



PSDians Compete Gizmos MENA STEM Competition

by JC Jaucian

Philippine School Doha's researchers **Matt James E. Fortes** (12 - Osmium) and **Margaret Isaiah G. Torio** (12 - Mercury) seized the Silver Award for the Best STEM Project Award at the Gizmos Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Middle East and North Africa (Gizmos STEM MENA) Competition, under the theme, 'STEM With a Purpose — Supporting The SDGs,' held at the Terra Pavilion in Expo City, Dubai, on November 9, 2024.

Under the guidance of Dr. Julie Ann B. Real, Fortes and Torio presented their study titled, ***'The Utilization of Date (*Phoenix dactylifera*) Pits and Raspberry Pi Pico in Creating a Water Quality Management Device.'***

Dr. Real emphasized PSD's steadfast commitment to its mission of developing globally competent learners who excel in research. She highlighted that the school's dedication reflected the achievements of its students, particularly the ability to compete at high levels across the MENA region.

"PSDians are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in international and regional competitions, as demonstrated by the quality and depth of their research projects," Dr. Real stated.

Meanwhile, Fortes shared that as they became more at ease, the presentation felt second nature which made them respond confidently to questions, while Torio found pride in contributing to SDG 6 and SDG 12 and felt hopeful for the SDGs' future through exchanges with STEM students and teachers.

The Gizmos STEM MENA Competition is an annual research competition that focuses on motivating students in developing STEM projects that are in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Photocaps: Driven by discovery! Fortes and Torio introduce their eco-friendly project to judges.



Photocaps: Guests engage with PSD Team's product.



Photocaps: On stage: Dr. Real, Fortes and Torio receive Silver Award for being one of the Best Gizmos STEM Teams in the High School Category.



Photocaps: PSDian representatives attend the STEM MENA 2024 Conference and Awards in Dubai.



Photocaps: Dr. Real, Fortes and Torio proudly wear their medals.



Photocaps: Proof of success: The plaques and medals showcase the accomplishments of the researchers.

