



## Capacity Building Workshop in Environmental Compliance with MSMEs Concluded

MSMEs have a substantial contribution to national economic activity, with high social functions which equates to a large impact to the environment. With this in mind, the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the Environmental Compliance Assistance Center (ECAC) held a two-day Capacity Development Workshop on Environmental Permitting at the Greenhills Elan Hotel Modern in San Juan, Metro Manila.

Held last June 15 – 16, 2016, the workshop was attended by different MSMEs from various industries including clinic owners, hotel industry, banks, and manufacturing chains. These industries already have well-developed manufacturing and operational capabilities but through their production they also have continuous impacts to the environment. This was where EMB-ECAC came in; the workshop was programed to enhance the environmental compliance of MSMEs. Aside from online permitting, the workshop tackled subjects that MSMEs frequently ask about like Pollution Control Officer Accreditation, Discharge Permit Application, and Permit to Operate Air Pollution Sources. For online permitting, the EMB is continuing to migrate its permitting systems online for added convenience and fast tracking, and with this new innovation, the workshop also aimed to spread awareness and give MSMEs a hands on opportunity to try the online permitting systems.

Attended by representatives coming from different MSMEs from NCR and Region 4A, the workshop also included a live demo of ECC and CNC Online Application, headed by EMB Resource Speakers from the Environmental Impact Assessment Division. Similarly, Ms. Milette Mendoza, Head of the DENR-EMB Chemicals Management Section also shared updates on the new rules and regulations and policies on Chemical Management, the pending chemical policies, and local and international commitments.

MSMEs contribute to regional, local and community economic development and with their huge number, pushing for their environmental compliance is a way of ensuring the quality of the environment. For those who missed the ECAC workshop and wish to inquire about the topics tackled in the workshop, you may visit the ECAC website or email us at [ecac.emb@gmail.com](mailto:ecac.emb@gmail.com) or call (02)376-5541. ###