

PRESS RELEASE:

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and NGO Conservation International, collaborate to secure a healthy and abundant ocean

The agreement will guide collaboration to support the sustainable development and management of coastal marine and fisheries resources for Samoa's ocean.

Apia, Samoa (26th April, 2022) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed today between Samoa's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) and non-governmental organisation Conservation International. The collaboration recognizes the intent of Conservation International and MAF to secure sustainable development and management of coastal marine and fisheries resources, sustain marine biodiversity, increase climate change adaptation and raise general public awareness and stewardship of the ocean.

The MAF emphasized that the partnership with Conservation International provides another opportunity for MAF as one of the relevant government agencies to work with genuine partners who have shared interest in ensuring we manage our ocean in a way that will sustain us.

Leilani Duffy, the Ocean Director for Conservation International Samoa said, "Pacific civilizations were built on a symbiotic relationship with the ocean. It remains a pillar of Samoa's prosperity, providing food and driving our economy. It is vital we manage this vital and shared resource sustainably now for ourselves and the wellbeing of future generations."

The MOU further supports the Samoa Ocean Strategy Vision of maintaining a healthy and abundant ocean for Samoa through a multi-sectoral approach to protect 30%, and sustainably manage 100% of Samoa's ocean by 2030. The partnership is committed to building a genuine partnership that champions ambitious and innovative efforts focused on ocean positive solutions, ensures the uses of Samoa's marine resources are sustainable, and continues to support employment, economy, and maintain our fisheries.

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For more information, contact:

Emmeline Johansen, Communications Director ejohansen@conservation.org (+) 64 27 779 3401) or MAF Chief Executive Officer, Tilafono David Hunter on email tilafono@maf.gov.ws.

Note to editors:

About The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) is the principal organisation which provides regulatory and technical advice, training, and support for subsistence and commercial farmers, agri-processors, and exporters. The Ministry effectively manages and uses the potential in agriculture and fisheries for food security, income generating opportunities, commercial development, and sustainable management of resources.

About Conservation International

Conservation International is a non-government organisation that works to spotlight and secure the critical benefits that nature provides for humanity. The non-profit has worked in the Pacific Islands region for more than 20 years. Through science, policy, fieldwork and finance, we spotlight and secure the most important places in nature for the climate, for biodiversity and for people. With offices in 30 countries and projects in more than 100 countries, Conservation International partners with governments, companies, civil society, Indigenous peoples and local communities to help people and nature thrive together. Go to [Conservation.org](https://www.conservation.org) for more, and follow our work on [Conservation News](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [TikTok](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).