



SUNGO Newsletter

January — March 2011

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations Inc.

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VISION

SUNGO - working in partnership with civil society and government to promote sustainable development and quality of life for the people of Samoa.

MISSION

The Umbrella Organisation for Samoan NGOs providing information, programmes, opportunities, and advocacy for civil society in Samoa

Have you visited our SUNGO Website? Go to www.sungo.ws to keep up to date with the latest news, events and training schedules!

SUNGO Has Relocated to Vaitele!

A ceremony was held to bless the new land that SUNGO is chosen to relocate to. This special occasion was conducted by Deacon Ioane Iosefo on the 28th of January this year. After last year's obstacles, SUNGO's members and Executive Council are looking forward to moving to the new location and continuing work with pride and respect.

SUNGO spent 3 years trying to persuade the government to allow them to buy the land where the old office is located, but the government refused many of these requests. When asked about her feelings towards the new location SUNGO's CEO, Mrs Roina Vavatau, said "Oh it feels good and I'm very happy because it's a great opportunity to upgrade our service and try to progress in reaching our vision, now that we are on a lease to own deal with the Government, we are going to make the most of it, for a greater improvement for not only our member NGOs but also for the local individuals."



President Vaasiliifiti M.J. with Deakin Ioane Iosefo for the blessing ceremony.

UA SUIA NEI LE NOFOAGA O LE SUNGO

O le aso 28 o Ianuari sa faataunuaina ai se suniga e faapaiaina ai lona nofoaga fou lea ua siitia nei ai lona ofisa, aua le faaauaia pea o ona tiute tauave. Se vaaiga fiafia ona ua taulua o le faamoemoe sa faapea ona faatalitalia e le ofisa nei aua le agai i luma o galuega fai. Sa mafai ai ona faataunuaina lena faamoemoe sa taitaia e le susuga I le Tiakono Fesoasoani, le susuga ia Ioane Iosefo.



Message from the National President

Greetings and Talofa lava to all our members, our various partners, Government Ministries, Diplomatic Corps, families and friends. A warm welcome to the Prime Minister, Afioga Tuilaepa S. Malielegaoi looking forward to another exciting 5 years working with you. A great good cheer for the Tautua Party for a great achievement Malo lava to everyone. In accordance with the Natural Law of the land we had managed to spare time for the Blessing of the Land which was conducted by one of the Church Deacon of the Board assisted by two other reverends. We will soon have a grand opening so that we could allow all our partners to see and witness the Growth of SUNGO by having her own headquarter thus giving us strength and vision to extend SUNGO work to other Horizon for the development of our Members and Civil Society contributing to building a Strong, Safe, Peaceful and Secured Samoa founded on GOD's blessing and LOVE.

la manuia

SUNGO News

ICTP: Learning about Community through Research

The first ever community research training held since the beginning of ICTP training had its opening ceremony on the 11TH of March 2011, and was held over one week. A total of 15 participants were registered in the time that the training was advertised, but in the end 10 participants were able to finish the course successfully and received their certificates.

The training was conducted by Dr Silipa Silipa, who has an extensive education in Research. Some of the criteria discussed during the training were: research methods, data collection methods, managing research, presenting research and etc. This training was made possible through funding from In-Country Training Programme (ICTP) and was coordinated by SUNGO.

SUNGO's main goal for providing and conducting these training workshops is to improve the knowledge of its member NGOs and their respective communities. We hope that in the future there will be more opportunities like these to improve skills and knowledge of NGOs so they are more equipped to face future challenges.



Class of Community Research Training with their trainer Dr S Silipa.

Aoaoga mo Suesuega ma Faamaauga I Totonu o Faalapotopotoga

Se uluai aoaoga lea ua faatinoina talu mai ona amata aoaoga a le SICTP poo le Samoa In-Country Training Programme. O lea aoaoga sa tatala aloaia lona amataina I le aso 11 o Mati ae tapunia aloaia I le aso 18 o lea lava masina I lona lima ai o aso talu ona amata lea aoaoga. O lea aoaoga sa faatautaia e le susuga ia Dr Silipa Silipa I le faalauiloaina o lenei aoaoga sa faapea ona auai mai ai sui e 15 mai I faalapotopotoga tumaoti aepeitai e na o le 10 sa faaiuina ma le manuui ia aoaoga ma tauaaoina ai loa latou tusipasi.

