



FAAILOA



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

FAAILOA NEWSLETTER May 2019

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motherhood

IS A CHOICE YOU MAKE EVERYDAY,
TO PUT SOMEONE ELSE'S HAPPINESS
AND WELL-BEING AHEAD OF
YOUR OWN, TO TEACH THE HARD
LESSONS, TO DO THE RIGHT THING
EVEN WHEN YOU'RE NOT SURE
WHAT THE RIGHT THING IS...
AND TO FORGIVE YOURSELF, OVER
AND OVER AGAIN, FOR DOING
EVERYTHING WRONG.

DONNA BALL

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Agriculture Sector Steering Committee Meeting

Date and Time: 9th May 2019 @ 10am

Venue: TATTE Conference Room

In its first meeting for this year, the representatives from around the Agriculture Sector came together to consult and reflect on the current updates of their work for the advancement of the Sector as a whole. This meeting included representatives from various government ministries including; Chamber of Commerce, CSATAP, MNRE, MOH, MWCSO, MFAT, MCIL, MAF, PSC, SROS, STA, SBEC, SBS, USP and WIBDI, and also members from the private sector including; SFFI/SKIA and SHA.

The Agriculture Sector Plan's main goal is to improve nutrition and income from Agriculture and Fisheries and there are 80 overall activities and programs to be implemented and completed in the ASP. An update of the Agriculture Sector Plan 2016 - 2020 in its four objectives, was presented by MAF, Assistant Chief Executive Officer for Policy, Planning and Communication Division; Taimalietane Matatumua, highlighting the progress of the Sector based on the two previous quarters from October 2018 to March 2019. The Agriculture Sector Plan has 13 remaining months and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is hoping to complete the 36% of ongoing activities as well as the yet to be implemented activities, by May 2020. There was also emphasis on the challenges of the unavailability of information and the lack of funding where recommendations were made to collaborate closely with stakeholders in enhancing partnerships with developing partners for efficient funding and technical advice. In this same presentation, the Ministry announced the upcoming main events including the Asia, Caribbean and Pacific Ministers Meeting (Fisheries and Aquaculture) in September 2019, the Pacific Week of Agriculture in October 2019 and the Agriculture Census in February 2020.

As one of the active members of the Agriculture Sector is the Samoa Bureau of Statistics and representative and ACEO of the Economic Statistics Division, Edith Faaola, elaborated on the works by the Agriculture Census taskforce including approval of the Proposal of the Agriculture Census funding by the Cabinet with 1.2million as the total budget for work done. In the efforts for more effective data collection, a pilot test for draft questionnaire is now ready for testing on portable tablets in August this year; this will test the whole questionnaire, CAPI, data processing system and software that will fully utilize the data. In the questionnaire only major crops grown in Samoa will be included out of the 44 crops both permanent and temporary crops grown in Samoa.

There was also an update from the China Samoa Agricultural Technical Aid Project phase IV presented by Dr. Jim Liu; team leader of the team of experts from China to facilitate this particular project and they have been actively working for 22 months till date. The Project also promoted the idea to farmers for growing vegetables and other crops for the Pacific Games hosted by Samoa this year.

Other presenters included MOF, Chamber of Commerce and the SAFPROM project. There were also presentations and updates from the private sector representatives including PHAMA and SKIA/SFFI, all contributing to the further development and enhancement of programs and activities across the Agriculture Sector.

NATIONAL MOTHER'S DAY MARKET EXHIBITION



12th May, 2019

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is a member of the Economic Subsector Committee guided by the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development. In this collaboration the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries participated effectively to the National Mother's Day Market Exhibition. This Exhibition is an annual event hosted by the Ministry of Women before Mothers Day in May, it is also a space and platform created for the mothers who are involved in different businesses including agriculture; to promote and sell their fruits or vegetables. For this year, a couple of farmers from a farmer's group in Faleasiu, who are mothers were invited by the Ministry of Agriculture to showcase and sell their farm produce at the exhibition. This is a great opportunity for them as farmers and as mothers to raise awareness about the benefits and the improvement of the economy for their families, villages and churches.



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