## Financial Year 2023/2024

Ministry for Public Enterprises SAMOA

**August 2025** 

## **ACRONYMS**

AR - Annual Report

CSO - Community Service Obligations

FY - Financial Year

KPI - Key Performance IndicatorsMPE - Ministry for Public Enterprises

N/A - Not Available

NPAT - Net Profit After TaxNPBT - Net Profit Before Tax

PBA 2001 - Public Bodies (Performance & Accountability) Act 2001

PB - Public Bodies

PBR 2002 Public Bodies (Performance and Accountability) Regulations 2002

PBB - Public Beneficial Bodies
MS - Public Mutual Bodies
PTB - Public Trading Bodies
ROA - Return on Assets

ROE - Return on Assets
- Return on Equity

## **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Performance and Accountability Act 2001, the Ministry for Public Enterprises presents a summary report highlighting key achievements across all Public Bodies for the financial year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

There are 27 Public Bodies providing various services for the benefit of the people of Samoa. Of these, 23 submitted their full Annual Reports for FY2024 and are included in this Overall Annual Report 2024. The Samoa Sports Facility Authority (SSFA) submitted only its audited accounts for the financial year ending 30 June 2024 and is included in this report. The Annual Reports for the Polynesia Airlines Limited (PAL), Samoa Trust Estates Corporation (STEC), and the Land Transport Authority (LTA) are still pending. However, their performance has been included in this report using Year-to-Date data from the April–June 2024 Quarterly Reports.

The performance of PB has a significant impact on the public and the economy in general through the goods and services PB provide. The government has its policy for PTB to earn at least a 7% return on equity (ROE). PTB are also required to pay 35% NPAT dividend to Government. Mutual Societies are required to be profitable however they are not required to pay dividend to Government but to its contributors and policy owners. Public Beneficial Bodies are required to deliver quality services to the public while managing their finances prudently to ensure long-term sustainability and reduce reliance on Government Grant.

## OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC TRADING BODIES (PTBs) PERFORMANCE THIS FY2024

## PTBs HEALTH CHECK ASSESSMENT

#### 1. PTBs ASSETS PORTFOLIO

Figure 1: Relative size of the PTBs, % of total assets

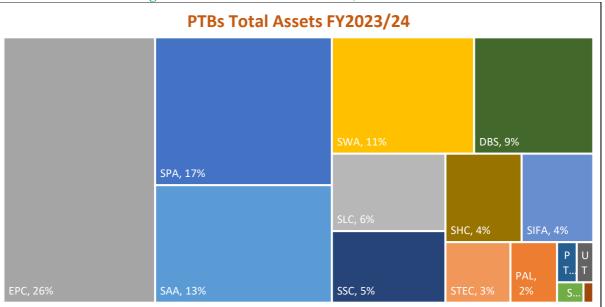


Figure 1 shows the composition of the Samoan's government's portfolio of PTBs, based on relative magnitude of the total assets of the PTBs. As the diagram shows, the Electric Power Corporation (EPC) is the largest of the PTBs, accounting for 26% of the total assets of all PTBs. The Samoan Ports Authority (SPA) is next largest accounting for 17% of total assets, followed by the Samoan Airports Authority (SAA) accounting for 13% of total assets. Together these three PTBs account for 56% of the total PTB asset portfolio and merit the most attention by MPE and MoF as any materialization of fiscal risks amongst these three enterprises will have the greatest impacts on the government's fiscal position.

#### 2. THE HIGHEST RISKS PTBs

Figure 2: PTBs overall risk rating, relative to the size of Liabilities



Figure 2 below summarizes the riskiness of the 15 PTBs. The diagram shows both the size of the PTBs (as measured by their total liabilities) and the risk ratings of each PTB. It is notable that the PTBs with the highest risk ratings (in the red diamond) are also mainly the largest PTBs. EPC, SAA, SWA and DBS are the three largest PTBs (as measured by the size of their total liabilities). Those three PTBs also rank in the top five in terms of financial riskiness. On the other hand, the very small PTBs generally have low risk ratings, with the notable exception being STEC.

### SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS PER PTBS PERFORMANCE THIS FY 2024

#### 1. Development Bank of Samoa (DBS)

- As at 30 June 2024, lending operation recorded total approval of 315 applications valued at SAT8.3million compared to 558 applications valued at SAT15million of FY2023.
- Of the total value approved, 34% relates to industry, 33% to agriculture sector, 26% relates to CHOGM facility and the rest to inclusive and fishing.
- Total loan collection was recorded at SAT14.2m, a reduction of 14% compared to previous year collection of SAT16.1million.
- MSMEs contributed 46.5% of total collection from a portfolio of SAT27.6million compared to large business which holds SAT75.6m or 73% of total portfolio.
- The level of non-performing loans has reduced to 1.4% of total loan portfolio from 5% in FY2023. Arrears level has also dropped to 0.5% and remains within benchmark of 3%.
- A total net loss of SAT2,557,363 is recorded at year end, following the revenue and expenditure movement. DBS is not subject to dividend payment, due to this effect.

#### 2. Electric Power Corporation (EPC)

- EPC recorded a Net Loss of SAT7.8m for FY2024 following the increase in expenditure by 51% compared to last FY. As a result of unacceptable profitability, the liquidity position reflected by the current ratio have shifted to high risk. Both cash at bank (cash flow) and self-insurance fund (for rehabilitation purposes) were drawdown by 54% and 20% respectively.
- Following the incurred losses during the year, the Corporation is not obligated to any dividend payment.

#### • N-2 Project for Savai'i Power Station.

This project was initiated to improve the energy resilience for Savaii Power Station. This includes the installing of the first 2MW diesel generator on the island as well as conducting trainings of local EPC technicians in operating and maintaining the generator securing its long-term operation.

#### • Samoa's Electric Vehicle (EV) Pilot Project

The corporation launched its EV pilot project in FY2021. As of June 2024, the EPC procures 10 EVs into EPC's vehicle fleet. The corporation have also installed 10 charging stations at key operational sites across Samoa.

#### • Renewable Energy Penetration by 2030 Network Study

The Corporation is conduction a Network Study for Renewable Energy Penetration by 2030. The study highlights the critical infrastructure and strategic decisions required to meet goals as well as proposed solution including the installation of capacitor banks, STATCOMs, or synchronous condensers to ensure that the grid remains stable even with high renewable energy penetration.

#### • Strategic Direction

The corporation continued to comply with the Government reporting requirements by providing AR2024 to MPE and tabling its report with Parliament.

## 3. Public Trust Office (PTO)

• PTO recorded a net profit of SAT126,659 in FY 2024. PTO made dividend payments of SAT 146,397.64 to Government during the reporting period.

#### • Estate Administration

- Following the reclassification of the estate portfolio in the financial year, the Estates & Trusts Division commenced the reporting period with 296 estates under administration. During FY23/24, the Office received instructions for the administration of 36 new estates, while successfully finalizing and closing 49 estates. As of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the total number of estates under administration stood at 283, representing a net decrease of 13 estates compared to the beginning of FY.
- Estates value was approximately SAT3,814,150 at the beginning of FY 2024. The income earned by the Estate and Trust Section during the year was SAT602,736. BY the close of FY, the total cash assets of these estates had increased to SAT3,968,912.

#### • Trust Management

- At the beginning of the financial year, 94 trust accounts with a corresponding monetary value of SAT282,498 were held under trust management. During the year, 2 new accounts were opened whilst 2 were closed. The total number of trust accounts at the end of financial year was 94 with a corresponding monetary value of SAT282,498.

#### • Wills

- 1,405 Wills were recorded with the Office at the beginning of the financial year. 59 new Wills were prepared and registered during the year, leading to a total of 1,464 wills as at 30 June 2024. A total of 16 wills were amended during the year.

