



# FAAILOA

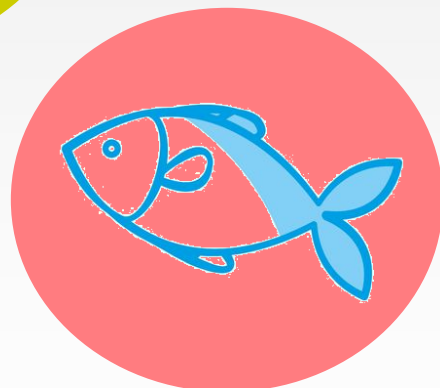
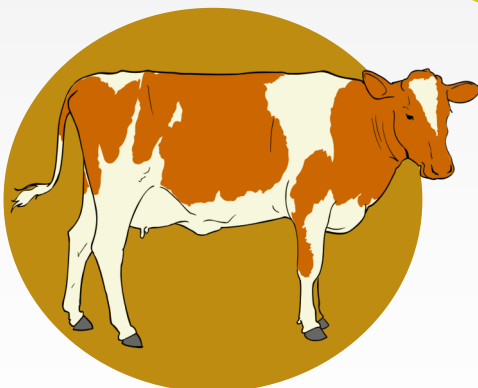


*"...enhancing partnerships to develop and sustain agriculture and fisheries..."*

## Faailoa Newsletter for July 2019

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# US\$20 million World Bank grant for Samoa's Agriculture Sector

5<sup>TH</sup> July 2019

The World Bank Board of Directors has approved a US\$20 million (\$51 million tala) grant to support Samoa's agriculture and Fisheries sectors.

Agriculture and Fisheries Minister, Lopao Natanielu Mua, said the grant will be used in line with Samoa's Agriculture Sector Plan and the Samoa Government looks forward to working with the World Bank.

"Delivering sustainable consistent benefits from our agriculture and fisheries sectors is critical to the economic prosperity of Samoa," he said, in a statement issued by the multilateral financial institution.

"Guided by our Agriculture Sector Plan, we look forward to working with the World Bank to achieve our goal of increased food, improved nutrition and more secure incomes for Samoans."

The World Bank's Country Director for Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, Michel Kerf, said their work in the region has shown that investments in public infrastructure access to finance for smallholder farmers, can transform the agricultural and fisheries sectors in countries like Samoa.

"We are proud to be working with the Government of Samoa to create a more commercially oriented sector, which will support Samoa farming and fishing households gain greater access to market and increase the availability of locally produced food."

The World Bank said the grant – which will be disbursed under the Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries – will strengthen the management, productivity and climate resilience of Samoa's agricultural and fisheries sectors and support Samoan farmers and fishers to improve links with agro-processors and traders.





A key part of the project is the rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure, including nurseries, crop drying facilities and cold storage at fish markets; all to be built or rehabilitated to disaster-resilient standards.

A matching grants program will also be implemented to support 700 subsistence and semi-commercial farmers, together with 20 producers organizations, as well as micro and small enterprises, to increase productivity and access to markets. Additionally, the project will strengthen the management of Samoa's shared oceanic coastal fisheries by improving surveillance, increasing national engagement in formal fisheries negotiations and growing Samoa's capacity to export fish and fish products. While 97% of Samoa's 30,000 households grow crops or raise livestock, the World Bank said Samoan agriculture and fisheries are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. Like many Pacific countries, Samoa also faces economic challenges related to its small size and remoteness. The country's economic growth is also constrained by high prevalence of non communicable diseases including diabetes, stroke and heart disease.

The US\$20 million grant will come from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's fund for the most in-need countries, with the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) contributing an additional US\$3.6 million (\$9 million tala) to the project.





THE UNIVERSITY OF THE  
SOUTH PACIFIC

OPEN DAY

2019

## Alafua Campus 26<sup>th</sup> July

The University of the South Pacific (USP) Open Day is an important event that is carried out annually. The one day event provides a platform where various government and private organizations and ministries highlight their main roles and responsibilities. Colleges from around the region are invited to participate in hopes that this platform can highlight to them the ideal career avenues to assist them in identifying their main career interests to pursue. The event is also filled with exciting performances from the Islands around the region, fun competitions, entertainment and much more.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific effectively participated to this event, with its main Divisions; Crops, Animal Protection Health, Fisheries and Quarantine, to present their different visions and roles contributing to the betterment of Samoa and the region as a whole.







# Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries

"Enhancing Partnership to  
develop and sustain Agriculture  
& Fisheries"



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