



TEACHERS IN -SERVICE TRAINING

SAMOA TRANSLATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT RESOURCE EDUCATION GUIDE



Your cooperation is necessary to improve our Monthly Newsletter, so please give us information about coming events and projects

What's the Environment Resource Education Guide?

It's a teaching guide designed for teachers with the intention to help address environmental concerns at a very early stage in schools by developing and strengthening the children's knowledge base on environmental issues. It is a compilation of instructional resource materials developed to enhance general understanding, information sharing and learning at the primary and secondary levels.

Why is this Resource Guide Important?

- Aims to promote the use of environment education to foster the values, behaviour and lifestyles required of our young generation for a sustainable future.

- Encourage the integration of environment education for sustainable development' (ESD) into the national curricula which promotes learning to empower our young generation to take on responsibilities for creating a sustainable future.

- Supplementary teaching material to support the implementation of environment education initiatives in schools.

Environment education is all about building the knowledge base of the young generation to become stewards for the environment and to encourage their active participation in resource management. It's about using education as the primary agent of change towards sustainable development and nurturing their capacities and transforming their visions for society and the world.

Active Participation of Teachers

A series of Teachers In-Service training were conducted by MNRE and Ministry of Education, Sports & Culture starting last year in June for the English Guide. Some of the feedback from the workshops highlighted the need to have a Samoan version of the Guide. With continued funding support from the European Union, through the Water Sector Management Unit, the translation of the Guide was undertaken by local consultants, Ms Masa Faasau and Mrs Fiapalagi Faasau in January 2009. Funding was also made available to print both the English and Samoan Resource Guide for schools and posters.

2 workshops for Primary and Secondary schools were conducted for Upolu and Savaii on the use and application of the Samoan Guide at the primary levels in March. A total of 155 teachers attended the workshop in Upolu and 57 in Savaii.

The teachers expressed positive comments and appreciation for the Guide. Teachers were challenged to make use of the resource materials ... to be innovative and add a bit of creativity in their lesson plans so as to keep the students interested. Well, as the Savaii'an teachers' quoted

"Let's Do It!"



MNRE & MESC COMMITTEE



MAIMOANA PETAIA
ACEO - SCHOOL OPERATION
EDUCATION

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LOOK

**BIOSAFETY CLEARING HOUSE (BCH)
SCHOOL AWARENESS PROGRAMS**

The Division of Environment and Conservation conducted workshops to 10 colleges (Malua Fou College, Vaimauga College, Samoa College, St. Mary’s College, Leififi College, Channel College, 7th Day Adventist College, Congregational Senior College, St. Josephs College, Avele College) around the town area from mid February to early March to raise awareness on Samoa obligations to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety which was ratified in 2002 by Samoa deals with the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) such as genetically engineered plants, animals, and microbes that cross international borders.

The Protocol provides countries the opportunity to obtain information before new biotech organisms are imported. to accomplish this task, the protocol then establishes an Internet-based “Bioesfety Clearing House (BCH)” to help countries exchange scientific, technical, environmental, and legal information about living modified organisms (LMOs).

OBJECTIVES:

To provide awareness to selected schools within town area on the importance of the Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism implemented under the Division of Environment and Conservation

PRESENTATION:

The presentation by Ms Moeumu Uili highlighted the following areas

- To explain on what the BCH Project do and why it is important for Samoa.
- To highlight the use of modern biotechnology and its products.
- To explain what GMO and LMO means and their relationship to BCH.
- To explain the current status of the BCH for Samoa.

The school program focused mainly on Year 12 and Year 13 students, because the issues discussed were quite difficult for lower classes in terms of the various processes involved.

The schools were appreciative of the opportunity they have been given to learn and understand about some of the issues regarding biosafety. They also support efforts made by the government through our ministry to raise public awareness on such programs for the benefit of our people but especially the protection of our biological resources.



Moeumu Uili gave a presentation to students



St. Mary’s student display the poster on Biosafety



Avele students

ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS (PoWPA) - BIODIVERSITY GAP ANALYSIS

The Division of Environment & Conservation in collaboration with Conservation International and SPREP held a meeting on 5th March to present to the Ministry its findings thus far with Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) Gap Analysis for Terrestrial and Marine.

