



Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour
Matagaluega o Pisinisi, Alamanuia ma Leipa



Press Release – Samoan Delegation Secondment Programme 2017

Four Representatives from the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Labour attended the RSE knowledge-building Secondment programme in New Zealand from the 18th – 22nd September 2017. The Chief Executive Officer for the Ministry Pulotu Lyndon Chu-Ling with three officials from the Seasonal Employment Unit (SEU) of the Ministry; Venus Tupai, Makerita Tanuvasa and Rainer Brown were part of Samoa's delegation. They were joined by Fonoti Dr Fuatai (Samoa Trade Commissioner, New Zealand) and Lemalu Nele Leilua (RSE Liaison Officer for Samoa, New Zealand), as well as the RSE Relationship Managers of the New Zealand Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) Mrs Oikoumene Mauala-Chan Tung and Mr Tony Jensen

The Secondment process provides an opportunity for Pacific states officials to have firsthand knowledge, experience, and expertise of the RSE Programme from a New Zealand context. The nature of the secondments is tailored specifically to meet the needs of each Pacific state. The specifically designed secondment programme for Officials from Samoa was funded under the RSE: Strengthening Pacific Partnership (SPP) Programme that is administered by MBIE.

Samoa's Delegation had the pleasure to meet some of the Employers currently engaging Samoan RSE workers. Important issues discussed amongst others included Employers expectations of RSE workers from Samoa, pastoral care to be extended to their RSE workers and also to gauge their views on how best to improve their partnership with MCIL-SEU on matters relating to RSE. A special meeting was also held with key officials at MBIE on policy matters pertinent to the success of the RSE programme for both countries. The Secondment programme has provided an important insight on how Samoa through MCIL-SEU could strengthen the pre departure orientations, advice, and engagement of other stakeholders and all related support for our RSE workers before they leave for New Zealand.

All the key regions whereby Samoan RSE workers are based were covered during the Secondment. RSE employers visited included; EastPack Ltd, Seeka, Trevelyans Coolstorage & Pack Ltd, Thornhill viticulture & horticulture services, Mr Apple, Johnny Appleseed, Sunfruit Orchards, Landstaff Ltd, Alapa Viticultural, Hortus Ltd, Nicholson's Contracting Ltd, Birdhurst, Horrell Farm, Wratten's Orchard, Tyrella & Tasman Bay Berries.



Group Photo: Samoan Delegation with RSE Workers at Duncannon Accommodation



MCIL RSE Officials Meeting with MBIE RSE Officials in Wellington



Group Photo: Samoan Delegation with RSE Workers and few of Seeka (Employer) Staff Members