

# PRESS RELEASE

## PSA Conducts PSDP 2018-2023 Update National Dissemination Forum

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*(Upper - L to R) OIC-DNS Minerva Eloisa P. Esquivias (PSA), Usec. Rosemarie G. Edillon (NEDA), OIC-ANS Severa B. De Costo (PSA), OIC-DNS Divina Gracia L. Del Prado, Ph.D. (PSA), delivering their messages at the PSDP 2018-2023 Update National Dissemination Forum. (Lower - L to R) Ms. Teresita B. Deveza (PSAI), Prof. Solita Collas-Monsod (UP), Former NS Lisa Grace S. Bersales, Ph.D. (UP), OIC-Dir. Alana G. Ramos (DICT), ED Josefina V. Almeda, Ph.D. (PSRTI), during the panel discussion.*

29 June 2022 – NOVOTEL MANILA ARANETA CITY. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) conducted the National Dissemination Forum on the Philippine Statistical Development Program (PSDP) 2018-2023 Update.

The Forum was done following the approval of the PSDP 2018-2023 Update by the PSA Board on 13 May 2022. The Forum was attended by 143 participants from various government agencies, the academe, development partners, professional associations and unions, and media.

Office-in-Charge Deputy National Statistician (OIC-DNS) Minerva Eloisa P. Esquivias of the PSA delivered the Opening Remarks where she stressed the need to update the PSDP 2018-2023 to make it relevant and reflective of the needs of the country particularly of decision-makers and planners taking into account recent developments in the Philippine Statistical System and the need to align with updated national priorities and plans.

Meanwhile, National Economic and Development Authority Undersecretary Rosemarie G. Edillon mentioned in her keynote message that statistics should be produced and communicated in such a way that it will stimulate action from policymakers and be understood by everyone. She also emphasized the need for more disaggregated data, and called for stronger collaboration in providing good quality, timely, relevant, and reliable statistics.

The highlights of the PSDP 2018-2023 Update which included the formulation process, the PSDP 2018-2023 accomplishments from 2018 to 2021, and the updates on the PSDP 2018-2023 were also presented by the PSA OIC-Assistant National Statistician (ANS) Severa B. De Costo.

A panel discussion was also conducted featuring Prof. Solita Collas-Monsod, former National Statistician Dr. Lisa Grace S. Bersales, PSRTI Executive Director Josefina V. Almeda, and DICT OIC Director Alana G. Ramos as panelists, with Ms. Teresita B. Deveza of PSAI as moderator. The prioritization of the statistical activities; dissemination of statistics in a laymanized format; strengthening collaboration to make the PSDP 2018-2023 Update successful; and providing capacity development programs to non-statistical partners agencies were emphasized by the Panelists during the discussion.

PSA OIC-DNS Divina Gracia L. Del Prado concluded the forum and appealed to everyone to exert efforts to make possible the effective implementation of the Programs under the PSDP 2018-2023 Update.

- *Standards Service, Censuses and Technical Coordination Office*