



# FAAILOA

## NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES  
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*Enhancing partnerships to develop and sustain agriculture and fisheries*

OCTOBER 2020

## CELEBRATING WORLD FOOD DAY

**Theme: Grow, Nourish, Sustain together. Our actions are our Future.**



Food is a basic necessity of man's life. Man cannot live without food.

The current pandemic overshadowing the world at the moment has stimulated the people to deeply reflect on serious measures to ensure food security in their families and communities.

This special day is dedicated to promote awareness for those that are suffering from hunger and to ensure healthy diets for all people.

In Samoa, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in its efforts to celebrate World Food Day this year has prepared a video message [attached] presented by Honourable Lopao Natanielu Mua, as an official celebration of this special day. Attached also is a message by FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu to all the people of the world in their efforts to celebrate and support this initiative.

There was also an advertisement that was broadcasted on local television and through the local radio stations on the importance of this day, encouraging the local communities and families to embrace our local foods and diets.

## Minister's Remarks – Hon. Lopao'o Natanielu Mu'a



### World Food Day Celebration, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Talofa Lava,

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to celebrate with you today this important event; the World Food Day.

Samoa as a member state of the United Nations, the World Food Day is commemorated worldwide on the 16<sup>th</sup> October every year. This event not only celebrates and promotes eradication of global hunger, but marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

The 2020 World Food Day theme is “**Grow, Nourish, Sustain. Together**”. The theme is therefore fitting as the world encountered hardship and uncertainty due to the global pandemic. The current crisis has placed pressure on health systems, economic shocks and most importantly threatens food and nutrition security.

Although Samoa remains Covid-19 free to date, the social and economic impacts are felt across the country. In this respect, it is imperative for Samoa to work collaboratively as a nation to address the impacts and find solutions for the livelihood of our people.

Our Government continues to promote investments in the Agriculture sector to strengthen domestic food production in the long-run through increasing on-farm productivity, improving fisheries resource management and enhanced market linkages of farmers and fishers.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge with much gratitude the significant roles played by our farmers, fishers, processors, exporters and all within the value chains for agriculture and fisheries development.

A nation's food and nutrition security status is everyone's responsibility. It is our collaborative effort to **Grow** together, **Nourish** together and **Sustain together**. As the saying goes, “*When you run alone, you run fast. When you run together, you run far*”. Yes, it is easier to do things on your own and better yourself, **but** is much more rewarding to accomplish more with many.

I would also like to give recognition to the numerous agriculture sector stakeholders and development partners from the private sector, NGO's, regional and international organisations. Special acknowledgement to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations for their on-going financial and technical assistance.

In addition, in my capacity as the current Chairman of the Pacific Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry Forum, I would like to Congratulate FAO for its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and I wish you all the best in celebrating the 2020 World Food Day.

May we continue to ensure food and nutrition security for our people during these times of uncertainties.

Thank you and God Bless.

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# Video Message by FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu



## World Food Day 2020/75th Anniversary of FAO

Ladies and gentlemen, colleagues and friends.

The World Food Day finds its origin in the birthday of FAO UN, on 16 October, 1945. This year is a very special one - for FAO and for the global fight against hunger and malnutrition.

75 years ago today, out of the debris of World War Two. Millions lost their lives in the conflict; millions more died of starvation. Farming was devastated. The world needed to rebuild agriculture and to meet the most basic of human needs. Nations came together, FAO UN was established first.

And we delivered. FAO harnessed everything at our disposal - expertise, research, statistics, diplomacy - to help the world produce more to feed more. In the first 25 years of FAO's existence, farm output increased by 70 percent.

But feeding the world was not just about more hectares and more tractors. In the second quarter - century of FAO's existence, we worked to make the Green Revolution greener. And bluer too we became drawing the world's attention to safeguarding the oceans and seas. We promoted aquaculture. And we tackled - and defeated - entrenched animal diseases.

The third quarter - century saw a greater push for sustainability. We worked to empower small holder farmers. We promoted a package of solutions for global food security. We underscored that there was no such thing as an end to hunger without application of innovation, responsible environment, accessible trade of commodities and empowering women and youth.

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# CANCELLED

## AGRICULTURE SHOW 2020

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Since its inception by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Agriculture Show for Samoa has become an annual event where the farmers and fishers both commercial and subsistence come together to showcase and sell the fruits of their labour.

For this year, 2020, due to the current restrictions because of the COVID19 Pandemic around the world, our Agriculture Show is cancelled until further notice.

With the Ag Show out for this year, the Ministry still continues its roles and responsibilities in ensuring that the communities and our local people are offered the assistance they need for agriculture and fishing.

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