



PRESS RELEASE

Samoa Independent Water Schemes Association (IWSA) Earns Prestigious Awards at the Pacific Water and Wastewater Association Annual Conference held in Palau.

[Apia, 06 September 2023] — The Samoa Independent Water Schemes Association (IWSA) is delighted to announce that it has been honoured with two prestigious awards at the recent Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWAA) exclusive annual conference that was held in Palau from August 28th to September 1st 2023. The awards, "Best Technical Performance" and "Best Coverage" in the small Pacific water utilities category, serve as a testament to IWSA's dedication and commitment to providing high-quality water services in Samoa.

The Pacific Water and Wastewater Association (PWAA) is a highly respected organization consisting of 31 water utility members from 21 countries across the Pacific. Its mission is to be the principal voice for water and wastewater management in the Pacific Island nations, fostering expertise in the sustainable management of these essential services and promoting the development of a cohesive, proficient, and robust water and wastewater sector within the region.

IWSA's recognition at the PWAA conference reflects its achievements and contributions to the Pacific water and wastewater sector. The awards, "Best Technical Performance" and "Best Coverage," were presented based on benchmarking performance data collected by the PWAA through the tools and instruments of the International Benchmarking of Water and Sanitation Utilities of the World Bank (IBNET).

President Asi Sasa Milo of IWSA remarked, "We are deeply honoured and humbled to receive these prestigious awards from the Pacific Water and Wastewater Association. They stand as a testament to the unwavering dedication and expertise of our team and partners, reaffirming our commitment to enhancing water services for the people of Samoa."

IWSA takes great pride in representing Samoa among its peers in the Pacific water utilities sector. These awards further motivate IWSA to continue to contribute to Samoa's National Plan – Pathway for the Development of Samoa (PDS, FY2021/22 – FY2025/26.) as well as the development of the Pacific water and wastewater sector.

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About the Samoa Independent Water Schemes Association (IWSA): The Independent Water Schemes Association was established in 2006 and formally registered as an incorporated society in 2008. It gained legal recognition as an entity under the Water Schemes Act of 2015. Its vision is to provide clean, safe, and affordable water at all times, while its mission is to support the development of community-managed water schemes in Samoa through partnerships with government and non-government stakeholders. The Association is one of the two implementing agencies responsible for the Water Supply sub-sector within the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene sector of Samoa. According to Samoa's 2021 national census data, IWSA serves a population of 23,800 people.