ANNEX F
RELEVANCE REGIONAL.2 ST

1. Relevance

1.1   Were the activities conducted by STRIDE relevant to the development priorities and STI needs of key stakeholders at the national, regional, and local levels (e.g., policy support and enabling environment)?

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY STRIDE RELEVANT TO THE DEVELOPEMNT AND STI NEEDS OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS						
THEME	NATIONAL N=		FGD (GIA AND RIIC) N=		REGIONAL N=9		RESPONSES
	f	%	f	%	f	%	
Overall capacity development Enhancing the capacity of the key players in doing the project through provision of support and other capacity improvement activities					27 (7)	77.78	"H: Fine tune the projects that we proposed. It also contributed to the capability building of the DTI and DOST staff, the ideation process. We requested that again this year and in a more detailed manner. So that the staff and even the ARD would know the process. We found it very relevant and supportive." DOST 10 "M: We find it a bit difficult. I still try to have a more bottom line of funded start-ups. With the engagement of USAID-STRIDE they had many knowledge transferred, they trained the technology generators. As validated by the university presidents, we are weak on pitching on the side of the investors. The local investors here in Cagayan de Oro, their interest in investment is aligned with the existing business. It is not common to them that they venture to new technology and innovation. That is one of the objectives in the OROBEST project, is also supported by USAID-STRIDE, to develop a mindset of innovation even at the business sector. We will level-off on what is innovation is all about." DOST 10 "H: Greatest impact is on knowledge creation because of the established guidelines and framework. It has also identified the players in the ecosystem. However, they have not gel to craft specific policy." DOST 4-A

			"They were able to provide the avenue where there will be exchange of knowledge between the academe, government and entrepreneurs would meet and talk about how to collaborate."
			"NEDA as a collaborating agency which provide technical assistance LGUs in enhancing development plans and physical planning, which include STI-related development projects. At the regional line agencies, STI projects are priorities. The regional development report includes Chapter 14 on STI to assess the performance of the industry. This is in collaboration with DTI and DOST and other agencies on performance, challenges and strategies to respond to challenges." NEDA 4-A
Uniform innovation strategy refers to the strategies for innovation that are aligned to the national innovation programs and strategies.	1	11.11	"As mentioned, this aligns with the national strategy of innovation, which is the RIIC program. STRIDE facilitated the activities of the innovation program." DTI 10

1.2 What are STRIDE's unique value propositions that supported improving capacity for innovation of HEI faculty and staff, and of the GIA linkages and national innovation policy development?

STRIDE'S UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITIONS THAT SUPPORTED IMPROVING CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION						
THEME	NATIONAL N=		FGD (GIA AND RIIC) N=		REGIONAL N=9		RESPONSES
	f	%	f	%	f	%	
Introduced to different innovation programs refers to key players that experienced other innovation programs and projects and brought them to their locality.					4 (3)	33.33	"Deeper realization of innovation through the interventions that were given. We visited Israel Innovation Authority together with my DTI and CHED counterparts. What stick to my mind was, the program of the Israel Innovation Authority, they said "Of the total start up projects that they supported, 97% were failure and only 3% are a success." However, that "3%" is more than enough to compensate the loses that incurred by the "97%". The example was the Iron Dome, it was used as their defense against missile attacks, it was from a startup program. We need to look for something on innovation. A different one (not just about repayment rate as asked by COA)" DTI 10 "I see those examples which could be attributed by STRIDE. We brought those ideas of innovation when we came back to the region. We identified the food industry cluster. We are also finding a more innovative ways of attacking innovation in the regions" DTI 10
collaborative actions refers to the participation of all key players in the program					3	33.33	"I think the major value addition of STRIDE is, it strengthened the convergence of the innovation ecosystem. Through STRIDE, this was the time that the, RIIC program was introduced, under the National Innovation Strategy. As I have said earlier, Cagayan de Oro was one of the pilot centers. This is just in time, both the initiatives of the RIIC and USAID STRIDE was also there through RTI, the conversion initiatives were enhanced. Initially between Cagayan de Oro Chamber for the OROBEST program and also the academe program, the government agencies initially DTI and DOST. This is the very significant contribution of the STRIDE program. Since then, through STRIDE, we have established the local innovation programs; the OROBEST managed by the CDO chamber and supported by the DTI and DOST. Just recently, last week, we just have launched the ILIGANice another local innovation program, but this time geographically located in Iligan City." DTI 10

