ISSN 2718-9430

The First Philippine Science Digital Library-in-a-Box

starbooks insider

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Volume 4 No. 2 January 2023

10th STARBOOKS Deployment Officers Assembly



The participants of the 10th STARBOOKS Deployment Officers Assembly together with DOST-STII Director Richard P. Burgos (center).

STARBOOKS Celebrate

10th Deployment Officers Assembly

In conjunction with the 2022 National Science and Technology Week (NSTW) celebration, DOST - STARBOOKS once again convened its deployment officers for the 10th STARBOOKS Deployment Officers Assembly at The Heritage Hotel, Pasay City last November 23-25, 2022.

The face-to-face event was participated by a total of 72 deployment officers (58 on-site and 14 via Zoom) all over the country. Regularly held since 2015, the assembly served as an avenue to present STARBOOKS' accomplishments and milestones, and major updates from the previous year.

"Mahalaga ang naging papel ng STARBOOKS sa pagkiling ng mga mag-aaral at guro sa hamon ng "remote

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3 New Partners Will Make DOST's STARBOOKS Improved, More Accessible

The 11th anniversary of STARBOOKS or the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated Kiosk Stations, of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) was highlighted with the signing of memoranda of agreement (MOA) with three new partners for its continued and improved services to more students all over the country.

Director Richard P. Burgos of DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute whose institute manages STARBOOKS, signed the MOA for DOST at the ceremony held at the Philippine International Convention Center on June 24.

The signatories for new partners were Dr. Franz de Leon, director of DOST-Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DOST-ASTI); Albert Ramos, president of Indang Cavite Highlands 103 Lions Club; and Fahri Burak Aydogdu, country director of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (Tika).

Digitized S&T Resources – STARBOOKS, the first Philippine Science Digital Library, is a science library system that contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources. It aims to create interest in the field of science and technology to be able to increase the number of Filipinos enrolling in S&T courses.

Burgos said it has been installed in more than 5,800 sites nationwide. It provides access to DOST's library collection to remote areas without Internet or electricity.

Burgos added that the Department of Education has adopted STARBOOKS, which will be preloaded on all computers and gadgets in the regions.

Deployment of LokaLTE, RuralCasting – Its MOA will have the DOST-ASTI make the STARBOOKS resources available through LokaLTE and RuralCasting to selected pilot grade schools and high schools.

It will also facilitate the deployment of both LokaLTE and RuralCasting in selected schools and RuralCasting in strategic households in relation to the selected schools; and train local IT personnel and staff, from DOST Regional Offices, who will manage the maintenance of the LokaLTE, RuralCasting, and the STARBOOKS resources.

Director De leon said in his message that both the DOST-STII and DOST-ASTI, through the projects STARBOOKS and Resilient Education Information Infrastructure for the New Normal (REIINN), demonstrate their continuous commitment to provide information and connectivity to geographically-isolated schools and communities through technology-based interventions.

He said DOST-ASTI has already broke ground for two sites for REIINN LokaLTE base stations in Tanay, Rizal, and Castillejos, Zambales, and is hoping to add two more sites within 2022

"*By reinforcing this partnership, we are taking another significant step to achieving our shared goal of improving the state of infrastructure, education, resilience, and overall quality of life in the country*," de Leon added.

Sponsorships, solar - powered computers – The Indang Cavite Highlands 103 Lions Club, for its part, shall introduce STARBOOKS to the Lions Club's Regional sectors and club governors for possible sponsorships of STARBOOKS-enabled computers to chosen beneficiary-communities or schools.

It shall also co-organize activities with DOST-STII to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and the use and benefits of STARBOOKS to other institutions.

Meanwhile, Tika will provide solar-powered computer units with kiosks to identified beneficiary-schools and shoulder their delivery expenses.

It shall also co-organize activities with DOST-STII to promote STEM education, such as virtual training workshops or webinars; and promote the use and benefits of STARBOOKS to other institutions.

Tika is installing STARBOOKS units in Palawan and Mindanao.

Mr. Fahri Burak Aydogdu said in his keynote message that when he checked the National Economic and Development Authority National Priority Plan, the STARBOOKS stood out among the list.

He said the pandemic saw the fundamental role of the digital world owing to the health protocols. But with low Internet (82 percent) and cell phone (76 percent) access of Filipino households as surveyed in 2019, "STARBOOKS is up for the challenge for students' education because it is designed for offline use and now even when electricity is down, STARBOOKS can still be used as it is now solar powered.

STARBOOKS brings science to the people – "*STARBOOKS brings science to the people.*" These were the words from the former Science Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña during the anniversary celebration of STARBOOKS.

He said that with the geographically-isolated areas in the country, STARBOOKS has become a feature and a good tool in students learning on S&T, especially in the blended educational system introduced during the pandemic.

It has also attracted support from private corporations for their corporate social responsibility, he pointed out.

He confirmed that "*it is one of the projects of DOST that has been consistently included in the National Priority Plan of the Neda.*"

STARBOOKS anniversary celebration was made more eventful with the announcement of Civil Service Commission Director Margarita Reyes last weekend that it won the Presidential Lingkod Bayan regional competition, Burgos said in his Facebook account.

(via Business Mirror)

TURKISH TIKA SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH DOST



Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) signed a protocol for cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines as part of the "Digital Library (STARBOOKS) Program.

The signing ceremony held at Philippine International Convention Center during the 11th anniversary of the Digital Library program called STARBOOKS was attended by DOST secretary Fortunato T. de la Pena; Mr. Richard Burgos, Director of Science and Technology Information Institute; and high-ranking representatives from several government departments.

At the signing ceremony and anniversary events, which attracted great media attention, Secretary de la Pena thanked the Government of Turkey for their generosity and interest and stated that they would continue to negotiate with TİKA to expand the cooperation.

Digital libraries, which gained great importance during the pandemic, offer equal access to online education and information sources which contain technical education materials both for primary and secondary education. It also provides video content to boost learning for vocational training on various fields.

TİKA will install digital libraries in seven schools, including two of the schools it built in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), four schools in Palawan, and a village school in the rural area of Davao City, which has been affected by internal conflict.

The STARBOOKS was developed by Science and Technology Information Institute, affiliated with the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines, in 2011 in order to digitize many printed, audio-visual resources in the local language and in English and make them accessible to users without the need for Internet access or electricity. Up to 20 users can access the solar-powered platform simultaneously. The program has been on the list of the priority national plans of the Government of the Philippines for 6 years and provides access to information in schools in the rural areas of the country, which consists of 7,000 islands.

(via Tika Philippines)

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STARBOOKS Deployment Officers

STARBOOKS Insider
is a bi-annual newsletter publication of the Department of Science and Technology - Science and Technology Information Institute (DOST-STII), on the latest news about STARBOOKS, the digital science library-in-a-box.

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learning" na dulot ng pina-iiral na social distancing," Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang, DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations, said in a video message.

"*I wish to extend my commendations to the Science and Technology Information Institute, led by Director Richard Burgos, and the tireless men and women who worked long and hard to make STARBOOKS the transformative knowledge resource it is today*," Dr. Renato U. Solidum, Jr., DOST Secretary, said in another video message.



Aside from learning and planning, deployment officers' teamwork and creativity were tested in nerve-wracking and brain-teasing games prepared by the STARBOOKS Team.



Dir. Burgos hands over the prize to Leira Pestano of DOST-STARBOOKS who gave the meaning of RT-PCR correctly.

