

SCOPING STUDY for ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

UAFATO CONSERVATION AREA



Prepared for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ▶ The objective of this assignment was to assess the potential of tourism in Uafato, and to identify needs for planning of tourism development in Uafato
- ▶ Uafato has very good tourism resources, although access to Uafato and to some of the tourism resources is a major problem
- ▶ There is little tourism activity in Uafato at present. The main visitor group is independent day travelers
- ▶ Once the road is fixed, tourism demand for Uafato's tourism resources may increase significantly
- ▶ The community wants to see tourism develop, but they also want to control tourism. They are keen to offer homestay accommodation, and to see broader benefits to the community from tourism
- ▶ In accord with the community's aspirations, it is recommended that Uafato develop a homestay program that will support parallel village development activities, and focus their marketing on educational groups
- ▶ It is also recommended that a system of prebooking/prescreening visitors be established, and that the CACC take on a formal role for Uafato tourism development and management
- ▶ The proposal developed in this report should provide a small-scale tourism business opportunity for the community. The community must decide whether to also open the homestay program to other tourism groups. Another very important community decision is whether to allow independent day travelers to Uafato, without prebooking
- ▶ The proposal has a strong net conservation benefit. In addition, it establishes a system for managing tourism in Uafato, before demand increases. It can also be viewed as a pilot project, which could be developed further in future years for new markets
- ▶ If the community agree with the proposal, then there are a range of needs that should be addressed, with stakeholder and possible consultant participation, for effective implementation.

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2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

Uafato Conservation Area, on the island of Upolu in the Independent State of Samoa, is a community based conservation area. O le Siosiomaga Society (OLSS) is the manager for the project. The project is also supported by the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Program (SPBCP) of SPREP.

SPREP commissioned this assignment. Its **objective** was to “..assess the potential and needs for the planning of future ecotourism development in the Uafato Conservation Area.” Full Terms of Reference are in **Appendix 1**.

- ☆ Field work was undertaken by Rob Macalister of *terra firma associates* (TFA) and Papaliitele Dion Ale, the Conservation Area Support Officer (CASO) for Uafato
- ☆ Two days were spent at Uafato, where a site survey and community consultation were undertaken. A day was spent in Apia, in discussions with the local tourism industry.

This is thus not a comprehensive report but a general mapping of future tourism directions for Uafato, based on community aspirations and tourism potential.

This report is designed to be read by the tourism industry, community members, as well as project managers at OLSS and SPREP.



2.2 Acknowledgements

The major task in this report was discussing tourism hopes and concerns with the community at Uafato, and the local tourism industry. Their participation was essential to tourism planning at Uafato.

Fa'afetai tele to:

- ☆ Papaliitele Dion Ale, Uafato CASO
- ☆ Reverend Asotasi and his good wife
- ☆ Uafato CACC Members
- ☆ All the other men and women of Uafato who gave their time for discussions
- ☆ Dr. Walter J. Vermeulen and OLSS
- ☆ Samoa Visitors Bureau staff
- ☆ Representatives of the Samoan tourism industry who participated in discussions, particularly Steve Brown of Ecotour Samoa
- ☆ Francois Martel, Sam Sesega and other SPREP staff who managed this assignment.

2.3 Abbreviations Used

CA	Conservation Area
CASO	Conservation Area Support Officer
FIT	Free and Independent Traveler
OLSS	O le Siosiomaga Society
PPD	Project Preparation Document
SPBCP	South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Program
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Program
SVB	Samoa Visitors Bureau
TFA	<i>terra firma associates</i>

3. TOURISM IN UAFATO

3.1 Uafato's Tourism Resources

A Site Survey was undertaken at Uafato. Uafato has some good tourism resources:



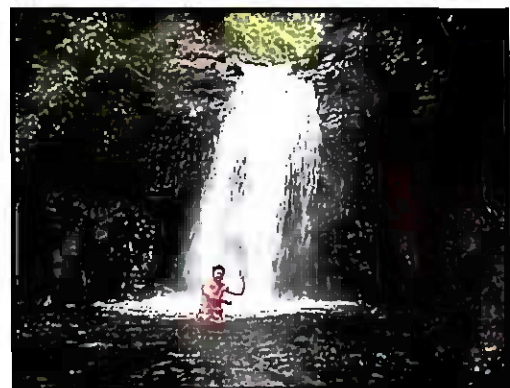
- Uafato has the best carvers in Samoa
- beautiful scenery
- rainforest, waterfalls and birds
- *fa'a Samoa* is very strong
- Uafato is a traditional community
- ancient historical and cultural sites
- the conservation area itself
- some beaches and reef.

