

## DOST-ITDI develops SAFEWATRS technology benefitting Region 1 to access safe drinking water

Clean water is life! Thanks to the Department of Science and Technology – Industrial Technology Development Institute (DOST-ITDI) for developing a water filtration system called “SAFEWATRS” capable of treating unclean water and producing potable drinking water in some areas of the Ilocos Region.

SAFEWATRS is a solar-powered water filtration system that produces up to 2,000 liters of clean water in nine hours, making potable drinking water available for people living in remote areas and disaster-prone and calamity-hit areas.

Through the efforts of DOST Region 1 and ITDI, two units of SAFEWATRS filtration system were installed in the Ilocos Region, particularly in Brgy. Nagbattedan, Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur serving 180 households, and another in Brgy. Luna Weste, Umingan, Pangasinan, benefiting approximately 200 residents.



Under the DOST Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (CEST) Program, these areas were granted the SAFEWATRS unit based on the results of a community needs assessment that warrants the need for clean drinking water and environmental protection interventions.

After the SAFEWATRS deployment, the DOST-ITDI conducted training sessions on the proper operation and maintenance of the system to ensure safety before operation. Also, the local government guarantees the unit’s long-term viability, including drafting a resolution to allocate funds for its operational costs.

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The SAFEWATRS system is another testament to DOST-ITDI's commitment to safeguarding public health and environmental resources and staying resilient during tough times. (//DDGotis, ITDI S&T Media Service; with reports and photos from DOST Region 1)

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