



Initiative on Empowerment  
of Civil Society in  
Democratic Samoa

## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Empowerment of Civil Society in Democratic Samoa: Raising Awareness on Climate Change Impacts**

**Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024, Fasitoo-Uta EFKS Hall** – The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (SUNGO), in collaboration with the Women in Business Development Inc. (WIBDI), is pleased to announce the successful implementation of Activity 4 of the Initiative on Empowerment Samoa Activities. This vital initiative focuses on empowering civil society by delivering crucial awareness on climate change impacts to the communities of Tufulele and Fasitoo Uta.

The workshop, held at the Fasitoo Uta EFKS Hall, gathered representatives from the villages of Tufulele and Fasitoo Uta. This event aimed to educate and engage community members on the significant effects of climate change and promote sustainable practices to mitigate these impacts.

*“This collaboration between SUNGO and WIBDI highlights our commitment to fostering resilient and informed communities,”* said Ms. Faapito Opetaita, who is the Team Leader of SUNGO. *“By raising awareness on climate change, we are equipping our people with the knowledge and tools needed to adapt and thrive in the face of environmental challenges.”*

The workshop included informative sessions led by experts in climate science, interactive discussions, and practical demonstrations on sustainable practices. Participants left the event with a deeper understanding of climate change impacts and actionable steps they can take to protect their environment, as stated by Tomaimano Siaosi Peter from the Village of Tufulele, and Faletutulu Ameti from the Village of Fasitoo – Uta.

The Initiative on Empowerment of Civil Society in Democratic Samoa continues to make significant strides in building a more resilient and empowered Samoan society. SUNGO and WIBDI extend their gratitude to all participants and stakeholders who contributed to the success of this activity.

#### **End of Release**

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#### **About International IDEA:**

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) is an intergovernmental organization that supports sustainable democracy worldwide. With a global network, International IDEA provides knowledge, policy development, and advocacy to enhance democratic governance.

#### **About SUNGO:**

The Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (SUNGO) is dedicated to strengthening the capacity of NGOs in Samoa, promoting effective governance, and supporting community development initiatives.

**About WIBDI:**

Women in Business Development Inc. (WIBDI) works to empower women and families in Samoa through sustainable business development, with a focus on organic agriculture and fair trade practices.

**About the European Union:**

The European Union is a political and economic union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe. The EU is committed to promoting peace, its values, and the well-being of its citizens. It supports democracy, human rights, and sustainable development worldwide.