"*Most of all, may STARBOOKS steer us down the path of greater inclusivity, that every Filipino shall be granted the opportunity for greater social mobility on the basis of better academic performance and more informed life choices. Truly, STARBOOKS as a service is OneDOST4U,*" Secretary Solidum added.

Marievic V. Narquita, STARBOOKS Unit Head, presented the "2022 STARBOOKS Accomplishments and Milestone, New Development on STARBOOKS, and Plans for Upcoming activities. Followed by an orientation on the new STARBOOKS user interface and orientation on the usage of the GAD (Gender and Development) Language Checker discussed by McGyver Basaya and Alfon Narquita, MISPS Section Head, respectively.

The three-day event was a celebration full of fun and cheers brought about by several energizers and games prepared by the STARBOOKS team designed to entice creativity and teamwork among the deployment officers. STARBOOKS also held a Strike a Pose: Online Photo Contest participated by on-site participants including an entry from DOST-STII itself.

Alan C. Taule, Information Resources & Analysis Division Chief, closed the event stating that deployment officers are one of the biggest factors in STARBOOKS' success in 2022. He said that without their unending support, this wonderful journey wouldn't have happened.

This is the second STARBOOKS in-person assembly since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020.



Alan Taule, IRAD Division Chief, capped the event with a heartfelt message of gratitude to all the participants of the 10th STARBOOKS Deployment Officers Assembly.

STARBOOKS PH's 1st S&T Digital Library Now in SMNHS



TABACO CITY, Albay — The First Philippine Science and Technology Digital Library, DOST-STARBOOKs was handed out to San Miguel National High School yesterday, July 5, 2022 through STARBOOKS: Orientation and Users Hands-on Training, MoU Signing, Turnover Ceremony Cum Project Launching.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated Kiosk Station (STARBOOKS) is a stand-alone information source for persons with little or no access to science and technology information resources. Mr. John Darnell B. Balbastro, a science teacher in SMNHS, initiated the project through "Project STARBOOKS: SMNHS's Library in a Box".



Through the approval of SMNHS Principal, Mrs. Shirley V. Bataller and the support of Tabaco East District 3 Public Schools District Supervisor, Dr. Agnes B. Bonaobra, the Project Launching was held at the JHS Building 1 of the school.
Among the participants of the event were the student representatives headed by Jhun Carl C. Belenzo, SMNHS SSG President, together with Hon. Saeed Ahmed Tango, barangay captain of Rawis, Hon. Carlito Boral of Sagurong and Kgwd. Hilario Borres of Visita. Ms. Mailyn Bio, Science Coordinator of Malictay High School as well as all the science teachers of SMNHS were also present during the event.

Project STARBOOKS consisted of an Orientation and Users Hands-on Training which was facilitated by Mr. Anthony Andes, Project Technical Assistant III from DOST V. The participants after the orientation and training in using and operating STARBOOKS also witnessed the Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DOST and SMNHS.

"STARBOOKS is one way of elevating the scientific and technology literacy among SMNHS learners. Through the wide variety of digitized science and technology resources in various formats such as text, video and audio as well as references and K-12 materials in other subjects, we can intensify the curiosity among our young learners. This can also address the unavailability and inaccessibility of learning resources in San Miguel since STARBOOKS can be used offline," said by Sir John Darnell Balbastro.

During the closing Program, Dr. Agnes B. Bonaobra, PSDS of Tabaco East District 3, challenged the Proponent as well as the lead stakeholders to unite and help STARBOOKS become a sustainable learning resource in the island as well as use it especially now that information access is limited among the learners of the island.

The proponent as well as the Barangay Captains then agreed to accept the challenge and vocally expressed their support towards STARBOOKS being the first digitized S & T resources that can be used by SMNHS learners.

DOST XII Cotabato Province Provides STARBOOKS to BLGU of Magpet, Arakan, And President Roxas



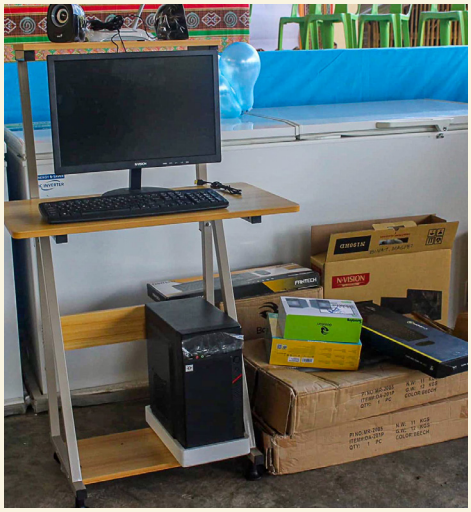
COTABATO PROVINCE — Three WIFI-ready computer sets installed with DOST-STARBOOKS were formally deployed through the DOST XII Regional Director Sammy P. Malawan last 6th of July, along with the team of Provincial Director Michael T. Mayo.

The deployment was made possible through the partnership of Provincial Governor Emmylou "Lala" Taliño Mendoza and was supported by the Second District Representative Congressman Rudy S. Caoagdan, Arakan Valley Complex and the 72nd Infantry Batallion, Philippine Army who were also present during the ceremony.

STARBOOKS is known as the first Philippine digital science library that can be used without internet connection.

The Department aims to harmonize greater access to Science, Technology, and Innovation that are available in various formats like text, video and audio to students especially in geographically distant and economically-challenged areas like sitios across the country.

DOST-STARBOOKS is not only recommended for students and researchers but designed as well for inventors, entrepreneurs and all marginalized sectors seeking relevant information and knowledge such as in the fields of Agriculture, Architecture, Anthropology, Archeology, Education, Engineering, Geography, Industry and Statistics, Social Sciences, Technopreneurship and Livelihood Technologies, among others. (TA)





Davao City Library and Information Center Receives STARBOOKS

DAVAO CITY — Let's make learning more fun and exciting!

The First Philippine Science Digital Library, DOST-STARBOOKS, or Science & Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated Kiosks, was handed out to Davao City Library and Information Center last July 1 to be used within the library.

STARBOOKS is a platform comprised of numerous information, educational facts, and many more that people can enjoy. Modern technology has also been incorporated into the new library along with the library's physical modernity.



Another Milestone Achieved: Almost Half a Miliion Worth of Assistance Received by Brgy. Dado, Alamada



NORTH COTABATO — Department of Science and Technology Regional Office XII (DOST XII) Cotabato Province took part in putting ideas into realization leveraging Science and Technology through implementation of CEST Program.

On July 12, DOST XII through the directives of its Regional Director Sammy P. Malawan led the ceremonial turnover of PhP423,000 worth of Equipment including 50 units of Solar Lights and eight units of computer sets with wifi routers installed with STARBOOKS to people's organization of Brgy. Dado, Alamada.

The CEST-Program of DOST aims to transform the poor communities into progressive, empowered, and resilient through various S&T interventions. This program encourages change in their perspectives in life and enables them to look beyond their potential capabilities.

In partnership with Provincial Governor Emmylou "Lala" Taliño Mendoza with the support of the first district Congressman Joel S. Sacdalan, and Notre Dame of Midsayap College, the activity was successfully completed.

During the commitment of support, Hon. Antonio C. Camino Sr., the Chairman of the recipient barangay said "madamo gid nga salamat sa DOST kay isa kami nga naka-avail sa programa maong amoa gid kining ampingan og gamiton sa tama alang sa kalambuan sa among barangay."

Meanwhile, provincial director Michael Mayo gave details as to how the program works. "The said project also responds to the social and economic concerns aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals." He further encouraged LGUs in the utilization of DOST developed technologies to provide income opportunities to their service communities.





