

ANNEX I.2

CASE STUDY/RIIC DTI REGION 03

(Storyline: What are the elements that bring key players in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) from government, industry and academe together (or apart) towards strengthening innovation ecosystem and collaboration/partnership via the Regional Inclusive Innovation Centers (RIICs)

RESPONDENT INFO

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Name : Leonila T. Baluyut
 Sex : Female
 Agency : Department of Trade & Industry-Region 3
 Designation : Regional Director
 Role in RIIC : Core Group Member
 Project Setting (Urban, Suburban, Rural) : Urban
 Specify location unit of analysis (city, province, whole region?) : Region 3. Central Luzon

Questions	Answers
A. PLANNING THE RIIC	
1. Why did you establish an RIIC in the region?	<p>We believe in what convergence among key stakeholders from government, industry and academe can do to harmonize all resources for innovation towards competitiveness of local businesses and economic development in the region.</p> <p>The Department of Trade & Industry-Region 3 is one of the prime movers of RIIC-3, taking on this project both as an opportunity and a challenge towards GIA collaboration for innovation.</p> <p>It is part and parcel of DTI's mandate to support and assist Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) thru innovation by means of making available to entrepreneurs modern machines, equipment and technologies that are seen to increase their productivity and profit.</p>
2. For partners, why did you join the RIIC in the region?	

	<p>We have been in partnership with DOST-3, CHED-3, other government agencies, the business sector, and academic institutions for years, and we continue to extend our support and commitment to synergize and align government efforts to what the industry needs.</p>
<p>3. Why was your location chosen for the RIIC implementation?</p>	<p>Central Luzon is an ideal region to infuse innovation into fields that aim to enhance growth among businesses that would benefit a greater part of the population because of its distinct advantages, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centrality of location • Expanding infrastructure • Available investment locations • Economic and market spheres of influence • Reliable Manpower Support • Major base of MSMEs with a variety of products and services based on their cultures and abundant raw materials <p>Strong government support</p>
<p>4. Is the proximity to the Cities Development Initiative (CDI) a factor in the selection of your location?</p>	--
<p>4.1 If yes, how did the CDI influence RIIC formation?</p>	--
<p>5. Are there other similar projects as the RIICs in your location?</p>	<p>The partners that compose the core group of RIIC- 3, particularly those from the government and academe, have always been implementing programs towards innovation.</p>
<p>5.1. If yes, how did the STRIDE initiated RIIC add value to your projects?</p>	<p>For DTI-3, we have our Shared Services Facilities (SSF) Program that aims to improve the competitiveness of MSMEs by providing them with machinery, equipment, tools, skills and knowledge under a shared system.</p> <p>Our two SUC-based Fabrication Laboratories strengthen the provision of business incubation services to business students and business startups through GIA.</p> <p>We have about 120 Negosyo Centers spread across the region established to provide and facilitate access to various business</p>

	<p>development services for MSMEs.</p> <p>The One Town One Product (OTOP) Next Generation Program refers to the package of assistance to capacitate MSMEs with the goal of levelling up their products in terms of design, quality and volume.</p> <p>DTI-3 has also assisted MSMEs transition in sustaining market accessibility from physical to virtual or online platforms through various webinars and capacity-building training programs and virtual trade fairs.</p> <p>For the establishment of RIIC in Central Luzon, STRIDE has been instrumental in bringing together and enabling the confluence of relevant government agencies’ efforts towards innovation and progress; in soliciting the support and participation of partners from the academe, and the business sector.</p>
<p>6. Towards convergence: What were the planning challenges and how were these overcome? (project management, budget, capacities etc.)</p>	<p>The call to commitment, collaboration and cooperation pushed DTI-3 to participate and meet the requirements of RIIC-3, which basically involved the provision of information/databases, time for meetings and exchanges of inputs and information, among others.</p>
<p>7. What are the market opportunities (local, regional, foreign, etc.) of the RIIC in your area?</p>	<p>The RIIC will benefit users from all sectors – MSMEs, existing locators, potential investors; government, industry, academe.</p> <p>Central Luzon as a prime investment priority area and had a lion’s share in GRDP ranking third (in 2018) with NCR and CALABARZON in 1st and 2nd place respectively. It enjoys both local and foreign market shares in trade.</p> <p>For prospective local and foreign investors and businessmen planning to establish businesses in the region, Central Luzon’s economic and market spheres of influence extends to Metro Manila, CALABARZON, and the North Luzon region with a total potential of 37.49 million people (population).</p>

	<p>As Central Luzon is home to a big number of SMEs, the region promotes industry clusters to encourage inclusive growth among key stakeholders and industry players. Central Luzon has the priority industry clusters for Bamboo, Cacao, Coco Coir, Coffee, Processed Fruits & Nuts and Wearables & Homestyle.</p> <p>Central Luzon also offers business opportunities for investors and entrepreneurs in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manufacturing & Subcontracting ▪ Infrastructures & Support Infrastructure Projects ▪ Agriculture, Agribusiness, Fishery & Forestry ▪ Fresh & Processed Food ▪ ICT & BPO Services ▪ Healthcare & Wellness ▪ Training & Learning Institutions ▪ Power Generation ▪ Logistics <p>Waste Management Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crafts & Products Industries ▪ Social Enterprise ▪ Tourism <p>Aerospace</p>
<p>8. What are the R and D opportunities of the RIIC in your area? (Probing: are there SUCs, knowledge creation centers, technical schools)?</p>	<p>Central Luzon has numerous state universities at present, among them, the Philippine Science High School-Central Luzon Campus and Don Honorio Ventura State University have fabrication labs. Other technology-based services like food testing labs, agri-based research and development centers are present in the Philippine Carabao Center at the Central Luzon State University in the Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, among others.</p> <p>Pre-pandemic figures tell us:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is available manpower supply in Central Luzon with over 7.8 million labor force ▪ Employment rate at 94.6% ▪ Literacy rate at 98.2% (basic) and

