

**NIUE GOVERNMENT**

IN COLLABORATION WITH

**THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION**

REPORT

OF

**THE NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP**

HELD

14-23 September 1987, Alofi, NIUE

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## INTRODUCTION/OBJECTIVES

During the early part of this year (1987) the Government of Niue Island requested financial and technical assistance from the South Pacific Commission (SPC) to organise and conduct a National Youth Leadership Workshop from 14 to 23 September, 1987.

The objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- a) To provide an opportunity for the youth leaders to exchange ideas and to learn from each other on issues of concern affecting the Youth in Niue.
- b) To enable the youth leaders to become more creative and effective in their work in the country.
- c) To develop the ability of the youth leaders to plan and implement their programmes more effectively.
- d) To train youth leaders in certain youth development concepts necessary to develop and improve their leadership ability.

## EXPECTATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS

During the first session of the workshop all the participants were asked what they expected to gain from the workshop. In response they noted the following (the figures in brackets represents the number of participants) :

1. To gain more knowledge on how to lead and develop youth (12).
2. To learn and know more about youth work (11).
3. To become good and effective leaders (8).
4. To gain confidence in leading youth (8).
5. Experience sharing regarding the problems of youth and how these are being solved (7).
6. To learn how to encourage the youth to get involved in community activities/works (6).
7. To be able to deal with youth problems more effectively (6).
8. To get a better understanding of the channels of communications (2).
9. To know more about the support services for youth work from the Government and overseas (2).
10. To be able to plan and organise youth activities (2).
11. To know more about the role of the youth in the community (1).
12. To know how to differentiate personal interests from community interests (1).

## MANAGEMENT OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop which was held at the Niue Sports Club complex at Fonuakula, Alofi from 14 to 23 September was organised jointly by the Department of Community Affairs and the Niue Youth Council in consultation with the SPC Youth Development Officer. The workshop Director was Mr John Tangi, SPC Youth Development Officer.

The financial support for conducting the workshop which was provided by SPC, was controlled jointly by Mr Tangi and also the Government Community Affairs Co-ordinator, Mr Misa Kulatea, who were responsible to SPC Headquarters for all expenses incurred for the purposes of the workshop.

## PARTICIPANTS

The participants who attended the workshop were selected on the basis of their youth and community involvement in their respective villages. The detailed list of the participants including the organisers is attached as Appendix I.

## ORGANISATION OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop was structured to accommodate four separate sessions per day with an average time of one and a half hours per session. On many occasions, because of the interest shown by the participants in several subject areas, some of the sessions took up more time than originally planned which resulted in the restructuring of the whole programme. Although the restructuring was necessary it did not deviate from the objectives of the workshop.

Later in this report will be the summaries of the crucial issues identified and discussed by the participants. Resulting from the various group exercises and plenary sessions, the workshop came up with a proposed programme of activities covering a period of two years (1988 to 1989). The details of this can be found under the appropriate sub-head of this report.

The following subject areas were covered during the workshop with the instructor's names in brackets.

### 1. Orientation (Mr John Tangi)

- . overall administration of the workshop
- . objectives and expectations
- . assessment of participants training needs

### 2. Community Studies (Mr Riaz Alai)

- . what is a community
- . the role of the youth in a community
- . various sectors of a community

### 3. Youth Problems (Mr John Tangi)

- . economic
- . social
- . cultural
- . organisational

4. Drug Abuse (Mr Mick Huggard)
5. Law and Society (Mr Romero Toailoa)
6. Corrective Services (Mr Mick Huggard)
7. Alcohol Abuse (Dr Mitikulena)
8. Leadership/Communication  
(Mr Riaz Alai  
Mr Boyd Henderson  
Mr John Tangi)
9. The Role of Religion/Christianity  
in Youth Development (Father King Turner  
Reverend Afele Paea)
10. Loans/Aids in Youth Development (Mr Lika Lipitua)
11. Niue Youth Council (Mr Fisa Pihigia)
12. Government Youth Office (Mr Hima Douglas)
13. The Role of the Media/Radio  
in Youth Development (Mrs Lofa Rex)
14. Counselling (Reverend Afele Paea)
15. Proposed two-year programme of activities (Mr John Tangi)
16. Evaluation (Mr John Tangi)
17. Meetings - proper procedures of  
conducting meetings (Mr John Tangi)

#### COMMUNITY STUDIES

Participants were organised into groups and were presented with the following questions:

1. What is the 'present' role of youth groups/organisations in the community?
2. What are the 'needs' of the youth within the community?
3. What is the 'present' course of action being taken by the groups/organisations in the community?
4. What are the 'required or needed' actions of the group/organisation so that it may fulfill the needs within its community?

