped. And, honestly, I felt guilty and discontented.

But lately, I have come to see these clichés in a better light.

Sometimes, a cliché is not just a tired, used-up phrase—it's a familiar rhythm, a shared language. And at every start of every new year, when we are all a little bit hopeful (or a little bit tired from the previous year), a cliché can feel like exactly the right thing to say.

“This is my year!”

“Let us leave the past behind.”

“Brighter days ahead.”

These clichés are overused not because they are empty—but because they have been useful and inspiring to so many people—and to me—so many times.

In this new quarter of a new volume of the PFDA Review, I invite you to appreciate all the clichés in life. As an agency that supports the fishing industry, we have a common objective of bettering ourselves so we can improve our service to the Filipino fisherfolk, and this year we have new goals and clean slates. Another cliché? Yes. But it's true.

And to all the writers who may feel lost in their paths, please remember that it is okay to wander. It is okay to feel unsure of where you are going. Sometimes, in the pursuit of originality, we forget that the simplest truths—our clichés—are often the most profound.

As we welcome a new chapter in 2025, please remember that in our journey towards success, being lost is just a sign that we are still searching. This year, we have a chance to begin again, and this is a reminder that even in the familiar, there is more to be discovered and more to be done for a better version of ourselves.

Here's to new beginnings!



📍 CAMALIGAN FISH PORT

PFDA HIGHLIGHTS

THE OFFICIAL QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AGENCY PROFILE

9 Regional Fish Ports

9 Ice Plants & Cold Storages

138 Municipal Fish Ports
(Project Locations)

Q1 2025 IN NUMBERS

On Fish Unloading and Handling

A new year begins, and the PFDA Regional Fish Ports (RFP) are ready to welcome it with renewed energy and commitment to excellence. Kickstarting the first quarter of 2025, the PFDA RFPs unloaded 119,063.77 metric tons (MT) of fish and other fishery products, with an average daily unloading volume of 1,434.50 MT of fish. The PFDA ports had also started the year positively when it came to ice production and processed products, producing 9,523 MT of ice and processing 248.86 MT of fishery and non-fishery products.

On Serving Port Clients

As we welcome the year 2025, the PFDA, together with all its RFPs nationwide, extends its heartfelt gratitude to all clients and stakeholders whose continued support and partnership push the agency towards success. During the first quarter of the new year, the PFDA RFPs catered to 9,986 clients and welcomed the arrival of 20,496 vessels.

Volume of Fish Unloading

119,063.77 MT
VS. 126,903.94 MT IN Q4 2024

Average Daily Unloading

1,322.93 MT
VS. 1,379.39 MT IN Q4 2024

Volume of Ice Production

9,523 MT
VS. 9,755.75 MT IN Q4 2024

Volume of Fishery & Non-fishery Products Processed

248.86 MT
VS. 412.16 MT IN Q4 2024

Number of Vessels Arrivals

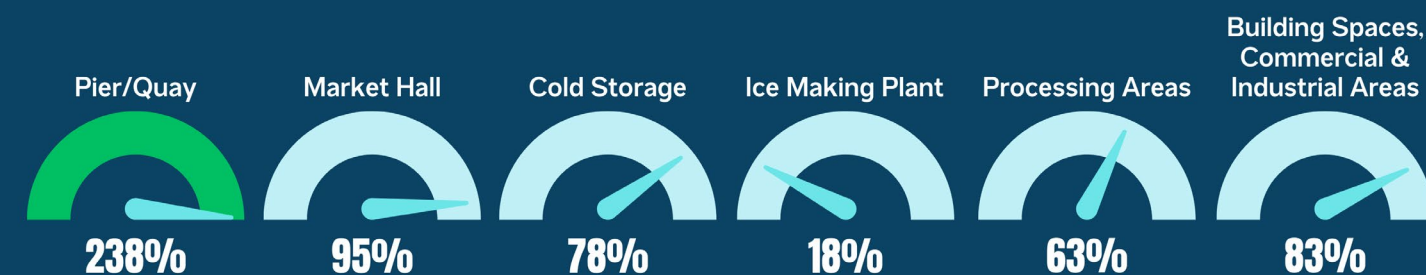
20,496.00 MT
VS. 18,391 IN Q4 2024

Numbers of Clients Served

9,986
VS. 9,585 IN Q4 2024

MT = Metric Tons

PORT UTILIZATION RATE



On Port Facilities Utilization

Meanwhile, flagship rehabilitation in PFDA RFPs are making steady progress and moving closer to expanding port services for all clients and stakeholders. This quarter, the utilization rate of piers and quays reached **238%**. This high utilization rate will eventually improve as rehabilitation projects inch closer to completion.

Meanwhile, utilization of market halls was at **95%**, and building spaces, commercial & industrial areas sat at **83%** utilization rate. In addition, the utilization rate for cold storage reached **78%**, ice making plants recorded **71%** utilization rate, and utilization of processing areas reached **63%**.

Legend:



>100% Utilization Rate



0-100% Utilization Rate

Q1 2025 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

FLAGSHIP INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT STATUS

REHABILITATION/IMPROVEMENT/UPGRADING OF:



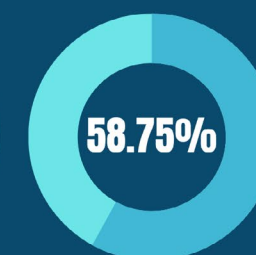
Davao Fish Port Complex



Sual Fish Port



Iloilo Fish Port Complex



Zamboanga Fish Port Complex



Camaligan Fish Port



Phase 1 Package 1



Phase 1 Package 2



Phase 1 Package 3



Phase 1 Package 4



Phase 1 Package 5



Phase 2 Package 1



Phase 2 Package 2



Phase 2 Package 3

Navotas Fish Port Complex

Phase 1 Package 1: 54.15%

Phase 1 Package 2: 8.94%

General Santos Fish Port Complex

FLAGSHIP CSR PROJECT



On PFDA's CSR

To ensure nationwide access to affordable food, the PFDA consistently supplies reasonably priced fresh-frozen fishery products across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao through the isDA ON THE GO (iOTG) Program.

For the starting quarter of the year, the iOTG Flagship project has sold a total of 7.93 MT of fishery products. In addition, the PFDA continues its partnership with 110 market areas and cooperative partners nationwide.

7.93 MT
TOTAL VOLUME SOLD*
(in Metric Tons)

110
MARKET AREAS &
COOPERATIVE PARTNERS

MODALITIES:

- Market Areas
- Partnership with LGUs
- Partnership with Cooperatives

DATA SOURCES:

PFDA-Operations Services Department
PFDA-Corporate Planning and MIS Department

PFDA-Technical Services Department
PFDA Regional Fish Ports

PRODUCED BY:

PFDA-Public Information Division



PFDA FLAGSHIP PROJECT UPDATES

New Year, Better fish ports: PFDA opens the year with improved RFPs

Mark Angelo N. Perez

The Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) and its Regional Fish Ports (RFP), are actively manifesting new year clichés! With major port upgrades and improvements already underway, the PFDA is ensuring that every port is prepared to meet the demands of the future.

