

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

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#### **NIUE BUSINESS EXPO 2025**

The Niue Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the upcoming Niue Business Expo 2025, a key annual event that celebrates the strength, creativity, and diversity of Niue's private sector.

The Expo provides a valuable platform for businesses to showcase their products and services, connect with the community, and strengthen networks across industries. It is also an opportunity to highlight the innovation and resilience that continues to drive Niue's business landscape forward.

Venue: Commercial Centre, Alofi

Date: Wednesday, 15 October 2025
Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

All Chamber members are warmly invited to take part in this year's Expo and contribute to an inspiring showcase of Niue's growing business sector.







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



June to August 2025 Highlights

Fakaalofa lahi atu,

The past three months have been a time of strong activity and representation for the Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) as we continued to deliver for our members and ensure Niue's private sector voice is heard at home, in the region, and internationally.

#### **June: Business Support and Project Delivery**

In June, NCOC continued its direct support to businesses through consultations, workshops, and the Business Development Grant (BDG) scheme. These grants enabled operators to strengthen capacity, improve services, and invest in essential equipment. Delivery also progressed under the Niue Community-Based Tourism Initiative, with work on sea tracks, training for tour operators, and planning for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in every village — enhancing both community resilience and tourism safety.

#### July: Start of a New Financial Year

The new financial year (2025–2026) began in July, offering a moment to reset priorities and plan forward. Importantly, NCOC representation expanded across the Pacific:

- I had the privilege of representing Niue under PIPSO at the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in Suva, ensuring Niue's private sector perspectives contributed to regional economic policy discussions.
- Charlotte represented Niue's youth voice at the Loss & Damage Dialogue in Apia, an important space highlighting Pacific leadership in climate change negotiations.
- Our presence at the Pacific Infrastructure Conference in Brisbane reinforced the importance of local content in regional infrastructure delivery, show casing how Niue's private sector can engage in partnership with contractors and donors.

#### FROM THE DESK OF THE NCOC CEO

 Additionally, Charlotte advanced her professional training under PTI Sydney Australia, building new skills to strengthen the delivery of services to our members.

#### **August: AGM and Accountability**

The financial period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 concluded with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in late August. This important governance event provided accountability to our members, government, and development partners. We presented our Annual Report and audited accounts, reviewed delivery across nine key outputs of the Activity Design Document, and set the stage for the year ahead.

#### **Looking Ahead**

As we move into the final quarter of 2025, NCOC remains focused on strengthening business support, advocating for enabling policies, and building partnerships that open doors for our private sector. With the continued dedication of our team and the backing of our members and partners, we look forward to another year of growth and resilience for Niue's economy.

#### **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 a form to join!



### THE NIUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 2024–2025

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday, 29 August 2025, at the Scenic Matavai Resort. The event gathered members, partners, and stakeholders from across Niue's business community to reflect on the past year's work and outline priorities for the year ahead.

The AGM is a key fixture in the Chamber's calendar, providing an essential platform for accountability, transparency, and engagement. By holding this meeting annually, the NCOC ensures that members are kept informed of the Chamber's performance, financial stewardship, and strategic direction. It also serves as an important forum for dialogue—allowing members to raise their perspectives and help shape the priorities that guide private sector development in Niue.

The meeting highlighted the NCOC's achievements in supporting Niue's private sector, strengthening member services, and driving opportunities for collaboration and growth. Updates included progress in finance, marketing, membership, business development grants, training initiatives, and regional representation.

The 2024/2025 Annual Report was officially presented, showcasing both successes and challenges, and documenting the NCOC's ongoing commitment to building resilience within Niue's business environment. Members also had the opportunity to engage directly with the Board and management team, contributing their perspectives on the future of private sector development.

Chief Executive Officer Catherine Etuata Papani and the Chair - Board of Director Alicia Hipa, together with the NCOC Board of Directors, expressed appreciation to members for their continued support and reaffirmed the NCOC's role as the officially mandated body representing the private sector in Niue. Looking ahead, the Chamber emphasized its focus on strengthening partnerships, enhancing business capacity, and supporting sustainable economic development for Niue.





### STRENGTHENING WORKING RELATIONS WITH PACIFIC TRADE INVEST (PTI) AUSTRALIA

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) continues to build a strong working relationship with Pacific Trade Invest (PTI) Australia, the Pacific's leading trade and investment agency. PTI's support has been instrumental in enabling NCOC's participation in key regional platforms and professional development initiatives that directly contribute to the growth of Niue's private sector.

