

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

**National President:**  
Lavea Peseta Lua Nafo'i

**National Treasurer:**  
Faleafaga Toni Tipamaa

**National Secretary:**  
Mataafa Faatino Utumapu

**Chief Executive Officer**  
Fuimaono Vaitolo Ofoia

5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SUNGO's Executive Council, Management, and Staff Convene for Productive Retreat

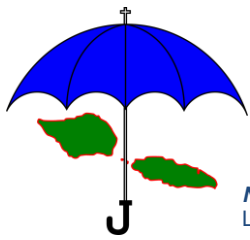
#### *Vaitele Tai, Samoa*

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organizations (SUNGO) successfully held its Executive Council, Management, and Staff retreat on Friday, February 2nd, and Saturday, February 3rd, 2024. The retreat, held at Vaitele Tai, brought together key stakeholders to deliberate on essential matters concerning the organization's operations and strategic direction.

During the two-day retreat, participants engaged in constructive discussions and collaborative sessions aimed at reviewing and amending SUNGO's constitution, policies, and procedures. These deliberations were instrumental in enhancing the governance framework and operational efficiency of the organization, ensuring alignment with best practices and regulatory requirements.



Notable highlights of the retreat included presentations by distinguished guests, including Tai'i Cheri Robinson from the Tautua Project, who shared valuable insights and perspectives on community development initiatives. Additionally, Funemalafai Onosefulu Fuata'i a new member of the Council delivered a presentation on behalf of the Institute of Directors, offering expertise on corporate governance principles and effective leadership practices.



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The retreat also served as an orientation for newly appointed council members, providing them with a comprehensive understanding of SUNGO's mission, vision, and strategic priorities. This orientation session was instrumental in fostering unity, cohesion, and shared commitment among council members towards advancing SUNGO's mandate of promoting social justice and sustainable development in Samoa.



Reflecting on the retreat, Lavea Peseta Lua Nafoi, the President of SUNGO, expressed gratitude for the active participation and meaningful contributions of all attendees. "The retreat provided a valuable opportunity for dialogue, reflection, and collective

decision-making," Lavea remarked. "We are confident that the outcomes of this retreat will strengthen SUNGO's capacity to effectively serve our communities and advocate for positive change."



SUNGO remains committed to its mission of empowering civil society organizations, fostering collaboration, and advocating for the rights and well-being of marginalized communities. The organization looks forward to implementing the outcomes of the retreat and continuing its efforts to build a more inclusive and equitable society in Samoa.

**END OF RELEASE**