



# FAAILOA



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

MARCH 2021

## INSIDE THIS EDITION



Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Scientific Research Organization of Samoa bid farewell to Hounourable Minister Afioga Lopao Natanielu Mua.

Agriculture and Fisheries Sectors greatly contribute to the future sustainability of a nation.

Samoa has launched "Samoa 2040" for the next twenty years as a guide for our country's development.

MAF continues to enhance ability to combat possible impacts of the African Swine Fever

### CROSSWORD:

A Marine Biology Revision Puzzle.



## Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries

"Enhancing Partnership to develop and sustain Agriculture & Fisheries"

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## **FAREWELL FOR HONOURABLE MINISTER AFIGA LOPAOO NATANIELU MUA**

On Wednesday morning the parliament hosted its last session before dissolution to await the general election next month in April.

The general election date as confirmed last year will be the 9th of April 2021.

On the 10th of March, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries management bid farewell to Afioga Lopao'o Natanielu Mua and acknowledged his ceaseless services for our people in the Agriculture Sector.

The roles and responsibilities he carried for the Sector continue to shape himself as a parliamentarian and as the voice of those that he represents from his constituency.

Afioga Lopao'o Natanielu Mua was elected by the Legislative Assembly of Samoa in 2016 after General Elections and was appointed to Cabinet as Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa in September the following year, to replace Laauli Leuatea Polataivao.

Lopao'o was born in the village of Asau. He attended the Asau Primary School and then Fasaga Sataua Intermediate School before finishing his college studies at Avele.

In 1981, he left Samoa for New Zealand. Before returning to Samoa, Lopao'o was the Contract Manager for a New Zealand company called ACI Glass.

Lopao'o is married to Siaumau Kena Mu'a and they have eight children.

### **Bibliography**

Sanerivi, Sialai Sarafina. "Lopao'o reflects back on a challenging journey." *Samoa Observer*, 14 March 2021, 3&5.

## AGRICULTURE TO BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH IN 20 YEAR PLAN

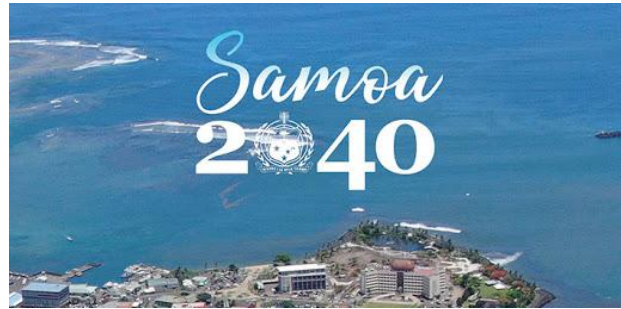
The future of a nation lies on long term sustainability of agriculture and fisheries, tourism, infrastructure and other liable sources including international organizations.

“Samoa 2040” strategy, a first ever twenty year plan implemented, was launched publicly on March 9th, 2021 at the TATTE Conference Center.

During the PM’s address, he stated the strategy is to provide a roadmap to navigate Samoa’s development over the next twenty years.

The Agriculture and Fisheries sectors have the potential to boost economic growth for the next twenty years through various opportunities it provides to create employment, generate government revenues and raise standards of living.

“However using the statistics and data available as well as our own experience over the past many years backed up by the development agenda we intend to implement going forward, we are in a better position to make plausible projections of where we want



Samoa’s development to be, in twenty years’ time,” reiterated Tuilaepa.

He acknowledged the contribution of the stakeholders representing the village communities, private sector, civil societies, as well as within government for the effort in formulating such a significant milestone Samoa ever implemented.

## MAINTAINING HIGH LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS & REDUCING RISKS

Since the year 2020, our Ministry has been informing and warning the public about the severe impacts of the African Swine Fever if it ever enters the shores of our islands.

As of this day and month, Samoa is still free of this formidable virus and therefore the Ministry needs to enhance its capacity to cope with the possible impacts of the ASF.

In this regard, the Food Agriculture Organisation through its Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH) is in partnership with the MAF Animal Protection and Health Division and its stakeholders, the FAO Emergency Centre for

Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) as well as the Asia Pacific teams (RAP, SAP, and country) representatives and members participated in a remote preparedness mission conducted for 2 days at Lava Hotel, Sogi.

The remote assistance by FAO with a virtual mission will support Samoa to achieve its goal in reducing the risk of the African Swine Fever.

Samoa has not identified the presence of any clinical ASF symptoms, however MAF has already anticipated the prevention and preparedness measures needed.