In August 2025, through PTI Australia's funding, NCOC's Finance, Marketing & Membership Coordinator, Charlotte Magatogia, represented Niue at the Pacific Infrastructure Conference in Brisbane. This provided an important opportunity to engage with regional chambers, infrastructure contractors, and development partners—spotlighting Niue's private sector in a space where long-term connectivity and investment partnerships are shaped.

Following the conference, Charlotte was hosted in Sydney from 21–22 August under PTI Australia's Talent Development Program (TDP), a secondment initiative designed to strengthen the skills and networks of Pacific professionals. During her placement, she worked closely with Michaela Long, PTI Australia's Communications and Investment Manager, as well as other members of the PTI team. The experience provided practical insights into how PTI drives trade and investment outcomes for the Pacific—ranging from export promotion and investment facilitation to tourism and digital trade.

The Talent Development Program (2023–2026) is central to PTI's Strategic Plan, aligning with broader regional goals of digital transformation, inclusive growth, and sustainable trade. The program empowers Pacific professionals through capacity building, peer exchange, and applied training in key sectors such as export services, tourism, ecommerce, and business enabling environments.

By taking part in this program, Charlotte contributed to ongoing initiatives that bridge Pacific businesses with international markets and amplify regional visibility. For NCOC, these engagements strengthen our ability to advocate for Niue businesses, while also embedding our team in regional conversations around trade, investment, and private-sector resilience.





### NCOC REPRESENTS NIUE AT THE PACIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE 2025

The Niue Chamber of Commerce (NCOC) proudly represented Niue at the Pacific Infrastructure Conference hosted by the Australia Pacific Islands Business Council (APIBC), held from 18-20 August at the Brisbane Convention Centre. The conference brought together over 650 delegates, 80 speakers, and more than 40 exhibitors from 20 countries.

This important regional forum gathered government leaders, contractors, chambers of commerce, and private sector representatives to discuss infrastructure development opportunities across the Pacific. It also attracted development partners not only from Australia and New Zealand but also from Europe, Asia, and the United States.

As part of the program, NCOC was invited to present on how contractors delivering infrastructure projects can and should work with Chambers of Commerce. The presentation, delivered by NCOC CEO Catherine Etuata Papani, highlighted the vital role Chambers play in providing on-island support, cultural knowledge, and trusted connections to local businesses and labour. This collaboration ensures that projects not only achieve their technical goals but also deliver lasting benefits for local communities and economies.

NCOC also hosted an exhibition booth, managed by Finance, Membership & Marketing Coordinator Charlotte Magatogia, which showcased the Chamber's services and the wide range of Niue businesses, products, and services. The exhibition generated valuable networking opportunities and positioned Niue as an active participant in the Pacific's growing infrastructure sector.

The Niue delegation was further strengthened by the presence of Hon. Crossley Tatui, Minister of Infrastructure, and Morgan Mougavalu, Director of Transport, who joined NCOC in emphasising the importance of public-private partnerships in delivering infrastructure for Niue's future.

A key highlight of the Conference was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NCOC and APIBC, formalising a commitment to continue working together to strengthen and develop Niue's private sector.

This marks the second time NCOC has been invited to speak and present at the Conference, reinforcing the Chamber's growing reputation as a respected private sector voice in regional forums.

Through such representation, NCOC ensures that Niue's private sector is seen, heard, and actively engaged in shaping the region's development agenda.

### PACIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE 2025







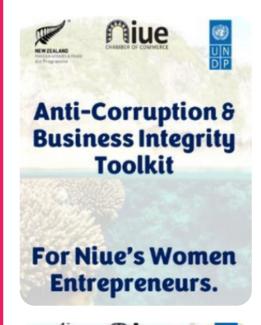


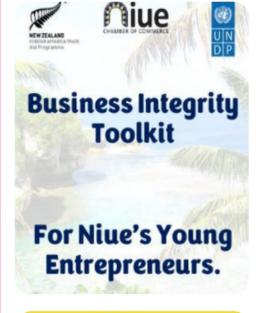


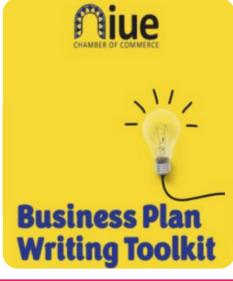


## RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO NCOC MEMBERS...

Contact the team for a copy







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















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





















#### PACIFIC YOUTH DIALOGUE ON LOSS AND DAMAGE

The first Youth Loss and Damage Dialogue was held on 7–8 August 2025 at Taumeasina Island Resort in Apia, Samoa. Hosted with support from SPREP and partners, the two-day event created a historic space for young leaders across the Pacific to come together, build knowledge, and shape collective positions on climate-induced Loss and Damage.

