

# PRESS RELEASE

## PSA SOX Concludes the 35<sup>th</sup> NSM Opening Ceremony; Second Economic and Statistics Training Course for Stakeholders conducted

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Koronadal City, South Cotabato – The Philippine Statistics Authority XII concludes the 35<sup>th</sup> National Statistics Month on 28 October 2024 at NEDA XII Building, Prime Regional Center, Koronadal City. It was attended by representatives from the different regional line agencies.

In her welcome remarks, NEDA XII Regional Director Phlorita A. Ridao extended her warmest gratitude to the participant for their presence and full support in the month-long celebration of 35<sup>th</sup> National Statistics Month. She stated that this year celebration is an incredible journey, filled with learning and sharing and a deeper appreciation on the invaluable role of statistics in regional development. She added that the theme, “Advancing Data and Statistics through Digital Transformation: A Road to an Empowered Nation”, speaks to the heart of the time where the data were just not numbers but a powerful tool that can guide our path forward by helping other make informed choices for the community.



“The theme reverberates the advocacy and direction that BSP pursues, and that is harnessing technology so that more Filipinos continue to join the formal financial system. Under a mandate of providing a safe, secure and efficient payment system, we are pushing for digital payment.”, BSP General Santos City Branch Area Director Christine Aclan-Pacalan stated. “The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will continue to support the Philippines Statistical Community and its goal to have a stronger and more inclusive economy”, she added.

Regional Director Atty. Maqtahar L. Manulon, CESO V said in his message that this year’s theme reminded us that the data is not just merely about number, it is about people, about using statistical insights to uplift the marginalized, to improve livelihood and to provide opportunities for growth. He added that the data should be between the needs of the citizens and the policies that addressed them, ensuring that no one is left behind.

The Second Economic and Statistics Course for Stakeholders aimed to educate participants with in-depth information on key economic statistics issues, with a focus on how this data could affect policy, business, and development goals. This training program focused on these four topics—digital payments, regional accounts, poverty statistics, and labor statistics—was designed to offer learners with a thorough understanding of the key factors impacting economic development.

A game called “Vest in Stat” was also organized by the secretariat. It was enjoined by all the participants. An awarding followed giving certificates to the winners of the various activities conducted in connection with the 35<sup>th</sup> NSM.

Approved by:

  
**ATTY. MAQTAHAR L. MANULON, CESO V**  
Regional Director

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