

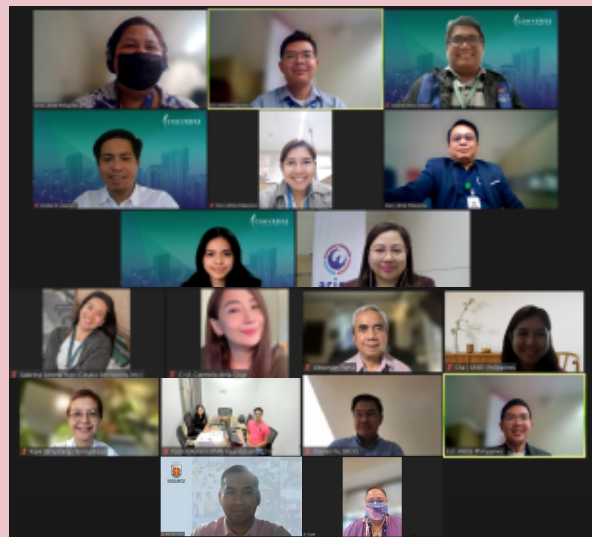



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our Network!

 **Converge ICT Solutions Inc.**
 **Komunidad Global Service and Operations Phils. Inc.**
 **WCY Architects, Design and Development Consultants**
 **Casas + Architects Inc.**
 **Radio Mindanao Network Foundation, Inc.**
 **Cebuana Lhuillier Foundation Inc.**
 **Ramon Aboitiz Foundation Inc.**
 **SM Foundation Inc.**

Together, let us build a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient Philippines



Let us welcome the latest addition to the ARISE-Philippines network, officially onboarded last February 2 and 10, 2023 via Zoom online meeting. Get to know their official representatives, who are as follows:

Converge ICT Solutions Inc.

Mr. Jerome Mario T. Orfano
ERM Director

Komunidad Global Services & Operations Phils. Inc.

Mr. Allister Thaddeus Ayque
COO

Ms. Kaye Sangalang

Director of Sustainability and Impact

Casas + Architects Inc.

Arch. Carmelo Topacio Casas
President and CEO

Mr. Carlos Simon Casas
Treasurer and COO

Radio Mindanao Network Foundation Inc.

Mr. Enrique Maximo Mariano O. Canoy
VP for Operations

Mr. Patrick Aurelio

OIC/CSR Officer

WCY Architects, Design and Development Consultants

Arch. Warren Christopher Yu
Principal Partner

Cebuana Lhuillier Foundation Inc.

Mr. Jonathan Batangan
Executive Director

Mr. Dave Victor Mariano

OIC, Program Development

Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Pet John Rom
Program Head

VAdm. Alexander P. Pama joined as panelist for DENR Multistakeholders Forum held in Iloilo



ARISE-Philippines joined the 2023 DENR Multistakeholder Forum held in Iloilo City last January 18-19, 2023. The agency discussed the existing programs of the government on environmental sustainability and gave the other stakeholders an opportunity to show their own initiatives and means of support for DENR. During the Forum, ARISE-Philippines Co-Chair Alex Pama was a panelist in one of the sessions where he shared to the audience the current initiatives of the ARISE-Philippines network members on DRR and resilience. He likewise proposed ways ahead to optimize private sector participation in the DENR's programs for environment and resiliency particularly in the crafting of a new Performance and Projects roadmap of CCAM-DRR Cabinet Cluster in order to harmonize public and private sector efforts toward sustainability and resiliency in the Philippines.

As SM Prime Holdings, Inc. 's Consultant for DRR and on behalf of Mr. Hans Sy, VAdm. Pama also presented SM Prime's past and present Disaster resilience and ESG+R efforts.

To learn more about the forum, click on this link: [2023 Visayas Multistakeholder Forum](#)

ARISE-Philippines supported the BRI Review webinar entitled "Governance of Risk: Barriers and Enablers to Resilience in the Philippines"



A webinar entitled "Governance of Risk: Barriers and Enablers to Resilience in The Philippines," was jointly organized by International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD) last February 10, 2023 was participated by ARISE-Philippines Board officers as member panelists. The event was moderated by Mr. Angelo Tan, IFC's Country Lead for the Climate Business Department of the Philippines and Pacific Islands, and promoted the Building Resilience Index (BRI) features highlighting how it can help promote resilience in cities.