## 4. Samoa Airport Authority (SAA)

- As a result of the substantial rise in revenue and a decrease in expenses, the Authority achieved a notable Net Profit of SAT7.01m during the FY, in contrast to the net profit of SAT6.6m in the previous FY.
- SAA made dividend payments of SAT2,452,858.50 to the Government during the reporting financial year.

#### • Financial Performance:

The Authority reported a 16.8% increase in revenue, driven by a 14.8% rise in operating revenues and a 153% increase in interest income. The net profit reached SAT7 million, with a net profit margin of 17.4% and a Return on Equity (ROE) of 20.9%.

#### • Passenger Growth:

Passenger movement grew by 40.7%, from 322,911 in FY2023 to 454,442 in FY2024. The highest growth was recorded during December and January, with a sharp surge from 5,451 passengers in June 2023 to 43,124 in July 2023 due to the resumption of international flights and increased tourism.

#### • Aircraft Movement:

Aircraft movements increased by 28.3%, from 7,750 in FY2023 to 9,945 in FY2024, reflecting a strong recovery in air traffic and increased operational capacity.

## 5. Samoa Housing Corporation (SHC)

- In August 2023, SHC leased its former office to Public Trust Office, generating SAT20,000 in monthly rental income. As of March 2024, housing properties were valued at SAT9.28 million, reflecting gains from sustained maintenance and upgrades.
- October 2023, SHC secured a SAT16.0million from the ACC enabling the refinancing of existing high-interest loans previously with the Samoa National Provident Fund.
- In March 2024, SHC reduced loan interest rates to 3-4% for personal guarantees loans and 1% for mortgage loans, to improve affordability to meet the evolving needs of clients.
- In May 10, 2024, the Corporation launched its new and improved website to better serve customers in today's digital world.
- In June 2024, SHC introduced after school childcare and flexible work policies for nursing mothers to support staff well-being and improve workplace satisfaction and productivity.
- SHC moved into its new headquarters at the start of FY2023 and earned the Top Stewardship Award for OSH Compliance among the State-Owned Enterprises.
- The Total Net Profit after Tax (NPAT) for FY2024 stands at SAT1,591,476, reflecting a 19% increase compared to FY2023 NPAT.
- The Corporation made dividend payments of SAT1,100,000 to the Government during the current financial year.

#### 6. Samoa International Finance Authority (SIFA)

- SIFA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ministry of Revenue to aid the navigation through complex and technical challenges they face.
- The Board of Directors approved a total of SAT 20,000,000 to be paid from the General Fund in support for Government's budget for the year ending June 30, 2024.

- There was a 6% increase in the total number of new incorporations registered with SIFA, with 1,986 for this financial year compared to the prior financial year
- The number of live international companies as of 30 June 2024, is 29,450.
- SIFA since inception has registered a total of 93,250 gross companies.
- SIFA successfully completed the renewal follow-ups of their registration system and strike off letters electronically, which led to reduction in office expenses overtime and stationery. It also improves accuracy and efficiency for SIFA and trustee companies.
- The Authority recorded a net profit of SATSAT14,459,898 in FY 2024 following the excess revenue over expenditure level, but has decreased when compared to FY 2023 by 2% due to the increase in expenditures.
- SIFA made dividend payments of SAT4,873924.74 to the Government during the FY2024.

## 7. Samoa Land Corporation (SLC)

- The Corporation recorded a Net Profit After Tax (NPAT) of SAT1,013,084 for the fiscal year. It has increased by 58% compared to NPAT of SAT640,584 achieved last year.
- These are the major development activities SLC has committed to for this financial year, along with numerous other accomplishments that are detailed in its 2024 Annual Report.

#### • SAVALALO NEW MARKET PROJECT

- Design stage scheduled from March to July 2024, with 50% completion achieved.
- Construction stage planned from August 2024 to September 2025 with mobilization and site clearance fully completed and foundation work at 20% completion.

