



The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations Inc. - SUNGO -

National President:
Tauā Faamoemoe Tala

National Vice President:
Peseta M Afoa Arasi Tiotio

National Treasurer:
Roina Vavatau

National Secretary:
Leilua F Toni Tipamaa

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUNGO delivers Training on Enhancing the Engagement of Civil Societies in Government Processes; Funded by the Government of Canada.

Vaitele, Apia – There were 5 separate 2-Day Workshop Sessions, for Civil Society Organizations around the country, as spearheaded by the Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations (SUNGO), through funds from the Government of Canada.

The first 2-Day session was held on the 18th and 19th of March 2021, for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). There were 15 participants from 11 NGO members in Upolu. Six were females over nine males from the age range between 18 - 35 and over 60 years of age. The training workshop was also conducted for Savaii Community Based Organizations (CBOs). The training was attended by 18 representatives from twelve (12) various organizations including one NGO representative from Faiaai Youth group who represented the Samoa National Youth Council. Some of the inactive members of SUNGO were grateful for the opportunity they were given to attend the important training. Tevaga loane of Samalaeulu Tagiilima Farmers Association expressed his appreciation on behalf of all participants and highly recommended to conduct more training in Savaii to ensure more people to receive this training.

The training programme concluded with three sets of 2 day training workshops for Upolu CBOs from 22nd to 30th March 2021 at SUNGO Training Room, Vaitele Tai. There were 37 various organizations attended, 36 were CBOs and Tofa Sinasina Incorporated (1NGO) who did not get the chance to attend on the NGO training week. These training workshops were dominated by females, which were 43 by 16 male participants.

The main objective behind these training activities, is to build the capacity and understanding of Civil Society Organizations to Engage with Democratic Processes and Institutions in Samoa”

According to one of the participants from the Women’s Committee of Falefa, Leitu Salanoa, who attended the last 2-Day workshop on the 29th and 30th of March, “We have learnt a lot of new things from this training and most importantly, we now know that women play a vital role and provide valid contributions to democratic processes. Therefore, we would like to express our sincere acknowledgements for the activity, which has echoed the message of hope to women committees around the country, despite being unemployed, our voices need to be heard when it comes to democratic processes. These lessons learnt will be shared to our communities”.

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations hopes to continue these training activities in the years to come, for the benefit of the Civil Society Sector

End of Release