DOST Enhances Hybrid Learning

Through STARBOOKS, Project REIINN



PASAY CITY — To further enhance the hybrid learning in areas that are unserviceable by local telcos and internet providers, the Department of Science and Technology-Science and Technology Information Institute (DoST-STII) and Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DoST-ASTI) partnered to make science learning accessible to students in the far-flung areas of the country.

In the memorandum of agreement signing held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) on June 24, 2022, the two DOST attached agencies sealed their partnership in the use of its developed technologies to help provide scientific information within reach in the countryside.

For its part, DOST-STII will bring its Science and Technology Academic-Research Based Openly Operated Kiosks or STARBOOKS — a standalone digital offline library that contains hundreds of thousands of digitized science and technology information and reference materials aimed at providing library information to communities with no internet connection.

The Resilient Education Information Infrastructure for the New Normal or REIINN Project of DOST-ASTI, meanwhile, is focusing on developing application frameworks and infrastructure to support the shift to remote learning to bridge the digital divide in the country.

Among the responsibilities under the agreement is that DOST-ASTI will make available the STARBOOKS resources through Project REIINN's technology demonstrators, LokaLTE and RuralCasting, to selected pilot public schools.

LokaLTE, or the Local Development and Deployment of Community LTE Networks in the Philippines, is a small-scale, community-based network designed to provide LTE mobile broadband service in previously unserved areas, where a dedicated cell site tower will be established in areas with no cellular data service.

Meanwhile, the Interactive Learning and Distributing Educational Resources through Data Casting or Rural Casting exploits the use of data broadcasting (datacasting) mechanisms through digital TV, based on ISDB-T, the technical standard adopted by the Philippines.

STARBOOKS in Ligao National High School

LIGAO, ALBAY — The Philippines first offline digital science library in a box was formally turned over to Ligao National High School in Albay last July 18, 2022.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks Station (STARBOOKS) contains hundreds and thousands of digitized science and technology resources and K to 12 materials in various formats (text and video/audio) set in a user-friendly interface.

DOST Region V, in collaboration with the Provincial ScieVnce and Technology Center – Albay, successfully installed and deployed STARBOOKS on the three DCP Computer Units of LNHS for the Special Program for Technology, Science and Engineering Junior and Senior High School. About 8,149 students, including 5,421 Junior High School and 2,209 Senior High School students, and 519 ALS students will benefit from the digital offline science library.

With the approval of the LNHS Principal Jessica U. Sayson and Ms. Rea Angela F. Datoon, Senior High School Science Teacher, the STARBOOKS launch and training were held at the School Library with participants from the school which include the school head, assistant principal, department heads, subject group heads, ICT coordinators who are in-charge of the learning resource centers, and school librarians.



22 Schools in Zambales Get STARBOOKS



ZAMBALES — The Science and Technology Information Institute (DOST-STII) and the Zambales Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC-Zambales) completed the rollout and installation of STARBOOKS to 22 different schools in Castillejos, Zambales through the initiative of the former Undersecretary for Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Dr. Rowena Cristina L. Guevara, Castillejos Councilor Rhodora Guevara and San Agustin High School last August 1, 2022.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks renowned as STARBOOKS contains hundreds of thousands of digitized science and technology resources in various formats (text and video/audio).

A ceremonial turnover of the science digital library kiosks was conducted in the presence of DOST Regional Office III regional director Julius Caesar V. Sicat, Dr. Rowena Cristina L. Guevara, Provincial S&T Director Bernardita D. Montevirgen, Councilor Rhodora Guevara, Coordinating Principal Mario M. Celis, San Agustin High School Principal Rachael F. Esteban and school representatives.

After the ceremony, Mr. Eros Effiel C. Quiabang, Project Assistant II, PSTC-Zambales spearheaded the orientation and hands-on training on STARBOOKS.

The school-beneficiaries are Looc Integrated School, President Ramon F. Magsaysay Elementary School, Castillejos Resettlement High School, V. Gallardo Elementary School, Balaybay Resettlement Elementary School, San Agustin High School, Balaybay Elementary School, Castillejos Elementary School, San Agustin Elementary School, Kanaynayan Elementary School, Del Pilar Elementary School, Villaflor Elementary School, St. Nicholas Academy of Castillejos Inc., San Isidro Elementary School, Jesus F. Magsaysay Technical – Vocational High School, Sta. Maria Elementary School, Nagbayan Elementary School, San Nicolas Primary School, Buenavista Elementary School, Hanjin Integrated School, Castillejos National High School, and Magsaysay Elementary School.



Digital Science Library-In-A-BoX Rolls Out in Zambo



ZAMBOANGA - The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office IX through the City Science and Technology Center-ZCIC rolls-out the STARBOOKS at the Nangka Elementary School.

The rollout to the said school was headed by City Director Ricardo J. Apolinario III.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated KioskS, (STARBOOKS), is a stand-alone information source designed to bring reliable S&T information to the grassroots especially to geographically-isolated school and local government units throughout the country. It contains 80,000 digitize science and technology information resources in various formats (text and video/audio) set in a user-friendly interface.

The deployment also includes the signing of the memorandum of agreement by both parties. Moreover, a meeting was convened with potential DOST-IX interventions for the community were discussed.

PSTC-La Union Inks MOU With St. John Bosco College for STARBOOKS

5 August 2022 | **By EIRYZ CLYDE ANGELIQUE D. ORPILLA**

SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION — The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office I (DOST 1), through its Provincial Science and Technology Center- La Union (PSTC-LU), has formalized partnership with St. John Bosco College of Northern Luzon, Inc. to launch the latest Science and Technology Academic and Researched-Based Openly Operated Kiosk (STARBOOKS) in the institution on August 4, 2022.



The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and City Councilor Hon. Rodolfo M. Abat, School Librarian Mrs. Elvie N. Toribio, IT Specialist Mrs. Junabel S. Casugay and PSTC- La Union Director Jonathan M. Viernes. This ceremonial signing was witnessed by the Officer-In-Charge, Office of the President Forester Brenda Pulido-Gandeza, faculty and staff from both parties.

In her message, Forester Pulido-Gandeza emphasized that STARBOOKS has been a very helpful tool when it comes to library usage not only with the students but also that of the faculty, considering the fact that it is very difficult to source books. And with STARBOOKS, the library collections for science and technology information is upgraded and at the same time addresses their focus on science and technology.

"*St. John Bosco College of Northern Luzon, Inc. stands for excellence, leadership and service. We are leaders in our own eye, we are leaders in our community, all is nothing if we do not give service to the community same as that of the DOST*," she added.

Dir. Viernes congratulates the institution for being one of the beneficiaries of STARBOOKS in the province. He then discussed the features of STARBOOKS, especially that it can be accessed by faculty and students for free, even in the absence of an internet connection. The system is updated yearly so they can access timely information for their studies. He also presented the programs, projects and activities of DOST to give them additional information to what the Department offers to the people.

Following the signing of MOU was a training and orientation for students, faculty and staff of the beneficiary institution led by DOST Region 1 coordinator Ms. Mary Ann C. Belen.

DOST XI Aids School in Paquibato District Ahead of Class Reopening

PAQUIBATO, DAVAO CITY — The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office XI (DOST XI) extends its services to the Lorenzo Latawan National High School ahead of the school's reopening for the school year 2022-2023.

The Agency installed STARBOOKS, an online and offline compendium of various S&T learning materials in multimedia and full-text formats available to teachers and learners for free, and conducted a Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) training for its faculty members.

Paquibato District is a remote borderland that was once a conflict-torn district and a former stronghold of rebels causing limited resources arriving in the area.

