



November-December 2018

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National Stakeholders Consultation for the Review of the National Invasive Species Action Plan

The division of Environment and Conservation with the support from one of its key partners, the UNDP, through the GEF-UNDP-GoS Project on Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Management of Critical Landscape (SMSMCL) conducted a National Stakeholder Consultation at Millenia Hotel November 2nd 2018.

The stakeholder consultation objectives are as follows;

1. Review and assess the status of implementation of the NISAP 2008-2011 to identify any significant issues that affected the successful operation of the Plan.
2. Identify any potential gaps in the old NISAP to be reflected in the new National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2022.

The review of the National Invasive Species Plan (NISAP 2008-2011) is part of Samoa's commitment to support the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which Samoa ratified in May 1994.

November 2nd

Induction Training and Continuous Learning Sessions



The Induction Training welcomed 18 new recruits to the Ministry.

Continuous Learning Sessions (CLS) followed the Induction Training, in which Faalavelave Taulapapa, Ozone Officer and Silipa Mulitalo, Forecaster from the MET Division presented on trainings they attended.

Taulapapa attended the Twining Workshop on Energy-Efficient and Climate Friendly Refrigeration and Air Conditioning in Bangkok, Thailand and Mulitalo attended the Ninth Asia/Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users Conference (AOMSOC-9) in Jakarta, Indonesia.

November 5th

World Tsunami Awareness Day



The World Tsunami Awareness Day 2018 signified the importance of Tsunami Preparedness worldwide. Tsunamis, although they happen rarely, they do exist with impacts that are deadly and consequences that are inescapable, overwhelming and depressing. Not only do they pose devastating physical threats, but do so significantly on people socially, economically and psychologically. Therefore the continuous and effective tsunami education awareness programs and preparedness is very important which contributes much in saving lives. continuous and effective tsunami education awareness and preparedness that contributes very much in saving lives.

November 5th-6th

GEF National Dialogue



The main objectives of this Dialogue ;

- 1 Inclusion of information and validation of national objectives, policies, strategies and the means to achieve them
- 2 Mainstreaming environment in national decision-making, national positions in Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) and coordination
- 3 Incorporating the capital value of environment to national accounting and other issues of interest and also planning of the GEF 7 Replenishment cycle for Samoa

November 6th-9th

IUCN Partners with Renewable Energy Samoa

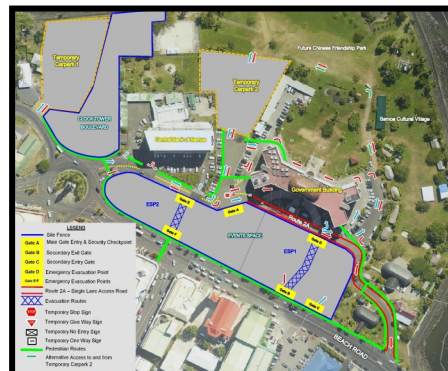


The Ministry (RED) collaborated with the International Union for Conservation Of Nature (IUCN) in conducting a National Workshop for the Energy Sector. The Objective of the workshop was to bring together the energy sector partners to share information in regards to the development of alternative energy in Samoa.

The IMPRESS Project team presented on the progress of the project: Solar Power Systems, Wind Energy Systems, Hydro Energy Systems, Biogas Systems and potential Ocean Energy Systems in Samoa.

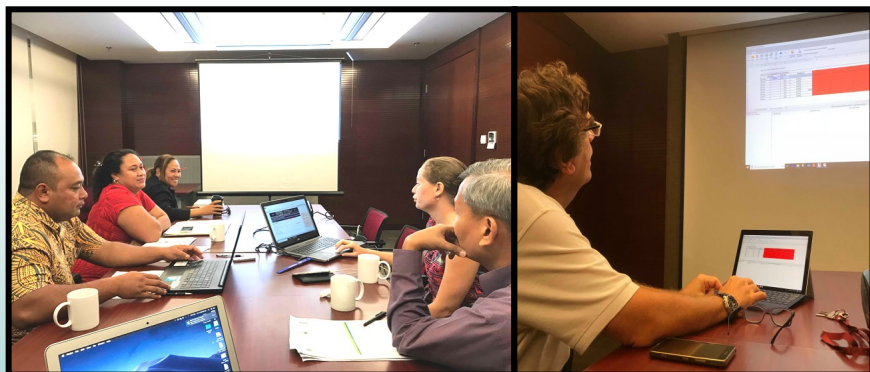
November 7th

Apia Waterfront Project Update



November 12th

Energy Mapping Training



Representatives from the Energy Sector were trained on how to handle information database. The software was developed specifically to present data in a manageable manner for users to understand trends and patterns on energy demand, energy generation and energy system performances in Samoa.

The Ministry is now working on hosting this Database software to ensure that the tool will be utilized to enhance data management of electric energy in Samoa.

November 12th-16th

UNDP Expert Assists Renewable Energy Division



The Ministry (IMPRESS Project) welcomed the visit by the United Nations Senior Technical Advisor, Mr Manuel L Soriano.

This was an opportunity for the Project to showcase progress through workshops and site visits to project sites in Upolu: Piu Biogas Site, Mapuifagalele Elderly Homes, Tanumalala Prison and STEC Lands Mulifanua.

November 13th

National Stakeholders Workshop for the Access and Benefit Sharing Project



The workshop was an opportunity for colleagues and consultants to share preliminary findings of some of the work being done under the Global Access Benefit Sharing project for Samoa; on bio-discovery and traditional knowledge including development of Traditional Knowledge and Genetic Resource Database to facilitate the storage and manage of data, in particular.

