



Aug - Sep 2020

SUNGO NEWS



VISION:

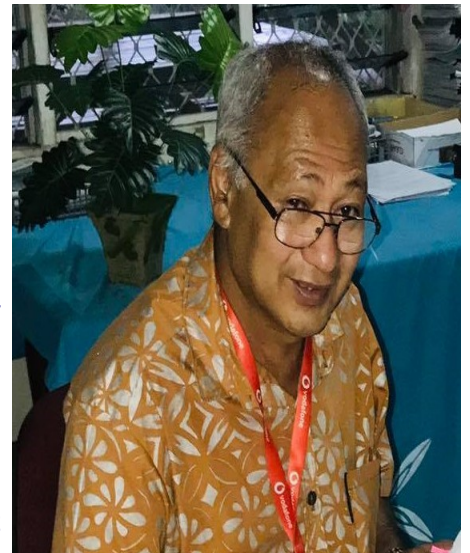
Samoa has a competent and confident civil society sector that promotes sustainable development and quality of life for the people of Samoa

MISSION:

To deliver capacity building research, opportunities, information sharing, advocacy and support for civil society in Samoa.

BRIEF UPDATE: Former National President, Afioga Lavea Peseta Lua nafa'i resigns after 3 years in office.

Friday, 18 September 2020. - Members of SUNGO's Executive Council held its Monthly Meeting for September, on Friday, 18th September 2020. The meeting minutes include the CEO Report, Summaries of current Projects, Technical Advisors' Report, Financial reports etc. After a few hours of discussions, the meeting was later informed of the National President's resignation. Executive Council members who were present at the meeting expressed sincere gratitude and acknowledgements towards Outgoing National President, Tofa Lavea Peseta Lua Nafa'i, for his leadership and ongoing support and effort given to SUNGO during his 1 and a half consecutive terms in office. The meeting was concluded with a dinner at Rokos Restaurant at Motoootua, which was attended by lawyers, Afioga Leulua'ialii Tasi Malifa, and Afioga Fina'i Lemusu Taviuni Fonoti. The Dinner acts as a way of thanksgiving to the Attorneys, who were at the forefront of the fight against the 3 amendment bills discussed in parliament, that have massive impacts on the communities.



Lavea Peseta Lua Nafa'i: Former National President of SUNGO

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L-R Back Row: Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia, Le'aula Theresa Asiata, Roina Vavatau, Tofilau Raymond Voigt, Lavea Peseta Lua Nafa'i, Peseta Malouamaua Arasi Afoa, Selesele Uili Amani
Front Row: Saena Penaia, Mataafa Faatino Utumapu

Despite the fact that most people do not have the courage to raise a concern against the government, these heroes were willing to sacrifice their status' and act together with the Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations, to address these issues. Although we have not seen any changes yet, but hopefully that one act of kindness can make a change for the better future of Samoa.



Samoa Umbrella for
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Next Edition : September 2020

SUNGO Newsletter for this year 2020 will be published on a quarterly basis. Physical copies can be uplifted from our office at Vaitele

We will be publishing these items on our Facebook page as well. We encourage all members to please visit us on our Face book page for more information or updates on events and other related matters for your information. We have hit 1,377 likes, and 1,411 followers; we would like to thank you for your support.



Goshen Trust Mental Health Services celebrates 10 years of service in Samoa. Goshen Trust is a member of SUNGO, and it's main focus is on people with mental health problems. "Voices, Voices, Voices" is the theme of this commemoration, and was witnessed by Goshen Trust's partners and stakeholders.

Capacity Building— More Training Activities conducted within August

EU Direct Award Logical Framework:

28 August, 4 September 2020 - The main objective of this training workshop is to shed light on the importance of each employee's roles and responsibilities; and how everyone's work are connected, to ensure the completion of reports at the end of the financial year. The training aims at explaining the EU Direct Award Briefly, Explains the EU Logical Framework and why it is important, Yearly reporting experience and Lessons, key Documents that staff should be aware of, as well as elaborating more on the process for Regular Monitoring. The Technical Advisor conducting the Training is Ms Talweez Kaur Senghera and is participated by the Programme Team. (Programme Team Leader, Programme Assistant, Research Officer and the Information and Communications Officer)

IT Skills and Computer Policies/Use: Session 1

Wednesday, 26 August, 2020 - The intention of this training is to enhance the basic computer and IT skills of SUNGO staff members, to be more self sufficient in maintaining their IT resources and to enhance their work productivity. In addition to that, long time partner of SUNGO, John Cretney hopes to share his knowledge and expertise with staff members, to assess our level of knowledge about computer use. SUNGO staff hopes to work together with Mr Cretney, for further improvements on SUNGO's work and services.

