



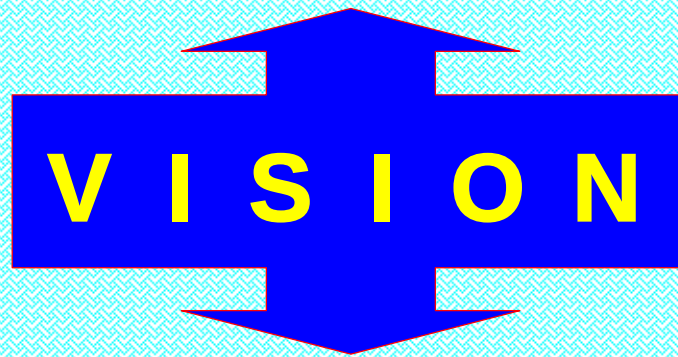
Government of Niue
Department of Community Affairs

- FOAFOAAGA MA E ATUHAU ANOIHA -

NIUE NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY
2003 - 2008

A joint initiative of the Department of Community Affairs
Niue Youth Council
and the
Pacific Youth Bureau, Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Assisted by the Government of Taiwan/Republic of China

Ko e Atuhau kua Ukufakina
ke gahua fakamooli ke moua e
moui mahuiga ma e Fuata.



A dynamic generation of
self-motivated young people
committed to positive action
to improve their quality of life.

CONTENTS

	FOREWORD	4
	ACRONYMS	6
1	INTRODUCTION	7
2	BACKGROUND	8
	2.1 Rationale for this Policy	8
	2.2 The Development of the Policy	9
	2.3 Definition of Youth	11
	2.4 Youth Profile	11
	2.5 Priority Target Groups	13
	2.6 A Brief History of Youth Services in Niue	13
3	THE OVERALL VISION	14
4	GUIDING PRINCIPLES	14
	4.1 Participation in Nation Building	15
	4.2 Collaboration Towards a Shared Vision	15
	4.3 Empowering the New Generation	16
5	POLICY OBJECTIVES	16
6	RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS	17
	6.1 Rights of Young People	17
	6.2 Responsibilities and Obligations of Young People	18
7	KEY STRATEGY AREAS	18
	7.1 Nurturing Unity	19
	7.2 Reinforcing Skills Development	20
	7.3 Promoting Healthy Lifestyles	22
	7.4 Developing Cultural Appreciation	23
	7.5 Strengthening Spiritual Development	25
	7.6 Improving Communication	26
	7.7 Fostering Economic Development	28
	7.8 Protecting the Environment	29
8	IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM	31
	8.1 Policy Implementation and Coordination	31
	8.2 Performance Monitoring and Evaluation	33
9	RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS	35
10	CONCLUSION	36
11	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	36
12	REFERENCES	38
13	LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX	39

Foreword *by the Hon. Fisa Igilisi Pihigia, Minister responsible for Youth.*



Fakaalofa Lahi atu!

One of the key objectives of the '**Halavaka ke he Monuina - Niue Integrated Strategic Plan 2003 - 2008**' is to enable Niueans to *"...enjoy a lifestyle of a thriving, educated and healthy community that has access to a wide range of quality social infrastructure, services and development opportunities."*

As part of our efforts towards achieving this objective, it gives me great pleasure to present the **Niue National Youth Policy** as a framework for the development of the young people of Niue for the period of 2003 to 2008.

The **Niue National Youth Policy** is a strategy that is created and promoted by the young people of Niue. It advances the notion of allowing young people to take responsibility for shaping their own future. The Policy was developed through extensive nation-wide consultations between the young people themselves, government agencies and community organisations that are key stakeholders in youth development.

This Policy conveys a vision for enabling the young people of Niue to develop and implement initiatives that will contribute to improving their quality of life. With that in mind, the general focus of this Policy is towards creating appropriate programmes that will develop the full potential of young people. It is anticipated that this would be achieved through a holistic, cohesive and coordinated approach to the creation and implementation of opportunities that will meet their individual needs. This in turn would enable them to contribute positively to improving their family lives and allowing them to actively participate in community-strengthening activities, thereby contributing towards building a better and prosperous Niue for all.

Through this Policy, we have attempted to establish a clear sense of direction for the young people of Niue. This includes identifying pressing issues affecting their lives, devising appropriate responses to these issues, establishing performance indicators by which we can measure our success in responding to these issues, and identifying the relevant organisations who are best placed to implement the various policy initiatives. All of these measures have been designed taking into account the economic and social conditions currently prevailing in Niue.

In endorsing this Policy, the Government of Niue is fully aware that the practical initiatives presented in this Policy will require financial and human resources far in excess of the limited resources currently available for youth development in the country. Therefore, the Government of Niue is committed to providing the necessary resources towards the implementation of priority programmes put forward in this Policy. Other stakeholders who are directly responsible for the implementation of the rest of the Policy initiatives are also

challenged to actively seek out potential in-country and external funding sources for supporting these initiatives.

As Minister responsible for youth development in Niue, I sincerely urge all young Niueans to **stand tall** and **be proud** of their heritage and all that means to be Niuean. This includes **stepping forward** to take an active part in the implementation of this Policy so as to derive maximum benefits from the Policy initiatives. Most important of all, it involves having the **courage to face the challenges** affecting them rather than depending on others to lead the way.

To ensure success in implementing this Policy, it is necessary that positive linkages be established and maintained between Government, the Niue Youth Council, Religious, Community and Village Youth Organisations, the Private Sector and the young people themselves.

All stakeholders in this Policy are encouraged to strengthen working relationships and partnerships with the aim of achieving positive results from the Policy initiatives.

In recognising the enormous efforts put into the development of this Policy by the many individuals and organisations too many to mention by name, I sincerely commend everyone who have contributed in any way, to the development of this Policy. Fakaaue Lahi mahaki ki a mutolu oti.

What is needed now, is a concentrated effort by all concerned with youth issues, in working closely with each other to convert this Policy into reality for the benefit of the young people of Niue.

"... with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Ki a Monuina.

The Honourable Fisa Igilisi Pihigia
Minister responsible for Youth Development.

ACRONYMS

AIDS	- Acquired Immune-Deficiency Syndrome
BAS	- Business Advisory Service
BCN	- Broadcasting Corporation of Niue
CBEMP	- Capacity Building for Environment Management in the Pacific
DCA	- Department of Community Affairs
DAFF	- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Dept	- Department
ECE	- Early Childhood Education
Govt	- Government
HCC	- Huanaki Cultural Centre
Hon.	- Honourable
HIV	- Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
ISO	- Information Systems Office
ISP	- Integrated Strategic Plan
IUSN	- Internet Users Society of Niue
JLSD	- Justice, Lands, and Survey Department
NCDs	- Non Communicable Diseases
NCEA	- National Certificate for Educational Achievement
NGOs	- Non Government Organisations
NIOFA	- Niue Islands Organic Farmers Association
NISANOC	- Niue Island Sports Association and National Olympic Committee
NTDC	- National Training Development Council
NYC	- Niue Youth Council
NYEF	- Niue Youth Empowerment Fund
ODS	- Ozone Depletion Substances Project
Orgs	- Organisations
PEIN	- Pacific Environment Information Network
PYB	- Pacific Youth Bureau
PYS2005	- Pacific Youth Strategy 2005
SHEP	- School Holiday Events Programme
SPBCP	- South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
SPC	- Secretariat of the Pacific Community
STDs	- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
UNDP	- United Nations Development Programme
USP	- University of the South Pacific

1. INTRODUCTION

The Niue National Youth Policy aims at guiding the effective planning, delivery and monitoring of developmental programmes for the young people of Niue during the five-year period from 2003 through to 2008.

The priority target group for this Policy is those **young people between 15 and 34 years**. Within this inclusive target population, the Policy acknowledges some important issues for specific groups of young people. These groups include ***young people who are unemployed; out-of-school youth; young people with special needs; and young women***.

One of the greatest challenges facing Niue is how to create the kind of environment that will convince this particular category of young people to remain in the country as key contributors to nation-building.

As a starting point to addressing this challenge, this Policy identifies the various issues affecting the young people of Niue and offers a mix of programmes for addressing these issues. It is anticipated that these programmes will encourage all young people to take responsibility for realising their full potential. Through these programmes, young people are challenged to be more conscious of the many challenges that are likely to have a negative impact on their livelihood and take sensible steps to dealing with these challenges.

