

Samoans Turn to Traditional Housing as Sanctuary from Climate Risks

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Description

RATIONALE: In Samoa a solution to the problem of increasing [climate](#) risks, particularly [cyclone](#) damage, is to develop housing based on indigenous knowledge, design, and materials. The housing design that proved most resilient through three recent cyclones was indigenous housing; one notable example named "Pousea" was constructed 80 years ago. This project aims to reinvigorate village-based practices in the crafting and construction of Samoan indigenous housing to create buildings that are safer, accessible, resilient, and sustainable. Along with efforts to increase skills at the village level there will be a public [education](#) strategy to increase awareness of growing [climate](#) risks and [hazards](#). **INNOVATION:** Our indigenous knowledge is a critical resource of [adaptation](#) innovation that can be applied to village-based housing design and construction to prevent high levels of devastation caused by climatic disasters. Taking a village-based approach to the dual problems of [climate](#) risks and housing will lead to solutions that make sense within village-based systems.

Project Status [Completed](#)

Start Date Thursday, July 7, 2022

End Date Thursday, July 7, 2022

Project Type [Capacity Building](#)
[Knowledge Communication](#)

Total Funding 199000

Project Scope [Community](#)

Project Objectives 1) To recover indigenous cultural knowledge held by Samoan elders about housing and [climate](#) , and to apply this design and construction practices of Samoan indigenous housing in order to inform the [development](#) of safer, accessible, resilient, and sustainable housing.

Related Links

[Samoans Turn to Traditional Housing as Sanctuary from Climate Risks](#)

Implementing Organisation(s)

Afeafe o Vaetoefaga Pacific Academy of Cultural Restoration

Development Partner Contacts

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