

Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment

CORPORATE PLAN 2014 - 18

GREEN GROWTH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Table of Content

Foreword from the Minister	2
Message from the Chief Executive Officer	4
Purpose	5
Who we are?	
Samoa's State of the Environment Report 2013	
Our Vision	6
Our Mission	
Our Values	
Our Workforce	
Our Mandatory Roles	7
How we work and What we do?	
Divisional Objectives	8
Goals	9
Strategic Focus and Direction	
Expected Outcomes	10
Priorities	
Challenges	11
National Environment and development Sector Plan 2013 – 16	12
Our Outcomes and Strategic Priorities	
What are Key Environmental Sector Objectives?	13-17
Institutional Framework- Structure	18
Where You Can Find Us	18
Organizational Structure	19

Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment

CORPORATE PLAN 2014 - 18



Foreword from the Honourable Minister

Welcome to the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment's Corporate Plan, outlining our priorities and work programme for the 4 year period from 2014- 2018. It sets out how we intend to deliver our national outcomes and integrated objectives of protecting and improving Samoa's natural resources and environment, and contributing to sustainable economic growth.

The implementation of this Plan will contribute to the achievement of the outcomes and targets of the Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS) 2013 – 16 and the National Environment & Development Sector Plan (NESP) 2013 – 16 for the period. The Ministry through the implementation and review of the achievements under this Plan and the NESP will inform the formulation of Samoa's view on the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, the new Global Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and towards a new Global Climate Change Agreement. Significant work will be coordinated under the Environment Sector Plan and will be used to monitor our progress throughout the period.

The Ministry's role is a mix of processes which together deliver an essential public service for the people of Samoa. Our environment is also a mix of materials and processes which together provide the natural resources and ecosystem services which sustain all life on earth. Samoa's society and economy depend on these free services, which is why protecting the environment is absolutely essential. And all our human activities rely on natural resources, so it is essential that we use them wisely and efficiently.

Our real objective therefore has to achieve multiple benefits such as; protecting our natural resources and the environment, contribute to economic growth, and developing our communities. I believe this is the essence of sustainable development as our Ministry cannot achieve this by ourselves. We need to improve on our environmental regulation so it is easier for our people to comply with regulations and encourage good environmental practices and to focus our efforts where we can make the biggest difference. We need to ensure the environment, communities and businesses benefit from the protection of our environment laws and regulations.

We recognize that we are asking (and expecting) a lot but we believe it can be done. It will involve making real commitments. It will involve better working with partners and communities, and it will also involve stopping some of the things we've been doing in the past.

This is a challenging plan for a time when we are all facing challenges. However, I believe that it is achievable because our people have the passion and ambition for a better environment and with the commitment of others who care equally to sustain the quality of our environment and resources.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faale Tumaalii', positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Hon. Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Taito Dr Faale Tumaalii

Message from the CEO



I am pleased to present the Ministry's 6th Corporate Plan since taking up post in March 2014. It is a broad-ranging plan, reflecting on the scope of our work which includes environmental regulation, addressing climate changes, monitoring and reporting on the state of the environment, advising on environmental issues, protecting our people from environmental harms as well as contributing to economic growth.

The Plan sets out how we will maintain a sustainable level of protection for our natural resources and the environment and contributing to our economy and our individual well being. Just last year we published the NESP (National Environment & Development Sector Plan) for the next 3 years; an ambitious and broad-ranging Plan, yet the ambitions we set out then remain at the heart of our plans and work for the future. A lot has happened, of course since our very first Corporate Plan in 2000 but our fundamental purpose - the protection and improvement of the environment and its natural resources, to improve the quality of life for all Samoans' remains as important as ever.

This Plan provides a reference point for every person who works in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment - and for anybody who want to understand how we work and what we do.

The Plan provides our common ground and a shared perspective of the Ministry.

Our stewardship role in natural resources management is central to the well-being and prosperity of our country.

I want us to use this Plan to help us align our efforts around a common purpose and outcomes. No matter where you work in the Ministry, or what you do, your work is important and you can make a meaningful contribution.

