

### FAKAALOFA LAHI ATU & WELCOME TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR NEWSLETTER

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### THE SOFT LAUNCH OF THE NEW NCOC WEBSITE!

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) proudly announces the soft launch of its new website, developed locally by James Brown of Browns Collective.

This milestone reflects NCOC's commitment to strengthening digital services for Niue's private sector. The site provides easy access to information on membership, business services, funding opportunities, training programs, and upcoming events.

Designed with a local lens, the website is mobile-friendly and user-focused. It will be regularly updated by NCOC staff, Charlotte Magatogia and Cari-Anne Fuhiniu, to keep content timely and relevant. This digital platform will also celebrate the achievements of Niuean entrepreneurs and support wider engagement across the business community.

Explore the site at <u>www.niuechamber.com</u>







### FROM THE DESK OF THE NCOC CEO CATHERINE ETUATA PAPANI



Fakaalofa lahi atu,

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) has continued to walk alongside our local businesses, advocating for their needs, providing support where it has been most needed, and creating opportunities to strengthen their capacity and resilience. These past few months have been full of action, collaboration, and groundwork to support growth for our entrepreneurs and industries.

#### **Strengthening Business Capability**

Through workshops, one-on-one mentoring, and advisory sessions, we have continued to offer practical support tailored to the needs of our members. From compliance assistance, financial reporting and business plans, we are committed to ensuring that every business — whether large or small — has access to the tools and support it needs to thrive. Our focus on capacity building continues to be a cornerstone of our work not only for businesses but also for our team in office as well as our governance arm, the NCOC Board.

#### **Training and Upskilling**

We have been privileged to help facilitate short-term training opportunities both on and off the island, including targeted skills development in areas such as renewable energy. We will continue to look at other areas to help our businesses upskill, build climate resilience, and develop new products as well as access new market. We thank our working partnerships, which are always at the ready to lend a hand through connections or through direct support.

#### **Business Development and Grant Support**

The Business Development Grant (BDG) continues to be a vital mechanism for micro and small businesses. This is now open for applications. We are grateful for the board's guidance in ensuring this limited but valuable fund goes to resident business owners who need it most. While demand always outweighs supply, we continue to advocate for greater resourcing to meet the real needs of our entrepreneurs.

#### FROM THE DESK OF THE NCOC CEO

#### Partnerships and Regional Linkages

Our work does not stop at the island's edge. We have been actively engaged with regional partners, donor agencies, and networks like PIPSO, Phama Plus, Business Link Pacific and SPTO, strengthening connections that help open doors for Niuean businesses. Whether its access to markets, funding pathways, or exposure to innovation — these relationships are key.

One of our recent highlights has been reconnecting with one of our own – the talented and skilled entrepreneur James Brown of Browns Collective.

Although James is based in New Zealand, his personal passion for giving back to Niue has enabled the Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) to refresh and renew our website:

niuechamber.com. This collaboration also marks the beginning of an exciting rebrand for NCOC – one that is bold, bright, and business-focused. We look forward to building more meaningful connections with our Niuean diaspora, creating pathways for working partnerships that contribute to the growth and development of Niue.

#### **Private Sector Representation**

NCOC has also continued to represent the voice of business at the national level — in consultations, through submissions, and in collaborative forums with government agencies. Notably seeking release of crown land to support private investment in new business developments.

#### **Looking Ahead**

There is much to be hopeful and grateful for. New projects, digital transitions, and the push towards more sustainable, climate-resilient business practices are all on the horizon. NCOC is especially mindful of our youth — the next generation of entrepreneurs — and will be working to ensure they are not only included but also empowered in the conversations about economic growth.

Thank you to our members and partners for your continued trust and support. Our mission remains clear: to support and grow a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable private sector in Niue.

### KEEN TO BE A MEMBER OF NCOC?

Joining the Niue Chamber of Commerce means being part of a growing network dedicated to strengthening Niue's private sector.

As a member, you gain access to exclusive business support services, training opportunities, funding pathways, and promotional platforms — all designed to help your business thrive. Whether you're just starting out or expanding, NCOC is here to champion your success.

Let's build a stronger, more connected business community together.

To become a member you can sign up on our website or contact the team for form to join!



