

"Sulong sa Makabagong Trabaho" — 29th TESDA Anniversary Week-Long Celebration

RTC-CALABARZON kicked off its 29th TESDA Anniversary week-long celebration on August 19, 2023 with a parade of trainees from all participating qualifications — Motorcycle Small Engine Servicing NC II, GMAW NC I, SMAW NC II, Construction Painting, and EIM NC II. Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez welcomed participants, urging everyone to enjoy the celebration and use the week as a chance to build unity and demonstrate teamwork.

The opening program featured a Bench Yell competition among the five qualifications and the coronation of Mr. and Ms. RTC-CALABARZON 2023, where each group's escort and muse showcased beauty, poise, and talent. A BPP NC II Bread and Pastry Competition capped the first day, with trainees exhibiting their skills by crafting their own Chicken Empanada and Toasted Siopao.

The Trainees Sports Fest on August 22 brought games and camaraderie, highlighted by the "Talentadong TEDANS" talent showcase. RTC employees then joined the TESDA Sportsfest alongside TESDA Batangas Provincial Office, PTVEA-Batangas, and the Assessment Center Association — bringing home champion titles in volleyball and badminton.

The week culminated in an awarding and closing ceremony on August 26, recognizing winners of the sports fest, Mr. and Ms. RTC-CALABARZON, and Talentadong TEDANS. Employee excellence awards were presented as well, with Mr. Robin Como named Most Punctual Employee, Mr. Jovert Cabaces Most Innovative Employee, Mr. John Lloyd Gambalan Team Player, Ms. Maribel L. Arellano Model Employee, and Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez receiving the Leadership Award.



The kick-off ceremony of RTC-CALABARZON's 29th TESDA Anniversary week-long celebration.



Trainees from five qualifications compete in their groups during the Trainees Sports Fest.



Talentadong TEDANS participants showcase their unique talents.



BPP NC II trainees exhibit their skills in the Bread and Pastry Competition.



RTC-CALABARZON employees join the TESDA 29th Anniversary Sports Fest.



The judging of Green Skills Competition. The innovation output of each qualification.

CDRRMO Batangas City Personnel Complete Theoretical Driving Course at RTC

Thirty personnel from the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) of Batangas City successfully completed a comprehensive 3-day Theoretical Driving Course (TDC) at RTC-CALABARZON, followed by competency assessment for Driving NC II. The initiative aims to improve the efficiency of disaster response operations, particularly in the deployment of ambulances and rescue units.

The training was conducted by Mr. Ronald Salvador and Mr. Jovert Cabaces, both Senior TESD Specialists and certified Driving NC II Trainers. Their instructional modules covered the theoretical foundations

of safe driving, traffic sign interpretation, vehicle handling principles, and defensive driving strategies.

The program aligns with Land Transportation Office (LTO) regulations requiring TDC completion for driver's license issuance. By fulfilling these requirements, CDRRMO personnel strengthen their capacity to operate government vehicles with professionalism during emergencies. The City Government of Batangas expressed gratitude to RTC-CALABARZON for facilitating the training and reaffirmed its commitment to continuous improvement in emergency service delivery.



CDRRMO personnel during Day 1 of the Theoretical Driving Course lecture at RTC-CALABARZON.



Day 2 of the Theoretical Driving Course conducted by Mr. Ronald B. Salvador, Senior TESD Specialist.



The full batch of 30 CDRRMO-Batangas City participants after completing their 3-day TDC.

RTC-CALABARZON Participates in the 2023 National Tech-Voc Day and TESDA Skills Fair

RTC-CALABARZON proudly participated in the 2023 National Tech-Voc Day and TESDA Skills Fair on August 22, 2023, at SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City — a national platform for promoting the relevance of Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in driving workforce competitiveness and national development.

The Center set up an informative institutional booth featuring brochures, course guides, and multimedia presentations on its training programs, scholarship offerings, and industry-aligned qualifications. The booth drew students, parents, teachers, career counselors, and government stakeholders, with RTC staff providing in-

depth guidance on program offerings and emphasizing skills training as a path to employment or entrepreneurship.

Live skills demonstrations allowed visitors to witness firsthand the quality of training across TVET qualifications, reinforcing RTC-CALABARZON's reputation for producing globally competitive graduates. Orientation sessions on career pathways further highlighted how the Center continuously aligns its programs with evolving labor market demands — reaffirming its role as an active partner in the nation's inclusive and sustainable economic growth through skills development.

"WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society" — RTC-CALABARZON Celebrates National Women's Month 2023

RTC-CALABARZON marked National Women's Month 2023 under the theme "WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society," reaffirming its commitment to recognizing the strength, contributions, and achievements of women. The celebration kicked off on March 7 with a baking session at the BPP Workshop where all employees — regardless of gender — collaborated in preparing four different pastries, fostering unity and challenging traditional gender roles.

On March 8, National Women's Day, the institution hosted a symposium in collaboration with Soroptimist International Batangas Premier, with Atty. Rita Mildred E. Medrano-Gonzales, Assistant City Prosecutor of Batangas

City, as guest speaker. Her discussion on women's empowerment and gender equality drew both male and female employees into a conversation about building a truly inclusive society.

Throughout March, employees wore purple shirts every Wednesday — the color symbolizing justice and dignity. The women's version of "Lupang Hinirang" was played at every flag ceremony. In her closing remarks, GAD Focal Ms. Lina L. Antonio reminded all that "WE" each have a role in advancing gender equality, and that no one is better positioned to fulfill it than each and every one of us — together.



All employees join the Women's Month kick-off baking session at the BPP Workshop.



Atty. Rita Mildred E. Medrano-Gonzales delivers the Women Empowerment Talk for RTC employees.



Employees wear purple shirts every Wednesday throughout March in solidarity for gender equality.

RTC-CALABARZON Clears 2023 TESDA STAR Program Online National Validation

On August 11, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON participated in the 2023 TESDA STAR Program Online National Validation for seven qualifications: GTAW NC II, OAP NC II, SMAW NC I and NC II, EIM NC II and NC III, and Driving NC II. The whole RTC team, led by Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez, presented achievements and improvements across four criteria: Governance and Management, Curriculum and Program Delivery, Program Performance Measure, and Support Services.