Three primary components of the ABS project:

1. Strengthening the legal, policy and institutional capacity to develop national ABS frameworks
2. Build trust between the users and providers of genetic resources to facilitate the identification of bio-discovery efforts, and
3. Strengthening the capacity of indigenous and local communities to contribute to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS.

November 19th

National Toilet Day



The commemoration of the 5th National Toilet Day, organized by the Water & Sanitation Sector and PUMA, highlighted the *"Innovative Solutions for Water and Sanitation in Samoa"*.

The program included a Speech Competition with the successful schools as follows:

- St Mary's Primary School – 1st
- Vaimoso Primary School – 2nd
- Lepea Primary School – 3rd
- Moataa Primary School – 4th
- Marist Brothers Primary School – 5th

November 21st

11th Annual Water & Sanitation Sector Performance Review



The Review enabled the sector's Implementing Agencies, Development Partners and Key Stakeholders to engage in reviewing the progress of the Water and Sanitation Sector.

The review discussed initiatives on drinking water quality, flood mitigation, drainage and sanitation subsector.

Increase in access to improved sanitation and hygiene practices was noted through new alternative technologies, namely biogas systems and the garden toilets initiatives.

November 29th

Powering Cities, Towns and Communities with 100% Renewable Energy



The commemorated Renewable Energy Day in Savaii, highlighted the importance of sourcing clean and sustainable energy to generate electricity, gas for cooking and clean fuels for transportation..

The program included the launch of LED Lights installed under the IMPRESS Project and the official hand over of Emission Testers to LTA to help regulate pollution and emissions by motorists. This represents the commitment of Samoa to achieving the reduction of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) that is contributing to the causes of Climate Change.

Nine (9) Youth groups were able to take part in the Triathlon Race 2018.

- * EFKS Faala
- * AOG Malaeifaga
- * Ekalesia Metotisi Samata
- * AOG Fagasa
- * SDA Lano
- * EKFS Auala
- * SDA Siufaga
- * Ekalesia Metotisi Sagone
- * EFKS Gautaivai

Staff Achievements



Mr Simanualii Tuisamoa participating and completed the Commercial First Aid & Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation ('CPR') Training, conducted by the Samoa Red Cross Society November 13th-15th, 2018.

Mr Simanualii Tuisamoa is now a Certified First Aider and certified to perform First Aid and CPR.

This achievement uplifts the standard of Occupational Safety and Health in our Ministry as well as Samoa.

New Recruits

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Vitolina Taupau, WRD | 10. Sakalia Tiatia Uaita, DEC-Tafaigata |
| 2. Puafiti Fuimaono Lefaoseu, PUMA | 11. Maeli Tafeaga, DEC-Tafaigata |
| 3. Alataua Ah Sam, PUMA | 12. Matagi Toma Gu, DEC-Tafaigata |
| 4. Malaea Mariner, PUMA | 13. Lealofi Mamaia, Legal |
| 5. Kilisitina Matila Meredith, SPA | 14. Iose Leatuao, Forestry |
| 6. Miriama Iakopo Elisara, RED | 15. Livigisitone Anetelea, Forestry-Savaii |
| 7. Ioasa Iosefa Leiataua, CSD | 16. Alesana Maataua, Forestry |
| 8. Sanita Leaupepe, CSD | 17. Siaosi Afamasaga, Forestry |
| 9. Kehaolani Manoa-Slade, CSD | 18. Fofaivaoese Faasisila, Forestry |

December 6th

National Environment Sector Steering Committee Site Visit



The NESSC site visit with stakeholders visited several project sites such as: Cross Island Walk Way Bridge, Tafaigata Landfill Weigh Bridge, YWAM (biogas farm) and Meteorology Weather and Forecasting Services, etc.

A model farm in Magiagi that is under the Land Management Division (LMD) SMSMCL Project, was also part of the site visit.

December 2nd-15th

Samoa Signals Rule Book to Implement the Paris Agreement



Samoa was part of the 24th Conference of the Parties for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice Poland. In attendance was the Honourable Prime Minister, Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi as well as the Ministry's CEO Ulu Bismarck Crawley.

During the Conference, the Honourable Prime Minister stressed the fact that Samoa and the Pacific Islands place high priority on fighting and adapting to climate change. He also stated the importance of coming to a decision on the Talanoa Dialogue to incentivize all parties to scale up ambition and climate change actions across all sectors in line with the IPCC 1.5 report.

December 6th

Follow Up Consultation with Fagaloa on a decision to designate Vaipu Swamp Forests as a Protected Area



The focus of discussion was to discuss whether Fagaloa District has come to an agreement to designate the Vaipu Swamp Forests as a Protected Area based on the Government's proposal.

December 11th-14th

UNFPA Conducts Gender Based Violence Programming in Emergencies (GBViE) Training Workshop



United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in partnership with Samoa Red Cross Society, conducted a week long training workshop on the theme 'Understanding & Preparing for Gender-based Violence Programming in Emergencies (GBViE).

A representative from the Ministry is now certified to be an advocate within the Ministry to ensure implementation of safe and effective GBV responses and GBV mitigation measures.

Trainees were provided with crucial knowledge tips on preparedness and were guided through available materials for disaster preparedness.



December 20th

Ministry's End of Year Prayer Service



The Ministry came together for a prayer service to show gratitude for a successful 2018. Honourable Fiaame Naomi Mata'afa gave an inspiring keynote address to officially open the prayer service.



Also in attendance was the Ministry's CEO Ulu Bismarck Crawley. Members of the Ministry, including management and staff, sang beautiful hymns and concluded the service with a word of prayer.



For more information and queries, feel free to contact us.

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We welcome any feedback to improve our newsletter and services to all.