An outline of the group findings are as follows:

**Question 1 - the present role of youth in the community**

- \* fund raising, e.g. dances, working bees
- \* youth activities, e.g. sports, community projects
- \* encouraging church participation, e.g. attendance, choir
- \* community work, e.g. helping the old, condolences
- \* encouraging co-operation, participation and self-discipline amongst the youth.

**Question 2 - the needs of youth within the community**

- \* recognition by the Government and the community
- \* liaison/communication with Government, community, village council
- \* ongoing training programmes
- \* sponsorship for further education
- \* financial assistance
- \* better entertainment/sports facilities
- \* media assistance and coverage
- \* total co-operation and participation of youth, Government, community, village council
- \* discourage youth migration.

**Question 3 - the present action of groups/organisations in the community**

- \* confirming the present rules of community
- \* encouraging member participation and conducting regular meetings
- \* inviting parent/community participation
- \* fund raising, e.g. bingo, raffles
- \* request for a sport/entertainment centre
- \* security - moral support, acceptance.

**Question 4 - the required or needed actions to fulfill the needs**

- \* participation, motivation, dedication
- \* Government/youth co-operation in activities
- \* continuous representation in Government and the village council
- \* communications between parents and youth
- \* realistic goals and activities
- \* construct an island activities centre
- \* employment opportunities
- \* assistance in acquiring transport and equipment
- \* more action and not words.

It seems that the present activities of the youth are restricted and limited in their actions due to non-participation of all concerned, as well as the lack of finance, communication, co-operation and assistance from the Government, village council and the community in general. The urgent need to bring unity, co-operation and consultation between all concerned can only come about if all will take time out to understand the needs and problems of the youth and to action the necessary remedies.

## METHODOLOGY

The workshop took a participatory approach whereby most of the work was done in four different working groups. This ensured the greatest possible involvement of the participants throughout the workshop. Furthermore the workshop was conducted to ensure that the content of the training programme remained within the ability of the participants to benefit fully from what was being taught. Of the 29 sessions conducted, 17 sessions were conducted in the local Niuean language and 12 in the English language.

The methodology used during the workshop included:

- \* lectures
- \* discussions
- \* small working groups
- \* group presentations.

## YOUTH PROBLEMS WITH POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

In response to the question to list down the most common youth problems by sectors (economic, social, cultural and organisational) in Niue, with their possible solutions and also the agencies or organisations responsible for implementing these solutions, the participants provided the following.

It should be noted here that the follow-up of the necessary actions required in relation to the issues concerned rests with the Department of Community Affairs, Niue Youth Council, SPC Youth Programmes and, to some extent, the workshop participants.

It should also be noted that although the following listing is not conclusive, these nevertheless were what the participants consider as the most important issues affecting the lives of the youth in Niue.

ECONOMIC

CAUSES

EFFECTS

SOLUTIONS

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY

Unemployment

- No income
- Vandalism and theft
- Unproductivity
- Social problems
- High rate of migration
- High rate of drunkenness

- Self-employment
- Involvement in community projects
- Handicraft workshops
- Media-job-line
- Provide employment

- Individual youth
- Community
- Government

Migration

- Low Manpower
- Brain drain
- In-proportional distribution of labour

- Department of Economic Development to review employment and unemployment situations

- Department of Economic Development

SOCIAL

CAUSES

EFFECTS

SOLUTIONS

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY

Alcohol and Drug Abuse

- Assault, broken marriages, vandalism, road accidents, addiction, brain damage, danger to unborn children, loss of job, unstable mind, risks of getting diseases such as AIDS and VD through sexual relationship

- Community education
- Counselling
- Control of sale of liquor to under-aged
- Strict enforcement of liquor laws
- Parental control

- Health Department
- Education Dept
- Police Department
- Community Affairs
- Community

Migration

- Depleted manpower both skilled and unskilled
- High rate of dependency
- Lack of development
- A lot of unused lands
- A lot of vacant houses

- Job opportunities
- Job satisfaction
- Review citizenship
- Improved entertainment facilities
- Improved infrastructure in villages
- Review land laws

- Village Councils
- Youth groups
- Various Churches
- Women's groups
- Community Affairs
- Government

Un-Met parental expectations

- Frustrations
- Insecurity, low esteem
- Unpopularity
- Confusion regarding role in the community