We will continue to build on the creative partnerships we have developed with our stakeholders and communities. We seek alternative solutions and partnerships with the business sector and NGOs to deliver positive outcomes for our environment.

We will continue to act to increase public and businesses awareness of the environment and encourage their shared commitment to its protection.

So in reality we are in partnership with everyone in Samoa, individually and collectively. Because if every one of us is aware of our environmental impacts, if everyone of us takes responsibility, if everyone of us considers the environment in our actions and decisions, together we can achieve the healthy environment, the growing economy and the well-being of communities - the sustainable development - to which we must surely aspire.

Please help us make resilient sustainable development a reality now and for our future generations!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sulaimalo Amataga Penaia'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S'.

Sulaimalo Amataga Penaia

Purpose

The MNRE leads the management of Samoa's environment and natural resource. We work across a diverse range of issues as reflected in the core functions undertaken by the 14 Divisions. We work in partnership with a number of resource management Boards (Land, PUMA, Forestry, Spatial Information & Water) to advise, inform and support community and Government decision making and deliver services to the people and communities.

We also work with Government ministries, NGOs and the private sector. We have a responsibility to make sure that the benefits of sustainably managing our natural resources and the environment now and for future generations are understood and shared effectively.

Our purpose is to improve our environment and do more for the people and wildlife with the resources we have, while supporting the Government's drive for economic and sustainable green growth.

We will work more closely with our key partners and communities and deliver our own work more efficiently.

Who we are?

Our work is guided by the Government priorities under the SDS, community values, aspirations, the state and condition of natural resources, and our legislative and policy mandates.

We contribute to the two strategy goals of the SDS, playing a particular role in Environment Sustainability and Disaster Risk Reduction. We also have lead responsibility for the 10 Outcomes or national targets set out in the NESP 2013 - 16.

Significant work has been achieved under previous Plans and much focus will be placed on evaluating the beneficial impacts from these efforts including the development of a robust Monitoring & Evaluation framework to track any changes in the status of the environment. As the Ministry commences delivery of this Plan, the main challenge and commitment to be progressed include the effective implementation of the NESP. This puts in place a framework to allow MNRE to work with all line Ministries, Sectors, and stakeholders to work towards achieving a healthy, safe, productive and diverse environment for Samoa.

Samoa State of the Environment Report 2013

The Samoa SOE Report 2013 provides the evidence base against which to measure progress in protecting and improving the environment. It also provides a range of environmental indicators used to measure many of the environmental outcomes that we will strive to achieve through the NESP. The indicators will help focus MNRE activities and provide valuable resource on environmental monitoring and trends for use across government.

The need for environmental monitoring is critical for Samoa where our people depend on our lowland and coastal habitats for farming, developments, forests and seafood for day to day living requirements of food, shelter and energy.

The key findings in the SOE Report in particular on Impacts and Responses provides guidance on our Outcomes and Key Environment Sector Objectives in the NESP.

SDS - 2012 - 16

"Boosting productivity for sustainable development"

Improved quality of life for all

SDS Goals:Key Outcomes under Priority 4 - Environment Sector:

13. Environment Sustainability

14. Climate and Disaster Resilience

NESP 2013 - 16

Samoa's natural and built environments are well protected and resilient to natural and human induced hazards and supporting a sustainable and healthy human population.

5th Corporate Plan 2012 - 14

Improved quality of life for all Samoans that is premised on sustainable development and management of the country's natural resources and environment

Our Vision

Improved quality of life for all Samoans that is premised on sustainable development and management of the country's natural resources and environment.

Mission

Working together in close partnerships with communities and stakeholders for the pursuit of sustainable development.

