



The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations Inc.

- SUNGO -

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVID-19 Will NOT Stop the Mixed Farming Group from meeting the demands of its local consumers.

In mid-March this year, life in Samoa took another dramatic turn in its Covid-19 journey when the country recorded its first confirmed case by community transmission. This was not Good News for the Mixed Farming Group, for their focus is mainly on farming, to ensure that the crops or produces are well grown and taken care of. The Mixed Farming Group is a Non-Governmental Organization based at Faleasi'u Uta. The Group was established in 2018, with the purpose of ensuring the sustainability of Vegetable and Fruit Farms/Gardens, for the local consumers.

In a phone-interview with the Mixed Farming Group President, Susuga Fuatino Moli, she said that there were more than ten founding members of the Society, and to date, it has reached a total number of Twenty; they are: Feagai Aukuso, Ivana Leafa, Tahiri Leota, Autufuga Filo, Lauga Apulu, Ali Vaeluaga, Fuatino Moli, Taueva Fouina, Bismark Tamati, Tagaloa Penina, Pitolau Lusia, Zita Martel, Taualeoo Failauga, Toese Vaeluaga, Taala Roma, Siliaga Leao, Tausilinuulelei Lefiu, Fesola'i Solomona, Marieta Nansen, and Hana Forautonu.

According to Fuatino Moli, she been interested in Farming since 1999, and since then, she heard that Fundings can only be granted to Groups of Farmers, and not individuals. That is the reason behind the establishment of the Society. The Financial Assistance was needed to fund farming equipment or tools, seeds and more to name a few.

The Society's Establishment comes with Challenges. One of the Challenges identified was the members not being able to conduct monthly inspection-visits, due to their health status, as well as COVID-19 restrictions. But Fuatino believes that their purpose has been served during this vulnerable time in Samoa, when the group provided vegetable markets with fruits and vegetables as needed. Fuatino added that this is her only hope and prayer, to increase the demand for vegetables and fruits.

The Mixed Farming Group hopes to continue its partnership with foreign donors through SUNGO and CSSP, for the benefit of Samoa. Ms Fuatino also believes and prays that the partnership and communication with SUNGO continues, so they can continue to benefit from its Training Activities, in terms of strengthening the knowledge and skills in leadership and management to name a few.

End of Release