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## Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Undersecretary Maridon O. Sahagun

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) is a major driver of national development. Many, if not all sectors, rely on it to increase their productivity, competitiveness, and efficiency, as well as to create more value for their products and services. Consistent with our mandate, the DOST has been providing central direction, leadership, and coordination of all STI initiatives in the country, and ensuring that their results are geared and utilized towards maximum economic and social benefits for the Filipinos.

As such, we pursue complementary programs on research and development, science and technology, human resource, and infrastructure development on technology transfer and commercialization of R&D results on science and policy advocacy, among others. Our research and development programs are anchored on the national, harmonized research and development agenda which focuses on priorities on agriculture, aquatic and marine resources, industry, energy, emerging technology, the health sector and even the basic research. The DOST is committed in supporting the socio-economic agenda of the President. We align our programs with the national and provincial levels from these priorities and use science technology and innovation in forefront which are more relatable to the common Filipinos. These are 1) Wealth creation/generation, 2) Promotion of human well-being, 3) Wealth protection, which includes disaster and climate resilience technology; and 4) Sustainability.

In particular, the department views the R&D, technology, and innovation generation as a continuum encompassing theoretical conception through basic research moving through technical invention and commercial use. We seek a balanced and strong support for both the knowledge-seeking purpose as well as the commercializing purposes of research and establish an enabling environment and culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Through partnerships with other government agencies, private organizations, and the academe, the DOST will continue to create solutions that are timely, relevant and innovative that will fill the gaps of all sectors and communities in the country. DOST for its part will continue to be at the forefront of national research and development initiatives, as well as cultivate a culture and a brand of innovation among the Filipinos, which is what we call FILIPINNOVATION. Our goal is to ensure that Science, Technology, and Innovation delivers impactful and transformative results to the lives of Filipinos whom we have committed to serve.

Classification: GENERAL