In this webinar, the GSD team provided a background of their research about the Philippines' current status and programs. They also presented the key findings and recommendations on the report with the same title, "Governance of Risk: Barriers and Enablers to Resilience in the Philippines" which aimed to further enhance the acceptance and impact of BRI in the society.

The session provided discussions and feedback on the research findings among the panelist of global experts and Philippines' stakeholders. A panel discussion concluded the event with the panelists sharing their additional recommendations to uphold the use of BRI as a tool for resilience. Panel members were Diep Nguyen-Van Houtte, Senior Manager Climate Innovation & Business Development, IFC ;Ommid Saberi, Technical Lead for EDGE & Global Lead for Building Resilience Index, IFC ;Diane Davis, Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning and Urbanism, GSD ; Begoña Peiro, Doctor of Design Candidate, GSD;Vincenzo Bollettino, Director of Resilient Communities Program, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative Aris Papadopoulos, Founding Chair & CEO, Resilience Action Fund; VAdm. Alexander P. Pama (ret.), Co-Chair, ARISE-Philippines ; Dr. Marqueza Cathalina L. Reyes, Assistant Professor, Asian Institute of Management.

The development of the Building Resilience Index was made possible through the generous contributions from the Government of Australia, the Government of the Netherlands, The Rockefeller Foundation, and the World Bank.

Please click the link to watch the full webinar: [Governance of Risk](#)

Aboitiz Foundation awarded by i-ACT for its project with KINDer



Aboitiz Foundation's project called KINDer was recognized by the Inter-Agency (i-ACT) for Traffic on February 13, 2023. KINDer by Aboitiz is a crowdfunding website for a cause. It is an initiative that promoted commuter's welfare during the height of the pandemic by providing PPEs to road safety operatives. This is only one of their initiatives as they respond to the needs of the times.

Interested parties can choose to support the different causes which includes but not limited to programs alleviating malnutrition cases, providing necessary training programs to identified workforce, support for sustainable environment, supporting social causes and protecting the vibrant underwater ecosystem. The foundation uses their collective donations and invites civil societies to partner with them to support their social projects.

For more information and possible collaboration, use may visit their website: [KINDER by Aboitiz](#)

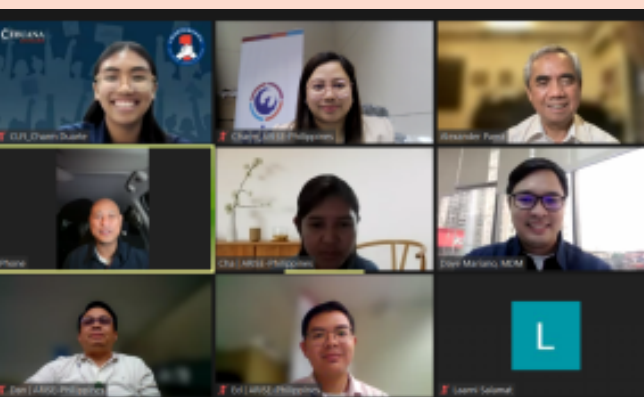
ARISE-Philippines and National Resilience Council @ ICARE CCC, Iloilo visit



The National Resilience Council team, headed by its Executive Director, Mr. Sly Barrameda together with Co-Chair Alexander Pama of ARISE-Philippines, visited one of the ICare centers of Iloilo City last March 3, 2023. The recently constructed Php 38M-worth command center was constructed with the help of the Gaisano Company in a lot under usufruct agreement with the city government. It will serve as one of the ICare Centers for the use of the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), Public Safety and Transportation Office (PSTMO), Iloilo City Police Office (ICPO), and Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).

As shown, ICARE officers demonstrate the latest addition to their technology that helps monitor the city's activities via CCTV and handheld transceivers. The facility allows the center to remotely gather information on traffic updates and foot traffic within the city proper, as well as weather advisories including safety tips especially on the recently concluded 2023 Dinagyang Festival.

ARISE-Philippines and Cebuana Foundation collaboration meeting



ARISE-Philippines Secretariat headed by Co-Chair, VAdm. Alexander Pama (ret.) met with the Cebuana Lhuillier Foundation, Inc. (CLFI) team last February 8, 2023 to discuss each organization's mission, vision and ongoing activities to provide understanding on how each would compliment on the works toward DRR and resilience. The foundation representatives included their Executive Director, Mr. Jonathan Batangan, and joined by the program officers Dave Mariano and Charm Duarte.