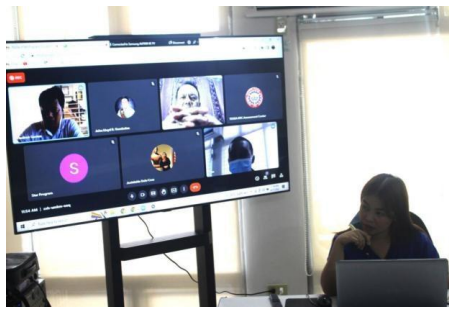
External validators assessed each qualification's team through virtual interviews. Mr. Richard De Leon evaluated the Welding cluster led by Trainer Mr. Mandy Catena; Ms. Therese Lee assessed OAP NC II with Trainer

Mr. Maiko Gil Hiwatig; and Mr. Vladimir Santos handled EIM NC II and NC III and Driving NC II. Selected graduates from all seven qualifications were also interviewed about how their training transformed their lives.

Following the interviews, a live virtual tour of each workshop was conducted, showcasing facilities, tools, equipment, and amenities. Validators commended the robust, well-articulated documents and evidence submitted. RTC-CALABARZON met the minimum UTPRAS threshold for program registration across all seven qualifications, and looked forward to receiving the best-fit STAR Level Awards as recognition of its dedication to quality TVET.



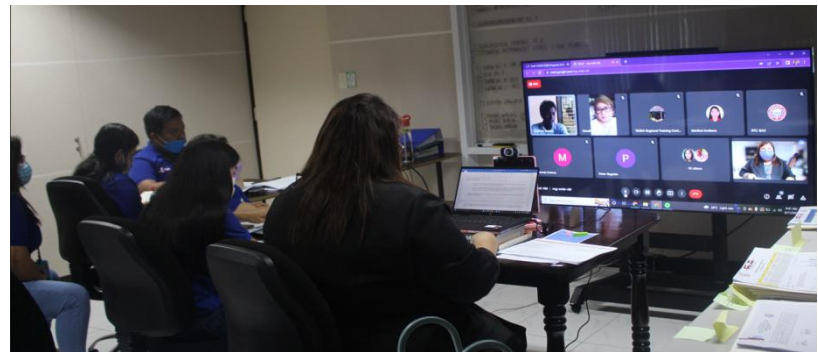
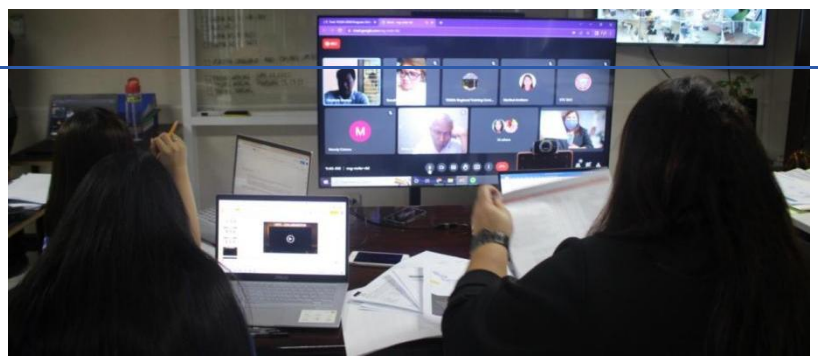
Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez, Administrator, welcomes the national validation team for the 2023 STAR Program review.



The Governance and Management group, led by Administrator Gutierrez, is interviewed and evaluated.



The OAP NC II team, headed by Trainer Maiko Gil Hiwatig, presents its Curriculum and Program Delivery evidence.



The First Group, spearheaded by Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez, was interviewed and evaluated on the Governance and Management Criteria.



The OAP NC II Team headed by Mr. Maiko Gil Hiwatig was evaluated on the Curriculum and Program Delivery of OAP NC II.





The evaluation of the Mechatronics Servicing NC II with Ms. Maribel Arellano, Mechatronics Servicing Trainer



Mr. Mandy Catena, Welding Trainer led the GMAW NC II Team validation.

Inspiring Futures: RTC-CALABARZON Empowers Out-of-School Youth Through TESDA Career Talk

On July 20, 2023, a collaborative initiative between RTC-CALABARZON and the Batangas City Social Welfare and Development Office brought a TESDA Career Talk directly to out-of-school youth at Brgy. Bucal, Batangas City. The event, facilitated by Mr. Maiko Gil D. Hiwatig, TESD Specialist II and OAP NC II Trainer, opened with an overview of TESDA's role in skills development and the broad range of programs available.

The presentation drew on visual aids, success stories, and graduate testimonials to capture the imagination of young attendees and demonstrate how

TESDA certifications open real career pathways. An active Q&A session followed, with youth asking about eligibility, course offerings, and post-training employment — reflecting their genuine motivation to chart a better future.

Informational brochures, application forms, and flyers were distributed to all participants. The Career Talk was more than an event — it was a community-level investment in guidance and opportunity, reinforcing the importance of sustained collaboration between TESDA and local government welfare offices to reach and empower the youth who need it most.



Mr. Maiko Gil Hiwatig introduces TESDA, RTC-CALABARZON, and the programs available to the out-of-school youth of Brgy. Bucal.



Young participants engage in a lively Q&A with Mr. Hiwatig about training eligibility and career pathways.

RTC-CALABARZON Welcomes Colombo Plan Staff College for International Benchmarking Visit

On June 27, 2023, TESDA RTC-CALABARZON hosted representatives from the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) for a benchmarking visit aimed at sharing best practices and innovative approaches in Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) on an international scale. Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez led the welcoming program, which provided an overview of RTC's history, mission, achievements, and continuing commitment to TVET excellence.

Ms. Maribel L. Arellano, Senior TESD Specialist, presented the Center's profile — including its organizational structure, STAR Program journey, industry partnerships, and recognitions — giving the CPSC delegates a comprehensive picture of how RTC-CALABARZON has

evolved as a center of excellence. A guided tour of the state-of-the-art workshops and specialized training areas followed, with delegates deeply impressed by the real-world industry settings replicated in the Center's facilities.

Interactive discussions on TVET challenges and innovations enriched the day, with both parties sharing case studies, success stories, and emerging solutions. RTC-CALABARZON showcased its best practices in competency-based training delivery, quality assurance, and industry partnerships. The visit concluded on a high note, with both institutions expressing commitment to future collaborations — a promising step toward advancing TVET standards across the Asia-Pacific region.