Our Values

In accordance with our role as public servants, we observe the Code of Conduct and Values (Public Service Act 2004), we are passionate and proud of what we do and will strive to conduct work through:

- Christian principles
- VaTapuia
- Effectiveness and Efficiency
- honesty & Integrity
- Team Work
- Equity and Fairness
- Innovative
- Respect
- Faasamoa
- Trust

Our Workforce

Our success is dependent on the concerted efforts and commitments of our staff. We employ over 400 + people who are located in our main office at the Tui Atua Tamasese Efi (TATTE) Building and at 5 different stations in Upolu and Savaii. (Forestry at Vailima, Togitogiga, Maota and Asau, Disaster Management Office at Mulinuu and Faleata), Meteorology Division at Mulinuu and Vaitele)

"Our role is to make sure that the environment and human health are protected, that we use our natural resources and services as sustainably as possible and contribute to economic growth".... through the following

Our Mandatory Roles

1. An Environmental Regulator

We are an environmental regulator – we target our efforts to maintain and improve environmental standards and to minimize unnecessary burdens on the environment.

2. An Environmental Administrator

We are an environmental administrator – we are a national ministry. We work with people and communities to protect and improve the environment in an integrated way.

3. An Environmental Advisor

We are an environmental advisor – we compile and assess the best available evidence and use these to report on the state of the environment. We provide technical information and policy advice to the government to support their roles in decision making.

4. An Environmental Advocate

We are environmental stewards advocating for better environmental outcomes.

How we work and What we do?

The Ministry continues to evolve and will continue to change over the period of this Plan. We will also change our approach to reporting on the state of Samoa's environment and prioritizing environmental issues with a more integrated position being presented in our partnerships. This is in support of the SAMOA Pathway adopted during the Third Global Conference of the United Nations on Small Island Developing States that took place in our shores in September 2014 which highlighted partnerships that are based on the principle of national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability.

The right approach will help us transfer challenges into opportunities. Our approach focuses on interconnection of people, environment, production and conservation. Thus, in delivering our work we will:

- i. Seek to protect the environment through integrated regulatory systems prioritizing monitoring and enforcement;
- ii. Use our knowledge and expertise to contribute to environmental policy development;
- iii. Engage and involve the communities, private sector government, corporations to help share responsibility for the environment, natural resources and encourage informed decisions;
- iv. Raising awareness and understanding of impacts on the environment;
- v. Facilitate the sustainable use of natural resources;
- vi. Strive to conserve natural systems for the long term needs of future generations.

Division Objectives

The following objectives reflect the specific functions and responsibilities of each of the divisions. These are aligned with budget outputs as the achievements of these objectives are dependent on the financial provisions in the annual budget.

1. Land Management

To facilitate and implement sustainable land management practices and administration of land and land-based resources.

2. Environment and Conservation

To implement sustainable development and management of biological resources and the environment including waste management.

3. Forest Services

To ensure sustainable development and management of forest resources across related sectors.

4. Technical Services

To provide quality assurance, survey and spatial information services to support the sustainable development and management of natural resources and the environment.

5. Meteorological Services

To provide meteorological, geo-science, climate change and disaster risk management services in support of sustainable development of natural resources.

6. Planning & Urban Management Services

To manage sustainable planning and development services and outcomes through the implementation of the Planning and Urban Management Act.

7. Water Resources Services

To integrate and implement sustainable water resource management across all relevant sectors.

8. Legal Services

To provide sound and timely legal services for the Ministry to support the sustainable development of natural resources and the environment.

9. Corporate Services

To provide efficient HRM and financial services and effective capacity building and public awareness to support sustainable development of natural resources and the environment.

10. Global Environment Facility Services – donor Support

Assist with finalizing Samoa's priorities for environmental protection and restoration through the GEF-Pacific Alliance of Sustainability Framework and other funding sources.

11. Renewable Energy

To promote climate change mitigation through energy efficiency and renewable energy.

12. Information and Communication Technology

To provide effective and efficient information, communications, and technology to support the sustainable development and management of the country's natural resources and environment.

13. Water and Sanitation Sector Coordination

To strengthen water sector governance and orientation.

14. Disaster Management Office

Mainstreaming the disaster risk management framework in all sectors to ensure sustainable risk reduction and preparedness, effective response and durable recovery from any disaster.

15. Environment Coordinating Unit

Ensure coordinated efforts amongst all stakeholders for optimum results.