However, Uafato's tourism resources also have some weaknesses:

- difficult access into Uafato: bad road, which may be impassable in the wet season, and which takes 3-4 hours from Apia. There is no reliable public transport. Boat access is possible but also difficult
- access to tourism resources within the CA can also be difficult for tourists: hard walking in the rainforest and to the waterfalls (steep, slippery rocks and ground)
- not a 'tourist beach' destination.

3.2 Tourists to Uafato

Uafato is well publicized in the tourism literature (for example, in Lonely Planet and in SVB's "Attractions, Adventures, Activities" brochure). Two types of tourists have been coming to Uafato:



- **independent travelers**, who arrive in rental car, or by bus or who walk in (FITs)
- tourists who are brought into Uafato with a **tour operator** company (such as Steve Brown of Ecotour Samoa). This group of tourists generally stay overnight, and undertake day activities such as walking.

There are no records of how many tourists come to Uafato each year: However:

- an average estimate over the last five years, is 200-400 people per year
- probably less than 30 sleep overnight in Uafato. In 1999, less than 10 tourists have stayed overnight in Uafato
- tour operators have not brought tourists into Uafato for several years. The main tour operator to Uafato, Ecotour Samoa, says that the main reason is that it takes too long to travel in and out of Uafato for short itineraries
- other visitors to Uafato are SPREP and other project staff, who tend to stay at the OLSS house at Uafato. This group mainly travel for work reasons and are thus a separate group from tourists.

There have been no standard rates charged for tourism visitation or accommodation.

3.3 Tourism Potential

In the past, Ecotour Samoa has said that Uafato is the “number one ecotourism destination in Samoa”.

There is little doubt that the tourism resources at Uafato are very good, although access to some resources may be restricted to more active tourists. Tour activities could be built around, for example:

- a walk to two waterfalls and to a birdwatching spot
- walks down the coast either way
- interpretive walks to ancient cultural and historical sites
- cultural activities/ carving
- village activities
- the conservation area itself.

The main reasons why tour companies are not currently using Uafato as a destination for their tourists, include:

- lack of time: driving into and out of Uafato is too long for a day tour, and even for some overnight tours
- bad road: many companies said that they would not take their tour buses or cars in to Uafato
- safety: associated with the access

- lack of support services or 'organized tourism' in Uafato.

It is important to note that:

- until the road is improved, most tour operators would be hesitant to bring tourists to Uafato on standard tours, even if tourism was more organized. Reasons are wear to their vehicles, and the fact that it is too long for most day trips. At present, Uafato is better positioned for overnight stays of two or more nights, as this justifies the investment in access
- many rental car companies are now not renting cars for use on the road to Uafato. So the number of FITs to Uafato may decrease in 1999/2000
- independent, budget tourists (who do not hire rental cars) are restricted from travelling to Uafato, as there is no reliable bus service.

If the road is ever improved, then FITs and the tourism industry may become very interested in using the tourism resources at Uafato. This may include day trip groups, and even development proposals for lease of land for construction of a tourist accommodation.

Thus tourism potential should be looked at in two contexts:

- current situation: bad road and limited interest among tour operators
- future situation: road improved, tourism industry more willing to come to Uafato, more independent travelers coming in.



4. COMMUNITY VIEWS

4.1 Community Consultation

Community consultation was undertaken with a range of stakeholder groups:

- senior *matai*
- CACC members
- men
- women
- young women
- carvers
- Congregational church leaders
- Mormon church leaders.



Consultation was through individual/ family interviews, rather than group meetings. The consultation was considered to be very effective, particularly given the trust and confidence the community have in the CASO. A series of standard, open questions were used, as well as general discussion.

4.2 Consultation Outcomes

1/ Evaluation of past tourism

- most stakeholders said the problem with tourism in the past was that benefits were not shared around
- *matai* in particular were concerned that tour companies had taken tourists to sacred sites without permission and without a guide
- there was some concern over tourism dress and behavior in the past
- there was some concern that past tourists did not interact with the community, but kept to themselves and only stayed a short time
- *matai* in particular did not like that tourists were not introduced to the community and the community did not know who they were and why they were in Uafato

- some stakeholders did not see any problems with tourism in the past
- benefits that stakeholders identified include cash income and sales of carvings direct to tourists.