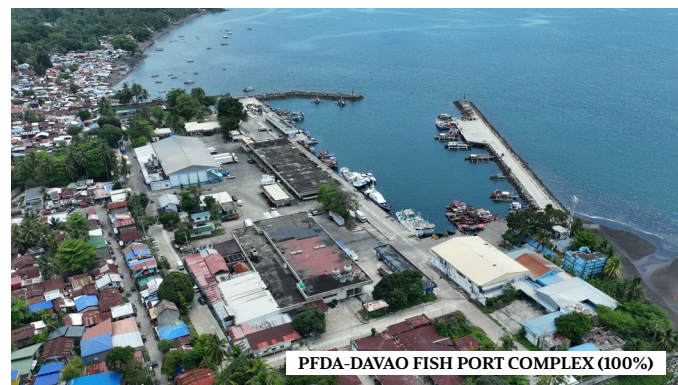
This is PFDA's year of progress. It is not just a cliché phrase; it is a reality in the making!

Following the completion of the PFDA – Lucena Fish Port Complex (PFDA-LFPC) in 2022 and the PFDA - Davao Fish Port Complex (PFDA-DFPC) in 2024, the PFDA - Sual Fish Port (PFDA-SFP) and the PFDA - Iloilo Fish Port Complex (PFDA-IFPC) are proud to announce that they will soon be ready to serve the public with more efficient and modernized infrastructures as rehabilitation in the respective ports reach 100% completion.

These new completed PFDA RFPs will soon be open to all, offering improved services that will benefit both the local communities, clients and stakeholders, and industry partners.



PFDA-LUCENA FISH PORT COMPLEX (100%)



PFDA-DAVAO FISH PORT COMPLEX (100%)

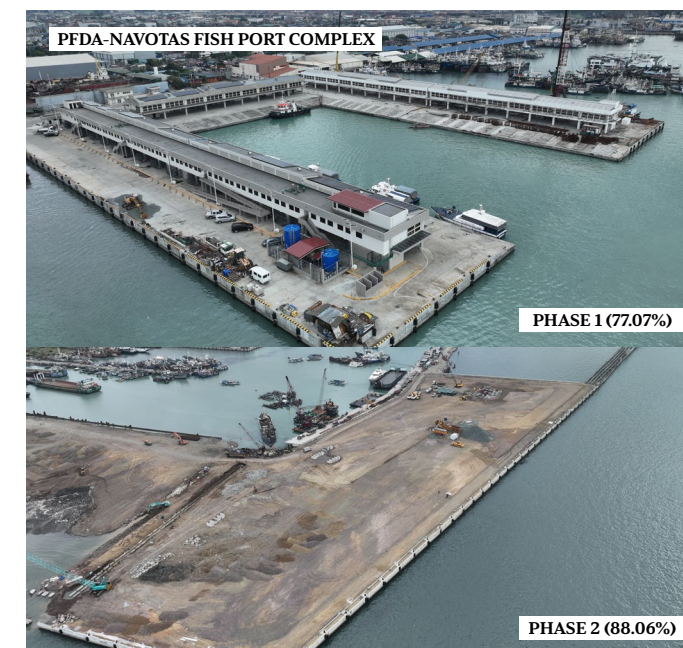


PFDA-ILOILO FISH PORT COMPLEX (100%)



PFDA-SUAL FISH PORT (100%)

Not far behind, the construction on the two phases of the PFDA - Navotas Fish Port Complex (PFDA-NFPC) is making swift progress as we enter the new year. As of March 2025, the construction and improvement of the PFDA-NFPC Phase 1 is 88.07%, and for Phase 2 is 88.06%.



PFDA-NAVOTAS FISH PORT COMPLEX

PHASE 1 (77.07%)

PHASE 2 (88.06%)

CFP) and the PFDA - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC) reached halfway through their rehabilitation process with 60.55% completion rate and 58.75% completion rate, respectively. The future shines bright for Camarines Norte and Zamboanga del Sur, with revitalized ports on the horizon.



PFDA-CAMALIGAN FISH PORT (60.55%)



PFDA-ZAMBOANGA FISH PORT COMPLEX (58.75%)

Finally, the construction and rehabilitation of the PFDA - General Fish Port Complex (PFDA-GSFPC) enters the year in full swing with an average of 30.64% completion rate.



PFDA-GENERAL SANTOS FISH PORT COMPLEX (30.64%)

PACKAGE 1



PACKAGE 2

PFDA NEWS

PFDA conducts Board Meeting in 2025; showcases past year accomplishments

Mark Angelo N. Perez and Paul Vincent R. del Rosario



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), led by Acting General Manager Atty. Glen A. Pangapalan, held a PFDA Board Meeting for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, at the PFDA - Central Office, Diliman, Quezon City on February 17, 2025.

PFDA Board of Directors Chairperson and Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Mr. Francisco “Kiko” P. Tiu Laurel Jr. and the members and representatives of the PFDA Board of Directors were present during the meeting. They discussed the future of the fishing industry with the help of the PFDA and its intervention of flagship projects throughout the country.

At the start of the meeting, Secretary Laurel noted the need to maximize the value of the catch of our fisherfolk through the construction of fishery post-harvest facilities in strategic locations.

“Kailangan nating mabawasan ang spoilage at palawakin ang naaabot ng ating mga mangangisda

upang matulungan natin silang mapataas ang kanilang kita. (We have to decrease food spoilage and increase the range of our fisherfolk so we can help them increase their income),” the Secretary said.

During the meeting, Corporate Planning and MIS Department Manager Ms. Gina J. Reyes and Finance Services Department Manager Mr. Jose A. Ruiz, Jr. proudly presented the physical accomplishments and financial performance of the PFDA for FY 2024, respectively.

In addition, Technical Services Department Manager Engr. Danilo A. Axalan introduced the PFDA Fisheries Infrastructure Development Programs and Projects of the PFDA for FY 2025 to 2026.

Afterwards, OIC-Assistant General Manager Atty. Edward M. Campos presented the PFDA Infrastructure Projects for Award of Contract.

DBM visits PFDA-NFPC, observes ongoing flagship projects

Mark Angelo N. Perez

Department of Budget and Management (DBM) visited the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Navotas Fish Port Complex (PFDA-NFPC) and observed ongoing flagship rehabilitation projects in PFDA Regional Fish Ports (RFP) nationwide, on January 30, 2025.

PFDA Acting General Manager Atty. Glen A. Pangapalan and PFDA-NFPC Port Manager Ms. Luz P. Ortiz welcomed the visitors from DBM Bureau-C led by Acting Assistant Director Ms. Lulu P. Vispo.

The DBM team toured around the Navotas port where they visited the Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the PFDA-NFPC's flagship rehabilitation project. They observed the ongoing construction of the new PFDA Central Office building, the Modern Market Halls, and the additional area for fishery post-harvest facilities.

In addition, the DBM team also visited Market Hall 1 and the new FG Cold Storage Corporation.



After the tour, the other ongoing flagship rehabilitation projects in the PFDA RFPs were presented via drone livestreaming by Technical Services Department Manager Engr. Danilo A. Axalan. All these projects are funded under the multi-year national government subsidy to PFDA.

Three-in-a-row! PFDA receives FOI Compliance Certificate for 2023

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo



For three consecutive years, the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) received a Freedom of Information (FOI) Certificate of Compliance for 2023 from the FOI - Program Management Office (FOI-PMO) under the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), on February 12, 2025.