#### • FINPOWER

- Finpower has replaced the outdated LMS system for the purpose of effectively handling and documenting information pertaining to its land debtors and their transactions;
- Finpower introduces advance modules for land management that were previously absent in the old LMS system;
- Finpower now boasts the automatic creation of reminder letters for overdue payments, the ability to import bank statements, the option for retroactive postings, cloud-based deployment, and accessibility on smartphones and other mobile devices, and much more.

## 8. Samoa Ports Authority (SPA)

- SPA recorded a significant NPAT of SAT10m and as such, achieved positive ROE and ROA of 5.28% and 3.12% respectively. The liquidity position is low risk, with current ratio of 3.6:1. SPA has maintained profitable this FY, with cash equivalents & cash investments of SAT46,278,143 as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- The Authority made dividend payment of SAT2.7m being full payment of the significant profit of SAT10m recorded this FY2024.

#### • Green Port Lauched:

This project is part of the ESSAP which was officially launched in Nov 2023. The major goal of the GPI is to be a;

- Green port by optimizing energy and adopt environmentally sustainable practices and to be operationally efficient, safe and resilient to future challenges.

#### • Domestic Ports Renovation:

Major developments were concluded for the Mulifanua and Salelologa ports and were completed in July 2023. He upgrades include the refurbishment of the departure lounges, improvement of pensioners' lounges and business class suites, construction of new shops, installation of new fence around the compound and the reconstruction of the car parking areas.

#### • Dividend to Government:

Following the seventh consecutive profitable year by the SPA's Board and Management, SPA paid a total accumulated divided of SAT23.6m to support the Government Budget this FY2024.

#### • Community Service Events:

The Authority continues to support the community through sponsorship of the following events,

- Alovaa International Long Distance Canoe Racing
- Annual Miss Samoa Pageant

SPA led by the Staff Social Committee as an annual event visited the Home of the Aged and donated SAT5,000 with variety supply of daily necessities.

## 9. Samoa Post Limited (SPL)

- Total Net Profit after Tax (NPAT) recorded during the year is SAT43,247. The Company made dividend payments to the Government of SAT336,626.05 at year end. Current ratio of 5.3:1 shows that SPL's liquidity is at very low risk.
- SPL made dividend payment during FY2024 of SAT7,566.70.
- Mail volumes—both incoming and outgoing—have dropped significantly due to the switch to digital communication. Also, fewer travelers are sending/receiving mail internationally, which has reduced postal revenue and means services need to be rethought.

## 10.Samoa Shipping Corporation (SSC)

- SSC recorded a Net Profit after Tax (NPAT) of SAT3.79m, yielding a positive Return on Equity (ROE) of 14% and Return on Assets (ROA) of 4% for the reporting FY2024.
- The Corporation made dividend payments to Government of SAT340,346.30 during the FY.
- MV SSC40 completed dry dock surveys and maintenance on August 5-6, 2023, with all work done on schedule, ensuring compliance and seaworthiness.
- In August 2023, SSC vessels' CO2 systems were inspected, cylinders tested, and expiration dates renewed to ensure fire safety compliance.
- In August 2023, Vaitele Life Raft Station serviced liferafts for SSC vessels, following safety rules. The station must be checked and approved every year by the manufacturer and the flag state to ensure it's safe.
- On August 21, 2023, MV SSC40 ran aground. Passengers were evacuated, temporary repairs made, and the vessel was afloat by 7:30 PM, reaching the wharf safely.
- The MV Samoa Express II had faulty rudder and bow thruster indicators, which were replaced and tested. The crew was advised to conduct pre-departure equipment checks.
- In October 2023, Class NK surveyors inspected the Corporation's vessels for safety and compliance, issuing certification upon successful inspection.
- In October 2023, staff trained on troubleshooting diesel engines, focusing on key issues like the STC valve, camshafts, timing, and injector problems.
- The Corporation trains vocational students and stores their details for future job opportunities.
- From Feb26 to Mar 3, 2024, MV Samoa Express II underwent maintenance, with MV Fotu o Samoa II covering its trips.
- The March 1, 2024 survey of MV Samoa Express II found issues, showing the need for better maintenance and safety checks.
- MV Lady Samoa III underwent maintenance and repairs in 2023, resuming service in April 2024 after engine fixes.
- On May 24, 2024, the U.S. Coast Guard found problems on MV Lady Samoa IV, reducing capacity by 50 passengers until fixed.
- Silva Group leased MV Fotu o Samoa II for the Manu'atele route, with maintenance completed on June 10, 2024.
- The MV Lady Naomi was retired on June 5, 2024, and sunk to create an artificial reef.
- The MV Lady Samoa III is undergoing an engine overhaul after issues were found. MV SSC Fasefulu and MV Express II are covering trips in the meantime.

