



Republic of the Philippines  
**Philippine Statistics Authority**  
Regional Statistical Services Office I

## PRESS RELEASE

### PSA RSSO I Holds 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual Opening Ceremony for 31<sup>st</sup> National Statistics Month

**Date of Release:** 30 October 2020

**Reference No.** 2020- 018



The first virtual opening ceremonies of the 31<sup>st</sup> National Statistics Month is conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams and is streamed in the official Facebook account of the RSSO I.

The Philippine Statistics Authority – Regional Statistical Services Office I (PSA – RSSO I), together with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Luzon Cluster I, hosted the first virtual opening ceremonies for the 31<sup>st</sup> National Statistics Month (NSM) Opening Ceremony held on 01 October 2020 via videoconference using Microsoft Teams.

This virtual event was also streamed in the official Facebook account of the RSSO I, PSA Ilocos Region.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Bridging Digital Gaps: Making Information Available to All."



Parammata Bldg. C, Diversion Road, Sitio 5, Brgy. Biday, City of San Fernando, La Union  
Telefax: (072) 888-4804 / 607-0247/ 888-2582  
[www.rso01.psa.gov.ph](http://www.rso01.psa.gov.ph)

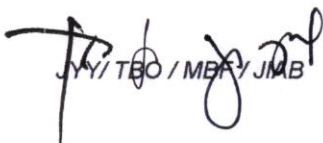
Atty. Sheila O. De Guzman, Officer-in-Charge of PSA – RSSO I, shared in her opening remarks that the theme is very relevant because this year's NSM will feature Information and Communications Technology (ICT) statistics generated from household and industry-based surveys. She also mentioned that there were new innovations in some of PSA's statistical activities such as Computer-Aided Web Interview (CAWI) and Geo-Tagging which were used during this year's 2020 Census of Population and Housing. Also, in the Philippine Identification System pre-registration process, tablets will be used in collecting demographic information.

Mr. Hipolito Palaganas, DICT La Union Provincial Officer, served as the Keynote Speaker. He mentioned the importance of integrating ICT with statistics. He added that ICT is an effective tool to make information available and accessible to all, especially during this pandemic.

In his closing remarks, Chief Statistical Specialist Juanito Y. Yabes shared that everyone must continue to innovate statistical systems with emphasis on digitalization. He also said that with the help of digitalization, PSA can generate quality statistics which can be quickly disseminated to its stakeholders and policy makers.

The first virtual opening ceremony was attended by regional line agencies, media partners and the academe.

  
**ATTY. SHEILA O. DE GUZMAN**  
(Chief Administrative Officer)  
Officer-in-Charge

  
JNY/TBO/MBY/JMB