

invest SAMOA



PRESENTATION *Outline*

- Overview of the Samoan Economy**
- Why invest in Samoa**
- Investment Opportunities**
- Legislative Framework & Government Support / Incentives**
- Process for Setting up a business in Samoa**

Economic OVERVIEW

- ❑ **Population:** approximately 195,979 (2016)
- ❑ **Capital:** Apia Urban Area (36,761 people)
- ❑ **Economy:** Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism, Manufacturing, Services
- ❑ **Major Export Markets:** Australia, American Samoa, USA, Japan, Tokelau, Fiji, Singapore (fish, coconut products, beer, nonu, products, taro, other general goods)
- ❑ **Major Import Markets:** New Zealand, Fiji, Singapore, Australia, China (petroleum, livestock/meat, fruits & vegetables, other commodities)

Why Invest IN SAMOA

1. Politically stable due to strong culture and social values
2. Attractive investment incentives for tourism & manufacturing developments;
3. Free repatriation of capital & profits with relatively low corporate & income taxes (20% - 27%)
4. Preferential market access to overseas markets through PACER Plus, P-EUIEPA, P-UKIEPA, PICTA. Exports from Samoa benefit from the GSP of USA, Canada and Korea. A member also of the WTO.
5. Very Strong Public Private Sector Partnership.

INVESTMENT *Opportunities*

- ✓ **Tourism: Hotel & Resort Development**
- ✓ **Agro and Fish Processing**
- ✓ **Renewable Energy**
- ✓ **Services Sector including ICT**
- ✓ **Others**

Legislative Framework & Govt Support

FOREIGN INVESTMENT ACT (FIA) 2000 – Open to Foreign Investment except for Reserved & Restricted Activities: 6 Reserved Activities & several Restricted Activities.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

1. DUTY CONCESSION & CODE 121 Schemes – offers duty concessions for pre-approved Qualifying Projects in the following sectors:

1. Tourism Developments
2. Manufacturing Developments
3. Aviation Transport
4. Commercial Manufacturers of Agricultural Products,
5. Commercial Poultry Farms
6. Commercial Manufacturers of Handicrafts and Elei Materials

3. LEASING OF GOVERNMENT LANDS

- i. 20 years + right to renewal subject to certain criteria

Government Support Continued...

4. OTHER GOVT SUPPORT AND ONGOING REFORM

- i. Business Simplification and streamlining of processes
 - E.g. Online Registration of companies and personal properties, Online Registration of Trade Marks and other Intellectual Properties
- ii. Samoa's accession to important Trade-related International Conventions: e.g. Recent access to the Madrid Protocol (International Registration of Trademarks) and progress underway for accession to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- iii. Samoa's Trade Information Portal: Centralized repository of Imports & Exports Processes, Trade-Related Legislation, Policies etc.
- iv. MCIL's Role towards Supporting Exports:
 - ✓ Food Standards & Non-Food Standards: Secretariat to the Samoa National CODEX Committee
 - ✓ Key Contributor to Samoa's Investment Committee
 - ✓ Competition and Consumer Protection
 - ✓ Trade, Commerce & Manufacturing Sector Plan & Strategy for the Development of Samoa.
 - ✓ Liaison role with Private Sector Organisations (SAME, SCCI etc) re ISO/HACCP, Organic Certification.

Citizenship by Investment

➤ Eligibility

- Total value of Investment – minimum SAT\$4m (USD\$1.6m)
- Net worth of SAT\$2.5m (USD\$1M)

➤ Qualifying Investment Areas

- Leasing and developing of government lands
- Processing or manufacturing of agricultural produce
- Processing or manufacturing of fishery products
- Tourism
- ICT
- Electricity generation through bio-fuel, solar, water or wind
- Investment in a government development fund for the purposes of national development or investment in a prescribed charitable trust
- Any services other than any services listed in the Reserved List under the Foreign Investment Act 2000

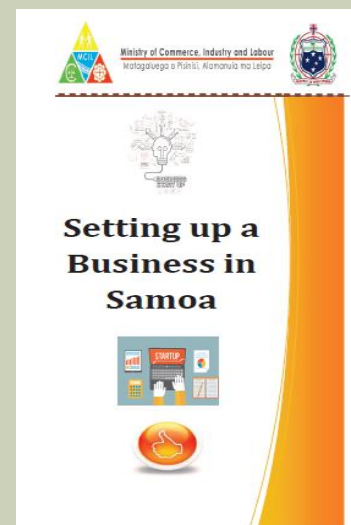
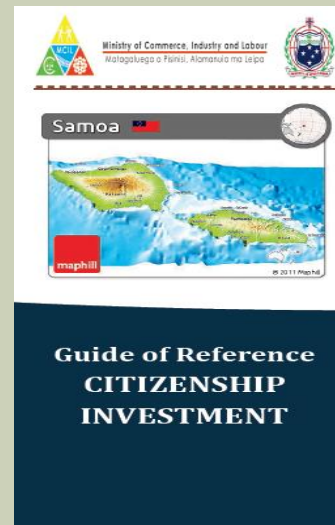
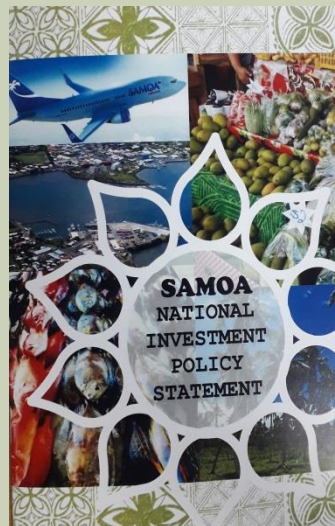
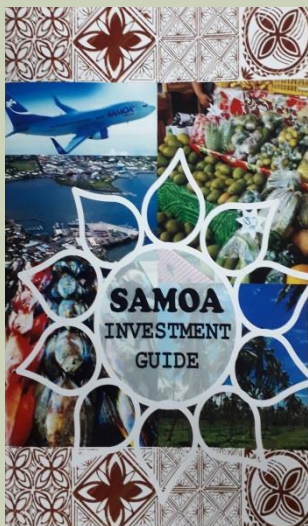
PROCESS FOR SETTING UP A *Business*



1. Companies Registration
2. Foreign Investment Registration
3. Business License
4. Foreign Employee Employment Permit
5. Visa / Residency Permit

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS AVAILABLE AT COUNTER

- Samoa Investment Guide 2021
- National Investment Policy Statement 2021
- Setting up a Business Brochure
- Guidelines for Citizenship Investment Program



CONTACT *Details*

**Samoa Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Labour
PO Box 862
Apia
SAMOA**

Phone: (685) 20441

Fax: (685) 20443

Email: mpal@mcil.gov.ws

Website: www.mcil.gov.ws