The key strategy areas to be addressed by this policy were identified during the nation-wide consultations and surveys conducted in 2001. These key areas are ***nurturing unity; reinforcing skills development; promoting healthy lifestyles; developing cultural appreciation; strengthening spiritual development; improving communication; fostering economic development; and protecting the environment***.

Taking into account the nature of the Niuean economy, another major difficulty that threatens the successful implementation of the various strategies outlined in this Policy is how to finance these initiatives. In response to that scenario, funding arrangements for supporting the implementation of this Policy are outlined in Section 10 of this document.

Section 14 of this document is the Logical Framework (Logframe) Matrix for the Policy. The logframes outline the key objectives for each of the key strategy areas of the Policy. It also lists a number of recommended activities that needs to be carried out within the Policy period in order to achieve the objectives. Directly linked to each of the recommended activities are performance measures (also known as indicators) which are to be used as the benchmarks for measuring the outcomes of the Policy. Also included in the logframes are clear indications of the key organisations responsible for carrying out the recommended activities.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 RATIONALE FOR THIS POLICY

"When you are faced with major challenges it is important to stop, take stock of your current position and then to plan how you move forward."

The Honourable Young Vivian, Premier of Niue, 2003.

The Honourable Premier introduced the **Halavaka ke he Monuina - National Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) for Niue** for the period 2003 to 2008 with the above statement. The ISP promotes a five-pronged approach to the development of Niue. In introducing the ISP, the Premier called for a concerted effort by everyone; including elected members of Parliament, government employees, the private sector, civil society, the public, and investment partners in building a 'Prosperous Niue'.

The Niue National Youth Policy fully supports the vision of 'A Prosperous Niue – Niue Ke Monuina'. Aligned directly with the ISP vision, this Policy serves as a mechanism for enabling young people to actively contribute towards achieving the national ISP vision and improving their quality of life in the process.

Accordingly, this Policy presents a national strategy formulated specifically for young people between the age of 15 to 34 years in order to persuade them to stay in Niue and help build a better homeland for future generations.

In this regard, Niue is not alone in the desire to develop a national youth policy for young people. At the First Conference of Pacific Youth Ministers of the Pacific Community held in Tahiti in July 1998, the Ministers adopted the **Pacific Youth Strategy 2005 (PYS2005)** to be administered by the Pacific Youth Bureau of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). One of the Programmes of the PYS2005 (i.e. **Pacifika Aspirations**) encourages the full participation of young people in development through the development, implementation and evaluation of holistic and gender-inclusive national youth policies in member countries of the Pacific Community. Furthermore, the Ministers decided that these policies were to be in place by the year 2005.

Other international initiatives calling for the development of national youth policies for young people include the United Nations *World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond*; and the Commonwealth Youth Programme *Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment*.

By developing this Policy, Niue makes an important connection with a regional and global effort towards addressing the needs of young people more effectively.

2.2 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY

The development of this Policy was coordinated by the Niue Department of Community Affairs and the Niue Youth Council with technical and financial assistance provided by the Pacific Youth Bureau of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community based in Noumea, New Caledonia.

The Policy development process has its humble beginnings dating back to 11 September 1998 when the first training session on the development of the Niue National Youth Policy was conducted at the Niue Hotel for the youth leaders of Niue by the SPC Youth Development Adviser, Mr Tangata Vainerere.

Following this training programme, the initial National Youth Policy Committee was established to coordinate the development of the Policy. Director of Community Affairs at the time, Mr Crossley Tatui and Youth Officer Mrs Jenna Jackson headed this committee. Representing the Niue Youth Council on this Committee were President - Mr Ricky Makani, Vice-President - Mr Frank Sioneholo and Media Officer - Ms Frances Fakaotimanava-Lui. Youth representatives on the Committee included Ms Jessica Heka, Ms Judy Seumanu, Ms Sydney Lui, Mr John Faitala, Mr Edward Ikihele, and Mr Motofaga Valiana.

Throughout 1999 and 2000 most of the efforts was concentrated on trying to secure funding to pay for the costs of developing the Policy and developing questionnaires for the community consultations. Peace Corps Volunteers Mr Joe Marcotte and Ms Theresa Higgs contributed to the development of funding proposals and maintained links with the Pacific Youth Bureau.

From January 2001, newly appointed Youth Coordinator, Mrs Frances Lui Valiana continued the linkages with the Pacific Youth Bureau in the search for external funding sources for the project. In April 2001, funding of US\$6,500 was secured through the Pacific Youth Bureau from the Government of Taiwan/Republic of China for the project.

Under the leadership of then Director of Community Affairs, Mrs Phyllis Richmond-Rex, the nationwide consultation process was launched by a team consisting of Community Development Officer for Youth, Mrs Kilihega Jefferson and Youth Coordinator, Mrs Frances Lui Valiana in cooperation with the Policy Development Committee.

A core team of youth leaders consisting of Mr Sonlou Freddie; Ms Myrtle Valiana; Ms Priscilla Kapaga; Ms Vailita Holo; Mr Motofaga Valiana; Ms Sidney Lui; Mr Joe Marcotte; Ms O'love Hekesi; Ms Jay Eveni; Mr Jensen Liufalani; Mr Ricky Makani; Mr Colin Makani; Mr Ryan Manamana; Ms Amanda Heka; Mr Richard Hipa; Mr Kinikini Tokimua; Mr Mohe Mougavalu; Mr Timothy Magaoa; Mr Kuga

Fale, Mrs Kilimana Hiligutu, Ms Sifa Ioane, Ms Lilivika Liumaihetau, Mr Ernest Nemaia, Mr Atapana Siakimotu; Mrs Lofa Rex, Mr Logopati Seumanu, Mr Talaititama Talaiti and Mr Atalase Tauati facilitated the consultations with young people in the villages.

Hon. Young Viviani (then Minister responsible for Community Affairs); Hon. Vaaiga Tukuitoga; Hon. Hunuki Hunukitama Saletogia; Hon. Fisa Igilisi Pihigia; Hon. Billy Talagi and Hon. O'Love Tauveve Jacobsen provided support and advice during these consultations.

In August 2001, Mr Bradley Punu was contracted by the Niue Youth Policy Committee to produce the National Youth Policy Document based on the outcomes of the community consultations for consideration by the Government. This document was presented to the Department of Community Affairs in December 2001. Due to technical difficulties the project was put on hold.

The project was eventually restarted in July 2003 led by the Youth Development Adviser of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Mr Tangata Vainerere.

The core team for this phase of the project included Mrs Kilihega Jefferson; Mrs Toe Tukutama; Ms Norma Palana; Ms Kathyina Molai; Ms Jay Eveni; Ms Sidney Lui; Ms Amanda Heka; Ms Priscilla Kapaga; Ms Roberta Sionesini; Mr Mohe Mougavalu; Mr Alan Tano Puleosi; Mr Ricky Makani; Mr Shane Tohovaka; Ms Eme Laufoli; Pastor Manu Latu; Ms Rubeth Hubert; Ms Tagaloa Cooper; Mrs Gina Tukiuha; Mr Sonlou Freddie; Mr Kafa Pita; Mr Taukea Okesene; Ms Nunia Tikoipau; Mr Jay Talagi; Mr Afoa Hipa; and Ms Cassandra Pulehetoa.

The second draft of the Policy was completed on 2nd September 2003 and was tabled at a Heads of Department Forum led by the Director of Community Affairs, Mr Fapoi Akesi at the Niue Hotel on 3rd September 2003. Following inputs by the Heads of Department Forum, a third draft was produced and presented to the Policy Development Committee for review on 5th September 2003.

With further refinement, the final draft of the Policy was presented to the Minister responsible for Youth Development, the Hon. Fisa Igilisi Pihigia for perusal on Monday 8th September 2003. The final draft was submitted to Cabinet on Tuesday 23 September 2003 and was duly endorsed by Cabinet.

The Policy was officially launched on the 18th of October 2003 as part of the national Constitution Celebrations programme.

2.3 DEFINITION OF YOUTH

For practical reason, this Policy defines 'youth' as **all those persons (male and female) between the age of 15 and 34 years.**

To ensure that the objectives and overall vision of this Policy will be achieved, every young person in this age group is encouraged to actively participate in the implementation and evaluation of the activities arising out of this policy.

In acknowledgement of the nature of community participation in village life and other activities in Niuean society, it is expected that there would be many who are under 15 and over 34 years old willing to participate in the implementation of this Policy. Accordingly, this Policy allows for flexibility in extending the opportunity for them to participate actively in any activities and initiatives.