The TESDA RTC-CALABARZON team and Colombo Plan Staff College representatives mark a successful benchmarking visit with a group photo.



The welcoming program, opened with a prayer by Ms. Lina L. Antonio and hosted by Ms. Milkha M. Papio.



Ms. Maribel L. Arellano presents RTC-CALABARZON's profile, STAR journey, and industry achievements.



RTC-CALABARZON Team and Colombo Plan Staff College Delegates engaged in fruitful discussions on topics about TVET, their own experiences in the program implementations, tech-voc innovations and other journey in technical-vocational skills development.

RTC-CALABARZON Unites for a Cleaner Future at the 38th International Coastal Cleanup 2023

On September 28, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON, together with TESDA PO Batangas and Provincial Training Center Lipa, joined the 38th International Coastal Cleanup at Brgy. Lagadlarin, Lobo, Batangas — a unified call to action for environmental stewardship and community engagement. Community leaders opened the program with a message of appreciation, underscoring the importance of institutional support in protecting coastal ecosystems.

Participants were divided into teams assigned to specific shoreline sections. Armed with gloves and trash bags, volunteers meticulously collected and segregated plastics, bottles, fishing nets, and non-biodegradable

waste. Each piece of debris was logged on the Ocean Conservancy's Ocean Trash Data Form — identified, classified, and tallied before the data was submitted for global marine pollution analysis.

The once-littered shores of Brgy. Lagadlarin were visibly restored by the end of the day, a powerful symbol of collective commitment to the environment. The activity reinforced RTC-CALABARZON's broader advocacy: that technical education and environmental responsibility must go hand in hand, shaping graduates who are not only skilled workers but also responsible stewards of the natural world.



RTC-CALABARZON employees and staff in full force during the 38th International Coastal Cleanup at Brgy. Lagadlarin, Lobo.



Volunteers sort and tally different types of waste using the Ocean Conservancy data form.



The team properly segregates and disposes of collected debris from the shoreline.

RTC-CALABARZON 2023 Convocation of Partners: Strengthening Industry Ties for Workforce Excellence

The 2023 Convocation of Partners, held on December 6 at Marcial Hall, Andrea Vile Event Center, Batangas City, marked a milestone in fostering collaboration between RTC-CALABARZON and its industry stakeholders. Administrator Mr. Domingo I. Librea welcomed guests and acknowledged partners' steadfast commitment to advancing accessible, high-quality TVET programs that produce skilled, globally competitive graduates.

Representatives from Sem Calaca Power Corporation and Aboitiz Power expressed gratitude for the opportunity to co-deliver skills training to Filipinos, helping them become productive citizens and members of the local and global workforce. Both partners also welcomed the

chance to showcase their products, services, and innovations to TESDA representatives and trainees — enriching the event with real-world industry perspective.

Regional Director Baron Jose L. Lagran and Provincial Director Dorie U. Gutierrez attended and commended the Center's heightened level of industry engagement. They emphasized the indispensable role of industry involvement in achieving TESDA's goals and underscored the institution's continuous effort to reach more learners across the region. The Convocation stood as a catalyst for deeper, more purposeful industry-academia collaboration — one built on mutual understanding and a shared vision of shaping tomorrow's skilled workforce.



RD Baron Jose L. Lagran, PD Dorie U. Gutierrez, and Administrator Domingo I. Librea express gratitude to industry partners.



Industry partners receive recognition for their outstanding commitment to TVET delivery.



Awarding of certificates and plaques to partner organizations and companies.



Representatives from partner industries acknowledge their shared responsibility in workforce development.



The full gathering of industry partners, LGUs, NGOs, and government agencies at the Convocation.



RTC-CALABARZON team joins industry partners in a group photo capping the successful event.

"Transforming Emotions" — RTC-CALABARZON's 2023 Mental Health Awareness Seminar

On November 15, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON, in collaboration with TESDA Provincial Office Batangas, organized a Mental Health Awareness Seminar entitled "Transforming Emotions: Strategies in Dealing with Stress and Anxiety." Facilitated by Dr. Marie Grace D. Alea, a highly regarded mental health expert, the seminar opened with an insightful discussion on the critical role of emotional well-being in personal and professional life.

Dr. Alea presented practical, science-based strategies for managing stress and anxiety, helping participants identify negative emotions, develop healthier coping mechanisms, and build a more positive mindset. Topics covered included understanding workplace stress,

recognizing how anxiety manifests, incorporating mindfulness and relaxation exercises, and strengthening mental resilience to face challenges more effectively.

The highly interactive format — featuring group activities, self-reflection exercises, and open dialogue — allowed attendees to share personal experiences and learn from one another. RTC-CALABARZON's investment in this seminar reflects its vision of holistic development: a workplace where mental well-being is recognized as the cornerstone of productivity, and where every employee is equipped with the tools to thrive both personally and professionally.



Dr. Marie Grace D. Alea leads the RTC-CALABARZON 2023 Mental Health Awareness Seminar on managing stress and anxiety.



Employees and staff participate in group activities designed to build emotional awareness and resilience.

RTC-CALABARZON Forges MOA with AG&P and Aboitiz Power to Advance TVET Industry Linkages

On March 8, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON marked another milestone in strengthening industry linkages through the formal signing of Memoranda of Agreement with two major industry players. In the morning, a MOA was signed with Atlantic Gulf and Pacific Company of Manila Inc. (AG&P) under the Supervised Industry Learning (SIL) Program. Atty. Roderick J. Reyes, VP for HR Operations, represented AG&P, while TESDA Region IV-A Regional Director Toni June A. Tamayo signed on behalf of TESDA. The SIL partnership aims to provide learners with immersive, real-world training aligned with actual industry practices.

In the afternoon, RTC officials, led by Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez and RD Tamayo,

visited the offices of Aboitiz Power Renewables Inc. (APRI), where a Dual Training System (DTS) agreement was signed. APRI President and CEO Mr. Jeffrey Estrella welcomed the team, and Assistant VP for HR Raizza L. Manuel formalized the agreement alongside RD Tamayo — bridging classroom learning with immersive workplace training.