The KBA Gap Analysis is a collaborative project between MNRE, CI and SPREP to help Samoa implement its Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) and achieve Samoa's NBSAP goals.

What are KBAs?

Key Biodiversity Areas are sites that contain healthy populations of globally threatened species, restricted range species or species of national conservation concern.

Why identify KBAs?

- KBAs capture viable populations of native and endemic species of all taxonomic groups most at risk from extinction.
- KBAs also capture the best remaining habitats and ecosystems for a wide range of benefits e.g. ecosystem services, cultural values, recreation, resource management, watershed protection, resilience against storms etc.

What is a KBA Gap Analysis?

•It is an analysis of how effective our current PA network is in conserving species and sites of national and global conservation concern.
 1.It is essentially the KBA gap analysis been overlaid onto the current Protected Area (PA) network to see where the gaps are.

Why do a KBA Gap Analysis?

- 1.To promote the strategic expansion of the existing PA network in order to meet agree country targets
- 2.To strengthen and consolidate the management of existing PA networks

Literature Review of Terrestrial Biological Survey information in Samoa – Findings

Major Gaps in our biological ↗

•Freshwater fauna

- o A preliminary survey in 2008 found 30 species of fish and 17 crustacea including 3 new fish and 8 new crustacea.

•Invertebrates

- o The status of Samoas 64 native land snail species is not know
- o Butterfly survey conducted in 2008 recorded 19 of Samoa's 28 species but not the endemic Swallowtail butterfly. More surveys will be conducted in 2009.

•Flying foxes and the sheath-tailed bat (tagiti)

- o Current distribution, population and status will be assessed in 2009

•Threatened plants

- o We hope to assess the current distribution, population and status of rare, endangered and culturally important plants in Samoa in 2009



Faleafaga Toni Tipama'a ACEO DEC presented



participants.....

INDUCTION PROGRAMME 2009

The Induction Training for all new recruits which comprised of 8 new Graduates and 22 Casuals was conducted by the Capacity Building Section in early March. The training was mainly to familiarize the new staff with the organizational structure of the Ministry, its Vision & Mission and its core functions in terms of supporting sustainable developments in resource management and the environment.

The ACEO Corporate Services, Elisaia Talouli provided the overview emphasizing the importance of understanding the primary responsibilities of the Ministry, and being stewards for the environment through the work they undertake in the respective Divisions. Also the staff were informed of the significance of understanding the 'Code of Conduct', 'Principles of Employment' and 'Values of the Public Service' which clearly outlines standards of behavior, obligations and responsibilities as public servants employed under the Ministry.

New recruits were challenged to seriously familiarize themselves with the Ministry's Corporate Plan and related documents, in particular, Management Plan, Service Charter, Capability Plan, WC and E, and related HR Policies.



PRINCIPAL CAPACITY BUILDING SECTION / ACEO CORPORATE SERVICES



PARTICIPANTS DURING THE TRAINING



The staff was also provided with a 'before and after' questionnaire as part of the Ministry's series of 'Staff Survey' developed to acquire information regarding staff knowledge and level of awareness on the Ministry's services. In general, comments were quite positive on what they needed to learn from the training, ie., structure of the Ministry, Corporate Plan and working entitlements.



PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS:

WATER RESOURCE DIVISION

- Fiasoso Siasosi
- Osa Aitui
- Ana Aveau
- Simalila Sua
- Fiamalua
- Masoe Ivana Moe

FORESTRY DIVISION

- Timoteo Molesi
- Annie Kalala Muga
- Manukini Kolio
- Jonathan Aiatia
- Aofia Vaiaoga
- Ioane Loia

TECHNICAL SERVICES

- Valeliano
- Larry Simanu

CORPORATE SERVICES

- Fialogo Lologo
- Sailele Aimaasu
- Laolaoifale Solomona
- Asosa Tiatia





METEOROLOGY DIVISION

- Luteru Tauvale
- Gutu Likou
- Talalelei Lome
- Sosaiete Lepale

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

- Czarina Iese
- Afa Samoa
- Faaleleila Iamanu
- Alapati Tovia
- Iokopo Telea
- Taufao Alofaae
- Liaina Gatai

