

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**WHAT:** Science Film Festival Philippines 2024 **WHEN:** October 18 to December 01, 2024

WHERE: Nationwide

## "Science Film Festival Philippines 2024 Celebrates 15 Years of Science and Sustainability with Over 100,000 Participants"

**Manila, Philippines** – The Science Film Festival Philippines 2024 concluded with resounding success, marking its 15th year as one of the country's largest and most celebrated science education events. Running from October 18 to December 1, the festival reached an impressive total of 102,042 participants from across the country, further cementing its role in promoting science literacy and environmental awareness through film.

The festival officially opened on October 18 at the National Library of the Philippines in Manila. Organized by the Goethe-Institut Philippinen in collaboration with long-time institutional partners, the ceremony brought together students, educators, and key stakeholders to kick off the two-month celebration of science and sustainability.

This year's program featured 35 films focusing on the themes of Net Zero and the Circular Economy, aligning with global efforts to address climate change, renewable energy, and sustainable living. Screenings were held both onsite and online, extending the festival's reach to diverse communities nationwide. Venues included the Museo ng Muntinlupa, the National Library and its affiliated libraries, various campuses of the Philippine Science High School (PSHS), and partner institutions of the Department of Science and Technology – Science Education Institute (DOST-SEI).

Additional support came from notable partners such as the University of the Philippines Film Institute (UPFI), the UP Department of Science Communication (UPDSC), the University of the Philippines National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education Development (UP NISMED), The Mind Museum, and Rolls-Royce, a key supporter of the festival in Southeast Asia.

Several special events were held across the country to enhance community engagement. The Tumba Tumba Children's Museum of Philippine Art in Batangas hosted special film screenings for children and families. At the PSHS Western Visayas Campus in Iloilo, the festival became a highlight of their STEAM Week culminating celebration. Acclaimed filmmaker Breech Harani, whose film "Pamalandong sa Danow" or "Reflections in the Marsh" was part of this year's lineup, gave an insightful talk during the event. Students also had the opportunity to interact with the producers of the animated film "Go Go Giwas" in a live online Q&A session.

With the continued support of the Department of Education, DOST-SEI, and a growing network of regional partners, the festival expanded its reach to educational institutions, science high schools, and public schools far beyond Metro Manila.

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Through hybrid screenings and collaborative outreach, the festival made science education more inclusive, accessible, and engaging.

Celebrating its 15th anniversary, the Science Film Festival Philippines 2024 reaffirmed its commitment to inspiring curiosity, critical thinking, and sustainability among Filipinos of all ages. As it looks ahead to the future, the festival continues to champion science communication as a vital tool for education and social change.

For more information, visit www.goethe.de/manila or send your inquiries to <a href="maila@goethe.de">info-manila@goethe.de</a>

**ABOUT THE GOETHE-INSTITUT PHILIPPINEN** – The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, promoting the study of the German language abroad, and encouraging international cultural exchange.

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