Mr. Raymon Abanto, principal of the institution, expressed his gratitude to the team from DOST XI for hurdling the 3-hour trip and almost impassable roads just to deliver services to their school.

"*First time po namin sa school na may bumisita from a (National) Government Agency. Maraming salamat po. (This is the first time that a (National) Government Agency has come to visit our school. Thank you very much)*," expressed Mr. Raymon Abanto after the activity.

DOST XI City Science and Technology Office Head Mr. Arnel M. Rodriguez explained to the stakeholders the projects and programs under the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) program of DOST and highlighted the importance of DRRM training with the changes in the environment.

"*As you are now part of the CEST community, we are committed to helping you in any way we can*," he added.

Mr. Abanto also expressed hope that the event is only the beginning of a long-term partnership with the Agency.

"*We know that the road you traversed today is not an easy road especially because of the heavy rain last night. And as the saying goes, "When it rains it pours*" but today it pours blessings," he added.

Science for the People: Reaching the People Beyond the City



The DOST-Benguet with the Commission on Audit – CAR team conducted monitoring to check the status of the Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) projects and SETUP beneficiaries in Kapangan, Kibungan, Tublay, Sablan and City of Baguio on August 10-12, 2022.

On the first day, the team reached Laoangan Barrio School located at Barangay Gadang, Kapangan through a three-hour hike. The multi-grade school is a beneficiary of the DOST – Science and Technology Academic Research-Based Openly Operated KioskS (STARBOOKS) -a digital library that provides Science, Math and other learning resources. It can be operated without Internet connection. The assistance is hoped to benefit at least 35 students and for teachers' references.

Other areas visited in the municipality of Kapangan include Barangay Beleng – Belis. The barangay was provided with Ceramic Water Filters since the water samples collected in the area were not safe for drinking. The CWFs are set to be distributed to identified households to be used for potable water.

Further, Pudong Elementary School located at Pudong, Kapangan was provided with DOST-STARBOOKS. The previous unit was damaged due to the earthquake that struck the school in July 2022. Fortunately, this was repaired by DOST-Benguet staff and is ready for use in the upcoming the face-to-face classes. Also, the Governor Bado Dangwa Industrial school was also assisted by providing the baking equipment for their Technology Livelihood Education.

In the municipality of Kibungan, the team visited the coffee processing facility in Kibungan Arabica Growers Multipurpose Cooperative. The DOST provided Coffee roaster to the cooperative, which enables them to attain desired roasting and improve the quality of their coffee.

Meanwhile in the municipality of Tublay, another CEST beneficiary, was provided with radio communication network to be distributed to the barangays to strengthen their disaster risk reduction management.

In the municipality of Sablan, the team visited the coffee and cacao processing which DOST assisted through the provision of production equipment.

Other projects visited include SETUP beneficiaries – Jude Eli Machine Shop in Sablan, Twin Jade Mae Fashion – textile embroidery and Gift of Grace - kimchi processing in Baguio City.

DOST Opens Science Digital Library in Island School in Albay

16 August 2022 | **By SALLY A. ALTEA (PIA)**

LEGASPI CITY, ALBAY — The Department of Science and Technology opens another digital library in San Miguel Island, Tabaco City.

The Science and Technology Academic Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks upgrades their S&T information resources of the island school by converting the computer units and their mobile phones into a kiosk where they can access thousands of digital S&T materials even without internet connectivity.

The STARBOOKS is the country's first digital science library. It is a stand-alone information source designed to reach those with limited or no access to S&T information resources.

DOST Bicol STARBOOKS Deployment Officer Anthony B. Andes said the project aims to provide content on Science, Technology and Innovation to geographically-challenged schools and communities not only in the Bicol region but throughout the country.

"*STARBOOKS contain numerous digitized S&T resources in various formats (text and video/audio) placed in specially designed "pods" that is set in a user-friendly interface*," Andes said.

At least 1,144 junior and senior high school students and 55 faculty members of San Miguel National High School, where the STARBOOKS are deployed, are set to initially benefit from the said digital library.



Andes said the STARBOOKS for SMNHS was the third for this year, following Ligao City National High School and St. Louie de Marillac College in the province of Sorsogon. A total of 321 units were deployed in the Bicol region since its debut in 2012.

He added that another batch of STARBOOKS are set to be deployed to 15 schools in Tabaco City this year.

"*The STARBOOKS is one way of elevating the scientific and technological literacy among the students in our school*," SMNHS teacher John Darnell Balbastro said.

At least 1,144 junior and senior high school students and 55 faculty members of San Miguel National High School in the said island, where the STARBOOKS are deployed, are set to initially benefit from the said digital library. (DOST5 photo)

Balbastro added that wide array of S&T resources in various formats will intensify the curiosity among their young learners, and its offline access will address the unavailability and inaccessibility of S&T learning resources in San Miguel Island.

Balbastro was also instrumental in bringing STARBOOKS to the island school through his initiative "Project STARBOOKS: SMNHS's Library in a Box".



STARBOOKS Training Via School Learning Action Cell



SOUTH COTABATO — The Philippines first S&T offline digital library or the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks Station (STARBOOKS) contains hundreds and thousands of digitized science and technology resources and K to 12 materials in various formats (text and video/audio) set in a user-friendly interface. Some of its special features is it's a standalone information kiosk, hence, information access is possible even without internet connection and it has a wide collection of S&T information curated from various credible sources.

We are delighted that our school was one of the recipients of the DOST Region XII STARBOOKS here in the Province of South Cotabato. STARBOOKS will benefit 496 UMNHS students, which include 356 Junior High School students and 140 Senior High School students.

The STARBOOKS orientation and training were held at the School ICT Laboratory. Participants of the said activity were the school head, teachers, ICT coordinator, and reading coordinator.

The main objective of this activity is to train faculty personnel on its functions as well as the basics in operating the STARBOOKS.

This is great way to enhance our scientific and technological awareness. Also, STARBOOKS will also benefit not only the students but the teachers and parents as well.

DOST Biliran Launches STARBOOKS at MCCA

KAWAYAN, BILIRAN — The DOST Biliran Provincial S&T Office launches the Science and Technology Academic Research-Based Openly-Operated Kiosks at the Mother Crucifix Caputo Academy in Villa Cornejo, Kawayan, Biliran.

The activity is part of DOST commitment to the school under the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology Program or CEST under the Human Resource Development priority area, which aims to support the development of Smart Communities, which is the new DOST Administration's approach to making science and technology relevant to the people.

The launch was highlighted by the signing of the Memorandum



of Agreement between DOST, represented by Dr. Romeo Dignos, PSTD and the school principal Sister Teodula Furones.

The ceremonies were followed by a brief demonstration of STARBOOKS to the students and the school librarian.

The CEST project is implemented by DOST Biliran in partnership with Biliran Province State University-Biliran Campus.

DOST Supports S&T Education in Sablan Through STARBOOKS



SABLAN, BENGUET – The DOST-CAR through the Provincial Science & Technology Office- Benguet has turned-over five units of STARBOOKS or the Science and Technology Academic Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station to the Department of Education school-beneficiaries in the municipality of Sablan.

STARBOOKS is the first digital library in the Philippines that can be operated even without internet connection. It is a stand-alone information source that contains hundreds of thousands of digitized science and technology resources in various formats (text and video/audio) placed in specially design "pods" set in a user-friendly interface.

Five elementary schools namely Taya Multigrade School, Pappa Multigrade School, Michael G. Angel Elementary School, Ebbes Elementary School, and Jose Gonzales Elementary School were identified and endorsed by the Local Government Unit of Sablan as the beneficiaries for the said digital library.