Mr. Batangan mentioned that CLFI is currently the largest micro financial institution in the country. They have partnered with DTI in promoting MSME resilience. They also co-created MicroBizProtect and Payong App. He emphasized that CLFI's DRR program is from preparedness to mitigation and response. The foundation's projects included Cebuana RAPIDO program which is a decentralized relief distribution and the National Rescue Olympics program with DILG and NDRRMC held to capacitate LGU for disasters.

CLFI is also DepEd's partner in alternative learning centers in 35 provinces. Mr. Batangan wants to collaborate with ARISE-Philippines to reach MSMEs in the 35 provinces for resilience and to have a focused group discussions with LGU for needed programs. He also mentioned that CLFI can fit in ARISE-Philippines' Priority Areas for MSMEs, Investment, and Insurance.

VAdm. Pama mentioned that ARISE-Philippines synergize with other organizations especially members for programs and activities. He explained the differences of functions of the Work Themes and Priority Areas and the role of ARISE-Philippines Secretariat and its connection to UNDRR and ARISE Global.

UCL and XU held UNESCO Seminar-Workshop on Resilience of Educational Infrastructures



On 22 October 2022, public school principals, disaster risk reduction practitioners, and infrastructures managers joined a whole-day seminar-workshop jointly conducted and facilitated by faculty members, formators, and students of the University College London (UCL) and Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan (XU).

The blended online-on-site seminar-workshop is called: Educational Infrastructures' Resilience to Natural Hazards (Integrating Schools and Transport Systems). The event is part of a collaborative project between UCL and XU, under the UNESCO Chair for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Engineering (DRR-RE) chaired by Prof. Dina D'Ayala of UCL. The project aims to come up with science-based solutions, recommendations, and policy briefs that would help

implement safe school infrastructures in the Philippines. It also considers the critical role of roads and bridges during disasters and emergencies. The Social Development Office and the Engineering Resource Center are the lead units for XU's role in this engagement.

The event was attended by selected public school principals whose schools are potentially exposed to natural hazards like floods, earthquakes, and landslides. Their respective School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (SDRRM) Coordinators were also present. The Regional Office of the Department of Education, where public schools are under, was also represented. Because schools in the Philippines are also often used as evacuation / temporary shelters and relief distribution hubs, representatives from the City Social Welfare Department and the City DRRM Department were also invited. The City Engineer's Office was also represented. To capture the important role of transport systems, the City's Roads and Traffic Administration and the Department of Public Works and Highways were also invited.

Among the topics discussed were the principles, experiences, and case studies of safe and functional school buildings and transportation facilities, and the interaction of these two systems. The resource speakers from UCL include: Prof. Dina D'Ayala, Dr. Ahsana Vatterli, Dr. Rohit Adhikari, and Dr. Li Sun. The XU resource persons who helped place local context and perspectives in the Philippine setting are: Dr. Anabel Abuzo, Engr./EnP. Jefferson Vallente Jr, and Dexter Lo. The information gathered during the workshop will be fed to high-computing models to simulate possible disaster scenarios in the city. Strong and weak points can be captured in these models to come up with recommendations for risk reduction strategies and help build the resilience of schools and communities. The results will be shared back to stakeholders next year.

During the workshop, participants expressed the importance of such event where they can freely discuss with other government agencies about their concerns on school building conditions, repairs, and uses during and after disasters. Items on accessibility and transport facilities were also highlighted by both school users and concerned government offices. They look forward to the results and recommendations of the project.

This present UCL - XU collaboration comes from almost a decade-long partnership for advocating safe schools and resilient communities. From 2016 to 2019, UCL, XU, and De La Salle University, partnered for the SCOSSO and PRISMH Projects. One of its knowledge products is a publication titled Resilient Communities through Safer Schools, which was recently cited by Elsevier as: "linked to the UN SDGs, helping to tackle some of the world's greatest challenges."



Championing housing affordability, sustainability, innovation



Supporting sustainable, low-cost housing in Southeast Asia. We joined over 130 housing practitioners, enthusiasts, innovators, and advocates at a conference to talk about business opportunities in the shelter innovation space. Disruptive solutions developed by Sheltertech startups and scaleups were also showcased during the event. In one of the discussions, our steadfast partner Holcim Philippines highlighted their efforts in contributing to sustainable house construction. Holcim Philippines Chief Sustainability Officer Zoe Sibala said, "Holcim is not just a cement producer; we are one of the largest waste diverters, converting qualified waste into both alternative fuel and raw material for low-carbon cement."