Both partnerships underscore RTC-CALABARZON's growing reputation as a hub for innovation and industry engagement in TVET. Beyond signed agreements, these collaborations represent a shared vision of empowering the Filipino workforce through sustainable employment, skills upgrading, and lifelong learning — and open the door to future joint work in curriculum development, trainer immersion, and knowledge exchange.



Administrator Ms. Gutierrez and RD Toni June Tamayo express their gratitude to AG&P and Aboitiz Power for partnering with RTC.



Aboitiz Power Renewables Inc. and RTC-CALABARZON formalize the Dual Training System Partnership.

RTC-CALABARZON's Soaring Collaboration with DepEd Division of Batangas City

On March 17, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON welcomed key officials from DepEd Batangas City, headed by Division Superintendent Mr. Felizardo O. Bolaños, for a strategic dialogue on inter-agency collaboration. The discussions explored joint training activities, support for Brigada Eskwela, community outreach, and environmental greening — with the most significant outcome being the proposal for a Supervised Industry Learning (SIL) Partnership for graduates of RTC's Trainers Methodology (TM) Program.

The SIL initiative will deploy TM graduates to selected DepEd schools under the Technical-Vocational-Livelihood (TVL) track, where they will practice instructional skills, classroom management, and

pedagogical strategies under the supervision of experienced DepEd personnel. For RTC, it enhances practical training in authentic settings; for DepEd, it provides additional support in TVL delivery aligned with national training standards.

The partnership contributes to RTC-CALABARZON's broader goals of developing diploma-level programs and enhancing curricula through benchmarking and inter-sectoral exchange. Most importantly, it demonstrates the power of inter-agency cooperation in building a more skilled, adaptive, and empowered workforce — one that benefits not only institutional stakeholders but the entire CALABARZON community.



The RTC-CALABARZON team, led by Administrator Gutierrez, in active dialogue with DepEd Batangas City, led by Supt. Felizardo Bolaños.



Both institutions explore collaborative programs including joint training, SIL partnerships, and community outreach.

RTC-CALABARZON Honors Its Dedicated Trainers on Teachers' Day 2023

On October 6, 2023, RTC-CALABARZON hosted a heartfelt Teachers' / Trainers' Day celebration, dedicating the occasion to honoring the unsung heroes of technical education. The event served as a genuine expression of gratitude and admiration for the trainers who tirelessly share their expertise, time, and passion in shaping the region's skilled workforce.

A highlight of the ceremony was the awarding of recognition plaques and certificates to outstanding trainers whose commitment to excellence continues to uplift the standards of vocational training. Batangas Provincial Director Dorie U. Gutierrez and RTC-CALABARZON

Administrator Mr. Domingo I. Librea personally handed each trainer a token of appreciation — a tangible reminder of how deeply valued their roles are, not just as instructors, but as mentors, role models, and agents of change.

The celebration became a moment of reflection, purpose, and renewal — honoring a collective journey marked by perseverance and dedication. More than a tribute to past achievements, the Teachers' Day Celebration reinforced that the greatest testament to an educator's impact is the success of every graduate they've guided: skilled, ready, and inspired to take on the world.



RTC-CALABARZON honors its dedicated trainers during the Teachers' Day celebration.



PD Dorie U. Gutierrez and Administrator Domingo I. Librea personally present recognition plaques to outstanding trainers.



Trainers receive certificates of recognition for their invaluable contribution to technical education.

Pinnacle Progress: RTC-CALABARZON's 2023 Year-End Performance Assessment and Evaluation

On December 21, 2023, TESDA RTC-CALABARZON convened its staff and trainers for the Year-End Performance Assessment and Evaluation — a platform to celebrate 2023 achievements, identify growth opportunities, and set strategic directions for 2024. Administrator Mr. Domingo I. Librea formally opened the program with a congratulatory message, recognizing the collective effort of every employee as the foundation of the Center's success.

A comprehensive presentation of key performance indicators covered trainee enrollment, graduation, and certification rates; new training programs; strengthened

industry partnerships; and facility and resource expansion. Each committee then presented its contributions, showing how their efforts aligned with the Center's mission of empowering Filipinos through technical education.

A special highlight was the recognition of Provincial Director Dorie U. Gutierrez — honored with a Plaque of Recognition for her exemplary leadership, dedication, and remarkable contributions during her tenure as RTC-CALABARZON Administrator. The event concluded with action plans for 2024, renewed commitment from all staff, and a shared determination to make the coming year even stronger than the last.



Administrator Mr. Domingo I. Librea formally opens the Year-End Performance Assessment with congratulations to all staff.



PD Dorie U. Gutierrez, guest of honor, receives a Plaque of Recognition for her exemplary leadership as former RTC Administrator.



Acting Registrar Ms. Roxanne V. Geron presents actual performance accomplishments against the 2023 targets.

TESDA RTC-CALABARZON Triumphs as 2022 Best Training Institution

The TESDA Regional Training Center CALABARZON claimed the Best Training Institution award in the RTC/STC Category at the 2022 TESDA Organizational Excellence Awards, held at the World Trade Center on December 15, 2022. Receiving the award on behalf of the Center were TESDA Region IV-A Regional Director Baron Jose L. Lagran, Provincial Director Dorie U. Gutierrez, and RTC-CALABARZON Administrator Mr. Domingo I. Librea.

The triumph is rooted in the Center's consistent innovation and adaptability in training methodologies, keeping pace with evolving industry demands. RTC-CALABARZON's robust industry partnerships have ensured

its programs remain relevant and its graduates highly employable. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation mechanisms underpin its culture of data-driven quality assurance and continuous improvement.

The recognition is a testament to the relentless dedication of the entire RTC-CALABARZON family — dedicated staff, skilled trainers, and steadfast industry and community partners — whose collective effort makes every milestone possible. It serves not only as acknowledgment of past accomplishments but as motivation to continue delivering transformative, market-responsive training programs that empower lives and communities across CALABARZON.

"Synergy for Organizational Effectiveness" — RTC-CALABARZON Team-Building in San Juan

On October 19-20, 2023, TESDA RTC-CALABARZON, together with TESDA Provincial Office Batangas and Provincial Training Center Lipa, conducted a two-day team-building activity in the coastal town of San Juan, Batangas. Entitled "Synergy for Organizational Effectiveness," the event aimed to foster collaboration, strengthen camaraderie, and enhance organizational efficiency through shared experiences and reflective dialogue.