2.4 YOUTH PROFILE

One of the major challenges for the Government of Niue is how to reduce the steady outflow of young Niueans to destinations such as New Zealand, Australia and other places in and beyond the Pacific region.

It is of great concern that a dwindling resident population is likely to have a negative impact on the development of Niue. Of particular concern is that the number of young men leaving outnumbers young women. This would have some effect on the human resource composition of the workforce especially in economic development areas that involve strenuous physical labour.

According to Population Census figures, the youth population has declined steadily between 1986 and 2003. Assumptions are that the trend of migration combined with negative annual growth rates may have contributed to the decline.

To clearly identify the target group for this Policy, Table 1 shows the resident youth population by gender for 2001. Table 2 shows the total resident youth population for the period 2001 to 2003. Table 3 shows a projection of the resident youth population for the period 2004 to 2008.

As evident from Table 3, the total resident youth population is expected to continue to decline over the said period with the highest rate of decline occurring in the 30 - 34 years age group.

Table 1: Resident Youth Population by Gender- 2001

Resident Youth Population (15- 34 yrs) by Gender			
Age Group	Males	Females	Total
15 - 19	74	86	160
20 - 24	55	50	105
25 - 29	60	47	107
30 - 34	49	50	99
Grand Total	238	233	471

?? Figures provided by the Statistics Unit, Government of Niue

Table 2: Resident Youth Population by Age Group 2001 - 2003

Total Resident Youth Population aged 15– 34			
Age Group	2001	2002	2003
15 - 19	160	152	144
20 - 24	105	102	99
25 - 29	107	102	97
30 - 34	99	90	81
Grand Total	471	446	421

?? Figures provided by the Statistics Unit, Government of Niue

Table 3: Projection of Resident Youth Population 2004- 2008

Total Resident Youth Population aged 15– 34 for period 2004 to 2008					
Age Group	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
15 - 19	136	128	120	112	104
20 - 24	96	93	90	87	84
25 - 29	92	87	82	77	72
30 - 34	72	63	54	45	34
Grand Total	396	371	346	321	294

?? Figures provided by the Statistics Unit, Government of Niue.

?? Projections for 2004 to 2008 were calculated based solely on annual growth rates for each age group and on the assumption that all other factors are constant.

?? Annual Growth Rates:

15 - 19 yrs	-4.8
20 - 24 yrs	-2.5
25 - 29 yrs	-4
30 - 34 yrs	-9

2.5 PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS

In accordance with the definition stipulated in Section 2.3 and elsewhere in this Policy, every effort will be directed towards ensuring that all young people in Niue receive maximum benefits out of this Policy.

Although the main target group for this Policy is young people between the age of 15 to 34 years those who are under 15 or over 34 are also entitled and encouraged to participate in the youth activities arising out of this Policy.

This Policy encourages ALL young people in Niue to join the move to implement the various Policy initiatives for their benefit regardless of their gender, physical capabilities, educational attainment, social circumstances or organizational affiliations.

2.6 A BRIEF HISTORY OF YOUTH SERVICES IN NIUE

Since the introduction of Christianity to Niue, the Ekalesia played a major role in organising youth programs in the villages. Although the emphasis was mainly on spiritual teaching for every person in the community, the Sunday School was designed specifically for young people. The formation of the Girls' Brigade and the Boys' Brigade by the church further contributed to the spiritual development of young people. Today many religious groups have established similar programs for the young people.

In early 1980s the Government of Niue established a position in the Department of Community Affairs to be responsible for all youth issues. This person was also responsible for other community groups such as sports, culture and religion.

In March 1982 the youth development scene was boosted by the establishment of the Niue Youth Council (NYC) under the leadership of Mr Fisa Pihigia (President), Mr Richard Hipa (Vice-President), Ms Marianne Paea (Secretary/Treasurer), Ms Sheila Head, and Rev. Afele Paea. On the 8th of June 1984, the NYC Executives registered the NYC as an Incorporated Society (under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908) with Mr Livatama Tukutama replacing Ms Paea as Secretary/Treasurer.

Guided by its Constitution, the NYC has conducted numerous programmes over the years and acted as a voice for young people at the national, regional and international levels. At the same time, it has maintained strong working relationships with the Department of Community Affairs, other government departments and community organisations.

On the 16th of August 1990, a National Youth Conference led by then Director of Community Affairs, Mrs Fifita Talagi, President of the Niue National Youth Council, Mr Fisa Pihigia, Manager of Community Affairs, Mr Crossley Tatui and

South Pacific Commission Consultant, Mr John Tangi deliberated on discussions during previous youth conferences on the development of the young people of Niue. In his opening remarks at the conference, the Minister of Community Affairs, Hon. Tama Posimani encouraged youth leaders to utilise their full potential in developing their communities. The conference then agreed on various strategies for promoting youth development. This formed the basis of youth development in Niue over the period 1990 to 1998.

Throughout the 1990s, the focus of activities was on radio programmes; supporting the annual Constitution Celebrations; health-related awareness programmes; fund-raising initiatives; cultural activities; youth camps; and supporting community projects. From 2000 onwards, the focus began to shift towards environment issues and more training or educational programmes. The introduction of the Niue Youth Empowerment Fund by the Pacific Youth Bureau of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in 1998 provided much needed financial resources to support these skills development initiatives.

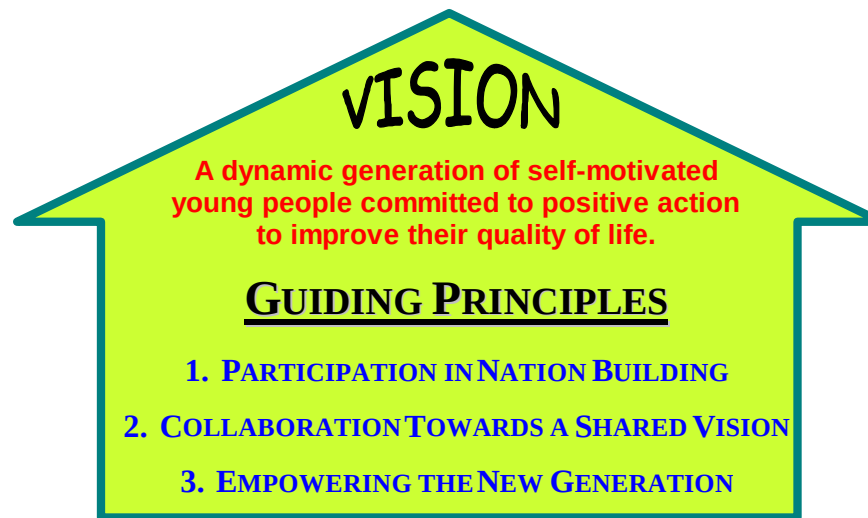
3. THE OVERALL VISION

A dynamic generation of self-motivated young people
committed to positive action to improve their quality of life.

Ko e Atuhau kua ukufakina ke gahua fakamooli ke moua
e moui mahuiga ma e Fuata.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

With a focus on helping young people to develop the necessary skills and appropriate attitudes they need to effectively face the challenges of life while at the same time actively participating in the development of Niue, this Policy has three guiding principles that points the way towards achieving the Policy Vision.



4.1 PARTICIPATION IN NATION BUILDING

Adolescence is a difficult stage of life when young people go through the human development process of transition from a young person to a mature adult. Helping them achieve positive outcomes for their efforts during this period will give them confidence to progress to a lifetime of continuing personal growth.

Positive development in society is possible when young people actively participate in the decision-making process leading to the advancement of their communities. Through this participation process, young people gain a sense of belonging to society and this in turn motivates them to use their energy for constructive and positive activities.

With their contributions to community advancement, young people can develop the feeling that they are useful members of society and in turn develop into healthy, self-reliant, resourceful and productive adults.

4.2 COLLABORATION TOWARDS A SHARED VISION

With the limited resources available for social development, more positive results can be achieved through a co-ordinated response to meeting the needs of young people.

This Policy calls for stronger collaboration between Government, the Niue Youth Council, village and community organisations, key stakeholders, parents and young people themselves in the implementation of the policy initiatives.

This would require the cultivation of a spirit of understanding, cooperation, tolerance, and friendship among all those involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation process of the Policy.

4.3 EMPOWERING THE NEW GENERATION

Youth empowering environments give young people a sense of direction and purpose. Youth empowerment focuses on enabling young people to have a say in decisions which affects them. It involves guiding them in their attempt to navigate the complexities of life. With proper guidance coupled with building positive attitudes and fostering moral integrity and values, young people are able to make informed choices about their future.

