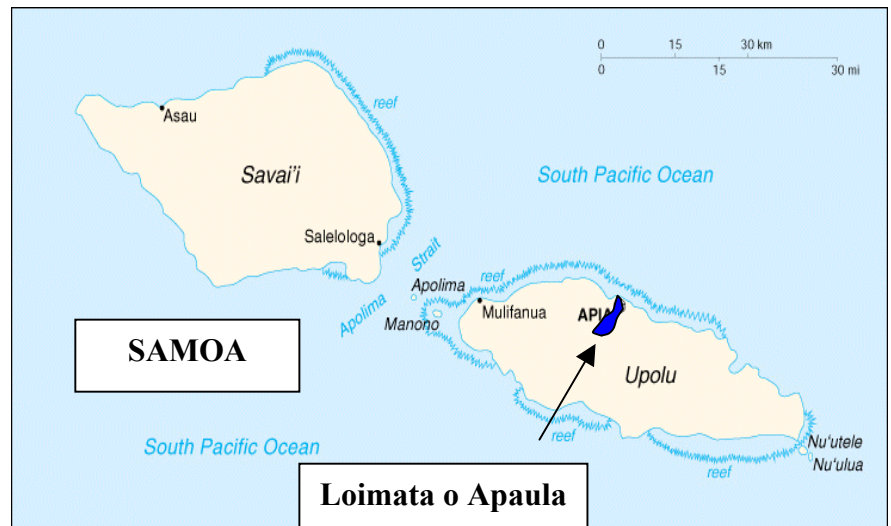


# Protecting Loimata o Apaula

**Water is “Life”, it is one of Gods important gift for us. If we don’t utilize it properly, and protect its environment, surely this useful natural aspect of life would be lost forever.**

This was the aim of the workshop that was organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2003, at its new Water Management Office at Vailima for landowners living near and on the Loimata o Apaula river and watercatchment areas. The purpose of the workshop was to launch the mobilisation of landowners understanding and concerns with issues regarding the preservation and protection



of this key urban catchment from degradation due to unsustainable infrastructural and agricultural practices. Participants from the villages of Vailima, Vaoala, Tiapapata and Togafuafua who lives close to the river were able to attend the exercise.

The basis of the workshop were the results of an extensive research conducted along the river banks which indicated some of the major problems now faced with this watercatchment. It was also an opportunity for the Ministry’s to inform the participants of the services it can provide to help them resolve those key issues. Some of the subjects that were discussed includes the:

- role of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment in protecting watercatchments and river systems – sources of freshwater and freshwater ecosystems,
- impacts of developments and activities such as plantations, farming and others which are done close or on the river banks and the watershed areas,
- villagers views and experience with their use of the Loimata o Apaula, and
- approaches for the Ministry and landowners to work together to address issues of concerns on the protection of the catchment.

In the opening remarks of the workshop the Ministry’s representative stated the decrease in access to safer, high quality water throughout the country and the difficulties of distributing clean water for consumption in many areas due to rising population and increasing water use developments, demands which are putting pressures on the country’s watercatchments and would severely be affected if catchments are not protected and properly managed.

The workshop agrees that its everybody’s responsibility to work together to protect our rivers and its environment in order to maintain the sustainable supply of fresh water for today and future uses. With this in mind, the participants proposed some of their recommendations in areas which they see would not only benefit themselves but would also help with conservation efforts such as:

- replanting some of the areas that had already been degraded by plantations,
- organising days to collect the rubbish from their villages, and

- preparing suitable ways for the Ministry to work closely with the villages on the management the catchment.

# Puipuia o Loimata o Apaula



O le suavai o se tasi lea o meaalofa taua mai i le Atua mo le tagata soifua. Afai tatou te le tausia lelei, fa'aaoga tatau ma puipuia laufanua o lo o pu'eina ai le suavai , e mautinoa o le a fa'apea ona le toe maua pe le toe gafataulimaina fo'i lenei tamaoaiga fa'alenua. O le sini lea o se mafutaga fa'alea'oa'oga sa fa'apea ona fa'atautaia e le Matagaluega o Punaoa ma Siosiomaga i le aso Lulu, 23 Iulai 2003 sa faatinoina i le Ofisa fou o lea matagaluega mo le Puipuia o Laufanua Pu'evai i Vailima. O le manatu maualuga o lenei mafutaga, ia amata ona faamaopopoina finagalo ma le lagolagosua a le mamalu o le atunuu aemaise o e alala i Vailima,

