



## SECOND INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECT - NEW MNRE NETWORK SERVER



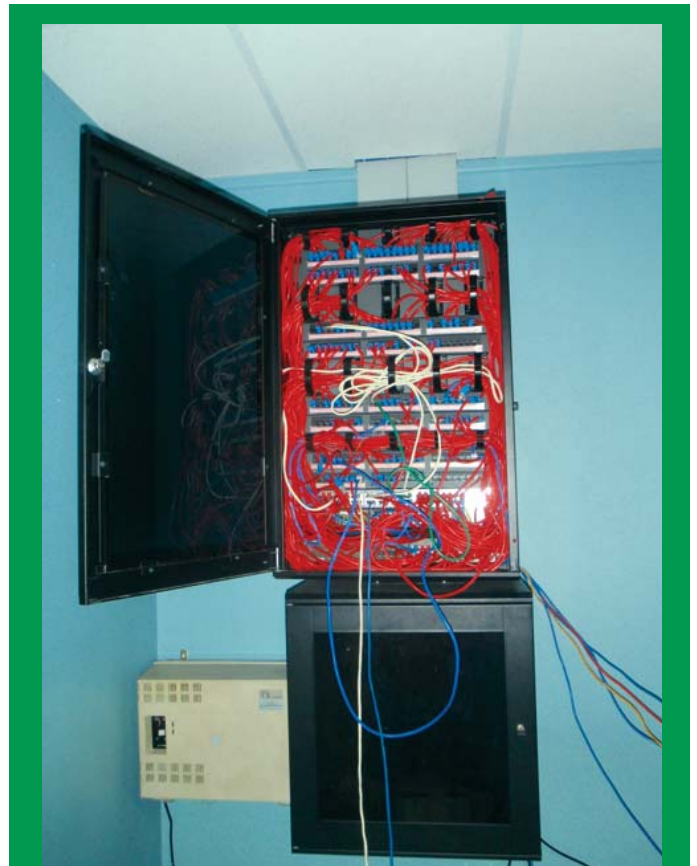
*To improve our Monthly Newsletter contributions from staff & stakeholders are welcomed*

Funds from the SIAM-2 Project were utilised to purchase a new modern server for the ministry's ICT needs before the current financial year budget winds up. This is because one of the Ministry's servers had been burnt out and there is concern on the amount of work under the SIAM-2 Project that has been invested in the digital data capture for land registration, cadastre and microfilm records to build up the ministry's digital library of archived land information.

These archived land information records are now available digitally through the ministry's network and can be accessed by the staff thus has greatly improve the work performance of the division's personnel involved in the SIAM-2 Project and their related work. In addition, magnetic tapes were also procured for back up work away from the server.

The cost of the new network server that would facilitate the maintenance, support and backing up of these digital data is ST\$48,088.89 and was purchased from CSL company.

The new server has ample storage capacity and speed and will certainly meet the needs of the Ministry for the next 3 - 4 years.



*The current server in operation*



*MNRE's SIAM-2 Project Component Manager, Vitaea Peleiupu Fuatai handing over the new server to Lydia Ah Kuoi and Charles Pritchard staff of the IT Division.*

### INSIDE STORY

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### THE MINISTRY REVIEW ITS CORPORATE DOCUMENTS

The CEO, Management & Senior staff took a day out of the office to conduct its Corporate review.

#### What does the Corporate review entail?

It's an important opportunity for the Ministry to review its existing Plans (Corporate Plan 2008 - 2011, Management Plan, Capability Plan and the Service Charter) and to reassess its core objectives and functions, that support its long term Vision on the sustainable management of Samoa's natural resources and the environment.

Each of the Divisions presented on the Management Plan, highlighting key Outcomes to be achieved and Output, (ie priority areas) and factors affecting its performance. Presentation also identified proposed changes considered necessary to address development priority needs of the country. Other presentations highlighted major achievements under various donor funded Projects.

