



## The Nationwide Handloom Weaving Tools and Equipment Invention Contest

### A. Background:

**TARA NA, TELA NA!** is a nationwide contest aimed at assisting the local textile industry through the development of tools and equipment that will promote consistency and sustainability of the supply chain.

As our title<sup>1</sup> suggests, we are raring to go. We ask everyone to join us in considering textiles now. For us at the Philippine Textile Research Institute, **TELA** is not just a word for textiles but an acronym to mean: **Textiles Empowering Lives Anew**. For our country, **TELA** may just be the spark to inclusive growth for our economy. How will Philippine textiles, with its many challenges and opportunities, bring the aspiration of **TELA** (Textiles Empowering Lives Anew) into reality? What innovations to “**TELA Serye**” can science and technology leverage to bring in more opportunities and possibilities? How may we secure and optimize the supply and value chain? How may Philippine textiles contribute to a resurgence in manufacturing? And to a more robust economic growth in the countryside where we have a wealth of cultural traditions woven around our natural resources?

The natural fiber processing and handloom weaving value chains are important to the Philippine textile map. The processes are tedious with bottlenecks along the way: in the supply of Tinagak, dialect for tinali or knotted abaca or piña, the polished and softened abaca and the tie-dyed yarns for Ikat weaving and dyeing technique to name a few. *Please watch these short clips for reference:*

“The Weaving of Piña Cloth” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRvWiiGoOzI>

“The Weaving of T’nalak (Ikat)” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmITPvIMWKE>

The weaving communities of Aklan using Red Spanish piña yarns, the Ikat weavers of the Cordillera Administrative Region and Mindanao using cotton and abaca, respectively, the weavers from Lake Sebu and Bukidnon using abaca, are among some of our weaving communities from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao that have provided inspiration for this initiative.

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<sup>1</sup> “TARA NA” is a Filipino expression meaning ‘let’s go’. “TELA” is textile or fabric in Filipino.

**Tara Na, TELA Na! (TnTn!)** hopes to provide part of the solution. Though not limited to the following, we are looking to address:

- a) Supply chain sustainability for the long fiber abaca and pineapple leaf prevalent in Regions 6, 7, 10, 11 and 12, and which are knotted to make them ready for Hand Loomweaving - more can be produced if the bottleneck that is knotting can be addressed;
- b) Productivity improvement for the finishing of Piña, T'nalak and potentially Hinabol fabrics which are polished and softened with the use of cowrie shells and/or glass bottles; and
- c) Efficiency or process improvement for ikat or yarn tie-dyeing for the handloom weaving sector, particularly for the Cordillera and Mindanao weavers.

## **B. Contest Organizer**

The Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) is the premier textile research and development arm of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). It is mandated by Executive Order No. 128 dated January 30, 1987 to perform the following functions:

- Conduct applied research and development for the textile industry sector;
- Undertake the transfer of completed researches to end-users or via linkage units of other government agencies; and
- Undertake technical services and provide training programs.

PTRI is envisioned as the Center of Excellence for textile science, technology and innovation for sustainable and globally-competitive Philippine textile, garment and allied industries. We aim to achieve this through the judicious utilization of textile-based resources; development and transfer of innovative technologies; enhancement of human resource capabilities; and promotion of quality assurance and quality control. We promote the PTRI values of professionalism, technical competence, reliability, and integrity.

## **C. Contest Rules, Guidelines, Procedures:**

1. The **TnTn!** Contest is open from 28 January 28 2016 to 28 March 28 2016 to all Filipino Students, Researchers, Inventors, Manufacturers, Designers with the exception of current Directors, Officers, and Employees of the DOST who are not eligible to participate.
2. To encourage full and active participation, there will be no limit to the number of submissions.
3. Official Entry Forms may be downloaded from [www.ptri.dost.gov.ph](http://www.ptri.dost.gov.ph) and submitted to the attention of the Director, Philippine Textile Research Institute or for provincial entries, to the attention of the Regional Director (see attached Directory) and submitted through the nearest Provincial S&T Office/Director/Coordinator. Entries may also be submitted online.
4. Submission will be as follows:
  - a) Soft copies of proposals accompanying entry forms must be in PDF, briefly and concisely stated;
  - b) One (1) page abstract, description/drawings, diagrams and/or pictures to maximum of three pages; double spaced, in Arial font 12;
  - c) Margin will be one inch on all sides with page numbers typed consecutively e.g. 1 of 10, 2 of 10,... at the center of the bottom margin of each page.

5. All entries must be submitted no later than the time stated below:

Mode of Submission	Date and Time
Direct submission to the Office of the Director, PTRI, General Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Taguig City	14 March 2016 5:00 pm only
Mail or Courier	Postmarked no later than 07 March 2016
Website submission	14 March 2016 5:00 pm only

6. An entry will only be considered submitted after official confirmation by the Organizer through the website or by the PTRI administration.
7. For the purpose of eligibility, a contestant is considered a resident of the region if:
- he/she is actually a resident with at least six months of residency in the region/area; and
  - contestant's principal address is within the said region.
8. Three sets of the following documents, which, with the exception of item a) must all be notarized and have to be submitted sealed inside a long brown envelope with only the title of the invention written or typed in the addressee section of the envelope:
- Digital copy of the Official Entry Form with the proposed design,
  - Grant/Assignment of Rights<sup>2</sup>;
  - Consent form (from parents, schools and/or community elder/s), if and as applicable;
  - Student entries must be duly endorsed by the Department Head and the College Dean or the University/SUC President;
  - Entries of Out-of-School Youths (OSYs) should be duly endorsed by the local inventor's organization or any member of the local government unit;
  - Certification that their work is their own, new and original;

