



## Government of Niue



## Australian High Commission Niue

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **CONSULTATIONS BEGIN FOR AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT FOR WATER**

**Alofi Niue, - 4 July 2023** - The Minister of Finance and Infrastructure, Hon. Crossley Tatui, and the Australian High Commissioner, H.E. Louise Ellerton, launched community consultations for the Australian funded water and wastewater project. The event was held at the Niue Golf and Sports Club and included representatives from Village Councils.

In his remarks, Minister Tatui said that "the Government and People of Niue are grateful to Australia for their continuous support to the water sector development over many years. The emphasis on water and wastewater management is vital for many aspects of society, including the improvement of health standards, population well-being, and environment. Community leaders and groups are encouraged to participate in the dialogue and consider the accrued benefits for today's and our future generations".

H.E. Ellerton said "Australia is committed to supporting Niue to achieve its aim of access to 24-hour water supply and safe potable water. We know that clean, safe and reliable water matters to every household and business. That is why Australia is working with the Government to modernise and strengthen water and wastewater infrastructure. Today marks the start of community consultations, which are critical to understanding the needs of key user groups such as women, the elderly and people with a disability. From 17-31 July 2023, a team of water specialists and engineers will visit Niue. Informed by community views, they will determine the projects required in the short to medium term to deliver essential water and wastewater infrastructure that is climate and disaster resilient. I encourage you all to take the opportunity to provide your feedback and shape our support to the water and wastewater sectors"

The Director of Utilities, Mr Clinton Chapman, said "We are looking forward to re-establishing collaboration in the water and waste sectors with our friends from Australia. With past programs, Australia has funded a number of infrastructure developments such as the provision of the first ever excavator on Niue. They have more importantly invested in the capacity building of our water supply technicians and operators under the PACTAM and APTC programs. Those past programs are lasting legacies which has continued to help us. We look forward to the project implementation and are excited for the opportunity."

A technical design is currently underway led by GHD. It is anticipated the project will likely include replacement and rehabilitation of critical water infrastructure (such as tanks, pipes and pumps) and a wastewater treatment facility. The design will integrate climate and disaster resilience as a key consideration.

**END**

**For more information, please contact:**

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