

WATER & SANITATION SECTOR



NEWSLETTER
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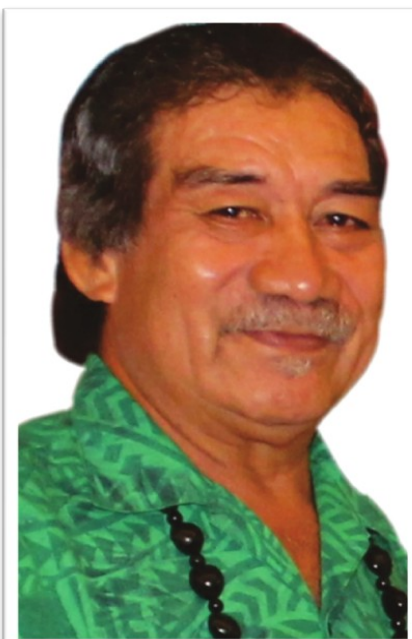
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**Greetings
from
Chairman**

Talofa lava and greetings to all members, stakeholders and partners of the Water and Sanitation Sector. It is with great pleasure that I present to you the first edition of the Sector Newsletter for the FY 2016-2017 featuring some of the exciting achievements of the Sector for the months of June to December 2016.



The main highlights of this period underscore the continuous partnership and contribution of the implementing agencies, subsectors and stakeholders towards achieving the Sector goals and targets. I duly commend all of your hardwork and perseverance, which has brought us this far. Malo le galulue ma le faatoatoa!

I trust that it is with the same collaborative spirit that our Sector will continue strongly and strive forward in unity to pursue the planned feats and overcome any new challenges the remainder of this year may bring.

In moving forward, our newsletter team would genuinely appreciate the support of all our IA members in providing articles, news, events, advertisements that we can publish in our future newsletter editions. For more information, please feel free to contact Peni Allen on 67291 or email: peni.allen@mnre.gov.ws.

Thank you and God bless

Seumanutafa Malaki Lakopo
Chairmain

***Toilet Day
celebrates
in Samoa***

National Toilet Day commemorates in Samoa on the 18th December, 2016 under the theme **"Your Job is your Toilet"**. This year marks the 6th national Toilet Day jointly with the world in commemorating the World toilet Day. This was initiated by the World Toilet Organization on the 19th November 2001 and places and emphasis on everyone's roles in looking after our toilets and ensuring that it does not create any nuisances.



Samoa first joined and started celebrating in 2011 and this still continues. On the 21st July 2013, the United National General Assembly adopted the resolution title, "Sanitation for all" and designated November 19th as an official UN Day. The resolution calls for great attention and awareness specifically on the global sanitation crisis through the commemoration of World Toilet Day.



“Your Job is your Toilet”

National Toilet Day is all about reminding each and everyone that your toilet is your job. Simply, you make the mess, you clean your mess. Its making sure you have a well design and built septic tank that meet all the required set-backs, placing a sink with a soap for hand wash and making sure your toilet does not have any implication on your health and environment as a whole.



In addition to the celebration was the launching of 2 Garden Toilets. The Garden Toilet concept has been adopted to raise public awareness and to celebrate Samoa's contribution to the commemoration of World toilet Day 2016. Eight hundred plastic septic tanks have been installed in 7 selected villages as part of the Community Sanitation Project funded by the Asian Development Bank. This project targets the protection of the groundwater from the impacts of dysfunctional septic system; reduction of water born diseases such as diarrhea which is caused by contaminated water; and also part of the contribution towards achieving sustainable sanitation infrastructure to protect our health and environment.



Sector Review its Work for the Financial Year 2015/2016



The theme for this year's review emphasizes on "Sustainable water and sanitation developments for a resilient Samoa" which further supports the Sector's resolute stance in providing "reliable, clean, affordable and sustainable water supply and improved sanitation for all to sustain health improvements and alleviate poverty" despite increasing prominent impacts of climate change.



The Samoa Water and Sanitation Sector has come a long way through the 'sector wide approach to planning and implementation'. The engagement of key sector agencies, civil societies and inclusion of various stakeholders has proved to be an effective mechanism in efforts geared towards achieving its goals and



outcomes as well as further reaffirming Samoa's commitment towards its renewed vision of "improved Quality of Life for All".

This will further drive the realization of our Sustainable Development Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation, to transform our world and support the Samoa Pathway.



Photos: Presenters

1

**Rodney Namulauulu
(SRC)**

2

**Faasu Lealaialoto
(PAS)**

3

Participants

4

JICA Representative

5

**Seugamalii Jammie
Saena (MD SWA)**

6

**Leiatua Tofae
Alailima (IWSA)**

7

Mele Tanielu (MOH)

4



This year's annual review marks the end of another year's work specifically for financial year 2015 - 2016, which is the final year of the implantation for the Water for Life Sector Plan 2012-2016. We also celebrate what we have achieved, acknowledge and LEARN from the challenges we faced,

EMBRACE what we have learnt and STRIVE forward together for continuous improvement and excellence in the service we provide for the people of Samoa. Also acknowledged the hard work of all our sector's Implementing Agencies, their incessant and unwavering support that has brought us this far and made it possible for us to accomplish what we have for the year under review.

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The other highlight that the FY 2015/2016 has seen major improvements in the protection of our water resources through integrated water resources

6



management approach with communities, increased water supply coverage and improved water supply of high drinking water quality, improved sanitation facilities for many families and more resilient flood mitigation measures within the Central Business District.

Last but not the least, the Government of Samoa is pleased to especially acknowledge the continuous support and contribution of our development partners namely the European Union, JICA, Japan Fund and the Asian Development Bank. Your investment in water is indeed an investment in ***“Improving quality of life for all the people of Samoa”***.

