

# SUNGO NEWS

News from SUNGO  
July– September 08.

## WHAT'S INSIDE...

SUNGO Updates	2
News from Members and Partners	3
Local/ International	4
Calendar of Training	4
Samoa Version	5-8

## Civil Society Forum and Members Meeting hosted in Savaii.

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (SUNGO) hosted its Civil Society Forum and Members Meeting on the big island of Savaii for the first time on 31<sup>st</sup> July 08. Issues discussed were the Water Management Bill 08, Land Registration Act 08, Impact on Small Enterprises and SUNGOs Roles and Activities. More than 70 participants attended the event and were mainly SUNGO members from both Upolu and Savaii with representatives from the community groups, the business sector; women's committees; church and village members. The forum was made possible with financial support of the Pacific Island Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) where SUNGO is affiliated as a National Liaison Unit member.

### Participants of the Civil Society Forum & Members Meeting.



## UNDP Mission to assess the capacity of SUNGO

The UNDP Pacific Center conducted a capacity assessment of SUNGO as of 23 September for 4 days. The principal objective of the UNDP Mission is to determine the capacity of SUNGO and provide technical support to SUNGO in undertaking the implementation of the Civil Society Index for Samoa in 2009. According to Roina Vavatau, SUNGOs CEO she said the project is an action based research project aimed at assessing the state of civil society. Meetings and interviews were conducted with

SUNGOs stakeholders, members and government ministries to gauge views on the current organisation operations and to identify gaps for improvement. The set up will include a National Implementation Team (NIT) of 3 staff and managed by a National Advisory Committee comprising members from all sectors to advise and determine any project outcomes that is best for Samoa. A report on the Mission findings will be tabled to validate the outcome of the capacity assessment.

UNDP Team with SUNGO Board Members.



Samoa Umbrella for  
Non-Governmental Or-  
ganizations



### Message from CEO

Talofa all,

It is a never ending trail to enhance the role and capacity of Civil Society to effectively contribute to National policy and development. This reflects the ongoing activities of SUNGO which aims to meet the challenges faced by communities and stakeholders in advancing its cause. Providing avenues to enable more people to have better access to opportunities and information was the aim to decentralise the CSO forum for the first time in Savaii. Taking on the Civil Society Index is a vital tool in enhancing the credibility of CSO. Nevertheless little can be achieved without your participation and feedback as they are crucial in structuring an effective approach in determining what is best for Samoa in years to come.

We look forward to your active participation in ongoing decision-making process.

Soifua.

## VISION

*SUNGO working in partnership with Government to promote and facilitate unified sustainable development and quality of life for the people of Samoa*

## MISSION

*Umbrella Organisation for Samoan NGOs providing information, access to programmes, opportunities, and advocacy*



### Staff Email Contacts:

sungomanagement@lesamoa.net

sungonsf@lesamoa.net

sungolrto@lesamoa.net

sungotraining@lesamoa.net

sungo@lesamoa.net



New Legal Rights Training Officer Rev. Oata Tuatagaloa.

### Secretariat Update

SUNGO Farewelled Maselino Lafaele and Larissa Toelupe. Also welcomes on board the newly recruited LRTO Rev. Oata Tuatagaloa. He was previously the Resource Personnel for the CCCS, Department for Youth.



Maire B.D with Mr Satish Shand during discussions.



Participants at the PMU-EPC Consultation.

### Pacific Telecommunication Conference held at NUS

The two day Conference gathered stakeholders from various sectors of the telecommunication industry in the Pacific to share experiences and ideas on how it could be best designed and implemented for future development of the Pacific economies. Hon. Prime Minister Tuilaepa L. Malielegaoi officially opened the conference with representatives from Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu etc who took part to impart the level of telecommunication in their respective countries.



Prof. Don Duncan, Falanaipupu Dan Aiafi and Raymond Voigt during workshop at NUS.

### PASS Court Case has proceeded for justice to prevail

The long awaited court trial between People Against Switching Sides (PASS) and Government commenced on 17th July 08 with its first mention before Justice Vui Clarence Nelson at the Supreme Court. The counsel representing PASS is also the Chairman of PASS Afioga Toleafoa Solomona Toailoa. Samoa Umbrella for Non Government Organisations (SUNGO) as members of PASS attended this event together with members of the private sector, local and international media to witness the next step of this trial. Supreme Court Judge Vui Clarence Nelson declared that the court case to be adjourned, and granted the opportunity for the application of the Petitioner to file their amendments in pursuing their argument on the hearing date.



Members of PASS with SUNGO's President Vaasilifiti M. Jackson, Chairman & Counsel Toleafoa Toailoa Solomona Toailoa.