The exercise was also a welcome opportunity for Divisions to review their overall performance in terms of how well their outputs were delivered, and providing an overall rating based on performance indicators.



The preliminary results of the 2009 MNRE Staff Satisfaction Survey was also presented. Overall, the results indicated that the majority of staff at the MNRE "are happy and satisfied"....



CEO Tu'u'u Dr Ieti Taulealo during his presentation. ACEO Technical (Safuta Toelau), ACEO Corporate (Elisaia Talouli)



MNRE staff at the review



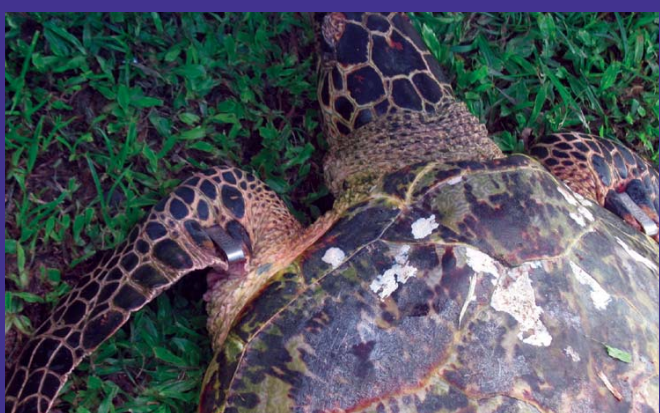
The Management during the review



MNRE staff at the review

**ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION**

**FLIPPER TAGGING PROGRAM**



*Hawksbill turtle*

A hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) was caught in a fishing net (*upega*) by fishermen from the village of Afega on the 17th May 2009.

The turtle was reported to the Marine Conservation Section, (DEC) on 18th May 2009 and relevant morphometric data was collected before releasing it back into the ocean. Measurements and assessment of the condition of the turtle were recorded. Tissue samples were also collected for genetic analysis and new tags were applied.

The flipper tagging program is an on-going work and over the years there has been an increase in the number of turtles reported and tagged. This is a good indication of the communities support towards the Government's conservation efforts to protect and conserve our marine turtles.

The Ministry acknowledged the fishermen of Afega who caught and reported the turtle to the DEC division.



*Hawksbill turtle caught and reported to the Ministry*

**MYNA CONTROL NEWS!!!**



*A dead myna bird*

The Terrestrial Conservation Section particularly the Myna Working Team has been successful with their work on the myna's control program conducted for two weeks (June wk4-July wk1&2).

The team had been applying poison baits (bread, pawpaw, banana mixed with DRC1339) and it killed a total of 422 mynas collected by hand after the first two weeks. An estimation of collecting dead mynas is not yet known but an estimated mortality population is close to a 1000. If this will be a catch for two weeks continuously then the team assumes that after a year or two the myna population will be reduced as targeted.

The team will continue its work on the myna's within the town area and thus seek your kind assistance in reporting any dead myna that you may find in areas nearby.

*Please if you are interested and willing to observe this change please pay a visit down at the pulu trees at 6pm, the usual time these annoying birds flock at these trees to roost and perhaps report to us any change seen.*