This certificate reflects PFDA's ongoing commitment to transparency by providing clients, stakeholders, industry partners, and the public with convenient access to necessary information on the agency's programs, projects, and essential data. Established under Executive Order No. 2, series of 2016, the FOI program serves as the government's demand to its agencies for transparency and full public disclosure of information, thus enabling Filipino citizens to request details about government transactions and operations, as long as such requests do not compromise privacy or national security.

The PFDA has appointed FOI Receiving Officers and Decision Makers who assist with information requests from external agencies, groups, and organizations.

CAPACITY BUILDING



PFDA OSD-QAD conducts Food Safety Practices to IFPC Clients

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Ms. Camelyn Ariz - PFDA-IFPC

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), through its Operations Services Department – Quality Assurance Division (OSD-QAD), in coordination with the PFDA - Iloilo Fish Port Complex (PFDA-IFPC) Food Safety and Environmental Unit (FSEMU), conducted a forum on Food Safety Practices to PFDA-IFPC's fish brokers on March 20, 2025.

The forum was aimed to present the standards on compliances to food safety and environmental practices, enhance the participants' practical knowledge and skills in implementing best practices in food handling, storage, and waste management, and foster a culture of continuous improvement and proactive compliance within the port community.

The discussion also focused on the principles of the Food Safety Act 2013, the do's and don'ts in handling fish and fishery products, and proper housing, keeping, and disposal of waste.

Ms. Kimberly S. Orande and Mr. Michael Chester V. Francisco from the OSD-QAD served as the lecturers on the forum.



New batch of PFDA personnel completes CEST workshop

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photo from Mary Anne Kristine R. Ramos - Administrative Services Department

New set of Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) personnel completed the Creative and Effective Selling Techniques (CEST) seminar-workshop at the University of the Philippines – Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP-ISSI), Diliman, Quezon City, on March 24 to 28, 2025.

The week-long seminar-workshop aimed to equip personnel with the necessary skills to identify innovative marketing techniques and different selling approaches, prepare a marketing plan, effectively win customers and gain a strong foothold on the dynamics of salesmanship.

Mr. Gerard Joseph B. Alava returned as the resource person of the workshop. He discussed the necessary techniques as well as the planning and preparation to effective selling, customer relationship marketing, and sales plan presentation and evaluation.

During the graduation ceremony, the PFDA-IFPC team was recognized as the Best Presenter after receiving the highest grade of 98%.

The seminar-workshop was organized by the PFDA Administrative Services Department – Human Resources Division (ASD-HRD), in partnership with the UP-ISSI.



PFDA boosts digital literacy through IT training

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Mr. Thadeus A. Mariano - CPMISD-ITD

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority Central Office (PFDA-CO), through its Information Technology Division (ITD), conducted three Information Technology (IT)-related trainings aimed to equip the participants with the skills and knowledge to effectively set up, operate, and troubleshoot technology used to work efficiently.

The first training was the Virtual Meeting Platform Training where the participants were taught to effectively set up, operate, and troubleshoot the use of a 360-degree camera for virtual meetings.

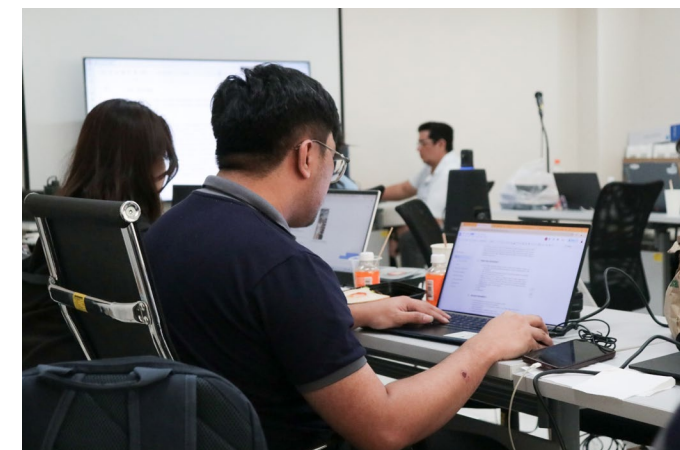


The training aims to enhance users' ability to use the camera's 360-degree capabilities for immersive, engaging virtual experiences, ensuring smooth integration with virtual meeting platforms, and improving overall meeting efficiency and collaboration. The training took place on February 17, 2025 at the PFDA Central Office, Diliman, Quezon City.

The training was conducted by Geoplan Philippines, Inc.

The second training was the Advanced Microsoft Excel and Powerpoint Training held on February 24-28, 2025 via teleconference. The week-long training equipped the participants with advanced skills in Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint, enabling them to effectively utilize complex formulas, pivot tables, macros, advanced animations, master slides, and design techniques.

The training aims to enhance participants' ability to apply these tools in real-world scenarios, improving their productivity, data analysis, and presentation design, and ultimately boosting their overall efficiency in professional settings. Personnel from Richmark Computer Sales and Services served as the resource speaker in this training.



The last IT-related training was the Information Security Management System (ISMS) Awareness Training that took place on March 3-7, 2025 at the Ground Floor, PCA Function Hall, Diliman, Quezon City. The training was to ensure that employees understand the principles of information security, their roles and responsibilities in maintaining it, and how to comply with ISMS policies and procedures.

The training aims to equip participants with the knowledge to identify and manage security risks, protect sensitive data, and respond effectively to security incidents, ultimately strengthening the organization's overall information security posture. Mr. Ireneus Lazlo Legeza II served as the resource speaker in this week-long training.



PFDA leads Drug-Free Workplace Awareness Program in partnership with PDEA

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo and Ali-Jim P. Subang with reports and photos from Camelyn C. Ariz - PFDA-IFPC and Mary Anne Kristine R. Ramos - Administrative Services Department

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) conducted a Drug-Free Workplace Awareness Program on March 21, 2025, at the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Auditorium, with experts from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency - National Capital Region (PDEA-NCR) serving as resource speakers.

The program aimed to educate PFDA personnel on drug classification, its ill effects on individuals and workplaces, and the consequences of drug use. Additionally, it provided guidance on formulating a Drug-Free Workplace Policy to promote a safe and productive work environment.

The topics discussed were drug identification and its ill effects, Drug-free Workplace Policy, and the salient provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Mr. Arvin Gaye Targa, Chief of Public Information and Media Relations Section and Mr. Paulo Victor A. Daculla, Supervising Administrative Officer and Chief of Preventive Education and Community Involvement (PECI) Section of PDEA-NCR served as the resource persons for the event.

PFDA strengthens equipment maintenance through TPMM writeshop

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Patrick Ceasar G. Cobarrubias - Technical Services Department

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) participated in the Total Productive Maintenance Manual (TPMM) writeshop conducted by the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP-ISSI). The training sessions were held on January 23-24, February 7, 14, 21, and 28, and March 13-14, 2025, through online and in-person sessions at E. Virata Hall, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City.

Aimed to enhance maintenance strategies for PFDA's Regional Fish Ports (RFPs), the writeshop equipped participants with knowledge on developing a TPM framework, proactive maintenance practices, key



Additionally, the PFDA - Iloilo Fish Port Complex (PFDA-IFPC) also participated in the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Regional Office VI's (PDEA RO-VI) Drug Abuse Prevention Education and Drug-Free Workplace Program on March 6, 2025 at the PFDA-IFPC Admin Building.

The lecture was aimed to equip PFDA-IFPC personnel with knowledge about drugs and the effects of drugs, and to ensure that the participants are well-informed and capable of creating a drug abuse policy to make the fish port a drug-free workplace.

