



TESDA Women's Center NEWSLETTER

Fourth Quarter

A Publication of TESDA Women's Center

October to December 2024

TESDA Women's Center Hosts 2024 TESDA Gender Focal Point System Assembly

TESDA intensifies GAD Mainstreaming efforts through the conduct of the 2024 GAD Focal Point System (GFPS) Assembly on November 18-20, 2024 held at TESDA Women's Center, Taguig City.

Focused on the theme: "Sustaining Gender-Responsiveness, Inclusivity, and Safe Spaces in TVET: Upskilling the TESDA GAD Advocates!", the TESDA GFPS headed by its Chairperson and Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning, DDG Rosanna A. Urdaneta, CESO II, and TWC as the agency's GAD Secretariat spearheaded the 3-day GFPS Assembly.



The first day highlighted topics about advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in TVET, gender-based research, and the women's budget (GAD Budget Policy). Resource Speakers from the UP Center for Women's and Gender Studies, TESDA Planning Office, and the TESDA Women's Center, presented the topics .

On the other hand, through a Panel Discussion, relevant topics on Gender Equality through Improved Labor Standards, Promotion of Women in Non-Traditional Occupations, and Gender-based Entrepreneurship were featured by the panelists from DOLE, HCG Philippines, and Philippine Women's Economic Network.

The GFPS Assembly begins its second day with industry visits at the ECHO farms, HCG Philippines Corporation, and Destileria Limtuaco Museum. These partner institutions demonstrated gender-responsive value chain and initiatives for women's economic empowerment.

Finally, the third day highlighted the results of the study on the responsiveness of TVET to gender equality and social inclusion and PCW's Checklist for Gender-Responsive Instructional Materials were presented by the TESDA Central Office GFPS-TWG members.



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Happy World's Teachers Day

Today, we celebrate the dedicated trainers at the TESDA Women's Center who empower, inspire, and uplift women through education and skills development. Your utmost passion is shaping futures and transforming lives.

Thank you for being the guiding light in our learners' journey!



Teacher Mai



Teacher Kim



Teacher Len



Teacher Alice



Teacher Jen



Teacher Enteng



Teacher Joanna



Teacher Irene



Teacher Ryan



Teacher Kat



Teacher Em-em



Teacher Melai



Teacher Regie



Teacher Rhia



Teacher Rona



Teacher Shella



Teacher Irene



Teacher Richard



Teacher Maribel



Teacher Jam



Teacher Mayla



Teacher Edward



Teacher Laurence



Teacher Cedrick

THANK YOU, TEACHERS!

TWC Hosts Benchmarking Visit of the Provincial Government of Maguindanao Del Sur



Visitors from the Provincial Government of Maguindanao Del Sur, BARMM headed by Provincial Director Salekh Mangelen, with the TWC Family during the Benchmarking visit

TESDA Women's Center hosted the Benchmarking Visit of the Provincial Government of Maguindanao Del Sur, BARMM headed by Provincial Director Salekh Mangelen on October 14-15, 2024.

During the visit, there were presentations and discussions on the TWC's Institutional Development Plan 2024-2028, Center Advisory Council, Gender Mainstreaming in TVET, and Strategic Planning Basics and Frameworks.

The participants were also guided for a tour of TWC facilities and site visits on some of the Center's partners: HCG Philippines, ECHOstore, and Destileria Limtuaco Museum.

The Memorandum of Understanding between TWC and the Provincial Government of Maguindanao Del Sur was signed on 4 August 2024 to implement the shared goals of promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through TVET in marginalized and underprivileged communities.



TWC Increases Possibilities for Women in the Construction Industry with Hilti



On October 14, 2024, the TESDA Women's Center and Hilti held an exploratory meeting to discuss a potential collaboration in improving the competencies of trainees, graduates and trainers of the construction sector. Hilti is a Liechtenstein multinational company that develops, manufactures and markets products for the construction, building maintenance, energy and manufacturing industries, mainly to the professional end-user.