### THE LOSS & DAMAGE CAPACITY & CAPABILITY PROJECT

From May 27 to 30, 2025, Niue hosted a pivotal four-day National Loss and Damage Dialogue at the Scenic Matavai Resort, spearheaded by the Loss and Damage Capacity and Capability (LDCC) Project in collaboration with the Government of Niue and SPREP. The event convened government officials, village councils, civil society, and private sector representatives to address the pressing impacts of climate change on the nation.

A highlight of the workshop was the dedicated Youth Dialogue session, emphasizing the crucial role of young voices in shaping Niue's climate resilience strategies. Representing the Niue Chamber of Commerce was "youth" of the team - Charlotte and Cari-Anne who both contributed to the discussions and outcomes.

The dialogue fostered a collaborative environment where participants shared experiences, identified priority actions, and explored strategies to access and mobilize climate finance. This initiative underscores Niue's commitment to inclusive and informed decision making in the face of climate-induced challenges.











### NCOC'S DEVELOPMENT OF FIP TO SUPPORT GROWING BUSINESS SECTOR

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) has announced the next phase of development for the Fonuakula Industrial Park (FIP), addressing the growing demand for commercial space driven by increased business activity on the island.

As local enterprises expand and new ventures arise, infrastructure shortages have become a key barrier to economic growth. In response, the NCOC Board is investing in expanding and upgrading the FIP to support Niue's evolving private sector.

Operated independently by the Chamber without budgetary support from development partners such as MFAT-NZ, the FIP is funded solely through lease revenues from its tenants.







Despite limited resources, the Chamber remains committed to this strategic initiative, aiming to build economic resilience and create more opportunities for local businesses.

The project is a vital step in supporting sustainable growth and meeting the infrastructure needs of Niue's commercial sector. Updates on construction progress and leasing opportunities will be shared soon.







### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 2025

The Business Development Grant (BDG) is designed to support Niuean-owned businesses by providing funding to help them grow, innovate, and strengthen their long-term sustainability.

The BDG 2025 funding round officially opened on Monday 26 May and is available to current NCOC members who hold a valid business license and have been actively trading for at least 3 months.

Three grant categories are available to suit different business stages.

Applications close on Friday 13 June.

Contact NCOC for full eligibility criteria and support: <a href="mailto:info@niuechamber.com">info@niuechamber.com</a>





#### **BLP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Niue Chamber of Commerce and Business Link Pacific (BLP) have launched the BLP Business Support Programme for Niue, offering grants between NZD \$5,000–\$15,000 and subsidized advisory services for eligible SMEs.

Applications are open to all Niuean businesses, regardless of NCOC membership. Additionally, BLP and the Niue Development Bank are providing reduced-interest loans of up to \$50,000 for business improvements, supported by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Funding priorities include smart technology, property upgrades, and climate-resilient infrastructure. Applications can be submitted online or at the Niue Chamber office. Confidentiality and support are guaranteed throughout the process.

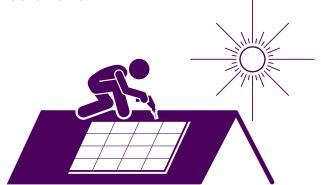
BLP will be accepting grant applications in-person at the Niue Chamber of Commerce office and online at the BLP Website:

https://businesslinkpacific.com/sme/business-support-grants

### EMPOWERING LOCAL TALENT: STTA SUPPORTS NIUE'S RENEWABLE FUTURE

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) continues to invest in the local workforce through its Short-Term Training Assistance (STTA) program - an initiative that helps Niueans upskill through targeted training opportunities both on-island and overseas.

In April 2025, Jodeci Tohovaka, a young electrician employed by Marvin's Electrical (owned by Kristian Talepita), travelled abroad under the STTA program to receive specialized training in solar panel installation and renewable energy systems. His training was hands-on and future-focused, supporting not only his own professional development but Niue's transition to more sustainable energy solutions.



Following his return, Jodeci worked alongside trainers to install solar panels at a local accommodation business, applying the skills he gained in real time. His participation demonstrates the value of upskilling young tradespeople who can directly contribute to a more resilient, energy-efficient Niue.

The STTA program provides for financial assistance from the Chamber and is open to private sector workers or business owners seeking to expand their capabilities. Whether you're interested in trades, digital skills, food safety, or other practical training areas, STTA may be the opportunity you've been waiting for. Get in contact with the team in the office for more information at info@niuechamber.com or phone +683 4399.