Goals

There are 7 overarching goals that cut across and link all the Divisions of the Ministry. In addressing the Ministry's mission, the first five (5) goals contribute to sustainable development and environmental management and the need for adequate resources and information that facilitate improved quality of life and to support decision-making choices. The last two goals identify the need for effective organizational standards and resources to support the implementation of programmes to benefit communities. It would provide for a more structured implementation that helps optimize the use of the environment and socio-economically resources.

1. Policy Development

Appropriate policies to guide sustainable development and management of natural resources and the environment;

2. Programme Planning

Efficient and cost effective services towards project planning and development mechanisms to promote sustainable development;

3. Scientific and Technological Information Transfer.

Encourage data and products sharing and put in place mechanisms to access and disseminate in a timely fashion the scientific and technological information, and traditional knowledge that supports the sustainable management of natural resources and livelihoods;

4. Mainstreaming of climate change and disaster risk management.

Ensuring climate change adaptation and disaster risk management requirements are mainstreamed into plans, strategies and budget;

5. Compliance and enforcement.

Ensuring effective enforcement and monitoring of compliance of legislative instruments in collaboration with communities;

6. Organizational Support

Effective organizational structure with adequate resources for MNRE to support operational and management functions and the monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of services and;

7. Resource Management

Optimum benefits from the sustainable use of natural resources;

Strategic Focus and Direction

Key areas of strategic focus and direction for the current period:

- Enabled institutional structure with sector plans to deliver environmental improvements;
- Empowered and engaged workforce to deliver the services;
- Enhanced infrastructure;
- Balanced financial resources allocation and support;
- Enabling, efficient and operative system of regulatory, enforcement and recovery environment;
- Create supportive and resilient stakeholders groups, particularly community groups and Government;

Expected Outcomes

- Samoa's environment is protected and improving - Compliance & Enforcement
- Samoa's environment is understood – Report on the state of the environment
- Updated Management Plans - Targets
- Capability and Workforce Plan - Strengths
- Revised MNRE Organizational Structure - Affordability
- Performance Management Framework - Budget
- Annual Reporting - Timeliness, Evidence-based
- Code of Ethics, Staff Attitude and Respectful relations (Internal& External) - Day to day
- Prepare for a sustainable future and take steps to limit climate change;

Priorities

Some of the key priorities for the long term:

- i. Enhancing integrated land-use planning (in line with NESP under Environment Sustainability.
- ii. Develop a map to integrate all existing developments/land-use within the Ministry.
- ii. Enforce Environmental Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement (CEM)
- v. Engagement of community representatives
- v. Increase institutional awareness of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)
- /i. Increase Protected Areas
- ii. "2 million Tree Plant" Challenge in close collaboration with all its partners and stakeholders by 2017.
- ii. Move towards low carbon economy and greater use of Renewable Energy Sources;
- x. Resources managed and used sustainably and waste is managed as a resource.

Challenges:

There are a number of challenges in managing Samoa's environment and natural resources. They include: increasing demand for natural resources, Climate Change, building community & cross-sector collaboration, best use of knowledge, our Ministry workforce etc

- **Competing demands for natural resources** - Samoa's population is growing and thus the expansion of its economy. Both will increase the demand for and pressure on natural resources. To meet this challenge the Ministry will provide advice and responses that will address economic, social and environmental considerations.
- **Climate Change** - Climate change will be one of our biggest challenges. Such as increased risk of severe weather events (ie., storms, flooding, droughts etc) all of which are likely to have social, economic and environmental impacts. Preparing for CC will need our coordinated and integrated approach by all of government, the communities and the private sectors to identify risks and help us adapt.
- **Building community and cross-sector collaboration** - collaboration between government, private sector and the communities will be the key driver for effective natural resource management. We will continue to ensure that our national priorities and our strategies promote collaboration and help build awareness of the importance of a healthy environment and natural resources to our quality of life and the economy.
- **Knowledge and information** - to effectively manage demand on our resources, we will need to make well-informed decisions. We will need to make the best use of existing information, incorporate community input and traditional knowledge, and consider the scientific information that supports decisions.
- **An empowered workforce** - The public expect better government services. Our efficiency to deliver will be directly tied to our skills, motivation, flexibility of our staff, and our ability to operate as an efficient Ministry.
- **Lack of compliance to environmental legislation** - Monitoring and Enforcement of existing Legislation remains a challenge due to social behavior and financial constraints. There is a real need for compliance of environmental legislation to ensure the sustainability of natural resources and improved quality of life for now and into the future.