During the meeting, Hilti was represented by Ann Lim, the General Manager, along with other key officials. While, the TWC team was led by Ms. Gerrelen Balbin, Head of the Training Management Unit, provided insights into TWC and its program offerings. Engr. Ryan Llanto, Senior TESD Specialist, then guided the group on a tour of TWC's facilities, showcasing the facilities available for training and development.

TWC Conducts Lifelong Learning Program on Empowered Creativity Canva Strategies for Business Success



TESDA Women's Center successfully hosted a hybrid webinar for the Lifelong Learning Program titled "Empowered Creativity: Canva Strategies for Business Success" on October 30, 2024 at the Tandang Sora Hall.

Trainees and graduates participated both in-person and online, eagerly embracing innovative tools to elevate their skills. The session was expertly facilitated by Ms. Tricia Garcia Arias, a Social Media Manager and Industry Practitioner.

This initiative reflects TWC's dedication to empowering women with essential 21st-century skills for a brighter future in the workforce!

TESDA Women's Center Hosts Webinar on Life Skills for HIV-AIDS Awareness and Prevention



1LT MC. Felixes F. Cataylo, Director for Civil Military Operations, 520th ABG discusses information about the West Philippine Sea

On November 12, 2024, the TESDA Women's Center successfully hosted the Lifelong Learning Program Part 2: Life Skills for HIV-AIDS Awareness and Prevention.

Co-organized with the Philippine Air Force, the program also included an insightful session on The Philippines and the West Philippine Sea, facilitated by 1LT MC. Felixes F. Cataylo, Director for Civil Military Operations, 520th ABG, alongside AM Clint Meynard A. Lara, who led the HIV-AIDS awareness and prevention session.

This Lifelong Learning Program highlights the vital

connection between health, environment, and national issues, reminding us that awareness in all areas is essential for holistic development. Together, we're paving the way for a healthier, more informed community!



TWC employee volunteers for a free HIV testing

TWC Celebrates Trainees Day



TESDA Women's Center proudly celebrated the remarkable talent and creativity of our incredible trainees at the Center on December 17, 2024.

The Sing and Dance Contest was a true showcase of dedication and passion, with each performance radiating the unique spirit and dreams of our participants.

From upbeat dance routines to heartfelt singing performances, everything highlighted the hard work and enthusiasm that these talented trainees bring to their training. It was a day filled with joy, inspiration, and community, reminding us all of the power of empowerment through education and creativity.

TESDA-HCG Launches Plumbing Training Laboratory



Taguig City Mayor Lani Cayetano together with TESDA's OIC DDG Rosanna A. Urdaneta and TESDA Women's Center's Administrator, Mylene H. Somera accompanied by HCG Philippines Officials during the launch

On November 19, 2024, the TESDA-HCG Plumbing Training Laboratory was launched at the TESDA Women's Center in Taguig City.

This event marked the completion of the second phase of plumbing training workshop refurbishment, which featured state-of-the-art facilities equipped with smart technology to empower future plumbers with essential 21st-Century Skills.



Highlights included the blessing of the facility, ribbon-cutting ceremony, and the unveiling of the marker. The event was graced by esteemed guests such as the TESDA Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning, Rosanna A. Urdaneta, the Taguig City Mayor, Laarni "Lani" Cayetano, officials from HCG Philippines, President Eugene Lin, Vice President David Chang, Unitec Pipe Mfg. Corp. Managing Director Gregory Yap and the Operations Manager Ferdinand Gabriel.

Present also in the event were the United Architects of the Philippines Officials, Philippine Institute of Interior Designers, Philippine Society of Master Plumbers and Plumbing Engineers and other industry partners and stakeholders in construction sector.

Another proud and inspiring moment to continue the center's commitment to excellence in vocational training and provide valuable opportunities for growth in the community. It was a significant occasion that brought everyone together!



