

# SUNGO NEWS

November - December 2020



**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—SUNGO News!

The hard work has paid off for the United Nations Development Programme, in collaboration with the Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organization, after the five-week assessment.



**Taumeasina, Apia** – SUNGO in collaboration with the UNDP facilitated the Spotlight Initiative. It saw how the United Nations as well as the European Union have worked in a collaborative effort to ensure the program’s success, now and in the future.

Close to 30 Civil Society organizations attended the Capacity Assessment Stakeholders End Report Forum.

The Opening Prayer was led by Reverend Misperetiso Ivava from the Gualofa Ministry; who further elaborated on the impacts of Violence, stating that whenever a man abuses a woman it simply means that “The helpless man, is abusing his helper from God”. He also put emphasis on NOT Lessening violence but stop / end / eliminate it now.

Afioga Peseta Malouamaua Afoa Arasi Tiotio delivered the opening remarks, where she pointed out that better coordination is the only way forward. She made a request that a steering committee be established to sustain the program. Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls, is the main objective behind the Spotlight Initiative.

Peseta also challenged the CSO stakeholders, to look at ourselves and start making a change.

One of the Guest Speakers at the Spotlight Initiative for CSO Capacity Assessment Stakeholders End Report Forum, was Susuga Molie Simi – Vaai, who is the CEO for the ministry of Justice Courts and Administration. She said that the number of violence related matters ending in court has been rapidly increasing. But this can be stopped if we work together.

Susuga Papalii Monalisa Tiai Keti who is the Assistant Police Commissioner, commented on how the number of incest and rape cases are on the rise. From 1 January 2020 – 30 October 2020, 807 cases were reported, which involved 849 victims. 67% of these victims are women and girls, and 245 cases erupted because of alcohol. As part of the Ministry of Police’s aim for Safety, working together for a safer Samoa is what matters most.

The motivational Speaker who took the stand later, was Leilua Lino, a 21-year-old Spotlight Initiative Ambassador, who is also a champion from Violence. According to Leilua, what happened in her life as a young girl, she had to leave her home because her own mother could not protect her. It affected her mentally, which led to wanting to commit suicide. But when she spoke up about it, she felt that there’s hope. Urging other young women to speak up and be messengers of hope to all of Samoa and abroad, she says that If I can, you can too. No More excuses, no more victim play, she is a survivor of violence.

The SUNGO CEO thanked all participants, and call upon UNDP and government agencies for a collective effort to ensure that the project is more sustainable.

The Program was hosted at the Taumeasina Hotel Conference Room.



## Spotlight Initiative

To eliminate violence against women and girls

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Samoa Umbrella for Non Governmental Organisations - SUNGO

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### Information and Communications

#### Another Edition to be released soon.

SUNGO Newsletter will be published on a monthly basis. Physical copies can be uplifted from our office at Vaitele

We will be publishing these items on our Facebook page as well more regularly. 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's

We have hit 1,617 likes and 1,664 followers. We would like to thank you for your support.

The Information and Communications Officer has been working alongside Technical Advisors Talweez and Scott, as well as Technical Advisors Mary and John Cretney, to ensure that SUNGO partners and friends are well informed about the happenings involving SUNGO. Mrs Cretney has been helpful with the database. SUNGO is currently undertaking its Monitoring and Evaluation Survey, as part of its annual process for all members. In addition to that, the Barefoot College International project commences for communities in the rural areas including Falealupo in Savaii and Piu Falealili.

SUNGO is looking to post more regularly on Face-book and keep you informed through Face-book . So please like, follow and share our Face-book page, and stay up to date with SUNGO's activities and available opportunities.

<https://www.facebook.com/SamoaUmbrella/>

If you would like to get in touch, you can now email us, telephone or message us on Face-book.

### Capacity Building - TNA rolls out for Upolu and Savaii.

The Programme Team Leader, Susuga Faapito Opetaiia started rolling out her Training Needs Analysis for this year to most members in the Big Island of Savaii as well as members in Upolu.



Matagaluega Metotisi - Faleolo, Safune Savaii

The TNA identified that most of the Community Based Organizations have high training needs. Needs include carving, elei printing, sewing, making handicrafts and more to name a few. According to the findings from this assessment, the training workshops held recently by SUNGO has helped a lot with the participating organizations' future developments. The Samoa Umbrella



Alii ma Faipule - Paia

for Non-Governmental Organizations (SUNGO) is nearing the end of this year, and more trainings on good governance and capacity building needs to be conducted.