National Environment & Development Sector Plan - Our Outcomes and Strategic Priorities

We aim to ensure a healthy and productive environment and natural resources by delivering National Outcomes. These 10 Outcomes will be achieved through a range of actions across Government Ministries, Corporations, and communities through 11 Key Environment Strategic Objectives (KESO) over the next 4 years.

High Level Outcomes

1. Habitats¹ and species within protected areas, sanctuaries and KBAs² are protected and maintained in natural (pristine) condition.
2. Restoration of degraded habitats³ and threatened species of economic and conservation importance to healthy states and viable populations.
3. Environmental resources such as forests land, water and fisheries are managed sustainably to protect them from natural threats and contamination.
4. The rural and urban built environment⁴ is sustainable and resilient against extreme climate induced events and longer term climate induced changes.
5. Knowledge of Samoa's biodiversity and natural resource is enhanced and kept up to date through science based assessments and ongoing monitoring.
6. Promote Low Carbon Development⁵ in the Energy Sector through the establishment of a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action Programme.
7. Stakeholder engagement and involvement (in decision making) in implementation of environmental management initiatives is strengthened.
8. Reinforce an enabling environment that promotes sustainable financing and partnerships with international organizations to ensure the provision of better support towards environmental sustainability and disaster resilience⁶.
9. Strengthened institutional framework with improved governance and capacity at all levels⁷ to promote integrated decision making, improve monitoring and enforcement (SOE), and strategic environmental assessment.
10. Promote and mainstream an integrated habitat-based approach⁸ towards environmental assessments to support climate change adaptation⁹ and mitigation¹⁰.

¹ 8 Key Habitats defined in the State of Environment Review: Upland & Cloud Forest, Lowland, Coastal strand, Rivers & Stream, Inshore & Offshore Marine, Rural & Urban Built Environment, Protected Areas and Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), Atmosphere, Weather and Climate.

² Key Biodiversity Areas of Samoa: Key Sites containing species most at risk of extinction, and are priority sites for conservation at a global level and national level. Samoa's KBAs comprises 8 Terrestrials + 5 Marine Areas

³ Degraded habitats - sites assessed with loss of ecological and conservation value due to damages as a result of human activities, developments, marine pollution, reclamation, sand mining, tourism, mangrove cutting, deforestation, agricultural expansion etc.

⁴ Built environment - consists of buildings and all other structures people have built. The built environment is considered as separate from the natural environment and identifies all physical man-made developments that improve the quality of life.

⁵ Low carbon development - option for countries to explore how to achieve economic growth targets through a low carbon trajectory or through a carbon neutral pathway

⁶ Disaster resilience - The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions.

⁷ Capacity development: Individual level - Process of changing attitudes and behaviours; Institutional level - overall organizational performance and functioning capabilities; Systemic level - overall policy, economic and accountability frameworks in which institutions and individuals operate.

⁸ Integrated habitat based approach - an assessment method of environmental monitoring based on ecological habitats with the application of the DPSIR model and the inter-related cause-effect relationship between factors of environmental change, impacts and responses.

⁹ Adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change is - to reduce the impacts of climate change that are happening now and increase resilience to future impacts by putting in place appropriate measures to reduce the vulnerability of household, communities etc.

¹⁰ Mitigation is defined as any anthropogenic (human) interventions that can either reduce the sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (abatement) or enhance their sinks (sequestration). / UNFCCC

What are High Level Outcomes?

The High Level Outcomes clarify the qualities of a natural environment that Samoa seeks to achieve that is both sustainable and resilient. These outcomes reflect the overarching end-results identified as a result of the state of the environment analysis based on the key habitats. The Outcomes provide broad strategic directions to improve environmental conditions and to achieve more sustainable environments in the future.