## 11. Samoa Shipping Services (SSS)

• Samoa Shipping Services (SSS) recorded Net Profit after Tax (NPAT) of SAT212,745 for FY2024, reflecting a slight decline from the SAT676,162 recorded in FY2023.

- **Seafarer Employment & Performance**: Samoan seafarers were recognized through MSC Employee Awards for their outstanding contributions. Crew engagement increased by 5%, while improved discipline led to fewer premature contract terminations.
- *Training & Workforce Development:* Workforce expansion saw the creation of two new positions: Data Analyst Officer & Principal Crewing Officer. Staff participated in international training, including the Shipping Business & Maritime Management Seminar in China. Four employees were certified as Internal Auditors, strengthening ISO9001:2015 compliance, while two staff members earned BCom degrees under SSS's educational funding policy.
- *Freight & Operational Activities:* Air freight peaked in November 2023, while Hemisphere led in sea freight volume. SSS also acted as the port agent for the MV Offshore Surveyor, which docked in Apia for a research project in American Samoa.
- *ISO9001:2015 Certification Progress* SSS achieved 90% completion of its ISO9001:2015 certification, following internal audits and Stage 1 audit completion with BSI, positioning the organization for final certification in 2024.

#### 12.Samoa Water Authority (SWA)

- SWA recorded a Net loss of SAT3.98million for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. While this is an improvement from the SAT6.68m Net Loss in FY2023, it still highlights ongoing financial strain. Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE) remain at very high risk in FY2024,
- Following recorded net loss of SAT3.98m, SWA is not liable to any dividend for FY2023.

## • Community Engagement and Public Awareness

SWA prioritized community engagement by conducting consultations, awareness sessions on water billing, leak management, and treated water transition. Digital outreach expanded through Facebook for timely updates, and school programs highlighted water management careers. Community consultations also supported service expansion to underserved areas.

#### • Infrastructure Works

The Authority completed 28.86km of pipeline works, including 13.4km for network upgrades and 15.46km of new pipeline. A solar-powered pumping system was installed in Saleilua, and a new borehole system for Samalaeulu and Mauga was drilled. Manase transitioned to SWA treated water, with plans to integrate more village-managed schemes into the SWA network.

#### • Water Quality and Wastewater Management

SWA ensured treated water met national drinking water standards and maintained environmentally responsible wastewater management in Apia. Regular monitoring and maintenance safeguard public health and environmental protection.

#### • Non-Revenue Water

Supported by CEPSO 2, SWA reduced water losses through leak detection, pipeline repairs, and system upgrades. NRW figures showed improvement, reflecting SWA's focus on operational efficiency and sustainable practices.

#### • Asset Management

The Authority completed an Asset Management Maturity Assessment and adopted a Board-approved Asset Management Policy. An Asset Management Plan for wastewater systems is in place, with plans to finalize one for water treatment and supply systems next year.

#### • Digital Transformation & Technology

The Authority advanced digital systems by integrating SCADA for real-time water infrastructure monitoring and piloting smart control panels at pressure sewer pump stations. A Digital Maturity Assessment supported by ADB, identified opportunities for further technological enhancements.

#### • Other key achievements for the Year

- The Authority facilitated 39 training programs for 212 staff members through partnerships with APTC, Maynilad Water Services, and regional initiatives. Programs focused on water quality, asset management, GIS data management, and NRW strategies, supporting staff professional development and operational excellence.
- SWA progressed with the development of its Master plan and 10-year Investment Plan, supported by ADB. These strategic tools will guide infrastructure improvements, operational efficiency, and climate resilience, ensuring sustainable water services for Samoa.

