

## PRESS RELEASE

## PSA-La Union completes validation of aquafarms for the AI4CAF prediction maps

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The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) - La Union Provincial Statistical Office completed the Field Validation of Artificial Intelligence for Census of Agriculture and Fisheries (AI4CAF) Project Prediction Maps from 26 August to 07 September 2024.

A one-day briefing for the hired two Map Data Verifiers (MDVs) was conducted at the PSA-La Union Conference Room, City of San Fernando, La Union on 22 August 2024. The training aimed to equip the MDVs with the operational procedures necessary for the project.

The AI4CAF Project is a joint research collaboration between PSA and the Department of Science and Technology-Advanced Science and Technology Institute (DOST-ASTI) for the object detection, mapping, and count/area estimation of selected major crops and aquafarms in the country using remote sensing, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and earth observation data in support to the 2022 Census on Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF).

The project aimed to provide an evidence-based reference for evaluating the 2022 CAF results, particularly for the area estimates of palay, sugarcane, fishpond, fish pen, and fish cage. Specifically, the project aimed to verify the AI4CAF area estimates and validate flagged areas that require further verification or confirmation; conduct validation for the flagged areas through ground truthing to confirm the presence, absence, correctness, and area size of the predicted and undetected feature of interest from key informants or request for related administrative data for reference; and provide feedback and recommendations based on the results in the validation of the AI4CAF prediction.

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## **PHOTO RELEASE**



MDV Charles Darryl Paredes inquires from the barangay official of Santo Rosario West, Aringay, La Union assigned in aquaculture about the presence of fish cages and fish pens in the barangay in 2022.



MDV Aziel Simbulan conducts ground truthing of fishponds and fish pens using the Qfield Application in Pitpitac, Luna, La Union.



Engr. Leny Grace S. Balanon, focal person for AI4CAF, tracks the exact location of fish pens using the Qfield Application in Talogtog, San Juan.