The topics discussed include, different forms of drug abuse, penalties under Republic Act 9165 - Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, roles of individuals in drug prevention, effects of drugs, and the components of drug-free workplace program.

Public Information Officer Ms. Ma. Graziella Tanaleon, Legal Officer Atty. Bomrad Soc Abonado, and Agent Mr. Paulo Nicole delos Santos of PDEA served as the resource speakers for the event.



performance metrics, and standardized equipment maintenance procedures. These efforts seek to optimize equipment efficiency, reduce downtime, and improve operational performance across fishery post-harvest facilities.

At the end of the writeshop, the participants were able to develop a TPMM framework, create detailed productive maintenance procedures for various electromechanical equipment and fishery post-harvest facilities, and prepare maintenance schedules, activities, and monitoring documents. Participants will refine the framework based on evaluator feedback before full implementation.

PFDA participates in disaster preparedness, emergency response training

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo and Ali-Jim P. Subang with reports and photos from Anesty F. Limen - PFDA-ZPFC, Mary Anne Kristine R. Ramos, and Ma. Patricia Bernadette Ann M. Sims - Administrative Services Department



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) participated in the Basic First Aid, Search and Rescue Training, and Fire Drill conducted by the Bureau of Fire Protection - Quezon City Fire District (BFP-QCFD) on March 18 to 19, 2025 at the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Auditorium and Agro-Hub Complex.

The training aimed to equip the PFDA personnel with the skills to provide immediate assistance and care in emergencies, stabilize situations, and potentially save lives until professional help arrives.

The topics discussed in the two-day training include Composition of Emergency Response Team, Basic Bandaging, Fire Safety protocols, Basic Life Support, and Search and Rescue. In line with the Fire Prevention Month, the participants also assigned an ad hoc Incident Command Group among themselves for the fire drill and search and rescue to simulate real-life fire incidents.

BFP-QCFD Senior Fire Officer 1 (SFO1) Jayson S. Santiago, SFO2 Rendell Jay V. Buquing, Fire Officer 3

(FO3) Yousef-Amin G. Tillah, FO1 Royland A. Enriquez, FO3 Jan Marde A. Del Rosario, SFO1 Richard Andrew A. Roces, SFO2 Virgilio E. Remonde Jr., and FO2 James D. Luminis served as the resource speakers for the training.

Meanwhile, the PFDA - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC) personnel also strengthened their emergency preparedness by participating in a Fire and Safety Seminar and Drill led by the Philippine Marine Corps' Marine Battalion Landing Team (PMC-MBLT) on February 20, 2025.

The seminar featured Senior Fire Officer 1 (SFO1) Edgar Guevarra from the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Sangali Station as the resource speaker. Mr. Guevarra provided insights into fire prevention techniques, safety measures, and emergency response protocols, emphasizing the importance of proactive fire safety efforts.

Following the seminar, participants performed actual firefighting techniques during a hands-on drill.

Through Rough Waters

by Robert Gregory Q. Elardo



It was around midnight when I sat across my laptop, repeatedly reading the transcript of our featured client's interview. I don't know where to start and I've been thinking about a good angle on her interview since Monday; It's Thursday now, and the deadline is looming.

Then the gods of writing seemed to come down from the heavens of letters, finally blessed me with some spiritual sight; I finally saw it! My eureka moment, the 'flood rope' to my I-am-a-fraud-writer moment, the dots that I can finally connect.

I live in a flood-prone area. Whenever there's a flood, our barangay tanods put a 'flood rope' in the middle of the street that reaches through the most flooded area for evacuees.

Our case study is Liz Vidal Abelligos, a business owner. Although she started her own business, almost 11 years ago, she's been active in the

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority — Camaligan Fish Port (PFDA-CFP) for longer.

It was 1993 when the young Liz started as an employee of a fish-processing company with a Taiwanese investor. But, when the business closed because of some issues, it affected not only Liz's livelihood but all the employees who worked there.

Even so, Liz endured, she paddled through the waters and grasped the opportunity to start her own business — Kim Marine Products.

Kim Marine Products is a fish processing company that exports seafood such as cuttlefish, octopus, giant squid, scallops, freshwater shrimp, and yellow eel to different countries like China, Taiwan, and Vietnam. Her company is mostly women.

"Dito po sa amin, ang karamihan sa amin ay babae, halos babae ang nag-aasikaso ng (fish) farm, very strong po sila. Parang mga Amazona dito ang mga tao ko. Magagaling po sila." says Liz, praising her employees.

Of course, a successful business is not without problems; most businesses at the time were affected by COVID-19, and Kim Marine Products is no exception. Thankfully, with the assistance of the PFDA-CFP, production still continued and her business stood well despite the challenges brought by the pandemic.

"Lahat naman ng kailangan namin naibibigay naman ng PFDA. Kapag may kailangan, pumupunta kami sa office mismo, nakikipag-usap sa kanila kung ano ang problema. And then nakikipag-cooperate naman po kami kung ano ang mga kailangan na requirements ng PFDA." she states.

The typhoons Roly and Ulysses, which were only a month apart, also affected her business, compelling her to shell out huge expenses to recover and fix things.

With many years of experience in her pocket, it's not surprising that she handles these kinds of problems well. But we're humans after all, capable of feelings of loss.

"Pero okay naman so far." She says with a tone of both relief and woe.

Her employees also played a crucial role in keeping her business. With their dedication, her business kept afloat.

"Sa mga empleyado ko, very supportive sila. Tumutulong sila sa akin no matter what. Kahit anong mangyari nandyan pa rin sila. Nagpapasalamat ako kasi kung hindi dahil sa kanila, wala itong Kim Marine Products." she says proudly.

Throughout the years, the PFDA grows and continues to build fishery infrastructures and post-harvest facilities that can support business owners such as Liz. She continues to work hard to expand her business and to make one of her wishes for her products to reach European countries. With her employees and the PFDA-CFP management by her side, and her unwavering dedication, it's just a matter of time.

"Kailangan natin maging masikap, masinop. Sipagan lang at maging honest tayo sa kapwa natin. Kung hindi natin kaya ang mga problema, kailangan ma-inform natin agad. Kasi minsan, may mga problema tayo na ma-e-encounter na early, as much as possible, masolusyunan na agad." she says.

With Liz's story, we saw her 'flood rope', we saw resilience; we saw that any problem can be solved either with assistance or alone, navigating through waters.

Through the flood of frustrations, burnout, and existential crisis, with Liz's story, I saw my 'flood rope'; that we will always encounter challenges in life, and it's important that we deal with them one by one. May Liz's story inspire you and get you through rough waters.



REP BEATS



NavLevel Up!: PFDA-NFPC joins Pangisdaan Boodlefight

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo and Katherine Ericka H. Cornejo

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Navotas Fish Port Complex (PFDA-NFPC) took part in the Pangisdaan Boodlefight on January 14, 2025 at the PFDA-NFPC Modern Market as a part of the 21-day Navotas City's 119th Founding Anniversary Celebration. The program showcased the fish port's important role in the city's economy. Moreover, the boodle fight symbolizes the fish port's bountiful fish unloadings throughout the year.

