



Briefing report

Education Review Office (ERO): ERO Reviewing Samoa's Education Sector Plan 2019- 2024 and Samoa's Education Sector Support Programme 2020-2024

Date	19 October 2022
Security Level	N/A
ERO Priority	Medium
ERO Reference	M22-61
Date requested	ERO initiated
Date due	ERO initiated
Proactive release	Recommended

Addressee	Action sought	Deadline
Associate Minister of Education	<p>It is recommended that you:</p> <p>a) Note that ERO will be engaged in reviewing the Samoan Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2019-2024 and the impacts of the Education Sector Support Programme (ESSP) 2020-2024 between October 2022 and February 2023.</p> <p>b) Agree to forward this briefing to the Associate Minister of Education (Pacific).</p> <p>c) Note that as this review has been commissioned by MFAT, decisions relating to the release of ERO's work will be taken by MFAT.</p>	



Attachments:

Education Review Office (ERO):
ERO Reviewing Samoa's Education
Sector Plan 2019-2024 and Samoa's
Education Sector Support Programme
2020-2024

Comments:



Minister's Office to complete	
Noted	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved	<input type="checkbox"/>
Referred to:	
Date signed by Minister:	



EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE
Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga

NATIONAL OFFICE
LEVEL 1, 101 LAMBTON QUAY
PO BOX 2799
WELLINGTON 6140
SX10166
T 0-4-499 2489
F 0-4-499 2482
info@ero.govt.nz
www.ero.govt.nz

Our Ref: M22-61

19 October 2022

Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)

ERO Reviewing Samoa's Education Sector Plan 2019-2024 and Samoa's Education Sector Support Programme 2020-2024

Purpose

1. To inform you that following a request from MFAT, ERO has been contracted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and is being funded to undertake a mid-term review of the Samoan Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2019-2024 and the Education Sector Support Programme (ESSP) 2020-2024.
2. The Samoan Government's Education Sector Advisory Committee (ESAC) have agreed for ERO to undertake this work.

Background

3. Samoa, Australia and New Zealand are all committed to improving the quality of education for children and young people in Samoa.
4. The Samoa Education Sector Plan (ES) has been implemented to deliver and promote high quality education and training for all learners. It is supported by the Samoa Education Sector Support Plan (ESSP). The Education Sector Support Program (ESSP) is a 3-year activity between MFAT and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), designed to specifically support and finance implementation of elements of the ESP.
5. With both the ESP and the ESSP in their second iteration cycle, this joined up review of both is an opportunity to provide the Government of Samoa and development partners clear and useful insights into the ongoing impact of ESSP on progress towards achieving the outcomes of the ESP in terms of: Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact and Sustainability.
6. The intention of this mid-term review is to understand the challenges and strengths of the current implementation approaches, evidence base and governance arrangements under the ESP and ESSP, to inform changes and enhancements that will deliver on our shared goal of improved education outcomes.

Role of ERO

7. ERO is a key partner in Pacific focused educational and social sector evaluations in New Zealand and the Pacific region. We see this review as a valuable opportunity to further strengthen ERO's and New Zealand's partnerships more broadly within the Samoan education sector and the Pacific region.
8. ERO has received the MFAT terms of reference that guide this review. The timeframe for all phases of this review extends over October 2022 – February 2023.
9. The review approach is divided into three phases. Throughout these phases ERO will be supported by MFAT New Zealand and the New Zealand High Commission in Samoa.

Recommendations

10. It is recommended that you:
 - a) **Note** that ERO will be engaged in reviewing the Samoan Education Sector Plan (ESP) 2019-2024 and the impacts of the Education Sector Support Programme (ESSP) 2020-2024 between October 2022 and February 2023. **Noted**
 - b) **Agree** to forward this briefing to the Associate Minister of Education (Pacific). **Agreed** ~~Disagreed~~
 - c) **Note** that as this review has been commissioned by MFAT, decisions relating to the release of ERO's work will be taken by MFAT. **Noted**


Nicholas Pole
Chief Executive and Chief Review Officer

NOTED/APPROVED


Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education (School Operations)

25 / 10 / 2022