The activity was facilitated by Former Regional Director Ms. Luisita Dela Cruz and Former Provincial Director Ms. Cecilia Amaro, whose extensive experience in leadership and organizational development brought invaluable guidance. Day 1 began with a keynote on synergy by Ms. Dela Cruz,

followed by interactive exercises requiring creativity, trust, and coordinated problem-solving — demonstrating how individual strengths, combined effectively, produce powerful collective outcomes.

Ms. Amaro's afternoon workshop focused on organizational effectiveness, covering leadership styles, organizational culture, and aligning personal goals with institutional objectives. On Day 2, a reflective "visioning" session by the beachfront had teams articulate their shared aspirations for TESDA's future in CALABARZON. The event concluded with a deep sense of renewed commitment to collaboration, communication, and shared purpose across all participating offices.



Series of team-building activities on Day 1, guided by Former RD Luisita Dela Cruz.



Participants engage in collaborative exercises designed to build trust and improve team communication.



Interactive activities challenge teams to solve problems creatively and work in coordination.



Day 2 begins with a reflective morning session led by Former PD Cecilia Amaro at the San Juan beachfront.



The visioning session has participants articulate shared aspirations for TESDA CALABARZON's future.



The event concludes with a renewed spirit of collaboration and shared organizational commitment.

Driving Excellence: Mid-Year Performance Assessment at RTC-CALABARZON

On July 20, 2023, TESDA RTC-CALABARZON convened its Mid-Year Performance Assessment Meeting — a pivotal review of the Center's progress and achievements during the first half of the year. Led by Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez, the meeting opened with an expression of profound gratitude to all employees for their unwavering commitment to the Center's vision. Ms. Maribel L. Arellano then introduced the agenda covering goal and target review, training program assessment, infrastructure monitoring, financial review, and staff development.

Presentations from each committee benchmarked first-half performance against set targets and identified areas for improvement. An engaging open discussion

followed, where staff and trainers shared valuable insights, best practices, and suggestions on improving training methodologies, refining administrative processes, and fostering a more conducive learning environment.

The meeting culminated in action plans for the second half of 2023, assigned to responsible individuals with defined timelines. Participants left with renewed clarity on their roles and a sharpened commitment to the Center's continued growth. The meeting reinforced a culture of transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement — ensuring that RTC-CALABARZON remains a leader in quality technical education and workforce development.



Administrator Ms. Dorie U. Gutierrez leads the Mid-Year Performance Assessment Meeting.

Senior TESD Specialist Ms. Maribel L. Arellano presents the agenda and first-half performance review.

Staff and trainers participate in an open discussion on challenges and action plans for the second half of 2023.

Research Corner:

Design and Fabrication of a Cost-Effective Improvised Pipe Hanger for Pipefitting NC II Learners in TESDA RTC CALABARZON

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RTC CALABARZON

ABSTRACT

This study focused on the design and fabrication of a cost-effective improvised pipe hanger to support the Pipefitting NC II program at TESDA RTC CALABARZON, addressing the lack of appropriate assessment equipment in the institution. Utilizing a developmental research design, the project was implemented in three key phases: needs assessment, design and fabrication, and testing and refinement. The pipe hanger was constructed using low-cost, locally available materials such as metal scraps, angle bars, bolts, and clamps, with the goal of providing a durable, safe, and functional training tool.

The evaluation process included structured observation checklists, trainer feedback, and hands-on trials involving learners. Results showed that the tool achieved Excellent ratings in all key criteria: Durability and Cost-Efficiency (mean = 5.00), Usability (mean = 4.98), and Functionality (mean = 4.94). These consistently high ratings suggest that the improvised pipe hanger is highly effective, user-friendly, and aligned with TESDA's competency-based training requirements.

The findings imply that the fabricated tool is suitable for widespread implementation in similar training environments, particularly in institutions operating under budget constraints. It is recommended that the tool be formally adopted as a supplemental instructional aide, with documentation and instructional guides developed to support replication and integration into the curriculum. Future enhancements may include rust-resistant materials, adjustable features, and compatibility with larger pipe sizes to expand its usability.

Keywords: Design, Fabrication, Cost-Effective, Improvised, Pipe Hanger, Pipefitting NC II Learners

A. INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) play a vital role in shaping the skills and competencies of the Filipino workforce. As one of the government's primary institutions for technical education, its core mission is to equip learners with practical abilities that make them ready for employment. In the field of pipefitting, a critical competency involves the proper installation and support of piping system, a task that require the correct use of pipe hangers. Unfortunately, many training institutions, including TESDA RTC-CALABARZON, encounter limitations in terms of available training equipment. The center currently faces a unavailability of appropriate pipe hanger tools, which are essential for conducting effective and realistic hands-on exercises under the Pipefitting NC II program. This gap in resources can hinder learners from fully mastering the skills needed in real-world applications.

Pipe hangers play a crucial role in maintaining the stability and alignment of piping systems, helping ensure their safety and proper function. In real-world industrial settings, these components are typically made from standardized materials and require precise installation. However, for trainees in technical institutions, access to such standard pipe hangers is often limited due to financial constraints or a lack of available equipment. This shortage poses a significant challenge for both instructors and learners, as it can hinder the delivery of quality hands-on training and affect the achievement of desired competency standards. The Pipefitting NC II curriculum, as outlined by TESDA (2021), requires hands-on competencies in assembling and installing various piping systems. Tools like pipe hangers are essential for simulating real-life alignment, support, and installation tasks. Torres (2022) notes that the absence or shortage of proper tools can hinder learner competency and limit the effectiveness of training delivery.

This study addresses this issue by designing and fabricating an improvised pipe hanger using low-cost, locally available materials that can simulate industry-standard functionality. The development of a cost-effective pipe hanger aims to enhance the delivery of pipefitting training by providing learners with a practical, hands-on tool for demonstration and practice without the financial burden of acquiring commercial hangers. Cost-efficiency is a critical factor in developing learning resources for public institutions. Lopez (2020) emphasized that instructional materials must balance affordability and performance to ensure sustainability in long-term training delivery. Projects that result in significant cost savings, such as improvised tools, are particularly beneficial in TVET programs where budget constraints are common.