"Ang programang ito ay hindi lamang isang pagsasalo-salo, kundi isang espesyal na pagkilala at pagbibigay-pasasalamat sa mga ating local fishing community sa walang-sawa nilang pagsusumikap," said Ms. Cecile B. Panaligan, Chief of Administrative Services Division of the PFDA-NFPC as she thanked all the attendees for their support to the local fishing industry.

"We have to lead by the name, we are the fishing capital of the Philippines," said Mr. Genaro R. Doringo, overall chairperson of the 119th Navotas Founding Anniversary celebration in his opening remarks highlighting the stars of the boodle fight; seafood. Mr. Doringo also said that he is looking forward to upcoming collaborations between the PFDA-NFPC and the Navotas City Local Government Unit. In his speech, Navotas City Mayor Hon. John Reynald M. Tiangco thanked the PFDA-NFPC for their service and the constant improvement of the fish port, "Kitang kita niyo naman na NavLevel Up po!," Mayor Tiangco said proudly.

Afterwards, the Mayor Tiangco and PFDA-NFPC Port Manager Luz P. Ortiz, gave certificates of appreciation to the fish brokers and dealers who made the event possible: Boniknik Fish Broker, Camua Fish Dealer, Connie Fish Dealer, Ma. Cecilia C. Espiritu Fish Wholesaler, St. Joseph Fish Brokerage, Pascual Fish Trading, Joy-Juaning Fish Dealer, and Flory's Consignacion.

PFDA-DFPC attends inauguration of the new DA-XI building

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Ms. Marife F. Borja - PFDA-DFPC



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Davao Fish Port Complex (PFDA-DFPC) attended the inauguration of the new office building of the Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Field Office (RFO) XI at the Regional Government Complex, Bago Oshiro, Tugbok District, Davao City, on January 23, 2025.

Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary, Hon. Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. graced the event. He noted the geographical significance of the newly inaugurated office in supporting cooperatives and farming communities.



"This new building's close proximity to our major agricultural areas will enable us to deliver services more efficiently, respond to the needs of our farmers promptly, and implement programs more effectively," the DA Secretary said.

PFDA-DFPC Port Manager Engr. Albert P. Aguinaldo and Admin. and Finance Services Division Chief Ms. Marife F. Borja attended the event and witnessed the ceremonial turnover of agricultural supplies to farmer cooperatives and associations in the Davao Region.

DA Undersecretary for High-Value Crops Ms. Cheryl Marie Natividad-Caballero, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) XI Director Juby B. Cordon, and DA XI Regional Executive Director Mr. Macario D. Gonzaga were also present in the event together with various DA-attached agencies, DA personnel, and farmer cooperatives.

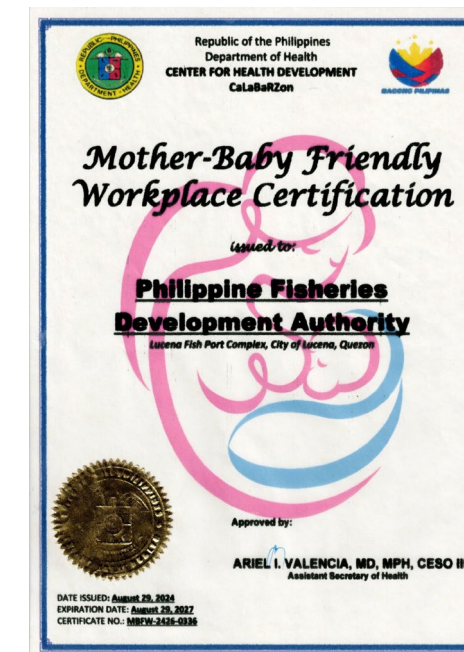
PFDA-LFPC receives Mother-Baby Friendly Workplace Certification

Joyce Margarette A. Bernaldez - PFDA-LFPC

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Lucena Fish Port Complex (PFDA-LFPC) was officially awarded the Mother-Baby Friendly Workplace Certifications by the Department of Health (DOH) Center for Health CaLaBaRZon on February 5, 2025.

As a part of the PFDA-LFPC's Gender and Development (GAD) activities, this achievement is in recognition of the fish port's effort in providing a dedicated and supportive space for breastfeeding mothers by opening a lactation room which was launched last August 29, 2024.

The lactation room is available to nursing mothers who are in need of a quiet and comfortable space to breastfeed. This demonstrates the PFDA-LFPC's support in the health and well-being of mothers in the workplace, aligned with the Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009 (Republic Act No. 10028).



PFDA-ZFPC support 14th open fishing season for sardines

Mark Angelo N. Perez with report from Ms. Aliya Amor S. Lorenzo - PFDA-ZFPC and photos from BFAR Region 9 Facebook Page



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC) attended the commencement of the 14th Open Fishing Season for Sardines, on February 14, 2025, in Permax, Ayala, Zamboanga City, marking the lifting of the three-month sardine fishing ban.

In accordance with Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Administrative Circular 255, also known as the ‘Establishment of Closed Season for the Conservation of Sardines within Sibuguey Bay, Basilan Strait, and East Sulu Sea,’ the closed fishing season promotes sustainable practices and ensures the long-term viability of the sardine industry, which is vital for the region’s economy, livelihood, and food security.

Employee opportunities open in PFDA-NFPC through DOLE partnership

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo and Mark Angelo N. Perez with report from Princess Ana L. Viñas - PFDA-NFPC



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Navotas Fish Port Complex (PFDA-NFPC), in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), welcomed the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/ Displaced Workers (TUPAD)



During the ceremony, BFAR Regional Fisheries Office (RFO) IX Assistant Director Isidro M. Velayo Jr. acknowledged PFDA-ZFPC Port Manager Mr. Ignacio M. Yao’s continued support and dedication to sustainable practices in sardine fishing.

In his message, PM Yao emphasized the symbolic significance of the lifting of the fishing ban, associating the activity with the spirit of renewal and growth. Afterwards, the event culminated in the traditional “Banging of the Gong” at the wharf, signaling the resumption of sardine fishing.

The one-day event was attended by representatives from various sectors, including the Department of Agriculture, Local Government Unit of Zamboanga City, and local fishing associations, highlighting the region’s collective commitment to preserving marine resources.

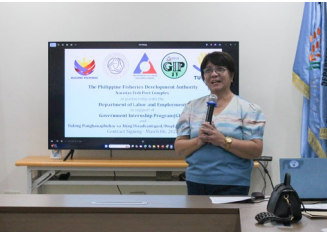
beneficiaries and Government Internship Program (GIP) interns on March 6, 2025 at the Admin Building, PFDA-NFPC, Navotas City.

The collaboration aimed to provide temporary employment and valuable work experience to TUPAD beneficiaries and GIP interns, and to fast track the implementation and monitoring of DOLE programs and projects related to employment facilitation and social protection, all of which directly contributes to the goal of inclusive growth through massive employment generation and substantial poverty reduction.

Along with a welcome ceremony for TUPAD beneficiaries and GIP interns at the PFDA-NFPC, the event featured a contract signing between PFDA-NFPC, led by Port Manager Ms. Luz P. Ortiz, and DOLE represented by DOLE CAMANAVA Field Office Director Rowella V. Grande, solidifying their commitment to implementing these programs effectively. A brief orientation was also conducted to guide the beneficiaries and interns on their roles, responsibilities, and the opportunities ahead.