This Policy promotes the concept of youth empowerment by creating and maintaining an environment that gives young people faith in the future and a sense of self-worth through offering them opportunities to:

- ? ? experience feeling part of a supportive community;
- ? ? meet their needs by developing leadership and lifeskills;
- ? ? feel involved in determining their own future;
- ? ? develop a keen sense of responsibility; and
- ? ? make positive contributions to their communities.

5. POLICY OBJECTIVES

The following objectives have been devised for each of the key strategy areas of the Policy. They identify what will be achieved through the Policy initiatives throughout the Policy period. These achievements will contribute to accomplishing the overall vision of this Policy.

OBJECTIVE 1: *To encourage and maintain a spirit of cooperation and partnership amongst the young people of Niue.*

OBJECTIVE 2: *To encourage ongoing learning through non-formal and informal education.*

- OBJECTIVE 3:** *To strengthen and foster the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of young people.*
- OBJECTIVE 4:** *To promote respect for the Cultural Heritage of Niue through strengthening initiatives relating to Performing Arts, Crafts, Traditions and Language.*
- OBJECTIVE 5:** *To encourage young people to maintain moral principles and Christian Living.*
- OBJECTIVE 6:** *To improve the information technology skills of young people through ongoing training and promotion of youth activities in the media.*
- OBJECTIVE 7:** *To encourage the active participation of young people in Economic Development.*
- OBJECTIVE 8:** *To promote and implement educational awareness programmes and practical projects focusing on the conservation and protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.*

6. RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, OBLIGATIONS

6.1 RIGHTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

The spirit of **Niue ke Monuina** recognises young people as key contributors to national economic and social development. To enable them to be valued members of society, this Policy strongly advocates for all young people of Niue to be entitled to:

- ? ? fundamental freedoms in line with the governing laws of Niue;
- ? ? have access to appropriate services and benefits that contribute to the fulfillment of their basic needs;
- ? ? a healthy social and physical environment that promotes healthy lifestyles;
- ? ? the attainment of an education from early childhood to the highest level possible, in accordance with national needs and individual aspirations;
- ? ? proper guidance from parents and care givers who have the responsibilities for their upbringing at home and in the community;
- ? ? participate in decision-making processes on issues affecting them; *and*

? ? be free of discrimination and exploitation of any form.

6.2 RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

As responsible members of Niuean society, all young people have a duty to make an active and positive contribution to the development of society. In particular, they also have a responsibility to:

- ? ? respect the laws, values and norms of society;
- ? ? take initiatives to become productive members of society;
- ? ? protect and conserve the environment for future generations;
- ? ? be respectable and positive role models and mentors for other young people; *and*
- ? ? share their skills, knowledge and enthusiasm for the benefit of young people and the community.

7. KEY STRATEGY AREAS

During the community consultations with young people in 2001, they identified the following key strategy areas as priority issues for this Policy.



7.1 NURTURING UNITY

OBJECTIVE:

To promote and encourage a spirit of cooperation and partnerships among the young people of Niue.

OVERVIEW:

In Niue, community inter-dependence is normal. The community works together in all aspects of village and community life and everyone pitches in to help in various activities being carried out in the villages. This makes for successful communities. This Policy derives an important lesson from that experience that can be applied to the youth development scene.

The Niue Youth Council is the umbrella organisation for youth groups operating in the country. By virtue of Objective 2.8 of its Constitution, the NYC promotes networking by serving as a voice for the young people of Niue at national, regional and international levels.

The NYC has more than 20 affiliated member organisations. These organisations have their own objectives and retain their freedom to pursue those objectives in their respective locations and settings. However, for national cohesion and unity in purpose, they come together at various times for combined events organised by the NYC and other key stakeholders in youth development. To ensure the success of such occasions, there needs to be a spirit of cooperation despite the diversity of beliefs and values amongst the different organisations.

This Policy encourages greater cooperation to build strong relationships among youth organisations leading to a strong sense of pride and national identity for young people. Public gatherings, conferences, workshops, national events and other forms of association have a lot to offer in creating this environment in the community. With a focus on promoting mutual respect, understanding, tolerance, peaceful association and solidarity, such activities gives young people the opportunity to learn from each other through sharing their experiences and exchange of ideas. This interaction also promotes a feeling of caring connections with a range of groups and people with similar interests. Through this opportunity for positive development, they feel good about being able to develop and maintain healthy relationships with other young people. They also gain a valuable opportunity to develop their leadership and organisational skills.

This approach acknowledges that healthy development for young people can be possible through having positive connections within their social environments. A key benefit of this approach is that a sense of national pride will encourage young people to participate in positive action to strengthen respect for diversity and enhancement of the values of peace rather than engaging in risky and anti-social behaviour.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To promote a spirit of cooperation and unity amongst young people and the various youth organisations, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍ Organising a national Spiritual Revival convention for young people at the beginning of each year to open youth activities for the year.
- ✍ Organising National Youth Summits in 2004 and 2007.
- ✍ Negotiating with Government for the declaration of a National Youth Day to highlight young people's contributions to society.
- ✍ Promoting exchange programmes between individual youth organisations.

7.2 REINFORCING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage ongoing learning through non-formal and informal education.

OVERVIEW:

“A wise man will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel.” Proverbs 1: 5

Learning is a lifelong process. In order for young people to be productive members of society, they need to be reasonably well educated and in good health.

As part of the national goals of Niue, the Niue Primary School and the Niue High School provide formal education free to all children up to the age of 16. Those who achieve high grades at the end of their High School Education have to compete for the limited scholarships available to continue their education at Tertiary Education institutions overseas. Continuing and vocational education opportunities are available through the University of the South Pacific Extension Centre for those who are motivated enough to keep studying after leaving school.

While recognising that education in general should be relevant to employment opportunities, this Policy proposes that it's time to fully acknowledge that education should be a process that prepares a young person for 'life' itself. This Policy advances this view on the basis that education does not only take place in schools. It recognises non-formal education (*i.e. workshops organised by NGOs, vocational courses, distance education, apprenticeships, etc*) and informal education (*i.e. learning by observation and doing, mentoring, peer interaction, etc*) as being complementary to formal education.

In this regard, this Policy encourages the planning and delivery of suitable training programmes that will improve the chances for young people leaving the formal education system to still succeed in life. This can be achieved through specially designed non-formal training programmes in areas such as enterprise development, home management, goal setting, leadership, self-esteem development, hospitality, organic farming, fishing, eco-tourism, and any other area deemed to have potential for providing young people with opportunities for success.

All these initiatives would need to be backed up by opportunities for informal learning amongst young people in order to give them that extra edge towards a clear sense of direction. This Policy promotes the belief that young people need to cultivate a hunger for on-going learning demonstrated by the independent pursuit of new knowledge and having the courage to explore new ideas. For this to be possible, they need to believe in their ability to succeed and develop their self-esteem, adopt and maintain a positive mental attitude, fine-tune their decision-making skills, improve communication skills, learn how to set challenging but realistic life goals, develop action plans for achieving those goals, strengthen their relationships with those who can help them achieve their goals, learning from their mistakes and asking for help when they need it.

Most challenging of all, they have to do all of the above with their feet firmly on the ground and their dreams and aspirations within reasonable boundaries of reality.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To help young people develop a clear sense of direction and become productive members of society, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍ Organising Educational Camps focusing on Leadership, Management, Self-Confidence, Life Skills, Social Interaction, Youth Development, etc.
- ✍ Organising an Annual Career Expo Day for the young people.
- ✍ Designing and delivering on-going Training Programs for school leavers.
- ✍ Organising annual training sessions for Trainers covering emerging priority issues affecting young people on Niue.

- ✍ Utilising the NYEF to assist with skills development in areas such as Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Education, Environment and Business Development, Information Communication Technology, Tourism, and Traditional Skills.
- ✍ Setting up a Volunteer Scheme to train Youth Community Volunteers to assist with the needs of the community from time to time and also to assist with the matuas'.
- ✍ Encouraging school students to take up and actively perform leadership roles at school, such as being class leaders, prefects, and school councilors.

7.3 PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

OBJECTIVE:

To strengthen and foster the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well being of the young people.

OVERVIEW :

All young people should have a healthy body, a healthy mind and stable emotions. This indicates a healthy individual with a good quality of life. A healthy person leads a healthy lifestyle by being very careful about the food they eat, being selective of the drinks they consume, being conscious of personal hygiene, avoiding risky sexual behaviours and practices, engaging in regular physical activity and ensuring they live in a healthy home environment.