### CAP sought for SUNGOs viewpoint on AIDS

Representatives from the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific in partnership with UNAids visited Samoa on the 7th-9th July 08 to gather evidence-based recommendations from the key Stakeholders on ways to strengthen Samoa's response to HIV Aids. The team met with the Prime Minister, members of Government, representatives from civil societies, (NGOs and church leaders) and development partners. SUNGOs CEO Roina Vavatau shared with the Commission representatives the current activities and programmes implemented by SUNGO and its member organisations in response to HIV Aids in Samoa. She referred to

the effective response the PRHP programme coordinated through SUNGO for the people of Samoa in the last two years. The National HIV response is the sole responsibility of the National Coordinating Committee (NAC). However, SUNGO members such as Samoa Aids Foundation, Samoa Family Health, National Council of Churches plus other NGOs & CBOs are core advocacy agencies on AIDs in Samoa. This is the Commission's third trip around the Pacific and they've confirmed the findings of the report on effective responses to HIV Aids to be disseminated to the Region in early 2009.

### SUNGO participated the PMU - EPC Consultation

The Project Management Unit's, Environment and Social Unit (ESU) of the Electric Power Corporation, held a presentation to consult its stakeholders on one of the Core Projects under the Power Sector Expansion Project (PSEP), the Hospital Feeder Underground Project Stage 1. Board Member Raymond Voigt attended the workshop as a representative of SUNGO to learn on the awareness and advancement of this project and how people can respond to smoothly help PMU operations.

### International Day for Youth

This year's celebration of International Youth Day in Samoa was the showcase of science fair projects of youths from various high schools. Hon. Prime Minister Tuilaepa carried out the key note address mainly to encouraged students to strive and successfully achieve the best in education, for this is the key to success. SUNGO representative Faapito Opetai was amongst the invitees of this event. Various high schools attended the celebration in front of the government building on the 12th August 08.



**SAVING LIVES IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**



Saving lives is the challenge Faataua le Ola NGO engage in every day to help the people of Samoa value their lives. Getting this message across was FLOs initiative to host a "Walk for Life" event for the public to attend and take responsibility in spreading the message of suicide prevention and lowering the rate of suicidal in Samoa. The Walk for Life was led by the Hon. Head of State Afioaga Tuiatua Tamasese Efi with board members of the Organisation and members of the public. This

event brought together families, members of the community, church groups, NGOs and the general public to walk for a good cause. Refreshments and entertainments were provided by FLO and local artists for the participants after the "Walk for Life" event. Please Contact Faataua Le Ola on their 24/7 Samoa Lifeline on 8005433 for more information and SAVE A LIFE NOW.



FLO Staff distributing food & drinks to the participants.

**Member's Contribution to Newsletter.**

If you wish to publish any articles about your organization, please contact the Information Communications Officer (ICO) at SUNGO. Members are also invited to submit longer articles and photographs for consideration, if they are undertaking significant events or activities.

This newsletter is released quarterly. Please submit any contributions by the end of November to be included in the next issue (Dec 08).

**Pan Pacific South East Asia Women's Association hosted.....**

...a Garden Party Fundraising to financially assist the Girl Child Education for Peace Project at the New Zealand High Commissioner's Residence at Letava on the 19th July 08. According to Dr. Viopapa A. Atherton, she stated that the event also aimed at raising the awareness of PPSEWA to potential members and to recruit new members to the organisation. This fashionable event brought members and partners of PPSEWA to celebrate over a glass of bubbly wine, and witness an interesting presentation of "ME & MY TWO HATS" speech carried out by Guest Speaker Hon. Fiamē Naomi Mataafa, Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

**SUNGO joined AVANOA TUTUSA and other NGOs for NUS Open Day**

The National University of Samoa Open Day was relevantly utilized by member NGOs and other sectors to showcase their works to a rather different target group. This was made possible with the support of SUNGOs member Avanoa Tutusa. The initiative of SUNGO was to achieve one of its Key Results Area in its Strategic Plan of increasing and diversifying its memberships to all levels. SUNGOs memberships has quite a few of youth groups, thus the support to join NUS Open Day was a strategy to achieve one of the organisation's long term plan. The best outcome of this national event presentation was that students were able to get a fair idea on what SUNGO does and offer to the community.

**Brochures launched for MOA**

Six Brochures were launched by Mapusaga o Aiga (MOA). They were written in the Samoan language, 4 of which are Children's Rights Convention detailing the 4 different categories of the convention and the Sexual Abuse against children brochure. These five brochures are funded by the Save The Children NZ fund. The Domestic Violence brochure is funded by the Pacific Prevention for Domestic Violence Programme (PPDVP) that makes up the six. Partners of the organisation from government, NGOs and donors were present at the launching. Amongst the participants were Hon. Minister for MWCSD Hon Naomi Fiamē N Mataafa, Chief Justice Vui Clarence Nelson, NZ High Commissioner Caroline Bilkey, CEO for MWCSD Luagalau F.E.Shon and member organisations' representatives.