O le manatu sa faatuina ai lenei aoaoga o le ia faaleleia le tulaga tau I le suesuega ma faamaauga I totonu o tatou faalapotopotoga aua le nofo silafia o sui o faalapotopotoga taitasi. O nisi o mataupu sa faapea ona faamamafa i lea aoaoga o, metotia faasuesue, aoaoina o faamaaugai suesuega, o le faalauiloaina o suesuega, o le pulea o faamaauga ma suesuega ma le tele o nisi mataupu na faapea ona faaalua. O le tatalo o le SUNGO ia aoga ia aoaoga ia faaleleia atili ai le siitiaga o le tautua o si o tatou



Participants of the Community Research and SUNGO's president Vaasilifiti M Jackson



A participant doing research for ICTP Community Research

ICTP: CAT Opportunity Not to be Missed

A Certificate for Adults Training course started this month at the Oloamanu training centre – the 21st of February to 2nd March 2011. Trainer, Leiatua Iosefa is leading the one and a half week course and there are 20 participants attending from 15 different NGOs around Samoa. The aim of the course is for participants to learn methods of teaching adults in Samoan communities. This in turn will encourage capacity building and skills development of NGOs, CBOs and community groups.

The course was coordinated under the In-Country Training Program, through the Samoa Umbrella Organisation for Non-Governmental Organisations. The NUS course is made up of two parts: CAT101 and CAT102 which each have to be successfully passed for participants to become certified adult trainers. This course is funded by NZAid, AusAID and the Government of Samoa. On 25th of March, this class of adults celebrate their graduation with honour and pride.



Participants of CAT graduation

Aoaoga o Faiaoga mo Tagata Matutua

Aoaoga mo le Aoaoina e avea ma faiaoga mo tagata matutua Fepuari 2011 (CAT). O lene e toa luasefulu sui na auai aih o le toa sefulu ma le lua o sui ia o faalapotopotoga tumaoti o le Faamalu. O lea faamoemoe sa faapea ona mafai ona Tautai ona o le agalelei mai o le NZAid le AusAID faapea le Malo Aoa o Samoa e ala I lona faatupeina. O le aso 21 o Fepuari na amatalia ai lenei aoaoga seia o'o I le aso 2 o Mati 2011.

O le sini autu o nei aoaoga ina ia alualu I luma le tomai ma le agavaa o I latou o loo faapea ona faatautaia aoaoga mo tagata matutua, e ala lea I aoaoga o loo faapea ona faatautaia e le CSSP ma le ICTP. O lea aoaoga sa mafai ona faatinoina lea I lalo o le fesoasoani mai o le ICTP ae faatautaia lea ele Ofisa o le SUNGO. O lea aoaoga e lua vaega o vaevaeina ai o le CAT 101 ma le CAT 102, a manuia ma pasi ia aoaoga ona avea lea ma faiaoga o aoga mo tagata matutua. O le aso 25 o Mati sa faapea ona faataunuu ai le faauuga mo I latou sa faapea ona auai atu I lea aoaoga faapitoa. Sa faapea ona molimuaina ai sagisagi fiafia atu, a ou ma aiga e patipatia lenei sauniga, aua le lumanai manuia o fanau lalovaoa o si o tatou atunuu.



Class of CAT 101 and CAT 102 with president Vaasilifiti Moelagi Jackson at Oloamanu for its graduation.



The smiling face of a participant of the ICTP : CAT 101-102 graduation

STAFF UPDATE

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CSSP: CBOs Opportunity for Projects Managing

The 14TH of February 2011, was the opening day for the CSSP training that was held at the Central Bank Training Centre. A total of 29 participants for the course burst through the front door of the Central Bank of Samoa, one by one making their ways up to the 6TH floor. Each day was spent learning new ideas and how to manage a special project and it was a thrill to see how they were so keen to learn more through these courses.