			"Institutionalized innovation. The RDC [Regional Development Council] resolution step up the innovation intervention by establishing the RIIC in Region 4A. BSU was chosen to implement the RIIC. The relationship between DTI and BSU started during the conduct of the survey for the Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) under the Office of Usec Aldaba and also credits the leadership of Dr. Tirso Ronquillo, who on their own did a lot of innovation activities putting into place the innovation ecosystem. This makes it easier to implement programs with an institution working plus the good relationship with DOST, DA, and other regional offices. The initial project of RIIC is on coffee with BSU, Batangas Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and STRIDE." DTI 4-A "I think it (RIIC) strengthened our linkage with academe since we already had strong ties with industry. We already have prior relationships with the academe such as fab labs. But now with IBR we do it now with the academe." DTI 7
policy engagement refers to the policies that were created to enable the development of the program.	2	22.22	"I would also like to mention that other initiatives done by STRIDE was on the policy support. As I have mentioned, it was just in time that the RIIC and the STRIDE we on the same phase of implementation. It helped us draw the policy statement with the approval of the RDC." DTI 10
Financial support refers to mechanisms that opened the funds for an activity of the program	1	11.11	"Yes, from DOST. DOST gave funding for OROBEST specifically for the funding for the academe in preparing/packaging of the proposals for the ideation workshop." DOST 10
capacity building refers to venues that were created to train and discuss mechanisms for the progress of the programs	1	11.11	"There are implementation guides draft for review from STRIDE. The Assistant Regional Director for Technical Operations and DOST Provincial Head attended the training to discuss the implementation guide." DOST 4A
Review of strategies refers to plans that needs to be reviewed for the benefit of some of the key players as the pandemic is happening	1	11.11	"This is still to be realized because the RIIC is still new. The significance of RIIC is its focus on MSMEs. Based on the framework of STRIDE, one output is innovation business recovery for MSMEs is of paramount importance because of pandemic. Recovery strategies are needed to for the MSMEs to operate back on a better footing that before through value adding, to Build Back Better. " NEDA 4A

1.3 What are the challenges and opportunities to foster a robust innovation ecosystem?

Challenges?

CHALLENGES TO FOSTER A ROBUST INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM						
THEME	NATIONAL N=		FGD (GIA AND RIIC) N=		REGIONAL N=9	RESPONSES
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Incompatible mandates refers to the policies that are implemented in every organization/institution that will impede the development of the program					5 (3)	33.33	"In a way we got bogged down in discussions. There were a lot of FGDs and discussions, but we got into the nitty gritty organizational details. We can work with industry but sometimes makalimutan yung academe. So, STRIDE really has really made us consider the role of academe since it's easier for us to work with industry." DTI 7

"I thought of coming up with a program with the understanding of innovation. There are different understandings of innovation. ILIGANiCE was our second RIIC program for Iligan and OROBEST for CDO, we just launched it last June 13 [2021]. The challenge would be the collaboration and cooperation with the other stakeholders in innovation. The DTI, DICT, and CHED will have other mandates and made instruction to focus on innovation program that we want to push. That is one of the challenges because hopefully there will be more resources needed. We would like that DTI can also enhance or add more resources committed to the projects, this is also for CHED and LGU." DOST 10 |
| Inadequate resources refers to the insufficient mechanisms that can affect the further development of the program. | | | | | 4 (2) | 22.22 | "Resources. Una is yung mga human resource, "meron ba tayong capable person"? Next would be the physical facilities, may pera ba tayo? For me, the money is the last of the importance resources since we also have budgets for it. The problem is utilities and facilities." DOST 7 |
| Pandemic constraints refers to actions that are hampered because of the pandemic. | | | | | 4 (2) | 22.22 | "Physical and financing. Physical because of the pandemic restrictions. From the part of DTI, in terms of accessing the services for food innovation center and for FabLaB. There is a reduced processing time, due to the MECQ and GCQ restrictions, and operational limits for these, which is vital." DTI 10

"Challenges are brought about by COVID-19, we are relying more on virtual mode of communication. How can we go down the field, how the [coffee farmers] can be included in the program during the pandemic? The industry will be involving coffee farmers, but it will |