What are Key Environment Sector Objectives (KESO)? `

The Key Environment Sector Objectives are aligned to each of the Outcomes and each Objective prescribes specific strategies to address key environmental issues discussed in the habitats and to achieve the set outcomes. The strategies are the prescriptive elements of Impacts generated by the operation of environmental drivers and pressures in each of the habitats are translated into strategic Responses under KESOs for alleviating their negative impacts.

Outcome 1

Habitats and species protected and maintained in natural condition.

Strategic Priorities 1 – Terrestrial

1. Effective and representative conservation areas established
2. Participation of land owning communities in the management of PA and KBAs.
3. Reduce pressures on habitats and species
4. Innovative adaptation measures to climate change
5. Enhanced capacity building
5. Strengthen capacities for environmental protection and

Strategic Priorities 2 - Marine

1. Create secure and effective MPAs
2. Reduce pressures on coastal habitats and species
3. Innovative adaptation measures to climate change
4. Conservation, management and equitable sharing of marine and ocean resources

Outcome 2

Restoration of degraded habitats & threatened species of economic and conservation importance to healthy states and viable populations.

Strategic Priorities 3 – Restoration of Species Habitats

1. Policy and legal frameworks
2. Monitoring and Enforcement
3. Exploration of resources and research management.

Outcome 3

● ● ●
Forests land, water and fisheries resources are managed sustainably from natural threats and contamination.
● ● ●

Strategic Priorities - A. Water

1. Strengthen watershed conservation and management
2. Improve knowledge and understanding of water resources.
3. Improve enabling environment for water resources management.
4. Strengthen enforcement of legislations and plans.
5. Strengthen community engagement in water resources management.
6. Conservation projects for groundwater, freshwater springs and lakes.

Strategic Priorities – Forest land

1. Policy frameworks
2. Improve knowledge and understanding of forest resources.
3. Improve enabling environment for effective forest management.

Strategic Priorities – Fisheries

1. Strengthen collaboration with MAF/ Fisheries Division.
2. Improve the enabling environment for coordination between agencies.

Strategic Priorities –

A. Waste Management

1. Improve household and industrial waste management
2. Strengthen the legal framework for waste management.
3. Strengthen MNRE's and key stakeholders' capacity in waste management.
4. Improve risk management and governance of chemicals and hazardous waste.

Outcome 4

● ● ●
The rural and urban built environment¹ is sustainable and resilient against extreme climate induced events and longer term climate induced changes.
● ● ●



B. Sanitation

1. Improve household sanitation systems.

C. Energy

1. Promote the NHHGAS to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through Energy efficiency and Renewable energy
2. Encourage and promote the implementation of the following energy efficient strategies
3. Encourage and facilitate the use of indigenous renewable energy sources.



D. Population

1. Support the implementation of strategies to maintain annual growth rate within sustainable levels.
2. Discourage urban migration and high population concentration along coastal areas.
3. Encourage population relocation to areas outside hazard zones including low-lying and flood-prone areas.
4. Collaboration with key stakeholders to establish information network and data sharing to support strategic plans.



E. Infrastructure

1. Support the implementation of priorities of the National Infrastructure Strategic Plan (NISP) for climate change adaptation and mitigation



2. Urban Planning & Management

1. Policy Framework
2. Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment

Outcome 5

Knowledge of Samoa's biodiversity and natural resource is enhanced and kept up to date through science based assessments and ongoing monitoring.

Strategic Priorities 6 – Scientific understanding

1. Broad public participation in decision-making.
2. Identify key information gaps in all habitat-types and encourage collaborative research and surveys with competent local and international scientific organizations and institutions for their investigation.
3. Support and participate in regional and international initiatives for geosciences features monitoring and assessment, including regional and international networks for monitoring earthquakes, tsunami, sea level rise, changes in coastline, sources of aggregates and rainfall levels.
4. Provide and participate in opportunities for staff training in research methods for ecosystems and species assessments, surveys and data analyses.

Outcome 6

Promote Low Carbon Development¹ in the Energy Sector through the establishment of a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action Programme.

Strategic Priorities 7 – Low carbon & climate resilient economy

1. Regulatory Framework to promote energy sector reforms.
2. Sector Coordination
3. Reducing high levels of dependence on imported fossils fuels as the main source of energy.