- Understanding parents
- Better communication
- Self-confidence
- Counselling

- Parents
- Individual youth
- Community
- Church groups

Insufficient recreational facilities

- High rate of migration

- Establish more recreational facilities

- Community
- Government

CULTURAL

<u>CAUSES</u>	<u>EFFECTS</u>	<u>SOLUTIONS</u>	<u>ACTIONS REQUIRED BY</u>
Restrictions (freedom of speech)	- Rebellious, loneliness, neglect, frustration, abuse, disrespect, non-productive members of the community	- Respect of family members and community members - Counselling - Productive worker or good model, good character - Awareness of customs and traditions	- Parental guidance - Church groups - Youth groups - Women's groups - Community Affairs - Education Dept
Taboos	- Curiosity (temptation) - Fear - Inability to judge for themselves (insecurity)	- Respect of taboos - Education at community level	- Elders - Parents - Churches
Lack of knowledge of Customs and Traditions	- No self-respect - Lack of identity	- Educate the youth	- Parents - Elders - Churches - Community
Domination by elders	- Frustration of youth - Uncooperative youth - Lack of total commitment by youth to community projects	- Understanding of each other's views - Fellowship - Elders to seek and consider the opinions of the young people	- Community as a whole
Traditional Customs	- Clashes between the youth and the elders because of differences of ideology	- Arriving at a common understanding and inter-marrying the traditional customs with new ways of doing things	- Community as a whole - Individuals

ORGANISATIONAL

CAUSES

EFFECTS

SOLUTIONS

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY

Lack of Leadership

- Division of groups
- Disrespect within groups
- No co-operation

- Develop leadership skills

- Government to provide training opportunities
- Churches to provide assistance in training and counselling
- International agencies to assist in training

Lack of Motivation

- Lose interest
- Objectives not met and no achievements

- Develop skills in motivation

- (as above)

Unrealistic goals or objectives

- No direction
- Chaos

- Set goals

- (as above)

Improper conducting of meetings

- Frustrated youth
- Lack of discipline
- Disrespect

- Leadership training

- Community Affairs

Lack of Youth Policies

- No co-ordination
- Unsure direction of youth programmes
- Poor communication between youth groups

- Government to write youth policies in collaboration with Niue Youth Council

- Community Affairs
- Niue Youth Council

OTHER MAJOR ISSUES RAISED

During the course of the workshop the following major issues were raised by various local resource personnel.

Government Youth Office (Mr Hima Douglas)

The Director of Community Affairs emphasised that the primary aim of the Government Youth Office was of a supportive nature rather than to be relied upon to actually implement youth programmes. In this respect this office aims to work very closely with the Niue Youth Council and other appropriate non-government organisations in the development of the youth.

Niue Youth Council (Mr Fisa Pihigia)

The President of the Niue Youth Council stressed the need for the Government and the NYC to develop a better working relationship. He also expressed the concern of the NYC for the lack of national youth policy in the country and requested for Government to work closely with NYC in preparing such a policy. Finally he concluded by affirming the desire of the NYC to collaborate with the Government Youth Office in the development of youth in Niue.

Radio Broadcasting (Mrs Lofa Rex)

During Mrs Rex's presentation she assured the participants that her office is prepared to allocate half an hour per week to accommodate for youth news releases over the local radio on the condition that those responsible could provide the news items.

TWO-YEAR PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

The following two-year programme of activities commencing 1988 to 1989 was prepared from information provided by the workshop participants as contained in the earlier section of this report entitled 'Youth Problems with Possible Solutions'. Each activity is scheduled to cover a two-month time span focusing on a selected theme. The theme is a guide in order for the youth groups to plan their activities for the two-month period. The various themes were selected based on the present situation of the youth in Niue.

It is hoped that by adopting this approach it would further accelerate and improve the youth development efforts of the Government and also the non-government youth organisations.

Plans after 1989 will depend on the progress of the activities implemented during the 1988-89 period.

## THEMES AND ACTIVITIES

MONTHS	1988	1989
Jan-Feb	Youth and the Church * combined church services * youth concerts	Youth and the community * love green campaign * love green scheme
March-April	Youth and the Home * Youth Counselling course	Youth and Sports * National Sports Week
May-June	Youth and Health * Youth Health Education Programme * Seminar on adolescence	Youth and Education * Youth Promotional Programmes in the schools
July-August	Youth and Employment * Study of employment opportunities for youth * Income generating training course for youth	Youth and Culture * Creative Arts Workshop
Sept-Oct	Youth and Environmental Pressure * public forum or promotional programme on the effect of environmental pressure on youth	Youth and Development * Review of Youth Programmes
Nov-Dec	Youth and Social Problems * Crime Prevention Campaign * National Youth Camp	Youth and the Future * Future aims and plans of actions * National Youth Workshop

EVALUATION

Apart from the overall evaluation at the end of the workshop, daily evaluations were also conducted based on the questions of what the participants 'liked' or 'disliked' about the day's activities. This daily evaluation ranged from the workshop sessions to the catering services. The purpose of this daily evaluation was to make improvement in the organisation, management and conducting of the workshop where necessary. A summary of the participants' overall evaluation of the course is attached as Appendix II.

