

DOST-ITDI inaugurates VIP's Biosafety Level 2+ Laboratory

The Industrial Technology Development Institute, Department of Science and Technology (DOST-ITDI) inaugurates today, 21 October 2021, its Biosafety Level 2+ Laboratory of the Virology and Vaccine Institute of the Philippines (VIP).

DOST-ITDI Director Dr. Annabelle V. Briones spearheaded the inaugural ceremonies and delivered the welcome remarks. She was joined by DOST officials led by Secretary Fortunato T. Dela Peña who gave his inaugural message, recounting how the VIP came about; and Undersecretary for Research & Development Dr. Rowena Cristina L. Guevarra who gave notes on VIP's significance, status, and future perspective.



Giving inspirational messages and all out support to the project were Dr. Jaime C. Montoya, Executive Director of DOST-PCHRD, Dr. Reynaldo V. Eborra, Executive Director of DOST-PCAARRD, and Dr. Teodoro Fajardo, Jr. one of *Balik Scientists* under the VIP program who are among the critical partners in this venture.

Dr. Christine Marie Montessa, DOST-ITDI Deputy Director for Research and Development concluded today's program with much anticipation on the lab's promise in rolling out the DOST VIP program.

A tour of the Biosafety Level 2+ Laboratory led by the Secretary capped the inauguration rites.

As one of the department's big projects for this year, the facility will work on microorganisms that pose moderate hazards to lab staff and the environment. The lab will strictly adhere to appropriate biosafety and biosecurity protocols as mandated by international standards and ensure that projects of the VIP program are implemented safely and securely.

Welcome to our new facility, BSL 2+ Laboratory. CONGRATULATIONS DOST-ITDI!!
([IDDGotis](#), DOST-ITDI S&T Media Service)

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