## 13.Unit Trust of Samoa Ltd (UTOS Management)

- UTOS reached a total number of 5,983 active unitholders, showing an increase compared to FY2023. This growth is a result of active community engagement, awareness programs and the strategic use of digital marketing.
- On the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023, UTOS launched a new digital payment gateway with Digicel, called the MyCash App as another avenue for unitholders to top up their UTOS accounts website.
- The Incident Response Policy document was approved in October 2023 to prepare for potential future security risks.
- UTOS's NPAT for FY2024 is recorded at SAT809,547. A significantly large increase compared to NPAT FY2023 of SAT640,405.
- UTOS made dividend payments to Government of SAT286,094.65 during the financial period.

## 14.Samoa Airways (SAW) / Polynesian Airlines (PAL)

- Samoa Airways reported an unaudited YTD net profit after tax (NPAT) of SAT8 million for FY2024. The YTD Return on Equity (ROE) and Return on Assets (ROA) are 82.9% and 44% respectively.
- For the reporting financial year, SAW managed to achieve the following,
  - Number of Passengers was reported at 44,867 this FY.
  - Number of Flights was reported at 3,892 for FY2024.

## **15.Samoa Trust Estates Corporation (STEC)**

- No Annual Report submitted since STEC has transitioned to become the Samoa Export Authority. Nonetheless, the Ministry has access to limited output KPIs pertaining to STEC's performance for the 2024 fiscal year.
- STEC reported an unaudited Net Loss after Tax (NLAT) of SAT13.1 million for this FY. This reflects an increase in NLAT FY2023 of SAT12.4 million.

# SUMMARY OF MUTUAL AND BENEFICIAL BODIES PERFORMANCE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

#### **MUTUAL SOCIETIES**

## 1. Samoa Life Assurance Corporation

- The Approved Revised Mortgage Manual was reopened late into the year in compliance with Investment strategies, and to assist policy holders with purchasing lands and building homes.
- Several awareness programs carried out during the year in both Upolu and Savaii and utilizing the RSE scheme to further increase clientele.
- Sales submission increased by 21% compared to 2% target per annum.

#### 2. Samoa National Provident Fund

- The Board and Management declare a 9% dividend for the year, with 4% distributed as a cash dividend and 5% allocated to members accounts. A total of SAT87.3 million was disbursed to members.
- Successfully upgraded the Financial Management System from Navision to Business Central.

#### PUBLIC BENEFICIAL BODIES

## 1. Accident Compensation Corporation

- The Board of Directors approved 10 ex gratia claims under Section 68 of the Accident Compensation Act for non-workers and non-earners who died due to electrocution, shark attacks, and drowning.
- New rehabilitation referrals decreased by 13%, compared to an 18% reduction recorded in FY23
- Rehabilitation recovery rates increased by 20%, an improvement from the 12% recorded in FY23.
- The number of reported worker deaths not related to accidents declined by 19%.
- Nine cases were referred for overseas medical treatment in FY24, compared to two in FY23.
- A 2,024m² land property in Motootua was acquired for the construction of a Rehabilitation Center to support rehabilitation programs and services.
- The Corporation established a partnership with the United Women on the Market for Change Project to enhance facilities and services, benefiting approximately 80% of women-led businesses at the Fugalei Market.
- A Road Safety Working Group was formed to share statistical data, review hazard reports, and promote road safety initiatives.
- The Board convened its first-ever meeting in Savaii in November 2023, aligning it with a scheduled visit to rehabilitated clients residing on the island.

## 2. Gambling Control Authority (GCA)

- The proposed amendment to the Gambling and Casino Control Act 2010 has been under review by the Attorney General's Office since 2022. The amendment aims to allow local citizens to gamble in casinos, with approval pending submission to the Cabinet and public consultation.
- The Authority plans to purchase and modernize a commercial building for SAT9m as the new headquarters.
- New Office in Savai'i construction planned on land leased from the Samoa Land Corporation in Salelologa Township. The project will reduce rental expenses and provide ample parking for customers in Apia.