This project aims to enhance the learning experience of Pipefitting NC II students at TESDA RTC CALABARZON by introducing creative and practical training tools. Through the use of innovative and resource-efficient instructional materials, the initiative addresses the existing lack of appropriate pipe hanger tools used during hands-on training. Specifically, the study focuses on identifying this equipment gap and developing a cost-effective improvised pipe hanger that can serve as an alternative training tool. The outcome of this research reflects the institution's commitment to providing quality and inclusive technical education, ensuring that learners can still acquire essential skills despite limitations in available resources.

B. METHODS

1. Project Design

This study employed a developmental research design aimed at creating and evaluating an improvised training tool to address the shortage of appropriate pipe hanger equipment for the Pipefitting NC II program at TESDA RTC CALABARZON. The project was carried out in three key phases: needs assessment, design and fabrication, and testing and refinement. It began by identifying equipment gaps through observations and consultations with trainers and learners. Based on the gathered insights, an improvised pipe hanger was designed using affordable and durable materials, with consideration for safety, usability, and alignment with training standards. The fabricated prototype was then tested during actual training sessions, where feedback from users guided minor adjustments to enhance its functionality. This practical and cost-efficient approach aims to provide a replicable solution for other training institutions facing similar resource limitations.



The major components of the project are the following:

COMPONENTS	DESCRIPTION
Base Frame	Serves as the foundation of the pipe hanger, typically made of welded angle bars or flat bars to provide stability and support during pipe installation exercises.
Vertical Support Post	A vertical metal shaft or post that holds the adjustable hanger arms in position and provides height and elevation for pipe alignment.
Adjustable Arms/Brackets	These movable components hold the pipes in place. They can be tightened or loosened using bolts or clamps to fit various pipe sizes.
Pipe Clamps or Holders	U-bolts or circular clamps that secure the pipe to the hanger, simulating actual industrial pipe suspension systems.
Fasteners (Bolts and Nuts)	Used to connect, adjust, or lock different parts of the tool in place. Essential for flexibility and secure fitting.
Support Legs or Stands	Provide balance and prevent tipping during practice. Some versions include rubber footings or widened bases for better grip.
Crossbars	Horizontal supports that connect vertical posts or frames, ensuring alignment and structural integrity.
Rust-Proof Coating	Applied to metal surfaces to protect the tool from corrosion, especially if stored in humid environments.

Table 1 Project Components

2. Project Development

The project was initiated to solve the lack of standard pipe hanger tools in the TESDA Pipefitting NC II training program at RTC Calabarzon, ensuring the improvised tool met required competencies and training standards. This systematic approach to project development ensures that the final output not only meets training needs but also promotes innovation and practicality in resource-limited environments.

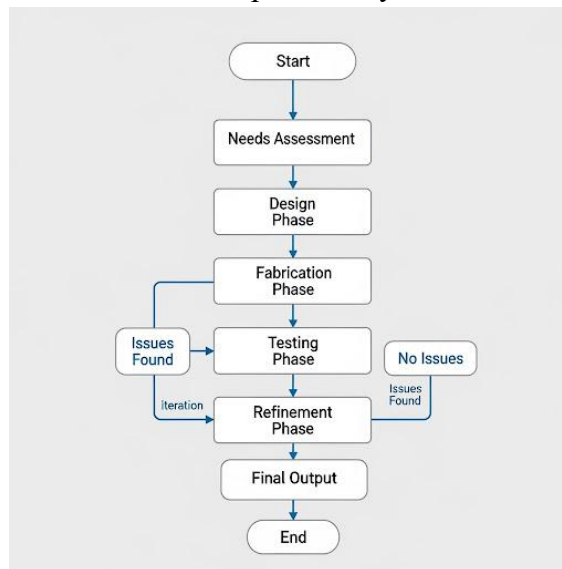
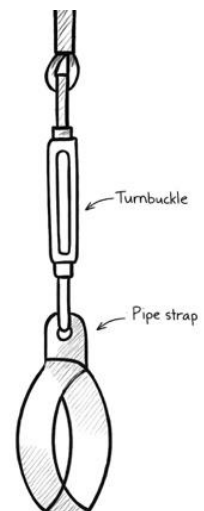
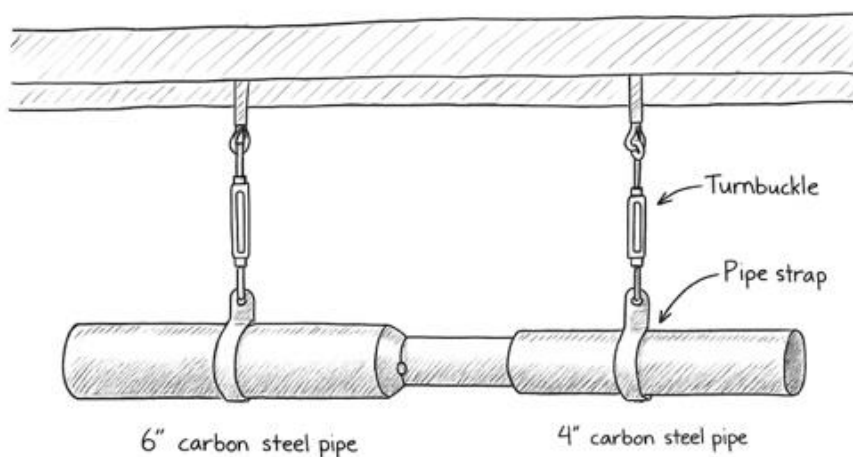
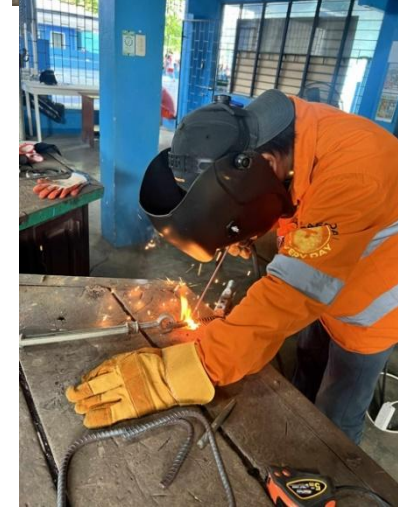


Figure 1 Project Development Flow

Designing of the project



Fabrication of pipe hanger



Particulars	Quantity	Unit
Flat Bar (scrap)	12 pcs	1
Bolts and Nuts	12 pcs	1
Steel Round Bar (scrap)	6 pcs	1
Pipe (scrap)	6 pcs	1
turnbuckle	6 pcs	1
GI pipe	2 pcs	1

Table 2 Tools, Supplies, and Equipment

3. Operation and Testing Procedure

During the training activities, the proper use of the improvised pipe hanger followed key steps to ensure safety and effectiveness. It began with a pre-use inspection of all components, checking for damage, loose fittings, rust, or unstable parts. The hanger was then set up on a firm surface, securely fastened, and adjusted according to the size of the pipe to be used.