Building green, thriving communities as a pathway to Net Zero. Various stakeholders gathered in the Philippine edition of Net Zero Building & Net Zero City Summit. Joining one of the panel discussions, our Programs and Operations Director Marilyn Estrellado cited building awareness and participatory planning as a way for communities to appreciate climate change adaptation. However, adapting net-zero technologies requires a high cost of investment. That's why achieving resilience and a more inclusive and sustainable development calls for collaboration among different sectors specially engaging LGUs to kickstart the shift into more climate-adaptive and responsive approaches and to ensure that no one is left behind in the process. Check out more information about the event here.



Digging into housing problems and solutions with Teka Teka News. Our CEO Mardi Mapa-Suplido sat down with Pumapodcast to talk about ways to help address the housing need, emphasizing the importance of the P4 approach.

"We are trying to advocate a P4 approach - that's people, public, private, partnerships. Building houses is not a dole-out thing. It is really building houses with the families, so we have to recognize their contribution to the design [and] to the actual building of the houses."

Listen to the full interview [here](#).

Management Association of the Philippines (MAP) hails new President



ARISE-Philippines is one with Management Association of the Philippines in celebrating as they welcome their 75th president, Atty. Dick Du Baladad, who is the Founding Partner and CEO of Du-Baladad and Associates (BDB Law). In her inaugural address delivered on January 31, 2023, she laid out MAP's theme in 2023 which is "Bridging and Building a Progressive Future". The organization intends to realize this through bridging and enhancing the internal fundamentals and harnessing their collective strengths to help in building a national future in shared prosperity.

Six priority programs were identified that will guide MAP's directions and activities to achieve the thrust of this year's theme which are bridging internal strengths among the organization, focusing on resilience and recovery, initiating and welcoming innovation, advocating for diversity, equity and inclusion, pushing for growth and people development and contributing to the ESG goals.

The implementation of the six programs will be integrated with the major concerns of MAP's members gathered from a survey conducted among the organization's member in November 2022. The top ten concerns are about ease of doing business, economy, energy, climate change, competitiveness of local industries, education, agriculture, infrastructure, ESG and dealing with LGUs.



Megaworld Iloilo partners with city government for another ICARE Command Center



A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the Iloilo City Action and Response (ICARE) Command Center at Iloilo Business Park, Megaworld Iloilo, on March 3, 2023. It is a 2,500 square meter lot donated by Megaworld Corp. located within the 72-hectare Iloilo Business Park. The project served as a demonstration of the city government's strong partnership with the private sector. Megaworld's Php20-million worth of assistance, facilitated by the National Resilience Council, will ensure Iloilo City will have the much needed facilities and equipment at the ICARE Command Center.

The assistance will be in the form of supplies and equipment for the command center such as additional handheld monitoring and network devices, television monitors, equipment for teleconferencing, and power generators, among others.

Mayor Jerry Treñas who was cited as "Resilience Champion" by the National Resilience Council and Alliance Global Group's CEO, Kevin Tan, together with Tingog Party-list's Rep. Yedda Marie Romualdez, led the ceremonial capsule laying for what will be called the "Iloilo Business Park ICARE Center." Rep. Yedda Romualdez, wife of House Speaker Martin Romualdez, represented First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos.

The momentous event was also graced by Lourdes Gutierrez Alfonso, Megaworld Corporation's CEO; Chairman Alejandro H. Tengco, Rear Admiral (ret.) Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR); VAdm Alexander Pama (ret) representing the National Resilience Council, Us wag Ilonggo Party-list's Rep. James "Jojo" Ang, Vice Mayor Jeffrey Ganzon, together with the city councilors and department heads.

ICARE center will house the offices of various government agencies, including the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), Public Safety and Transportation Management Office (PSTMO), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Philippine National Police (PNP) and Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).

In December 2022, Iloilo City was cited as "Beyond Compliant" at the 22nd Gawad KALASAG Seal for Excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Humanitarian Assistance for Local DRRM Councils and Offices given by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

ARISE-Philippines joins 2023 Asia Retail Conference



The Business Continuity Manager's Association of the Philippines (BCMAP) convened a forum and panel discussions for the Asia Retail & eCommerce Innovation Summit Philippines 2023 on March 16 and 17, 2023 at the Manila Marriott Hotel. BCMAP is a partner in the ARISE-Philippines network.

