### **DIRECTORY OF ESTABLISHED DTI FABLABS**

### **LUZON**



#### **FABLAB SLU**

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### **VISAYAS**



### ISAT-U FABLAB

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### **MINDANAO**



#### Zampen FABLAB





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or visit the nearest

DTI Regional/Provincial Offices and Negosyo Centers

# **Fabrication Laboratories** (FABLABs) in the Philippines

"Expanding and Accelerating Networks of Fab Labs in the Philippines through the







## **BACKGROUND**

MSMEs are considered backbone of the Philippine economy. However, performance of MSMEs is constrained by various factors such as limited financial capacity, poor market information and lack of access to innovative techniques and advanced technology which hinder them to realize their full potential, break into bigger domestic or international markets, and grow in a highly competitive environment.

Collaborative programs involving the government and private sectors have been introduced to address these challenges. One of these programs is the Shared Service Facilities (SSF) Project which was launched by the Department of Trade and Industry in 2013 to address the gaps and bottlenecks in the value chain of priority industry clusters. SSF Project provides machinery, equipment, tools, systems, accessories and other auxiliary items, skills and knowledge necessary to improve the quality of products and productivity of MSMEs, under a shared system.

Some of these facilities are fabrication laboratories (Fablabs) which capacitate MSMEs towards invention and innovation thereby promoting new breeds of tech-savvy MSMEs.

## WHAT IS A FABLAB?

A Fablab is a digital laboratory which grew out of an initiative by the Grassroots Invention Group and the Center for Bits and Atoms of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2001 to help grassroots communities translate their design ideas into physical forms with the help of technology. Many countries have followed this intervention and such type of facility is now present in about 200 locations in over 50 countries.

The first fablab in the Philippines was established in Bohol to support local innovation and improve the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises.

SSF Fab Labs became platforms for co-creation and academe-industry-government collaboration enabling MSMEs to develop new products, add value to existing ones, and generate new streams of income. These facilities have likewise enabled the development of low-cost solutions to community challenges and needs.

DTI's Fablabs are currently present in fifteen (15) regions providing support and enable DTI's Inclusive Innovation-Led Industrial (I3) Strategy in the countryside by making available facilities and tapping local experts in creating new innovations nationwide.

## WHAT CAN A FABLAB DO?



### For Beginner:

- · Personal digital fabrication for projects, purposes, business, tasks, or assignments.
- · For prototyping using a wide range of materials such as wood, acrylics, wax, moulding and casting, paper, vinyl, and other types of material



- · Can work on projects of a commercial nature.
- · Can brainstorm and develop your innovative products while sharing ideas and knowledge with other creative entrepreneurs.
- · Can create products and share knowledge on the ins and outs of the industry.



### For Schools:

- · Can work on projects of a commercial nature.
- · Can brainstorm and develop vour innovative products while sharing ideas and knowledge with other entrepreneurs.

SCAN the QR c ode to visit the SSF page at the DTI website to information on the





### For Communities:

- Can provide opportunities for rural communities to design and create the tools they want or need to solve local problems. Activities may range from technological empowerment and peer-topeer project-based technical training to small-scale business incubation and grassroots research.
- Recently, Ph Fablabs made quick response to the Covid19 Pandemic by producing PPEs.



# WHAT QUALIFIES AS A FABLAB?

Every Fab Lab contains at a minimum the same capabilities: laser cutting & marking, CNC machining, 3D Printing, microelectronics workstations, vinvl cutting all tied together with Computer Aided Design or CAD software. However, Fab Foundation of MIT uses the following criteria to define a Fab Lab:

- 1. Must be open and accessible to the public for free or in-kind service.
- 2. Must support and subscribe to the Fab Charter
- 3. Must share a common set of tools and processes.

A prototyping facility or a 3D printer is not the equivalent of a Fab Lab. The idea is that all the labs can share knowledge, designs, and collaborate across international borders.

The critical machines and materials are identified in this list: http://fab.cba.mit.edu/about/fab/inv.html.

4. Must participate in the larger, global Fab Lab network to become part of a knowledgesharing community.

### **FABLABS TYPICALLY INCLUDE:**







**Laser Cutter** 



**CNC Milling** Machine