There were four trainers for the course; lead trainer, Manu Aoete Apelu, and his co-trainers Italia Leau, Imeleta Iosefo and Saimasi Suataga. Each of these trainers dedicated themselves to sharing their knowledge in Managing Projects, and its stages of development: planning, monitoring, finance and reporting. These modules were used as a guideline for this training. In the beginning of this course 29 participants attended, 27 of whom were able to finish the course after five days of observing and sharing

The main focus of this course was to train our NGO members in becoming more efficient in forming their special projects. This course was funded by the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP), and coordinated by Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisation (SUNGO).



Participants for the CSSP: Managing Project Course for CBOs

AOAOGA MO LE GAOSIA O POLOKETI FAAPITOA (CSSP)

Le aso 14 o Fepuari sa amatalia ai lenei aoaoga sa faapea ona faatautaia i le fonafale 6 o le Faletupe tu i totonu o Samoa (CBS). O lenei aoaoga sna faataunuaina mo le vaiaso atoa e tasi, mai le aso 14 seia o'o i le aso 18 o lea lava masina. E to'a 29 e sa auai i le amataga o lenei aoaoga, ae o'o i le faaiuga o lenei aoaoga e na o le to'a 27 e sa faaiu ma le manuia lenei faamoemoe.

O le susuga ia Manu Aoete Apelu, sa avea ma ta'ita'i faiaoga, faapea ana faiaoga lagolago, le susuga i le faletua ia Italia Leau, le susuga i le faletua ia Imeleta Iosefo, faapeale susuga ia Saimasi Suataga. O 'i latou ia sa gafa ma le faatautaia o lea aoaoga ina ia solosololelei pea polokalame faatautai o faalapotopotoga tumaoti i nuu i tua. O le sini autu na faavae ai lenei aoaoga, ina ia lava tapena maia faatamaoigaina o tatou sui auai i metotia aua le fausiaina lea o poloketi ina sii i se laasaga fou ma lelei o tatou sui auai. O lea oaoaga sa faatupe ina e le ofisa o le CSSP ae faatautaia e le ofisa o le SUNGO.



Participants during the CSSP workshop.

A Multi-million Dollar Deal for Samoa

Friday the 25TH of March this year marked a special day for the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP) and all the NGOs, CBOs and also the NSA, that took part in this program. A special ceremony was held to commemorate the signing of a \$9 850 000 funding deal for Samoa, \$5 500 000 of which will go to CSSP. The signing was between Faumuina Tiatia Liuga who was representing Samoa as the new Minister of Finance, and the honourable Weipke Van Der Goot, EU Ambassador and EU Head of Delegation. The agreement between the two countries will focus on developing the Civil Base Society in Samoa. It was based on supporting organisation for funding. This occasion was not only witnessed by members of CBOs, NSA, but also by the Board members of the Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (SUNGO), government agencies and development partners who have joined forces in this programme. This funding was also allocated to assist Samoa in recovery from the impact of the global financial crisis on economy and government revenue. It was designed to promote change between the government and NGOs and strengthen their relationship to help them work together under one roof. A total of \$3 million (approximately 9,090,000 WST) will be spent each year for the next three to four years for those NGOs and CBOs who applied and had projects approved under the CSSP.



During the signing between Minister of Finance Faumuina T L and EU Ambassador Weipke Ver Der Goot

SAINIA SE FEAGAIGA FAAPITOA MO LE CSSP

O le aso Faraile 25 o Mati ua faamauina o se aso faapitoa lea I le vaega o Polokalame o Fesoasoani o Sosaiete mo Tagata Lautele (CSSP). O lea polokalame sa faatautaiina I le fonafale (6) o le CBS, sa faapea ona auai atu aia sui o le laulau a fono o le SUNGO faapea le pule sili o le ofisa nei, e le gata I lea ae sa auai atu foi sui mai I faalapotopotoga tumaoti ae faapea sui mai le malo aemaise ai paaga o loo faapea ona soosoo tauau I lea lava polokalame. O lea sainiga igoa I le va o Samoa I le susuga I le Minisita o Tupe le susuga ia Faumuina Tiatia Liuga ma Europa le susuga ia Weipka Van Der Goot le amapasa o Europa mo le pasefika. Kilali Alailima sa ia saunoa ai " E \$3 miliona le aofaiga o le seleni o le a faapea ona faaaluina I ia fuafuaga mo fesoasoani o sosaiete mo tagata lautele, I tausagataitasi mo le isi 3 I le 4 tausaga I le lumanai." O lea faamanuiaga o lea atofaina lea mo faalapotopotoga auai o le polokalame o le CSSP, aemaise ona galuega faapaaga ma le ofisa SUNGO.

