

Goal and program outcomes

The Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) is Australian government's largest Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) investment in the Pacific and Timor-Leste. It is implemented by TAFE Queensland (RTO 0275). APTC has made significant contributions in Samoa during APTC3.

Goal: A more skilled, inclusive and productive workforce that enhances Pacific and Timor-Leste prosperity.

Supporting purpose: The skills and attributes available to employers from Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems align with labour market requirements.

The APTC goal is supported by the achievement of three end-of-program outcomes:

- Graduates have improved employment outcomes
- Co-investment in skills training increases
- Selected TVET partners demonstrate quality TVET provision

Key partners

- National University of Samoa (NUS)
- Nuanua O le Alofa (NOLA)
- Samoa Qualifications Authority (SQA)
- Land Transport Authority (LTA)
- Lakapi Samoa
- Electric Power Corporation (EPC)
- Samoa Police, Prisons & Correction Services (SPPCS)
- Samoa Fire and Emergency Services Authority (SFESA)
- Samoa Water Authority (SWA)



APTC hospitality alumni and staff showcased the Samoan hospitality during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Apia in 2024.

Graduates and training

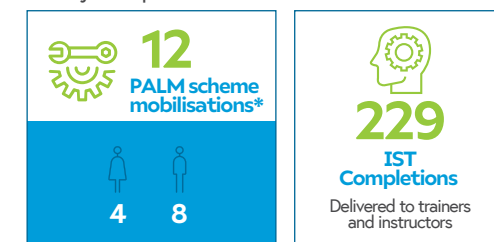
Graduates from 56 different accredited full qualifications and International Skills Training Courses (IST) since 2008:



In addition to the total graduates, there are:



Note: Some of these graduates have been trained in other APTC Country Campuses across the Pacific.



Note: * The number of graduates who have been mobilised for the PALM scheme during APTC3.

Samoa Country Office

- Established in 2007
- Currently employs 20 staff (including 18 Samoans, 2 expats)

In stage 3, APTC delivered the following Australian accredited programs in Apia:

- FSK20119 Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways
- 11054NAT Certificate II in Plumbing
- SIT30821 Certificate III in Commercial Cookery
- CPC20720 Certificate II in Drainage

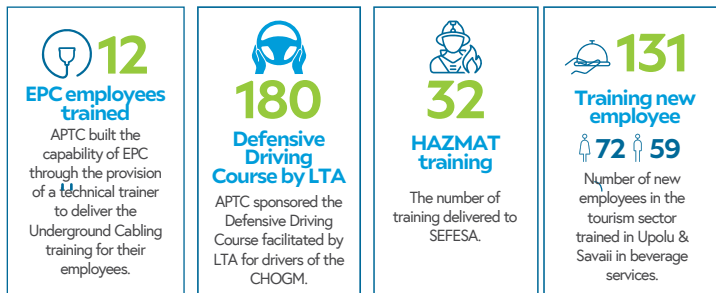
APTC offered flexible training delivery that met the demand of industry and stakeholders through a broad regional program. Samoans were supported to undertake training in a range of Australian qualification courses both in Apia and at APTC's four other campuses across the Pacific.

We were committed to enhancing Samoa's vocational education sector through a range of partnerships. With the support of the Australian Government, we addressed skills gaps in critical sectors such as tourism and hospitality, water, and security by delivering Australian-accredited qualifications issued by TAFE Queensland. We emphasised inclusivity in training and employment by delivering training to inmates, aiding their successful reintegration into society and through our partnership with the Nuanua ole Alofa Disability Advocacy organisation and a range of government agencies. Our partnerships drove economic growth, social progress, and individual empowerment in Samoa, demonstrating the transformative power of education and skills development.

The commitment to supporting the training needs identified by the Samoan Government remained our top priority.

Key achievements in Stage 3

- Worked with NUS to develop a national qualification Certificate IV in Leadership and Management, which is now undergoing an accreditation process.
- Provided technical expertise for the Samoa Police Academy to develop its curricula to meet SQA accreditation requirements.
- Translated language, literacy, and numeracy resources into braille to ensure inclusivity and to empower individuals who are visually impaired with essential skills. This supports Samoa's Education Sector Plan by promoting diverse learning needs.
- With NOLA Disability Advocacy, we undertook research on Inclusive TVET in Samoa. The results highlighted enhanced employability, skills development, increased self-confidence, and a positive learning experience for people with disabilities who engaged in training.



Climate change initiatives

APTC supported targeted activities for climate change adaptation and skills for the green economy.

APTC has:

- Delivered units on sustainable practices for the environment within APTC training programs.



Labour mobility

APTC supported labour mobility by delivering targeted training and supported our partners to develop high-quality training programs that provided skills in demand by Australian employers.

APTC Samoa has:

- Reviewed and implemented training profile that supported national and international demand and net skills gain;
- Ensured country ownership of skills development by engaging and collaborating with key national labour mobility stakeholders, such as government ministries, national training providers, labour sending units, civil society organisations, employers, and industry bodies.
- Delivered meat processing and first aid training to candidates in the work-ready pool, aligning training to the PALM scheme priorities.

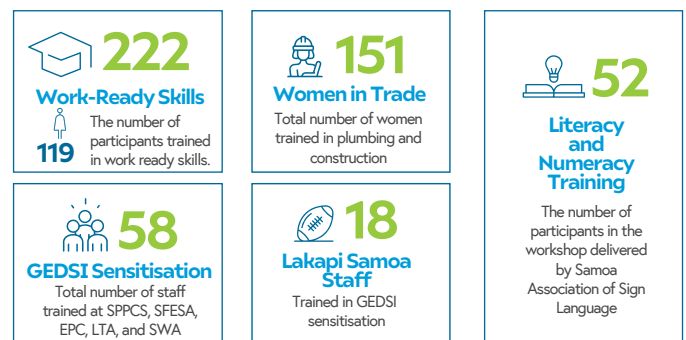
Delivering strong GEDSI outcomes

APTC has worked hard to address the barriers to training and employment for women, people living with disabilities and individuals from rural and remote areas. We worked in consultation and collaboration with governments, peak bodies, associations and individuals who advocate for inclusivity and accessibility.

APTC Samoa has initiated a range of successful and innovative projects to tackle barriers and forms of exclusion.

We had:

- Conducted the first accessibility audit with NOLA for EPC, SWA, and LTA.
- Funded the development of the SWA- GEDSI Policy and Action Plan, which was successfully completed and submitted by their GEDSI Advisor.
- Delivered GEDSI workshops to SQA, NUS, and NOLA, enabling them to create and implement their own GEDSI strategies and action plans and supported LTA and SWA to successfully recruit their first GEDSI Interns.
- Co-hosted the inaugural Women in TVET Forum to celebrate International Women's Day 2024, promoting inclusive education, training opportunities, and pathways into employment.
- Delivered Prevention from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) in Workplace Training for our partners and the Samoa Faafafine Association. This initiative highlighted our commitment to fostering safe and respectful work environments across the Pacific region and Timor-Leste.
- Employed four individuals with disabilities through the APTC and NOLA Partnership Internship program.
- Delivered accredited short courses in construction, food handling skills, women in plumbing, work ready skills and financial literacy for over 60 inmates under the SPPCS partnership, equipping inmates with valuable skills for their reintegration into society.



Looking Ahead:

While APTC3 concludes in March 2025, the Australian Government remains committed to supporting Samoa's workforce development, ensuring it is more skilled, inclusive and productive. The Pacific Australia Skills Platform (PASP) will build on APTC's achievements.