2/ **Needs Assessment: hopes and concerns regarding future tourism development**

- senior *matai* were cautious about tourism development, unless it is controlled
- the most common stakeholder concern is tourist's clothing (especially swimsuits) and behavior
- benefits stakeholders saw from tourism were a chance for cultural exchange/ education, to practice English speaking, a chance to educate *palagi* about *fa'a Samoa*, cash income through tour activities, accommodation and carving sales, and it can promote overall village development
- several stakeholders expressed concern that tourism may damage the environment and undermine the conservation agreement
- concern that tourists will continue to disrespect sacred sites: village customs must be adhered to
- several stakeholders also identified the concern that tourism may bring in disease
- Mormons: tourists should respect church tabus
- one stakeholder's concern was that if tourist have a problem in Uafato, it would reflect badly on the community and its good name
- one stakeholder said there should be a carving 'factory' and sales in Uafato: request made to OLSS.

3/ **Accommodation arrangements for future tourism**

- homestay accommodation was preferred by all stakeholders, as it provides better security and comfort for tourists, offered a chance for cultural exchange and education, and because it was a better way of controlling tourists and their activities and sharing benefits. One stakeholder also thought that homestay would be a better experience for tourists too
- some stakeholders recognized that prior homestay relationships already existed between some families and some tour operators
- women said male and female tourists should sleep separately.

4/ **Tourism Planning and Management**

- most stakeholders, including senior *matai*, saw CACC as having the management role for tourism. One role was deciding which family *fale* should host tourists
- senior *matai* especially want to know who the tourists are, and why they are coming, and have them 'screened' before coming into Uafato, through a CASO/CACC entry point
- several stakeholders suggested that the CASO should be the guide for all tourists to Uafato as they trust him to look after both the community and the tourists interests
- tabu areas should only be accessible with permission/ guides
- compulsory welcome ceremony so tourists introduced to community
- tourism rules need to be clearly communicated to tourists
- one stakeholder representative felt Uafato's bus service should be improved as a means of bringing tourists in.

5/ **Community Involvement**

- all stakeholders wanted benefits from tourism shared around the community. Although senior *matai* and others recognized prior relationships between one tour company and individual families, all stakeholders thought that they should try to share benefits around, especially when big groups visit
- some stakeholders said that large groups should be the responsibility of the broader community, and smaller groups can stay with individual families.

In **summary**, common outcomes of the consultation, which should be a basis of tourism planning, include:

- all stakeholders supported tourism
- *matai* and CACC in particular emphasized there is a need to control tourism through a formal process
- the community as a whole should benefit from tourism
- homestay accommodation was unanimously seen as the best option for hosting tourists.

These results support the general findings from PPD community surveys undertaken in 1995, where, for example, 100% of households said that they would like to host tourists in their home.

4.3 Community Tourism Awareness

The consultation process was also a chance to test the community's tourism awareness. There were indications that some stakeholders do not fully understand tourism. For example:

- some were unclear about how the community can benefit from tourism
- there was a misunderstanding regarding use of photographs taken by tourists and tour operators
- most were unclear of how tourism can help conservation.

4.4 Other Stakeholder Interests

OLSS and SPREP are both very important stakeholders in ecotourism development at Uafato. Their hopes and concerns as regards tourism can be identified through the PPD for Uafato:

- tourism is seen as a valid income generation option for the community and the PPD had plans for activities to support ecotourism development
- tourism activity should have a net conservation benefit.

The tourism industry is also an important stakeholder. Many of their interests in ecotourism development were identified through discussions held in Apia and recorded in Section 5 of this report.

All stakeholders, including both the community and tour companies, need to work together in partnership to develop tourism. In particular, Ecotour Samoa, as the main operator in Samoa for the class of tourist interested in Uafato's resources, should be given opportunities for participation in further planning of ecotourism development.



5. FUTURE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Planning Parameters

To achieve a sustainable tourism product, tourism planning needs to balance:

- community hopes and concerns and aspirations
- tourism industry requirements.

As indicated in Section 2, tourism development at Uafato should be seen in two stages:

- 1/ current situation, with bad access
- 2/ future situation, with improved access.

Given the strong tourism resources at Uafato, tourism demand for access to Uafato may increase when stage 2 is reached (possibly in 2001). It is thus very important that planning processes be established now so that the community is prepared for the greater levels of demand when the road is improved. If action is not taken now to control tourism, then it will become a greater problem in Uafato and conflicts will deepen.