The ideal situation is for young people to take full responsibility for their own health by adopting and practicing this sensible principle of healthy living, and contributing to building more healthy families and communities. This in turn reduces the national burden of high costs in providing health care.

The Niue Department of Health conducts on-going programs on healthy living. The Moui Olaola health program had the vision that by the end of the century Niuean people will be making correct informed healthy choices concerning their lifestyles, behaviours and attitudes to reduce and control lifestyle diseases. Areas of focus include initiatives aimed at controlling smoking, reducing alcohol consumption, promoting good quality nutrition, promoting good quality eating habits, ensuring freedom from STD/HIV/AIDS, promoting good oral health and reduction of non-communicable diseases. A National Council to promote healthy lifestyles was established in September 2003. The NYC is a member of the Council.

One of the important parts of achieving good health is to participate regularly in sports and recreation activities. Combined with good eating habits, physical activity helps to reduce stress, obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure.

NISANOC is the national co-ordinating organisation for sports in Niue. It promotes sporting activities for young people and facilitates the work of the various sporting codes affiliated to it. NISANOC also works with the Education Department to support the Tama Mana sports programme for school students. Niuean athletes have now demonstrated positive achievements in sports through their success in winning medals at various regional sporting events such as the South Pacific Games. This is good for building the self-esteem of young people and it is hoped that the success of the current pool of athletes will motivate the younger generation to higher aspirations in the future. This Policy supports that vision through the Policy initiatives.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To enable young people to live healthy lifestyles and achieve good quality of life, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍ Organising regular sports development initiatives for young people.
- ✍ Establishing a National Leisure, Recreation and Fitness Centre and encouraging young people to use these facilities.
- ✍ Conducting ongoing training (as needed) for young people to learn life saving skills and safety at sea and work.
- ✍ Organising annual Health Day for youth to discuss health issues like injury prevention, mental and reproductive health (Contraceptions, STDs), substance abuse (alcohol/tobacco), nutrition, NCDs, and access to youth-friendly health services.
- ✍ Conducting regular counseling sessions for youth, delivered by youth to youth Peer Educators.
- ✍ Regularly promoting the concept of a healthy lifestyle through educational awareness programmes.

7.4 DEVELOPING CULTURAL APPRECIATION

OBJECTIVE:

To promote respect for the Cultural Heritage of Niue through strengthening Performing Arts, Crafts, Traditions and Language.

OVERVIEW:

The Huanaki Cultural Centre plays a leading role in coordinating a number of national cultural events. Cultural competitions have been organised on making traditional crafts and traditional cultural practices especially songs, dance and craft works are encouraged in the schools.

The Centre also conducts periodical workshops covering various aspects of Niuean culture. One of the most significant achievements to date is the revival of hiapo (also known as 'tapa' in other Polynesian nations) making. It is earnestly hoped that this long lost art form will be revived to the point where it will form part of the normal cultural fabric of Niuean Society.

Niuean artists have had the opportunity to learn how to use traditional patterns and materials to create contemporary art pieces. Some artists have had their artwork displayed at the Fale Fono (Legislative Assembly House) and also at the Show Day during the Constitution Celebrations.

The Niue Youth Council has organised a number of concerts each year at the Huanaki Cultural Centre and has also conducted other activities such as Fathers/Mothers Day Programmes, Spiritual Devotions and Concerts. These activities are expected to continue over the years to come.

One of the major concerns for Niue is the declining use of the Niue Language in the home, villages, workplace and meetings. This is brought about by the increasing use of the English language in everyday communication. The Department of Education has formalised the inclusion of the Niue Language in the school curriculum at the ECE/Primary level and as an NCEA subject at secondary level. This is a good beginning to ensuring that the Niue Language will permanently maintain its status as a living language. The young people can play a key role in ensuring that this aspiration is achieved. One of the starting points is to ensure that the Niue Language has an integral part in the implementation of this Policy. This can include having the Niue Language spoken constantly at meetings and at all cultural activities.

This Policy strongly promotes the teaching and continuous practice of traditional skills in weaving, wood carving, local dancing, singing, traditional sports, and other forms of cultural practice. This will make cultural and traditional values a key foundation for the implementation of this Policy.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To develop young people's appreciation of their cultural heritage and contribute to the preservation and strengthening of Niuean Culture, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍ Organising the Annual Constitution Concert.
- ✍ Conducting educational initiatives such as repair of the Traditional Fale at the Youth Centre so young people can learn the skills of building traditional houses.
- ✍ Organising Cultural Fashion Shows and other creative events.
- ✍ Organising talent quests, dances and music lessons for young people.
- ✍ Organising traditional weaving, carving and other cultural activities in partnership with the HCC.
- ✍ Organising ongoing programmes promoting traditional values and the use of the Niuean language.

7.5 STRENGTHENING SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage young people to develop their spirituality, and maintain moral principles and Christian Living.

OVERVIEW:

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Proverbs 3: 5-6

Niuean history has shown that the churches have played a major role in fostering the spiritual development of young people. Ekalesia Niue constitutes the highest proportion of the population followed by the Latter Day Saints (LDS), Roman Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, Seventh Day Adventist (SDA). At the national level, the Niue Council of Churches was established in the mid-nineties to bring together the various denominations active in Niue at the time.

Much of the activities currently implemented by the various churches focus on nurturing the spiritual growth of members. Apart from the main church services conducted by the various denominations, examples of specific programmes aimed at young people include Sunday School and Bible Study; Service and Exchange Fellowships; Choir; Boys Brigade; Girls Brigade; Youth Services; Young Womens Groups; Seminary Studies; Lay Preachers Programmes; Missions; Outreach; Game Nights; Hospital and Prison Visitations; Seminars; Fundraising; and Social Exchanges.

The recent introduction of groups such as the Apostolic Church, Grace Christian Outreach Centre, Niue Christian Fellowship, and others adds a new dimension to spiritual

development in the country. With the different beliefs and value systems now existing in the country, it takes a healthy spirit of cooperation and understanding to be able to live and work together while maintaining each individual's own beliefs and values. In that regard, unconditional love, peace and respect for one another is needed as a foundation for achieving spiritual growth and harmony in the community.

This Policy promotes the ideal of young people uniting for the common good of their communities regardless of their differences. It encourages on-going exchanges between the various churches in worship, fellowship and other relevant activities. God Bless Everyone.

“Let no man despise thy youth; but be an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in faith, in purity.” I Timothy 4:12

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To support the spiritual development of young people, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍* Encouraging the various churches to maintain and strengthen their respective spiritual development programmes.
- ✍* Organising additional activities such as Choir or Gospel Singing Festivals.
- ✍* Organising Annual Pre-Constitution service for young people before the Constitution Celebrations.
- ✍* Organising Annual End of Year Service for young people to officially close youth activities for the year.
- ✍* Setting up a Peer Mentoring Programme to assist with the welfare and development of young people of Niue.
- ✍* Encouraging youth groups to incorporate fun activities such as Mother's Day and Father's Day into their programmes.

7.6 IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

OBJECTIVE:

To improve the information technology skills of young people through ongoing training and promotion of youth activities in the media.

OVERVIEW:

Various forms of media such as television, radio and newspaper are excellent means of promoting youth activities in Niue. However, media images can influence society attitudes to young people. For example, media messages that convey young people from a negative perspective could project the image of young people as problems to society. Similarly, the lack of media focus on positive youth activities may give society the impression that young people are not contributing productively to building strong communities.

The NYC has a Media Officer who is responsible for providing up-to-date information to the public on youth activities in Niue. A sub-committee also assists the Media Officer in producing news items.

One of the responsibilities of the Youth Officer in the Department of Community Affairs is to disseminate useful information from government to young people and vice versa. These initiatives can serve as a way of sharing more news stories that focus on the outstanding contributions young people make to society and should be strengthened.

One of the main weaknesses in information-sharing regarding youth activities is poor record keeping. Many successful activities have been conducted in the past but no reports have been produced on most of these activities. The absence of such reports condemns what may have been successful events into eternal obscurity and cannot be used as a learning tool for upcoming youth leaders.