A Bright Future for the Youth of Lelepa

When you drive through the small village of Lelepa in Savai'i it seems a quiet place. But behind the scenes in this peaceful village there is a whole lot going on. The villagers have been working together with the Lelepa EFKS to build the skills, confidence and responsibility of the youth in their community. One of Lelepa EFKS's main projects is educating the youth in developing the land and caring for the taro plantations. Fa'anati Maiseli, wife of Reverend Maiseli Matamu, says she believes that getting the youth involved in work on plantations will give them the responsibility they need to become future leaders of the community.

"We are trying to educate our youth members in ways of leadership, so they don't have to be told what to do... they have to work hard and look after these things."

There are over 30 people involved in the youth project, most between the ages of 17 and 35. While the project is organised by the EFKS, the youth themselves hold most of the responsibility. Giving young people in rural areas an opportunity to work and earn money in their own village is important as it encourages them to stay and build their communities. Many Samoan youth leave their villages or even the country in search of work or further education. For those who stay life can be a struggle.

"Most of the people here, where we are staying, after high school they think that's the end of it. There are still people who continue on with their education, but the majority stay here in the village," Fa'anati says.

"They are working for the village matai system. That's alright but we have to work with them so they know that's a job for them."

Three years ago Lelepa EFKS became a member of the Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (SUNGO). Fa'anati says she sees SUNGO as another type of community where the EFKS can find support from similar groups and organisations.

"We've been exposing ourselves to other people, to listen to other advice and thoughts and good ways of developing. And also we expose ourselves to other communities and to somewhere that we can get assistance with our projects."

SUNGO has been working with community groups like Lelepa EFKS for over a decade and seeing achievements like this youth project is one of the many rewards. CEO of SUNGO, Roina Vavatau says that the organisation is driven by the need to work with local communities and NGOs to secure a bright future in Samoa.

"The most important part of SUNGO's mission is working with communities and NGOs, assisting them to assess their needs and direction, and then helping them to implement innovative schemes like the Lelepa EFKS's youth project."

As they prepare to go out to the plantation the boys are in high spirits, laughing and mucking around. Hard work has brought happiness and purpose to the youth of Lelepa community.



Faanati Maiseli, Rev Maiseli Matamu's wife, proudly presenting a small piece of their plantation project.

RIPOTI MAI LE AUTALAVOU EFKS LELEPA

Sa faapea ona afea se tasi o faalapopotoga sui auai o le SUNGO, le EFKS I Lelepa. Sa faapea ona molimauina ai le alualu pea I luma o polokalame tau faifaatoaga aua le atinaeina lea o tupulaga talavou o lea afioaga. "I le amataga o lea poloketi sa faapea ona amata I le na o le tasi lava le faatoaga sa faapea ona tau amata ai, ae ai ona o le lima fesoasoani mai o le Ofisa o le SUNGO e ala lea I aoaoga ua faasoasoa mai e sui o le ofisa ua faalauteleina ai le malamala." se faamatalaga lea a le faletua o le faafeagaiga, Faanati Maiseli. I le faamoemoe ia tauivi ona tupulaga talavou aua se manuia o nuu faapea ekalesia, o loo faapea o na soosoo tauau ai le ekalesia ma alii ma matai aua le faamalosi lea o tupulaga talavou I o latou tiute tuaave aua le lumanai o fanau lalovaoa a si o latou nuu.

UNITEC Training Boosts Opportunities for Samoan Students.