The STTA Form can be found on our website under the "Development" tab or here: <u>STTA Application Form 2024–2025</u>

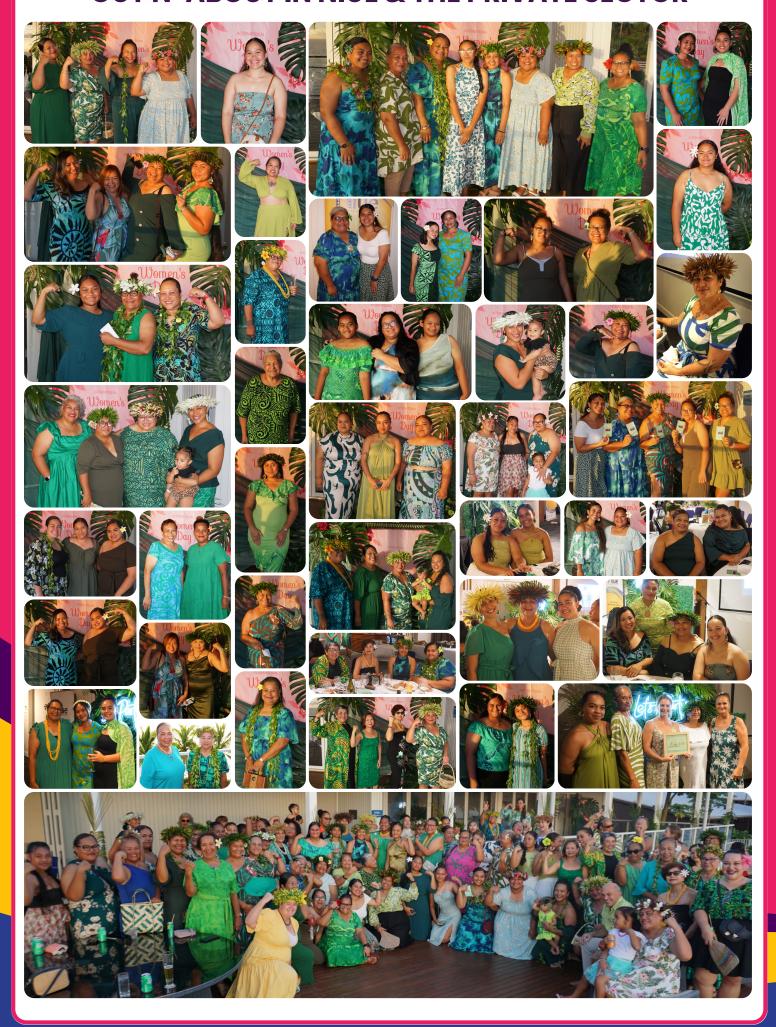




#### **OUT N' ABOUT IN NIUE & THE PRIVATE SECTOR**



#### **OUT N' ABOUT IN NIUE & THE PRIVATE SECTOR**



# ONGOING DEVELOPMENT IN NIUE THAT INVOLVE OUR PRIVATE SECTOR...



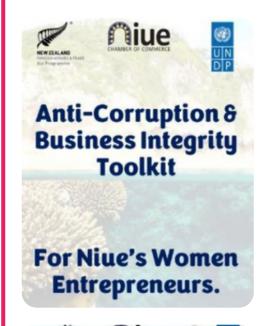
**9 May, 2025**: NCOC met with National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) consultants during the recent consultations led by the Niue Statistics Office (NSO) — supporting a data-driven future aligned with Niue's development goals. Fakaaue lahi NSO for the opportunity.

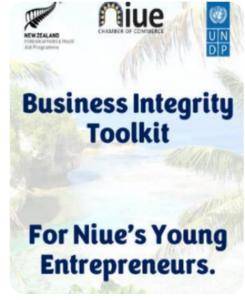


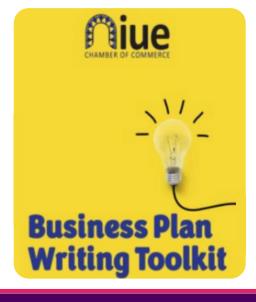
**15 May, 2025**: NCOC welcomed ComSec and digital trade experts to discuss Niue's e-commerce strategy—contributing to national efforts to strengthen digital trade and close legislative gaps. Fakaaue lahi to Economic Planning, Development & Trade Division for including us.

# RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO NCOC MEMBERS...

Contact the team for a copy







### NCOC AND NZ HIGH COMMISSION HOST BUSINESS LUNCH WITH HON. CHRIS PENK

On Thursday, 24 April, the Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC), in partnership with the New Zealand High Commission, had the pleasure of hosting a business working lunch with Hon. Chris Penk, New Zealand's Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Associate Minister of Defence. His visit to Niue formed part of a broader programme of ANZAC remembrance events — a time that honours the enduring connection between Niue and New Zealand through shared military history.

In addition to his commemorative duties, Minister Penk — who also holds the portfolios for Small Business and Manufacturing — took the opportunity to engage with a small group of local business owners and NCOC board members. The lunch provided a relaxed yet purposeful setting for open discussion about the realities of running a business in Niue.

Topics ranged from the challenges of importing goods and the high cost of operations in a remote island setting, to the potential of digital innovation and the need for tailored support for micro and small enterprises. Minister Penk demonstrated a strong commitment to understanding the unique economic context of Niue and expressed genuine interest in identifying strategic avenues through which New Zealand could support the development of the island's private sector in the coming years.

The conversation, facilitated by NCOC CEO Catherine Etuata Papani, offered an open platform for local business owners to voice their experiences and perspectives. The exchange fostered meaningful dialogue and opened the door to building a more informed and collaborative relationship between Niue's private sector and the New Zealand Government.











### CELEBRATING WOMEN & ACCELERATING ACTION



On Friday, April 4th, the Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) held its 7th annual International Women's Day Business Networking Event at the Scenic Matavai Resort. Themed "Accelerate Action" and symbolized by the colour green, the event celebrated growth, momentum, and progress toward gender equality. It brought together women from various sectors—including business, government, education, health, faith based and community leadership to connect, share experiences, and inspire one another.

Interactive sessions, such as creative group introductions, created a vibrant and inclusive space for dialogue.

Presentations highlighted the Chamber's growing support for women in business, with membership increasing from 156 in 2011 to over 400 in 2025 and a marked rise in women-led enterprises.

Supported by MFAT-NZ and the Government of Niue, the event reaffirmed NCOC's commitment to fostering an inclusive, empowered, and thriving private sector.

### NCOC'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Niue Chamber of Commerce recently took part in a "Training of Trainers" session on Child Protection Policy, reinforcing its commitment to child safety across all programs. The policy outlines key safeguarding measures to protect children from harm and abuse, while also guiding appropriate adult behavior during interactions. The training covered critical topics such as recruitment, training, appropriate conduct, reporting procedures, and incident management. With active roles in mentoring Year 5–6 students at Niue Primary School and Year 10 students at Niue High School through the Niue Junior and Young Entrepreneurial programs, having a robust Child Protection Policy is essential. This training ensures staff are well-prepared to provide safe, respectful, and supportive learning environments for all young people they engage with.

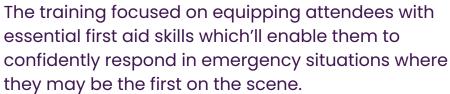




#### **NZ'S ST JOHNS FIRST AID TRAINING**



The First Aid Team from St Johns delivered two sets of two-day training courses for participants from both the Private Sector and Government Departments.





Participants took part in interactive discussions, watched informative videos, and engaged in realistic scenario-based exercises to build practical skills and confidence.

The course not only enhanced our knowledge but also strengthened our ability to respond calmly and effectively during critical moments. With this training, we are now better prepared to support those in need until professional medical help arrives.

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING & FOOD SECURITY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), in partnership with Niue and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), is implementing a readiness program to support climate change efforts. Through the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC), SPREP provides training and capacity building in project development.

As part of this, a three-day Project
Management Training workshop was held in
Niue, focusing on developing food security
projects. The workshop aimed to enhance
participants' skills in project design,
including problem identification, theory of
change, and using logical frameworks.



Participants successfully developed project ideas aligned with the goal of building resilience for sustainable food security in Niue. This training marks a key step in strengthening local project management and climate adaptation capacity.

#### NIUE YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS GAIN INSIGHTS FROM BUSINESS LEADERS

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) is proud to highlight the ongoing success of the Niue Young Entrepreneurs program, which continues to empower our youth with essential business skills and knowledge.

As part of the program's curriculum, students have recently benefited from sessions featuring guest speakers—seasoned professionals from various sectors of Niue's business community. These sessions provided invaluable insights into entrepreneurship, covering topics such as business planning, marketing strategies, financial management, and customer engagement.