This Policy attempts to reverse that trend by ensuring that written reports (e.g. activity reports, newsletters, website articles) and audio-visual records (e.g. radio and television programmes) are produced and properly catalogued for every event implemented under this Policy. This will contribute to the building of a wealth of information that can be used to market youth activities more effectively so that potential sponsors can see the value of these activities and in turn provide support to future activities when required.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To improve communications and ensure that adequate attention is drawn to the positive contributions of young people to society, this Policy will focus on:

- ~~///~~ Producing and maintaining regular television programmes that highlights the activities of young people.
- ~~///~~ Conducting television production training workshops for young people every 24 months.
- ~~///~~ Securing funds to purchase more television production and other necessary equipment.
- ~~///~~ Produce and maintaining fortnightly LEO ATUHAU radio programmes.
- ~~///~~ Conducting training workshops on IT skills for young people every 24 months.

- ~~///~~ Producing and maintaining annual issues of the Leo Atuhau Newsletter.
- ~~///~~ Regularly maintaining and updating the NYC Website on Youth events and activities, incorporating TV, Radio, and Newsletter.
- ~~///~~ Conducting training for young people on 'how to maintain Websites' every 24 months.

7.7 FOSTERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage the active participation of young people in Economic Development.

OVERVIEW:

As part of the national ISP goals, the Niue government directs additional funding towards promoting industry, employment and assets management. Vanilla, fishing and tourism are targeted for special attention as it is seen that these areas have the potential to create employment and generate cash. At the same time, the Government is cautious that this development is not at the expense of traditional or subsistence farming and fishing.

Efforts continue at the national level through the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to explore more potential cash crops that can be introduced to boost agricultural development. The Young Farmers Project is an initiative managed by the DAFF to train young people in farming and fishing skills. Graduates of the project go on to develop their own farms for both subsistence consumption and sales at the local market.

The Government of Niue has been and is likely to remain as the largest employer in the country. There is a need for the design and implementation of policies and programmes to promote employment among young people. The ISP aims at developing the private sector so that more employment opportunities can be generated. Various investment opportunities are now being offered to both locals and those wishing to make Niue their home and it is hoped that these initiatives will generate more employment opportunities for young people.

Given the limited scope for paid employment, this Policy advocates for more exploration of creative ideas for income generation. It advances the view that having a full time job is not the only way of earning a living. It encourages young people to explore what they can do to earn an income (become self-employed, in areas such as small business, food smoking and drying, farming, etc) rather than working for someone else in exchange for wages. This requires a lot of determination and creativity on the part of the young people but standing by to give advice on setting up viable businesses and creative enterprises is the newly established Business Advisory Service (BAS). The BAS provides business advice on

generating business ideas and developing business plans. This is a good avenue for ensuring that young people do not duplicate enterprise ideas too much and risk running each other out of business. So a mix of enterprises is the way to go. Generating new ideas is the hard part but young people are keenly challenged to have a go.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

In order to enable young people to be more enterprising, this Policy will focus on:

- ✍ Establishing income-generating initiatives in Fisheries, Agriculture and other viable areas.
- ✍ Promoting and strengthening existing youth business initiatives.
- ✍ Encouraging young people to participate in commercial fisheries development initiatives.
- ✍ Conduct ongoing practical Small Scale Dinghy Fishing Training Workshops.
- ✍ Conduct ongoing practical Canoe Fishing Training Workshops.
- ✍ Securing funding to establish a Business Development Fund to support income-generating activities for young people.

7.8 PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To promote and implement educational awareness programmes and practical projects focusing on the conservation and protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.

OVERVIEW:

Niue is a beautiful country with pristine waters, abundant vegetation and clean air. Everyone is encouraged to keep it that way and young people in particular can play a key role in achieving that.

The national objective relating to the environment is to promote sustainable management of Niue's natural resources for future generations. Accordingly, the Environment Division within the Department of Community Affairs works towards effectively managing Niue's natural resources whilst promoting sustainable practices to ensure inter-generational equity.

On-going programmes coordinated by the Environment Division include:

- ~~///~~ The Capacity Building for Environment Management in the Pacific (CBEMP) Project.
- ~~///~~ The Pacific Environment Information Network (PEIN) Project.
- ~~///~~ The South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP)
- ~~///~~ The Biosafety Project.
- ~~///~~ The Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) Project.
- ~~///~~ The development of environmental education and awareness resource materials.

Other initiatives include Aluminum Can Recycling Project; a new Environment Bill; Environmental Research and Development; Environmental Education Programmes in the community; Television Programmes; an Environment Bulletin; School Holiday Events Programme (SHEP); Niue Environment Week to coincide with World Environment Day and other internationally recognized declarations; Workshops and Public Seminars; Huvalu Forest and Wildlife Conservation Project; Namoui Marine Reserve; Fishing Restrictions and Soil Conservation practices.

With proper monitoring and management, commercial organic farming, eco-tourism and whale watching are potential areas that are encouraged and Niue's 'Clean Green' image is now being promoted through these initiatives.

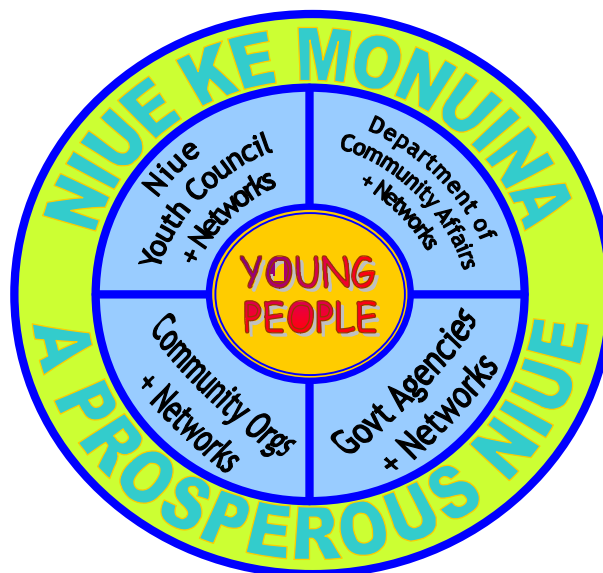
POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS

To ensure young people do their part in keeping Niue 'clean and green', this Policy will focus on:

- ~~///~~ Organising Annual "Clean and Green Day" campaign focusing on the protection of the environment.
- ~~///~~ Organising regular training sessions during the policy period on the types of Conventions and Treaties that targets the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.
- ~~///~~ Organising National Arbour Day activities every 24 months
- ~~///~~ Promoting young people's involvement in organic farming and eco-tourism Initiatives.
- ~~///~~ Strengthening networks with regional youth organisations and donor agencies focusing on key environment challenges and the need for concerted activities.

8. IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

8.1 POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION



a) DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

As the central government agency responsible for youth development in the country, the Department of Community Affairs is the lead agency in overseeing the implementation of this Policy. This is an overwhelming task and requires close coordination among all parties concerned with youth issues. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that the Department works closely with the Niue Youth Council, other Government Departments, Community Organisations, and the Private Sector, to ensure the effective implementation of the initiatives outlined in this Policy. The Logical Framework Matrix (Section 14, Page 39) indicates the key organisations the Department would need to work closely with in getting the various strategy areas of the Policy to be implemented.

Where the Department is charged with the responsibility for carrying out specific activities related to this policy, it needs to seek financial resources through approved government channels for supporting those activities.

One of the important steps the Department needs to take to improve the chances for success in implementing this Policy is to facilitate the reinstatement of the position

of Youth Coordinator within the Department. This appointment is necessary as the Policy implementation process needs to be directed by a self-motivated person with sound leadership skills and a keen sense of commitment to youth development. This would require the securing of adequate funding for the position.

B) THE NIUE YOUTH COUNCIL

The Niue Youth Council (NYC) by virtue of Article 2.2 of its Constitution is recognised as the key partner for the Department of Community Affairs in the implementation of this Policy. Accordingly, the NYC will work as a mutual partner in policy decisions, consultative mechanisms, performance monitoring and evaluation reviews and any other forum organised in relation to the implementation of the Policy.

The NYC Management Committee needs to work closely with the Department of Community Affairs in managing the activities allocated to the NYC while at the same time maintaining its independence as a non-government organisation that serves the interests of the young people of Niue.

Each year, the NYC develops and implements a workplan outlining the activities it needs to carry out as its contribution towards the implementation of the Policy. This needs to be done in consultation with other partners in the implementation of activities.

The NYC in accordance with Article 21 of its Constitution may delegate responsibility for implementing specific aspects of the Policy initiatives to any sub-committee it may establish for such purpose.

C) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Other Government Departments who are already conducting activities recognised in this policy are encouraged to continue their initiatives. Those that have been identified as potential partners in the implementation of new initiatives proposed by this Policy are encouraged to take up the challenge. For the purpose of monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the Policy implementation, at the end of each fiscal year, all those involved in Policy implementation are encouraged to provide to the Department of Community Affairs, reports on the specific activities related to this Policy for inclusion in a consolidated report on the implementation of the Policy.

D) COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Community organisations that have been identified as potential partners (eg. churches, sports groups, youth groups, uniformed organisations, village councils, private enterprises, etc) in the implementation of new initiatives proposed by this Policy are also encouraged to take up the challenge. For the purpose of monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the Policy implementation, at the end of each fiscal year, all those involved in Policy implementation are also encouraged to provide to the Department of Community Affairs, reports on the specific activities related to this Policy for inclusion in a consolidated report on the implementation of the Policy.

E) YOUNG PEOPLE

As young people between the ages of 15 to 34 years are the main target group for this Policy, they are encouraged to actively participate as beneficiaries of the initiatives proposed in this Policy. They are also encouraged to take part in the planning, monitoring and evaluation exercises to be carried out as part of the Policy implementation process. This will ensure they can derive maximum benefits out of this Policy and at the same time give them the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing refinement of the Policy strategies.

8.2 PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION

It is essential to ensure that the implementation of this Policy remains on track and according to plan. In this regard it is important that periodical reviews of this policy become a necessary part of its implementation process. This will enable flexibility to be applied to the selection of activities to be implemented within the Policy period and provide opportunities for adjustments to align intervention strategies with any changes in Niue's socio-economic environment.

The following process is recommended as a guide for monitoring the effectiveness of the Policy.

1. ANNUAL EVALUATION

At the end of each fiscal year, the Department of Community Affairs in consultation with the Niue Youth Council and stakeholders appoints a Youth Policy Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, to evaluate the progress report collated by the Youth Coordinator and the Youth Affairs Officer on the policy activities for the year.

The progress report needs to record all the activities carried out by the various stakeholders during the 12 month period, identify any problems associated with the

implementation of activities and make appropriate recommendations for addressing these problem areas in the next twelve-months period.

Following discussions of the progress report, the Committee will then produce an annual report that contains an update of the policy activities carried out during the year and any recommendations for addressing the problem areas. This report is then submitted to the Department to the Department of Community Affairs for inclusion in its Annual Report. The report is then made available to the Minister responsible for Youth Development, Government Agencies and Non Government Groups in the community.

2. POLICY REVIEW

A thorough Review of the Policy needs to be conducted every 24 months to ensure that the Policy still remains relevant to the prevailing conditions of the time.

This Review is to be led by the Department of Community Affairs with the support of the Niue Youth Council and should involve all stakeholders involved in implementing the various activities contained in the Policy.

A full report is to be produced on the outcome of this Review for the purpose of informing the Government, the stakeholders, young people themselves, and donors about the progress of the Policy implementation.

3. PROMOTION OF THE POLICY

In an attempt to better inform young people and society in general about the aspirations of this Policy for the young people of Niue, it is recommended that the Policy be promoted regularly at village gatherings, national events, through the media, and at regional and international youth gatherings.

This promotes greater awareness of the Policy initiatives and draws more attention to the issues affecting the young people of Niue.

4. KEY INDICATORS OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLICY

This Policy is formulated to achieve positive outcomes for the young people of Niue. The following are some examples of key indicators of the effectiveness of this Policy and can be used during annual evaluations and policy reviews as a means of measuring progress:

- ✓✓Evidence of the spirit of Unity of young people and their organisations
- ✓✓Improved co-ordination and cooperation between stakeholders
- ✓✓More skilled young people
- ✓✓More young people practicing healthy lifestyles

- ✍✍Greater appreciation by young people of Niue's cultural heritage
- ✍✍More young people demonstrate positive attitudes and moral values
- ✍✍Increased media focus on young people and their activities
- ✍✍Increased awareness in society of youth development issues
- ✍✍More young people actively engaged in income-generation enterprises
- ✍✍Greater involvement of young people in environmental protection programmes
- ✍✍Greater degree of youth participation in positive activities
- ✍✍Increased allocation of resources by government to youth development
- ✍✍Greater recognition and support for youth initiatives by donors.
- ✍✍More young leaders holding leadership positions in the community.

9. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

It is inevitable that the success of this Policy to bring about improvements in the quality of life of the young people of Niue will be dictated by prevailing social and economic circumstances.

It is also clearly evident that the practical initiatives presented in this Policy will require financial and human resources far in excess of the limited resources currently available for youth development in the country.

Therefore, the Department of Community Affairs will continue to advocate for more adequate budgetary allocations to its youth division budget from the national budget.

Other stakeholders who are directly responsible for the implementation of the rest of the Policy initiatives are also challenged to actively seek out potential in-country and external funding sources for supporting their initiatives.

In this regard, those leading the implementation of the Policy are cautioned against over-reliance on outside aid to implement this Policy. The Policy advocates for empowering young people so that they can help themselves. Therefore, actions should be aimed at getting help from external sources only to assist with the initial phase of establishing new programmes. The young people need to be trained to think 'long-term' and devise ways for sustaining programmes to ensure their continuation when initial external funding runs out.

This requires careful planning and youth leaders need to be resourceful and demonstrate willingness to shift away from the mentality of depending on handouts to the mindset of creative intervention required in order to succeed against the current backdrop of challenging socio-economic conditions.

10. CONCLUSION

The Niue National Youth Policy is an instrument for guiding young Niueans on their journey to adulthood. It provides a clear policy framework within which appropriate services are planned and delivered for the young people in Niue. At the same time, it also allows for flexibility in the selection of activities for achieving the various objectives and the overall vision.

It is expected that this Policy will require constant modifications in order to align itself with emerging trends and evolving national priorities during the implementation period. This should be regarded as an exciting learning experience for all involved in its implementation and every effort should be made to ensure that this Policy is adapted as required in order to maintain its relevance as a tool for building the capacity of young people to enable them to face the ongoing challenges of life.

In embracing the principles of participation, collaboration and empowering young Niueans, this Policy has the potential to ensure a better future for them. However, success in achieving this outcome can only be guaranteed if all concerned with the welfare and positive development of young people in Niue truly collaborate to create and maintain a dynamic and vibrant environment in which young people are empowered to take an active part in shaping their future.

Kia fakamonuina mai he Atua e Atuhau Fuata Niue.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

So many individuals and organisations have pooled their efforts together to produce this policy.

Accordingly, the Government of Niue through the Department of Community Affairs gratefully acknowledges all those people who have freely contributed their time and experience to the development of this Policy.

All those individuals listed in Section 2.2 of this document are gratefully acknowledged. Your invaluable contributions have ensured that the development of the young people of Niue is guided by a practical and proactive strategy that will bring about positive outcomes for them.

In addition, the following individuals are gratefully acknowledged for their formal and informal contributions to the final consultations on this Policy:

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Fakaue Lahi ke he tau tagata oti.

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13. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX

KEY STRATEGY AREA 1: NURTURING UNITY

OBJECTIVE:

To promote and encourage a spirit of cooperation and partnerships among the young people of Niue.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise a series of Spiritual Revival conventions for young people at the beginning of each year.	Number of young people who participate in the programme each year. Number of youth groups that participate in the programme each year.	Niue Youth Council Church groups National Council of Churches Social Groups
2	Organise National Youth Summits in 2004 and 2007.	Number of Young People attending. Number of Issues resolved.	NYC and DCA Young Niueans overseas.
3	Negotiate with Government for the declaration of a National Youth Day.	Youth Day declared within the Policy period.	DCA NYC
4	Organise talent quests, dances and music lessons for youth	Number of young people participating	Niue Cultural Council
5	Encourage exchange programmes between youth organisations	Number of exchange programmes organised	Individual Youth Groups Churches.