THEME	f	%	RESPONSES
			be a challenge on how to put then on board. Technology is a challenge." NEDA 4A
Misinformation of activities refers to the mechanisms that led to the uncoordinated and lack of documentation of initiatives	2	22.22	"RIIC is "walang mukha", intangible. "Piano magkakaroon ng mukha," it needs to be sustainable, documented, "maraging initiatives pero kalat" within the region, it is not known whether if an innovation has been done or not unless DTI has been informed. It is Need a tangible RIIC like BSU. " DTI 4A
Poor appreciation refers to the lack of appreciation of the key players in the locality.	2 (1)	11.11	"Poor appreciation of the youth/students on the value of STI" NEDA 10

Opportunities?

OPPORTUNITIES							
THEME	NATIONAL N=		FGD (GIA AND RIIC) N=		REGIONAL N=9		RESPONSES
	f	%	f	%	f	%	
Industry participation this refers to the commitment and engagement of the industry to engage in the program					6 (4)	44.44	"Commitment of the private sector in Cagayan de Oro through OROBEST. That is an opportunity to harness the collaboration. Because it is rare to have that kind of an organization to have a commitment to do advocacy work for innovation. You can see their commitment since this is a voluntary work for them and yet they spend time. You can see their engagements and passion during the discussion. I see that as an opportunity that we need to harness, because then we can truly make waves of intervention if private sector is present. Aside from the academic communities that are present. That is one opportunity, it seems that they got infected with the "innovation virus". It is easy to effect programs" DTI 10 "We have a very dynamic private sector willing to collaborate with the government." NEDA 7
Policy development refers to the policies that need to be in place for the innovation programs and activities					5 (4)	44.44	"Come up with a provincial ecosystem, hindi di kahon, everyone has capacity to innovate, there has to be a center for people to visit. In crafting the RIIC resolution, the center of excellence per province was emphasized to spread the RICC to the province, cities, and municipalities to become part of the regional network. IF RIIC is BSU, there will be other PIIC [Provincial Inclusive Innovation Center] and CIIC [City Inclusive Innovation Center]." DTI 4-A

			"In terms of policy support, we have opportunities there with the recent approval of the Philippine Innovation, this is an initiative that can really promote innovation." DTI 10
Inter-agency collaboration refers to encourage a stronger collaboration among partners to address the needs of each key players	5 (2)	22.22	"There are existing linkages among the STI related sector. A stronger collaboration between the public and private sectors should be encouraged to address the needs of the private sector by the public sector and vice versa. The need for STI innovations is more pronounced with the industry as compared to government." NEDA 4-A "Inter SUC collaboration exchange on R&D Enhanced exchange of experiences and works; How to use the knowledge transferred to boost the IE in the region. The focus is on coffee but applicable in other commodities. IE is the perspective in general" DOST4-A
establish data banking refers to employ data banking for the public to easily access the technologies that can be adopted as there are several very good higher education institutions (HEIs) that can be tapped to become innovation hubs.	3 (2)	22.22	"Good opportunity for data banking specifically on STI to make the data accessible to public will help the concerned stakeholders to make decisions on what technology to adopt in establishing MSMEs. Many technologies have been developed and promoted by DOST but the reach is limited. " NEDA 4-A "There are a number of very good higher education institutions (HEIs) which can be tapped to become innovation hubs." NEDA 7
Valuing innovation refers to key players who are convinced and have understood the importance of creating an innovation program in their locality	3	33.33	"I am still convinced on the value of start-ups, that is why at the level of DOST the appreciation is more likely strategic and deeper knowledge on start-ups. I am part of the team that drafted the IRR, for the innovative start-up. I want to translate that into operational. I organized my team to develop competence in managing start-ups. The technologies that were developed by universities and colleges, including that of from the DOST, I think it was not popularized. We integrated in the organization was translating the technology jargons that is understandable for business." DOST 10 "Ang innovation is really a complicated thing. I remember that I had to advocate it. When people say innovation that usually falls on DOST but now it's already understood even within DTI. Innovation is the business of everyone. Innovation is not just this single entity and I had to advocate that. (Advocate innovation; advocate innovation, DOST lang, innovation is the business of everybody)" DTI 7