The GIP is a component of KABATAAN 2000 under Executive Order (EO) no. 139 s. 1993, and DOLE Administrative Order No. 260-15, which aims to provide opportunities and engage young workers, particularly the poor/indigent and young workers, to serve the general public in government agencies/entities projects and programs at the national and local level.

The TUPAD program is a community-based safety net initiative that provides temporary employment to workers in the informal sector. It specifically targets the underemployed or workers who do not receive sufficient wages in their current jobs; the self-employed individuals who work for themselves; and the displaced marginalized workers or those who have lost their jobs or experienced reduced income due to the pandemic.



PFDA-ZFPC attends the first DA RMC Meeting for CY 2025

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Aliya Amor S. Lorenzo - PFDA-ZFPC

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC) attended the first Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Management Committee (RMC) Meeting for Calendar Year (CY) 2025 on March 13, 2025 at the Garden Orchid Hotel, Zamboanga City.

Attended by representatives from 17 DA-affiliated agencies, covering Zamboanga, Pagadian, Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga del Norte, Pasig, Cagayan de Oro, Nueva Ecija, and Cotabato, the meeting aimed to address the challenges facing Mindanao’s agricultural sector, particularly the poverty of farmers.

They discussed solutions, showcased achievements, and promoted collaboration between government agencies, the private sector, and local stakeholders to ensure sustainable development, food security, and long-term growth. The event also served as a platform for agencies to showcase their achievements, introduce new programs, update on agency budget status, and report on progress.

PFDA-ZFPC Acting Planning Officer, Ms. Aryan Nirvana P. Marcelino, provided an overview of the fish port, discussing its current status, ongoing initiatives, and the challenges faced in several areas, including infrastructure and facility development, fisheries production and trade, market operations, food security, and sustainability. Ms. Marcelino underscored the importance of collaboration between the government, the private sector, and local fisherfolk in ensuring long-term growth and achieving food security for the country.



The event was led by DA Regional Field Office IX (RFO IX) Regional Executive Director, Engr. Marcos C. Aves, Sr., who emphasized the urgent need for support for the agricultural sector in Mindanao, which is currently grappling with significant challenges.



PFDA-ZFPC, DOLE Region 9 lead Basic Occupation Safety and Health Training

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo with report and photos from Ms. Anesty F. Limen - PFDA-ZFPC



In line with its ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment, the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC), in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment Region 9, organized a Basic Occupational Safety and Health (BOSH) Orientation to fish port personnel on March 19, 2025, at the EZ Events and Business Place, Brgy. Manicahan, Zamboanga City.

The activity was aimed to enhance personnel's awareness of workplace safety protocols, hazard management, and overall well-being. Furthermore, the training was conducted to equip staff with vital

knowledge and practical skills for ensuring their safety while performing daily tasks. By fostering a deeper understanding of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) principles, the office aims to strengthen its safety culture and improve service quality.

The orientation featured three key resource persons from different agencies and companies who discussed topics related to OSH principles.

To begin with, Supervising Labor and Employment Officer at the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) 9 - Zamboanga City Field Office, Mr. Makaraya U. Adil, presented a session on General Concepts on OSH and OSH Legislation.

Followed by Regional Focal of the OSHC Regional Extension Unit 9, Engr. Leni R. Garcia, shed light on crucial health-related hazards in the workplace by discussing Industrial Hygiene and Chemical Safety.

Lastly, Area Supervisor for Southern Philippines Trucking, Engr. Dennis D. Toledo, focused on Trucking: Basic Safety Rules, 5S, and Good Housekeeping, emphasizing practical tips for safety in the trucking industry.



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GAD CORNER

PFDA kicks off 2025 National Women's Month Celebration

Public Information Division



Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), along with all the PFDA Regional Fish Ports (RFP), joined in the collective pursuit of gender equality and conducted a kickoff program in celebration of the 2025 National Women's Month, with the 2023-2028 recurring theme, "WE for gender equality and inclusive society." on March 3, 2025.

This year, the PFDA highlights the sub-theme, "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas." As one of the leading government agencies supporting the fishery sector, the PFDA joins the call in reinforcing the core objective of Republic Act (R.A.) 9710, or the Magna Carta of Women—to empower women, promote gender equality, and ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities.

Two women in power of PFDA, namely Corporate Board Secretary Atty. Fatima Dennise D. Briones-Mejica and Corporate Planning and MIS Department Manager Ms. Gina J. Reyes, shared some inspirational words during the kickoff program held at the PFDA - Central Office.

Atty. Briones-Mejica said that as a woman in government, "every step we take as women is a step toward a brighter, stronger, and more equal future."

"Kaya naman ngayong Buwan ng Kababaihan, hiling ko na huwag tayong tumigil. Huwag tayong matakot magtagumpay. Patuloy nating ipagmalaki ang ating kontribusyon tungo sa isang Bagong Pilipinas," Atty. Briones-Mejica said.

In addition, Ms. Reyes emphasized on the important role that women play in society, in the workplace, in our families, and in our communities.

"Bilang isang babae sa tanggapan ng gobyerno, nais kong ipaalala sa bawat isa na mayroon tayong isang tinig ng lakas, determinasyon, at pagbabago... Walang limitasyon sa ating hinaharap... Kaya naman hinihikayat ko kayong lahat na patuloy nating suportahan at palakasin ang isa't isa at maging matapang tayo sa ating mga pangarap, dahil kapag ang kababaihan ang bumangon, bumabangon din ang ating lipunan," Ms. Reyes said.

During the Women's Month, the PFDA Central Office, led by the PFDA - Gender and Development Focal Point System (PFDA-GFPS) will be conducting various Gender and Development (GAD)-related activities, including a Gender Sensitivity Orientation for newly hired personnel and a GAD Film Showing, which will serve as a culmination activity for the month of March.

PFDA attends PCW Women's Month kickoff program

Robert Gregory Q. Elardo



As a government agency that supports women's empowerment and equal rights, the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) attended in the 2025 National Women's Month Celebration Kick-off Event with the sub-theme: "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas" led by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) on March 5, 2025 at the Music Hall of SM Mall of Asia, Pasay City.

Anchored to the 2023-2028 recurring theme "WE for Gender Equality and an Inclusive Society", this year's celebration aims to foster a society where all women have equal rights, power and opportunities, and seeks to empower women from various sectors, particularly those in marginalized communities, by providing access to essential services, opportunities for learning, and an inclusive space for engagement. Free medical check-ups, legal consultations, and

livelihood support; a trade fair showcasing products from women-owned and women-led micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are offered by various government agencies and non-government organizations during the event, including: Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation, Bureau of Fire Protection, Department of Trade and Industry, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, and the Philippine Foundation for Breast Care Inc, among others.



Among the highlights of the program are the presentation of the State of Filipino Women Report, which provides insights into the country's progress in achieving gender equality, and the unveiling of the PCW's 50th Anniversary Coffee Table Book, commemorating five decades of advocacy for women's rights.

Moreover, a comprehensive lecture series was conducted, covering Financial Literacy, Digital Safety, Digital Careers, Fire Safety, Disaster Resilience, Mental and Physical Health, and Microfinancing, equipping women with knowledge and skills that are essential to their empowerment and resilience in various aspects of life.





PFDA RFPs commemorate National Women's Month 2025

Mark Angelo N. Perez with reports and photos from PFDA Regional Fish Ports GFPS

In the true spirit of women empowerment all around the country, the Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA) Regional Fish Ports (RFP) commemorated the National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC) 2025 with various special activities throughout the month of March.