The community has a qualified support for tourism. It is not seen as a high priority. However, all stakeholders said that it should be developed. The community's main criteria for tourism development were:

- controlled tourism, including control of tourist access and behavior when at Uafato, and screening of tourists before they come in
- village homestay programs
- broader community benefit than what happened in the past.

5.2 Tourism Industry Views

The criteria for tourism development, identified by the community, may not be what the tourism industry as a whole wants to see happen at Uafato:

- prebooking, or screening of tourists before arrival, may be a problem, especially as there is no communication into Uafato.

Many FITs who may be interested in either visiting Uafato for a day, or who may want to stay overnight, would not be prepared to go through a screening or prebooking process. Approval to visit may take several days, whereas tourists are often only in Samoa for a short time and often do not have flexibility in their tour program

- relatively few tourists want a homestay experience. Those that do often travel with Ecotour Samoa
- operators are skeptical that community based tourism programs can work.

Following the community's criteria will restrict Uafato's income generation potential from tourism. However, the important point from the community's perspective is control, and this is taken as the overriding objective of planning in this assignment.

5.3 Tourism Proposal

A development proposal that would meet the community's concerns and aspirations has four main components:

- a marketing focus that concentrates on educational groups
- development of a low-investment homestay program
- establishment of Tourism Management group, and a Tourism Common Fund
- establishing a prebooking process that intending visitors to Uafato must work through.

Discussions with tour operators showed support for the educational market/ homestay concept, although they also expressed some concerns. These concerns are addressed below.

5.3.1 Educational Groups

Educational groups have several features:

- they are generally large groups
- they generally prebook and organize everything in advance
- they are more interested in an authentic, 'immersion' experience which enjoyment-oriented tourist may not be, and may want to stay in the same village for two plus nights.

Examples of recent educational groups to Samoa include:

- teachers from Auckland who teach Samoan youth and wanted to understand the country and *fa'a Samoa* better
- university and high school groups from New Zealand and Australia undertaking environmental science or other programs
- high school/ polytechnic students within Samoa, Ecotour Samoa's 'eco-volunteer' programme, and certain tour operators (such as One World) may also provide educational visitor groups.

The market is very small and there are already several projects in Samoa meeting the needs of educational groups. Some of these are in Savai'i.

However, Uafato has several strengths for entering this sort of market:

- offers a chance to participate in and learn from a formal conservation project
- has very strong culture and tradition
- is possibly cheaper and easier to get to than educational destinations in Savai'i.

The educational market is not so demanding as general tourists- they are more willing to do things the "Samoa way", as part of their educational experience.

A focus on the educational market does not exclude tourist groups, or FITs, from staying in Uafato. However, these groups often only want to stay one night, and may not want to prebook or use homestay, so travel into Uafato may not be so attractive to them. In addition, these groups would want more organised and structured tours, which requires higher levels of organisation and training. It may be more appropriate to develop the homestay program, if successful, for use by tourism groups and FITs at a later date.

5.3.2 Homestay Program

Homestay programs are not very popular in Samoa. Reasons include:

- there has often been problems with homestays- such as theft, harassment of female tourists
- many tourists do not want the 'immersion' experience of a homestay. They prefer privacy and separation from the community.

A homestay program would need to be well managed, including:

- development of criteria that households have to meet before they are registered as eligible to host visitors
- a managing agent for the program, to monitor quality, and to allocate incoming visitors to family groups on a rotational and equitable basis
- households should have awareness about likely financial returns from tourism, so they do not upgrade their *fales* significantly in the expectation that they will host a lot of visitors.

The benefits to Uafato of a homestay program includes:

- it recognizes and builds upon community aspirations and reasons for wanting tourism
- it can complement parallel village development programs in Uafato promoted by the Women's Committee and church, to improve general living conditions
- it can share benefits more widely.

It is recommended that the CASO investigate the possibility of a joint village development project with Habitat International via OLSS- where households wanting to build, for example, a flush toilet, can seek a 50% contribution from the Habitat International project.



5.3.3 Tourism Management/ Tourism Common Fund

It is recommended that the CACC take on the tourism management role in Uafato, on behalf of the community. Its suggested role would be:

- to plan, implement and monitor tourism development in Uafato
- this would include, to formally approve any other planned tourism developments in Uafato (such as, a developer's proposal for establishment of a lodge/resort in Uafato, or an individual families plan to develop beach *fales* on their private land within the CA).

It is also recommended that the CACC appoint a Tourism Manager, from amongst the community. The Manager's role would include, to:

- handle all finances from tourism
- manage the homestay program, including rotation of host families.