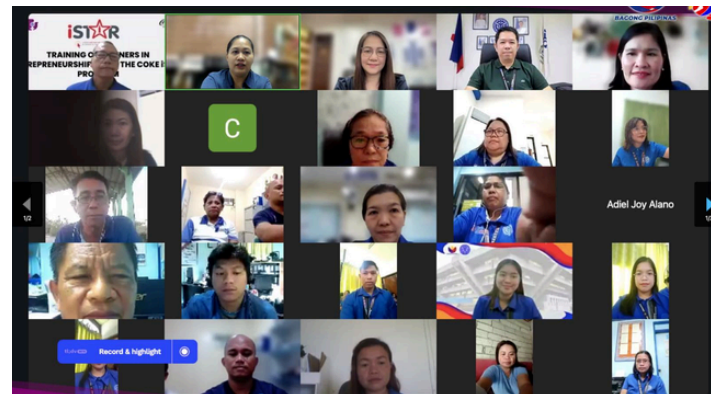
Site Visit of the TESDA GFPS Assembly Participants in HCG Philippines!



Thank you HCG Philippines for accommodating the plant visit of the 2024 TESDA GFPS Assembly participants!

The tour was facilitated by Mr. Sandy Ambata, Unit Chief of Product Development which fully supported the industry's role in supporting non-traditional training programs for women.

TWC Facilitates an Online Training of Trainers (TOT) in Entrepreneurship



Through the initiative of the TESDA Region VII Regional Director Gamaliel B. Vicente Jr., CESO III, the TWC facilitated an online Training of Trainers (TOT) in Entrepreneurship using the TESDA Online Program (TOP) iSTAR Modules on November 11, 2024. The program aims to equip TVET trainers from various TESDA Training Institutions in the region and harmonize entrepreneurship across TESDA programs as an essential tool for TESDA scholars and graduates to make the most of opportunities of becoming a successful entrepreneur.

The TOT was facilitated by Ms. Kimberly G. Bautista, TWC Acting Supervising TESD Specialist.



Kimberly G. Bautista, TWC Acting Supervising TESD Specialist

TWC Strengthens Bonds through Teambuilding Activity



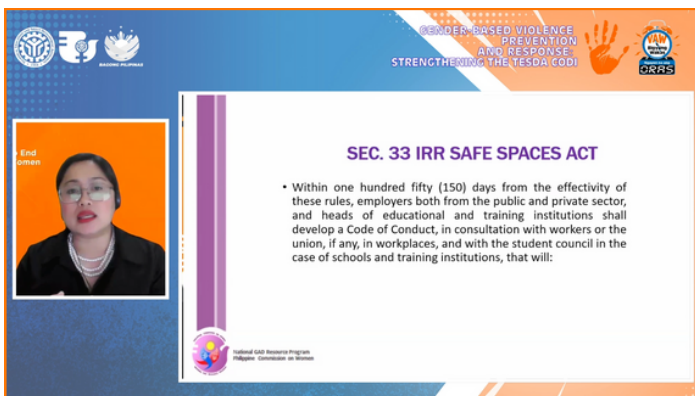
The TESDA Women's Center Family bonds in Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija

The TESDA Women's Center conducted a dynamic two-day Team Building event focused on enhancing teamwork, fostering camaraderie, and promoting sustainability among TWC employees on November 15-16, 2024.

This initiative showcased the Center's commitment to empowerment and environmental stewardship.

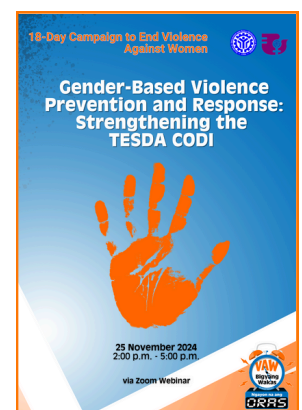
A highlight of the program was the green activity, featuring a tree-planting initiative and a site visit to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija. Participants were guided by Mr. Wenifredo A. Songco, the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer (MENRO), who provided valuable insights into the recycling process and its benefits for the community.