Participants were very positive in their evaluation of the workshop. They found the workshop to be very interesting and of benefit to all participants. The workshop was conducted in English and Niuean, this was because the Workshop Director, Mr John Tangi, knows how to speak and write Niuean. All participants found the workshop to have satisfactorily achieved its objectives. Lecture sessions and small groups work contributed to the success of the workshop.

Ten participants were not satisfied with five Lecturers; all others were satisfied with the way Lecturers conducted their respective sessions.

The majority of the participants felt that the workshop was right for them. They acknowledged the importance of the workshop and requested that another one of this nature be repeated and also other workshops to cover other areas of importance to Niuean youth or community.

All the participants thanked the South Pacific Commission for providing the financial and technical assistance as well as the Baha'i International Community's interest to youth, represented by Riaz Alai, to conduct this training workshop, and also the Government of Niue for organising such a successful training workshop.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The South Pacific Commission would like to congratulate the Government of Niue, in particular the Community Affairs Division, for successfully hosting this national youth training workshop. The success was due to the co-operation and combined effort of the people in the Government and non-government sectors.

Special mention and grateful thanks must be given to the following for acknowledging and realising the need for SPC to conduct this training workshop for the youth of Niue:

Hon. F.F. Lui	Minister for Youth
Mr T.M. Chapman	Secretary to Government
Mr Hima Douglas	Director for Community Affairs

Grateful thanks must also be given to the following people for their efforts in organising this training workshop:

Community Affairs Co-ordinator	Mr Misa Kulatea
Manpower Training Co-ordinator	Mrs M. Hekau
Youth Officer	Mr I.T. Talagi

**SPECIAL THANKS ALSO TO:**

\* the President of the n Sports club, Mr Hima Douglas for making available the Club House complex as venue of the training workshop

\* the Secretary/Typist of the Director of Community Services, Miss Charlene Funaki, for providing the typing and photocopying services for the workshop

\* the Gabes Food Bar for providing the meal for the participants of the workshop

\* all participants who attended the workshop for demonstrating their keenness and willingness to learn as much as possible from this training workshop and also for showing determination to implement proposals or activities after their training.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>ORGANISATIONS</u>
1. Primrose FUNAKI	Tamakautonga Youth Council
2. Gloria TAHAFU	Tuapa Youth
3. Ben TANAKI	Hakupu Young People's Fellowship
4. Anne STRICKLAND	Niue Youth Council
5. John Operator SIAKIA	Lakepa Youth
6. Elisi SIONETALI	Liku Youth
7. Newman MISIHEPI	Makefu Youth
8. Jane NEMAIA	Leviatana Youth
9. Kimray VAHA	Mutalau Youth
10. Mary Anne VILIKO	Latter Day Saints Youth
11. Lisa REX	Niue Ekalesia Youth
12. Likalika LIPITOA	Namukulu Youth
13. Rev. Tumua TALAGI	Vaiea Youth
14. James VILIUA	Seventh Day Adventist Youth
15. Pastor Manu LATU	Seventh Day Adventist Youth
16. Pekapeka TAMOHE	Avatele Youth
17. Enetama ENETAMA	Police Cadet
18. Annette POSIMANI	Police Officer
19. Pua TOGIAONO	Leviatana Youth
20. Manogihaofia FOLEKENE	Niue Ekalesia Youth
21. Isaia TALAGI	Niue Government Youth Officer
22. Rev. Afele PAEA	Niue Ekalesia Youth
23. Taoo FOLEKENE	Niue Ekalesia Youth
24. Fisa PIHIGIA	Niue Youth Council

ORGANISERS

Mr Misa KULATEA	Community Affairs Co-ordinator
Mrs M. Hekau	Manpower Training Co-ordinator
Mr I.T. Talagi	Government Youth Officer
Mrs L. Siakimotu	Women's Affairs Officer
Miss Vito Kulatea	Women's Educational Officer
Mr Fisa Pihigia	Niue Youth Council - President
Miss Anne Strickland	Niue Youth Council - Secretary

COURSE DIRECTOR: John Tangi

South Pacific Commission

EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIREINSTRUCTIONS:

- . Do not write your name.
- . Put a cross (X) alongside your answers where appropriate.
- . Write as many comments as you wish.