Establishment of a Tourism Common Fund is recommended as it:

- would distribute the benefits of tourism more widely
- strengthen the conservation base of the project
- recognizes that the broader community plays in a role in looking after the things that tourists come to see – such as the rainforest.

Thus regarding a process for tourism payments:

- the community need to decide standard rates for homestay accommodation, tours, activities, and also for the Common Fund
- all tourism payments would be paid to the Tourism Manager
- the Tourism Manager would pay the host families/ individuals at agreed, standard rates, and also pay an agreed amount into an account established for the Common Fund
- the community would need to decide who are signatories for the Common Fund, how this 'common' money should be used, whether this money be used for ongoing tourism costs (e.g.: paying the Manager, developing marketing material) etc.

5.3.4 Prebooking

The community's concern over visitors just turning up in Uafato, can be addressed by establishing a prebooking system. Initially, this should involve the CASO, as he has the trust of the community, and is Apia based.

Any intending visitor should first seek approval from the community, via the CASO. As there is no communication link the CASO may have to make some decisions himself, knowing the CACC's views. Prebooking should also involve briefing of tourists about appropriate behavior expected in Uafato. For a prebooking system to work, the prebooking requirement needs to be clearly communicated to intending visitors through tourism literature, and possibly a sign on the road.

This system should apply to all overnight visitors. However, the main tourist market at present is FITs who travel into Uafato for the day, often to buy carvings. The community needs to decide if prebooking should also apply to the majority who visit in a rental car for a day. If they are also required to prebook, they may not visit Uafato, and carvers especially may feel they have lost an important market. If they are allowed to visit for the day without prebooking, then signs and briefing material may need to be produced, and their visits managed (e.g: development of the proposal for a carving 'factory'/sales outlet, the PPD's suggestion for an interpretive centre).

As indicated earlier, prebooking by educational groups should not be a problem as these groups generally organize things in advance anyway.

In time, a tourism operator or government body may take over this role from the CASO and it is understood that planning is already underway to identify communication options for Uafato.

5.4 Tourism Development Issues

There are a number of tourism development issues which need to be addressed by the community, with stakeholder and possible consultancy support:

- need to decide whether the proposed strategy is acceptable to the community, and especially, whether prebooking requirements apply to FIT day visitors, and whether to encourage tourist overnight stays (groups, FITs) as well as educational groups
- if prebooking does not apply to FIT day visitors, there is a need to develop a strategy to manage this group
- need to identify tours or activities for educational groups, and other overnight visitors if they are also encouraged to visit. This may include standard tours, or conservation activities (such as bird surveys) or organized activities (such as educational visitors joining the host families in everyday activities, like gardening or fishing). There was also a strong call by stakeholders for a kava ceremony, which may be possible for large educational groups
- need to plan and cost the identified tours and activities according to visitor need, safety and environmental impact
- need for basic tour guide training

- need to decide criteria for the homestay program and management guidelines (draft is included in Appendix 2). This may include a joint approach to *fale* development with Habitat International
- need to set standard rates for all tourism related activities
- need to decide prescreening criteria (it is suggested that this will evolve with the community's own tourism awareness)
- need to develop the community's tourism awareness
- community to develop a set of rules of behavior/ dress for visitors to follow, and which they can be briefed on when they prebook. This should include environmental rules
- need to decide use and management of the Common Fund
- need to discuss with key operators who handle educational groups, their need for marketing materials and information, and strategies to publicise the prebooking requirement.

These needs are summarised in Table One. In addition:

- it is recommended that key tourism operators, such as Ecotour Samoa and Island Hoppers, who handle educational groups, are important stakeholders for this proposal, and thus should be involved in some of the further planning needs
- additional technical assistance can be provided from, for example, SVB and TFA, as required and as appropriate.

5.5 Conservation Links

Conservation outcomes can be strengthened through this proposal by:

- widely distributing benefits from tourism amongst the community
- establishment of a Tourism Common Fund which may be used for conservation purposes
- guide training and awareness should seek to develop the community's own conservation awareness. Interaction with visitors, especially educational groups, should also heighten conservation awareness
- visitors provide 'free labor' or support for various conservation activities, as part of their educational program of activity while in Uafato.

Reducing impacts on the community, has been addressed in this proposal by:

- listening to community hopes and concerns and trying to shape a proposal that meet those criteria
- recommending development of a list of rules for behavior/access
- having a controlled process of booking and prescreening intending visitors
- the homestay program is an immersion experience where visitors are hosted by the community on their terms.