TWC Launches Support for the 18-Day Campaign Against End VAWC through Online Webinar on Strengthening TESDA CODI



The TESDA, through its GAD Focal Point System, launched the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women thru a webinar on Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response: Strengthening TESDA CODI on Monday, November 25, 2024.

Atty. Judie Rose T. Dimayuga from the National GAD Resource Pool provided a comprehensive and interactive discussion on CODI and the Safe Spaces Act. Over 400 participants, including GAD Focals, trainees, graduates, and TESDA employees from various offices and training institutions joined in this important session. Together, we are taking a stand against violence and promoting a culture of safety and respect.



HCG Philippines and Unitec Pipe Mfg. Corp. Conducts Courtesy Visit to TESDA's Secretary



TESDA Director General Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez joined by DDG for Special Concerns, Felizardo Colambo with TWC Administrator, Mylene H. Somera alongside HCG Bosses during his visit in the Plumbing Training Laboratory

The Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (TESDA), in partnership with HCG Philippines and Unitec Pipe Mfg. Corp., recently conducted a courtesy call on December 5, 2024, to formalize the sponsorship of the Plumbing Training Laboratory and Showroom at the TESDA Women's Center.

This initiative aims to empower the next generation of skilled professionals by providing them with access to the latest innovations in the sanitaryware and plumbing industry.

Present in the event were TESDA Officials headed by Hon. Joseph Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Director General; along with Mr. Felizardo R. Colambo, Deputy Director General for Special Concerns; Ms. Nelly Nita N. Dillera, Deputy Director General for Partnership and Community-Based TVET; Ms. Mylene H. Somera, Center Chief, TWC; and other TWC Officials.



TESDA Director General Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez with the HCG Bosses during the courtesy call

Hocheng Philippines Corporation was represented by Mr. Eugene Lin, President; Mr. David Chang, Vice President; Mr. Romuald Boyd Ponce, Project Sales AVP; and Engr. Jayson Quitiquit, Product Development Supervisor.

Officials from Unitec Pipe Manufacturing Inc., including Managing Director Mr. Gregory Yap and Operations Manager Mr. Ferdinand Gabriel, were also in attendance.

Together, we are committed to building a stronger future for the Philippines, one skilled worker at a time. Grow everyday. learn every way.

TWC Conducts Annual Job Fair 2024

As the calendar year ends, the TESDA Women's Center (TWC), in partnership with Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Taguig City, geared up to conduct its highly anticipated annual Job Fair entitled Skills Connect: TESDA Women's Center Job Fair 2024 on December 3, 2024, at Tandang Sora Hall, TWC.

The event opened job seeker's chance to explore employment opportunities, network with professionals, and get hired by companies that value skills and excellence.

The annual job fair was open to all job seekers, whether you're a trainee, graduate of TWC, a seasoned worker, or a fresh job seeker. The event was participated by 17 companies, attended by 348 job seekers from TWC and from other TESDA Training Institutions. During that day, 11 job seekers were hired On-The-Spot!



Dr. Norman Mirabel, PESO Manager



TWC Trainee Attends ASEAN-ROK TVET Mobility Programme

A proud graduate of the Plumbing NC I Batch 1 of 2023, Faye recently attended the Final Workshop for the ASEAN-ROK TVET Mobility Programme on December 4-5, 2024, in Jeju Island, South Korea.

This event showcased the program's impact on participants and institutions, fostering collaboration among key stakeholders. With over 492 participants and numerous successful initiatives since 2020, the program continues to bridge gaps in vocational skills across ASEAN.

Thank you, Faye, for representing TESDA Women's Center and contributing to the future of TVET!



*Faye Lois Jilian Alcantara, TWC
Plumbing NC I Batch 1 of 2023*

TESDA Women's Center Organizes Second GAD Webinar on Cybersecurity and Gender



The TESDA GAD Focal Point System successfully executed its second GAD webinar about Cybersecurity and Gender: Creating a More Inclusive and Safe Cyberspace in connection with the celebration of 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women and Children (End VAWC) on December 9, 2024.