Learners placed the Carbon steel pipe into the hanger, aligning it as it would be in actual installations. They then practiced tasks such as support alignment and tightening, while observing proper safety protocols, including the use of PPE and correct tool handling. After the session, the hanger was checked for any signs of wear or misalignment, and any issues were documented for future improvement.

The testing phase assessed the improvised pipe hanger's performance in simulated training conditions. Functionality was evaluated by observing its ability to securely hold various pipe types during installation exercises. Durability was tested through repeated use across multiple sessions, checking for wear or loose components.

Trainees from the Pipefitting NC II program used the tool to evaluate its usability, including ease of handling and efficiency. Safety was assessed by inspecting for sharp edges, unstable joints, or slipping hazards. Feedback was collected from both learners and instructors through forms and interviews, focusing on effectiveness, realism, and areas for improvement.

All findings were documented and analyzed to confirm that the tool meets training goals and complies with TESDA safety standards, ensuring it is a practical and reliable instructional aid.

4. Evaluation Procedure

The evaluation procedure is designed to assess the overall functionality and usability of the improvised pipe hanger as an instructional tool for the Pipefitting NC II program. The evaluation involved both qualitative and quantitative feedback from instructors and trainees, along with structured performance assessments during training activities.

a. Evaluation Participants

Technical Trainers (3)	Expert feedback on tool functionality, safety, and relevance to training standards
Pipefitting NC II learners (25)	Participated in hands-on use of the tool and shared experiences regarding ease of use and learning support

Table 3 Project Participants

b. Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Description
Functionality	Ability of the tool to hold and support different pipe sizes properly.
Durability	Resistance to wear and tear during repeated use.
Usability	Ease of handling and operation by learners.
Cost-Efficiency	Affordability of materials and fabrication process

Table 4 Evaluation Criteria

c. Evaluation Tools

To assess the design of the improvised pipe hanger, a variety of evaluation tools were used. Structured evaluation forms were distributed to both trainers and trainees, featuring a combination of Likert scale ratings and open-ended questions. These forms gathered feedback on the tool's design, functionality, and its overall support for learning outcomes.

Instructors also made use of an observation checklist during practical training sessions to monitor the tool's real-time performance, stability, and ease of use. In addition, interviews and focus group discussions

were conducted with a small group of trainees and trainers to gain deeper insights into the tool's usability and its impact on the learning process.

These evaluation methods provided a comprehensive understanding of how well the tool met its instructional purpose and identified areas for further refinement.

d. Statistical Treatment

To evaluate the performance and usability of the improvised pipe hanger, both quantitative and qualitative data were gathered and analyzed using the following methods:

- (i) Descriptive Statistics wherein quantitative data obtained from structured evaluation forms were analyzed using mean and percentage ratings. Likert scale responses (1–5) on aspects such as durability, functionality, usability, and cost efficiency were averaged to determine overall satisfaction and effectiveness levels. Frequency counts and percentages were used to summarize categorical responses.
- (ii) (Thematic Analysis wherein qualitative data collected through open-ended survey questions, interviews, and focus group discussions were subjected to thematic analysis. Responses were reviewed and coded to identify recurring themes, including positive feedback, concerns, and suggested improvements. Themes were categorized to reflect the most common insights regarding usability, efficiency, and training relevance, and
- (iii) Goal-Based Evaluation wherein, the summarized results were compared against the project's predefined objectives such as cost-effectiveness, safety, instructional value, and alignment with TESDA training standards. This analysis helped determine the extent to which the improvised pipe hanger met the training needs of Pipefitting NC II learners at RTC CALABARZON.

Range	Verbal Interpretation	Description
4.20-5.00	Excellent/Very Highly Satisfactory	Exceeds expectations; performs exceptionally well in the given criterion
3.40-4.19	Very Good/ Highly Satisfactory	Meets all expectations with minor improvements needed
2.60-3.39	Good / Satisfactory	Adequate performance; meets basic requirements but with room for improvement.
1.80-2.59	Fair / Less Satisfactory	Below expectations; needs significant improvements.
1.00-1.79	Poor / Not Satisfactory	Does not meet expectations; ineffective or unsuitable in its current form.

Table 5 Range and Descriptive Interpretation

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Project Description

The developed project is an improvised pipe hanger designed to simulate industrial pipe support systems in a training environment. Its primary purpose is to address the lack of training equipment in the Pipefitting NC II program at TESDA RTC CALABARZON. The pipe hanger was created using low-cost, locally available materials, including metal scraps, angle bars, bolts, and clamps, making it a cost-efficient

solution for technical institutions operating under limited budgets. It allows learners to practice pipe alignment, support, and installation techniques safely and effectively.

2. Project Structure

The final design features a simple but functional structure that includes the following components:

- Support Frame – Constructed from welded angle bars to provide a stable base and vertical support.
- Adjustable Clamping Mechanism – Made from bolts and U-clamps to accommodate various pipe sizes.
- Pipe Rest or Cradle – Designed to mimic industrial pipe hanger forms, ensuring realistic practice.
- Safety Features – Edges were rounded or covered to prevent injury, and the structure was tested for stability.

The overall layout was developed with training practicality in mind that is easy to assemble, disassemble, and replicate.

3. Project Capabilities and Limitations

The project demonstrated several key capabilities that contribute to its value as a training tool for Pipefitting NC II learners. First, its training relevance was evident, as the improvised pipe hanger effectively simulated real-world industrial pipe support systems, making it suitable for hands-on instructional use. In terms of cost-effectiveness, the fabrication process required significantly less expense than purchasing commercially available tools, making it a budget-friendly solution for training institutions.