IT Skills and Computer Use Training: Session 2

Monday, 14 September, 2020 - All staff members of SUNGO attended this training session. Topics that were covered during the program, was INTERNET TOOLS such as Favourites/Bookmarks, Shortcuts and Hyperlinks; EMAIL FEATURES including Folders, Address books/contact lists and distribution lists/contact groups; and Finally, the FILE MANAGEMENT which includes the using of File Explorer to create, move and rename files/folders, as well as the using of the Search Function. Participants considered the training session fruitful, for it helps with our everyday work at SUNGO.

EU EDF - Filing and Archiving Training:

Friday, 11 September, 2020 - The Records Management or Filing and Archiving Policies and Procedures Training was updated by Technical Advisors John Cretney and Talweez Senghera. All SUNGO staff members were invited to join the training workshop, with the hope that by the end of these sessions, everyone is clear about the process outline for filing and archiving of SUNGO files. These

Procedures cover both hard copy and electronic files. The training program was a success, according to the attendees.



POLICY and ADVOCACY - SUNGO meets with Samoa Qualifications Authority to inform the Review of Samoa Qualifications, for the Plumbing Trade.

Tuesday, 1 September, 2020 - Five representatives from the Samoa Qualification Authority conducted a needs analysis consultation with SUNGO representatives, CEO, Afioga Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia, Programme Team Leader, Ms Faapito Opetaitaia, and Research Officer, Masoe Iosefa Tautua. The purpose of the discussion, is to inform the review of Samoa Qualifications for the Plumbing Trade. At the end of the Needs analysis and with more brainstorming ideas on the table, all participants saw how successful the meeting was, and hoped to further strengthen the partnership between the pair, in the years to come.

SOLAR LIGHTING PROJECT.

Thursday, 10 September 2020 - SUNGO met with representatives from the Electric Power Corporation as well as representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, to elaborate more on the solar lighting project, doing a research to ensure that the project is genuine. Meaning, that so people won't pay less on these equipment. Not only that, but also seeking technical advice, whether it's safe for families to install and use these equipment.

2 Million Trees in the Vaisigano Catchment Project.

Friday, 11 September 2020 - SUNGO's Programme Team Leader, Ms Faapito Opetaitaia and CEO Fuimaono met with Ms Moira Faletutulu and her other representative from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, to discuss where SUNGO's at with its part of the project. The Green Climate Fund's 2 Million Trees in the Vaisigano Catchment Area, was granted for residents in this particular area, due to its vulnerable state when natural disasters strike. The Project is a collaborative effort between the Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organization (SUNGO) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE).

RESEARCH - SUNGO sits at the table of discussions alongside other stakeholders, to ensure that all people of Samoa have access to sustainable, safe, affordable water and improved sanitation and hygiene services enhancing health, productivity and resilience.

Wednesday, 26 August 2020 - The Sector Plan Consultation was part of the process that has been done in the three consultations earlier. This was the fourth consultation and the information gathered, provided reports towards compiling the final feedback review of the overall Water, Sanitation and Hygiene plan. According to SUNGO's representative to the consultation, who is also a member of SUNGO's Executive Council, Susuga Leilua Faleafaga Toni Tipamaa, a lot of the sector plan activities have been achieved, and this was also noted on the presentation, figures and results. 1. Targets Achieved - Number of people with water systems in place, with access and improve water sources, number of catchment areas increased, improved water testing and monitoring, increased public structures for toilet facilities, increased waste management facilities and waste treatment facilities. Challenges faced include integrating best approach - WASH, How this approach is resilient proof, how are low income people dealing with challenges of water, sanitation and hygiene subsidies and how does other sector. Leilua Faleafaga said that a few issues were raised, whether this sector would be able to meet and achieved the outcomes set out for the next 5 years? And according to the data, would each sector implementing agency, meet the next five year plan for the WASH sector?

SUNGO addresses the fight to end violence within the communities, through Capacity Building and Advocacy.



Friday, 21 August 2020 - The Law and Justice Sector in collaboration with the UNDP Spotlight Initiative Rolled out Phase 2 of the REACH Program. The Workshop was held at the Sheraton Hotel. According to the Law and Justice Sector, REACH is one of the activities under the UNDP Spotlight program that aims to coordinate, plan and implement initiatives to prevent and respond to Violence against Women and Girls. It was a success, according to SUNGO's Representative, Ms Leilani Atoa. The Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion Project (R.E.A.C.H) brought together stakeholders from across the law and justice sector. During the event, stakeholders discussed and shared their experiences while charting a pathway to reinforce REACH's aim to coordinate, plan and implement initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and intimate partner violence. For Non-Governmental Organizations, they're seeking to use national and sub-national systems and institutions available to them and their members, to achieve the aims of ending violence and improve access to justice. As part of SUNGO's Mission, the main goal is providing information, programmes, opportunities and advocacy for Civil Society in Samoa; and that is how SUNGO itself has on offer, to end violence against women and girls.