Aside from having a kickoff program, the PFDA-ZFPC took part in the annual Marcha de las Mujeres, a purple walk organized by the Local Government Unit of Zamboanga City on March 7, 2025. The purple walk, symbolizing unity and advocacy for gender equality, brought together individuals from multiple genders, showcasing strong solidarity in the fight for women's rights. It also served as a platform to celebrate the accomplishments of women around the world.

Meanwhile, the PFDA-DFPC joined the International Women's Day Parade on March 8, 2025, organized by the City Government of Davao. In addition, they partnered with Viacrucis Infirmary to conduct a medical mission with the theme, "Kalusugan para kay Juana: Misyon ng Pagkalinga at Pag-asa".

Subsequently, the PFDA-IFPC held a Gender Sensitivity Orientation on March 19, 2025. The session was designed to educate attendees on how to recognize gender biases and become more mindful in fostering equal opportunities for all genders. In addition to lectures and discussions, an exciting and interactive activity—Gender Sensitivity Bingo—was included to make the learning process both fun and informative.

Meanwhile, on March 12, the PFDA-NFPC had a parade around the port's vicinity where they distributed IEC materials to market clients.

This activity aimed to raise awareness about the significance of the month, its history, and the celebration of women's achievements and contributions. Afterwards, purple lights illuminated the PFDA-NFPC entrance gate during the lighting ceremony.

In addition, on March 25, the PFDA-NFPC held a seminar on "Diseases and Conditions Affecting the Health of Women Throughout their Lifespan: Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Awareness" with Cervical Cancer Screening using VIA conducted by the Navotas City Health Office.

Furthermore, the PFDA-LFPC represented the agency during the NWMC 2025 kick-off ceremony of the City Government of Lucena, while representatives from the PFDA-BFPC and PFDA-CFP attended the Department of Agriculture (DA) Regional Field Office 5 (RFO 5) Gender and Development Focal Point System (GAD FPS) first-quarter mobile meeting on February 25, 2025.



PFDA-GFPS champions workplace inclusivity, conducts GSO for new personnel

Mark Angelo N. Perez and Katherine Ericka H. Cornejo

As part of the National Women's Month Celebration 2025, twenty-one (21) new Philippine Fisheries Development Authority - Central Office (PFDA-CO) personnel attended the Gender Sensitivity Orientation (GSO) 2025 on March 27, 2025 at the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Agrohubs Building, Diliman, Quezon City.

Organized by the PFDA - Gender and Development Focal Point System (PFDA-GFPS), newly hired representatives from all PFDA-CO units actively participated in the one-day orientation that tackled various ways to address gender-based stereotypes and promote safe spaces for all.

PFDA-GFPS Overall Technical Working Group (TWG) Head and Operations Services Department (OSD) Officer-in-Charge Mr. Mc Christian Julius A. Macaranas II and PFDA-GFPS TWG Committee on Advocacy, Linkages, and Capacity Building Head and Public Information Division Officer-in-Charge Mr. Miguel M. Pilarta served as the resource speaker for the one-day GSO.

Mr. Pilarta discussed various topics, such as the difference between sex and gender and the fundamentals of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sexual Characteristics (SOGIESC). Meanwhile, Mr. Macaranas engaged the participants in an in-depth discussion about gender stereotyping in various institutions and gender as a social construct.

This activity is part of the agency's month-long participation in the 2025 National Women's Month Celebration with this year's sub-theme, "Babae sa Lahat ng Sektor, Aangat ang Bukas sa Bagong Pilipinas".

14 male (66.67%) and seven female (33.33%) PFDA-CO personnel participated in the GSO.



Lights, Camera, Empowerment: PFDA hosts NWMC 2025 Film Showing

Mark Angelo N. Perez with reports and photos from PFDA Regional Fish Ports GFPS

Philippine Fisheries Development Authority (PFDA), through the PFDA - Gender and Development Focal Point System (GFPS), organized a National Women's Month 2025 Film Showing in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and EdukSine Studios Corporation on March 24 to 28, 2025 at the PCA Auditorium, Diliman, Quezon City.

All personnel from the PFDA - Central Office and PFDA Regional Fish Ports (RFP) were invited to the simultaneous block screening of the movie "Retirada" (The Retiree). Retirada explores life's meaning and purpose in the face of old age and death. In a society where being young and active is given more merit, growing old can lead to a sense of alienation and even depression as one contemplates one's own mortality.

Furthermore, the movie highlighted how traditional gender roles and societal expectations affect everyone, even older women in their retirement age. The movie also showcased the importance of self-discovery and empowerment to reclaim our sense of purpose, explore new opportunities, and redefine our lives.



A total of 128 PFDA-CO personnel composed of 61 female (47.7%) and 67 male (52.3%) watched the film on March 26, 2025. After the screening, the participants shared their thoughts and reflections about the film.

For the PFDA Regional Fish Ports (RFP), the PFDA - Davao Fish Port Complex (PFDA-DFPC) was the first port to hold a block screening of the film on March 24, 2025. A total of 40 personnel, with 10 female (25%) and 30 male (75%), watched the film.

Meanwhile, three female (37.5%) and five male (62.5%) participants attended the film showing in PFDA - Sual Fish Port on March 25, 2025. On March 26, 2025, the PFDA - Navotas Fish Port Complex held a block screening of the film which was viewed by 25 female (61%) and 16 male (39%) participants.

At the same time, the PFDA - Iloilo Fish Port Complex also held their film showing which was streamed by 20 female (50%) and 20 male (50%) participants.

Subsequently, the PFDA - General Santos Fish Port Complex (PFDA-GSFPC) enjoyed the film on March 26 and 27, 2025. The two-day showing was attended by 71 female (86.6%) and 11 male (13.4%).

Moreover, the PFDA - Bulan Fish Port Complex (PFDA-BFPC) and the PFDA - Camaligan Fish Port (PFDA-CFP) had a simultaneous block screening on March 27 and 28, 2025. For PFDA-BFPC, nine females (47.4%) and 10 males (52.6) attended the film screening. Meanwhile, for PFDA-CFP, three females (37.5%) and five males (62.5%) watched the film.



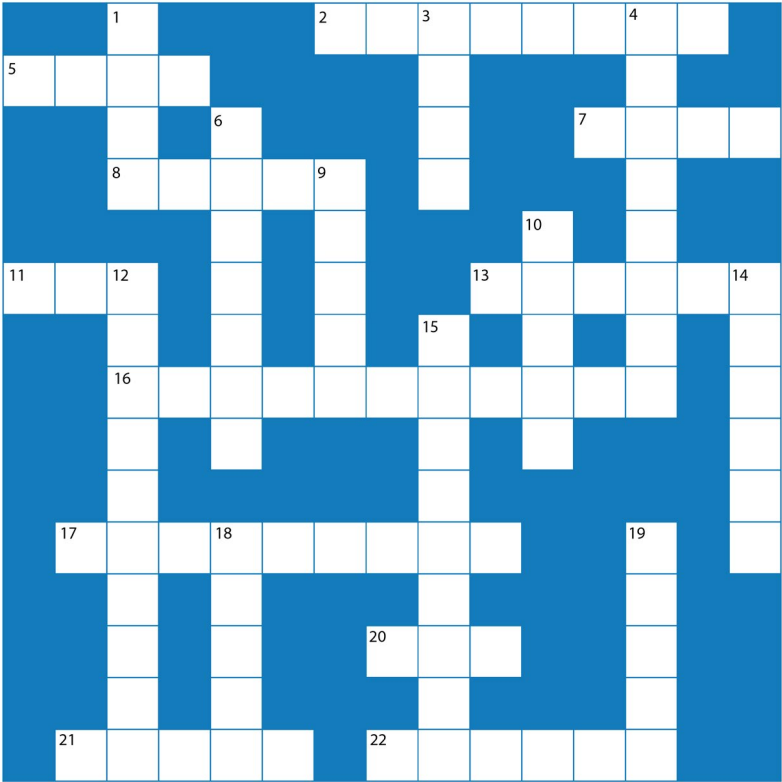
Furthermore, the PFDA - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex (PFDA-ZFPC) and PFDA - Lucena Fish Port Complex (PFDA-LFPC) had their film showing on March 28, 2025. The watchers from PFDA-ZFPC was composed of 16 female (55.2%) and 13 male (44.8%), while the viewers from PFDA-LFPC consisted of 17 female (44.7%) and 21 male (55.3%).