KEY STRATEGY AREA 2: REINFORCING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage ongoing learning through non-formal and informal education.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise 1 Educational Camp per year focusing on Leadership, Management, Self-Confidence, Life Skills, Social Interaction, Youth Development.	Number of young people attending High Interest from the young people	NYC NTDC and In-country Training NGOs
2	Organise an Annual Career Expo Day for the Young People	Interest from Young People Interest from other stakeholders	NYC Private Sector Education Other Departments
3	Design on-going Training Programs for school leavers	Number of participants trained Number of participants engaged in productive enterprises	NYC NTDC Education Department DAFF USP Private Sector
4	Organise Yearly training sessions for Trainers covering recent issues affecting young people on Niue.	Number of Trainers trained.	NYC NTDC Education Department Groups village level.
5	Utilise the NYEF to assist with skills development in the areas of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Education, Environment and Business Development, Information Communication Technology, Tourism, and Traditional	The number of young people trained within the policy period.	B.A.S Community Affairs. NTDC and In-Country Training DAFF

6	Train Youth Community Volunteers to assist with the needs of the community from time to time and assist with the matuas'. (set up Volunteer Scheme)	Number of Volunteers trained and working effectively.	Health Department Community Affairs Administrative Services Police (Disaster Management)
7	Encourage school students to take up leadership roles such as class leaders, prefects, student representatives, etc, from Primary through to Secondary School.	Number of students in leadership roles at Primary and Secondary School levels.	Education Department School Teachers School Committees

KEY STRATEGY AREA 3: PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

OBJECTIVE:

To strengthen and foster the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well being of the young people.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise sports development initiatives for young people.	Number of young people actively participating.	NISANOC NYC Youth Groups. Sports Groups
2	Establish a National Leisure, Recreation and Fitness Centre	Completion of the Centre within the policy period. Installing of equipments and programs carried out	NISANOC NYC External Affairs
3	Conduct ongoing training (as needed) for young people to learn life saving skills and safety at sea and work	Number of workshops organised successfully	Health Department Education DAFF

	issues like injury prevention, mental and reproductive health (Contraceptions, STDs), substance abuse (alcohol/tobacco), nutrition, NCDs, and access to health services.	participating in these programmes	NYC Community Affairs.
5	Conduct counseling sessions for youth, delivered by youth to youth Peer educators	Number of sessions held per month Number of trainers trained	Niue Police Health Community Affairs Village Councils Churches.
6	Regularly promote the concept of a healthy lifestyle	Number of programmes carried out. Duplicating of brochures, pamphlets, posters etc.	Health NYC NISANOC Education Community Affairs

KEY STRATEGY AREA 4: DEVELOPING CULTURAL APPRECIATION

OBJECTIVE:

To promote respect for the Cultural Heritage of Niue through strengthening Performing Arts, Crafts, Traditions and Language.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise the Annual Constitution Concert.	Concert successfully organised. Number of youth group participating. Number of young people performing. Number of youth researching on	NYC Niue Cultural Council Education BCN

2	Repair Traditional Fale at the Youth Centre (as an educational programme for young people)	Completion of maintenance of the 2 existing fale pola. The number of youth groups involved.	NYC HCC Village Council Tourism Office Education
3	Organise Cultural Fashion Shows as required.	Number of youth groups participating Number of young people involved Number of cultural garments.	NYC HCC Tourism
4	Organise talent quests, dances and music lessons	Number of youth groups participating Number of young people involved	NYC HCC
5	Organise traditional weaving, carving and other cultural activities in partnership with the HCC	Number of young people involved Number of items made	NYC HCC Tourism Office Village Council Women.
6	Organise ongoing programmes promoting traditional values and the use of the Niuean language (eg cultural forum, oratory training, speech competitions, poetry writing, etc).	Number of young people involved Increased use of Niuean Language amongst young people	NCC Education Department NYC NLDC

KEY STRATEGY AREA 5: STRENGTHENING SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage young people to develop their spirituality, and maintain moral principles and Christian Living.

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise at least two Choir/Gospel Singing Festivals within the policy period for the young people of Niue.	Number of young people who participated in the programme.	Niue Youth Council Churches
2	Organise Annual Pre-Constitution service for youth before the Constitution Celebrations.	Service successfully organised. Number of young people who participated in the programme.	All Church groups
3	Organise Annual End of Year Service for youth at the end of the year.	Service successfully organised. Number of young people who participated in the programme.	NYC All Church groups
4	Set up Peer Mentoring programme to assist with the welfare and development of the young people of Niue	Number of Peer Mentors trained and working effectively.	Community Affairs NYC NTDC
5	Organise Annual activities to go in line with the celebration of Mother and Father's Day.	Celebrations organised successfully	All Youth Groups

KEY STRATEGY AREA 6: IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

OBJECTIVE:

To improve the information technology skills of young people through ongoing training and promotion of youth activities in the media.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

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1	To produce and maintain regular TV programme covering activities of young people.	Number of TV programmes produced and shown on Public TV per year.	BCN NYC Community Affairs External Affairs
2	Conduct 1 TV training workshop for young people every 24 months.	Number of workshops conducted. Number of young people trained.	BCN Niue Youth Council SPC Media Centre Community Affairs External Affairs
3	To produce and maintain fortnightly LEO ATUHAU radio programme	Number of Radio Programme aired on Public radio every year.	BCN NYC Community Affairs
4	Conduct 1 training workshop on IT skills for young people every 24 months.	Number of workshops successfully organised. Number of young people trained	BCN / NYC Training Office ISO IUSN Education Department Administrative Services
5	Produce and maintain Annual Leo Atuhau Newsletter.	Newsletter successfully produced.	BCN NYC Private Sector
6	Produce and maintain NYC Website on Youth events and activities, incorporating TV, Radio, Newsletter.	Website successfully established and maintained	BCN NYC ISO Telecom, IUSN, Admin. Ser. Private Sector
7	Provide training session for young people to maintain Websites every 24 months	Number of young people trained	BCN NYC ISO Telecom, IUSN, Admin. Ser.

	computer and software to edit radio programme, 1 portable Mini Disc Recorder, 1 microphone and audio cables.	purchased	Niue Youth Council Community Affairs ISO External Affairs
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KEY STRATEGY AREA 7: FOSTERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To encourage the active participation of young people in Economic Development.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Establish at least 3 income-generating initiatives in Fisheries, and Agriculture within the Policy period.	Number of income-generating activities.	DAFF Planning Unit Tourism
2	Promote and improve existing youth business initiatives within the policy period.	Number of businesses assisted	B.A.S Chamber of Commerce
3	Encourage young people to participate in commercial fisheries development initiatives	Number of young people taking up these opportunities.	DAFF
4	Conduct ongoing practical Small Scale Dinghy Fishing Training Workshops	Number of young people trained in dinghy fishing.	DAFF Niue Island Fisherman's Association.
5	Conduct ongoing practical Canoe Fishing Training Workshops	Number of young people trained in canoe and dinghy fishing.	DAFF Niue Canoe Association
6	Secure funding to establish a Business Development Fund to support income-generating activities.	Success of funding organisations to assist with initiatives.	External Affairs Aid Coordinating Committee

KEY STRATEGY AREA 8: PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To promote and implement educational awareness programmes and practical projects focusing on the conservation and protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.

POLICY INTERVENTION OPTIONS LOGFRAME:

Activities		Performance Measures	Action
1	Organise an Annual "Clean and Green Day" campaign focusing on the protection of the environment.	Number of young people who participated in the programme.	Environment Unit (Community Affairs) Niue Youth Council Health Department Niue Tourism
2	Organise at least three training sessions during the policy period on the types of Conventions and Treaties that targets the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources.	Number of young people who participated in the programme. Number of awareness programmes conducted	Environment Unit (Community Affairs) Justice, Lands and Survey Dept Niue Youth Council Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Health Department
3	Organise National Arbour Day activities every 24 months	Number of young people who participated in the programme. Number of trees planted and growing	Environment Unit (Community Affairs) Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Niue Youth Council

			Private Sector
4	Promote Organic farming and Eco-tourism Initiatives	Number of Initiatives established.	NIOFA DAFF Tourism Village Councils
5.	Strengthen networks with regional youth organisations and donor agencies focusing on key environment challenges and the need for concerted activities.	Number of linkages established	Environment Unit (Community Affairs) DAFF

Key Indicators of Effectiveness

- ?? Evidence of the spirit of Unity of young people and their organisations
- ?? Improved co-ordination and cooperation between stakeholders
- ?? More skilled young people
- ?? More young people practicing healthy lifestyles
- ?? Greater appreciation by young people of Niue's cultural heritage
- ?? More young people demonstrate positive attitudes and moral values
- ?? Increased media focus on young people and their productive activities
- ?? Increased awareness in society of youth development issues
- ?? More young people actively engaged in income-generation enterprises
- ?? Greater involvement of young people in environmental protection programmes
- ?? Greater degree of youth participation in positive activities and community development
- ?? Increased allocation of resources by government to youth development
- ?? Greater recognition and support for youth initiatives by donors
- ?? More young leaders in leadership positions in the community.