Outcome 7

Stakeholder engagement and involvement (in decision making) in implementation of environmental management initiatives is strengthened.

Strategic Priorities 8 – Public participation

1. Broad public participation in decision-making.
2. Disseminate properly packaged environmental information to the general public including village councils, local community (women, aumaga, youth etc.), church groups and schools.
3. Target villages and customary land owners whose land hosts habitats and species of high conservation value, for awareness raising activities.
4. Strengthen existing co-planning and co-management arrangements for village fisheries reserves, district marine protected areas and community based conservation areas.
5. Encourage community and individual landowners' participation in business ventures that promote the sustainable use and management of natural habitats and species.

Outcome 8

Reinforce an enabling environment that promotes sustainable financing and partnerships with international organizations to ensure the provision of better support towards environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

Outcome 9

Strengthened institutional framework with improved governance and capacity at all levels¹ to promote integrated decision making, improve monitoring and enforcement (SOE), and strategic environmental assessment.

Outcome 10

Promote and mainstream an integrated habitat-based approach¹ towards environmental assessments to support climate change adaptation¹ and mitigation

Strategic Priority 9 – Sustainable Financing and partnership

A. Policy & Regulatory

1. Review and update existing policy and regulatory framework
2. Improve environmental monitoring, enforcement and compliance

B. Financial Management

1. Improve medium term financial planning and management of the National Environment Sector Plan
2. Encourage the use of natural resource valuations and payment ecosystems services (PES)
3. To improve and increase access to external donor funds

C. Capacity building

1. Establish institutional arrangements for effective coordination
2. Strengthen participation of local communities in the NESP

Strategic Priorities 10 - National Coordination

1. Institutional set-up
2. Improved sector coordination of environmental initiatives through a robust and effective management framework
3. SOE Assessment & Reporting
4. Capacity building & awareness at all levels.

Strategic Priority 11 – Ecosystem based Adaptation

1. Monitor and support the effective implementation of National Programmes to reduce GHG emissions through an integrated approach
2. Implement strategies (for improving air quality) to support climate change adaptation and mitigation
3. Develop knowledge and promote understanding of the predicted impacts of climate change and greenhouse effect.
4. Develop understanding of the effects of pollution on atmospheric quality.
5. Generate public awareness of global climatic changes and the need to protect the atmosphere.

Institutional Framework – Structure

The successful implementation of the CP depends strongly on the availability of adequate human resources with relevant capacity, skills and qualities. Thus, recruitment is the key to a strengthened workforce and to be responsive to the ever-increasingly competitive market to secure suitably qualified and capable staff at all levels. In support of the Ministry's corporate vision, its employees are assets whose values are enhanced by development in order to foster creative and innovative contributions to Samoa's national productivity.

The current organizational structure comprised of 14 divisions with an increased workforce of 471 staff total staff, 107 casuals, 22 term employees and 342 permanent staff.

Where You Can Find Us

<i>Office</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Numbers</i>
Minister's Office Customary Land Advisory Committee	Tamaligi MNRE Office	20410 25857
Chief Executive Officer's Office	Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, L3	67301
Corporate Service Legal Services Office	Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, L3	67200
Division of Environment and Conservation	Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, L3 Vailima National Park Tafaigata Landfill	67200 28680 22267/22281
Land Management Division Disaster Management Office Forestry Division Renewable Energy Division Planning and Urban Management Agency (ACEO) Technical Division	Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, L3	67200
Planning and Urban Management Agency Office Environment Sector Coordination Unit Water and Sanitation Sector Coordination Unit	Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi Building, L1	67200
Meteorology Division	Mulinuu Meteorology Office Vaitele Station	20855 23732
National Emergency Operation Centre	Tuanaimato Fire Services Station	27307/Ext 997
North Upolu Forestry Region and Water Resources Field Offices	Vailima, Next to SPREP Offices	21054/22729 26932
South Upolu Forestry Region East Savaii Forestry Region	Togitogiga-Le Pupu Pu'e National Park Maota	24294 51444

