

MEDIA RELEASE

Completion of NSSE Training at Fusi Safata Celebrates Final Products of Community Craftsmanship

Apia, Samoa – 21 June 2025 --- The successful completion of the NSSE (Nofotane Samoa Social Enterprise) training program in Fusi Safata has resulted in a beautiful showcase of handcrafted products, created by local participants who took part in the skills-based sessions. Funded by the European Union, the training aimed to empower community members through practical learning, encouraging sustainable livelihoods and the preservation of traditional craftsmanship.

Forty participants were taught various creative and culturally significant skills, resulting in impressive final products such as woven mats, accessories, and elei prints. These items not only reflect the hard work and dedication of the participants but also the potential for income-generating opportunities through locally made goods.

This initiative was made possible through a meaningful collaboration with our implementing partners: Family Health Samoa and the Samoa Spinal Network, whose support and shared vision for community empowerment have been instrumental in the program's success.

SVSG President Siliniu Lina Chang commended the participants and the program's impact: *"It is inspiring to see the transformation that happens when people are equipped with practical skills and confidence. The beautiful products created in Fusi are more than crafts – they represent strength, resilience, and a pathway to economic independence for families."*

The Fusi Safata NSSE training is part of a wider effort to build the resilience and capacity of communities across Samoa by fostering skill development, entrepreneurship, and social inclusion.

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Ensuring that victims of crime and those in need are well supported to be safe and in control to restore their lives

2016: With and for Girls Award – Star Foundation of London

2017: Innovation & Excellence Team Award – Samoa Public Service

2018: Finalist, International Children's Peace Prize 2018 – Kids Right Foundation of Amsterdam, Netherlands

2018: Human Rights Champion in Samoa – UNESCO

2019: Innovation for Sustainable Development Award – Commonwealth Secretary-General

2020: Nominated Person(s) of the Year – Samoa Observer

2021: Outstanding Contributions to Human Rights Promotion & Protection – Samoa Office of the Ombudsman/NHRI

2023: Healthy Islands Best Proposal Award – World Health Organization