

## Empowering Young Minds: CDA R8 Conducts TOT on Financial Literacy for Agri Youth of CFIDP Cooperatives

**Tacloban City, April 22–23, 2025**

— In a strong push toward economic empowerment and sustainable livelihood for the youth in agriculture, the **Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Region VIII** successfully conducted a **Training of Trainers (TOT) on Financial Literacy for Agri Youth** at **Lolita Heights Hotel, Tacloban City**, as part of the ongoing implementation of the **Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP)**.



The two-day training gathered **41 enthusiastic youth leaders** representing **20 coconut-based cooperatives** from across Region VIII. These young advocates are seen as the next generation of financial literacy champions within their cooperatives and local communities.



The program was formally opened with a **warm welcome message** from **CDA Region VIII Regional Director Venus M. Jornales**, who expressed her heartfelt appreciation to the young agri-cooperative leaders for positively responding to the invitation and, more importantly, to the **call to become financially literate and responsible stewards of their future**. RD Jornales underscored the vital role of the

youth in the sustainability of cooperatives and the broader agricultural sector. She also **challenged the participants to maximize the training, embrace financial discipline, and share their learnings** to help uplift fellow youth in their cooperatives and communities.

A key highlight of the training was the presence of **Assistant Secretary Luz H. Yringco**, Head of the Finance Cooperatives Cluster of the CDA, who served as the **resource person**. ASec Yringco shared her expertise on personal financial management, the cooperative movement's role in financial empowerment, and practical strategies on budgeting, saving, investing, and responsible



spending. Her interactive and value-driven approach made complex financial concepts more relatable to the youth participants.

Throughout the sessions, participants engaged in workshops and self-assessment exercises that helped them understand their current financial standing, define their financial goals, and create personalized action plans. The training also emphasized the **"cooperative way of life"**—people helping people help themselves—as a guiding principle for financial empowerment.

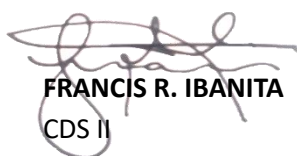
The activity is in line with CFIDP's goal of **enhancing the capacity of coconut farmers and their families**, particularly the youth, through education and capability building. By training young members of CFIDP cooperatives, the CDA envisions a ripple effect of knowledge and change, with these youth leaders expected to **conduct re-echo or cascading sessions** within their respective cooperatives and neighboring cooperatives in the coming weeks.



As the training concluded, the participants expressed their commitment to serve as financial literacy advocates and agents of positive change. CDA R8 encouraged the youth leaders to schedule their re-echo sessions and submit their action plans as part of the post-training requirements.

This initiative stands as a testament to CDA's unwavering commitment to youth development, financial education, and cooperative-led nation-building under the broader CFIDP framework.

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