Participants at the MOA launching.



Samoa College students receiving a SUNGO Promotional Package at Open Day.



SAF Staff members at Open Day.

**Project Updates**

**NSF-NZAid funded:** NSF Full Core Funding Plus NGOs were trained to use a Monitoring and Evaluation framework to better facilitate the funding given by NZAid to each NGOs funded under this scheme. More information on next page..

**IWS - EU Funded.** Training were undertaken for the villages of Saoluafata and Patamea in Savaii. Six more training to be undertaken for this year. Other independent water schemes will be trained next year.. More information on the next page..

**RRRT-SPC funded:** RRRT is officially under the South Pacific Commission. CPT4 is underway, the delay from the previous training CPT3 was due to the absence of LRTO. The CPT4 is expected to be carried out on late November 08.

**Joke: One blond called the travel agent and asked for how long the plane would travel from America to Samoa. The travel agent helpfully responded with her friendly voice saying**

**"Just a minute". The blond hung up the phone.**



Thank you to  
SUNGO Donors

**nzaid**

Providing Core Funding  
to SUNGO



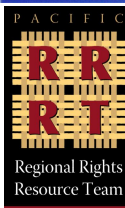
Co funded with NZAid  
for ICTP funding



Funding  
ACT and  
MDGs  
projects



Funding  
Independent Water  
Schemes  
Project.



Funding  
Legal Liter-  
acy in Sa-  
moa.



Presentation of Certifi-  
cates by ACEO of Inter-  
nal Affairs Maulolo T at  
the training at Saoluafata.

#### CONTACT SUNGO

House 64 Motootua Rd

Motootua

PO Box 1858, Apia

SAMOA

Phone: 24322 (main line)

or 25582

Fax: 20654

Email:  
sungo@lesamoa.net

## Pacific Civil Society calls for justice in trade negotiations

SUNGO was amongst the Pacific NGOs, churches and trade unions during the Civil Society Forum working on trade justice issues, are concerned about the push for free trade agreements in the Pacific and the grave risk that these agreements pose for the people. For much of the past decade Pacific Island Countries have faced pressure from our developed country partners, international financial institutions to move towards trade liberalisation through free trade agreements (FTAs) and through joining the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

The hard-line approach taken by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union, and signals that Australia and New Zealand are likely to take a similar approach in putting their own economic and business interests ahead of the development aspirations of the people of the Pacific. In the view of Pacific NGOs, Churches and Trade Union is the direct violation of the principles of good governance. Such inequitable trade agreements pose grave risks for our people and future generations. (PANGs statement)

## Basic Counseling: ICTP Course MONITORING and EVALUATION Workshop

The initiative to implement this course was brought into attention when the Juvenile and Rehabilitation Program under the Ministry of Justice requested for assistance from Samoa Umbrella for Non Government Organisations with its member organisations under the Thematic Groups of Social Services and Community Development. The participants of this course were mainly SUNGO members who are in these thematic groups. The course helped to smooth the progress of building their capacity into understanding concepts of counselling, identifying types of counselling and many more. Trainer for the course was Siautu Alefaio who is a Registered Psychologist with over 10 years experience in the sector. She was supported by Board Member Rev. Reupena Leau as the co trainer for the course who is also undertaking counseling work for his community at the village of Piu.

The partnership between Samoa Umbrella for Non Governmental Organisations (SUNGO) and NZAid assisted Core Funded Plus NGOs under the National Support Fund (NSF) Programme core funded by NZAid through upskilling these organisations to the desired level of M&E expected by NZAid. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) workshop conducted on the 29th August, was to help the nine (9) organisations to develop a customized M&E framework to be incorporated into their workplan and operation as a milestone with the recently renewed grant funding arrangements. Participants were mainly CEOs and Board Members, as these are the key people who are instrumental in operating the M&E framework in workplaces.



Participants at the M&E Workshop from L-R: Letaa Devoe, Adimalaga Tafunai, Tusitina Patu, Fale Neemia, Moana Clarke, Kattrina Kate and Nynette Sass.

## UNITEC Course: Social Policy

This is the last UNITEC Training held in Samoa for the year 2008. The training was conducted at Faofao Beach Fales to allow participants adequate time to learn and analyse the development of social policy and develop models for responding to social impacts & trends. The training included implementing effective strategies for influencing social policy. Participants were from Tonga, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Fiji & local Samoan UNITEC students. SUNGO has 14 potential graduates in this diploma course for 2009.

