

Launching of TRA Review Results, Promotional Campaign

ITDI introduces

Smoother, chocolatier DOST *Tablea*

Cacao, or the main ingredient for our favorite *tsokolate*, is making waves in the agriculture and food industry because of its increasing value in both the local and international markets.

In support to the growing Philippine cacao industry, several support mechanisms have been set up by government, particularly for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). With Davao Region in the lead, the cacao industry in the country is targeting to produce 100 metric tons (mt) of cacao beans in 2020.



Aside from strategies in increasing cacao production in target regions, part of the initiatives in strengthening the cacao industry is through the enhancement of its processing methods. DOST, through its Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI), is currently using improved processing techniques for cacao.



The result is DOST *Tablea* or chocolate liquor in bar. A solid chocolate in disc or squares made from local cacao beans, it uses fermentation and roasting processes that are guaranteed to give the best quality chocolate beverage.

ITDI's formulation employs a two-stage roasting process to improve sensory characteristics of the product. It also refines ground cocoa powder to reduce particle size, giving the *tablea* a smoother consistency without the burnt aftertaste. With its higher cacao percentage, DOST *Tablea* is thus chocolatier and healthier due to its high flavonoid content.

Our Business is Industry



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To level-up niche market, ITDI is looking for partner industries that can mass-produce DOST *Tablea*. The overall package for the technology is a viable investment as its computed internal rate of return is 34 percent, with a payback period of four years.

As one of 27 technologies assessed in 2018 for market readiness by ITDI and the Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB), it will be pitched in a culminating activity on March 29, 2019 at Crimson Hotel in Muntinlupa City.

The event aims to boost the transfer of generated technologies for public use and consumption. It will be a gathering of industry partners across relevant sectors that can be potential adopters and licensed fabricators for these new technologies. Anchored to the theme, "*Tayo Na Pillipinas, Angkinin AmBisyon Natin!* (Ugnayan sa Taas-Antas ng Teknolohiya ng ITDI)," the activity is a celebration of scientific and technological innovations developed by pure Filipino talent. (MVAtienza\TSD)

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