

ECO CAMP SAMOA

A COMMUNITY-LED BASE FOR CONSERVATION,
CULTURE, AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS



CONCEPT PLAN

“A vibrant eco camp that empowers Samoan communities and international volunteers to protect the environment, strengthen cultural knowledge, and create sustainable livelihoods.”

The First Step !

BUILD Eco-Camp Samoa a springboard for our Samoa Based Projects ! Building commencing November 2025.

Eco Camp Samoa is a grassroots initiative established on the lands of the **Fuataga Asini Aiga**, who have generously made their land available for the project. The camp will serve as a **central base for environmental action, intergenerational learning, and sustainable livelihood development** in Samoa.

At its heart, Eco Camp Samoa seeks to provide a place where local communities, volunteers, and international supporters can come together to restore ecosystems, strengthen cultural knowledge, and build pathways for sustainable social and economic development.

Rationale / Community Need

The Pacific faces pressing challenges—climate change, biodiversity loss, social disconnection, and the need for more sustainable livelihoods. Communities are seeking ways to:

- Protect fragile marine and terrestrial ecosystems
- Support young people to develop leadership, cultural, and environmental skills
- Build resilience through sustainable food systems and income generation
- Strengthen community cooperation and knowledge-sharing

Eco Camp Samoa responds to these needs by creating a **dedicated base for conservation, cultural exchange, and training**.

Vision and Objectives

Vision: A vibrant eco camp that empowers Samoan communities and international volunteers to protect the environment, strengthen cultural knowledge, and create sustainable livelihoods.

Objectives:

1. **Environmental Restoration** – Support reforestation, reef planting, and biodiversity conservation.
2. **Cultural and Social Development** – Create opportunities for intergenerational knowledge-sharing, cultural practice, and community celebration.
3. **Sustainable Livelihoods** – Pilot projects in eco-tourism, organic farming, vanilla/cocoa cooperatives, and sustainable fishing.

4. **Education and Leadership** – Host training programmes for young people in leadership, environmental science, and community development.
5. **Community Cooperation** – Provide a shared space where families, villages, and partner organisations collaborate for positive change.

Proposed Activities

Eco Camp Samoa will be developed in stages. Initial activities include:

- **Camp Infrastructure:** Establishing eco-friendly facilities for accommodation, shared kitchen, water supply, sanitation, and training areas.
- **Volunteer and Community Programmes:** Hosting local and international volunteers to support conservation, farming, and cultural programmes.
- **Environmental Projects:** Planting trees, restoring reefs, and establishing organic food gardens.
- **Skills Development:** Training community members in eco-building, renewable energy, conservation techniques, and sustainable farming.
- **Cultural Programmes:** Workshops in indigenous knowledge, navigation, language, and traditional arts.
- **Income-Generating Ventures:** Developing small-scale enterprises (eco-tourism stays, handicrafts, produce, and cultural exchanges) to sustain the camp.

Outcomes and Impact

The Eco Camp will:

- Provide a **permanent base** for environmental and cultural programmes in Samoa.
- Strengthen **community resilience** against climate and economic challenges.
- Create pathways for **youth leadership** and skills development.
- Build **international networks of solidarity** through volunteerism and partnerships.
- Generate **sustainable income** through eco-tourism, produce sales, and cooperative enterprises.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Success will be measured through:

- Number of participants (local and international) engaged in camp activities.
- Hectares of land restored, number of reefs planted, and biodiversity indicators.
- Youth and community members trained in leadership, conservation, and livelihoods.
- Income generated through eco-camp enterprises.
- Community satisfaction and engagement feedback.

Governance and Management

The project will be led by members of the **Fuataga Asini Aiga** in partnership with community leaders, local organisations, and international supporters. A **steering committee** will oversee project delivery, ensure accountability, and guide development.

Sustainability

Eco Camp Samoa will be designed for long-term sustainability by:

- Building facilities with low-impact, locally sourced, and renewable materials.
- Developing renewable energy and water systems.
- Establishing income-generating activities to support ongoing costs.
- Embedding community ownership and leadership from the outset.

Conclusion

Eco Camp Samoa represents a **practical and hopeful response** to the pressing challenges facing Samoa and the wider Pacific. It will be a hub of environmental restoration, cultural celebration, and sustainable livelihoods—driven by the community and for the community.