

SKSU-CTE Faculty Members Join 2026 DOST Mindanao Cluster Conference

By Evora H. Dioneza

Two faculty members from the Sultan Kudarat State University College of Teacher Education (SKSU-CTE) attended the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Mindanao Cluster Call Conference at Almont Inland Resort, Butuan City, on February 26, 2026.

Sherry V. Mecida and Evora H. Dioneza attended the event following an invitation from the Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development (PCIEERD).

The conference featured a plenary session with a keynote address by DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum, Jr., who emphasized the regional research ecosystem and the Harmonized National R&D Agenda. During the subsequent breakout sessions, the SKSU researchers consulted with a team led by PCIEERD Deputy Executive Director Engr. Niñaliza H. Escorial to refine their project proposals.

The event concluded with a reminder for participants to finalize and submit their proposals through the DOST Project Management Information System (DPMIS) between March 1 and March 15, 2026.

Prior to the conference, the research team—led by Project Leader Ramil Arciosa and members Candellen Toledo, Sherry Mecida, and Evora Dioneza—presented their concepts to SKSU President Dr. Samson L. Molao on February 16, 2026. This presentation aimed to secure administrative support and ensure institutional alignment.

The team proposed three projects centered on natural fiber weaving, an industry deeply tied to the indigenous culture of Sultan Kudarat. These initiatives aim to bridge the preservation of traditional knowledge with regional economic development. Furthermore, the projects are strategically mapped to three UN Sustainable Development Goals:

- **SDG 4 (Quality Education):** Implementing a culture-based educational framework.
- **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth):** Leveraging local materials for market expansion.
- **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals):** Fostering collaboration between SKSU, government agencies, and target industries.

SKSU's participation underscores its commitment to research that is both scientifically grounded and deeply rooted in the cultural heritage of the province.



From left to right: Sherry V. Mecida, DOST Renato U. Solidum, Jr, and Evora H. Dioneza pose for a photo during the Breakout Session of the DOST Call Conference.



Strategic Alignment: The SKSU-CTE research team, led by Ramil Arciosa, following their project proposal presentation to University President Dr. Samson L. Molao on February 16, 2026.



Thumbs up: The team pose after the consultation of the project proposal with a PCIEERD specialist.