The guest speakers shared their personal experiences, challenges, and successes, offering practical advice to the aspiring entrepreneurs. Their contributions have not only enriched the students' understanding of the business world but have also inspired them to pursue their entrepreneurial goals with confidence.

These engagements are particularly timely as the students prepare for the upcoming NCOC Business Expo in October, a key event during Niue's Constitution Celebrations. The expo will provide a platform for the young entrepreneurs to showcase their business ideas and products to the wider community.

The NCOC remains committed to supporting the development of Niue's future business leaders and looks forward to the continued growth and success of the Niue Young Entrepreneurs program.



Alicia Hipa
Ali's Enterprises
NCOC Board Member



Victoria Tafatu Business Licensor / Tax Officer **Niue Treasury Department** 



Jesse Koorey-Slow General Manager **Niue Development Bank** 

Fakaaue lahi to all our guest speakers so far who have taken time to talk with the NYE

### SHIFTING THE LENS: NCOC STRENGTHENS FOCUS ON BRANDING SUPPORT

As part of its commitment to empowering Niuean businesses, the Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) is excited to announce a growing focus on brand development and digital presence.

This move follows recent in-house training led by James Brown of **Browns** Collective, Niuean a entrepreneur with wealth a experience in creative direction, strategy, and branding. James spent time upskilling the NCOC marketing team, sharing practical tools and guidance that are now shaping how we support our members in telling their business stories.

So — what is branding, and why does it matter?

Branding is more than a logo. It's how your business is recognised, remembered, and trusted. It includes your story, your values, your visual identity, and how you show up for your customers — both online and inperson.

Looking ahead, NCOC is working to develop resources and services that will help our members build stronger, clearer, and more professional brands. Whether it's help with storytelling, design, or online visibility — we aim to offer tailored support that meets you where you are.

Your business is more than just a product — let's work together to show the world what makes it unique.

NCOC Marketing
Charlotte & Cari-Anne



### Schedule of Charges Contact info@niuechamber.com for bookings and printing



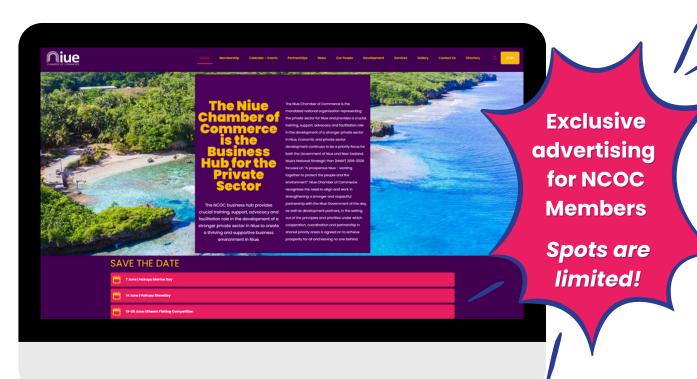
#### SCHEDULE OF CHARGES

PRINTING:	A4 PAPER	A3 PAPER	A4 CARD
Single Sided Black/ White	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.60	\$ 0.80
Double Sided Black/ White	\$ 0.60	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.00
Single Sided Colour	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.20
Double Sided Colour	\$ 1.20	\$ 2.20	\$ 1.50
Laminating	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.00

BINDING A4:	(COIL, CLEAR COVER & BACK CARD)		
0 - 10 Pages	\$ 4.00		
11 - 30 Pages	\$ 5.00		
30 - 60 Pages	\$ 6.00		

NCOC TRAING ROOM CHARGES	Half Day	Full Day	After-hours 4 PM-8 PM	
Includes tables & chairs in the room	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 100.00	
Room hire-age for weekend hours	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
Zoom Equipment & Room	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	
Internet Access	\$ 30.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
Projector & Projector Screen	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 100.00	
Light Refreshments (Water, Coffee, Tea & Biscuits)	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	

# GET FEATURED ON OUR WEBSITE!



#### WHY ADVERTISE WITH US?

- **▼** Reach locals, regional partners & tourists
- V Link directly to your socials or website
- Increase brand visibility year round
- Show you're part of Niue's business network

CONTACT US
NOW TO RESERVE
YOUR SPOT!



info@niuechamber.com



www.niuechamber.com



