



MANDATE

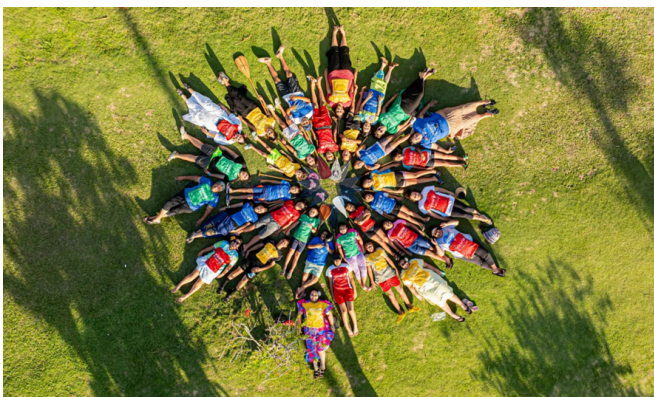
FACT SHEET - 2025

Samoa is committed to inclusive governance, ensuring the voices of children, youth, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and communities are represented at village, district, and national levels.

MWCSD is Samoa's national focal point for Gender Equality, Disability & Social Inclusion (GEDSI), social protection, care, and community development — ensuring no one is left behind.

- Leads policy advice & programmes across children, youth, women, persons with disabilities, and elderly.
- Anchors national frameworks: Pola Puipui GBV Prevention, ECD Framework, Youth Policy, National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, Samoa National Childcare & Protection Policy, National Policy on Inclusive Governance, National Policy on Gender Equality and Rights of Women and Girls, Community Economic Empowerment Policy, and GEDSI in the District Development Programme (DDP).

NATIONAL REACH



51 Districts | 343 Villages

51 District Councils (Fono Faavae)
Plus 180 staff

496 Village Reps
Sui o Nu'u, Sui Tamaitai'i, Sui o le Malo

Digital Reach
1M+ impressions; followers grew from 700 → 20k

PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES AT A GLANCE



Children (0-6): 20%; foundation for lifelong wellbeing

Youth (18-35): 26%; 1 in 4 not in school or work

Women 49%: Labour force 36% (vs men 62%);
unemployment 7.8%; 46% lifetime GBV

Disability 5% Mostly rural; 1 in 5 employed; \$100 monthly scheme, NGO partnerships (NOLA, Loto Taumafai).

Elderly 10-12%: Custodians of culture/faith; rising need
Poverty: ~20% households; MPI 24.9%, concentrated in rural families, single mothers, unemployed youth.

Faith 95%: Anchor of values, cohesion, and prevention.

FLAGSHIP PLATFORMS

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

*Aiga ma Nu'u Manuia, Nu'u Vibes , Resilient Spirit-
Portraits of Samoa Women Warriors*

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

*Stitched with Love, Youth Folau for Progress,
Fuataga & Kreativ Lalaga.*

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

*\$1 Million Tala Programme – Empowering Every
District to Drive Its Own Development.*



IMPACT SNAPSHOT



GAPS & CHALLENGES

- Limited disability & elderly data; gaps in education, employment, and access to services.
- High GBV prevalence (46%+) undermines safety and wellbeing.
- 1 in 4 youth not in school or work; migration pressures.
- Poverty and inequality concentrated in rural areas.

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

- Parliament: 5 elected women; quota ensures 10% minimum.
- Women hold 31% of board chairs, 36% of directorships, 40% of CEO roles, ~41% senior management.
- DDP councils mandate women and youth inclusion.
- Every village has Sui o Tamaitai alongside Sui o Nuu — securing women's voice in governance.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- Though village representative initiatives- Komiti o Tina drive health, prevention, environment initiatives.
- Women's committees and churches anchor wellbeing and faith leadership.
- Through DDP-50%+ of programme beneficiaries are women and girls, 5,000+ women engaged in GEDSI initiatives.

Highlights – 2025

- \$1 Million Tala Programme (DDP)- 4,000+ projects delivered 134,334 people reached across Samoa
- Health- 2,045 households surveyed, 300+ villages mobilised in dengue clean-ups, 20,000 people engaged, including 250 women's committees (Jul-Sep 2025)
- Youth – Flagship Achievements- Youth in Governance: Youth now have a seat in all 51 District Councils through the DDP, Youth Advisory Board – Established 2024; members recognized at UNGA 2025 and Commonwealth Youth Awards, Creative Enterprises, Crisis & Climate Action – 2,000+ youth mobilised in dengue response; leaders in clean-ups & climate-smart initiatives, Youth Celebrations – Youth Day, Youth Week, International Youth Day platforms for leadership & innovation (e.g. Paddle for Progress Regatta).
- Children- ECD Framework launched (2025), 600+ reached through rollout; 24 champions mobilised, Hosted Pacific Regional ECD Forum & Frontliners Summit
- Women & Girls- Represent 50%+ of beneficiaries
- Disability- 494 people reached through social protection & GEDSI programmes

STATUS OF WOMEN

- **Women** = 49% (~225,000)
- **Labour force participation** 36% (vs men 62%); female unemployment 7.8%.

- Girls outperform boys in school/tertiary; STEM gaps persist.
- Life expectancy: women 74 vs men 70.
- Skilled birth attendance >90%; NCDs disproportionately affect women.

LEADERSHIP

- First Woman PM: Hon. Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa.
- Deputy PM & first Pacific woman Finance Minister: Hon. Mulipola Anarosa Ale-Molio'o.
- Deputy Speaker: Hon. Afamasaga Leone Mati Vaili Masame.

"From grassroots to Cabinet, Samoan women are carers, entrepreneurs, and leaders. Progress is clear, yet gaps remain in labour participation, land rights, and safety. Our commitment: no woman left behind — every Samoan woman empowered to shape our nation's future."