The tool was also noted for its ease of use, being designed in such a way that trainees could operate it with minimal supervision. During repeated use in classroom workshops, the materials and construction proved to be durable, showing resilience and reliability throughout training sessions. Furthermore, the tool's replicability was a standout feature as its simple and practical design allows it to be easily reproduced by other TESDA training centers or schools equipped with basic metalworking tools.

The improvised pipe hanger supports only medium-sized pipes (4"–6"), limiting its use for larger-scale applications. It also requires manual adjustments, which can slow down repetitive training sessions. Additionally, it is intended for indoor use only, as some materials like mild steel are not weather-resistant.

4. Project Evaluation

CRITERIA	TESDA TRAINERS	TESDA LEARNERS	TOTAL
Functionality	4.92	4.97	4.94
Durability	5.0	5.0	5.0
Usability	4.97	5.0	4.98
Cost-efficiency	5.0	5.0	5.0
	4.97	4.99	4.98

T

Table 6 Evaluation of Experts and Participants

The fabricated pipe hanger was evaluated using observation checklists, trainer feedback, and hands-on trials with trainees. Results showed that both Durability and Cost-Efficiency received a perfect mean score of 5.00, indicating an Excellent / Very Highly Satisfactory rating. Usability followed closely with a mean of 4.98, and Functionality with 4.94, both also interpreted as Excellent.

These consistently high ratings from both trainers and learners indicate that the improvised pipe hanger is not only effective in terms of performance and safety but is also cost-effective and user-friendly. This implies that the tool meets, and even exceeds, the practical requirements of pipefitting training under the TESDA competency-based curriculum, making it a viable and valuable instructional aid for widespread implementation.

D. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conclusion

The study successfully addressed the lack of appropriate pipe hanger tools in the Pipefitting NC II training program at TESDA RTC- CALABARZON through the design and fabrication of a cost-effective improvised pipe hanger. The developed tool was made from locally available and affordable materials, and it met the essential requirements for supporting actual pipe installation exercises in a training environment. Evaluation results confirmed that the improvised pipe hanger is functional, durable, user-friendly, and safe for learners use. It proved to be an effective substitute for commercially available tools, enhancing the hands-on training experience and ensuring alignment with TESDA's competency-based standards. Despite a few limitations, such as size constraints and manual adjustments, the tool fulfilled its primary goal of improving learning outcomes through innovation and resourcefulness.

2. Recommendations

1. It is recommended that the improvised pipe hanger be formally adopted as a supplemental training tool in the Pipefitting NC II program, especially in institutions with limited equipment.
2. The design and fabrication process should be documented and shared with other TESDA training centers to allow for easy replication and customization based on their specific needs.
3. Future improvements may include the use of rust-resistant materials, adjustable height or angle mechanisms, and compatibility with larger pipe sizes to broaden its application.
4. Instructional guides and demonstration modules should be developed to accompany the use of the improvised pipe hanger in training sessions.
5. Regular inspections and evaluations of the tool should be conducted to ensure ongoing safety and effectiveness in training delivery.

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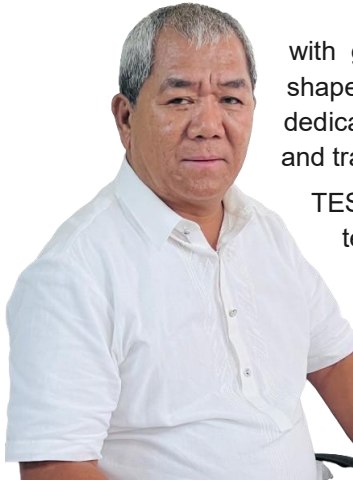
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Message from the RTC Administrator



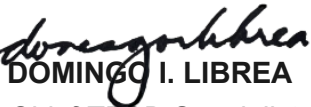
As we conclude this edition of the TESDA RTC-CALABARZON Chronicles, we reflect with gratitude on the milestones, achievements, and meaningful engagements that have shaped our journey. Each accomplishment featured in this newsletter is a testament to the dedication, professionalism, and collaborative spirit of our personnel, partners, stakeholders, and trainees.

TESDA RTC-CALABARZON remains steadfast in its commitment to providing quality technical-vocational education and training that is responsive to industry demands and aligned with national development goals. Through continuous innovation, strong partnerships, and a culture of excellence, we strive to produce competent, employment-ready, and globally competitive graduates.

I extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to our successes and to those who continue to support our mission. Let us remain united in our pursuit of excellence, embracing opportunities for growth and innovation as we build a stronger and more resilient TVET community.

May this newsletter inspire us to continue making a positive impact in the lives of our learners and stakeholders. Together, let us move forward with passion, integrity, and a shared commitment to transforming lives through quality skills development.

Thank you, and we look forward to achieving greater milestones together.


DOMINGO I. LIBREA

Chief TESD Specialist / RTC Administrator

Message of the Regional Director

Warm greetings to all our partners, learners, and stakeholders in the CALABARZON region!

It is with great pride and joy that we reflect on another year filled with remarkable achievements by the TESDA Regional Training Center (RTC) CALABARZON. Through hard work, commitment, and a relentless pursuit of excellence, the RTC CALABARZON has truly raised the bar in technical education and skills development in the region.

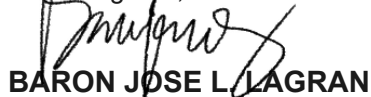
This year, our center proudly bagged the prestigious Best TESDA Training Institution award, a testament to the high standards upheld by our dedicated team. This recognition highlights our commitment to empowering learners with relevant skills and preparing them for success in their chosen fields.

Moreover, our training programs have achieved notable star ratings, underscoring the quality and impact of our offerings.

As we move forward, let us build on these successes with even greater enthusiasm, dedication, and innovation. Together, we will continue to uplift our communities, strengthen the economy, and create pathways for our learners to achieve their aspirations.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Here's to more milestones and achievements ahead!

Warm regards,


BARON JOSE L. LAGRAN

Regional Director





VISION

To be recognized Polytechnic Training Center valued for its excellence.

MISSION

To provide high-quality training programs relevant to the needs of the labor markets and assess in accordance to industry standards

QUALITY STATEMENT

We at the CALABARZON Polytechnic Training Center are committed to provide quality training programs to meet clients' satisfaction through excellent delivery system and service.