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National Water Leaders' Forum

The theme for today's proceedings is "Raising the Water Agenda and governance in Samoa". The theme highlights the importance of water to the development agenda of our country and also the great need to take action against some of the challenges facing water resources management, water services delivery, community engagement and the coordination of the Water Sector.

Water is Life!! Its many importance to economic, social and environment resilience are limitless, but yet we continue to see unsustainable development activities that impact and undermine the sustainability of this limited resource not only globally but nationally as well.

This is why it is important for our leaders to take action and provide good governance at the Government, private sector and community levels to address and reverse these impacts and stresses on our water resources. We are now seeing the impacts of climate change and natural disasters on our communities and these events exacerbate the impacts on water quality, quantity and resilience of our SIDS. Growing populations and development needs has increased demand on water resources, therefore prioritizing the need to escalate efforts to reduce stresses on our watersheds that provide us with natural storage of water.

Unsustainable land-use practices near water sources and river systems water quality improvements, cost recover, water wastage, access to water drainage improvements, sanitation and safe waste water disposal are some of the challenges facing the Water and Sanitation Sector. Today provides and open Forum where selected leaders of Government, the private sector, NGOs and communities will share their knowledge on water issues that are on the agenda.

Acknowledge that resilient water resources and sustainable water services, is fundamental to the economic, social and environmental development of Samoa. Water is essential to the alleviation of Poverty. Good governance rests with village leaders and "pulega a Alii ma Faipule";



1 **Honorable Prime Minister delivering keynote address**

2 **Panel discussion during the 1st Session**

3 **Protect our Water & Forests Resources Bill Board**

4 **National Water & Sanitation Hygiene Baseline Survey**



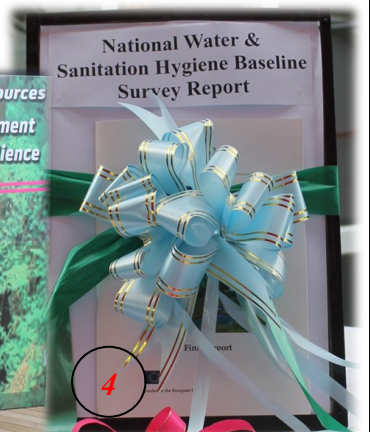
Highlight the fact that water resources in Samoa are under threat from the impacts of unsustainable land-use development activities which affect watershed areas, water quality and water quantity, coupled by the impacts of climate change and natural

disasters. Highlight that the Government is committed to further investment into water services in collaboration with the private sector and communities;

Remind that good governance and leadership is essential to the sustainable management of our environment, and ensuring that the ability of water to boost resilience of our communities is not undermined. Remind that water services are not free just like the efforts to protect water resources, once degraded. Remind that better planning and full engagement of everyone, is essential to water protection;

Consider the national priorities and commitments made through the Strategy for the Development of Samoa, and the various Sector Plans which highlight water resources, water services and sanitation improvements. Consider relevant Acts and Regulations for the protection of our water resources and services. Consider improvements to water quality not only through treatment but also robust monitoring (including chemicals) for health of our people and our environment;

In conclusion of this forum, 2 major projects were launched to end the National Water Leader Forum Day. One was the Water Resources Bill Board and the other one was the National Water and Sanitation Hygiene Baseline Survey Report.



***MNRE conducted
Training on P3D
Model for Alofi -
NIUE Island***

The MNRE has been the implementing agency since this mapping method introduced into the Samoa. The ministry so far have coordinated and constructed in collaboration with respected local communities a number of P3Ds with the support from the EU, TCF –Water Sector. The ministry also invited by Pacific Islands to construct this planning tool to assist with the management of their lands and awareness of their people.

The Ridge to Reef Project in the Island of Niue, requested the Technical Centre of Agriculture (CTA) through the technical assistance of the Ministry and UNDP to coordinate and implement the construction of the



P3D for the Project Pilot site. Alofi is the capital of the Island and is where the R2R project been implemented. A technical team from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and UNDP collaborated on implementing this tool in the island of Niue.

Peni Allen of WSCU and Lotomaulalo Levi of Water Resources represented the MNRE in this Modelling Workshop. The UNDP representative Yvette Kerslake delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the origin and the important of this tool. Additionally, a presentation on P3D concepts and processes of construction was provided and presented



for the local community to gain more understanding on the important of P3Ds and their uses. The scale was 1:5000 m using a 5m contour map.

The targeted participants from invited villages from chiefs, women's committee representatives to taule'ale'a (untitled men) and youth group members were all involved in the process of construction. They were well engaged to work in collaboration with the Samoa technical team in pinpointing all physical features and transposing of valuable data on the model.

Pictures:

- 1. Tracers Group on the move**
 - 2. Members of the community participating**
 - 3. Cutting team on the move**
 - 4. Empty model**
 - 5. Final product with the happy participants**
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The invited youths were divided into 3 main groups named according to their operations which are the Tracing, Cutting and Pasting teams. These teams worked on Preparatory works and assembling the blank model through tracing of each contour



line from the provided contour map, cutting according to each line spotted on carton paper and progressively superimposed each to build up a Blank Model.

The process was a success as they were showed great interest and collaboration during the construction process and throughout the workshop. They were able to take part in every steps of the construction and were able to identify developments such as aquarium, plantations, and



infrastructure and forest degradation areas on the top ridge of the Alofi district. They were also able to figure out the impacts of unsustainable activities within the area as they

were able to view it on the model. The P3D Model tool offers a good opportunity to raise awareness and capacity skills in preserving our natural resources especially in water resources management. Additionally, the P3D workshop provided them with spatial learning, environmental education, negotiation and conflict management, land and resource use planning and management, identification of pressure points and resource use pattern.