Workshops and interactive sessions allowed participants to explore what Loss and Damage means in practice — from rising sea levels and ecosystem collapse to cultural erosion and economic impacts. We examined global processes like COP27's Loss and Damage Fund, the ICJ advisory opinion, and regional projects underway, translating these into youth-focused learning and advocacy.

Through group work and exchanges, youth delegates were encouraged to share lived experiences from their home countries. Stories of eroded coastlines, damaged crops, and displacement highlighted that Loss and Damage is not a future scenario but a present-day reality across the Pacific. This grounding in personal narratives set the tone for building a united youth voice.

The Dialogue culminated in the co-drafting of a Pacific Youth Statement on Loss and Damage, led by participants from all over the Pacific region with contributions from every country represented. This statement outlined clear calls for operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund, ensuring youth participation in decision-making, and aligning global policy with local realities.

"Loss and Damage is not just about what is gone — it is about securing what we still have, and ensuring our communities can thrive into the future."

This Youth Dialogue was more than a workshop. It was the beginning of a movement — one that placed Pacific youth at the center of climate justice discussions, and prepared us to step confidently into regional and global spaces to ensure our voices are not just heard, but acted upon.







#### 2<sup>ND</sup> PACIFIC REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON LOSS & DAMAGE

The 2nd Pacific Regional Dialogue on Loss and Damage took place in Apia, Samoa (11–12 August 2025), bringing together government leaders, regional organisations, civil society, and development partners to discuss how the Pacific can turn global commitments on climate change into practical, accessible solutions for communities. The Dialogue focused on building capacity, unlocking finance, and ensuring that the Loss and Damage Fund delivers support where it is most needed.

On International Youth Day, 12 August, youth delegates were invited to open the second day of the Dialogue with a collective statement developed during the inaugural Pacific Youth Dialogue on Loss and Damage the week prior. Representing Niue, I joined colleagues from Nauru and Vanuatu to call for governments to fully operationalise the Loss and Damage Fund, ensure youth and frontline communities have a direct say in decisions, and link global climate action to local realities. With the support of SPREP and encouragement from regional leaders, this moment gave Pacific youth a genuine platform to engage, influence, and shape solutions for the future.







"We are the generation that refuses to be defined by what we have lost — but by what we will protect, restore, and reimagine."

The Dialogue also set the stage for three days of Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) discussions that



followed from Wednesday to Friday that week, where participants built on the momentum by exploring practical pathways, sharing knowledge, and strengthening partnerships across the region. Together, these back-to-back events highlighted that youth voices are not just participants in the conversation, but active partners in shaping how the Pacific responds to the urgent challenges of climate change.

For Niue, these dialogues are about more than representation — they ensure small island perspectives, private sector resilience, and youth leadership are part of shaping climate solutions. Our voices bring lived realities to the table, showing that even the smallest nations can influence big outcomes for a sustainable future.

### YEAR 10 – NIUE YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS RECEIVE FUNDING FOR BUSINESS VENTURES













On Tuesday, 5 August 2025, the NHS Year 10 – Niue Young Entrepreneurs were officially presented with funds to support their business groups in preparing for the upcoming Business Expo, scheduled for October 2025.

A total of eight business groups have been confirmed, and they are ready to embark on their entrepreneurial journeys.

One of our long-standing partners, the Niue Development Bank (NDB), has graciously supported this initiative by creating a simulated exercise. As part of this activity, the business groups presented their detailed business plans to the Bank, outlining the financing required to bring their ventures to life.

With funds now in hand, the students can begin the production phase of their businesses.

We continue to encourage our young entrepreneurs to think creatively, adopt an entrepreneurial mindset, and embrace the challenges ahead with determination.

We wish all eight business groups the very best of luck as they work towards a successful launch at the Business Expo in October 2025.



### NIUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT THE FORUM ECONOMIC MINISTERS MEETING

As a member of the Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO), the Chief Executive Officer of the Niue Chamber of Commerce, Catherine Etuata Papani, was invited to join the PIPSO delegation at the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in Suva, Fiji.