Six female Samoan students attended courses in Samoa in March with aim of completing their graduate diploma in Not Profit Management. A total of 22 students from the Pacific were chosen to complete this diploma under scholarship scheme. This course was run through UNITEC and Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisation (SUNGO), and was held at Moanalisa Hotel in Vaitele from the 23RD to the 30TH of March.

The two courses were entitled 'Community Funding and Entrepreneurship' and 'Values Based Management and Leadership'. After completing these courses the student will be attending a further two courses in Suva, Fiji before their graduation.

Originally 30 Samoans students who were expected to graduate this course as part of a 240 students across the Pacific, but due to funding cuts from the NZAid, this number was drastically reduced. It is hoped that the students who were given this opportunity will use this diploma to develop and improve the Samoan not for profit sector.



Participants and trainers with SUNGO's president Vaasiliifiti MJ and SUNGO CBO during the opening of the UNITEC training .



A Fijian participant and a Samoan participant with all smiles for the good opportunity

Aoaoga mo le UNITEC

Se aoaoga sa faapea ona faatautaia I le potu fono o le Hotel Moanalisa, I le aso 23 I le aso 30 o Mati. O ia aoaoga sa faatauaia faapitoa ele ofisa o le SUNGO, ae faatupeina lea e le UNITEC. E toa 22 I latou sa faapea ona filifilia mai le Pasefika, e agavaa I nei aoaoga sa filifilia mai I atunuu o le Pasefika aua le faamaeaina o ia aoaoga taua.

STAFF UPDATE

SUNGO would like to welcome on board our newest staff member, Ms Blakey Larsen as our Capacity Building Officer (CBO). Ms Larsen who comes from the state of Minnesota in America arrived in Samoa on October 2008, with the US Peace Corps. She was working as a volunteer teacher in Avele College for the last two years. She has already completed her BA in Linguistics from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. In the future, she hopes to go back to the USA and obtain a masters degree in not for profit management. According to Ms Larsen, "Working at SUNGO is such a great opportunity for me to see what an umbrella NGO is like first hand. I am so lucky to work with amazing Board, staff members and members. It is always a pleasure when members come to visit the office! I hope to be able to introduce myself to them in person next time we meet." SUNGO wishes Blakey a great journey through big challenges in the future, and may she grow with SUNGO's work and be great ambassador in her scopes of work. SUNGO hopes that throughout the year she will always be courageous and will never tire of smiling.



Blakey Larsen, during her work as CBO for SUNGO.

SUNGO would like to thank our Donors:

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For providing Core Funding to SUNGO



Australian Government AusAID

For co-funding the In-Country Training Programme with NZAid



For funding EU- Non State Actor Projects



For funding ACT and MDG project

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CALENDAR OF TRAINING WORKSHOPS

APRIL — JUNE

APRIL 2011

11 - 15 April - ICTP: More Effective NGO Boards

For members of NGO Executive Councils to develop a long term Strategic Plan and also an opportunity to up skill their Board members in developing training plans to provide skills needed.

MAY 2011

2 - 6 May - ICTP: Strategic Planning

Without strategic planning, NGOs will lose direction and eventually fail. This course is specifically directed at Board Members, CEOs and Directors.

19 - 20 & 27 April - CSSP: Mentoring for CSSP Category Two Applicant.

This training is for members who applied for CSSP programme. The goal is to support the applicants in finishing the second part of their application.

27 - 29 April - NSA: MO4 Managing Organisation.

For members to learn how to manage their organisation through three modules: Planning, Finance and Reporting.



A proud participant making presentation for CSSP : Managing Project Training



ICTP: Class of the Post Tsunami training at the Oloamanu Complex at the NUS

JUNE 2011

6 - 10 June - ICTP: Proposal Writing

Most NGOs depend on funding for various sources of financial aid and write proposals in order to access to these funds.

27 - 30 June - ICTP: Practical Computer Accounting

Any organisation which manages money and accounting well will give the organisation a firm foundation to work from. This course is created specifically for Community Based Organisation (CBOs) on using Excel for accounting.



A look at the new SUNGOs office now is at Vaitele Tai, Atone Street.