Re-fresher In-House Training on the Process & Application Recruitment & Selection Process

	PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III
			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the R & S Process? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key PRINCIPLES of the R & S Process? • What are the different stages of the R & S? • What is the PROCEDURE? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who should be in a Selection Panel? • Practical application of the R & S • Ensure selections adhere to the MERIT Principle. • Reasons why people Appeal or Lodge a Grievance • etc 		

	PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III
			
	<p>PROCESS</p> <p>Phase I: Pre-assessment Vacancy Review – job analysis Formulate SC – (5 step process) Advertise Position Selection Panel – 3</p>		<p>Info to applicants:</p> <p>To make an informed Decision (interest, Possess the capabilities)</p>
	<p>Phase II: Assessment Shortlisting: applicants MUST Interview Referee Reports Evaluation & Recommendation</p>		<p>Notified ASAP re status, Reasons.</p>
	<p>Phase III: Post Assessment Selection decision Offer of Employment Notification Provisional Appointment (appeal)</p>		<p>Offered one-to-one session on performance</p> <p>Clarify situations/Avoid Unnecessary Appeals</p>

Two training sessions were conducted on the R & S Process for Principal and Senior Officers and all Officers in March. For Officers at the middle management level, the presentation and discussions provided more open dialogue on the different stages of the Process, what is required by those in the Selection Panel and other issues pertaining to Merit, Selection Criteria and How to develop Selection Criteria.

The sharing was not only useful to staff members already involved in the R & S Process, but also staffs' who have been applicants on various job vacants "What are they required to do?" and to ensure they complete the information accurately.

Issues raised from the discussions highlighted the need for all staff to really understand the Process, steps required in the different stages, having clearly defining duties and Selection criterias in JDs, ensuring that Panelists uphold the 'Guiding Principles of the R & S' and more. Overall, it was a great opportunity to openly discuss the proper and fair application of the Process, current practices or policies engaged by the Ministry and ensuring that "Selection should and is based on merit and procedural fairness".



PARTICIPANTS



PARTICIPANTS



PARTICIPANTS

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PROJECT



CEO of MNRE, Tu'u'u' Dr.leti Taulealo heads discussion

A project to cut greenhouse gas emission is ready to start. The strategy is to become more energy efficient and to use bio-fuel in land transport.

IUCN-Oceania Regional Office in Suva, Fiji, is the executing agency for the three-year project. The implementing agency is the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)-Renewable Energy Division-in collaboration with the Land Transport Authority (LTA) and Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa (SROS)

Project Background

The Government of Samoa through the MNRE has signed a Contract Agreement with the IUCN-Oceania to implement the GHG abatement project through energy efficiency and bio-fuel applications in the land transport sector in Samoa. The project will contribute directly to reducing Samoa's Greenhouse Gas emissions and help support emissions control under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its goal is to reduce the carbon emissions in the land transport sector through energy efficiency and the development of coconut oil research as a suitable bio-fuel for electricity generation. Samoa can also benefit indirectly through a reduction in imported fossil fuel as a result of a more efficient operation of vehicles and electricity generation. The project is in line with Samoa's National Policy on Combating Climate Change; National GHG Abatement Strategy 2008-2018; National Energy Policy; and the Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2008-2012 where the reduction of GHG emissions is the Government's first priority under its environmental sustainability goals. It is supported by a grant of 3 million from the Government of Italy and additional 1 million from Austria for Samoa, Tonga, Palau, Tuvalu, Marshall Is and Vanuatu.

FUN SPOT!!!



guess who ???



- HEAD - _____
- FACE - _____
- MOUTH/NECK - _____
- CHEST - _____

Mail your answers to Molly @ the Capacity Building Section - Level 3
 - You never know you might get a sur-prize!!!
 - First come First serve!!!

NOTICE BOARD

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Nusipepa Lepale - Principal Administration Officer

Laolaoifale Solomon - Compensation Rental Clerk

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Faalegalupe Uaita - Records Clerk