

DOST-ITDI Salt Tech: NCR ClusteRICE 2023 TUKLAS, LIKHA winners



Two technologies on salt processing developed by DOST-ITDI were picked as winners of the 2023 NCR ClusteRICE held on October 20, 2023, at the Golden Phoenix Hotel Manila in Pasay City.

The continuous screw-type salt washer is this year's Outstanding Invention or TUKLAS winner. It was designed to increase the purity of salt to at least 97% as required by R.A. 8172, also known as An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN).

On the other hand, the salt harvesting equipment bagged the Outstanding Creative Research or LIKHA award. The machine mechanizes the laborious process of crushing, washing, and harvesting salt in deep salterns. Its use makes salt processing possible during dry and wet seasons which helps shorten the harvesting time from months to weeks, thus reducing production costs.



Organized by the Technology Application and Promotion Institute (DOST-TAPI) in cooperation with five clustered regions, RICE or Regional Invention Contest and Exhibits recognizes the contributions of inventions and research studies in national development, as well as provides an opportunity to represent the clustered regions to the national contest or NICE to be held in 2024.

Project Team Leader and ITDI Director, Dr. Annabelle V. Briones, received the TUKLAS and LIKHA Awards. For the former, she was joined by Engr. Carlos J. De Vera, Oliver C. Evangelista, Engr. Jayson B. Nuval, Melquiades B. Canceran, and Alexander G. Cruz. For the latter, team members included Oliver C. Evangelista, Quintillano M. Montevirgen, Engr. Jayson B. Nuval, and Raejan Marfal.

The TUKLAS Award is the highest RICE award category. Other awards include Outstanding Utility Model (UNLAD Award), Outstanding Industrial Design (BANGHAY Award), and Outstanding Student Creative Research (SIBOL Award) for high school and college students.

Congratulations, Salt team! Kudos to your hard work and dedication to public service!
(MVAtienza; AMGuevarra\\TSD)