*Note: Forms a, b, c and fare all available in the website.*

9. The DOST Regional Office (RO) will pre-screen entries based on compliance with the requirements stated in Item C.8 of this Guidelines. All documents submitted are subject to final examination by the Board of Judges.
10. In submitting an entry, the Contestant accepts the rules and guidelines of the contest, grants and assigns to the Organizer the concurrent and non-exclusive right to exercise the full copyright and all other intellectual property rights granted to the inventor and the inventor's assignees, with respect to any winning work(s), to the extent permitted under existing laws applicable at the time of exercise. The grant and assignment also extends to all forms of storage, transmission, dissemination, and communication, presently existing or subsequently created. To the extent permitted by law, the grant and assignment of rights shall be worldwide, continuous, and may

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<sup>2</sup> In connection with the grant, assignment, or transfer to the Organizer of the rights stated in Guideline 4 and pursuant to the requirements of R.A. No. 8293, inventions must be accompanied by the inventor's/s' written consent to abide by the rules of the contest acknowledged before a Notary Public. In case of minors, as noted in Item C.8 particularly with respect to the students or youths who will join, the written consent of the parents or legal guardians shall also be required. The official Entry Form is available at the PTRI website. The exercise of the above rights by the Organizer shall not be deemed a waiver of any right of action which the Organizer of this contest may have against the contestant/s, if it is belatedly discovered that said person is/are NOT the creator/s or owner/s of the award-winning invention.

be exercised by the Organizer for the maximum time allowed by applicable law. Consistent with government-funded research developments, revenue that may be derived from the use of the invention shall be subject of agreement between the PTRI and the inventor/s and in no case be contrary to the provisions of DOST Administrative Order No. 004, Series of 2015 otherwise known as the Department of Science and Technology Intellectual Property Policy.

11. An invention which has been published/produced between 01 January 2015 to 28 January 2016 may be entered in the contest; an invention that have won or which has been awarded a prize in another contest before 12:00 m.n. of 14 March 2016 (Philippine Time), on the other hand, shall no longer be eligible for the **TnTn!** contest.
12. In submitting an invention, a contestant represents and warrants that the work is his/her own and that he/she has absolute ownership of all intellectual property rights thereto. If the entry is an adaptation of another inventor's existing design, the contestant shall submit the written consent of the inventor of the existing design, allowing the contestant to adapt the work, and to enter the adaptation in the contest [Consent (adapted work/s)]. The Consent shall include a clear and categorical statement that the PTRI shall be exempt from any and all liability in the event that the adaptation is said to infringe the intellectual property rights of the inventor of the existing invention.
13. Winning entries will be featured in information and promotional materials of the PTRI in tri-media format including website and other electronic media. In initiating **TnTn!**, PTRI intends purely to assist the industry, promote weaving appreciation and public awareness of the industry, and not to commercially exploit the same. It is presumed that the inventor has agreed to such inclusion of the entries, winning or otherwise, in the PTRI **TnTn!** promotion and information campaign.

#### D. Judging

1. PTRI, in consultation with the DOST-ROs has the sole right to designate and constitute the Screening Committee and Board of Judges. For the final winners, the decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and executory.
2. There will be at least three winners, one for each category and any additionally meritorious entry that will address creatively any process of textile/fabric manufacture: 1) knotter, 2) softener/polisher finishing, 3) ikat or tie-dyeing implements 4) other creative entries.
3. The Board of Judges may declare no winner for lack of entries received for any or all categories.
4. Timetable for the **TnTn!** contest will be as follows:

a.) Submission of Entries and pre-screening	30 January to 14 March 2016
b.) Screening	14 March to 28 March 2016
c.) Selection of Entries for Prototyping	15 March to 28 March 2016
d.) Prototyping	01 April to 15 June 2016
e.) Announcement and awarding of winners	End of June - early July 2016

5. **TnTn!** contest entries shall be judged based on the following criteria:

Functionality: improvement of existing tool & equipment	30%
Design Development: inventiveness, creativity	30%
Commercial Viability	30%
Presentation: Completeness, Correctness	10%
Total	100%

**E. Awards and Prizes:**

1. Winners will be officially notified by mail and/or email. The formal announcement of the winners will be at the end of June 2016, date to be finalized, during a **TELA** Matters related event.
2. Winners will be awarded:
  - a) Winner's Plaque and Citation for the Inventor/Group;
  - b) Citation for the endorsing/supporting institution (SUC, NGO, etc) or organization;
  - c) Cash Prize of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (P15, 000.00) for the inventor/group;
  - d) Cash Prize of Five Thousand Pesos (P5, 000.00) for the endorsing institution or organization;
  - e) Facilitation of prototyping award through the auspices of the Technology Application and Promotion Institute's **Industry-based Invention Development Program**;
  - f) Assistance, also through *TAPI's Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Assistance program*, with the filing of Intellectual Property application;
  - g) Marketing support through PTRI information and promotion campaign.

**F. Directory of Regional Offices (Please see attached).**

**G.** The documents of non-winning entries may be claimed at PTRI, Bicutan, Taguig City. All unclaimed documents six (6) months after the official end of the Contest will be subject for disposal.

**H.** These information, rules and regulations have been set forth herewith the **TnTn!** Steering Committee.

**I. For other concerns and queries, please contact:**

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