Environmental impacts are addressed by the recommendations that:

- a set of rules covering the environment also be set by the community, with CASO support
- when tours and activities are identified, the CASO undertake a basic EIA following the *terra firma* format and identify management needs.



TABLE ONE:
Tourism Development Issues (Section 5.4)

ACTIVITY/ DECISION	WHO
1/ Consider the proposal developed in this report	Community, CASO, CACC, OLSS SPREP, Tour Coys
Decide: 2/ whether to encourage other overnight visitors, as well as educational groups 3/ whether to allow FIT day visitors to travel to Uafato without prebooking	Community CASO, CACC Tour Coys, SVB
4/ if (3) above is agreed, develop a strategy to manage FIT day visitors	CASO, CACC Community
5/ identify tours/ activities	CASO, CACC Community Tour Coys SVB, TFA
6/ plan and cost tours and activities: set standard rates	CASO, CACC TFA
7/ basic tour guide training	CASO, CACC SVB ? or TFA
8/ develop homestay criteria and management guidelines	CASO, CACC Community Tour Coys, SVB OLSS/ Habitat Women/ church groups
9/ set prescreening criteria	CASO, CACC Community, SVB
10/ develop tourism awareness	CASO, CACC SVB
11/ develop set of rules for tourists	CASO, CACC Community SVB, Tour Coys
12/ decide use and management of Common Fund	CASO, CACC Community
13/ develop marketing and information/ briefing materials	CASO, CACC Tour Coys TFA

Appendix 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE

OBJECTIVE

To assess the potential and needs for the planning of future ecotourism development in the Uafato Conservation Area

TASKS

1. Visit, document and review in collaboration with the CASO and others, the past, existing and potential tourism resources and activities in the Uafato Conservation Area
2. Undertake in conjunction with the CASO, a brief CACC consultation on tourism activities and resources part of the Conservation Area and identify lessons learnt from existing experiences including key community issues related to tourism development
3. Assess the potential for future ecotourism development in the context of Uafato
4. Identify, in consultation with CASO, possible arrangements (1) for channeling the existing and future tourism initiatives to support the conservation objectives of the CA (2) to mitigate the impacts visitors may have on the community and finally (3) to provide advice on initiatives and training needs for future ecotourism development in the village CA.

OUTPUT

A report on the Uafato Conservation Area detailing the findings and recommendations on the assessment of the potential and needs for planning of future ecotourism development in the Uafato Conservation Area.

Appendix 2

DRAFT VILLAGE HOMESTAY CRITERIA

To be registered by the CACC to host visitors, individual households and family *fales* must meet the following criteria:

- 1/ domestic animals (dogs, pigs, chickens) do not come inside *fale* (e.g.: a low fence is built to stop them coming in)
- 2/ clean, flush toilets are available within 10 metres of the host *fale*
- 3/ domestic animals (dogs, pigs, chickens) do not come inside the cooking area (e.g.: a low fence is built to stop them coming in)
- 4/ families have access to good, clean mattresses, pillows and sheets, and mosquito nets without holes in them
- 5/ *fale* grounds are kept clean and tidy (e.g.: rubbish disposed of), and are beautified (e.g.: planted shrubs and flowers)
- 6/ *fale* grounds are regularly kept clean from standing water and other water where mosquitoes can breed
- 7/ *fales* have a good washing area, with concrete floor and permanent walls (this can also act as a private changing room for visitors)
- 8/ families hosting tourists have at least two family members who can speak some English
- 9/ families hosting tourists do not have a history of alcohol abuse or domestic abuse within the family
- 10/ *fale* roofs do not leak
- 11/ host *fales* display their certificate of Registration as a Uafato Homestay
- 12/ host *fales* have at least one electric socket and electric light
- 13/ host *fales* have a good range of cooking utensils etc available for tourist use
- 14/ host *fales* have a lockable and secure box (patrol box type) for storing of tourist valuables
- 15/ family pigs are fenced and their yard is at least ten metres away from the *fale*.

Notes on Homestay Program:

- ▶ In general traditional *fales*, and *fales* with a view, are more attractive to tourists
- ▶ When approving *fales* for accommodation, a maximum number of tourists should be set for each *fale*, so they do not get crowded
- ▶ A Certificate of Registration (renewed annually) could be issued to all households which meet the criteria and which are registered with the CACC as Uafato Homestay host *fales*
- ▶ Although not a criteria, recognition should be given to households that partake in village training activities (e.g. nutrition and hygiene)