Vauala, Tiapapata ma Togafu'afu'a agai mai i Apia o afioaga tulata i le auvai o le vaitafale o Loimata o Apaula, ma laufanua pu'evai i auvaemauga o Vaea faasolo mai i le gataifale. O nisi o mataupu sa talanoaina e aofia ai vaega nei:

- matafaioi a le Matagaluega o Punaoa Faanatura ma Siosiomaga i le puipuia o laufanua pu'evai – punavai o vaimagalo ma le ola faanatura i vaimagalo,
- aafiaga o siosiomaga faanatura ma le soifuaga lautele i atina'e e pei o fa'atoaga ma isi o lo o fa'atinoina i autafa o vaitafe ma totonu o laufanua pu'evai,
- malamalamaaga ma tomai i aoga ma faafaitauli o le vaitafe o Loimata o Apaula o lo'o iai latou o nonofo tulata ai, ma le
- auala e galulue faatasi ai le Matagaluega ma sui o afioaga po'o i latou e ana meatotino tulata i auvai o Loimata o Apaula.

I tautalaga amata o lea mafutaga sa taua ai e le sui o le Matagaluega, ua faasolo ina faateleina le utiuti ma le tau fa'asoasoa o le suavai mo le mamalu o le atunu'u i ana atina'e ae maise mo le fofoga taumafa. O lea tulaga, e mafua mai ona o le fa'ato'ateleina o tagata, fa'atupulaia o atina'e e fa'aaogaina ai le suavai ae maise le tau le maua o se suavai i vaitafe ona o le fa'atamaia o le si'osi'omaga o i luga o nei laufanua i atina'e a tagata. O tiute tauave lea a tagata uma o le galulue fa'atasi e puipuia vaitafe ma ona laufanua mo le fa'atumauiina pea o le suavai maua ma le mama i o tatou vaitafe ina ia fa'aaogaina mo le mamalu o le atunu'u mo nei ma a taeao.

E tele ni mataupu taua sa fa'atalatalanoaina i lenei mafutaga ma a'e ai se finagalo autasi o tupu ma tamali'i, faleupolu o tofiga, sa'oao ma tama'ita'i, faletua ma tausii sa mafai ona auai i lenei mafutaga i mataupu nei:

- ia toe totoina ni vaega o laufanua nei ua fa'aleagaina i fa'atoaga,
- avanoa e aoina ai otaota ma le vaaia lelei o otaota mai le lafoa'i ma le faale tatau,
- tapena ni auala talafeagai e galulue fa'atasi ai le Matagaluega ma nu'u tulata i le Loimata o Apaula, ma le
- o le a ofoina mai lo latou lagolagoina i ni polokalame a le Vaega o Si'osi'omaga mo le puipuia ma le fa'asoina o le vaitafe ma ona laufanua

# Childrens Corner



Circle the correct answer.

1. Loimata o Apaula river is found at;
  - a. The Mount Vaea
  - b. The Le Pupu Pue National Park
  - c. The Lava field at Savaii
  - d. Upperland of Aleipata.
  
2. Vailima people are using this river for
  - a. Washing
  - b. Bathing
  - c. Irrigation
  - d. All of the above
  
3. People in the areas of \_\_\_\_\_ have access to the Loimata o Apaula river.
  - a. Sogi
  - b. Lalovaea
  - c. Moataa
  - d. Fugalei
  
4. Loimata o Apaula river has a legend which says that it;
  - a. Originates from heavy rains
  - b. Originates from the tears of Apaula
  - c. Originates from the tears of Vaea
  - d. Originates from the tears of Robert Louis Stevenson
  
5. The Apaula river is protected by the;
  - a. Ministry of Transport,
  - b. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Meteorology
  - c. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
  - d. Ministry of the Prime Ministers
  
6. Rivers can be dried out from;
  - a. Warm sun
  - b. Siltation
  - c. Logging
  - d. Siltation & logging
  
7. Heavy rain causes;
  - a. River flooding

- b. Drought
  - c. Bush fire
  - d. Coastal erosion
8. Siltation settled on coral reefs is caused by;
- a. Logging
  - b. Deforestation
  - c. Soil erosion
  - d. Silt carried by river currents down the sea.
9. The mouth of a river is;
- a. On the mountains
  - b. On the coral reefs
  - c. Found where the sea meets the freshwater
  - d. Found close to a bridge
10. Water pollution is caused by,
- a. Planting more trees
  - b. Drinking from the river
  - c. Dumping rubbish in the river
  - d. Having a bath in the river

# Word Find

Watershed  
River  
Protection  
Fertility  
Degradation

Apaula  
Vaea  
Spring  
Erosion  
Quality

Loimata  
Landslide  
Waterwell  
Hydropower  
Freshwater

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