- Both projects will be funded by a SAT12.5 million loan, expected to begin in early 2025.
- The re-issuance of a casino operator license at White Sands Casino, Mulifanua, is anticipated in late 2024 or early 2025.
- The new casino is expected to diversify revenue streams and contribute significantly to financial health.

## 3. Land Transport Authority (LTA)

- The Authority has yet to submit its annual report for the reviewed FY2024. However, the following have been extracted from the Authority's April–June 2024 Quarterly Report.
- The Authority's expenditure exceeded its revenue for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter due to road works in progress. Current ratio stands at 1.25:1 with cash flow balance of SAT28.9million.

## 4. National Kidney Foundation of Samoa

- 74 new patients commencing dialysis. An increase from the 66 reported in FY23.
- The Foundation purchased 30 new dialysis machines amounting to approximately SAT700,000.
- The Orchid vascular Team from Australia made 5 visits during this FY24. During the visits, 103 operations were performed, saving Samoa approximately SAT2.6million should these be done overseas.

## 5. National University of Samoa

- Recognition of Micro Credentials as Formal Qualifications
- NUS officially recognized micro-credentials as formal qualifications during a Special Graduation on 14th July, 2024, celebrating 71 graduates from the Oloamanu Centre of Professional Development. This milestone was made possible through a partnership between NUS and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) under the Manaaki In-Country Training scholarship. The program provided WST99,960.00 (NZSAT49,000) in funding to deliver nine micro-credential courses for PSET providers and community-based trainers in Upolu and Savaii, aiming to enhance workforce skills and productivity. The New Zealand High Commissioner highlighted the significance of this initiative in strengthening professional development and contributing to national and regional human resource priorities.
- Launch of the Bachelor of Health Science Programme
- On the 29th January 2024, the University launched its Bachelor of Health Science with the intention to strengthen Samoa's primary care and related health workforce. The Aotearoa New Zealand government provided NZD3.49 million over five years for the program along with scholarships and student support initiatives.
- NUS celebrates 40 years of success
- The University celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a grand parade and special ceremony in front of the Government building. The theme for the anniversary was 'Ia Ao Samoa Let there be light upon Samoa,' emphasizing the importance of education and enlightenment.
- Postgraduate in Executive Leadership Launch
- The University in partnership with the PSC and Government of Australia launched the Samoa-Australia Partnership for the Postgraduate Programme on Executive Leadership. This program aims to enhance leadership capabilities and strategic focus for senior executives in the public services.
- MOUs and Agreements signed
- NUS signed six MOU's and agreements with University of French Polynesia, University of the South Pacific. Victoria University of Wellington, UNDP, US Embassy and MOH.
- Oloamanu Centre Building Project

- Cabinet approved the new Oloamanu Centre Building project cost of SAT1.2million. The project was completed in March 2024 with a few outstanding tasks. Official opening was held in November 2024.
- Perimeter Fence Upgrade,
- The University completed the first phase of its 400mtrs perimeter fence from the main gate on the mountain side down the northern section of the campus, with the University's greeting sign located at the front next to where Toomatagi begins. This is to ensure the safety of its staff and students as well as its facilities and contents.

## 6. Samoa Fire and Emergency Service Authority

- The Authority worked hand in hand with the Fire Emergency New Zealand, as part of the
  preparation for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) to inspect and
  assess the hotels and venues during the month of January and February 2024. They also
  assisted with fire investigation and building regulations as well as helping to understand EV
  (Electrical Vehicle) response.
- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the SFESA and TAFE Queensland was signed during this FY. This collaborative agreement aims to enhance the existing skills and knowledge of SFESA workforce to strengthen the delivery of services.
- Partnership with APTC provided opportunities for SFESA, where 10 staffs were able to attend the Certificate II in Drainage and 6 staffs attended the International Skills Training (IST).
- The Authority handed over two brand new Land Cruiser as response vehicles to Maota and Asau stations in order to enhance their emergency response capabilities.
- SFESA was one of the recipients for the 2023 National Environment Award (Disaster Preparedness). These awards are presented to environmental stewards, stakeholders, businesses, non-governmental organizations and communities from across the country that have made substantial contributions to natural resources protection, sustainable development, climate resilience and disaster preparedness.
- Approval of the SFESA Human Resource and Instructions Manual 2021 by the Board. The manual was effective 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024.

