



Tonga Agriculture Sector Plan (TASP) Programme 2

To improve the enabling environment, Programme 2 focuses on improving the operating environment for the agriculture sector in terms of institutional/service capacity, soil/water policies, exports/imports & land/rural finance, international relations, governance, regulations/compliance, industry organisations and quarantine.

Enabling Environment





Tonga Agriculture Sector Plan (TASP) Programme 1

The ten specific objectives related to the sub-programmes listed below ensure that:

- sector's key institutional policy (MAFFF's roles and responsibilities) is appropriate, resourced and implemented;
- bio-physical policies are in place and are conducive to sector growth;
- Government's policies on the export and import of agriculture products, mainly food products are up-to-date and relevant and that the new Food Act is supportive of the sector;
- Tonga's farmers have access to land, labour and farm finance;
- international relationships with important trading partners are maintained;
- Tonga's agriculture sector complies with national regulatory/ compliance conditions and requirements;
- Tonga's agriculture sector is protected from incursions from pests and diseases, and is able to comply with international quarantine requirements
- Tonga's agriculture sector is supported by functional and effective industry organizations

Programme 2: Enabling environment

Sub-Programme 1: Sector Institutional Policy

- ◆ institutional review of MAFFF
- ◆ work-shopping of the main findings and recommendations with key Government officials and national stakeholders
- ◆ Institutional Change Paper for MAFFF to respond to the review's recommendations
- ◆ support for MAFFF to implement the recommended changes
- ◆ provision of a one-off budget allowance to fund any recommended restructuring

Sub-Programme 2: Bio-Physical Policies

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| Soil fertility policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ interpret the soils tests completed under Programme 1 and prepare recommendations ◆ prepare and publish a soil fertility policy ◆ promote the new soil fertility policy through all types of media, and at events attended by farming communities. |
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| Agriculture water policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ interpretation of the hydro-geological review work and studies ◆ recommendations on water allocation - for domestic and agricultural uses ◆ gaining approval in principle from Cabinet for changes to Tonga's water use legislation ◆ drafting and publishing a new water policy ◆ promoting and explaining the new policy to all citizens who rely on under-ground water for domestic and livestock watering purposes ◆ updating NRM and climate change adaptation strategies |
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Sub-Programme 3: Export and Import Policies

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ regular surveys of how the current export/import policies are impacting on these two sub-sectors ◆ regular updating and publication of policies ◆ on-going promotion of updated and relevant policies to exporters and importers |
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Sub-Programme 4: Land and Rural Finance Policies

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| Land policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ feasibility study of expanding the Toutu'u land sharing system to longer-term crops ◆ monitor the impact of current land use and allocation policies on sustainable agriculture production, followed by recommended changes and promotion of new/revised policies, if required ◆ TASPICU to advise Government of land access and intensity of use issues |
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| Rural finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ongoing monitoring of the current results from farmer and exporter use ◆ recommend, when required, changes in rural finance policies and support services (promote to ensure that all categories of borrowers are aware of new opportunities to access rural finance) ◆ practical training for farmers and small exporters on how rural finance systems work, how to prepare and present simple business plans and how to manage cash flows |
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Sub-Programme 5: International relationships

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ monitoring the status of international relationships - with major donors and export recipient countries ◆ preparing (if required) and promoting papers/reports on recommended changes to Tonga's position in the "world of international trade" |
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Tonga Agriculture Sector Plan (TASP) Programme 2

Programme 2: Enabling Environment

Sub-Programme 6: Compliance and regulations

- ♦ monitoring and reporting on compliance with international regulations and obligations
- ♦ propose solutions if Tongan regulations are hindering sectoral development and export growth
- ♦ an allowance for unforeseen costs as Tonga's agriculture sector changes in response to international factors

Sub-Programme 7: Quarantine

- ♦ assist MAFFF Quarantine in achieving its twin functions of keeping export-pathways open and preventing new pest and diseases from entering Tonga

Sub-Programme 8: Industry organisations

- ♦ general one-off funding support for meetings and promotional events
- ♦ business training for key industry representatives
- ♦ planning and running industry-specific field days and learning events

Sub-Programme 9: Market information

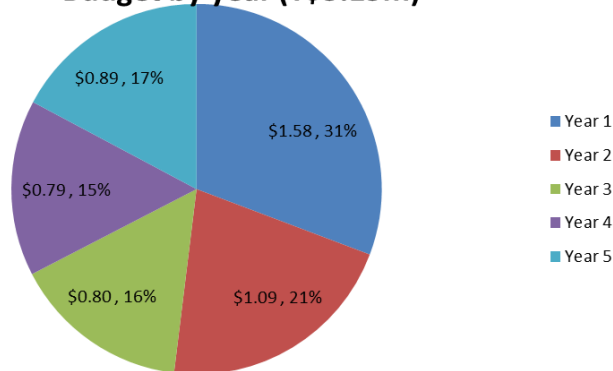
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| Domestic market | ♦ comprehensive database of commodities, varieties, quality standards and weight based unit prices |
| Export market | ♦ expand coverage of monthly publishing of export commodities price data to other commodities (vanilla, kava, frozen commodities) and the Vava'u international port |
| | ♦ information dissemination via major newspapers, MAFFF district and industry organisation offices, and phone, email or SMS enquiries |

Sub-Programme 10: Agro-meteorology

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| Agricultural meteorology capability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ a new technical assistant position within the Tonga Meteorological Service to establish an Agro-Meteorology Program ♦ training workshops to ensure wider understanding of agro-met knowledge and information |
| Data, knowledge and information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ dedicated agro-met stations to support improved agricultural decision making ♦ targeted research to support improved agro-met advice and decision-making ♦ Tonga-wide database of traditional knowledge and indicators relating to climate linked with modern weather and climate forecasting ♦ relevant agro-met information and communication services including a mobile phone service |

Budget: Programme 2 will cost T\$5.15 million or 12% of TASP budget.

Budget by year (T\$5.15m)



Budget by subprogramme (T\$5.15m)