Matagaluega Metotisi - Sasina

The TNA kickstarted in the Big Island, 27 October - 30 October 2020. With the hope to continue with Upolu member organizations this month.

SUNGO will commence its Trainings for this year from the beginning of December.



Aualofa - Falealupo Uta (LDS)



Komiti Tina ma Tama'ita' Sala'ilua

## Capacity Building

**The International Union for Conservation of nature (IUCN) is in progress with its Marine Spatial Planning.**



The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) and SUNGO conducted a two day workshop on the Marine Bioregions of Samoa, which concluded today. The Venue of the event was the Lava Hotel Conference Room at Sogi. The main objective behind this initiative,

is to describe the marine environment of Samoa and to review the draft, preliminary inshore and offshore bioregion boundaries and descriptions of Samoa. The IUCN is a membership Union composed of both government and civil society organizations.



The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is still in progress with its Marine Spatial Planning as commenced today, 1 December, 2020. SUNGO Team participating in organizing the program is Leilani Atoa and Masoe Iosefa

## CASH FOR WORK PROJECT commences for the Vaisigano Catchment Area.

SUNGO Team made up of the Program Team Leader, Fapaito Opetaita, Research Officer Masoe Iosefa Tautua, Program Assistant Iairo Wong Ling Tala and the Information and Communications Officer, Temukisa conducted the Profiling of Cash for Work (CfW) Workers, who attended the Green Climate Fund Vaisigano Catchment Project training, held at the Sheraton Hotel Conference Room. The Project Goal according to a work plan in place for the program, is to engage SUNGO and its members in the 2 million trees Campaign. The Profiling done for these workers seek the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment's approval to take part in the project. SUNGO and MNRE are coordinating the program. This profiling process will be followed by a Capacity Building Community Training on Environmental management and Climate Resilience as well as a Generic Training. SUNGO will be implementing training for 31 villages listed under the Vaisigano Catchment Areas. The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund as administered by the UNDP to assist communities to address climate change risks.



Green Climate Fund - Samoa Vaisigano Catchment Project  
Public & government service

The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund as administered by the UNDP to assist communities to address climate change risks.



## Policy and Advocacy

**SUNGO discusses the Barefoot College Project installation process with the Barefoot Woman Solar Engineers (BWSE) or Solar mommas.**

Saofaigaalii Peseta and Lolelai Tiitii from the village communities of Tapaupau and Vaotupua in Falealupo Savaii, taking part in a discussion with SUNGO Executive Council National Treasurer, Susuga Roina Vavatau, and SUNGO Staff, Temukisa Sione - Leatua. The main objective behind the initiative, is to brainstorm ideas for the installation of the Solar Lighting System.



BWSEs Saofaigaalii Peseta & Lolelai Tiitii



BWSE Faaali, Piu Community members, SUNGO EC National Treasurer & SUNGO Staff

The matter was also discussed between BWSE's in the village community of Piu in Falealili. Most of the households were listed as well as other information recorded regarding the Lighting System installation. Not everyone have access to electricity especially families that earn low income. This project is very much appreciated by communities involved.

## Research

**TRAINING NEEDS ANALYSIS, PROFILING & MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY.**

Most of the members in both Upolu and Savaii have already been contacted for the member Profiling process, the Member Satisfaction Survey, as well as the Training Needs Analysis. Through this process, SUNGO has been contacting our NGO and CBO Members to obtain updated information on their key contacts, objectives, goals, activities, and projects. This helps SUNGO to identify the thematic areas in which each organization works and to which SDGs they contribute to. This work is ongoing and we sincerely appreciate your support with this work. In addition to the above, the member M&E/satisfaction survey will be concluded in December this year, before the AGM in February 2021.

As always, we appreciate your honest feedback as it greatly helps SUNGO priorities and improve its work as well as providing better support to the CSO sector.

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**MORE PICTURES FROM THE TRAINING NEEDS ANALYSIS, PROFILING and MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY of MEMBERS in both UPOLU and SAVAI.**

**MORE PICTURES FROM THE Spotlight Initiative and more.**

