SAAD BFAR-10 trains associations on tilapia processing in Tangcal, Poona Piagapo

TUBOD, Lanao del Norte (Feb. 14) - In a collaborative effort to uplift the aquaculture sector of hinterland communities, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 10 (BFAR-10) through the Provincial Fisheries Office of Lanao del Norte (PFO-LDN) recently organized a specialized post-harvest training program to two fisherfolk associations under the Special Area for Agricultural Development (SAAD) Program Phase II at Poona Piagapo and Tangcal towns, this province.

The two-day training started with the 25 beneficiaries of Poona Piagapo on Feb. 13, and the 20 beneficiaries of Tangcal on Feb. 14 where PFO Saldajeno upskilled the beneficiaries on how to incorporate tilapia as the main protein in making 'siomai' and 'chickenjoy'.

Spanned two days, the program featured theoretical and hands-on sessions covering various aspects of post-harvest management where the beneficiaries were actively engaged in learning the complications of filleting, deboning, and processing of tilapia, ensuring compliance with market standards and guaranteeing the quality of the end product.

The training, facilitated by Provincial Fishery Officer Noel Saldajeno, was designed to impart fundamental skills in tilapia processing to fisherfolk beneficiaries and community members where tilapia is a vital component of the local aquaculture landscape that holds a strong economic potential for Lanao del Norte's upland municipalities.

''Pinaagi sa pagpaambit sa praktikal nga kahanas ug kahibalo, gitumong namo nga suportahan ang pagtukod sa gagmay nga mga negosyo sa pagproseso sa tilapia, nga makatampo sa pag-uswag sa ekonomiya sulod sa Lanao del Norte,'' the PFO said.

[By sharing practical skills and knowledge, we aim to support establishing small tilapia processing businesses, which will contribute to economic development within Lanao del Norte.]

BFAR-10, through its SAAD program, exhibited timeliness of this endeavor for the two associations as they will be having their first cropping on the third week of February. *(WCambal//SAADLDN)*