## 7. Samoa Qualifications Authority

- Renewed the annual registration for twenty-three (23) formal PSET providers.
- Accredited thirteen (13) provider programs from four (4) formal PSET providers.
- Registered six (6) provider programs under the Samoa Qualifications Framework from three (3) formal PSET providers.
- Added eighteen (18) Samoa qualifications to the Samoa Qualifications Framework.
- Delivered four (4) Samoa qualifications through two (2) PSET providers.
- Recognized six (6) non-formal learning activities from five (5) non-formal PSET providers.
- Reviewed and updated the Samoa Qualifications Framework for 2024.
- Successfully hosted the PSET Conference 2023 on September 13th and 14th at the Taumeasina Island Resort.
- Organized the National PSET Exhibition on September 5th and 6th in Upolu and on September 8th in Savai'i.
- Held the Annual Strategic Planning Seminar 2023 on December 7th and 8th at the St. Therese Resort.
- Conducted courtesy visits to all formal PSET providers during the financial year, led by the SQA Board of Directors and Executive Management Team.

- Compiled and submitted SQA reports, including Quarterly Review reports and the Annual Review report for the Education Sector Plan.
- Completed the Annual Review of AMP 2022-2023 and conducted three (3) quarterly reviews for AMP 2023-2024, all approved by the Board.
- Prepared and submitted the SQA Budget Bid for FY2024-2025 and the Outcomes Performance Framework to the Ministry of Finance.
- Approved the SQA Annual Report for FY2022-2023, which was submitted to the Ministry of Public Enterprises and Cabinet for final approval.
- Submitted SQA Quarterly Progress Reports for FY2023-2024 to the Ministry of Public Enterprises, following Board approval.
- Produced and circulated the SQA Newsletter quarterly to PSET providers and stakeholders.

## 8. Scientific Research Organization of Samoa

• SROS has completed its Food Innovation Centre to assist with the food industry, new products development, and value-added production lines in the private sector and subsequent stimulation of crop production in the agriculture sector.

## 9. Samoa Tourism Authority

- Visitor Arrival: Reach 98% of pre-pandemic levels, with a 28% increase from the previous year.
- Market Performance: Australia emerged as the top-performing market, overtaking New Zealand for the first time since boarder reopened.
- Airline Support: Quantas, Virgin Australia, and Fiji Airways played key roles in boosting arrivals from Australia.
- Trade Engagement: Successful roadshows held in key cities across New Zealand and Australia, supported by the NZ Samoa Tourism Recovery and Resilience (STRR) Programme and Australia's DFAT Tautai Programme.
- Product Development: Multiple tourism sites upgraded; special project funded for the anticipated visit of King Charles.
- Destination Enhancement: Ongoing training and beautification projects enhanced services delivery and destination appeal.
- Financial Position: Increased financial obligations due to strategic investments in international campaigns, including the 2023 World Cup Media Kava Bowl.
- Strategic Milestone: Completion of the draft Samoa Inaugural Tourism Policy to guide long-term sector development.
- CHOGM 2024 Preparation: Active role in national planning, particularly accommodation and beautification, with high team morale.

### 10. Samoa Sport facilities Authority

- The SSFA submitted only its audited accounts, with the full annual report still outstanding to date.
- The Authority's revenue increased by 1,462%, primarily due to the amortization of deferred income. A profit of SAT82.5 million was recorded, marking a significant turnaround from the loss reported in FY23.