## CALENDAR OF TRAINING: Oct-Dec 08.

### IN COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS

1st—5th Nov: Good Governance  
10th 14th Nov: Human Resource Management  
24th— 28th Nov: Managing Contracts

### IWSS Training

3-7 Nov: Sataoa IWS Training  
17-21 Nov: Satupaitea IWS Training  
24-28 Nov: Solosolo IWS Training

\*Note: No training for UNITEC & RRRT

## IWSS training at Saoluafata & Patamea

The villages of Saoluafata and Patamea are under the Independent Water Schemes Association in Samoa. SUNGO is contracted through the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development to undertake the capacity building for 24 Independent Water Schemes. The training aims to strengthen the skills of Water Committees in managing resources which will place them in a better position to apply for EU funding to upgrade its water scheme. The Water Sector Support Programme (WaSSP) funded by European Union aims to improve the quality of water in rural communities through the support of the key partners including SUNGO.

## REMINDER

All non-members who wish to participate in SUNGO's training programs are required to pay a course fee of \$100 tala and members pay a course fee of \$50 tala, if interested in participating.

# TALA MAI I LE FAAMALU O FAALAPOTOPOTOGA TUMAOTI I SAMOA



Faamalu mo Faalapotopotoga Tumaoti i Samoa

## FONOTAGA MO SOSAIETE TUMAOTI ma le MAFUTAGA A SUI AUAI O LE SUNGO

Na faataunuina le fonotaga mo faalapotopotoga ma sosaiete tumaoti i Savaii i le aso 31 o Iulai 08. I lea lava fonotaga na faatautaia faatasi ai ma le Fonotaga Faalekuata mo sui o le faalapotopotoga. O lenei faamoemoe na mafai ona faatino i le lagolagosua a le Faalapotopotoga Tumaoti i totonu o le Pasefika (PIANGO), lea o loo avea ai Samoa ma se tasi o sui i lea faalapotopotoga i totonu o le Pasefika. O nisi o

mataupu na faatalatalanoaina i lea aso o le Tulafono Taufaaofi o le Suavai 08, O le Tulafono mo le Resitalaina o Fanua 08, O le faafoeina o pisinisi laiti ma le faalauiloaina o tiute ma galuega a le Faalapotopotoga Tumaoti i Samoa. E silia ma le 70 sui na auai i lea faamoemoe, ma o le toatele o sui restala a le faalapotopotoga.

O sui na auai mai i nuu ma alalafaga i le motu tele i Salafai e iai Komiti a tina, faapotopotoga o ekalesia eseese, alii ma faipule aemaise le aufaipisinisi. Na i'u ma le manuia le faamoemoe ua leva ona moemiti iai le Komiti Faatonu ma le Pulega a le SUNGO, ina ia nofo malamalama le mamalu o le atunuu e leai se silafia i mataupu o loo o latou aafia ai.



Sui auai i le taimi o le fonotaga.



Peresetene SUNGO Vaasilifiti, Sui o le Komiti Katifa B ma le Failautusi SUNGO Namulauulu Dr N Potoi.



Aufaigaluega a le SUNGO i le taimi o le resitalaina o suafa o sui auai.

## O LE ILOILOINA O GALUEGA A LE SUNGO E MALO AUFaatasi (UNDP MISSION)

O le sini autu o le galuega taulai na faafoeina e Malo Afaatasi mo le Atinae o Polokalame i le Faamalu mo Faalapotopotoga Tumaoti i Samoa, o le suesueina lea o le agavaa o le Faamalu na te tauaveina ai galuega faasino i le Polokalame mo Sosaiete Tumaoti pe a faamatuu mai e faafoeina i Samoa i le tausaga 2009. I se saunoaga a le Afioga i le Tamaitai Pule Sili a le SUNGO ia Roina Vavatau, na ia faaalai mai ai, o lenei poloketi e

faamoemoe e suesueina le faataunuina o polokalame mo sosaiete tumaoti I Samoa nei. E fa aso na faatautaia ai le suesuega lea na galulue faatasi ai lenei Vaega ma le aufaigaluega, Komiti Faafoe ma paaga a le SUNGO ina ia maoti ma manino le agavaa a le Faalapotopotoga e tauaveina ai lenei polokalame I le tausaga o I luma. Afai e matuina mai lea poloketi ona faalateleina lea o le aufaigaluega mo ni tagata se toa-

polokalame. Ua tuuina atu foi tusi valaaulia mo sui eseese mai le atunuu ina ia fausiaina se Komiti Faufautua e vaavaaia ma faufautua le agai I luma o lenei poloketi. Na aloaia se fonotaga I le faaiuina ai o lenei faamoemoe ma le Vaega a le Malo Afaatasi faatasi ai ma sui o le Komiti Faafoe ma le pulega a le Faamalu mo Faalapotopotoga Tumaoti I Samoa.



Sui auai i le taimi o le fonotaga.



Fonotaga a le Komiti Faafoe SUNGO ma sui o le Malo Afaatasi.