*Myna Working Team*

### MAPINFO TRAINING FOR THE COASTAL MAPPING PROJECT

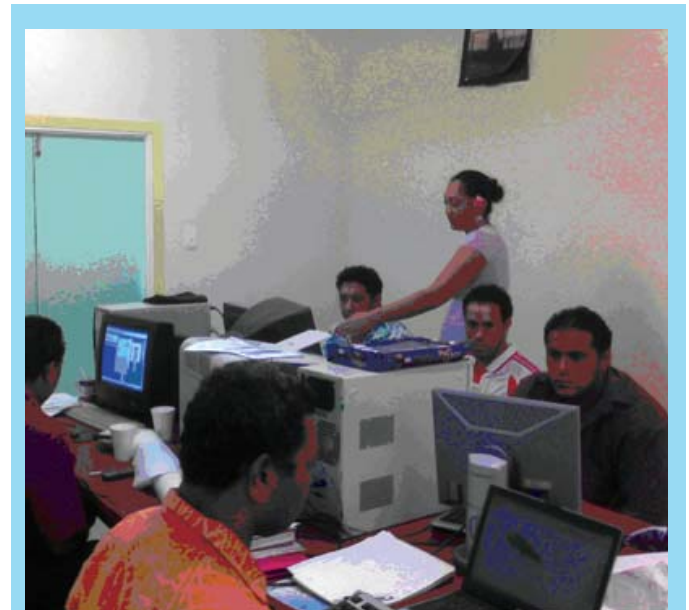
The Coastal Mapping Project carried out a MapInfo Training from 22nd to 27th June. The main purpose was to boost the Capacity Building Component of the Project.

It was attended by nine participants from within the Division and facilitated by Lameko Talia and Ms Siosina Lui as the Resource Person.

The topics included - **GIS Basics** (What is GIS?, GIS Data View, GIS Data Model (Vector, Raster data), Coordinate System/Spatial Reference System); **Introduction to MapInfo Part 1**(Module 1 - Introduction); **Introduction to MapInfo Part 2**,(Module 2 - Editing, Module 3 - Spatial Analysis, Module 4 - Display & Output); **GIS Task Part 1** (Transfer GPS data onto map/GIS (MapInfo), Mapping Tabular Data).

The knowledge gained will be utilized by the participants to enhance their work in the scientific environment field they are working on such as mapping, rainfall data and networks, seismic networks and the coastal areas.

From the questionnaires given at the end of the training, all the participants indicated the need for more training of this nature in the future.



*Ms. Siosina Lui with the participants*

## RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Ministry in collaboration with the Land Transport Authority conducted its first Awareness Workshops at Vaiitele and Salelologa under the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Project funded by the Government of Italy. The workshop was well attended by more than 100 participants of whom are Bus Owners and Motor Mechanics.

The main aim of the workshop focused on highlighting the impacts of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Carbon-dioxide with the overall goal to promote Energy Efficiency in the Land Transport sector through;

- Promote the use of small vehicle engines, eg Getz.
- Encourage Bus Owner's and Motor Mechanics to take good care of their engines so as to reduce emitting greenhouse gas, CO2.
- Highlight the enforcement of the Reduction of SMOKE from vehicles.

- Inform the public of effects of Carbon Dioxide on the Environment and its contribution to Climate Change.

The participants expressed their positive support for the workshops in both Upolu and Savaii. This was demonstrated by open and constructive exchange of opinions, thus providing inspirational ideas and recommendations on how to address the issues.



*Participants in Savaii.*

**OVERSEAS**

**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE 33rd COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Seville, Spain**

Ms. Tuiolo Schuster attended the 33rd session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee held in Seville, Spain from the 22nd - 30th June 2009.

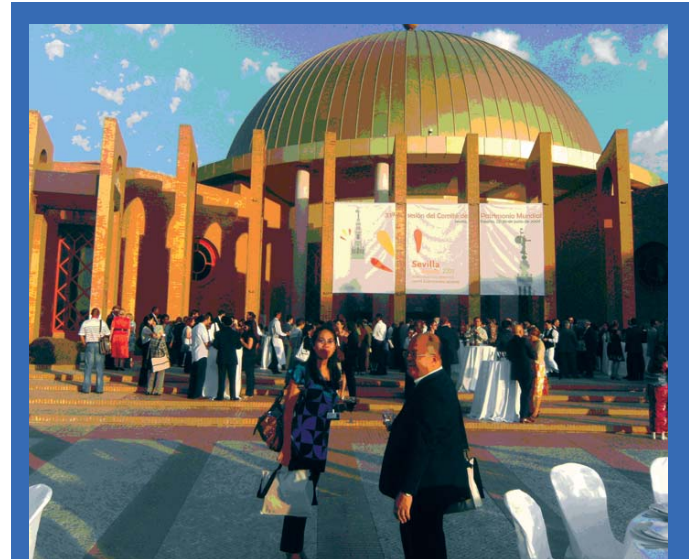
Over 180 countries or state parties which have ratified the World Heritage Convention with a total of more than 1,500 participants gathered to witness the 33rd Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

The Committee Members comprised of: Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Republic of, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, United States of America.