Overall, a total of 433 participants [235 females (54.3%) and 198 males (45.7)] from the PFDA-CO and RFPs watched the film.

"Retirada" is a Filipino drama directed by Milo Alto Paz and Cynthia Cruz-Paz which was screened during the 18th Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival in August 2022.

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

CROSSWORD



- Across
- Down
2. Film Showing

5. Venue: UP ISSI

7. Place for loading and unloading fish

8. Round and bigeye

11. For newly hired personnel

13. Tiu-

16. FOI, Mother-Baby Friendly

17. RFP featured now

20. With TUPAD

21. PCA, PFDA Central Office

22. Open Fishing
1. IT Training

3. Equipment Maintenance

4. By PDEA

6. Where you put fish

9. East Asian Fish Dish

10. PCW's NWMC Kickoff Program

12. ___ Safety and Health Training

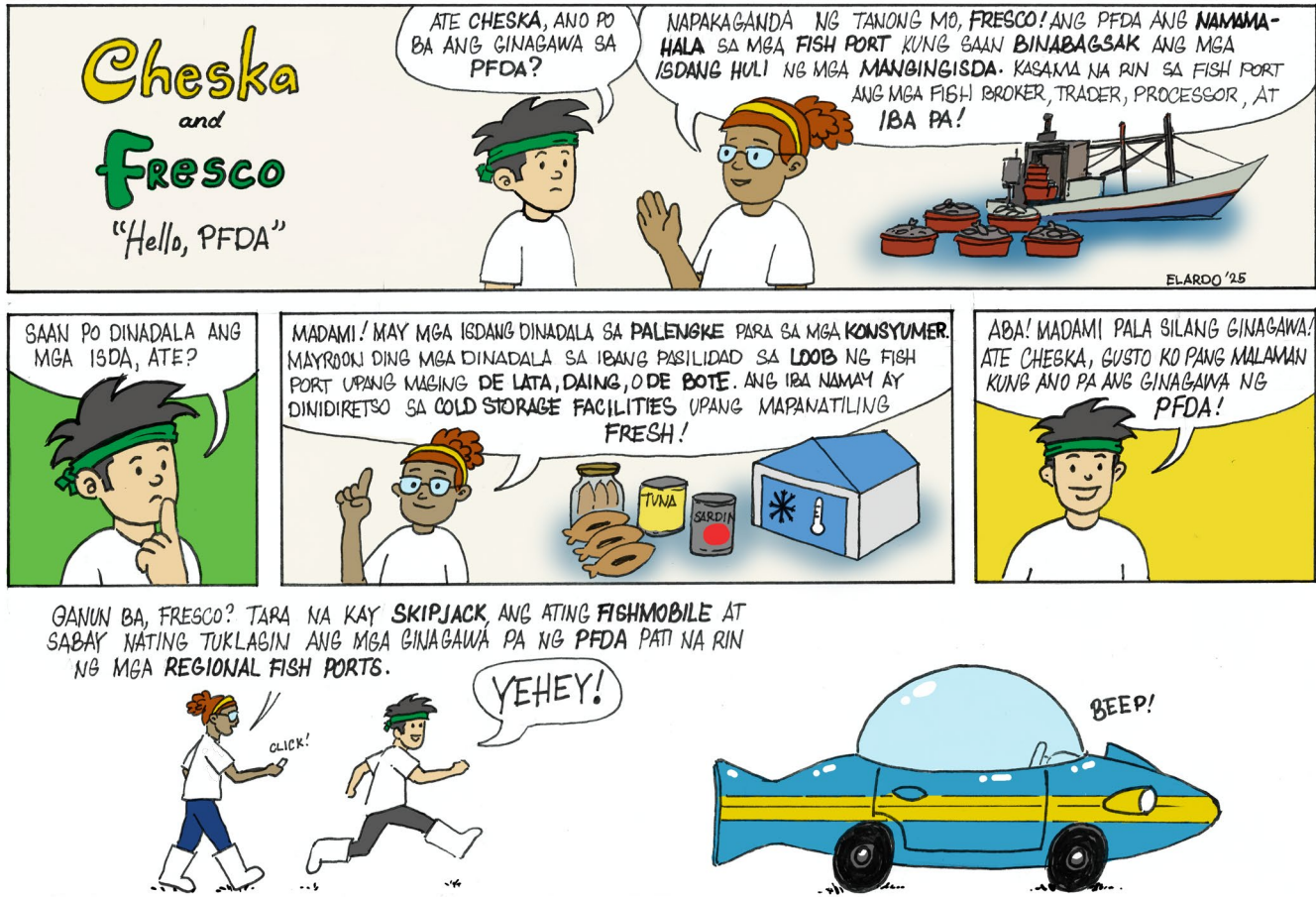
14. ___ Camera, Empowerment!

15. Feature Article

18. This Issue's color

19. Month of March

Answers on the next issue!



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PHILIPPINE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CENTRAL OFFICE
PCA Annex Building I, PCA Compound
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City 1101
Tel. Nos. 8925-6141 / 8925-6138

REGIONAL FISH PORTS:

PFDA - Navotas Fish Port Complex, North Bay Blvd., Navotas City; 8281-2137; opm_nfpc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - General Santos Fish Port Complex, Brgy. Tumbler, General Santos City, South Cotobato; opm_gsfc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Davao Fish Port Complex, Toril District, Davao City, Davao del Sur; (082) 291-0931; opm_dfpc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Zamboanga Fish Port Complex, Sangali, Zamboanga del Sur; (062) 955-0750; opm_zfpc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Iloilo Fish Port Complex, Tanza, Iloilo City, Iloilo; (033) 335-0154; opm_ifpc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Lucena Fish Port Complex, Dalahican, Lucena City, Quezon; (042) 719-1314; opm_lfpc@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Camaligan Fish Port, Dugcal, Camaligan, Samarines Sur; (054) 225-4162; opm_cfp@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Sual Fish Port, Poblacion, Sual, Pangasinan; (075) 523-1112; opm_sfp@pfda.gov.ph
PFDA - Bulan Fish Port Complex, Pier 2, Zone 4, Bulan, Sorsogon; (056) 555-2201 / 0908-627-9888; opm_bfpc@pfda.gov.ph



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pid@pfda.gov.ph