This was a significant privilege for Niue – one of the smallest economies in our Blue Pacific Continent – to bring its private sector voice directly to the Economic Ministers of all Forum member countries at this important regional dialogue.

#### **Regional Cooperation for Resilience**

In her intervention, the CEO highlighted that regional economic cooperation and integration are critical pathways for resilience and sustainability. Small domestic markets and fragile economies across the Pacific face common challenges:

- limited economies of scale,
- · costly connectivity, and
- vulnerability to external shocks.

Through deeper regional cooperation, however, it is possible to create a single Pacific economic space that improves access to markets, financial services, skilled labour, and trade facilitation – particularly benefiting the smaller island economies.

#### **Revitalising PIPSO**

Niue also welcomed the renewed attention given to revitalising PIPSO. For too long, the regional private sector body has lacked stable funding and support, limiting its ability to effectively represent business interests in regional economic policy dialogue.



### NIUE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT THE FORUM ECONOMIC MINISTERS MEETING

A call was made for a strengthened and sustainably funded PIPSO, which would:

- Build capacity in National Private Sector Organisations (NPSOs) such as the Niue Chamber of Commerce.
- Enable better coordination and engagement with governments and development partners.
- Drive the Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) necessary to unlock economic opportunities in our island economies.

#### **Niue's Domestic Realities**

It was shared with Ministers that Niue is experiencing growing demand for commercial spaces and services, driven by expanding tourism, construction, and service industries. At the same time, Niue faces a critical shortage of purposebuilt business infrastructure, alongside severe labour shortages in construction, tourism, hospitality, and essential services – challenges mirrored in many other Pacific countries.

#### **Stronger Together**

In closing, CEO Catherine Etuata Papani reminded Ministers that the FEMM theme of "Stronger Together" resonates with Niue's private sector vision:

"Alone, our markets are small. But together, through revitalised regional mechanisms such as PIPSO and greater economic integration, we can build a Pacific that is resilient, connected, and prosperous for all. Niue's private sector humbly urges the Forum Economic Ministers to take forward practical steps that place the private sector at the heart of economic development. Let us move from dialogue to action – for a resilient and sustainable Blue Pacific economy."







### LAUNCH OF THE NIUE COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM PROJECT

The Niue Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Australian High Commission in Niue, proudly launched the Niue Community-Based Tourism Project on Tuesday 25 June at the Scenic Matavai Resort. The launch was well attended by stakeholders across a wide range of sectors, including village councils, government departments, tourism operators, youth, faith based and members of the private sector.

The project is designed to support sustainable tourism development in Niue by improving access to coastal and inland sites while celebrating the island's cultural heritage, stories, and environment through community-led experiences. It focuses on five key areas: pathway upgrades, cultural signage, locally trained tour guides, marketing support, and grassroots environmental action.

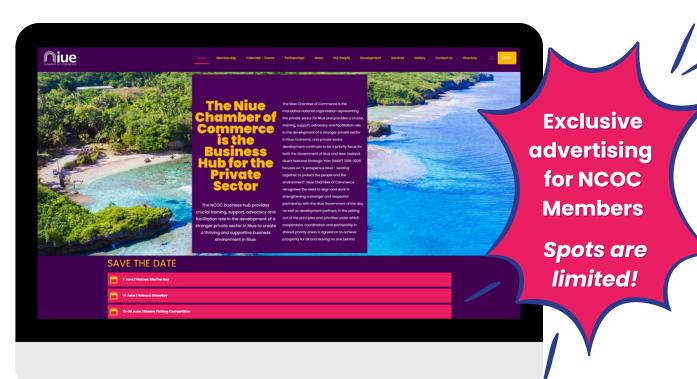
One of the key highlights of the event was the Project Pathways video presentation created by Browns Collective, which showcased the initiatives for the project ahead and was warmly received by those in attendance. The video illustrated how the project aims to strengthen tourism by putting local voices and knowledge at the center of the visitor experience.

Guests were also given the opportunity to network and engage with project leaders and community representatives following the formalities.

The Chamber acknowledged the enthusiasm from attendees, and extended its appreciation of the event. With continued collaboration and support, the Niue Community-Based Tourism Project is set to provide lasting benefits to private sector, tourism operators and the wider community — ensuring that Niue's stories and Taoga are preserved and shared with the world.



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