



SAMOA PUBLIC SECTOR IMPROVEMENT FACILITY

PSIF Newsletter

PASP provides the broad planning context for the Facility -
Issue 2
June 2006

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Visit Our Website

www.samoapsif.gov.ws

The PSIF Strategic Framework will be circulated to all agencies soon, providing guidance for the development and selection of projects

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FACILITY STEERING COMMITTEE

The PSIF has been established now for a little more than a year. I am pleased to introduce this second newsletter from the Facility and to share the news and stories which show how the Facility is developing. The newsletter is distributed to all Cabinet Ministers, Government Ministries and Agencies, SOE's, international donor agencies, key NGO and private sector representative agencies and to media outlets. Additional copies are available from the Facility Management Unit on the first floor of the

Government Office Building. It is also available on the new PSIF website - www.samoapsif.gov.ws and this makes it available internationally.

An external Review of the Facility has recently been completed, and I am pleased that the report card is favourable, recognising the extensive and positive work required to establish such a service and acknowledging the time it takes for project proposals to move through the preparation, approval and implementation cycle. There are a number

of recommendations for improvement to our operations that we will be implementing in the future and we look forward to an active year ahead, assisting agencies to achieve their goal of improved services.

Auseugaefa M.V.P. Komiti
CEO of the MPMC and Chairperson of the Facility Steering Committee

NEW PROJECTS APPROVED AND MANY IN THE PIPELINE

The Facility Management Unit regularly prepares a Review and Forward Program of activities to detail current projects and to forecast projects which are in the pipeline at the review and approval stage, or under development, or just at the "concept" stage.

We encourage agencies to talk with us about ideas they have for possible projects since this enables us to plan, to link or enhance projects, and assists the donors, AusAID and NZAID to prepare their annual contributions to the Fund. The Facility Steering Committee is the body which approves projects for funding. Current details of projects funded by the PSIF or being developed for consideration are on the following page.



Sefuiva Reupena Muagututia Assistant CEO, Statistical Department, Phil Hewitt 1st Secretary NZAID, Faamausili Dr. Matagi alofi Luaiufi, CEO of the PSC and Luagalau Foisagaasina Eteuati-Shon, CEO of the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development enjoying the website presentation.

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NEW PROJECTS APPROVED AND MANY IN THE PIPELINE CONT'D

Current Projects

- Training & Development FMU, MPMC
- Executive Development Program 2 & 3 PSC
- Strengthening the Samoa Qualifications Authority SQA

Approved

- Design for Audit Institutional Strengthening Project Audit
- Design for Statistical Department ISP MOF
- Records Management MNREM
- Promotion of new Companies Registration Legislation MCIL
- Review of Foreign Affairs Legislation MFAT
- Education Policies & Sector Plan 2006–2015 MESC
- Strengthening of Public Records Management and National Archives MESC

In Preparation

- Design of the Ministry of Women Community & Social Development Organisation Review and ISP Design MWCSO
- Printing and electronic legislative record Attorney General's Office
- Computerised Legal Database and Training Attorney General's Office
- Computerised Legal Database and Training Attorney General's Office
- Design of Cabinet Secretariat ISP MPMC
- Maintenance Planning and Training Samoa Port Authority



Fuimaono Camillo Afele getting assistance from FMU to prepare an institutional strengthening project for the Audit Office.

FIRST YEAR REVIEW OF THE PSIF

The Facility has recently been reviewed by an independent team, commissioned by the three governments supporting the PSIF.

Mr Esekia Solofa and Ms Cathy Deane completed their Review at the end of April and the Report is expected to be released shortly. The team consulted widely to formulate their findings and thanks are extended to all those people who contributed to the review.

The location of the PSIF in the Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has been affirmed as the appropriate location in order to forge a whole of government perspective on the sorts of policy developments required for effective public sector reform. A wide range of recommendations to improve the functioning of the Facility are expected to be implemented in the coming year.

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EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 2 & 3

This is the first major project funded by the PSIF and is due for completion in September this year. 40 participants from the public sector, private sector and SOE's have been enrolled over the past year and if they are successful will gain a graduate diploma of management from the University of New England. The program has combined Individual study and group work and a number of useful case studies have been completed on current challenges in Samoan society and its economy. This is the last year that the PSC will support the EDP; the Program now moves to the National University of Samoa.



Fata Kapeteni, ACEO in the Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is one of the EDP participants. He has appreciated the opportunity to refresh his thinking about management and found the mix of participants from the public and private sectors has enabled greater understanding of the challenges each faced.

PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP

In early May, The FMU ran its first training program - on project identification and logframe design. The workshop was for FMU staff and agencies which were currently preparing projects for submission to the Facility for funding. The feedback from participants was very positive and the facilitator, Rene Schinkel from SAGRIC, the Australian managing contracting agency for the PSIF, engaged with the participants to make a very dry topic quite a lot of fun.

