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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The IOE Samoa Project's Community Consultative Discussion Meetings Address Climate Change and its Impacts on the vulnerables.

Thursday, 6th & Friday, 7th March 2025, Magiagi SDA Church Fale, APIA – A two-day Climate Change Consultative discussion was successfully held to address the pressing issues faced by the low-lying villages of Magiagi, Moataa Uta, Alaoa, Lelata, Maagao, and Faatoialemanu. The consultative program brought together community members to discuss the impacts of climate change and identify sustainable solutions for the future.

On the first day, representatives from the villages of Magiagi, Moataa Uta, and Alaoa gathered to share their experiences and insights on the effects of climate change. The discussions highlighted the significant challenges faced by these communities during previous years of flooding, which have become more frequent and severe due to climate change. Participants emphasized the need for improved infrastructure, better flood management systems, and community-led initiatives to enhance resilience.

The second day of the consultative program saw the participation of community members from Lelata, Maagao, and Faatoialemanu. The discussions focused on the adaptive measures these villages have adopted in response to heavy rainfall and flooding. Local members shared success stories of community-driven efforts to mitigate flood risks and enhance preparedness, underscoring the importance of knowledge sharing and collaboration.

The consultative program successfully identified the unique challenges faced by each village and the strategies they have employed to cope with the impacts of climate change. These outcomes include gaining a deeper understanding of the factors contributing to increased flooding and the long-term effects of climate change on their communities, highlighting the importance of building community resilience through sustainable practices, infrastructure improvements, and effective flood management systems. Another outcome underscored the value of collaboration between communities, local governments, and climate experts in developing and implementing adaptive strategies.

The Climate Change Consultative discussion serves as a critical step toward empowering vulnerable communities to address the challenges posed by climate change. The insights gained from these discussions will inform future policies and initiatives aimed at enhancing climate resilience and ensuring the well-being of all affected communities.

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About International IDEA:

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) is an

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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.

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