DOST-Benguet Director Sheila Marie B. Singa-Claver discussed that the deployment of STARBOOKS is one of the five entry points (Education/Human Resources Development, Economic Development, Health & Nutrition, Climate Change of the Community Empowerment thru S&T (CEST) Program for the municipality of Sablan.

"*Let the learners use it for they are the reason why these are given in the first place*" said Dir. Singa-Claver as she encouraged the beneficiaries to maximize the STARBOOKS.

Sablan Mayor Alfredo B. Dacumos Jr. also challenged the school teachers and heads as he said, "*Uray nu adu ti maited nga gadget nu saan nga mausar ket sayang*" ("*Even if there are lot of gadgets to be given, if these are not used, then it is useless*").

Mayor Dacumos also extended his grateful appreciation to DOST for the assistance and continuous partnership to implement projects in the municipality.

A User's Training on STARBOOKS and signing of Memorandum of Understanding between DOST and the beneficiaries were also conducted during the turn-over.

Two Schools in Biliran Receives STARBOOKS

BILIRAN – The DOST Biliran launches the STARBOOKS in two school-beneficiaries to strengthen the S&T promotion in the province.

The schools who received the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk System or STARBOOKS are Bunga Elementary School in Cabucgayan and Union Integrated School in Caibiran. The STARBOOKS is the multi-awarded S&T library in a box developed by DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute.

The project is part of the continuous efforts of the DOST in promoting science, technology, and innovation in the countryside to increase awareness and appreciation of the people on the important role of STI in rural development. This as well is aimed at encouraging the students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The team composed of Dr. Romeo L. Dignos, PSTD and Ms. Gracevillalyn Saldo, PA II of DOST Biliran, Engr. Florentino Queñones Jr, SRS II with Gary Lawrence Arica, PA II from



DOST Region 8 MIS Unit conducted the turnover of one STARBOOKS unit to each school and conducted hands-on demonstration on its use to the pupils and the teacher in charge in the operation of the system.

Benguet Students Get an Early Christmas Gift

TUBLAY, BENGUET – To spur interest and increase aptitude of learners in science, math and technology, the DOST- CAR thru the Provincial S&T Office-Benguet gives four digital libraries to learners in Tublay on September 8, 2022.



The digital library, which is known as the STARBOOKS, is the first digital library in the Philippines that can be operated without internet connection. It is a stand-alone information resource that contains thousands of digitized science and technology content in various formats (text and video/audio) placed in specially designed "pods" set in a user-friendly interface.

Four beneficiary schools namely Becday Charosas Lamsis Elementary School, Ciriaco Magno Elementary School, Langbis Primary School, and Moran Elementary School received the units funded under the Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) Program of DOST.

Mr. Pepito Toring of DOST – PSTO Benguet discussed that the CEST Program for the Municipality of Tublay includes Human Resource Development – Support to Education, hence, the deployment of the STARBOOKS.

"*We are elated to see you using these STARBOOKS*," said Mr. Toring as he encouraged the participants to maximize the use of the technology.

Moreover, the schools-beneficiaries also extended their gratitude to DOST and pledge their commitment to maximize the use of the STARBOOKS, not only in the school but also to interested individuals.

Meanwhile, DOST-CAR STARBOOKS personnel Mr. Dejoia Lee Andres conducted users' training during the deployment.

Barcelona South District Schools Gets Offline Information Source from DOST

BARCELONA, SORSOGON – The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office V (DOST V), in collaboration with the Provincial Science and Technology Office of Sorsogon (PSTO Sorsogon), has turned over five units of the multi-awarded science digital library at Macabari Elementary School, Barcelona South District in Macabari Barcelona, Sorsogon last 14 September 2022.

Among the schools installed with Macabari Elementary School, Celso F Falcotelo National High School, Mapapac Elementary School, San Ramon Elemetary School, and Layog Elementary School.

Present during the turnover ceremony and product orientation and demonstration were heads of the respective schools and their IT personnel. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed led by Engr. Sandro B. Noguera, Sorsogon Provincial S&T Director.

Engr. Noguera expressed his gratitude to Dr. Liza Dy-Salonga, OIC-Public Schools District Supervisor for her interest in adopting the STARBOOKS and to all the school heads who participated in the activity. Engr. Noguera stated that the DOST gave the STARBOOKS to schools, LGUs, and private institutions for free.



Sorsogon Province has the highest number of STARBOOKS sites in the Bicol Region. PSTO Sorsogon is aiming for 100 STARBOOKS sites by the end of the year and plans to celebrate the milestone at the National Science and Technology Week. He hopes that the orientation and training will be very significant, especially for the schools' progress, for the teachers, and of course, for the students. The provincial director mentioned that STARBOOKS is one of the best projects to be implemented in the region. PSTO Sorsogon hopes to reach more schools, especially those in geographical-isolated areas.

Dr. Liza Dy-Salonga also expressed her gratitude to DOST V and DOST-Sorsogon for granting their request for the installation of STARBOOKS. "This will be utilized and aid our BRIGADA ESKWELA and BRIGADA PAGBASA Programs of Barcelona South District," declares Dr. Salonga.

Off-Grid Schools Gain Access to Solar-Powered Digital Library

DAVAO CITY – The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office XI (DOST-XI) has installed solar-powered Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station (STARBOOKS) in Davao de Oro province.

The province's Manurigao Integrated School in New Bataan town is the agency's latest beneficiary of STARBOOKS, the first Philippine Science and Technology (S&T) digital library.

On Thursday, Dr. Anthony Sales, DOST XI Regional Director said STARBOOKS is a user-friendly, stand-alone information kiosk that contains thousands of digitized S&T resources in various formats.

"Users can access information such as investigatory projects, K-12 learning materials, DOST technologies, and other publications," he said.

Sales noted that the beneficiary school has no conventional source of electric supply and internet connection.

This makes the STARBOOKS, powered by a solar photovoltaic system, appropriate for the school, benefiting 156 students and seven teachers of the school.

"The DOST XI hopes to enhance the quality of educational experience for both teachers and students and to create interest in the field of science and technology among Filipino students who will later pursue science and technology careers," Sales said.



He said the assistance was provided through the Community Empowerment S&T Program of DOST, led by the provincial government in partnership with Davao de Oro State College Extension Services Division.

(via Philippine News Agency)

DOST Turns Over Digital Libraries to Benguet Schools



LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET – Nine schools in the municipalities of Sablan and Tublay received digital libraries from the Department of Science and Technology – Benguet Provincial Science and Technology Center.

The DOST-Benguet PSTC led by Director Sheila Marie Singa-Claver turned over four digital libraries or STARBOOKS to the municipality of Tublay while five were given to the municipality of Sablan.

In Tublay, recipient schools are the Becday Charosas Lamsis Elementary School (ES), Ciriaco Magno ES, Langbis Primary School, and Moran ES while in Sablan the five schools are the Taya Multigrade School, Pappa Multigrade School, Michael G. Angel ES, Ebbes ES, and the Jose Gonzales ES.

Claver said the STARBOOKS or the Science and Technology Academic Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks Station, is the first digital library in the Philippines that can be operated even without internet connection.

It is a stand-alone information source that contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources in various formats such as text, video and audio, which are placed in specially designed “pods” set in a user-friendly interface.

Claver said that the deployment of STARBOOKS is one of the five entry points of the Community Empowerment thru Science and Technology (CEST) Program for the municipalities of Sablan and Tublay aside from Education, Human Resources Development, Economic Development, Health and Nutrition and Climate Change.