PSIF ANNIVERSARY AND WEBSITE LAUNCH

On 14 March, the CEO of the Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Chairperson of the Facility Steering Committee, Auseugaefa M.V.P. Komiti, hosted the anniversary celebration and website launch and encouraged everyone to visit the website online to familiarise themselves with the Facility and what it could offer. He also highlighted many key achievements for the Facility over the past year.

The new website provides access to information about the Facility, the criteria, guidelines and procedures for applying for funding and responding to tender opportunities. Many excellent resource materials and links for project management are on the website and it also contains news and stories about the ongoing programmes that the Facility is funding to improve Government services for the people of Samoa.



The Attorney General, Brenda Heather-Latu and Dr. Cam Wendt at the PSIF Anniversary and Website Launch.

PROJECT DESIGN WORKSHOP CONT'D

Further workshops and training programs on this and other aspects of the project management cycle are planned and the FMU will be contacting agencies to determine interest.

To assist agencies begin the process of preparing a project, we have placed resources on the website. You will find materials there in guide books, or power point presentations on issues such as problem and solution trees, stakeholder analysis log frame development. And of course all of the PSIF templates required for submitting your project for funding consideration are also on the website.



Elisapeta Pasa (Stats) Faauiga Mulitalo (MWCSO) and Ancilita Pelasio (MPMC) at the Project Design & Logframe Workshop

THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SECTOR PLAN (PASP) AND THE PSIF STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The government is in the process of developing sector plans – for the 14 sectors identified in the Strategy for the Development of Samoa. The PSC is developing the plan for the Public Administration Sector – a working group has analysed the historical performance of the sector, conducted consultations with all Ministries, Agencies and other stakeholders and anticipates completing the Plan by August. The Facility will provide funds for technical assistance to write up the final document contribute to long term public sector improvement.

The PASP provides the broad planning context for the Facility, and the PSIF Strategic Framework document will be finalised at the same time. The Framework will enable all stakeholders to assess the impact of the Facility on the public sector in Samoa the long term success of the funding strategies. A draft has been circulated to the Facility Steering Committee. The FMU will again visit agencies to discuss the Framework and provide guidance in developing strategically focussed projects that contribute to long term public sector improvement.

REGIONAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKSHOP 6 – 10 MARCH 2006 NADI, FIJI

The Regional Monitoring & Evaluation Workshop organised and coordinated by AusAID received 4 nominations from Samoa. Ms Valma Galuvao attended from the Samoa AusAID office, Ms Sinira Kuresa and Ms Peresitene Kirifi from Ministry of Finance Aid Coordination Unit and Ms Theresa Masoe

from the Facility Management Unit of the PSIF. The program provided an opportunity to share experiences, to learn from fellow participants and to enhance knowledge of program monitoring in the region. The one week workshop was presented by Paul Nicholls who has worked with AusAID for a number of years in Canberra and at posts, to deliver AusAID training.

HOW WE CAN ASSIST AND HOW TO CONTACT US

The FMU is here to assist – we will visit and explain how the Facility works, help you clarify your agency requirements for a project, help formulate project ideas that fit the PSIF criteria, help prepare proposals, train and support agency staff in all aspects of managing the project cycle, assist with preparing documents for tendering, advertising and contracting for technical assistance. And once your project is up and running we can assist with project management, monitoring and evaluation support.

Come and see us:

1st Floor Government Office Building

Phone any of the FMU staff:

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Fepuleai Sinapi Moli ,CEO SQA and Auseugaefa V.M.P. Komiti ,CEO MPMC at the PSIF Anniversary and Website Launch

AND THE PRIZE GOES TO.....

The Samoa Qualifications Authority, for being the first agency to use the PSIF Website to advertise for a technical adviser for the design phase of their institutional strengthening project.

FAREWELL

THEA MENDELSON

The Transitional Manager for the Contracted Support Team to the FMU, Ms. Thea Mendelsohn will be leaving the Facility at the end of July. We take this opportunity to thank Ms. Mendelsohn for her invaluable effort and work in supporting the Facility Management Unit. We could not have done it without you Thea! Farewell and may God bless. You will be greatly missed.



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Dr. Cam Wendt, Theresa Masoe, Thea Mendelsohn and Sina Matealona-Tuautu at the official launch of the PSIF in May 17, 2005, at the Hotel Kitano Tusitala.



Andrew Taylor, Administration Officer FMU and Sina Matealona-Tuautu, Administration Officer Contracted Support Team selling cheese cakes for a living to fund the FSC's morning teas.

MALO LAVA LE GALUE!!

Faamalo to **Department of Statistics** and the **Audit Office**.

Both agencies have been working hard to develop terms of reference for advisers to design institutional strengthening initiatives for the improvement and strengthening of their offices.