The panel discussion's theme was "Building Resilience in Your Supply Chain: Strategies for Overcoming Disruptions and Uncertainties". VAdm. Alexander P. Pama (Ret.), one of the Co-Chairs of ARISE-Philippines, joined as one of the panelists on the first day together with Ms. Maria Teresa Cepeda (Director, Estrella-Supply Chain Management for The Moment Group), Mr. Arnel Gamboa (VP Logistics, Ace Hardware), Mr. Topets Capinpin (BCMAP Secretary and Certified IT Disaster Recovery Instructor) and Mr. Eugene Daga (BCMAP Vice President and Certified Business Continuity Instructor). Mr. Keith Chan, the current President of BCMAP and Vice President for IT of Wilcon Depot, Inc. served as the moderator of the panel discussion.

The panelists shared the current challenges in supply chain and trends to solve these gaps toward the path of resilient business operations. Various methods for supply chain resiliency were imparted by the speakers underscoring the vital role of technology and business continuity plan. Co-Chair Pama as a Consultant of SM Prime Holdings, Inc. for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management shared how SM practices resilience in all the four thematic areas of DRRM from prevention to recovery. He also shared how ARISE-Philippines is enabling collaboration strategies among its Network members on sharing best practices for resilience in supply chain.

Get a glimpse of the said event using this link: [Asia Retail & eCommerce Innovation Summit Philippines 2023](#)

IFC scales up Building Resilience Index through multi-stakeholder platforms



In February 2023, the International Finance Corporation continued its mission to enhance the resilience of the building environment in the Philippines through cascading the Building Resilience Index to the academe, future building professionals, local government and financial institutions.

In collaboration with Resilient.PH and ARISE-Philippines, the IFC was able to conduct a series of Information Sessions in the month of February with the College of Architecture of the National University, the Provincial Government of Laguna through Vice Governor Atty. Karen Agapay,

Association of Philippine Administrators in the Local Government Units and the members of Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association.

During these Information Sessions, Angelo Tan and Pearl Mars of the IFC Philippines tackled the importance of resilience in buildings and introduced the benefits of BRI to make this happen.

IFC involves multiple stakeholders vital in the pushing for climate adaptation and resilience in the built ecosystem in the country. They intend to also increase uptake among real estate developers within the year.

PIRA and IFC collaborates to push the agenda of resilience in insurance

An information Session on Building Resilience Index was conducted by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) among the members of the Philippine Insurers and Reinsurers Association (PIRA) on March 15, 2023. PIRA is the lead organization for ARISE-Philippines' Priority Area 3 on Insurance and Reinsurance. Both organizations recognize the vital role of financial institutions and insurance in building resilience specifically in the built environment. Mr. Michael Rellosa, the Director of PIRA, echoed to the members attending the event that BRI is a tool that the insurance industry can maximize and customize based on how each company sees it beneficial. The Open Forum catered to various insightful comments and questions from the participants contributing to new ideas on how the insurance and reinsurance companies are currently doing disaster risk assessments, the gaps they experience and potential points on how BRI can bridge these gaps.

The Information Session was the first awareness raising activity conducted by IFC and PIRA to explore the benefits of incorporating BRI in insurance processes. Some of the benefits of BRI for insurance companies are in complementing catastrophe modeling with a multi-hazard approach, reviewing resilience rating of assets before underwriting and saving time and resources on project evaluation processes.



Courtesy meeting with DND Sec. Carlito Galvez, Jr.

ARISE Board Member Liza B. Silerio, ARISE-Philippines Co-chair Alexander P. Pama and National Resilience Council Executive Director Silvestre Barrameda Jr. met with the newly appointed DND Sec. Galvez to discuss further involvement of the institutions on the country's resilience building.



2023 Women's MONTH EVENT



Building Resilience Index Forum: Women's Role in Creating a Resilient Building Environment



In celebration of Women's Month 2023, IFC - International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group, in collaboration with the Government of the Netherlands, Australian Government, The Rockefeller Foundation, ARISE-Philippines, Resilient.PH, WINDRR, and SM Cares conducted a hybrid event, the Building Resilience Index Forum: Women's Role in Creating a Resilient Building Environment.

VAdm. Alexander Pama (ret.), ARISE-Philippines' Co-Chair, officially opened the event with his welcoming remarks. The forum's first speaker was Pearl Mars, the Technical Specialist of Building Resilience Index from IFC, who presented the benefits of BRI for various stakeholders of the built sector. Fran Deininger, IFC's Gender and Climate Specialist spoke about the impact of women changemakers to bring solutions for climate change and a resilient built environment.

The panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Maria Catalina Cabral, Undersecretary for Planning and Public-Private Partnership Services of the Department of Public Works and Highways. Panelists were comprised of Ms. Gie Garcia, Managing Director – Property Management of NEO Office PH; Ms. Liza Silerio, Vice President for Corporate Compliance of SM Prime and an ARISE Global Board Member; Ms. Girlie Lopez, Country Director of Build Change Philippines; and Ms. Marilyn Estrellado, Programs and Operations Director of Habitat for Humanity Philippines.

Dr. Tata Medado, President of Asia Pacific College and Head Secretariat for WINDRR-Philippines summarized the key takeaways of the panel discussion through her synthesis. Thuy Tui Bui, Senior Country Officer of International Finance Corporation (IFC) delivered the closing remarks respectively.

The program was hosted by Ms. Cha Almeida, Secretariat Lead of ARISE-Philippines. ARISE-Philippines leaders and members were also present onsite during the event represented by Ms. Maribeth Marasigan from Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. and Ms. Veronica Gabaldon from Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation.

UP ISSI partakes in 3rd World BOSAI Forum

Research and Extension Professionals Staff (REPS) from the University of the Philippines Institute for Small-Scale Industries (UP ISSI) delivered flash talks during the 3rd World BOSAI Forum / International Disaster and Risk Conference held in Sendai, Japan on March 10 - 12, 2023.

UP ISSI Director Director Melanie M. Moraga-Leaño presented her paper on 'Marginalized Identities During Health Crisis: Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Women in the Informal Economy' while Extension Specialist from the Research Division Melanie V. Cabotaje shared her study entitled 'Local Government Response for MSMEs During Health Disasters: A Tale of Two Cities'.

Moreover, Extension Specialists from the Training and Entrepreneurship Education Division (TEED) Joanna Rose T. Laddaran discussed her topic on 'The Road to Sustainable Recovery through Business Continuity: Stories of Philippine MSMEs Dealing with Compound Disasters', Ron Allan R. Estrebillon on 'HANDA: Building Towards Resilient and Sustainable MSMEs in the Philippines' and Allysa Anne M. De Guzman on 'COPE Program: Promoting a Culture of Resilience among MSMEs in the Midst of a Crisis'.

"As a team, it became a venue for us to share our programs and initiatives in helping create a culture of resilience among MSMEs," said Ms. Laddaran.

She also emphasized that the capacity-building programs, awareness sessions and research studies related to business continuity planning among MSMEs both in the formal and informal sectors are very relevant to the entire Philippines being a disaster-prone country.

The forum aimed to disseminate information to the world on concrete solutions for disaster reduction through dialogue among industry, government, academia, and the private sector, including an emphasis on the perspectives of women and the youth.



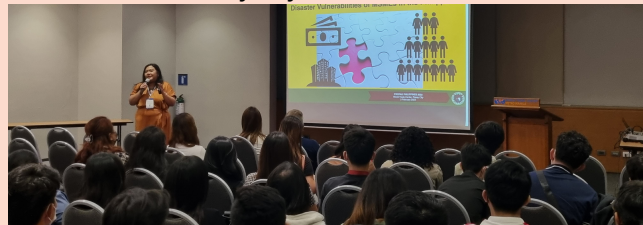
Business Continuity Planning Seminars conducted for MSMEs and Vendors' Alliance

As part of the awareness-raising component of the HANDA Program: Disaster Preparedness and Business Continuity Planning for MSMEs, the UP Institute for Small-Scale Industries conducted the following BCP awareness sessions for those coming from micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with SME Roving Academy of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) - Marikina on March 3, 2023 and March 1 - 2, 2023 for the Metro Manila Vendors' Alliance (MMVA).



UP ISSI presents Business Continuity and Supply Chain Resilience Session in ProPak Philippines 2023

UP ISSI joined the ProPak Philippines 2023: The 4th International Processing and Packaging Exhibition for the Philippines held from February 1 to 3, 2023 at the World Trade Center in Pasay City.



Ms. Joanna Rose T. Laddaran, delivered a presentation entitled "Business Continuity and Supply Chain Resilience for the Manufacturing Industry" on February 3, 2023, during the trade event at the Luna Room.

ARISE-Philippines members shared snapshots of 2023 1st quarter events

