

Coconut Dreams



Coconut Culinary Training

Coconut farmers in Del Carmen, Siargao, now have the skills to transform their harvests into delicious food and beverages, ready for the island's bustling tourism scene.

In cooperation with the local **Government of Del Carmen**, local chefs led by **Lokal Lab**, trained farmers on

- preparing coconut-based meals,
- understanding food safety techniques,
- developing pricing strategies and
- creating yummy food presentations.

This initiative, is part of the **International Labour Organization's (ILO) Rebuilding Better Coconut Economy** project, through the support of the Government of Japan, and the **RBSA Formalization of the Informal Economy Project**.

By developing these new skills, the programme creates new market opportunities for farmers in Siargao's unique local food scene, giving tourists a taste of the island's rich culinary traditions.

Siargao is home to a population of 130,000 people, with a significant portion of the island's economy and culture tied to agriculture. The island's landscape is dominated by coconut plantations, which account for over half of its total land area. This agricultural focus is vital for the local community, as an estimated 18,000 smallholder farmers rely on coconut farming for their livelihood.

Photo by ILO
Minette Rimando



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Lokal Lab



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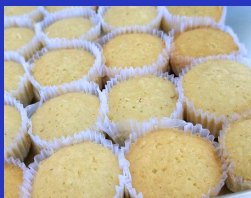


Coconut Dishes



Coco balls

Delicious sweet snacks perfect for meeting breaks



Coco muffins

These muffins are great side dishes for coffee breaks



Coco palitaw

All time favorite Filipino flat sticky rice cakes topped with toasted coconut



Coco drinks

Amazing mocktails inspired by the famous pinacolada



Pancit buko

A sweet, nutty version of the favorite Pinoy noodles

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Key Highlights



Informal sector workers trained

Direct skills building, livelihood enhancement and market development

5-day intensive programme

Covering gourmet culinary techniques, food safety, and business skills.

Social protection for coconut farmers

Supporting Social Protection Registration with Social Security System and Philhealth

Sustainable economic ties

Boosting demand for local coconut products and creating new opportunities.

Eco-tourism alignment

Promoting Siargao's unique identity as a sustainable destination



Scan here for more info on the **Rebuilding Better Coconut Economy** project



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Photo by LKLLB
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