Five countries from the Pacific including New Zealand and Australia ( Samoa, Vanuatu, Tahiti ) attended this important gathering and it was a memorable event as countries witnessed with admiration the intricacies of what was happening around them.

As such: the underlying processes of the Convention, rules of procedures taking place on decisions and conducting votes, protocols of the meeting, presentations by technical advisory bodies, open negotiations and private consultations between parties, country campaigns for support, meeting delegates from different countries of the world, diplomatic skills at play and all the little political manoeuvres that come with such privileges.

For small Pacific island countries like Samoa, it is a valuable learning experience not only at the personal level, but more importantly the insight knowledge and exposure to the processes of the World Heritage Committee that can be used to help facilitate/ progress development efforts towards preparing a nomination for Samoa.



*Ms. Schuster and representative from Thailand*



*Meeting session*



*Representatives from diferent countries*

**AUDIT TEAM VISIT SAVAII**

The Audit team visited Savaii on the 19-22 May as part of its audit work conducted for the Ministry for the Financial Year 2007/2008. The main objective of the visit was to express an opinion on the adequacy and reliability of the Ministry's financial systems, internal control procedures and processes for safeguarding of public funds and assets at its Savaii branches.

The main areas under audit were: Accountable forms, System Reviews, Cash Counts, Cash Collection, Receipting and Banking, Attendance Books, Leave Cards & Returns, Fixed Assets, Performance Measures and Sighting of Projects.

The team also visited Masamasa Forest Plantation, Nurseries at Asau & Maota and the Forest Plantation at Falelima. The audit team was led by Rosseane Faau'i included Paula Tumua and Faigafou Lesatele. They were accompanied by the Principal Accountant and ACEO-CS.



At the Asau nursery



Masamasa forest plantation at Asau

**Smile** \_\_\_\_\_ **NEVER LIE TO A WOMAN.....**

A man called home to his wife and said, "Honey I have been asked to go fishing up in Canada with my boss & several of his Friends We'll be gone for a week. This is a good opportunity for me to get that Promotion I've been wanting, so could you please pack enough Clothes for a week and set out my rod and fishing box, we're Leaving From the office & I will swing by the house to pick my things up Oh! and Please pack my new blue silk pajamas."



The wife thinks this sounds a bit fishy but being the good wife she is, did exactly what her husband asked.

The following Weekend he came home a little tired but otherwise looking good



The wife welcomed him home and asked if he caught many fish?



He said, "Yes! Lots of Salmon, some Bluegill, and a few Swordfish. But why didn't you pack my new blue silk pajamas like I asked you to Do?"  
You'll love the answer...The wife replied, "I did. They're in your fishing box ..."



**NOTICE BOARD**



**Taupau Maturo Paniani**

Profile

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science (Hons)
- Diploma in Forestry - PNG

Employment History

**20 / 5 / 2009**

ACEO - Forestry

**2008**

Principal Forestry Officer (Upolu)

**2005**

Principal IWP Project

**1991 - 1997**

Senior Watershed Management Officer (MAFFM)

Promotions:

Taupau Maturo Paniani  
ACEO - Forestry

Pau Ioane  
Principal Mapping Officer

Pisila Pauli  
Senior Accountant

Transfer:

Faatamali'amio Meredith  
Waste Management Officer

**Congratulations & All the Best to your new appointment**