“Let the learners use it for they are the reason why these are given in the first place,” said Claver as she encouraged the schools-beneficiaries to maximize the STARBOOKS.

The schools-beneficiaries also extended their gratitude to DOST and pledged their commitment to maximize the use of the STARBOOKS, not only in the schools but will be open to anyone who is interested in the respective communities.

DOST-CAR staff Dejoia Lee Andres conducted the Administrators’ and Users Training prior to the deployment of the STARBOOKS to the different schools.

(via Philippine Information Agency)

Remote Schools in Concepcion, Misamis Occidental Gets Seven STARBOOKS

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL – With the opening of face-to-face classes in the Municipality of Concepcion in Misamis Occidental, DOST Misamis Occidental turns over seven STARBOOKS desktop units with smart TVs and printers last September 16, 2022 at Concepcion National High School, Brgy. Poblacion, Concepcion.

Under the Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) E-ACCeST or the Enhancing ACCessibility to Science and Technology Project, the following schools will now have digital access to science and technology (S&T) information: Concepcion National High School, Concepcion Central School, Malvar Elementary School, Migubay Elementary School, Balongkot Elementary School, Debaloy Elementary School, San Francisco Elementary School.

LGU-Concepcion Vice Mayor Ronel Montipon, together Mr. Aproniano Panorel, the municipal administrator and Mr. Domingo Maulas, the Department of Education-District Supervisor for Concepcion, were the guests of honor during the ribbon cutting.



The digital library dubbed as STARBOOKS or the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated KioskS (STARBOOKS) is a stand-alone information source designed to reach those with limited or no access to S&T

During the activity, the school heads, IT personnel and librarians from the different schools were oriented on the basic operation, report generation and interactive features of STARBOOKS.

8k+ Learners Now Access Credible S&T Resources Through Digital Lib

DARAGA, ALBAY – More than 8,000 students are hooked on STARBOOKS as DOST Region V in collaboration with its Provincial Science and Technology Office turns-over the first S&T digital library at the Daraga National High School.

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station (STARBOOKS) is a stand-alone/ offline computer unit containing hundreds and thousands of digitized resources in various formats (text and video/audio) designed in a user-friendly interface.

Teachers and students went through an orientation and training on the operation and utilization of STARBOOKS, followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) led by Engr. Domingo A. Peña, Jr., Provincial S&T Director of DOST-PSTO Albay.



Engr. Peña expressed his joy at witnessing the number of beneficiaries rise steadily since the program's implementation in the region. He mentioned that the STARBOOKS have modules that enhance instructional materials, publications, and completed research studies that students and future DOST scholars can utilize.

Given the disparity between the number of computers at the school and the number of students, he also urged the teachers and students to make the most use of STARBOOKS.

Students at Pio Duran, Albay Get S&T Info Amidst Limit in Resources

PIO DURAN, ALBAY – On September 21, 2022, Malidong High School in Pio Duran, Albay, received the First Science and Technology Digital Library in the country—a "Library-in-a-Box" developed by the DOST Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), after a successful handover by DOST Region V and the Provincial Science and Technology Office of Albay (PSTO Albay).

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station (STARBOOKS) is an offline and stand-alone computer unit containing hundreds and thousands of digitized resources in various formats (text and video/audio) designed in a user-friendly interface. The STARBOOKS will create interest in the field of Science and Technology and encourage curious minds to develop new ideas, inventions, and innovations. As well as inspire one's capacity for entrepreneurship and research.

Teachers and students underwent an orientation on the operation and utilization of the program, followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) led by Engr. Domingo A. Peña, Jr., Provincial S&T Director of DOST-PSTO Albay.



Indang National High School Receives Training and a STARBOOKS Unit

INDANG, CAVITE – In the hopes of bringing thousands of digitized science and technology resources for the students at Indang National High School (INHS), the Department of Science and Technology CALABARZON through its DOST- Provincial S&T Office of Cavite conducted a training and deployment for a STARBOOKS unit last September 9,2022.

A total of 41 participants comprised of school officials, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and other personnel of the INHS who actively participated in the training. Indang National High School found STARBOOKS as an effective program to increase the number of students engaged in the field of Science and Technology and eventually going into S&T related courses.

STARBOOKS which stands for Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station developed by the Science and Technology Information Institute (STII).



Its special features include the following: (1) It's a standalone information kiosk, hence, information access is possible even without internet connection; (2) Information available is read-only; (3) It is a compendium of S&T information gathered from all over the world -a one stop S&T information source.

The DOST PSTO-Cavite is keen at providing S&T interventions to uplift the communities in the province. The provincial office strives to adopt appropriate technologies and apply S&T interventions towards attaining economic growth and pursue social change through science.

STARBOOKS Now in Malidong High School

ALBAY – The Malidong High School is now home to the country's first offline digital science library through the help of DOST Regional Office V and its Provincial S&T Office in Albay.

The STARBOOKS contain hundreds of thousands of S&T resources and K–12 materials digitized in various formats (text and video/audio), designed with a user-friendly interface. It is available offline, which can be easily accessed by teachers and learners.

Present during the ceremony are the teachers and students who underwent an orientation on the operation and utilization of the program led by Mr. Anthony B. Andes, the Project Technical Assistant III of DOST Region V. The orientation was followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) led by Engr. Domingo A. Peña, Jr., Provincial S&T Director of DOST-PSTO Albay; Mr. Elmer V. Onrubia, School Principal I; and Mr. Jasper Kim N. Rico, Special Science Teacher I.

Malidong High School expresses its utmost gratitude to DOST Region V and PSTO Albay. The school hopes that with STARBOOKS's educational and learning resources, it will further enhance the educational competence and proficiency of its learners.

DOST 1 Deploys STARBOOKS to 2 High Schools in Naguilian, La Union

27 September 2022 | **By ENGR. EIRYZ D. ORPILLA**

NAGUILAN, LA UNION – To make science and technology materials readily available, the Department of Science and Technology Regional Office I (DOST I) through its Provincial Science and Technology Office- La Union (PSTO-LU) has deployed Science and Technology Academic and Researched-Based Openly Operated Kiosks (STARBOOKS) to Naguilian Senior High School (NSHS) and Northern Naguilian National High School (NNNHS).

A formal Memorandum of Understanding signing followed after the short ceremony with the Provincial S&T Director Jonathan M. Viernes, Ms. Mary Ann C. Belen, and Engr. Eiryz D. Orpilla, Regional and Provincial focal persons for STARBOOKS, respectively.

Representing the NSHS during the MOU signing was Ms. Claire P. Pulanco, School Principal III, ICT Coordinator Mr. Jimmy F. Dilinila, and LRM Coordinator Ms. Jenybeth R. Belen.

In her message, Ms. Pulanco extended her heartfelt gratitude to DOST I for the initiative saying, "this project will definitely be of great help to the teachers and learners to add more resources that could be used in the different learning areas. They will have ready materials that would add up their modules and references provided by the Department of Education."

She added that they will ensure that these materials provided will serve its purpose and fully contribute in teaching learning processes that would lead to better learning outcomes.

On the other hand, Dr. Jinkee U. Roldan, Mr. Regie C. Bustamante, ICT coordinator, and Ms. Nancy F. Delizo signed the MOU for the NNNHS.

Finally, Dir. Viernes gave a brief background and introduced the DOST to faculty and students to further broaden their knowledge and understanding on the programs, projects and activities of the agency. Ms. Belen then discussed the different features and content of the STARBOOKS and provided a hands-on training & orientation to familiarize them on the use of the application.