SUNGO takes part in the Stakeholders consultation workshop on the Terms of Reference for the Development of a National Industrial Development policy (NIDP) for Samoa.

Tuesday, 1 September, 2020 - Attended by SUNGO's Executive Council Member involved in the Trade Thematic Area, Afioga Tofilau Raymond Voight, the purpose of the Stakeholders Consultation Workshop is to enable the Ministry of Commerce Industry and Labour to present and seek its stakeholders' feedback and input on the attached draft Terms of Reference, for the National Industrial Development Policy to be developed. It also provides opportunity for stakeholders to seek clarification on any queries that they may have, regarding the proposed NIDP. The Consultation was held at the ACC Building's Conference Room.

National Environment Sector Steering Committee discusses its quarterly meeting number 14.

Thursday, 27 August, 2020 - SUNGO is one of the members of the above mentioned steering committee. As a representative of SUNGO, Mr Masoe Leilua Iosefa Tautua would like to share and inform the board of directors, management and staff; as internal stakeholders on the participation in the discussions of respective and useful contribution to the monitoring process to ensure the key outputs are achieved according to plans. The Participants were so active in discussing a lot of issues, challenges and positive and inspirational comments that members threw onto the table for consideration in order for the human resources involved for implementation.

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CEO, Research Officer and Programme Assistant at training.

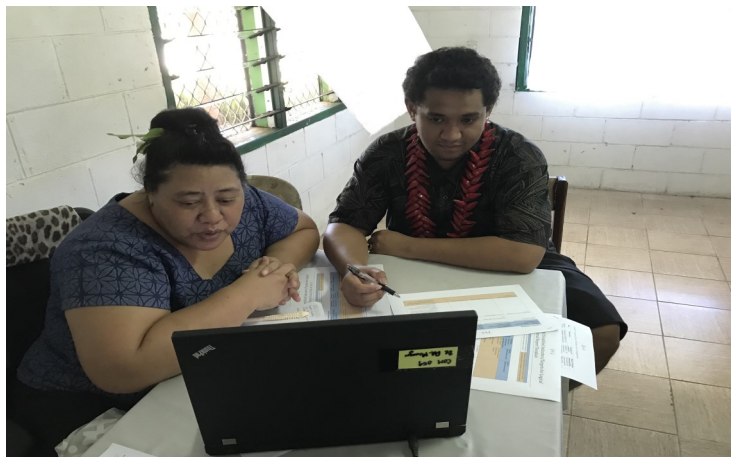


L-R: Iairo Junior Wong Ling Tala (PA), Afiaga Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia (CEO) and Masoe Leilua Iosefa Tautua (RO)

Tuesday, 15 September, 2020 - The Training Session was conducted and delivered by Talweez Senghera, SUNGO's Technical Advisor. The main purpose of the program, is to further discuss the Overall Summary report that was prepared and compiled by the Programme Assistant, Iairo Junior Wong Ling Tala. The report is a summary of the people's perspectives and thoughts towards the three (3) amendment bills that are in the process of discussions before parliament, in Samoa. The summary saw how the majority of Samoan people as represented by 16 constituencies, oppose these amendment bills. As SUNGO is the voice of the communities, the umbrella hopes to continue with its work, to ensure that the voices of the community is heard.

One of SUNGO's TAs, Mrs Mary Cretney celebrates her 70th Birthday on the 16th of September, 2020. Mary currently resides in New Zealand, and was with SUNGO since the beginning. Mary is still working with SUNGO, in terms of offering training assistance whenever needed. Mrs Cretney has a heart for SUNGO, and will forever treasure SUNGO and its work.

Programme Team gets technical assistance from Ms Talweez, regarding the EU DA Grant.



Programme Team Leader Faapito Opetaita and Iairo Junior Wong Ling Tala

Tuesday, 15 September, 2020 - The training session was delivered by Talweez, and was mainly targeting the Capacity Building for the Programme Assistant and the Programme Team Leader, on the European Union Direct Award Grant. According to Faapito Opetaita, the session was very helpful, and it also opened up ideas on the setting up of simplified templates for EU DA reports as required. Iairo added that the session was efficient; it showed him as an assistant, his roles and responsibilities.