	<p>92.3% (functional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are 236 HEIs, 12 main SUCs, 40 satellite SUCs, 12 LUCs and 169 private universities and colleges
<p>9. Before the RIICs, was there any link between the academe and the industry in your location? (i. e. through the GIA program of the academe/DOST?)</p>	<p>Yes. There have been engagements.</p> <p>These include DTI’s collaboration for the SSF program where some state universities have become cooperators for the shared service facility and have thus, become stewards of modern equipment for common use (fabrication laboratories).</p> <p>There was also a time when GIA worked towards the enhancement of curriculum to address the requirements of ICT-BPO industry.</p>
<p>Is there a need that DTI will be part of the Board of Regents?</p>	<p><i>What is the Board of Regents and what is expected from DTI if it becomes part of the board?</i></p>
<p>1. What have been the gains of the RIIC so far?</p>	
<p>1.1 Please compare to the initial condition, i. e. without the RIIC.</p>	<p>Being at its early stage, it has achieved a higher level of cooperation between the government and private sector. It is hoped that with the recent creation and launching of its website, more people will be made aware of its presence in the region and avail of the services it has to offer.</p>
<p>2. Towards Convergence: What are the implementation challenges? (i.e. funding, capacities, distrust, lack of policies, lack of matching between academe and industry, etc.)</p>	<p>Promotion and maintenance of the RIIC and its website should be strong and consistent to materialize the purpose for which it was created. Keep people informed, keep information updated, and keep networks active.</p>
<p>2.1 How were these overcome?</p>	
<p>3. What are the partnership challenges? Please specify.</p>	<p>The partnerships built around RIIC-3 were successfully brought about by the commitment of each core member and the project monitoring team to reach out to MSMES and deliver innovation initiatives. Hence, the success of the project lies on the presence of the GIA partners in terms of time, provision of data and information, and promotion efforts.</p>
<p>C. EVALUATING EFFECTIVENESS</p>	
<p>1. What are the roles of partners as follows: 1.1 government 1.2 academe 1.3 industry</p>	<p>The individual and group roles of government, academe, industry and civil society are collaboration and commitment to match what the government and academe</p>

1.4 civil society 1.5 Other partners?	provide are what the industry needs and to make sure these all contribute to economic development for all.
2. What were the essential initial conditions that made this project successful?	Together with the government’s wherewithal, the willingness of the parties (public and private) to cooperate and collaborate for a common and noble pursuit made this project worthwhile.
3. Are there other data to demonstrate the impact of the RIIC (indicators or measures of success such as increased productivity, increased network, increased sales, increased participation of MSME, others)?	Initially, we can measure access to information based on the information that we are opening to the target users. It is important to know that people are accessing our website, for example. Next that we can measure are queries made, business matches created from the information, and networks established, etc.
D. MAKING IMPROVEMENTS	
1. What strategies do you have in mind to strengthen collaboration among agencies?	<p>The following may be key strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open and active networks thru regular meetings, consultations ▪ Updating and enhancement of information/databases ▪ RIIC forums, webinars and conferences to gather key stakeholders from government, industry and academe
1.1 Strategies to attract more partners?	
1.2. Strategies to sustain the partnership/convergence?	
1.1 Any challenges with the sustainability of partnership?	
2. What inspired you to establish your RIIC?	<p>Inspiration is its goal: THRIVE Central Luzon sets out to strengthen the region's innovation ecosystem by improving stakeholder access to innovation and creating platforms for dialogue, collaboration and partnerships that would contribute to inclusive and sustainable development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It aims to reach MSMEs and other stakeholders and investors ▪ The effort is a clear manifestation of “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” – Henry Ford
2.2 What lessons were learned from the pilot RIICs?	
E. SHARING THE BENEFITS	
1. How and with whom do you plan to share the impact your project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We make our project and its impact known through meetings and forums

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We update our partners for further collaboration ▪ We inform our stakeholders to entice them to continue to access our project
2. What recommendations do you have for regions interested in replicating your project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ They should go for it. ▪ It is another venue to strengthen partnerships and collaboration, and to provide access for stakeholders to innovation, especially at this time.
2. Describe any sustainability plan of the RIIC to allow continued implementation once the grant period has ended.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthening of institutional arrangements, within the Core Group to the Project Monitoring Team through updating meetings ▪ Regular updating and massive promotion of THRIVE and its projects, such as the THRIVE website and THRIVE CLINC portal ▪ Conduct of THRIVE advocacies with stakeholders through webinars, conferences
END OF CASE STUDY QUESTIONS	