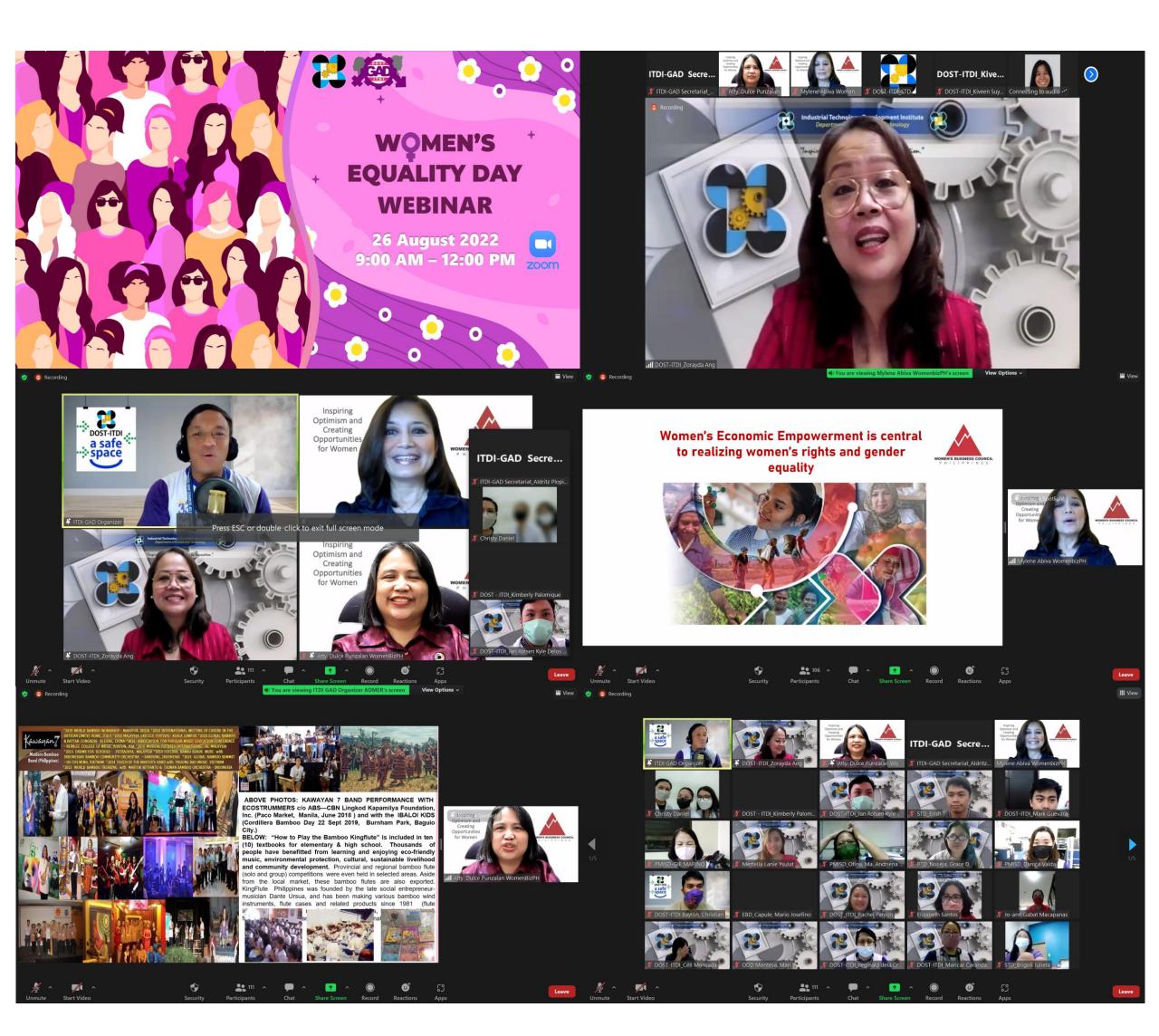


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31 August 2022



## ITDI CELEBRATES WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

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## ITDI CELEBRATES WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Led by Deputy Director for Administrative and Technical Services, and Chairperson of Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System (FPS) Technical Working Group (TWG) Dr. Zorayda V. Ang, the ITDI GFPS TWG organized a "Women's Equality Day Webinar" in celebration of the World Women's Equality Day on 26 August 2022.

In her opening remarks, DD Ang emphasized why we are commemorating this day. She said that we celebrate this day to signify the continuous efforts made by women to achieve gender equality as well as to acknowledge the achievements they made. DD Ang also proudly stated that the Institute's Executive Committee was well dominated by women, as well as its personnel, women were given equal opportunities in all aspects, and gender equality is strictly implemented.

Two keynote speakers from the Women Business Council Philippines (WomenBizPH), an advocacy group composed of the country's top women business leaders and entrepreneurs, which seeks to promote women-led and women-owned enterprises through networking and through the use of technology, were invited to deliver the requested topics. Ms. Mylene Abiva, chairperson of WomenBizPH, discussed how Innovation and Market Participation Transform Women's Lives. In her presentation, Ms. Abiva shared the initiatives of WomenBizPh for women's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and how these programs aided women entrepreneurs, especially during the pandemic surge, and how WomenBizPH created opportunities for women.

The next speaker was Attorney Dulce T. Punzalan, a World Bamboo Ambassador, and also a member of the Women Business Council. Atty. Punzalan talked about women's empowerment through innovative and creative industries. In her presentation, she shared her numerous achievements and affiliations as a bamboo ambassador, she also shared some of her best practices as an empowered woman in STEM.

At the open forum, questions from the host and the participants were superbly answered by the speakers. To conclude the webinar, DD Ang and Ms. Abiva as well as Atty. Punzalan had agreed that WomenBizPH and DOST-ITDI should collaborate on its programs, activities, and projects in the near future.

Mr. Admer Dablio of the Standards and Testing Division served as the host of the webinar. The event was well attended by 112 ITDI personnel who wore their women's month advocacy shirts in support of the campaign.

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