DOST I will continue to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDG 4).



DEPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN SAMAR

NORTHERN SAMAR — The deployment involves the orientation, MOU signing and User's and Administrator Hands-On Training on the Use of STARBOOKS.

Day 1 (Sept 28) – Lope De Vega Senior High School & Day 2 (Sep 29) – CEST Recipients schools & LGUs: (Gamay LGU, Quezon ES, Calantiao LGU, Bonifacio LGU, Biri LGU).

First CONFAB, launches STARBOOKS NATURE at NEGOR

28 October 2022 | By JOSE ALDOUS R. ARBON II, SRA-IO

CEBU CITY — STARBOOKS goes to celebrate the three-day celebration of the Regional Science and Technology Week in Central Visayas with a Stakeholders' Convention held at the Pavilion, DepEd Ecotech Center in Cebu City.

Some 320 participants including school heads, librarians, and STARBOOKS focal persons attended the gathering.

One highlight of the event was the launch of the STARBOOKS NATURE, a customized, environment-oriented version of STARBOOKS. It is designed to be an interactive and tourist-friendly information kiosk. According to the new Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Maria Antonia "Toni" Yulo-Loyzaga, there are 248 Protected Areas in the Philippines with a total area of 7.79M hectares.

Pursuant to the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992 which was amended on 2018 with the expanded version (ENIPAS), both the national and local government, and other concerned private organizations must preserve and protect those that are considered as Protected Areas or land and water that are identified portions set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological significance, managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation.

In the context of Negros Oriental, there are three identified PA, namely: Tañon Strait Protected Seascape, Apo Island Protected Landscape and Seascape, and Balinsasayao Twin Lakes which are home to some of the rarest and endemic forest and marine species in the Philippines.

Along this line, the Department of Science and Technology – Science and Technology Information Institute (DOST-STII) has designed an information kiosk relative to these protected areas in Negros Oriental. As ecotourism is already implemented in these PA, information dissemination using a digital and interactive information resource serves as a promising tool to reach and educate visitors especially the young generation with science-based and technical information about the sites.



This is DOST-STII's new project that will be piloted in Negros Oriental. In a moment during the convention, DOST-STII Director Richard P. Burgos, DOST 7 Regional Director Engr. Jesus F. Zamora, Jr., and DOST-PSTC Negros Oriental Provincial Director Atty. Gilbert R. Arbon signed a Memorandum of Agreement on the project nominated as "Development and Deployment of STARBOOKS Nature to Promote Wildlife Preservation, Environmental Education, and Ecotourism in Protected Areas in Negros Oriental."

In a way, with STARBOOKS Nature, DOST-STII and DOST-VII took to heart the mandate of The International Ecotourism Society or TIES which is to promote "responsible travel to natural areas that conserve the environment; sustain the well-being of the local people; and involve interpretation and education.



DOST Awards CIT University: Not Just Once, But Twice!



LAHUG, CEBU CITY — For the second time around since STARBOOKS was installed in CIT Library in 2014, the DOST-STII (Science and Technology Information Institute) awards CIT University as "the Most Functional STARBOOKS STAKEHOLDERS in Cebu Province."

STARBOOKS stands for "Science and Technology Academic and Research Openly Operated Kiosks". The award was handed by DOST Regional Office VII Regional Director Jesus F. Zamora to CIT University Librarian Ms. Rainera C. Boholst during the 2022 STARBOOKS Stakeholder's Convention at DepEd, Ecotech Center, Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City.

The first award was given during the 2018 STARBOOKS stakeholders' conventions at Palo, Leyte, where CIT University Library was recognized as among the Top 5 STARBOOKS Beneficiaries with high utilization rates. STARBOOKS databases now include learning materials from Elementary to College.

Also, thesis and dissertations are now available and accessible online even through android mobile phones. In CIT University, the top university in Cebu, STARBOOKS is linked to the Online Public Access Catalog, making it accessible 24/7 outside the campus.



Installation of Solar-Powered STARBOOKS

DAVAO OCCIDENTAL — Manuel Peralta Elementary School would like to extend a heartfelt gratitude to the Department of Science and Technology Regional Office XI (DOST XI) for the installation of Solar Powered Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks (STARBOOKS).

The project aims to provide STI (Science, Technology, and Innovation)-based content in various formats to students and other constituents in geographically-isolated and economically-challenged schools and communities throughout the country. We are truly honored to be one of the chosen schools in Davao Occidental to enjoy and experience free access on S&T information for academic and livelihood use.







Toledo City Schools Receive DOST Digital Library



TOLEDO CITY, CEBU — TThe Department of Science and Technology Regional Office VII through its Cebu Provincial Science and Technology Office has successfully deployed two units of STARBOOKS digital libraries to the Fulgencio Dolino Elementary School and the Awihao National High School all in Toledo City, Cebu.

This initiative was funded through the DOST Grants-In-Aid program in partnership with the TUFFWOW Corporation to provide students in Toledo City, a wide access to S&T digital information. This endeavor aims to assist the schools in upgrading its resources to needs of the students in the new normal.

Participating during the training and hands-on demonstration conducted by the DOST STARBOOKS team were school heads, faculty and IT personnel to teach them the basics in operating STARBOOKS.

This was followed by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding and a turnover ceremony spearheaded by Engr. Alger S. Loyal, Jr. of Provincial Science and Technology Office – Cebu, Mr. Roger M. Antopina, President of TUFFWOW Corporation, and Mr. Manuel B. Docor of TUFFWOW Corporation.

The Awihao National High School was represented by their School Principal Georgina C. Villamor while Mr. Gleen Dolino represented Fulgencio Dolino Elementary School during the MOU signing.

STARBOOKS hopes to address the two schools' limited S&T resources as limited access to the internet prevents students from accessing quality S&T content for their academic research.

STARBOOKS, Now Accessible at Mercedes NHS

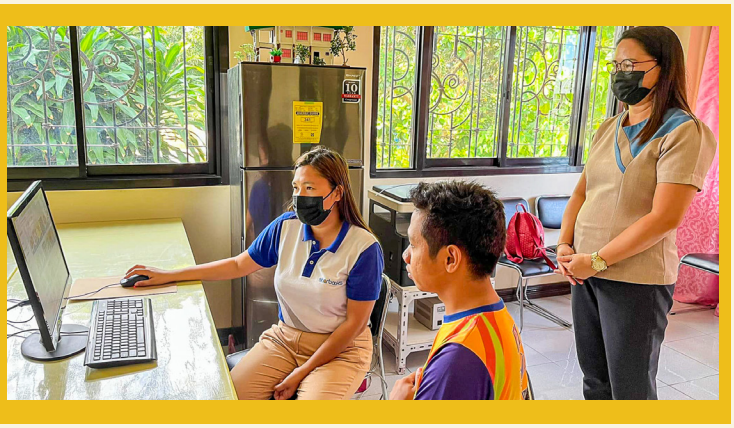
ZAMBOANGA CITY — The Department of Science and Technology Regional Office IX has successfully launched the STARBOOKS at the Mercedes National High School, in Zamboanga City.

The STARBOOKS, the country's first offline digital library and was developed by the Science and Technology Information Institute (STII) of the Department of Science and Technology, which stands for Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated KioskS.

It contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources in various formats (text and video/audio) set in a user-friendly interface that can be accessed even without an internet connection.

The orientation, which also doubled as the user hands-on training, was facilitated by Mr. Enrique Mariano and Ms. Gretchelle Araneta. School personnel were oriented on how to navigate through the STARBOOKS system.



