

# Fisheries anti-poverty program rolls out in Davao Region

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DAVAO CITY, Dec. 5 (PNA) -- The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) in the Davao Region (BFAR-11) has rolled out the Target Monitoring System and the Reorientation on Social Preparation as the last leg of the project launching held nationwide from November 30 to December 4.

"This is the third and last leg of the National rollout of the TARGET monitoring system and the reorientation on social preparation," BFAR-11 Regional Director Fatma Idris said in an interview Monday.

The Luzon leg was held in Tanza, Cavite with close to 400 participants and the Visayas cluster training in Cebu City last week with around 330 participants.

BFAR National Office launched last year the TARGET Program which stands for Targetted Actions to Reduce Poverty and Generate Economic Transformation. The program seeks to provide a holistic approach in helping the fisherfolk improve their economic plight.

"We provided them livelihood inputs that are appropriate for their resources, including training. We even moved one step forward by establishing Community Fish Landing Centers," Idris said.

And to be able to make certain that all these interventions are being utilized properly and are really making a difference in the lives of the fisherfolk, she said.

BFAR hired Fisheries Livelihood Development Technicians or FLDTs for the program.

The FLDTs, who were capacitated through a series of trainings, became BFAR's development army and were tasked to validate the region's fisherfolk and make a profile of their resources and the community.

"The said profile will serve as baseline data to assess how well our interventions are making an impact to our stakeholders," she said.

As we continue to further improve on our services, she said, "the Bureau wants to make work simpler and more meaningful as we provide you mobile and web apps to upload the day-to-day economic activity of our beneficiaries."

By doing this, Idris said, the head office would be able to monitor the progress of each fisherfolk without the need to go down to each barangay. The results are direct and broader in scope and more meaningful findings will be taken at a relatively cheaper cost. "We hope that you would be able to master the use of these apps and to also understand better the new social preparation scheme that our colleagues from the National Anti-Poverty Commission will present. The social preparation backlog is a challenge that we need to hurdle," she said. (PNA)

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