## 1. WERE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE ACHIEVED?

Yes 18      Only some 3      No

(If your answer is either 'Only some' or 'No', please explain)

- Need more time on some of the subjects.

## 2. WAS THE COURSE NEEDED?

Yes 22      Not Really      No

(If your answer is either 'Not Really' or 'No', please explain)

## 3. WAS THE COURSE EFFECTIVE?

Yes 20      Not Really 2      No

(If your answer is either 'Not Really' or 'No', please explain)

- Need to know about Project Planning.

## 4. DID YOU FIND THE COURSE INTERESTING

Yes 21      Not Really 1      No

(If your answer is either 'Not Really' or 'No', please explain)

Only some.

## 5. DID YOU FIND THE COURSE WELL BALANCED BETWEEN THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL EXERCISE?

Yes 19      Not Really 3      No

(If your answer is either 'Not Really' or 'No', please explain)

6. TO WHAT EXTENT WERE THE FOLLOWING METHODS USEFUL?

	<u>ESSENTIAL</u>	<u>USEFUL</u>	<u>USELESS</u>
Lectures	14	7	
Group Work	12	6	1

(If your answer is 'Useless' please explain)

7. WHAT WAS YOUR OPINION ON THE FOLLOWING LECTURERS:

	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
1. Riaz Alai	17	3	
2. John Tangi	18	1	
3. Rev. A. Paea	13	6	
4. Father King Turner	12	7	
5. Mick Huggard	16	4	
6. Romero Toailoa	18	3	
7. Dr Mitikulena	9	7	2
8. Boyd Henderson	7	10	1
9. Lika Lipitua	13	5	
10. Fisa Pihigia	9	8	
11. Lofa Rex	5	9	3
12. Hima douglas	4	8	4

(If you mark someone 'Poor', please explain)

- Failed to convey relevant information on the subject of their lectures.
- Uninterested in youth work.
- Trying to be intelligent.
- Unprepared and boring presentation.
- Used very technical and hard to understand terms

10. WERE YOU ABLE TO HAVE ENOUGH TIME WITH:

YES      NO

The Lecturers                      19      2

(If your answer is 'No', please explain)

11. DID YOU HAVE ANY LANGUAGE PROBLEMS?

Yes 6      No 16

(If your answer is 'Yes', please explain)

- Yes, sometimes very difficult to understand some hard words.

12. WERE THE COURSE SESSIONS:

Too long      About Right 21      Too short 1

(If your answer is either 'Too long' or 'Too short', what do you recommend?)

13. WAS THE COURSE RELEVANT TO YOUR NEEDS?

Very much 18      Moderately 4      No

14. DID YOU HAVE ENOUGH FREE TIME?

Yes 21      No 1

15. SHOULD THIS COURSE BE REPEATED?

YES                      NO

For you 7  
For others 22

2

16. WHAT KIND OF FOLLOW-UP DO YOU THINK YOU WILL NEED?

Field visits by Government staff 6  
Short refresher course to be held each year 18

17. WERE THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS OF THE COURSE:

Satisfactory                      Unsatisfactory

Venue                                      19                      2  
Food catering services                      20                      1

(If your answer for any of the above is 'Unsatisfactory', please explain)

## 18. ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE THE COURSE:

- very aware of the problems of Youth?

Yes 17      Moderately 4      Hardly

(If your answer is 'Hardly', please explain)

- confident that you can find some answers to these problems in  
your own community?

Very 2      Moderately 10      Hardly

(If your answer is 'Hardly', please explain)

## 19. HAVE YOU ANY OTHER COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE REGARDING THE COURSE?

- Thank SPC, John Tangi, Riaz Alai and  
Lecturers (4)
  - Course too short (6)
  - Should have more participants (3)
  - Ask SPC to sponsor similar training workshop (9)
  - Follow-up visit by SPC Youth  
Officer, John Tangi (4)
  - More practical exercise and group work (7)
  - SPC to establish good communication with  
Niue Youth Council (2)
  - Next workshop village elders from each village  
to attend to express their opinions about  
youths in villages (1)
  - Introduce surprises - unannounced  
guest speaker (1)
  - Suggest use resource people from  
other Pacific Islands (1)
  - Participants to utilise skills and knowledge (4)
-