National GAD Resource Pool's Ma. Gichelle A. Cruz, and also Lead Member of the USAID Beacon Gender and Social Inclusion, discussed about the rationale for USAID's BEACON gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) integration to connectivity and cybersecurity issues to advance digital democracy.

Ms. Cruz also raised awareness on gender issues, challenges, and response within the context of the Filipino ICT system and the emergence of e-commerce and digital finance and provided tips on internet safety for women.

Katherine Amor A. Zarsadias, Assistant Executive Director of Planning Office, thru an encouraging message, highlighted the support in ensuring zero-tolerance on any gender-based violence or sexual harassment-related complaints within the agency and its training institutions, including online spaces.

TESDA Women's Center Administers Lifelong Learning Program on Mastering Content Creation



John Cedrick Calalang, Virtual Assistant Services Trainer, answers questions from the attendees during the Open Forum

On December 11, 2024, the TESDA Women's Center successfully organized another session of its Lifelong Learning Program Series, titled "Mastering Content Creation and Empowering Efficiency using Google Workspace". John Cedrick Calalang, Trainer on Virtual Assistant Services Level II and an industry practitioner facilitated the sessions.

The program was joined by TWC trainees and personnel, who engaged in valuable learning and skill-building activities.

TWC Holds CBT Program Closing Ceremonies



Congratulations to the 1,044 graduates of the TESDA Women's Center Competency-Based Training Programs!

The TESDA Women's Center (TWC) commencement exercises was held last December 13 at the TESDA Central Office Auditorium in Taguig City.

With the theme: "TESDA Best, sa Husay, Kaalaman at Kakayahan Tungo sa Masiglang Kabuhayan", the message of the TESDA Secretary was delivered by Secretary's Chief of Staff Galo N. Glino III. The Guest Speaker Elenita "Lenie" G. Hashimoto, Human Resource Manager of HCG Philippines also shared an inspiring message to the graduates.



Secretary's Chief of Staff Galo N. Glino III delivered the Secretary's Keynote Address to the graduates



Ms Elenita "Lenie" G. Hashimoto, Human Resource Manager of HCG Philippines shared an inspiring message to the graduates.

The event was a momentous occasion that celebrated the culmination of the hard work and dedication of graduates. The event also highlighted the significant role of women in driving change and innovation in various industries and it also emphasized TESDA's commitment in providing equal opportunities for skill development, fostering confidence, and unlocking new pathways to success for women across the country.

Also present at the event were TESDA Women's Center Administrator Mylene H. Somera, along with other TWC officials.

Congratulations to the 1,044 graduates of the TESDA Women's Center Competency-Based Training Programs!

Center Advisory Council Holds Last Quarter Meeting



The Secretary's Chief of Staff Galo N. Glimo III (third from the right) joins the members of the TESDA Women's Center Advisory Council and the CAC Secretariat for a quick photo ops after a successful meeting

The TESDA Women's Center Advisory Council held its 4th quarterly meeting at the TESDA Board Room, TESDA Central Office on Monday, December 16, 2024.



TESDA Women's Center Advisory Council Chair Pacita "Chit" Juan

Council Chair Pacita "Chit" Juan led the session, attended in person by key members, including TESDA Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning Rosanna A. Urdaneta, CESO II, with CAC Members from various sectors such as Ma. Aurora "Boots" Geotina-Garcia from NGOs, Carolyn I. Sobretchea, Ph.D., from the Academe, and Teresita "Tes" M. Borgoños from the Labor Sector. Dir. Ahmma Charisma Lobrin-Satumba represented Government/Workers with Special Concerns, and April May Anne L. Mariano attended on behalf of the Philippine Commission

on Women (PCW), while former TESDA Board Member Ma. Paloma B. Papa, Ph.D., from the Employer Sector participated online.

The meeting's agenda included a review of actions from the previous minutes, the presentation of the TWC Advisory Council 2024 Accomplishment Report, and discussions on proposed activities for the upcoming calendar year. This gathering underscored the council's commitment to advancing women's empowerment and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders dedicated to promoting gender equality and skills development across the nation.