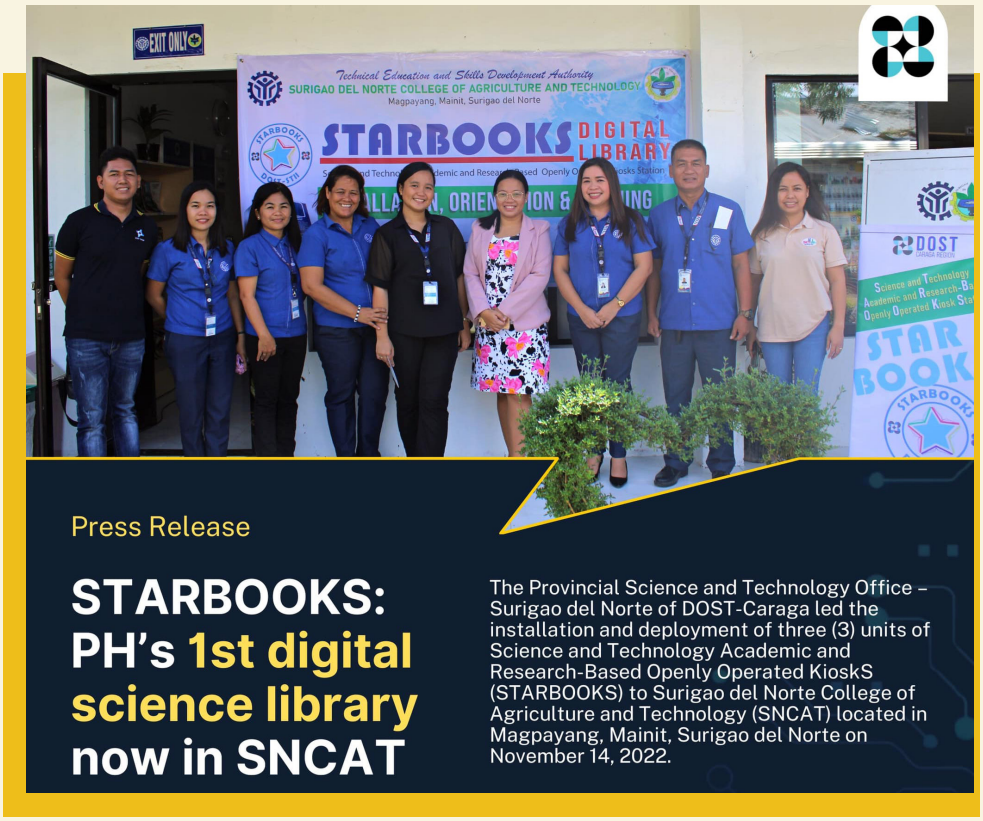


STARBOOKS: PH 1st Digital Science Library Now in SNCAT

SURIGAO DEL NORTE — The Department of Science and Technology-Surigao del Norte in Caraga led the installation and deployment of three Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated KioskS (STARBOOKS) to the Surigao del Norte College of Agriculture and Technology (SNCAT) located in Magpayang, Mainit, Surigao del Norte.

This new partnership will provide students of SNCAT a wide access to S&T information for all academic and livelihood use in digital form. During the program, Ms. Mariel P. Makinano, Provincial Director, presented the basic features, content, and different platforms of the STARBOOKS.

STARBOOKS is the first Philippine offline digital science library for students. Inside are digitized S&T resources such as research and dissertations, investigatory projects, video lessons in science and math subjects, and other materials for that can be used in teaching and research.
After the installation, SNCAT's IT and library personnel were trained by the DOST-SDN technical team on the STARBOOKS system management. The hands-on training and demonstration discussed report generation, account creation, and navigating resources for smooth use of the digital library.



Dir. Abegail B. Eupeña, CpS, MBA, College Administrator, expressed her gratitude and appreciation to DOST since the deployment of STARBOOKS would greatly help students cope with the new normal in education and in the development of S&T culture in SNCAT.
The STARBOOKS technology was developed by DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute to create interest in the field of Science and Technology especially in the countryside; encourage great and curious minds to develop new ideas, inventions, and innovations; and inspire one's capacity for entrepreneurship and research.
School.

RSU Learning Resource Center Gets Digital S&T "Pod"

ODIANGAN, ROMBLON — DOST-STARBOOKS is now accessible at the RSU Learning Resource Center!

The Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly-Operated KioskS #STARBOOKS is a self-contained information source designed to reach those who have limited or no access to S&T information resources and the internet at the same time.

The project's goal is to provide STI-based content in various formats to students and other stakeholders in geographically isolated and economically challenged schools and communities across the country.

STARBOOKS contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources in a various formats (text and video/audio) curated and organized in a specially designed "pods" with an easy-to-use interface.

This project has been made possible by the efforts of the RSU Information and Communication Technology Services Center, the RSU Institute of Information Technology, DOST-MIMAROPA, DOST STII, and RSU LRC.

Sharing S&T Global Knowledge Among Schools in the Municipality of Alamada Through DOST-STARBOOKS



NORTH COTABATO — Sharing S&T information to supplement the needs especially in the geographically-isolated schools is how the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosks is poised to deliver throughout the country.

In line with its vision, about eight computer units with WIFI router and printers were installed as the DOST-STARBOOKS team handed-over to identified beneficiaries in the first District of Cotabato Province.

The turnover and distribution were held at the Notre Dame of Midsayap College (NDMC) through the initiatives of the Regional Director Sammy P. Malawan accompanied with Provincial Director Michael T. Mayo to the following beneficiaries of Alamada: Lt. Lito S. Orejudos Elementary School, Dulao Elementary School, New Leon Elementary School, Badak Elementary School, Mimbalawag Elementary School, Teren-Teren Elementary School, Upper Dado Central Elementary School, and BLGU of Barangay Dado.

The deployment of STARBOOKS is timely as the Province of Cotabato is now preparing for the face-to-face learning setup. Through the alliance of Provincial Governor Emmylou "Lala" Taliño Mendoza and in assistance of the first district Congressman Joel S. Sacdalan, the initiative was made possible.

RD Malawan assured the recipients that DOST-STARBOOKS will be of great help as they can effectively and efficiently use the facility for information source even without internet connection.

Moreover, an orientation on the use and operation of STARBOOKS was also conducted by Mr. Reynel Revilla of the DOST XII-Cotabato Province to enhance the educational competence of students in its beneficiary schools.

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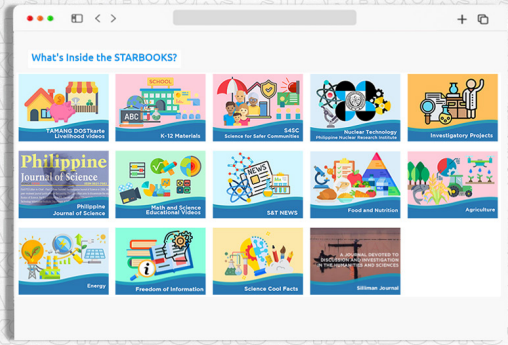

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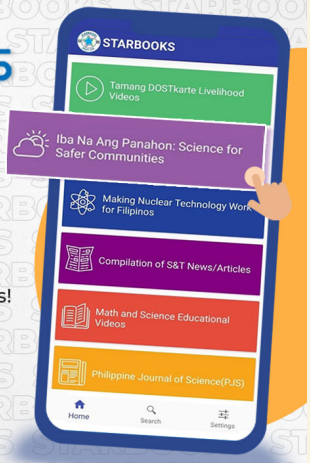

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