TESDA Women's Center Advisory Council members present in person during the meeting

SUCCESS STORIES

Angela M. Felarca

**Bartending NC II Graduate
TESDA Women's Center**

Angela M. Felarca, a graduate of the Bartending NC II program at the TESDA Women's Center, transitioned from a finance manager to pursuing her passion for bartending during the pandemic.

Her bartending career took off when she joined Lit Bar Manila, a Japanese whisky bar, from October 2022 to May 2023. Her dedication and skill quickly earned her a promotion to Bar Manager at Oka Restaurant in London, where she has been thriving since July 2024.

Angela has been recognized in the industry as a Gin International candidate and ranked among the Top 12 in the Maker's Mark competition. These achievements have allowed her to travel across Europe while supporting her family.

She emphasizes the significance of gratitude, self-confidence, and respect for others. She believes every experience contributes to personal growth. Her journey has taught her to be thankful for opportunities and to chase her passions fearlessly. She expresses her appreciation for TWC, stating: "Thank you for the opportunities and trust you have given me. I hope you continue to help others fulfill their dreams."

She also expresses her gratitude to her trainer at TWC, acknowledging their role in shaping her discipline and knowledge.



Her story highlights the transformative power of following one's passion and the impact of supportive institutions like TESDA Women's Center.



“You need to be happy in what you are doing. You only live once, so make it worthwhile. Always be thankful and never step on others to rise; let the blessings flow.”



SUCCESS STORIES

Jamila M. Dela Cruz

**GMAW NC II Graduate
TESDA Women's Center**

“The first thing I learned is to be a positive person and to believe in myself that I can reach my dreams. I also learned that we need to be more patient to achieve our goals.”

Jamila M. Dela Cruz exemplifies determination and ambition. As a working student, she balanced her training in Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW NC II) at the TESDA Women's Center (TWC) while actively seeking opportunities abroad. Inspired by the training programs highlighted on TWC's social media, Jamila pursued her passion for welding, a field she genuinely loves.

Upon completing her training, Jamila secured a position at a local welding company. Her skills and dedication quickly propelled her into a new chapter of her life: she is now working as a welder in the United Kingdom. This opportunity has not only allowed her to provide for herself but also to save for her future and support her family back home.



She emphasized the importance of maintaining a positive work attitude and the significance of perseverance. Jamila expressed her heartfelt gratitude to TWC, stating:

“I am very grateful to study at TWC because I learned a lot, especially in welding. I am also thankful to my trainer for being a good example, showing great patience, and understanding throughout our training.”

Jamila's journey is a testament to the impact of education and determination, inspiring many young women to pursue their dreams in fields traditionally dominated by men.



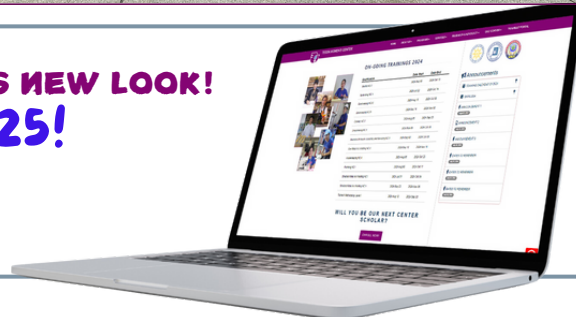
Proud to stand together! The TESDA Women's Center joins the 18-Day Campaign to End Violence Against Women. TESDA Women's Center employees are wearing the EndVAW shirts to show solidarity and raise awareness. Together, we can make a difference!



ICT
update

**WE'RE WORKING ON OUR WEBSITE'S NEW LOOK!
WATCH OUT IN 2025!**

<http://twc.tesda.gov.ph>



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TESDA Women's Center
Changing Women's Lives

VISION
"To be the leading TESDA Polytechnic Institute for Women in 2028."

MISSION
"As the lead Polytechnic Institute for Women Empowerment, we advocate and provide programs and services geared towards quality Assured, Inclusive and Gender-Fair TVET."

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